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Fire safety needs hinge on staffing

Recruitment challenges span city, volunteer crews

By Kaitlyn Scoville
OSHKOSH HERALD

As employers in all trades struggle to hire and retain qualified individuals, community fire departments and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel face threats of consolidation and longer response times.

Per a recent study by the Wisconsin Policy Forum, fire and EMS agencies statewide – more specifically volunteer departments – are experiencing trouble with recruitment and retention, whether

they run with volunteers or full-timers.

“The Forum has recently studied dozens of fire and (EMS) agencies in Wisconsin and found many are struggling to maintain their existing staffing models as call volumes rise and rosters of part-time staff decline,” the report reads.

“The situation may demand greater consideration of consolidation as well as a response from state policymakers given the implications for local government finances and the threat to public safety.”

Rural departments have their own unique geography to protect along with those of neighboring towns and municipalities with whom they share mutual aid agreements. State and national standards

set the ground rules for most volunteer and professional departments that keep them on the same page.

The Town of Algoma has about 30 firefighters and 16 first responders mostly trained as firefighters, according to Capt. Tanner Harrington.

“We have a pretty good mix here (of career and volunteer members). You get some guys who are looking to start somewhere in the fire service. It’s a good outlet because then you can get training outside of the school,” Harrington said. “We have a few guys that want to get their foot in the door on fire service, and we have some

SEE **Fire funding** ON PAGE 11



Photo by Jim Koepnick

Reindeer cheer

Downtown Oshkosh’s tree lighting and holiday parade was back in full force Thursday night. This year’s theme was Holiday Classics. See more photos from the festivities on Page 14.

Oshkosh author captures Black cowboy experiences

Pro bull rider experience led to special revelations

By Steve Clark
OSHKOSH HERALD

One conversation was all Keith Ryan Cartwright needed to know he had an opportunity.

Shortly after going to work for the Professional Bull Riders tour, Cartwright was introduced to former cowboy Myrtis Dightman by legendary rider Ty Murray. And once the two had finished their time talking, Cartwright immediately had an idea for a book.

“After the first conversation I had with Myrtis,” Cartwright said in a recent phone interview, “I called Ty on the phone and I said that he may be the most fascinating person I have ever met. I will, mark my words, write a biography about that man.”

A biography solely on Dightman didn’t happen. Instead, Cartwright was introduced to the experiences of many African

American cowboys and cowgirls through Dightman and explored and explained the lives they led in “Black Cowboys of Rodeo: Unsung Heroes From Harlem to Hollywood and the American West.”

Cartwright said that as he started his research on Dightman, he would hear stories about other Black cowboys that were contemporaries of Dightman. That changed the scope of Cartwright’s book – released in mid-November – from the life of one man to the experiences of many.

“So naturally over all of those years, I heard little nuggets about stories from Myrtis and it was in those conversations that I said to myself, ‘If I write a biography about Myrtis Dightman, I’m playing into the stereotype that there weren’t any black cowboys and he was an anomaly,’” Cartwright said. “The truth of the matter is, there have always been a prevalent amount of Black cowboys who have made significant contributions to Western cul-



Photo from Keith Ryan Cartwright

Oshkosh native Keith Ryan Cartwright (center) has a new book about the history of Black cowboys in America that is drawing high praise.

SEE **Black cowboys** ON PAGE 10



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Fire teams lead food, toy drives

The Oshkosh Fire Department is back to its traditional means of collecting door to door for its food and toy drive on five different nights starting Tuesday. Donations also can be brought to any of the six city fire stations through Dec. 12.

Accepted are nonperishable food items, new and unwrapped gifts, wrapping paper and tape, and cash. All donations go to the Salvation Army to be distributed. Monetary donations will be given to the Oshkosh Firefighters Charitable Trust and will fund the Gary Kassube scholarship given to two graduating Oshkosh seniors enrolled in a police or fire science program.

Collection routes begin between 5 and 5:30 p.m. Tuesday (Station 14), Dec. 1 (Station 15), Dec. 9 (Station 16), Dec. 13 (Station 18) and Dec. 14 (Station 17). Go to the department's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @OshkoshFoodToy for details.





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Photo by Michael Cooney

Fresh connection

Finishing touches were made last Tuesday on the new bridge connecting the shoreline at Asylum Point Park and Asylum Point Island that allows access to the island and the island's lighthouse. The clear-span design replaces the former piling-style bridge, which had been damaged by ice shoves.



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Winnebago County Board Chairman Shiloh Ramos is accepting applications for Winnebago County Board Supervisor, District 16. To be eligible for this position, you must be a qualified elector and reside in District 16.

District 16 is comprised of Wards 3 & 4 in the City of Oshkosh.

For a map of the district, please contact the Winnebago County Clerk's Office at 232-3430. If you are eligible and interested in applying for this position, submit your resume by Friday, December 3, 2021 to:

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Supervisors approve funds for Park View Health project

By Steve Clark
OSHKOSH HERALD

A lively discussion surrounding Park View Health Center funding was one of the takeaways from the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors’ Nov. 16 meeting. The debate revolved around a shortfall in finances for the facility’s garage, storage and training facility project. With rising construction costs, the board had to account for a nearly \$450,000 addition to the price tag for the project.

In addition to applying for a grant to cover the needed funds, the board was also faced with transferring money from Park View’s reserve funds as a way to meet the project costs.

“It’s important enough that if we don’t get the grant we had a backup plan, that we had the ability to still get this built because it’s really important,” County Executive Jon Doemel said. “The price structure is nowhere near solid either, so just in case the \$446,000 wasn’t enough, let’s put a little wiggle room in there.”

That agenda item drew comments from multiple board members, not just about the transferring of funds but the process of making that decision.

Doemel understood that the frustrations articulated by members of the Park View Health Center Committee were a result of the decision to move forward with the request without their direct input.

“I understand the Park View committee was mad and perhaps that’s on me for not knowing they were mad about it but I felt, as this office, I was given a decision to make and that was to put a policy decision in front of the board,” Doemel said. “The board already decided this building was important. They made the policy decision that they wanted this. It’s just the price tag changed.”

City services closed for Thanksgiving

With the city’s observance of the Thanksgiving holiday, there will be no garbage or recycling collection on Thursday and collections for the remainder of the week will be one day later.

GO Transit’s bus service also will not be operating Thursday.

The yard waste drop-off center on W. 3rd Avenue will be closed Thursday and

A time element also figured into the matter as the deadline for the grant application was quickly approaching, while any delay in approving the added funds would affect the bidding process.

The importance of adding the new building, which will serve as a training center for nurses or CNAs, outweighed the debate as the measure passed overwhelmingly with only two supervisors voting against the agenda item.

“One way or another we had to get this building done,” Doemel said. “And at the end of the day, they decided overwhelmingly that, yeah, it’s a hard pill to swallow but we have to swallow it.”

Park View is located just north of Oshkosh and services up to 168 county residents in need of long-term care, short-term rehabilitative care or behavioral services.

The county’s overall budget for 2022 also was approved with Doemel backing away from consideration of vetoing the plan. He had sought \$117,861 related to adding a staff position to assist with his office’s work but it was narrowly denied by the board during budget discussions. He could have vetoed the budget to, in essence, get another chance at the position in further discussions but opted to move things forward.

“It was an act of good faith,” Doemel said. “You look at any other county that’s populated like us and with a county executive, we are by far the smallest staff in the state. ... I have been accused of trying to bring in staff so I don’t have to do the job and that’s very insulting to me.

“It’s tough but I will keep smiling, keep taking a step forward and doing the best I can.”

The meeting started out with the appointment of two supervisors to the board, including one in the city of Oshkosh.

John Hinz was named to serve as supervisor for District 21 to complete the unexpired term of Robert Warnke, who passed away Aug. 23 after serving nearly 20 years on the board. Hinz’s interim term will end in April.

reopen Friday. The center will also be open Saturday.

Winter hours for the yard waste center will be in effect from Dec. 1 through March 31 from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Residential curbside brush collection will take place on the scheduled garbage collection day the week of Dec. 6-10.



Doemel



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Be the game changer on early childhood education

“Jake” has struggled with reading in the past. His parents and teachers noticed that when he returned for the school year, last year, he was even further behind. Because of this experience, Jake’s parents enrolled him in a new summer reading program funded by Oshkosh Area United Way (OAUW) that has kept him on track, and even helped him excel, during his current school year. He is not alone. According to the 2020 MAP Growth Norms Study, students lose 20 percent of their school-year gains in reading during the summer break. This statistic doesn’t even take into account pandemic-related learning loss. Here’s the reality: Current third-graders have not had a full year of school since



Brenda Haines
United Way
campaign co-chair

kindergarten. This is one of many reasons the Oshkosh Area United Way funds early childhood education resources. Because of the generosity of your community, last year, OAUW funded an eight-week summer school pilot program for kindergarten and first-grade Washington Elementary School students. The program’s academic support in math and literacy helps ensure each student enters

first and second grade performing at grade level. This year, the OAUW is challenging community members to ‘Be the Game Changer’ – to reach a little further, dig a little deeper and stretch ourselves, contributing to support our friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers in need. Oshkosh Area United Way’s 41 funded programs touch the lives of 1 in 3 people in the greater Oshkosh area. So, how can you change the game for your community?

Fill your bellies during the OAUW November Dine & Donate For Your Community. Throughout November, those eating at a number of area restaurants have the chance to generate support for their community through the Oshkosh Area United Way. When you dine in (or carry out) throughout the month of November, you can add \$1 or more to your tab to support your annual community campaign. OAUW November Dine & Donate For the Community is a unique effort among restaurants to raise funds for 41 programs funded through the OAUW that directly impact 1 in 3 people in the Oshkosh area. Participating restaurants include Dublin’s Irish Pub, Greene’s Pour House, Ground Round at River’s Edge, Manila Resto, The Bar and The Roxy Supper Club. Together, we can change the game for people in need in your community.

Brenda Haines is co-founder/co-owner of Blue Door Consulting, a marketing consulting firm based in Oshkosh. She is an Oshkosh Area United Way Campaign co-chair.

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Culver's restaurant chain owner Craig Culver spoke at the Oshkosh Rotary Club last week about the good ideas behind his business success, including persistence, hard work and a dedication to customer service.

Culver speaks to Rotary Club

Members and guests at the Rotary Club of Oshkosh's recent gathering heard about how the Culver's restaurant franchise came to be as Craig Culver was the guest speaker for the membership recruitment meeting.

