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# City panels under 5-year review

## Boards, commissions getting assessment

By Kaitlyn Scoville  
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Common Council will review the city's boards, commissions and committees after last doing so in 2017 to determine if they are still serving their intended purpose for the community.

At its latest meeting, a special committee among the group was created with

council members Bill Miller and Lynnsey Erickson.

When the review was done more than five years ago, the study recommended consolidating some of the commissions. The goal of this new review is to submit a report and any possible recommendations to the council.

City Manager Mark Rohloff has been directed to assist the subcommittee in gathering relevant information and conduct necessary surveys and research by the subcommittee to assist them in gath-

ering information and preparing a final report.

Erickson and Miller, per the resolution, must interview and survey department heads, city staff, council members and members of boards, commissions and committees, and other individuals as needed, to better understand their respective status, and seek ideas on how to improve their effectiveness and determine their future status.

SEE **City panels** ON PAGE 19

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Contest of Oshkosh's  
best kicks off

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West's Bird ready  
to take flight

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Photo by Michael Cooney

## Menominee rink opens

The Oshkosh Parks Department had been patiently waiting for the ice to form at Menominee Park and Zoo's winter skating rink that opened last weekend along with the Lakefly Cafe warming shelter. It was a family event with parents teaching their children and adults trying to remember their skating techniques. Skate rentals will be available during open skate hours from noon to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, along with special events, through Feb. 19.

# West tabs Ray to take reins of football program

By Steve Clark  
OSHKOSH HERALD

Joey Ray admitted he wasn't too familiar with Oshkosh. In fact, he admitted that the first time he set foot in the city was to interview for the vacant Oshkosh West head football coach post.

Now, he has the time to take a good look around.

The Oshkosh Area School District announced Friday that Ray had been tabbed to take over the West football program, becoming the fifth coach in the last four seasons to head the program.

"I'm excited," Ray said in a phone in-

terview on Saturday. "I think the community is ready for some stability more than



Ray

anything and wants to see a positive football team. The administration and people in the school are ready to support me and what I am doing and create a really good environment to be successful." Ray joins the West program after serving the past two seasons as the defensive coordinator for Hamilton High School.

Before that, he held the same position at Grafton High School.

He was named the Greater Metro Conference Assistant Coach of the Year following the 2022 season after his defense finished first in the league in overall defense and led the league in yards per carry and yards per pass attempt allowed.

The Chargers finished 10-3 and advanced to the Division 1 state semifinals where they lost to Mukwonago.

"We are excited to bring on someone of his caliber," West activities director Brad Jodarski said in a statement from the district. "Coach Ray's resume is filled with

successes on and off the field. His ability to motivate and connect with students is incredible and we look forward to seeing his positive impact in our football program and school community."

Ray takes over for Ben Mathe, who coached just one season in the program but was not retained. The West program had three head coaches during the 2021 season, including Duane Hartkopf, who also coached the team in the COVID-altered spring of 2021 and started the fall season before leaving for another position.

SEE **New coach** ON PAGE 21

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**Publisher**  
Karen Schneider, 920-858-6407  
karen@oshkoshherald.com

**Editor**  
Dan Roherty, 920-508-0027  
editor@oshkoshherald.com

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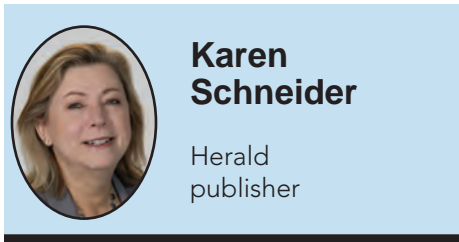
# City Picks offer full menu of favorites

What is the perfect time to kick off the fourth annual Oshkosh Herald City Picks contest? The wrap-up of Oshkosh Restaurant Week, of course.

It's time to nominate your favorite business in the Oshkosh Area School District geographical boundaries among nearly 100 categories.

You will find the ballot for Phase 1, or as I like to refer to it – the primary election – inside today's Oshkosh Herald. This is your opportunity to recognize your favorite local businesses that provide a great product or service ranging from child care (new this year) to best jukebox.

The ballot will publish three weeks in a row, but each reader may only submit one ballot per phase. So, if you fill out today's ballot, pass on next week's to someone else in the household to



complete. Ballots can be dropped off or mailed to our offices at 36 Broad St., Suite 300, Oshkosh 54901 or at a ballot box at a variety of local businesses.

After Feb. 20, we will tally up the nominations and the top vote-getters move on to Phase 2, or the general election. Phase 2 voting begins March 1 and will deadline on March 20. Phase 2 recognizes the top nominees and readers get a second chance to vote for their favorite of the finalists.

We get asked why we don't do this

electronically and trust me, that would make it easier for us too. Filling out a pen-and-paper ballot takes a few things out of the equation. One – there is no ballot stuffing. If we receive a bunch of entries that are obviously an attempt to stuff the ballots, we reserve the right to disqualify them. If they are photocopied – disqualified. If they don't have at least 30 categories voted – disqualified. And yes, the ballots are all manually tabulated.

Winners from the past few years have shared how the City Picks emblem hanging in their window has added meaning. It means a lot to them that you took the time to fill out and submit the ballot. And we do receive hundreds of ballots.

So grab that pen or pencil, turn to Page 7 and show some love for your favorite local businesses.

## Museum's transformation entering next phase

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Public Museum is preparing to launch the next phase of transforming its second-floor gallery spaces.

Strategizing began in 2018, the first phases of which were the closure of the Paine Lumber Model in 2019 and the official opening of the Menominee Clans Story in 2021.

"We are excited to announce that our newest long-term exhibition, This Is WinnebagoLand, will open to visitors on April 1," said museum director Sarah Phillips. "Other museum spaces will remain open and accessible to welcome visitors this year."

"We will continue to host field trips from the Oshkosh Area School District and other neighboring districts as they explore People of the Waters, the Menominee Clans Story and the Historic Sawyer Home."



Rendering by Split Rock Studios

Oshkosh Public Museum's second floor will take on a whole new look this year that this illustration envisions.

Longstanding spaces Grandma's Attic, the Pioneer Log Cabin, and the Civil War and labor history exhibition sections will close April 3, along with temporary exhibition space Memories & Dreams. These spaces will remain open to visitors until April 2, after which curators will be returning artifacts to safe storage in a months-long process.

Construction will begin midyear

to strengthen the building's capacity to welcome traveling exhibitions and showcase items within the museum's collection. A new, flexible temporary exhibition space will be unveiled next year.

The museum is currently planning its suite of programming and events for 2023, including the second-annual Dia

de los Muertos Celebration on Oct. 28, and continuation of Family Discovery Days every second Saturday of the month from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"Now is the time to celebrate the thousands of lives touched by these longstanding spaces, but also to welcome the countless possibilities a new space will bring," Phillips said.

## West Side Association Developer's Panel set

The West Side Association's 2023 Developer's Panel will feature presentations about some of the prominent projects in the Oshkosh area when it meets from 7:30 to 9 a.m. Feb. 9 at Oshkosh Corp. global headquarters.

Moderated by Oshkosh Herald publisher Karen Schneider, speakers include Kelsie Lally and Jim Erdman, TJ Rodgers representatives for the Oshkosh Kids Foundation

Tiny House Village, Kalbus Country Harbor and the former Oshkosh Northwestern building; Tracy Ogden, Boys & Girls Club chief executive on the club's expansion project; Gary Eake of G. Earl Real Estate on local real estate projects; and Steve Hoopman on the State 21 corridor project.

Go to the West Side Association on Facebook for signup details through Eventbrite.

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Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical & Archaeological Society

Feb. 5, 1899

Residence Burgled Sunday Evening:  
The residence of Henry Augustin on North Park Avenue was entered by burglars on Sunday between 4-10 pm. The Augustin family was away from home visiting friends. Jewelry valued at \$110 and four dollars in

cash were reportedly taken. The thief however missed the "motherload" having overlooked a quantity of valuable silverware and sum of money. Besides the money and jewelry, the thief took a whole cake and a half box of cigars. He also had a loaf of bread but must have dropped it in haste during his flight. The only clue to the burglar was a wood handle from a chisel probably used during the break-in. It is expected the clue will be of no help to the officers looking into the crime.

Source: *Oshkosh Northwestern*, Feb. 5, 1899





From Oshkosh Area School District

A rendering shows the new elementary school to be located on Hazel Street.

# Menominee Tribe will be recognized with school name

By Kaitlyn Scoville  
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education approved naming its newest secondary school Menominee Elementary School, which aligns with an advisory survey yielding more than 4,000 votes among students, staff and community members.

The district has asked the Menominee Nation Tribal Legislature to approve the name before it's official.

Schools Superintendent Bryan Davis said he has been in contact with representatives from the Menominee Nation to bring the item to a Language and Culture Commission meeting Thursday for consideration.

Davis said all the feedback he's gotten from the tribe has been positive, and that they appreciate the district for involving them. If the Tribal Legislature approves the naming, conversations can begin around mascots and appropriate symbol use.

"I think this can be a very constructive relationship for us moving forward," Davis said.

The new north-side elementary school will be built on the current Webster Stanley Elementary and Middle school site at 915 Hazel St. and set to open for the 2024-25 school year. Students currently enrolled at Merrill, Washington and Webster Stanley elementary schools will comprise the new school.

Among all the populations surveyed, Menominee received the highest quantity of votes at about 1,700, followed by 1,200 votes for Webster Stanley, 869 for Jessie Jack Hooper and 729 for Pobereznny.

The board also approved a waiver of Board Policy 7250.01, which notes that "the board may wish to commemorate a school or district facility by means of a plaque or naming the facility after a person." Because the school will not be named after an individual, the waiver was approved to name the school after the Menominee Tribal Nation.

# Former Assemblyman Hintz named new director of the state labor trust

Oshkosh Herald

Former state Assembly Rep. Gordon Hintz from Oshkosh will be the new director for the Wisconsin Laborers-Employers Cooperation and Education Trust (LECET), it was announced last week.

Wisconsin LECET focuses on issues of benefit and concern to both labor and management with the goal to make Laborers' International Union of North America's Wisconsin members safer and more productive.

Hintz joins Wisconsin LECET after his eighth term serving as representative for the 54th Assembly District.



Hintz

"Throughout my career, I have been driven to provide greater opportunities for working people, which is why I am very excited to get started as the new Wisconsin LECET director," Hintz said. "When unions are strong and their employers are competitive and profitable, that is a huge benefit to Wisconsin's economy."

The Wisconsin Laborers' District Council is an affiliation of five local unions representing nearly 9,000 construction craft laborers in transportation infrastructure, building, sewer and water, utility distribution, demolition, asbestos removal, and related sectors.

Hintz lives in Oshkosh with his wife and two children, and will be based out of the Wisconsin Laborers' District Council office in DeForest.

# County promotes proper electronics recycling

Winnebago County Solid Waste is urging residents to be mindful of how they dispose of electronics as they're turning off the old and booting up new devices. State law bans most electronic devices from Wisconsin landfills.

"We've seen electronics come into our transfer station on recycling and garbage trucks that service communities from across our county," said Kathy Hutter, solid waste operations manager.

"That means someone put it in their waste or recycling container at home without knowing that broken electronics and their batteries can expose our workers to hazardous materials or start fires in refuse carts, collection trucks and our facilities." Recycling electronics benefits the com-

munity's safety and helps the environment.

"Electronic devices contain a variety of materials that can be salvaged, recycled and reused," said Jessica Hanson, solid waste communications and program development specialist. "Recycling electronics through drop-off programs conserves natural resources and ensures that data left on the device is properly destroyed."

County residents with household TVs, computers, monitors, printers, DVD/VCR players, gaming systems, tablets and cellphones can bring them to Winnebago County Solid Waste at 100 W. County Y for cost-efficient recycling year-round.

Visit [WinnebagoCountySolidWaste.com](http://WinnebagoCountySolidWaste.com) for more information.

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# Owl Lady of Oshkosh has keen eye on her friends

By Rob Zimmer  
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Wherever Dr. Teri Shors travels, the owls are sure to follow. A professor at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, Shors has a bit of an obsession with the owls of Wisconsin. She also has a keen eye, able to pick them out among the forest trees and snags where they spend much of their time during these winter days.

Much to her surprise, recently, one of her favorite owls, the Eastern screech owl, has taken up residence right in her own backyard, roosting in a nest box she creatively decorated with natural elements to draw in these small, yet powerful predators.

In fact, in her own Oshkosh neighborhood, in recent years, Shors has discovered great horned owls, barred owls, long-eared owls and Eastern screech owls. All within just a few blocks of her front door.

The Owl Lady of Oshkosh is certainly an inspiration.

"I can sit right in my window and watch her peek out of the nest box every day around sunrise and sunset. She is pretty regular," Shors said of the Eastern screech owl that has made its home this winter in her backyard.

Shors is hoping that her owl visitor finds a mate and lays eggs this March in her backyard sheltered nest box.

"I've spent two years planting and creating habitat in my backyard for hummingbirds, orioles and owls," she said.

Shors has even gone so far as to tap the nest box with a webcam, making it possible for her

to check on this amazing bird 24 hours a day, from wherever she may be.

"No matter where I am, I can pull up this app on my phone and see if she's in the box and what she's doing. It's easy to watch her without disturbing her."

Throughout most of the day, the screech owl rests within the shelter of the nest box, coming to life at sunrise and sunset. The bird often leaves the box during the night to drink from the heated birdbath beneath the perch, or to feed on voles, as well as songbirds she might find roosting in the night.

"One day, she caught a mourning dove and dragged it into the nest box and I was able to watch her feed. She has also caught smaller birds, as well as a blue jay. These are powerful predators."

Shors has also witnessed the nesting and rearing of young of mighty great horned owls right in her own neighborhood. Photographing the nest almost daily, she was able to chronicle the growth of the owlets throughout the season, and document mother owl on the nest.