Starting with their first A&W restaurant in Sauk City, the Culver family was propelled into a longtime relationship in the food industry that included several supper clubs, fast-food restaurants and finally a winning combination with what is now known as Culver's.

It would be in 1984 when the family opened the first Culver's restaurant. Culver spoke about how his parents George

and Ruth introduced their famous Butter-Burger and frozen custard. He attributed the company's success to "putting people first, celebrating guests and leading by example."

The first franchise restaurant was opened in 1990 and today there are 833 locations across the nation. Culver listed the secret ingredients as a commitment to high-quality products, made-to-order meals and strong customer service.

The club also presented a check for \$7,262 to the Day By Day Warming Shelter to support their operations. The funds were the result of the Chip In For a Good Cause fundraiser.

Calendar of events

Thursday, Nov. 25
Festival Foods Turkey Trot, 8 a.m., Oshkosh Arena

Friday, Nov. 26
Oshkosh Celebration of Lights, 5:30 p.m., Menominee Park
Marine Corps League bingo, 5:30 p.m., 4715 Sherman Road

Saturday, Nov. 27
Small Business Saturday, 10 a.m., downtown

Monday, Nov. 29
Wisconsin Herd vs. Windy City Bulls, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Wednesday, Dec. 1
Wisconsin Herd vs. Windy City Bulls, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena
Advent Organ Recital, 12:15 p.m., First Congregational Church, 137 Algoma Blvd.

Thursday, Dec. 2
Christmas with John Berry, 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh
Comedy Open Mic, 7 p.m., Bare Bones Brewery, 4362 County S
Bingo, 7 p.m., American Legion Cook-Fuller Post 70, 1332 Spruce St.

Friday, Dec. 3
Motown Christmas – Masters of Soul, 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh
December First Friday: Holiday Open House, 5 p.m., downtown businesses
Marine Corps League bingo, 5:30 p.m., 4715 Sherman Road

Saturday, Dec. 4
Live Nativity, 4 p.m., Martin Luther Church, 1526 Algoma Blvd.
Race for the Light, 4 p.m., Menominee Park
EAA Christmas in the Air, 10 a.m., EAA Aviation Museum, 3000 Poberenzky Road

Sunday, Dec. 5
Swing in the Holidays with Janet Planet and UW O Jazz Ensemble, 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh
Howard Holiday Market, 10 a.m., The Howard, 405 Washington Ave.

Holiday baskets to be delivered to seniors

Home Care Assistance, St. Croix Hospice, Bella Vista and Edenbrook Oshkosh will be distributing 50 Christmas baskets to seniors in Oshkosh who could use a holiday boost.

The Santa Claus for Seniors effort will deliver Christmas cheer on Dec. 20 and 21.

Many of the families receiving them are affiliated with the Aging & Disability Resource Center of Winnebago County, Family Care, Lakeland Care District, Aurora Hospital and Ascension health groups.


Reach out to Julie Davids at Julie.Davids@HomeCareAssistance.com to nominate someone to receive the basket. Deadline for nominations is Dec. 12.

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District ‘meets expectations’ on report cards

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh Area School District students showed growth in some learning categories despite two school years of pandemic learning while earning an overall score of “Meets Expectations” on the State Accountability Report Card issued by the state Department of Public Instruction for 2020-2021.

The district missed an “Exceeds Expectations” rating by 0.1 point. All elementary schools met, exceeded or significantly exceeded expectations on their report cards, while district officials said middle and high schools have demonstrated strong performance, focusing on student growth.

The district received an overall score of 69.9, a decrease from the 2018-2019 school year when it received a 72.4. The Accountability Report Card was last released in fall 2019; the reporting requirements were suspended for the 2019-20 school year due to the impacts of COVID-19.

The report card for districts and schools, which used new scoring criteria, includes data on indicators for multiple years across four priority areas: Student Achievement, District Growth, Target Group, and On-Track and Postsecondary Success. The Oshkosh district continues to make strong gains in the District Growth category, with 73.6 out of a possible 100 points, compared with the state average of 66 points.

“In the OASD, we emphasize growth goals and as we continue to navigate the ongoing pandemic this focus has become even more critical,” stated Julie Conrad, district director of curriculum and assessment. “We are committed to students first and ensuring that every student grows. Our performance on multiple achievement measures shows promising results, and we are proud of the progress and resiliency our

DPI report cards

dpi.wi.gov/accountability/report-cards

students and our schools have shown. “As a district, we are constantly evaluating and monitoring our efforts to ensure that we are providing all students with the opportunities and skills needed to be college, career, and community ready.”

Highlights show the district:

- Continued to outpace the state in the area of growth for both English language, arts and mathematics.

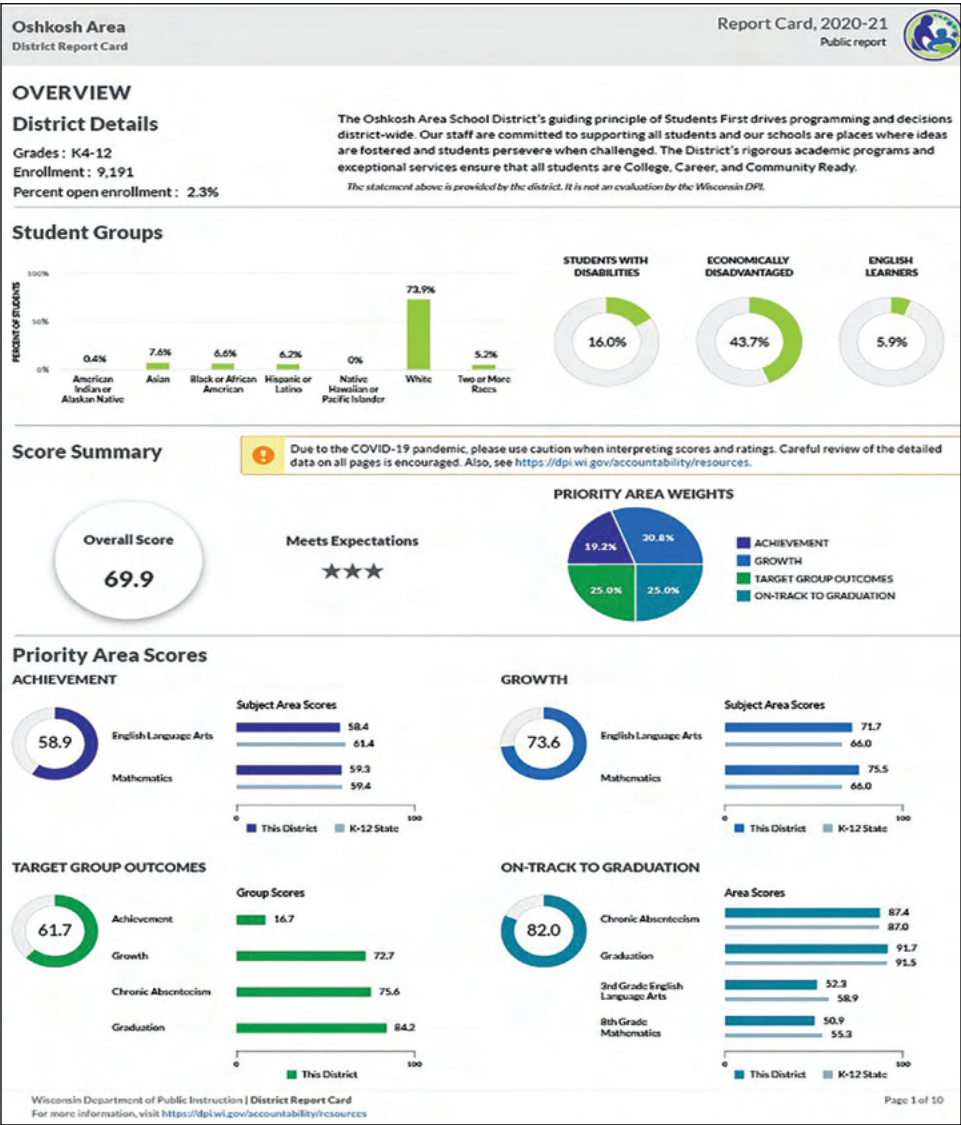
- Increased the number of schools that fall into the combined categories of Meets Expectations, Exceeds Expectations and Significantly Exceeds Expectations. All elementary schools fall into one of those combined categories.

- Continued strong performance at the high school level.

Each district school also received an individual report card that can be found at dpi.wi.gov/accountability/report-cards. They are organized alphabetically by district name.

Serving as an accountability system for schools and districts, the report cards measure each school’s results from the Wisconsin Forward Exam, attendance rates, graduation rates and performance on ACT Aspire as well as the ACT for high schools.

The state assigns a score for student achievement, student growth, target group and postsecondary readiness with the intention for schools to use the information to identify areas for improvement and set future goals. Administrators and professional staff have been examining school-level data and state assessment results to determine where instruction for students needs to be



adjusted and enhanced. Many district schools reported consistency in their report card ratings as a result of previous school improvement planning, response to unfinished learning due to the pandemic response, and district-wide continuous improvement efforts. School improvement planning focuses on academics

and student’s social and emotional growth. “Students and schools are more than a single test or number,” Conrad stated. “That, along with the reality that COVID has impacted us all differently, highlights the importance of focusing on the unique needs of each of our school communities.”



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Photo from Oshkosh Police
Oshkosh officer Kate Mann (second from left) worked with Day By Day Warming Shelter staff to help find housing for two men through the Police Lights of Christmas program.

Police officers help bridge homeless gaps

Early in the summer, Oshkosh residents were contacting the Police Department expressing their concerns about homeless people sleeping under the bridges and camping near the river.

Public affairs and crime prevention officer Kate Mann said that police made contact with several people who were residing in that area. When some were asked about property being stored there and why people were sleeping there during the day and at night, their answer surprised them.

“The gentleman we spoke with pointed out some bags of property and said that he was watching the property while two of his friends were at work and then pointed to a male who was sleeping and said that he just got done working third shift,” Mann said in recounting the officers’ conversation. “The person we were talking with also told us that he works, but that he works the second shift so when he is gone, the others will watch his property.”

Mann said the discussion led to follow-up questions on some of the barriers preventing people with jobs from finding a place to rent and what as a police department could

be done to help. Staff from the Day By Day Warming Shelter said that in some cases residents are working but only temporarily and in other cases the large amount of rent and security money due when signing a rental agreement becomes a challenge.

This is where the Police Lights of Christmas community program comes in, which provides donated funds to officers each December that they can use to help people in need.

Oshkosh officers spoke with warming shelter employees and the Police Lights organizer about using some of the funds to help the two homeless men get an apartment. Shelter staff made sure they were still employed full time, had the necessary wages to continue to pay rent and helped them find an apartment.

“It definitely was the highlight of our day as we watched the keys to the apartment being handed over to the two gentlemen who are now no longer homeless,” Mann said. “It truly does take a community working together to achieve amazing goals and to create long-lasting positive effects on others’ lives.”

Warming shelter site debate continues

By Kaitlyn Scoville
OSHKOSH HERALD

The city’s Redevelopment Authority deferred a vote to acquire a property at Ceape Avenue and Broad Street from the Winnebago County Housing Authority with regard to developing a year-round facility for the Day By Day Warming Shelter.

After a well-attended public hearing for purchasing land at 420 Ceape Ave. and 0 Broad St. for \$150,000, a motion carried 5-1 to release the acquisition from solely being used by community development block grants (CDBGs) to allow flexibility in the land’s use, with Mayor Lori Palmeri being the only opposition.

Oshkosh Area Community Foundation president and CEO Bill Wyman spoke against acquiring the land for the shelter, noting that part of the city near the Riverwalk should be dedicated to entertainment development.

“This area of town would be better used for an entertainment-type district,” Wyman said. “It’s more appropriate for what’s already happening in that area.”

Daniel Schetter, Best Western Premier Waterfront Hotel & Convention Center manager, also opposed the plan to purchase the land for the shelter and painted a picture for the redevelopment authority of what the hotel and gathering hall “deal with” on a regular basis.

“I think (the Day By Day development) is going to attract more activity,” he said.

Convention & Visitors Bureau executive director Amy Albright said no matter what decision is made, the city needs to

acknowledge the issue and work with the community on dealing with it.

“We want what’s best for Oshkosh and the neediest of our community,” she said.

Day By Day executive director Molly Yatso-Butz spoke as well, noting that the year-round facility could help with any issues the hotel and convention center may be experiencing by providing more beds to sleep in all year.

She also said this year – after just four weeks of their 15-week season – has already broken the record for the number of people the warming shelter has had to turn away at 151, noting they see about two new people per night seeking refuge.

Redevelopment authority member Steve Hintz suggested laying over the group’s decision after another member, Jason Lasky, suggested removing the requirement to have it purchased under CDBG funds and allow for greater flexibility of the land’s use.

With an estimated project start of spring of next year, the group may need to hold a special meeting to finalize any decisions. The next scheduled Redevelopment Authority meeting is Jan. 19.

The group also approved a \$5,000 acquisition of vacant properties on the 100 block of Sixth Avenue for a four-plex townhome to be built by Aquire Restoration. They are slated to be 2,200 square feet with three bedrooms and attached garage.

Community Development Director Kelly Nieforth said townhomes are in short supply among residential buildings in Oshkosh.



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Submitted photo

Free monthly memory cafes will be held at the Oshkosh YMCA and the Oshkosh Public Library in December.

Memory Cafes offered at YMCA, library

In partnership with Fox Valley Memory Project, the Oshkosh YMCA and Oshkosh Public Library will be hosting free monthly Memory Cafes that provide a safe and welcoming space for those experiencing memory loss along with their care partners.

Cafes include an activity or presenter and a refreshment. There is no charge. Upcoming cafes at the Oshkosh YMCA 20th Avenue location are from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Monday and Dec. 20. The library will host a cafe at 1:30 p.m. Dec. 8, where the Oshkosh West Madrigal Choir will sing to celebrate the holiday season.

For more information, contact Siri Smits at 920-230-8439 or sirismits@oshkoshymca.org.

Jansen’s Bar and Restaurant has new owner

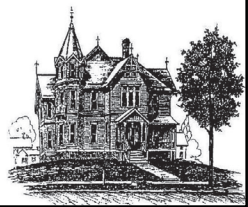
Jansen’s Bar and Restaurant at 344 Bowen St. has been purchased by Travis Lee, owner of Three One Four Pizza.

Lee said in a Facebook post that Jansen’s Supper Club owner Julie Johnson agreed to the sale and would be staying on with the current staff.

“Being tasked with the preservation of such an iconic Oshkosh landmark is extremely humbling and exciting,” Lee said of the tavern that goes back to the late 1800s. “It’s been a dream of mine to own a place just like this.”

Jansen’s opens at 11 a.m. Monday through Saturday and is closed Sundays. The restaurant will be open Thanksgiving Day and is taking reservations.

Back in the Day



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical & Archaeological Society

Nov. 13, 1930


Artist Presents Big Oil Painting to City as a Gift: Gustav Behnke, noted artist and resident of Oshkosh for 54 years, has presented to the city a large oil painting depicting the resurrection of Christ. The painting will be hung in the chapel at Riverside cemetery. The location of the painting was selected by the artist and will be displayed above the alcove at the rear of the altar in the front end of the chapel. The cemetery board has agreed to have the artwork appropriately lighted. Gustav Behnke is the father of Nile Behnke, who served as the director of the Oshkosh Public Museum for many years. Gustav has been painting for 60 years and was one of the early church decorators of Wisconsin, having worked in 175 churches in this state. On October 14, 1942, a second Gustav Behnke painting was donated



Two of Oshkosh artist Gustav Behnke’s oil paintings hang in the Riverside Cemetery chapel.

by Gustav’s widow and also hangs on the opposite wall in the chapel. This painting is of the crucifixion of Christ (Note: Both of these beautiful pieces are still displayed today in the chapel at Riverside.)

Source: Oshkosh Daily Northwestern, Nov. 13, 1930



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Collaboration brings back early city beer style

By Lee Reiherzer
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Oshkosh began as a lager-beer town. Our first breweries were established in 1849 by German-born brewers who filled their barrels with the cool-fermenting lager beers they had learned to brew in their homeland. Those beers were embraced here. Lager styles of beer would remain predominant in Oshkosh until the end of the 20th century. Then craft beer came along. And that meant ale.

With the launch of Fox River Brewing in 1995, ale brewing supplanted Oshkosh's history as a center for lager-beer production. The difference between the two families of beer comes down to yeast, time, and flavor.

Ale is fermented with yeast that prefers warm temperatures; usually around 66 degrees Fahrenheit. Ale is a quick brew often going from kettle to glass in 14 days or less. The process tends to produce a beer with a fruitier flavor profile. Lager, on the other hand, is made with yeast that thrives in a cooler environment; about 50° Fahrenheit. After fermentation, a lager is typically matured for a month or more at temperatures close to freezing. It leads to a beer with a "cleaner" taste allowing the more subtle aspects of the ingredients to shine through.

Lagers have earned a reputation for being more difficult to brew. That's one of the reasons it has tended to be ignored by craft breweries. But that's beginning to change. According to Nielsen, a market research firm, the production of craft lagers grew by more than 9 percent last year, making it among the fastest-growing segments of the beer market. The primary contributors in Oshkosh to that increase have been Bare Bones Brewery and Fox River Brewing.

This month, the two breweries will un-



Photo by Lee Reiherzer

Drew Roth (left), head brewer at Fox River Brewing, and Jody Cleveland, head brewer at Bare Bones, work on a lager brew at Fox River in mid-October.

derscore the trend with the release of a collaboration beer named The Fox and the Hound, a golden-hued, hop-forward lager that will be available at the taprooms of both breweries. For Drew Roth, head brewer at Fox River, and Jody Cleveland, head brewer at Bare Bones, the beer presents an opportunity to demonstrate how compelling a good lager can be.

"I think there's an expectation that lager is just one thing," says Cleveland. "A lot of customers think of it as something that's always light and not very flavorful. It's nice to show that this type of beer can be more than that."

Roth says that at Fox River, that realization is already taking place. "Our customer base is one that still very much gravitates towards darker beers and they tend to un-

derstand that a beer like our Oktoberfest is a lager," he says. "So, there's already some knowledge among our customers that lager doesn't necessarily have to be fizzy, yellow beer."

Cleveland and Roth took a decidedly craft-beer approach when they developed the recipe for The Fox and the Hound. It's an all-malt beer brewed with American malts and Grungeist hops, a proprietary hop grown in Germany. A post-fermentation "dry-hop" addition was used to highlight the notes of peach and passion fruit that Grungiest brings. It's a technique not usually associated with lager-beer brewing.

"We've learned that we really like to dry hop our lagers," Roth says "A little bit of dry hop goes a long way in this sort of beer

and it really does amp it up a notch." The approach may be somewhat novel, but it's indicative of the evolution of lager brewing here. Both Roth and Cleveland began their careers brewing ales. That background informs their approach to making lager beers.

"I did not even like lager beer for a long time," says Roth. "I went into craft beer as an IPA hop head. At the time it was really hard to find good lagers. It wasn't until I was in Eau Claire and had Lazy Monk's beer that I started thinking, alright this is pretty good. After that, I went back to homebrewing for a while and immediately started brewing lagers."

Cleveland followed a similar path. "When I started homebrewing, all I wanted to brew was brown ale," he says. "But gradually I started doing lagers and then ended up brewing it quite a bit, mostly historic styles and beers that had been brewed in Oshkosh before craft came along. Now, it's my favorite type of beer, so I would prefer to brew that."

At Bare Bones, Cleveland makes the only year-round lager produced in Oshkosh. The brewery's Oshkosh Lager is an homage to the sort of lagers that were widely produced in Oshkosh for most of the 20th century. "The fact that these beers are selling well helps me justify brewing more of it," Cleveland says.

Roth shares that view. "I mean you have to brew what sells," he says, "and right now the lager beers are selling, so we're going to continue making them. I personally like them a lot, so I'm not disappointed about brewing more of them."

Lee Reiherzer has been writing about Oshkosh's beer and its brewing history since 2010 when he launched the Oshkosh Beer website. He is co-author of "The Breweries of Oshkosh" and author of "Winnebago County Beer."