Shors' ability to spot owls, either on the nest or simply perched among the trees, is impressive. Since most of our owls are cryptically colored and perfectly camouflaged, it is often difficult for people to spot them among the trees. Shors, however, possesses the owl eye. She is able to quickly spot them, even among the thick branches, bows and perfectly camouflaged snags.

Outside of her backyard, Shors has spotted many owls in other locations throughout Oshkosh. She has located the fragile roosts of long-eared owls in multiple locations, as well as barred owls and additional great horned owl nests.

This winter, when we have had snow, Shors



Photos by Rob Zimmer

ABOVE: A screech owl has taken up residence in Teri Shors' backyard, roosting in a nest box she decorated with natural materials. AT RIGHT: Shors observes the nesting and rearing of great horned owls in her Oshkosh neighborhood.

has added a fun and whimsical owl dimension to her yard and garden. Using a 5-gallon pail, she has created snow owls, complete with glow in the dark, flickering eyes. Before the snow melted recently, her "snowy" owls decorated her yard, something the neighbors enjoyed as well.

"Owls are one of my favorite birds, and I enjoy looking for them in places that people wouldn't normally look."



## Lakeside Speaker Series set at Jesuit Retreat

The Jesuit Retreat House on Lake Winnebago is offering a new speakers' forum this year, the Lakeside Speaker Series, that will bring in six speakers with the public also having an opportunity to visit the campus and experience the Jesuit mission of spiritual enrichment.

On the winter and spring schedule:

Feb. 8: Father Joe Laramie, national director of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, is a National Eucharistic preacher and author of "Abide in the Heart of Christ: A 10-Day Personal Retreat with St. Ignatius Loyola" and "Love Him Ever More: A 9-Day Personal Retreat with the Sacred Heart of Jesus."

March 8: Jesuit Novices, men in their

first two years of Jesuit formation preparing to make vows in the Society of Jesus, will share their vocation stories, discernment and experience of novitiate.

May 10: The Rev. Chris Corbin, pastor of Trinity Episcopal Church in Oshkosh, will provide a contemporary and local perspective on feeding the hungry – one of the seven corporal works of mercy – and the food justice movement.

Presentations will be in either the Loyola Lounge or St. Ignatius Chapel from 6:30 to 8 p.m., between 20 and 30 minutes long followed by discussion. Refreshments will be served and there is no cost but a freewill offering accepted.

For more information or to RSVP, contact 920-231-9060 or [office@jesuitretreathouse.org](mailto:office@jesuitretreathouse.org).

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# Churches deal with ongoing trend of declining attendance

## Congregations focus on more than just services

By Kaitlyn Scoville  
OSHKOSH HERALD

A recent Gallup study titled “In U.S., child churchgoing habits fade in adulthood” found that while 67% of adults regularly went to services as a child, only about 30% still do.

The results, collected from more than 2,000 Americans ages 18 or older, suggest adults’ experience as children was like that of their parents, but today’s adults



Cleveland



Corbin

have different religious habits. Across Gallup’s polling in 2022, an average of 21% of U.S. adults have no religious preference.

“I did not find anything surprising,” said senior pastor the Rev.

Alan Cleveland of Community Church in Oshkosh. “There are many reasons for the reaction to religious affiliation: questions of institutional integrity; questions of the integrity of leadership; political reasons; hurtful personal experiences; along with an ever-increasing stream of individualistic orientation.”

Cleveland said, however, that service attendance to Community Church at 2351 Ryf Road, has “slightly exceeded” pre-pandemic levels and that he’s seen new young adult faces, especially parents with young children.

Even so, 58% of adults under age 35 say they went to church every week or almost every week growing up, compared with 70% of adults aged 35 and older. Trinity Episcopal Church pastor the Rev. Chris Corbin said this could be attributed to a cultural shift in the mid-1900s.

“When you look at generational demographic trends, one of the things that happened with baby boomers as parents is that they had a tendency to emphasize the child’s ability to meet their personal choice above other considerations,” Corbin said. “What that often meant was that there would be less explicit religious instruction related to the faith that the parent associated with in the home.

“My personal experience was that it was an expectation that as long as I lived in the same house as my parents, we would all go to church. There would be more like-



Submitted photo

St. Raphael Catholic Church services are shown from a Sunday during the holidays.

lihood that as children begin to grow into adolescence, they will be given more independence for it. As a result, a lot of teenagers were not expected in the same way that predecessor generations would have been expected as teenagers to continue at the church.”

Trinity Episcopal at 311 Division St. has seen a gradual comeback from the pandemic, averaging 53 churchgoers each week in 2022, compared with 48 in 2020 and 50 in 2021.

Corbin said that over the past several centuries, churchgoing was simply something you had to do as a functioning member of society. It was similar then to today’s Rotary clubs or being a member in chambers of commerce.

“They saw church as a place where you could see your friends, you could make business deals and you could be seen by the community, and that’s just not required anymore,” he said.

St. Raphael the Archangel Catholic Church business manager Mark Lindekugel said it and the diocese have been trying for years to increase the attendance of young people.

“You can come up with all these programs and send out mailings, but I think the entire culture of the world has changed. I don’t know if it’s possible to change that back,” Lindekugel said. “Before you can solve a problem, you have to know what that problem is. When somebody says, ‘I just don’t believe in going to church,’ I don’t know if you can change that person’s mind.”

St. Raphael’s attendance, he said, has been up to about 80% of pre-pandemic numbers. At the end of November – the

start of Advent – he said it was averaging about 1,400 churchgoers per week. In the early 2000s, they averaged about 2,000 attendees on Sundays.

The Roman Catholic religion, he added, is stringent on how they celebrate Mass. St. Raphael’s has to follow rules that are sent down from the Vatican to the diocese, and some people may not like that.

“The (U.S.) is still considered a religious country, but that’s dwindling,” Lindekugel said. “My wife and I have five boys and none of them go to church. Their response is, ‘Well, we believe in God, but we don’t believe in church.’ I think (people) look at it more as a business and not a place to worship.”

Cleveland also noticed the cultural shift historically and said Gallup’s statistics do not reflect anything that has not happened before.

“I heard someone once say, ‘One’s generation’s convictions become the next generation’s opinions that become the next generation’s preferences.’ This area is religiously conservative historically, but part of what we are seeing now is what once was held with conviction is now perceived as optional,” Cleveland said. “Church is seen as one more thing to do amidst many things to do.”

While the goal of most ministries is to hold an authentic worship of God, part of the effort to attract and retain parishioners is to make the space welcoming and all-encompassing.

“The threshold for what investing in those ministries would look like becomes higher and higher,” Corbin said. “It becomes this feedback loop where the older your congregation gets, the easier it is to

keep getting along, and the harder it is to start getting younger because the resources are going to go into those older congregants.

“It doesn’t matter how many people you get in your door if they can’t feel comfortable staying in there,” he continued. “You have to look at how we build the infrastructure so that young adults can actually flourish in your congregation, and one of the things that I often said was that part of how you do that is treat young adults like adults.”

Lindekugel also thought about what could happen to churches in the next several decades as these young adults age. When they become retirement age, will they return to religious services and donate? Sixty-five percent of St. Raphael’s revenue comes from people who are 60 and older.