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Invasive plants to be mapped in Winnebago County

The Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance is expanding a multiphase effort to map target invasive species by completing roadside surveys within the four-county region of Winnebago, Outagamie, Waupaca and Brown counties. In the next few months, alliance interns will begin the first phase of the project with roadside surveys across

Winnebago and parts of Waupaca counties. Populations of Phragmites and Japanese knotweed have been increasing throughout northeast Wisconsin. The plants degrade ecosystems by crowding out native plants and creating dense monocultures that threaten bird and wildlife habitats. Dense stands also restrict human use

of lakes, waterways and wetlands. Phragmites and Japanese knotweed are facilitated through actions such as ornamental planting, mowing and other activities that can spread stem fragments and seed along roadways or at construction sites. These two species are most easily identifiable during winter. The project will cre-

ate a management plan detailing control strategies through mapping efforts, which will be completed in phases. Grant funds will later be secured to initiate treatment plans in the region. For more information, contact Chris Acy, AIS coordinator, at 920-460-3674 or chris@fwwa.org.

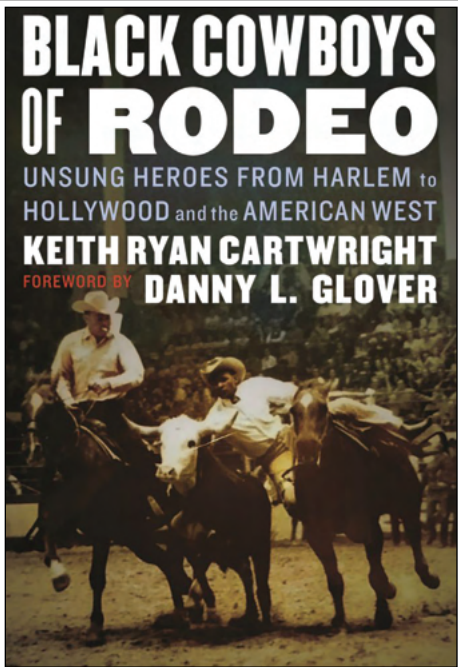
Black cowboys

FROM PAGE 1

ture and to the sport of rodeo and I wanted to make sure I focused on that and brought that to light and the book evolved into what it is.”


The response had been exactly what Cartwright was hoping for. “Overwhelmingly positive by the people profiled in the book, overwhelmingly positive by some schools and museums around the country, and bookstores around the country have responded really well,” said Cartwright, a 1989 graduate of Oshkosh North. “Most importantly, you

want people to be readers of it and that’s gone really well. That’s your heart and soul on the pages and when people do respond that way, it feels good.” Cartwright said the book has been embraced by interested readers around the country but he’s also heard from librarians and university professors that it has wide appeal in their audiences. Part of the reason for the deep reach is the wide scope of history the book covers. “It’s not only African-American history; it’s American history, period,” Cartwright said. “It was very important for me to be able to share an accurate representation of a piece of American history. The American West history, African American history, sport, pop culture, politics – it’s the



intersection of all of that.” The book may also be the first of other projects on the topic. Cartwright, who is planning a book signing at Caramel Crisp Corner next month, is already contemplating two more books on the subject – one of which would be a follow-up to his recently released effort as well as a companion piece on Black cowgirls. The foundation for those books came from research he has done already. “You always need to know more than you

write. If you only know what’s on the page, you’re spreading yourself pretty thin,” he said. “The longer and the bigger your project, the more and more information you get.” In addition to the follow-up books, Cartwright also envisions a documentary on the lives of Black cowboys. While nothing is set in stone, Cartwright is trying to move forward with a sense of urgency to get as many sources on camera as possible. “Once I got started, I knew time was of the essence,” he said. “I want to make sure I can get them on film. It’s absolutely a pressing matter. The film project is not something we can do in 10 years.” As much as the book’s readers have learned about the cowboys’ lives, it’s also been an education for Cartwright. “For me, I didn’t grow up in that world at all, so it wasn’t surprising that I didn’t have that knowledge,” he said. “Once your eyes are opened to it, you become very aware of the fact that there are Black cowboys and cowgirls everywhere. “I am very fortunate to have gone and sat and visited and have all of those people in the book share – sometimes for the first time in their lives – their intimate stories. They trusted me with that story and I didn’t take that for granted. There’s an element to be responsible to what we’re telling, the stories we are sharing.”



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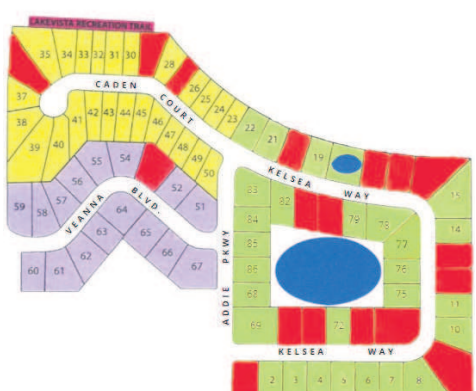
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Fire funding

FROM PAGE 1

guys here who want to serve their community and give back.”

Jim Austad, program chairman for fire protection at Fox Valley Technical College and former Oshkosh Fire Department battalion chief, said a concern for volunteer departments is the struggle to attract, hire and retain firefighters.

“I know from a volunteer firefighter’s side, the training is a difficult thing to require of people, especially if someone walks in the door of the fire department and says I want to be a member of your organization,” he said, adding that then they’re told, “OK, now you have to go to this class and so we’ll see you in six months. That’s kind of a deterrent to the recruitment process.”



Stanley

Austad said he believes most volunteers are looking to serve their community and aren’t initially intending to become career firefighters but often enjoy the work so much that they consider pursuing the profession.

“Realistically, if your real goal is to become a career firefighter our fire program will do that for you in about two years whereas doing it in a volunteer department – the opportunity to take classes might be limited on location and place and timing and offering,” he said.

Oshkosh Fire Chief Michael Stanley also cites similar struggles in its career-based department.

Oshkosh is part of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System program, as are surrounding volunteer departments. They and surrounding communities have agreed to help each other out when an incident overwhelms a department’s initial capacity. But Oshkosh doesn’t receive many because the smaller surrounding departments don’t have as many incidents requiring a full response.

However, Stanley said with training requirements and an aging population, hiring qualified cross-trained paramedics and firefighters is proving challenging.

“Looking back on 2021 compared to 2020, we’ve seen about a (5.5) percent increase in calls; we’re seeing an increased demand for our services,” Stanley said. “When I look at specific types of calls, emergency medical service calls are up.”



Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh fire crews are shown on the scene of a 2019 fire on Jackson Street. The city’s department balances its own jurisdiction with mutual aid agreements with surrounding communities.

Stanley said he suspects EMS calls due to falls will rise with Oshkosh being a retirement destination. However, with this, he is also seeing a sharp rise in retirements.

“We’re all fishing out of the same barrel,” he said. “(Volunteer) departments are struggling with recruitment, retention and maintaining training hours. To a degree, we plan and staff for that response; we’re prepared to help them.

“They contract with Oshkosh to provide that paramedic service. If someone has a heart attack, their volunteer fire department will respond to provide basic life support interventions, and our ambulance will respond to the scene with our paramedics and transport them to a hospital.”

Stanley said with attraction and retention issues nationwide, consolidation of smaller, volunteer departments may be necessary.

“In small communities, departments get hit as the population expands rapidly – many times, other municipal services can’t keep up,” he said. “Fire and EMS agencies around the state are just shutting their doors; there’s nobody to fill that void in a rural community. So they just go without or depend on a community 60 miles from here.”

Only about a handful of times this year they’ve been called for mutual aid in smaller communities, Stanley said. Sometimes they’ve had to decline requests for assistance.

OFD’s overall response times for emergencies to incidents in the city is 7 minutes and 44 seconds 90 percent of the time, he said. The benchmark they use when responding to townships that contract ambulance services is less than 20 minutes at 90 percent of the time.

Funding for the department has to be balanced with other municipal needs, and several needs for the fire department will be considered next year with the Common Council’s recently approved capital improvement program (CIP) budget.

“Public safety is typically the biggest wedge of the pie, and it’s part of the big three along with public works, streets and water,” Stanley said. “We have to be cognizant of the taxpayer.”

City Manager Mark Rohloff said the Fire Department is primarily funded through general property taxes, ambu-

lance fees and some contributions from surrounding municipalities for providing those contracted services.

Along with that, Rohloff also said the city is being shortchanged by the state by about \$2 million annually to provide services to state-owned properties.

“This financial burden is passed on to other taxpayers in Oshkosh,” Rohloff said. “The state is not paying its fair share, and Oshkosh residents are being burdened to pick up the state’s tab. ... The cost of personnel has far outpaced the funding we are supposed to get from the state.”

Every so often the city receives grants for equipment and some personnel costs but it doesn’t recoup entirely what the fire department needs to provide full services.

“These shortages have a direct impact on our taxes and in our ability to fund much-needed fire services, along with other needed city services,” Rohloff said.

The Wisconsin Policy Forum report’s key takeaways indicate a possible impact on public safety if training and recruitment woes are not dealt with.

While consolidation may not produce immediate financial savings it, in the long term, will turn advantageous with future challenges. Licensing and training with volunteer firefighters becomes hard to maintain and can prove to be a significant burden on smaller municipalities with volunteer services.

The policy forum cites states such as Minnesota, Michigan and Washington as having insights to possible solutions. Those states are divided into eight regions by which plans for education, response and programming for each are catered to the communities they serve.

The full report is at WisPolicyForum.org under the Research tab titled “In Need of Resuscitation?”

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Welcoming the season



Photos by Michael Cooney

Downtown Oshkosh was in full festive mode Thursday night for the annual Christmas tree lighting and parade led by grand marshal and UW Oshkosh Chancellor Andrew Leavitt and wife Karen honoring the 150th anniversary of the university. A boy views himself (above) in one of the large ornaments on the tree in Opera House Square. Young parade watchers were gifted with candy from members of the parade procession (top right) and other children helped Mayor Lori Palmeri with the official tree lighting.





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Do you find yourself feeling less confident and worrying more about falling?

If you answered "Yes" to any of these questions (or you have a stubborn spouse or parent who is in denial) –Our "Balance and Fall Prevention Workshop" on Wednesday, December 1st, from 6-7 PM, may be a life-changing (and possibly life-saving event). It will provide the information and guidance to get your confidence back. Advanced registration is encouraged, as space is limited to 12 participants. CALL 920-230-2747 to register you and one guest.