“We are restructuring our adult ministries to account for the different life experiences between a single person in their early 20s and those who may be established in a career with a young family,” Cleveland said. “The goal is to create a smaller generational community within the larger intergenerational community so that people can connect more easily.”

Corbin added that while attendance may shift generationally, the key to keeping it up is all in the habit.

“And in order to make it a habit, that means you have to go even when you don’t want to, even when it’s inconvenient. I have a sneaking suspicion that your kids are much likely to keep going to church if they saw you going, even when you were on vacation, even if it meant putting off going hunting a day. Setting the example says, ‘This is the most important thing.’”



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SATURDAY, FEB. 11 ♦ GIBSON SOCIAL CLUB ♦ OSHKOSH





Gov. Tony Evers visited with Quill Creative staff Thursday at their City Center offices. He is shown (left photo) speaking with Quill brand strategist Ryan Albers (left) and creative director Josh Tyner. Accompanying Evers were Department of Administration Secretary Kathy Blumenfeld (second from right) and Financial Institutions Secretary Cheryll Olson-Collins (far right).



Oshkosh Herald

# Governor drops in on small business support recipients

By Dan Roherty  
OSHKOSH HERALD

Quill Creative’s growth and recent move from the Pabst Square building to a larger space at City Center was a natural progression that a state grant helped make happen in the wake of the pandemic.

Gov. Tony Evers visited Quill Creative and two other Oshkosh small businesses Thursday who were recipients of the Main Street Bounceback Grant Program to follow up on their successes and promote continuation of the program as part of his biennial budget proposal.

Evers was joined by state Department of Administration Secretary Kathy Blumenfeld and Department of Financial Institutions Secretary Cheryll Olson-Collins as part of a statewide tour after last week’s 2023 State of the State address.

Jacobson Lock and Key, the Franki Moscato Foundation and Quill were on the governor’s tour list here to highlight state

support for small businesses and nonprofit organizations. Evers is proposing a \$50 million investment in his 2023-25 budget proposal to continue the Main Street Bounceback program. The governor’s office said that to date, with the help of grants, 221 Winnebago County businesses have opened their doors or expanded.

Started in 2015 as a full-service marketing agency by founder Josh Tyner with partners Ryan Albers and Arden Helm, Quill has been turning its creative expertise to branding services.

“We focused on branding and then we partnered with other niche companies for digital marketing or website design, production and videos,” brand strategist Albers told the governor.

“We’re all graphic designers and we just fell in love with corporate branding and bringing a company to life in a way that’s emotionally engaging and consistent.”

Tyner credited Greater Oshkosh Eco-

nomie Development Corp. with suggesting the Main Street Bounceback opportunity as they were adding to their team and seeking a bigger downtown space.

“We wouldn’t have submitted knowingly. We had fantastic people in our court,” he said. “The (Greater Oshkosh) EDC reached out right away.”

Some of Quill’s recent local branding

## Oshkosh nurse gains Aurora honor

Nicole Klitzke, a registered nurse at Aurora Medical Center in Oshkosh, was selected as a 2022 Nurse of the Year for exemplary demonstration of Aurora Health Care’s core nursing values and delivery of exceptional nursing care.

Aurora staff said Klitzke is known for her genuine kind-heartedness with positivity and optimism that is contagious among her colleagues. She volunteers to coach several entry-level nurses who can make critical decisions in a fast-paced environment.

She also hones her skills and organizational involvement by taking part in

efforts have included Castle Pierce, The Waters and Sturgeon Spirits. Graphic production for Oshkosh Defense contract proposals such as the JLTV and FMTV military vehicles have allowed the group to work with smaller local businesses and take on projects such as annual reports for nonprofit groups such as Feeding America.

the Excellence in Career Engagement & Learning (ExCEL) program.

“Nicole’s eagerness to educate others and herself demonstrates an extraordinary commitment to lifelong learning,” said Shane Carter, chief nursing officer at Aurora in Oshkosh. “In two short years, Nicole quickly transformed from a young nurse into a knowledgeable, accountable leader who champions the practice of nursing.”

More than 750 nominations for this award were received on behalf of nurses from a variety of specialties. Nominations were submitted by clinicians and team members and reviewed by peer committees.

## Foot Locker closing local call center

Oshkosh Herald

Foot Locker’s Oshkosh customer support center will be closing at the end of April, thereby laying off nearly 100 of its employees at 600 City Center.

This move, announced by Foot Locker general counsel Sonu Ray to the state Department of Workforce Development, was done to consolidate the business’s North American internal customer care team to its facility in Wausau.

“The entire facility will be closed, all employees at the facility will be affected, and this closure is expected to be permanent,” the letter reads. “We have

provided the appropriate notice to all of the workers who will be affected, including the contact information for the local workforce development board serving their worksite area.”

All affected employees in Oshkosh are non-unionized and hold human resources, management and customer service positions.

Foot Locker also announced laying off 210 employees in Wausau at its distribution operations.

The company said it is phasing out that segment beginning Jan. 31 and closing the facility by April 30.

## Business news roundup

**Muza Metal Products**, a metal fabrication company celebrating its 95-year anniversary, announced the promotion of **John Kriz** to president and chief executive. Wing Capital Group founding partner and managing director Jeff Beischel remains as chairman of the board. A Wisconsin native, Kriz started his Muza Metal Products career 10 years ago as director of operations.

**Orbis Corp.**, a subsidiary of Menasha

Corp. with an Oshkosh location at 2830 Atlas Ave., has announced the upcoming retirement of president **Bill Ash** and appointment of **Norm Kukuk** to succeed him effective March 31. Ash joined Orbis in 2003, was named vice president of finance in 2004 and assumed the role of president in 2009. Kukuk started his career with Orbis in 1998 as an associate product manager and in 2020 assumed the role of executive vice president of sales.

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# Oshkosh’s voice on the Best in Oshkosh

**VOTING**

Voting will take place in two phases.  
Phase 1 is open nominations between February 1-February 17, 2023.  
Phase 2 is the top 3 nominees in each category.

**RULES**

Rules are simple: Nominees must be located in the Oshkosh Area School District, the Herald’s coverage area.  
One ballot per person per phase.  
No photocopies. No ballot stuffing.  
Vote for at least 30 categories



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mail or drop off ballot at 36 Broad St., Suite 300, Oshkosh, WI 54901