If you're confused about what to do and looking for some answers, here's some of what you'll learn:

- The three main systems in our bodies that control balance
- Quick do it yourself balance tests to determine if each balance system is working at its full potential
- The three things you can do immediately if you're hoping to avoid the next fall and remain independent
- How you may be able to receive a: "Balance and Falls Risk Assessment" from the experts at Physical Achievement Center at no cost to you.

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"Say it with me!"

Sorenson puts finishing touches on college sports path

By Dustin Riese
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Playing sports is a big part of a lot of kids' lives growing up, and for Cameron Sorenson it was no different. What was once a case of trying things out to see what he liked best turned into a love of many sports.

"I played four sports growing up: football, basketball, baseball, and track and field," Sorenson said. "Football and track were the ones I stuck with the most, but all four brought something different to the table. I just enjoyed playing football more than I did other sports. For me, scoring touchdowns was the most fulfilling feeling I would get in any of the sports I played."

Going back to his high school days at Oshkosh North, Sorenson had an opportunity to play for head coach Chris Kuja-wa and Juston Wara. He was a three-year varsity player but saw nearly all of his production come as a junior and senior. He emerged as a favorite target as a junior, hauling in 29 catches for 429 yards and three touchdowns. One year later and his production continued with 36 catches for 729 yards and eight touchdowns.

Sorenson had a handful of Division II and Division III college offers, but he was also receiving interest for track and field from some Division I programs. Ultimately, Sorenson chose to go the track and field route as Eastern Michigan was his original school of choice.

After a year at Ypsilanti, Sorenson was looking for something more in terms of his athletic career, so he pursued football. Although there were plenty of schools interested in his services, UW-La Crosse stood above the rest.



La Crosse Tribune photo

Oshkosh North graduate Cameron Sorenson has found success on the football field for the UW-La Crosse Eagles.

After picking up three receptions for 50 yards in his first year with the Eagles, Sorenson followed that up with 30 catches for 628 yards to go with eight touchdowns.

With COVID wiping away the 2020 season, Sorenson earned an extra year of eligibility, and his junior season went about as well as he could hope with a career-high 37 catches. He also brought in 10 touchdowns through 10 games this season. His yardage is a little bit down at 497 but the overall production continues to be pivotal for the Eagles success and Sorenson is soaking up every second of the experience.

"The group of guys and coaching staff we have are just so amazing," he said. "Be-

cause of the great environment our coaches have built here, we've been able to have a great season. Coach Janus took over as head coach during the start of the pandemic, and I couldn't think of any other coach in the country to be able to do what he's done with our program, the way everything played out after the 2019 season.

"Making the playoffs this year has been one of the greatest feelings I've ever had in all of sports as well. It's been a statement season for our program, and I know we aren't even close to being finished. I know a lot of people on our team have sacrificed a lot, and it's just nice knowing everything has paid off and we get to keep practicing and playing for more opportunities."

UW-La Crosse has been one of the

most successful programs in WIAC history but it hasn't gone that way across the last decade. That changed this season as the Eagles sit at 8-2 with a 6-1 WIAC finish – while earning an at-large bid for the NCAA tournament and are back in the playoffs for the first time in over a decade (Saturday's game at Albion College was played after the Herald's holiday deadline).

Sorenson was setting his sights high for the game, but the goals he has set for next season shows the confidence he has in this program.

"After this season, the biggest goal is to win the WIAC championship next year and then the national championship too," he said. "Personally, the goals I set for myself are to just have fun and be the best I can be. It's always nice to be able to have good stats and win awards, but I think being focused on winning championships is something that will naturally breed those. So, winning is truly what I'm focused on most when playing my final season next year."

Sorenson enjoys the bonding experiences that go along with playing as a team.

"I always love going on road trips for games as well. The bonding and experiences you have at overnight games are just always so fun," he said.

"Staying here in La Crosse for the summers to work out and get ready for the season with all my teammates is something I'll always cherish as well. Some of the most fun times in college have been in the summers just hanging out with a group of teammates, whether it's on the field, in the gym or hanging at someone's house or getting dinner."

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Sluggish start looms large in Wildcats loss to Pulaski

By Dustin Riese
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

The 2021-22 girls basketball season kicked off last week with Oshkosh West playing a pair of FRCC opponents on the road, including Pulaski on Thursday night. Both defenses came to play, forcing countless turnovers to take their counterpart out of rhythm. Eventually shots started to fall, but it was the Wildcats who couldn't find the basket for a majority of the first half, which proved to be the difference maker in the 46-37 loss.

"I think seniors Meredith Posanski and Lauren Best really set the bar tonight when it came to effort on both sides of the ball," head coach Kenisha Phillips said. "They never give up and I think as the game went on their teammates started to feed off that."

Titans place 12 players on all-conference football team

Linebacker Tory Jandrin, strong safety Kyle Scharenbroch and offensive linemen Mike Olsen and Hunter Schultz were each named to the first team to highlight the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh's 12 selections to the 2021 All-Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Football Team.

Olsen, a senior center, was a repeat pick to the All-WIAC First Team while senior guard Schultz, sophomore Jandrin and junior Scharenbroch garnered all-league accolades for the first time.

UW Oshkosh's All-WIAC Second Team selections were senior tight end Justin Kasuboski, junior defensive end Brandon

Neither team connected on a field goal through the game's first five minutes with West holding a 2-1 lead at that point. Once Sophie Majewski found the bucket on the inside, it appeared to awaken the Pulaski offense as they went on a 12-0 run to take a 12-2 lead.

Balanced scoring was the key during that run for Pulaski as Olivia Kubiak, Ashlyn Szymanski and several others chipped in to get the Red Raiders offense off and running. It took 11 minutes for the Wildcats to connect with a shot from the field when Brenna Gehri found some open space on the floor and knocked down a jumper to make things 12-4.

Campbell Grey, Posanski and Gehri helped spark an 8-3 run to bring the Wildcats within 15-10. Szymanski and Kubiak helped the Red Raiders end the half on a

7-0 run and a 22-10 lead into the break.

Seeing a team struggle in the first half of their first game is not a surprise, but Phillips was a bit surprised with how much her team struggled to find the basket.

"I think nerves and lack of varsity experience led to that slow start by us," she said. "That lead to a lot of risky passes that didn't go our way. We also passed up open shots and missed bunnies that could have altered the outcome of this game."

Maddi Choinski and Gabrielle DeCleene exchanged buckets to open the half keeping things at a 12-point game. A couple of three pointers from Best had the Wildcats within six only to see Wiese answer at the other end with a three to push the lead back to nine.

Whenever the Wildcats appeared to be getting on a nice run, Pulaski used another efficient 8-0 run to push the lead to 35-20.

Despite what the scoreboard said, the Wildcats defense played exceptionally well.

"As the game went on our energy picked up and our girls played aggressive, physical

and flew around causing Pulaski to make errors," Phillips said. "It helped when shots started to fall to feed off that energy."

Best and Seckar helped spark an 11-0 run that pulled West within 40-35 with under four minutes to go. Gehri and Choinski added a couple of huge threes to cap off that run as the Wildcats were the closest they were since early in the first half.

The Red Raiders then clamped down on the defensive end, allowing just two points the remainder of the game. In the process, they were able to get to the free throw line more than enough to ice the game and preserve the win.

The Wildcats won't return to the floor until Nov. 30 when they travel to Hortonville to open their conference slate.

Early deadline

Our holiday deadline for this week's issue prevented the Herald from having weekend sports results.

Warbirds look to improve with young experience

By Alex Wolf
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Last season the Fond du Lac co-op girls hockey team was young but still made some noise in the WIAA state tournament, picking up a win before losing in the sectional semis to state runner-up University School of Milwaukee, 3-2.

With the Warbirds returning their top two leading scorers from last year and goalie, head coach Duane Woeschnick has high hopes.

"Overall we are still a young team and will continue to get better each day and compete against top 10 teams," he said. "We do return our top two scorers and

goalie, all three will help protect our defensive zone.

Those three – senior Emily Brown and juniors Ella Spies and Hailee Scheier – will look to lead a young Warbirds team that has a roster that consists of only three seniors and four juniors, with 10 sophomores and seven freshmen.

Last season the Warbirds finished 6-8 with a sixth-place finish in the Eastern Shores Conference. Spies returns after leading the team in points (17), goals (11) and was tied for second in assists (6). Brown was second in points (12), finishing with five goals and seven assists.

Scheier spent most of the season in the net last year, finishing with 267 saves – good for a .893 save percentage.

GIRLS HOCKEY PREVIEW

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Lourdes looking for state title encore in 2021-22

By Dustin Riese
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Not even a COVID situation could stop the Lourdes boys basketball team from achieving its ultimate goal last season. After coming so close to achieving a gold ball in recent seasons, the Knights were able to finish what they started as Nathan Slagter connected for a buzzer-beating layup to defeat The Prairie School for the state championship.

Typically, Lourdes would enter the season with a target on its back giving

BASKETBALL PREVIEW

its success in the Trailways Conference. After bringing home the gold ball, that target is going to be that much bigger.

“When I think about last year’s team the main thing that comes to mind is exceptional character,” head coach Dennis Ruedinger said. “We were talented as basketball players but what set us apart was the camaraderie, love, passion and respect that we had for each other.

“Our goals and expectations are the same every year: Represent our school and community in a positive manner, get better every day and make those around you better. When you do that, winning takes care of itself.”

Jack McKellips, Josh Bauer, Jack Huizenga, Slagter and Preston Ruedinger are no longer with the program. Most of them were starters contributing to roughly 90 percent of the team’s scoring.

“By far the thing that I am most proud of with our program is that we have never had to completely replace anyone,” Ruedinger said. “Our players make a life-

long impact on each other and year after year our underclassmen take a piece of last year’s seniors with them. The state championship was a compilation of everything that all of our players have given to this program. All who have worn the uniform over the past 20 plus years are a part of that accomplishment.”

Even with so many contributing pieces gone from last year, there is plenty to like about this Knights team as they still have a plethora of talent. Senior Dominic Kane returns after splitting time between a starter and sixth man last season.

Sophomore J.J. McKellips saw starting action as a freshman during the first part of the season before moving to the bench come playoff time. Add in Jack Seibold, Thomas Derleth, Malith Liabwell and several other players and the Knights shouldn’t miss a beat and will once again be tough to stop.