## City Pick 2023 Categories

Museum/Art Gallery _____	Desserts _____	Garden/Nursery _____
New Restaurant (restaurants opened after Feb. 2022) _____	Cheap Date _____	Florist _____
Best Sub/Sandwich Shop _____	Meat Market/Butcher Shop _____	Grocery _____
Late-Night Food _____	Kids Party Place _____	Liquor/Wine _____
Patio _____	Child Care _____	Pet Store _____
Brewery _____	Summer Camp/Youth Program _____	Sporting Goods _____
Coffee Shop _____	Birthday Cakes _____	Game/Gaming _____
Breakfast _____	Family Restaurant _____	Record/Music _____
Best Soup _____	Cocktail Bar _____	Arts & Crafts _____
Best Chili _____	Dive Bar _____	Shoes _____
Bakery _____	Sports Bar _____	Barbershop _____
Fine Dining _____	Happy Hour _____	Salon/Spa _____
Steak _____	Margarita _____	Mani/Pedi _____
Vegan/Vegetarian _____	Old Fashioned _____	Tattoo _____
Juice/Smoothie _____	Bartender _____	Doggie Day Care _____
Pizza _____	Place for Sober Socializing _____	Wedding Venue _____
Pancakes _____	Jukebox _____	Place to Hang With Your Pet _____
Omelette _____	Trivia Night _____	Golf Course _____
Burger _____	LGBTQ Bar _____	Gym _____
Tacos _____	Billiards _____	Yoga _____
Barbecue _____	Darts _____	Alternative Sports _____
Fish Fry _____	Beer Bar (multi-tap) _____	Local Delivery/Curbside Pickup _____
Noodles/Ramen _____	Bloody Mary _____	Neighborhood Bar _____
Sushi _____	Men’s Clothing _____	Live Music Venue _____
Italian _____	Women’s Clothing _____	Outdoor Venue _____
Mexican _____	Vintage/Consignment Clothing _____	Home Improvement _____
Chicken _____	Jewelry _____	Auto Service _____
Wings _____	Furniture/Accessories _____	Bank/Credit Union _____
Ice Cream/Frozen Treats _____	Used Furniture/Antiques _____	Virtual Shopping Experience _____
	Gift Shop _____	

Nominees in each category that appear on the final ballot are chosen by the amount of nominations received from our readers during Phase 1.

Nominations will be accepted from Feb. 1 - Feb. 17, 2023. Ballots must be at the Oshkosh Herald's office by **5pm on February 20, 2023**. Nominations are limited. You can name one nominee in each category during Phase 1 of Oshkosh Herald City Picks voting. Your name and address must appear on the ballot.

Phase 2 will have the top 3-5 nominees per category and open a new wave of voting. Again, only one vote per name and address. This does mean that if you and your honey don't agree, you both can vote. Voting is just limited to one vote per person per phase. **No ballot stuffing.** In the appearance of ballot stuffing the person, place, thing or business may be disqualified. The Oshkosh Herald reserves the right to determine if ballot stuffing has transpired. And yes, you can nominate yourself or your own business.


Once Phase 1 of the nomination period concludes, the final ballot and voting will commence for Phase 2. The top 3-5 nominees from Phase 1 will move on to Phase 2. Final voting will run March 1 - March 17, 2023. Ballots must be at the Oshkosh Herald's office by **5pm on March 20, 2023**. Our office is located at 36 Broad St., Suite 300, Oshkosh WI 54901. Off-site ballot boxes will be picked up by noon on the deadline for each phase.

Vote on as many categories as you'd like, but your ballot must include a **minimum of 30 category nominations** for your ballot to register.

Totals registered by our analyst will be considered final. This is a paper ballot contest. No funny stuff can happen online nor will photocopied or downloaded ballots be accepted. **Please find a paper issue of the Herald with a ballot.**


**ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE WINNERS**  
Winners will be announced in the April 19, 2023 Oshkosh Herald.





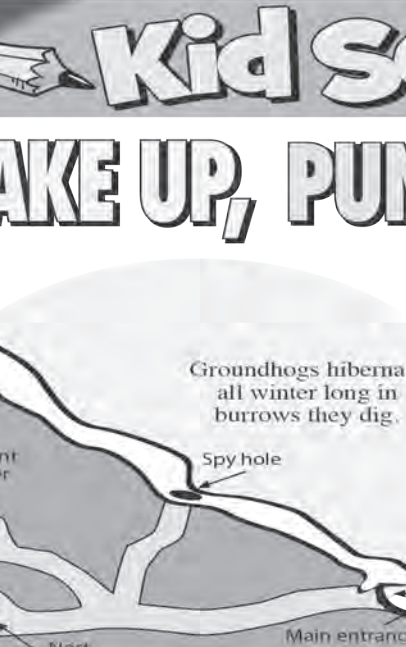
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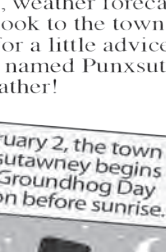


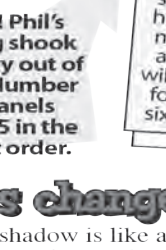

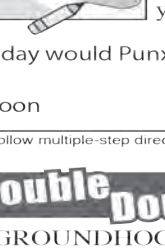


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## WAKE UP, PUNXSUTAWNEY PHIL!




**Shadow Search**  
Find the shadow that matches Phil exactly.












On February 2, weather forecasters all over the United States look to the town of Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania for a little advice. Legend says that the groundhog named Punxsutawney Phil can foretell the weather!


On February 2, the town of Punxsutawney begins the big Groundhog Day celebration before sunrise.



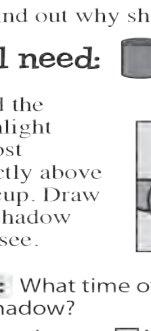
As the sun rises, I get ready to emerge from my stump. All eyes are on me!




...but if the sun **isn't** shining, then there are no shadows to be seen. I stay out looking for food, and spring will arrive very soon!



Once my prediction has been made, the crowd cheers for me. Then I go back to sleep until spring!




The legend says that if the sun **is** out, I see my shadow, get scared, and hide back in my burrow, and spring will not arrive for another six weeks...





### Why do shadows change size?


Robert Louis Stevenson said a shadow is like a rubber ball because it grows and shrinks throughout a day. Try this experiment to find out why shadows change size.


**Stuff you'll need:**

 cup


 flashlight

 pencil

 paper



Hold the flashlight almost directly above the cup. Draw the shadow you see.



Hold the flashlight near the bottom of the cup. Draw the shadow you see.

**Think About It:** What time of day would Punxsutawney Phil have his long shadow?

☐ Early Morning
 ☐ Noon

### Guess What!

Here is a guessing game to play with one or more friends. Each player cuts out shapes and pictures of objects from the newspaper and holds them up, one at a time, in front of a light source. Take turns guessing what kind of shape or object is casting the shadow.

**Standards Link:** Reading Comprehension: Follow multiple-step directions.

**Standards Link:** History: Students understand the traditions, events and legends associated with special days.

**Standards Link:** Physical Science: Objects can be described in terms of their physical properties (shape).

## Kid Scoop Puzzler

Spell a message to Punxsutawney Phil by solving these math problems. Use the number code to see what letter belongs under each answer.

$\begin{array}{r} 1,190 \\ + 530 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 169 \\ + 362 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 2,222 \\ + 1,211 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 521 \\ + 213 \\ \hline \end{array}$
<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>
$\begin{array}{r} 1,697 \\ + 234 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 2,763 \\ + 1,226 \\ \hline \end{array}$	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <p><b>Number Code</b></p> <p>531 = A    3,989 = P            734 = E    1,931 = U            3,433 = K    1,720 = W</p> </div>	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>		

**Standards Link:** Math/Number Sense: Find the sum of whole numbers to 10,000.

# Double Double Word Search

GROUNDHOG  
WEATHER  
SHADOWS  
BURROW  
BROWN  
LOUIS  
CHAMBER  
SPRING  
SOURCE  
FOOD  
WEEKS  
PHIL  
FEBRUARY  
SIX  
WAKE

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

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

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

[illegible]

 **Write On!** 

**When is it spring?**

How do you know when winter is over and spring has begun? Write a paragraph explaining how you know.



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- Local newspapers can strengthen communities.
- Local newspapers can benefit children.

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# Library calendar

Visit [oshkoshpubliclibrary.org](http://oshkoshpubliclibrary.org) for details.

**Feb. 1**  
High Hopes Early Literacy Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m., ages 1-4  
Job search assistance, 1-4 p.m., adults

**Feb. 2**  
High Hopes Early Literacy Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m., ages 1-4  
Everyday Tech: Facebook for Beginners, 2 p.m., adults  
Drop-in Tech Help, 3 p.m., adults

**Feb. 3**  
Tween Book Club, 4:30 p.m., ages 9-11  
Teen Book Club, 4:30 p.m., grades 6-8  
Young Adult Book Club, 4:30 p.m., grades 9-12

**Feb. 6**  
Book Buzz: Picture in the Sand, 8 a.m., YouTube  
Family Storytime, 9:30 a.m., preschoolers  
Read to a Dog, 4-5 p.m., ages 5-12

**Feb. 8**  
High Hopes Early Literacy Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m., ages 1-4  
Job Search Assistance, 1-4 p.m., adults  
Memory Cafe: That's Amore, 1:30 p.m., adults

**Feb. 9**  
High Hopes Early Literacy Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m., ages 1-4  
Genealogy & Local History Acquisitions 2022, 6 p.m., adults

**Feb. 10**  
Elementary Book Club, 4:30 p.m., ages 5-8

**Feb. 13**  
Family Storytime, 9:30 a.m., preschoolers  
Read to a Dog, 4-5 p.m., ages 5-12

**Feb. 14**  
Smart Starts Play Stations, 9-11 a.m., ages 1-4

**Feb. 15**  
High Hopes Early Literacy Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m., ages 1-4  
Job Search Assistance, 1-4 p.m., adults

**Feb. 16**  
High Hopes Early Literacy Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m., ages 1-4  
Everyday Tech: Fun with Photos, 2 p.m., adults  
Drop-in Tech Help, 3 p.m., adults  
Wonderlab: Exploding Foam, 6:30 p.m., ages 5-9  
Not Your Classic Book Club, 6 p.m., adults

**Feb. 17**  
Tween S.T.E.A.M.: DIY Air Fresheners, 4:30 p.m., ages 9-11

**Feb. 19**  
Movies with Friends, 1 p.m., all ages

**Feb. 20**  
Family Storytime, 9:30 a.m., preschoolers  
Read to a Dog, 4-5 p.m., ages 5-12

**Feb. 22**  
High Hopes Early Literacy Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m., ages 1-4  
Job search assistance, 1-4 p.m., adults

**Feb 23**  
High Hopes Early Literacy Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m., ages 1-4

**Feb. 24**  
Library closed for staff training

**Feb. 25**  
Meet author Dean Robbins, 10:30 a.m., ages 5 and older

**Feb. 27**  
Family Storytime, 9:30 a.m., preschoolers  
Read to a Dog, 4-5 p.m. ages 5-12

**Feb. 28**  
Winnebago Free Legal Assistance Clinic, 4:30-6:30 p.m., adults

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THEME JERSEYS



FEB 7 | 6PM

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# State’s aging population lacks transport options

## Public transit systems, nonprofits face challenges

By Jonah Chester  
WPR/WISCONSIN WATCH

On a warm October morning in northeastern Wisconsin, Steve Maricque crisscrosses Brown County in a gray minivan. Orange-red foliage draws the gaze of passengers as overnight rain gives way to clear skies.

A smart tablet guides Maricque along his route. A dispatcher occasionally radios in a request for another pickup, which he adds to his queue when there’s time.

“This first guy had heart surgery, and he’s doing rehab,” Maricque says as he runs through his passenger manifest.

Maricque, 66, is a volunteer driver with the nonprofit Curative Connections, which serves folks with disabilities and the elderly, including transporting them to medical appointments and other important stops. It charges \$4 for a one-way trip within a service area that includes Green Bay and surrounding communities.

The nonprofit is part of a fractured transportation system for Brown County’s non-drivers. That includes Green Bay Metro’s traditional busing and door-to-door services in the metro area.

Those services will become more important as Brown County’s population, like much of Wisconsin, increasingly skews older and less mobile. But a host of challenges threaten their viability.

Curative Connections has lost about half of the drivers who volunteered before the pandemic. The need to pay additional drivers and inflation have strained the nonprofit’s budget, forcing service cuts.

Green Bay Metro, like public transit systems across Wisconsin, faces a slide in ridership and revenue that only worsened as remote work options expanded during the pandemic. In August 2020, the transit system launched an on-demand micro-transit service, aiming to plug gaps in its fixed-route service. The new service complements the transit agency’s pre-existing paratransit program for residents with disabilities.

As traditional bus services struggle, advocates for people with disabilities welcome on-demand options but say they fall short in meeting needs for Wisconsinites who don’t drive.

An influx of federal pandemic aid should help stabilize Green Bay Metro’s systems, but only temporarily, officials say.

Maricque is a lifelong Brown County resident. After retiring from the Bellin Health Foundation in October 2021, he



Kathy Koch steps out of a van after being transported to her home by Steve Maricque from Curative Connections in Green Bay, a nonprofit that serves people with disabilities and the elderly, including transporting them to medical appointments and other important stops.

immediately volunteered to drive for Curative Connections.

Brown County’s population of residents 65 and older topped 42,000 in 2021 — increasing roughly 50% from 2010, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

The trend is unfolding across Wisconsin as baby boomers age and birth rates remain low. The state Department of Administration expects the population of 65-plus Wisconsinites to grow by nearly 500,000 by 2040 and comprise nearly a quarter of the total population, up from 14% in 2010. That’s based upon the agency’s most recent analysis of census data in 2013.

Nearby family members can shuttle around some seniors, but that’s hardly the case for everyone.

“A lot of the elderly in the area — nowadays their kids move away and they don’t have someone to get them to where they need to go,” Maricque says.

At one stop, Maricque hops out to meet Kathy Koch at her front door.

Gripping a walker, the 79-year-old descends a front porch ramp. Maricque helps her into the van’s back seat.

Koch is heading to the dentist, just a 10-minute trip by car. Without specialized transportation, she would face a range of logistical hurdles. Curative Connections is essentially the “only way I can get around,” she says.

“I need somebody to get me around, and my husband’s been dead for a while. To ask the children it’s difficult, because they all work, and the grandchildren all work,” she

explains.

While some younger people with disabilities rely on Curative Connections for rides to work, medical transportation is among the biggest gaps that Curative Connections fills.

A lack of reliable transportation access caused 5.8 million Americans to delay health care in 2017, according to an analysis of National Health Interview Survey data. Seniors, people with chronic illnesses or disabilities, women and people of color faced the highest transportation burdens.