“Josh Pritzl, Thomas Derleth, Adam Arnoldussen, Gavin Stelter, Lucas Schettl – just to name a few others who will look to lead the way,” Ruedinger said. “We have a lot of returning players that are talented. Every player on the team will have a role and share their talents to help us be as good as we can be. I am really looking forward to this year as we had a lot of guys make sacrifices last year with playing time. Now it is their turn to shine and I am looking forward to watching it unfold.”

As the Knights get set to defend their Division 4 title, they will need to do so with plenty of new faces in the starting lineup. Those faces may not be new to the program, but they are new in terms of being the go-to guys after taking a back seat to an impressive class.

“We need to work hard, improve every day and make those around you better,” Ruedinger said. “If we can do that, I love our chances against anyone.”

Valley Christian poised to move up in Trailways

Coming off a 6-16 year and a winless conference season, Valley Christian has nowhere to go but up. If you talk to the team’s head coach, brighter days could be ahead as this is a team with good expectations.

“Last year was definitely a challenging year for every school due to COVID,” head coach Luis Giannopoulos said. “We all had to make several adjustments due to canceled or postponed games but I think everyone persevered and we were able to finish our season. We lost one of our starters after the first game of the year and then two other key players halfway through the season and that put us in a difficult position. Our kids have worked hard through the off-season and we expect to be competitive this season.”

Like Giannopoulos said, the Trailways East Conference was a loaded league last year with both the Division 4 (Lourdes) and Division 5 (Hustisford) state champions. Those teams were loaded with senior talent and will be looking to replace most of their production. Valley Christian is in a similar position although not at the same magnitude as they will need to replace Elijah Wade along with several others. Wade was the team’s leading scorer and rebounder.

“The loss of Elijah Wade is a big one for our team as he led us in scoring, rebound-

ing and blocked shots,” Giannopoulos said. “We are also going to miss Jaden Francis and Matt Curtis’ size and toughness as well as Isaías Guitierrez’s leadership.”

Even with those players gone the Warriors have plenty to lean on as they will be returning three starters from last year. Alexandros Giannopoulos, Will Kehoe and Isaiah Humiston were all big contributors and will give the Warriors plenty to lean on. Add in Taylor Westphal, JR Caleb Stertz and a hard-working group of sophomores that include Eli Humiston, Josiah Lehman, Christian Canlas, AJ Richardson, Dennis Thur and Jackson Martin.

“Lack of size might be a challenge for us this season but we are hoping that with tenacity and teamwork we will be able to overcome that,” Giannopoulos said. “If we can do that, I really like our chances this season and what this team can accomplish.”

Big things expected for North boys squad

Coming off a 10-18 season that included a 5-13 record in the Fox Valley Association, some might talk about how disappointing it was. However, that wasn’t the case as the Oshkosh North boys basketball team was playing their best at the right time, advancing to sectionals before falling to Kimberly.

With a new season about to begin, the Spartans are eager to take the floor. Unlike last season that had so many uncertainties, this season has much higher expectations with experienced players returning.

SEE **Boys basketball** ON PAGE 18



2020-21 Oshkosh High School Boys Basketball Schedules



LOURDES ACADEMY

11/23	@Winneconne	7:00pm
11/27	Laconia	7:15pm
11/29	Wautoma	7:15pm
12/3	Oakfield	7:15pm
12/7	@Dodgeland	7:15pm
12/14	Horicon	7:15pm
12/17	Valley Christian	7:15pm
12/22	@St. Mary Springs	7:15pm
1/4	@Omro	7:15pm
1/7	@Hustisford	7:15pm
1/13	@Central WI Christian	6:00pm
1/17	Wayland Academy	7:15pm
1/22	TBD	TBD
1/25	Central WI Christian	7:15pm
1/27	@Oakfield	7:15pm
2/1	Dodgeland	7:15pm
2/4	@Horicon	7:15pm
2/7	@Randolph	7:15pm
2/10	@Valley Christian	7:15pm
2/15	@Wayland Academy	7:15pm
2/18	Hustisford	7:15pm
2/24	Coleman	7:30pm

OSHKOSH NORTH SPARTANS

11/26	Menasha	7:30pm
11/30	@Manitowoc Lincoln	7:15pm
12/3	@Oshkosh West	7:30pm
12/7	@Hortonville	7:30pm
12/10	@Appleton North	7:30pm
12/14	Kimberly	7:30pm
12/17	Fond du Lac	7:30pm
1/4	@Kaukauna	7:30pm
1/7	Neenah	7:30pm
1/11	Appleton East	7:30pm
1/14	Oshkosh West	7:30pm
1/18	@Appleton West	7:30pm
1/22	Hortonville @Fiserv Forum	1:20pm
1/28	@Kimberly	7:30pm
2/1	@Fond du Lac	7:30pm
2/4	Appleton North	7:30pm
2/10	Kaukauna	7:30pm
2/12	@Neenah	7:30pm
2/18	@Appleton East	7:30pm
2/24	Appleton West	7:30pm

OSHKOSH WEST

11/30	Xavier	7:15pm
12/3	Oshkosh North	7:30pm
12/4	@Wauwatosa West	6:00pm
12/7	Kaukauna	7:30pm
12/10	Kimberly	7:30pm
12/14	@Neenah	7:30pm
12/17	Appleton West	7:30pm
12/18	Wausau East	3:00pm
1/4	@Appleton East	7:30pm
1/6	Appleton North	7:30pm
1/11	@Hortonville	7:30pm
1/14	@Oshkosh North	7:30pm
1/18	@Fond du Lac	7:30pm
1/21	@Kaukauna	7:30pm
1/28	Neenah	7:30pm
2/1	@Appleton West	7:30pm
2/4	@Kimberly	7:30pm
2/7	Menasha	7:30pm
2/10	Appleton East	7:30pm
2/12	@Appleton North	7:30pm
2/18	Hortonville	7:30pm
2/24	Fond du Lac	7:30pm

VALLEY CHRISTIAN

11/23	@Rio	7:15pm
12/3	@Hustisford	7:15pm
12/4	@Princeton/Green Lake	3:00pm
12/7	@Central WI Christian	7:15pm
12/14	@Wayland Academy	7:15pm
12/17	@Lourdes Academy	7:15pm
12/20	@Winnebago Lutheran	7:15pm
1/4	@Oakfield	7:15pm
1/7	@Dodgeland	7:15pm
1/10	Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah	7:30pm
1/13	Horicon	7:15pm
1/20	@Stockbridge	7:15pm
1/22	TBD	TBD
1/24	Ozaukee	7:30pm
1/27	Hustisford	7:15pm
2/1	Central WI Christian	7:15PM
2/4	Wayland Academy	7:15PM
2/10	Lourdes	7:15pm
2/15	Oakfield	7:15pm
2/18	Dodgeland	7:15pm
2/21	St. Lawrence Seminary	7:30pm
2/24	@Horicon	7:15pm

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Boys basketball

FROM PAGE 17

“Last year’s team was very inexperienced and suffered from the lack of an off-season,” head coach Brad Weber said. “This season, things are different. We had a good off-season and our expectation is to continue to improve throughout the season. Our goal is to make it to sectionals and see what happens from there. Playing in Division 2 for the playoffs will be new for us and new for scouting opponents. The tradeoff is not having to go through the FVA.”

North will have to replace two key players from their rotation last season. Jalen Keago was the team’s leading scorer, averaging close to 25 points, while Mason Day was one of those glue guy type of players who kept things together.

North has plenty of players who can step up this season, and that all revolves around Steven Clark, who had a breakout freshman season averaging nearly 12 points per game and 4.8 rebounds. Clark isn’t alone as Cooper Juedes, Redd Seckar and Kaden Lasse all saw significant minutes in the starting lineup and should continue to lead the way this season. Weber and his staff have plenty of other players to build around in a deep roster.

“We will have a lot of competition for the starting spot, as well as guys playing

rotational minutes,” he said. “I can see up to eight different guys being in the starting line up at some point in time this year. Reed Seckar is our floor general, tenacious on ball defender, and best outside shooter on the team. Cooper Juedes is an overall great athlete and our heart and soul on defense. Kaden Lasse is our best vocal leader and keeps us on the same page defensively. Steven Clark brings a complete offensive tool set with him and complement any line up he is on the floor with.”

Listed as one of the players to watch in the class of 2025, look for Xzayvion Mitchell to make his presence felt. His 6-5 frame will help protect the rim at both ends of the floor and his pure athleticism could become a matchup problem in this league.

The Spartans will have to face a league loaded with talent. Kimberly (defending state runner-up) and Neenah will be looked at as the favorites, but several other teams could land in the mix. Appleton East is one of those teams with North hoping to be a contender.

Consistency is key for Wildcats’ success

Oshkosh West continues to be one of the biggest mysteries in the FVA. At times it was a team that proved they could compete with anyone but there were also times when they lacked consistency, which led them to a 9-16 finish and 5-13 FVA record.

“It sounds cheesy, but we just want to get better each day and enjoy the journey,” head coach Michael Johnson said. “Last year we felt lucky just to have a season. Basketball is a long season and can wear on you, while things aren’t totally back to ‘normal’ this year, it should be less chaotic and we have great chemistry on the team which makes the daily grind much more enjoyable when you have a good group of kids.”

A big reason for those expectations stems from a large group of talented players that return from last season. Only three players from last season’s team graduated: Nick Pohjola, Darnell Williams and Jacques Overstreet, who was the Wildcats’ leading scorer a season ago, averaging 19.8 points per game.

The Wildcats will still have plenty of familiar faces returning. James Bradley finished second on the team in scoring a season ago with 9.1 points per game and will look to take on more of an offensive roll. He will be joined by Michael Stack, Ethan Shefchik, Jyceri Birmingham, Dylan Taylor, Mason Rohr and Jack Gibson, who all

have the potential to be better scorers given their ability to shoot from the outside. Freshman Benjy Bell, who has a bright future and may push for varsity time, is another player to watch who could make this team better.

Add in the size factor of Alex Schlichting and Tristan Johanknecht on the inside and the Wildcats may have one of the better inside-out combinations in the conference. That is something Johnson and his staff may use to their advantage as their overall size in the paint will be a problem for some teams.

“Nick Pohjola was a great leader for us and was on track to having a great senior season before he was injured,” Johnson said. “Just losing his presence in the locker room and on the bench will be something that we need to replace. We have so many returning players that it will be difficult for new players to crack the rotation early in the season. A lot can happen though, and it is all earned during the off-season and on the practice court.”

Herd game broadcast schedule, announcers set

Wisconsin Herd fans can watch away games starting in December and all regular-season home games for the entire season on WACY-TV (TV32).

The team announced last week that this will be the fourth season games will be shown on WACY as its official broadcast partner with WGBA-TV (NBC 26), both owned by The E.W. Scripps Co.

Ted Stefaniak returns as the primary play-by-play broadcaster bringing 32 years of broadcast experience, including 15 seasons with the WIAA State Basketball Network.

Color commentator will be Appleton native and former University of Wisconsin basketball star Brian Butch, who co-hosts the “B.J. and the Bear” morning

show on 99.1 and 95.3 FM The Score.

B.J. DeGroot, assistant brand manager of WSCO/WHBY, will serve as an alternate announcer. He is the host of “B.J. & The Bear.” Brandon Kinard, a sports reporter for NBC 26, will serve as an alternate play-by-play broadcaster. Joe Wolf, a former professional basketball coach and player, also will fill in as a color analyst.

The Herd is scheduled to be streamed on NBAGLeague.com and appear on national television eight times, including one NBA TV broadcast (Dec. 12) and seven ESPN+ games (Nov. 11, Dec. 1, Dec. 12, Jan. 5, Jan. 12, Jan. 20, Jan. 26). To view the Herd’s schedule, go to wisconsin.gleague.nba.com.

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Martell, Carpenter hope to follow Hunter’s path to top

By Tim Froberg
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

The path to the top of the WIAA wrestling world is no Yellow Brick Road.

It’s a long, fiercely competitive, energy-draining obstacle course that few can complete.

Oshkosh West’s Alec Hunter did it last season and the Wildcats hope that Roman

WRESTLING PREVIEW

Martell can do the same. West’s Martell and another skilled Oshkosh wrestler, Mason Carpenter of Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian, will look to navigate the same difficult trail and land spots at the top of the podium at the WIAA state individual wrestling tournament.

Martell, a senior, is a two-time state qualifier in Division 1 and is expected to extend that streak to three this winter. He went 1-1 a year ago at state, while competing at 195. Martell compiled the same record at state his sophomore year at 182.

Carpenter, a sophomore, went 18-2 as a freshman and placed fifth at 106 in the Division 3 state tourney.

Hunter, who has since graduated, claimed the 120-pound title in Division 1 to complete an undefeated season and become the first West wrestler to win a state title.

Martell, Carpenter and their teammates start new journeys in the coming weeks. Oshkosh North hosts Oshkosh West in the season opener Tuesday for both teams. Lourdes/Valley Christian starts the season Dec. 9 at the Manawa quadrangular.

The state individual tourney returns to

Madison’s Kohl Center Feb. 24-26 after being held at three sites last season: Kaukauna, Adams-Friendship and Wausau West. The WIAA state team tournament is scheduled for Madison’s UW-Field House March 4-5.

Oshkosh West

The Wildcats tied Kimberly for second in the rugged Fox Valley Association at 5-2 and are expected to put together another strong season.

Martell leads an experienced Wildcats team that returns six additional wrestlers who competed in last year’s lineup: seniors Clayton Ellison (113), Jasiah Williams (126), Max Carlin (132), Ben Beurhing (220) and juniors Vincent Bird (182) and Lukas Schroeder (145).

Williams landed second-team All-Fox Valley Association honors, while Ellison received honorable mention.

Freshmen Eddie Schroeder (106), Ryland Schneider (113) and Jaiden Fronczak (170) are among the newcomers expected to push for spots in the Wildcats’ lineup.

“Our team has set high goals and as a staff, we know we can accomplish them,” said coach Matt Cuadra. “We have a good group of seniors and feel they’ll be able to lead this team to its goals. We have some new faces. It will be on the upperclassmen to show them the way and make sure they’re doing everything right from day one.”

In addition to being a state qualifier, Martell was a first-team All-FVA wrestler along with Hunter. He has the talent, work ethic and experience to compete for an individual state championship in February.

“Roman is looking to add to his accom-

plishments,” Cuadra said. “We’re looking for him to be at the top of the podium at state. He’s someone the team can count on. We feel he’ll lead this team to great things.”

State wrestling power Kaukauna remains the team to beat in the FVA after winning its 16th consecutive league championship with a 6-0 mark. Cuadra doesn’t expect that to change, but feels his Wildcats have the makings of a highly successful team.

“In order for this team to have success, we have to be all in,” he said. “All in is this year’s team motto and the kids are buying into it. If the team buys into all in, we’re going to be able to do some things we haven’t for a long time, or have never done before.”

Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian

Carpenter is looking to build off an outstanding rookie season and compete for a state title. He was undefeated heading into the state tourney, and his two state losses were to the state champion at 106 (Cumberland’s Dawson Johnson) and the fourth-place finisher (Jake Fitzpatrick of Aquinas).

“He just loves the sport of wrestling,” said Lourdes/Valley Christian coach Steve Heinzl. “He’s one of the hardest-working wrestlers I’ve been around. He seems to thrive off doing the little extra things day in and day out to be the best.

“It doesn’t matter if it’s practice or a match, he just loves to be on the mat.”

Additional wrestlers competing for spots in the lineup are junior Jacob Bowman (160), sophomore Jadon Ney (220,

285) and freshman Dalton Smith (140).

Heinzl’s biggest concern is a lack of variety experience.

“To say we’re inexperienced is an understatement,” Heinzl said. “Outside of Carpenter, none of our other wrestlers have wrestled a high school match and only two of them have ever wrestled before. But I really like the potential I see in some of them already. I just hope they don’t get frustrated and quit before they can achieve what our other coaches and I know they’re capable of.”

Heinzl doesn’t expect his squad to put up big numbers as a team but expects gradual improvement from various individuals.

“We have a small team so we’re not going to be competitive as a team in most duals or tournaments,” he said. “So, a successful season for us is to see each wrestler achieve the goals they set for themselves. For some of our guys, a successful season is going to be staying out all year. For others, it’s going to be all-conference, and for others, it’s going to be state, or placing at state.”

Oshkosh North

Drew McKay (170) and Jeremiah Chielewski (220) give the Spartans a pair of experienced senior wrestlers to build a young team around.

North, which finished 0-7 in the FVA last season, will be breaking in several new wrestlers and is simply looking for steady improvement.

“We have a lot of new wrestlers and we’re inexperienced as a team,” said Spartans coach Val Zemke. “The key is to be committed and work hard so we can grow as the season goes on.”

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Talk Like a Pilgrim


Plimoth Patuxet Museums in Plymouth, Mass., can help you talk like a pilgrim! In the 1600s, the pilgrims spoke English, but a little differently than we do today.

The Museum has gathered some of the words, greetings and phrases that would have been used by pilgrims. Compare them to how we would say the same thing today. Practice these at home and you can talk like a pilgrim, too!

Special thanks to Plimoth Patuxet Museums for their help with the content of today's page!

For more learning fun, visit them at: plimoth.org

TODAY	PILGRIM TALK
Hi! How are you?	What cheer?
Excuse me.	Pray pardon me.
Congratulations!	Huzzah!
Goodbye!	Fare thee well!
Cat	Mouser
Pants	Breeches
Skirt	Petticoat
Stew	Pottage
Pillowcase	Pillowbere

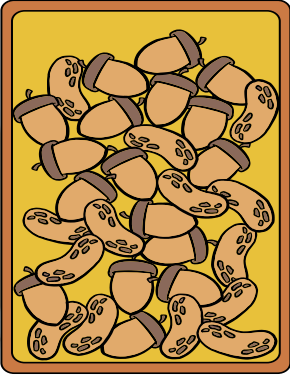



How many of these leaves you can find on this page in 2 minutes? Have a friend try. Who found the most?

Help this squirrel find its way home for Thanksgiving.

Squirrel Family Thanksgiving Feast

Cozy in their tree home, the Squirrel family is enjoying a Thanksgiving feast of acorns and nuts. Examine their storage bin at right and color the graph to show how many nuts and acorns they have left for the holidays.



ACORNS

NUTS

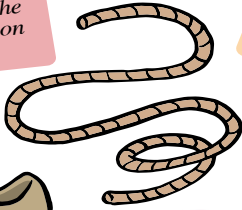
Pilgrim Riddles

The Plimoth Patuxet Museums collected riddles from the 1600s. Draw a line from each riddle to the picture it describes.


EXAMPLE: *I went to the woods and I caught it, I sat me down and I sought it, but since I could not find it, home with me I brought it? What is it?*

ANSWER: A splinter!


Who is he that runneth through the hedge, his house on his back?



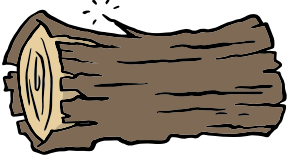
What is higher than a house and yet seems smaller than a mouse?



What is full all day and empty at night?



What is ten men's length and ten men's strength and yet ten men can never make it stand on its end?



Content reproduced courtesy of PLIMOTH PATUXET MUSEUMS. Visit Plimoth.org to learn more!

Extra! Extra!
A List of Thanks
Look through the newspaper and cut out words and pictures that show things and people you are thankful for. Glue these on to a piece of paper and share with others on Thanksgiving.
BONUS: Glue these on to a piece of large construction paper to make a Thanksgiving placemat!
Standards Link: Visual Arts: Use a variety of materials for projects.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Use the letters in the word **THANKSGIVING** to make new words.

Mix up the letters any way you like. You can use a letter twice in your new word only if it appears twice in the word Thanksgiving. How many words can you make?

5–10 words GOOD	11–19 words CREAT	20–39 words AWESOME!	40 words or more WORD MASTER!
---------------------------	-----------------------------	--------------------------------	---

Standards Link: Spelling: Spell grade-level words correctly.


Double Double Word Search

PILGRIMS
PETTICOAT
PRACTICE
BREECHES
PLIMOUTH
PATUXET
RIDDLES
HUZZAH
MOUSE
HEDGE
NIGHT
CHEER
PRAY
THEE
FARE

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

G	T	A	O	C	I	T	T	E	P
B	C	H	E	E	R	N	L	S	
R	H	P	R	A	C	T	I	C	E
E	U	R	A	M	E	M	G	E	L
E	Z	A	T	T	O	I	H	F	D
C	Z	Y	N	T	U	U	T	A	D
H	A	T	H	E	E	X	S	R	I
E	H	E	D	G	E	G	E	E	R
S	M	I	R	G	L	I	P	T	S

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



Kid Scoop Together:

FAMILY TIME


Thanksgiving is a time to talk!