Those barriers may worsen chronic illnesses, long-term health and the psychological impact of isolation.

While distancing policies reduced COVID-19 transmission among vulnerable seniors earlier in the pandemic, they also worsened feelings of isolation. And even before COVID-19, roughly a quarter of older Americans were considered socially isolated, increasing the risks of loneliness and related health issues.

Many of Maricque’s passengers — like Koch — struggle to leave home without assistance. The rides might offer some of their only in-person interactions for a week.

“I love human contact,” Koch says as Maricque pulls up near the door of her dentist’s office and helps her out of the van. “It doesn’t happen very often.”

Just a handful of local organizations offer specialized transportation for seniors and people with disabilities, according to the Aging and Disability Resource Center of

Brown County.

Those services face a host of challenges.

As of late October, Curative Connections was down to about 52 volunteer drivers, about half the pre-pandemic total, says Tina Whetung, director of transportation for the nonprofit. She says many volunteers who left at the start of the pandemic never came back.

As a result, Whetung estimates the organization provided 30% fewer rides in 2022 compared to 2019.

Trying to offset the drop in volunteers, Curative Connections hired new paid drivers. Those costs and surging gas prices caused a \$40,000 budget shortfall, Whetung says. The nonprofit responded by attracting new donations, hiking fees from \$3 to \$4 and cutting a staff position.

Still, Whetung expected the organization to wind up “in the hole” for 2022.

Green Bay Metro’s pre-existing paratransit service and new micro-transit service function similarly to Curative Connections: Riders call ahead of time, and they’re picked up at a specific location instead of a bus stop.

The service aims to fill gaps after Green Bay’s traditional bus ridership dropped by more than 60% in a recent two-year period — from nearly 1.3 million rides in 2019 to about 495,000 in 2021. That pushed the department to consolidate routes, increasing bus frequency but limiting range, says Patty Kiewiz, Green Bay Metro transit director.

“One of the things that we’re always wanting to do is to expand services and reach areas that we’re not able to,” she says. “That’s a struggle with your traditional fixed-route system. I think looking at other modes of transportation, like on-demand type services, allows us to do that.”

As part of that shift, Green Bay Metro plans to shave hours off its Monday to Saturday service in 2023. “GBM on Demand”, Green Bay Metro’s micro-transit service, would expand to cover that gap.

While useful in certain situations, government-operated on-demand services remain imperfect, says Tamara Jackson, public policy analyst and legislative liaison for the Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities and a co-chair of the state’s Non-Driver Advisory Committee.

“There is no silver bullet here. There are a number of places that are trying to do on-demand service, and I think that gets at some challenges people have,” she says. “But it doesn’t necessarily solve some of the regional challenges and land use plan-

SEE **Transport options** ON PAGE 11



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# Transit equity provides a way to move ahead

By Deb Martin  
FOR THE HERALD

Transit Equity Day is observed annually Feb. 4 to commemorate the life and legacy of Rosa Parks on her birthday. Parks became a key figure in the civil rights era when she refused to give up her seat on a segregated Montgomery, Ala., public transit bus and was arrested in 1955.

The legally sanctioned racial discrimination in access to public transit that the bus boycott campaign targeted has ended. But barriers to adequate public transit access remain, making it harder for people – particularly people of color and poor people – from being able to get to jobs, school, and wherever else they need to go. The lack of adequate public transit service also exacerbates environmental disparities and climate change.

Transit equity is about public transit providing basic mobility for many in our



communities. It is also essential urban infrastructure – just like roads, bridges, tunnels and utilities – that is crucial to the economic, social and environmental well-being of all our regions.

Everyone has a right to a public mass transit system that includes safe, reliable, environmentally sustainable and affordable transit that is accessible to all,

regardless of income, national origin, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, religion or ability.

We need an affordable public transit system that reliably connects people in all communities to the places we need to travel: home, work, school, places of worship, shopping, health and recreation, in as efficient, and timely a manner as possible. We must ensure that all communities have access to transit; no community should be left behind. Public transit in rural, less densely populated communities should be provided in any master transportation plan despite the special challenges that may present.

We need safe, healthy and livable neighborhoods statewide that are connected by public transportation and by bicycle pathways and sidewalks, and that are planned to expand safe access to transit and reduce single occupancy vehicle miles traveled.

### Transit Equity Day

The city last week issued a proclamation for Transit Equity Day this Saturday, advocating for accessible public transportation for people of color, those economically disadvantaged, people with disabilities and other marginalized individuals in Oshkosh.

And we need dedicated and sustainable public funding for public transit.

Transit Equity Week 2023 runs from Jan. 30 to Feb. 4. You can thank a bus driver or donate money to the Salvation Army, St. Vincent de Paul, or Day By Day Warming Shelter for bus tickets. For more information, visit [labor4sustainability.org/transit-equity-2023](http://labor4sustainability.org/transit-equity-2023).

*Deb Martin is a community advocate and consultant in Oshkosh.*

## Transport options

FROM PAGE 10

ning challenges that impact non-drivers.”

Some passengers struggle with affordability and scheduling, Jackson says. And many on-demand services struggle in rural areas and operate in a limited range.

Green Bay Metro’s on-demand services run during limited hours and operate mostly within the boundaries of its bus-ing area. Curative Connections operates throughout Brown County but centers operations in and around Green Bay. It seeks volunteers to add more rural services, says Whetung.

Wisconsin’s local transportation systems face a difficult financial future.

The state’s nine largest metro transit systems, including Green Bay’s, saw ridership plummet from 48.5 million in 2019 to 22.6 million in 2021.

While transportation officials largely blame the pandemic for that drop, ridership began declining more than a decade earlier. The nine systems provided 72 million rides in 2007, according to the non-partisan Wisconsin Policy Forum.

Declining gas prices, a strong economy, the rise of app-based ride-sharing, reduced transit service and the shift to working from home decreased ridership, according to a 2021 Wisconsin Legislative Fiscal Bu-

reau report.

Meanwhile, the state is investing less in local transit projects. Excluding special funding for paratransit and tribal transit, the state spent about \$72 million in mass transit operating aid in 2022 — nearly 40% less than in 2021. It’s the lowest funding level in more than a decade.

The state uses separate pools to fund transportation for older residents and those with disabilities. The largest pool flows to county governments. At \$16 million, it’s higher than a decade ago (\$13.6 million) but stagnant since 2019.

Kiewitz says new federal infrastructure funding and pandemic aid has filled some gaps. But it’s not a perfect fix.

“That’s really kind of one-time money. What are we going to do in a couple of years?”

Maricque sits in the Curative Connections main office as other volunteers and staff members buzz around him. He sees himself as more than just a driver.

“There are life lessons you learn from the elderly,” he says. “It gives me fulfillment to be able to understand their stories and to be able to help them continue to lead as much of a normal life as they can.”

*The nonprofit Wisconsin Watch (www.Wisconsin-Watch.org) collaborates with Milwaukee Neighborhood News Service, WPR, PBS Wisconsin, other news media and the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Journalism and Mass Communication.*

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Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh images

LEFT: An aerial view shows the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh expansion project. RIGHT: An architect's rendering shows how the new club facilities will look upon completion.