After you eat some of your Thanksgiving meal, take a break from feasting to find out about the older people at the table.


Snoop into the past of one or more by asking “When you were my age ...”

- What did you eat on Thanksgiving, and who did the cooking?
- How did you celebrate Thanksgiving?
- What were you thankful for?
- Did you have a pet?
- What were your hobbies?
- Did you watch television? What was your favorite show?
- What chores did you do around the house?
- How did you get spending money?
- What did you like to spend it on?
- What was your favorite story your grandparents told you?

Standards Link: Speaking Comprehension: Ask for clarification of stories and ideas.



Write On!





Thanksgiving Poetry

Write a poem about Thanksgiving. Include family, friends, food and anything for which you are thankful.



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UW Oshkosh Athletics Hall of Fame inducts 10

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Athletics Hall of Fame increased its membership to 221 with the recent induction of former student-athletes Blaine Felsman (football, wrestling), Ayla (Mitchell) Helland (cross-country, track and field), Greg Henschel (soccer), Willy Kaul (cross-country, track and field), Erin (LeRoy) Klump (swimming and diving), Terri (Schwamb) Kruse (track and field), Richard Schroeder (baseball), Rob Stoltz (football, baseball), current sports information director Kennan Timm, and former student-athlete and coach Ted Van Dellen (basketball).

Felsman was a multiple award winner in both football and wrestling from 1974 until 1978. He is currently an assistant coach for the UW Oshkosh wrestling program. He previously had been a physical education teacher and wrestling coach at Berlin and Oshkosh West high schools as well as a wrestling official.

Helland transferred to UW Oshkosh from the University of Minnesota and quickly became a standout women's cross-country and track and field performer at the conference and national levels for the Titans from 2007-09. She taught five years in the Somerset and New Richmond school districts before deciding to stay at home to raise her children. With her husband Travis, a former UW Oshkosh baseball player, they live in New Richmond, where they design, develop, buy and sell real estate properties.

Henschel helped elevate the men's soccer program to national prominence during his four seasons as a Titan from 1991-94. He went on to play minor league professional soccer for the Rockford Raptors and the Tallahassee Scorpions. He returned to UW Oshkosh in 1998 to serve as assistant men's soccer coach. Henschel and his wife, Jean, a former UW Oshkosh women's volleyball player, live in Charlotte, N.C. He is director of coaching at the Charlotte Soccer Academy.

Kaul earned a pair of All-America



Photo courtesy of UWO

Inductees into the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Athletics Hall of Fame include (front row from left) Ayla (Mitchell) Helland, Terri (Schwamb) Kruse, Ted Van Dellen, Erin (LeRoy) Klump and Richard Schroeder; (back row) Rob Stoltz, Kennan Timm, Greg Henschel, Willy Kaul and Blaine Felsman.

awards in cross-country with his fourth- and second-place finishes at the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III Championship in 2006 and 2008, respectively. After having his dream of competing at the U.S. Olympic Trials stopped short due to a chronic injury, the 2011 UW Oshkosh graduate moved from Milwaukee to Chicago to work for Nike. Kaul, who continues to work for Nike as a territory brand manager, lives in Chicago with his wife, Veronica.

Klump enjoyed a tremendous diving career as a member of the women's swimming and diving program from 1999-2002. The Oshkosh North High School graduate accumulated five National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III All-America awards while diving to three Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference titles. Klump lives in Scottsdale, Ariz., with her husband and three children. She leads fulfillment businesses for Amazon's North America People eXperience and Technology Team.

A member of five national champion-

ship teams, Kruse enjoyed a highly celebrated career as a member of the women's track and field program from 2004-08. UW Oshkosh won National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III indoor and outdoor titles during Kruse's first season. The Titans then captured national indoor championships in 2005 and 2006 before winning the 2007 national outdoor championship at the Oshkosh Sports Complex. Kruse has been a teacher at Winneconne High School since 2012. She lives in Oshkosh with her husband, Jason, and two children.

Schroeder was an infielder for the UW Oshkosh baseball team from 1968-70 and helped the Titans to a 63-24 record and a Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Con-

ference championship each year. He has spent the past 40 years as a professional baseball scout for a variety of major league baseball teams, including the Chicago Cubs, Houston Astros, Kansas City Royals, Los Angeles Angels and Texas Rangers. Schroeder is currently in his third stint as a scout for the Rangers. A 1972 UW Oshkosh graduate, he lives in Phoenix.

Stoltz appeared in 39 football games from 1992-95 and caught 155 passes for 2,691 yards and 24 touchdowns. A 1999 UW Oshkosh graduate, he recently retired as the head football coach at Greendale High School. Stoltz lives in New Berlin with his wife, Jenny, and their two children.

Timm's 37 years as UW Oshkosh's sports information director have extended well beyond the coordination of the publicity, keeping statistics, managing the website and producing publications for the school's 19-sport athletics program. Timm has served as the host media relations director for the finals of 31 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III Championships as well as over 50 Division III regional tournaments. He and his wife, Janis, live in De Pere with their two children.

Van Dellen guided a basketball program that had won only 113 games in the 11 seasons before his appointment to 358 victories and five NCAA Division III post-season appearances in the 22 years that followed from 1991 to 2012. He coached four Division III All-America award winners during his tenure at UW Oshkosh. Retired from coaching, Van Dellen works part-time at the Waushara Country Club. He lives in Berlin with his wife, Kim.





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Extension has tips for holiday pies

As the holiday season inches closer, the Winnebago County Extension suggested tips to help keep pies – a Thanksgiving and Christmas staple – safe to eat, especially if they contain eggs or dairy products.

Bacteria that can cause foodborne illness can grow in certain pies that are left at room temperature because of these ingredients. Extension Winnebago County suggests refrigerating any pie containing milk, cream or eggs to remain food-safe.

Milk and cream in any form contain high levels of protein and are “fertile grounds” for bacteria growth.

Lemon meringue and all types of chiffon pies contain eggs and should be left in the fridge until they ready to be served. The custard-style pumpkin pie is typically made with eggs and milk.

This food-safe tip is also applied to dairy alternatives such as soy or almond milk.

After a pie is baked, it is generally OK to leave it at room temperature to cool for two to four hours. However, the pie should be placed in the fridge within four hours, covered loosely in plastic wrap until serving. They are generally good to eat for two to six days.

Fruit-based pies can safely be stored at room temperature due to the sugary and acidic ingredients but will last longer if stored in the fridge.

For long-term storage, consider freezing. But with custard or whipped-cream-topped pies, they can deteriorate in quality if frozen.



Photo from Martin Luther Church

Live nativity returns

Martin Luther Church will share its Live Nativity from 4 to 7 p.m. Dec. 4 at 1526 Algoma Blvd. for its 12th year of recreating the first Christmas in the town of Bethlehem. More than 100 volunteers are helping to prepare the town and nativity scene. The drive-thru experience can be entered on Algoma Boulevard where a candlelit path will guide visitors through.



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Obituaries

Steven T. Sosnoski

Steven (Steve) T. Sosnoski, age 72, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family on Friday, November 12, 2021, after a courageous battle with cancer. He was born in Oshkosh on September 14, 1949, to the late Carl and June (Sheppard) Sosnoski.

Steven was united in marriage to Sherry Clark on August 30, 1969, at Peace Lutheran Church in Oshkosh.

Steve was co-founder of Cinders Charcoal Grill which he worked and built up over the last 40 years along with his wife and children. No one worked harder than Steve! He taught his children how to have a great work ethic and would give his last dollar or ounce of energy to provide for his family.

He loved all of his customers greatly and loved to talk with them, banter and joke with his one-of-a-kind laugh. He was very sympathetic to the elderly and would jump out of his seat to get the door for anyone he saw that might need help. You could catch him playing Santa and visiting nursing homes on Christmas and passing out roses on Mother's Day.

Along with his brothers, he owned Players Pizza and Pub (Oshkosh), Cleo's Brown Beam Tavern (Appleton) and the popular EAA week destination, SOS Bros. Beer Tent. In 1981 Steve knocked on a neighbor's door next to the airport and asked if he and his brothers could rent their front yard. 40 years later it grew to what it is today. Steve could be found every day in the kitchen making sure everything got out as fast as possible. You could hear him saying, "You got that cheeseburger? How's that steak coming?" Steve wouldn't close down until the last brat was sold. SOS Bros. was one of his favorite times of the year.

Although his free time was few, he loved to go hunting with his brothers, having a good alfredo or dumpling dinner, and bringing home fun gifts for the grandkids.

Steve continued to work throughout all his treatments. He battled and fought with everything he had against his cancer making us all so proud of his will and spirit, something that many know he had so much of. His family was always by his side and nothing put a smile on his face like when he saw his grandkids! He loved them dearly and we know he wanted nothing more than to stay so he could watch them grow. His family feels blessed to

have been able to have him live out his last days at home and that he no longer has to feel pain on earth, but is now flying high with the angels. We will forever have you in our hearts Steve - husband, dad, grandpa, brother, uncle, friend – until we meet again.

Steve is lovingly survived by his wife, Sherry Sosnoski; three children: Lisa (Todd Wranosky) Sosnoski, Jessica (Kory) Carr, Justin Sosnoski; two grandchildren: Jacob Wranosky, Jaxon Sosnoski; eight siblings: Carl (Carla Nigl) Sosnoski, Linda (Bill) LeMieux, Janice Huser, Dean (Paula) Sosnoski, Christine (Russell) Schlichting, Allan Sosnoski, Rosalie (Steve) Lichtwald, Thomas (AnnaMarie) Sosnoski; aunt: Edith Stepanski; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

The family would like to give thanks to everyone who helped us with Steve's care including extended family and friends, the doctors and nurses at Froedtert Hospital, Theda Cancer Center and Mercy Medical Center. We'd like to give a special thank you to Kelli Abell for all the care and compassion that she gave to Steve; he considered her to be an additional daughter. She was a rock for the whole family and we cannot thank her enough for helping to bring comfort and peace to Steve in his final days. She is truly an angel on earth.

A funeral service for Steve will be held at 3:00 pm on Saturday, December 4, 2021, at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home, 100 Lake Pointe Drive, Oshkosh. Visitation will take place at the funeral home on Saturday from 12:00 pm until the time of service.

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