# Boys & Girls Club expansion projects paced out

Oshkosh Herald

The Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh's building and community center project is working toward completion dates this year and next that will double the size of the club and expand service to another 150 or more youth each day.

The five-part project includes expansion of the elementary and middle school age spaces, a new Teen Center, new playground and multipurpose field, a community center and a second gymnasium.

## Rec department will offer coloring contest

The Oshkosh Recreation Department invites all kindergarten through fifth-graders to participate in its coloring contest, with the winner having his or her page featured on the cover of the Oshkosh Recreation Department's Summer Guide.

Deadline for submissions is Feb. 17.

The contest features its new mascot, Rexy, surrounded by summer recreational sports and activities.

Additional information and instructions can be found at [oshkoshrecdept.com](http://oshkoshrecdept.com) under the Family/Multi Age Programs tab.

## Send business bits

Our readers are looking for information on what businesses are doing in Oshkosh. Help us share the news by emailing [businessbits@oshkoshherald.com](mailto:businessbits@oshkoshherald.com).

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CR Meyer began construction on the Radford side of the building for ages 6-9 in October that will allow space for 60 more elementary-age children each day. This part of the building will be complete this February.

The building leased by Head Start began construction in December to renovate all three floors and add two classrooms, allowing space for 50 more youth. This space, to be completed in August, will be used during non-school hours for 6-year-old members. A new circle drive on Mon-

roe Street will provide added safety for entry and exit.

The club also broke ground on its new addition that includes a second-floor teen space to teach workforce development and career readiness and to continue expanding mental health programming and services.

This building will also house a community center for local agencies to better serve families. Organizations include Children's Hospital, Forward Services, Rawhide, Oshkosh Food Pantry, Fox Val-

ley Technical College, Christine Ann Center and Winnebago Health Department.

The expansion, set for completion next February, also includes a renovation of the middle school-age space.

A multipurpose field for football, soccer and baseball is set to be completed in June, and a new playground courtyard and second gym is due for completion in late 2024.

Donations to the projects can be made at [bgcosh.org](http://bgcosh.org), or call chief executive Tracy Ogden at 920-233-1414, ext. 116.

# Harrington Hall represents UWO's earliest days

By Joshua Ranger  
UW OSHKOSH ARCHIVIST

While the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh ranks among the oldest institutions in this city, its buildings do not necessarily betray its real age.

Opening in 1871, the school's original William Waters-designed "Old Main" burned down in a devastating fire in 1916. That structure grew considerably in the interceding 45 years and housed most of the Oshkosh Normal School's operations. What remained after the fire was a gymnasium, some small temporary buildings, three houses purchased as the campus expanded and its 3-year-old Industrial Building.

This last structure is known today as Harrington Hall and is the oldest university-built structure on the campus.

As its name suggests, the Industrial

OSHKOSH LANDMARKS COMMISSION

Building was built to house a new industrial arts education program at the Oshkosh Normal School. This initiative sought to train teachers in the ways of woodworking, foundry work, machining and drafting, as well as critical pedagogical techniques to instruct middle and high schoolers in these skills. This so-called "manual training" was a growing aspect of public education in the early 20th century, particularly after high schools became universal.

The Normal School regents chose Oshkosh – a city synonymous with superior woodworking and industry – to be the home for this concentration. It meanwhile touted different specializations at its other campuses. Stevens Point, for example, excelled at domestic science; La Crosse, physical education; River Falls, agriculture; Milwaukee, art and drawing.

The industrial concentration at Oshkosh was particularly helpful after World War I, when the school joined a national effort to train war amputees in adaptive skills that would allow them to pursue factory work.

The Industrial Building was designed around the unique needs of manual arts training. Finished in 1913, the \$80,000 structure featured a working forge and foundry, large open workshops with room for saws, lathes and other machinery. Oth-

er spaces were built for applied electricity, mechanical drawing and auto repair.

The structure, like others on campus that would follow, was built in the "Collegiate Gothic style" in red brick and concrete. The stone Tudor arch entrance and its parapet roof are two of its most interesting architectural features. Variations of both can be seen in the similarly styled Dempsey and Swart Halls.

Together, these three buildings make up the bulk of the Oshkosh Normal School Historic District that was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1984.

While the building at 845 Elmwood remains, its original purpose does not. The industrial arts program closed in 1937 after educating the first generation of industrial arts teachers in Wisconsin. Ongoing training by the state in this area would be done exclusively at the Stout Institute in Menomonie. The Industrial Building's workshops were renovated into chemistry, physics and biology laboratories and the structure was renamed the Science Building.

In 1952, the building was rechristened Harrington Hall, after John Harrington, the local regent at the time of its construction. After Halsey Science Center opened in 1964, another renovation in the building created spaces for other departments. Today, Harrington Hall is the home to UWO's geology department and its special labs, specimen collections, specialized equipment and displays.

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Cara Cara Navel Oranges  
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\$1.69 lb.



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10-oz. - Select  
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11.7 to 18-oz. - Select  
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4.75 to 9-oz.  
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**\$1.99**  
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# Calendar of events

### Wednesday, Feb. 1

Wisconsin Herd vs. Westchester Knicks, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Arena  
Art Opening at Becket's, 6:30 p.m., 2 Jackson St.  
Bingo, 7 p.m., American Legion Hall, 1332 Spruce St.

### Thursday, Feb. 2

Ducks Unlimited Fundraising Banquet, 5 p.m., La Sures Banquet Hall, 3125 S. Washburn St.

### Friday, Feb. 3

Midwest Comedy Tour, 6:30 p.m., Oshkosh Masonic Center, 204 Washington Ave.  
Wisconsin Herd vs. Windy City Bulls, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena  
Marine Corps League bingo, 5:30 p.m., 4715 Sherman Road  
The Dirty Martinis, 8 p.m., Anjie's Bar, 413 Ohio St.

### Saturday, Feb. 4

Oshkosh Winter Farmers Market and craft fair, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Arena  
Sports Collector Convention, 10 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center  
Otter Street Fisheree, 10 a.m., Miller's Bay in Menominee Park  
Fall in Love with Handmade Urban Craft Fair, 10 a.m., Becket's, 2 Jackson St.  
The Piano Men starring Jim Witter, 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh  
"Groundhog Day" benefit, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 Main St.

### Monday, Feb. 6

Red Cross blood drive, 11:45 a.m., Algoma United Methodist Church, 1174 Algoma Blvd.

### Tuesday, Feb. 7

First Tuesday at First Congregational, UW Oshkosh pianists Eli Kalman and Kirstin Ihde, noon, 137 Algoma Blvd.  
Wisconsin Herd vs. Santa Cruz Warriors, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

### Wednesday, Feb. 8

Bingo, 7 p.m., American Legion Hall, 1332 Spruce St.

### Thursday, Feb. 9

Michael McArthur presentation to WinnebagoLand Genealogical Society, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Public Library

### Friday, Feb. 10

Fox Cities Golf Expo, 1 p.m., Sunnyview Expo Center  
The BB King Experience, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena  
Drag Queen Bingo, 6:30 p.m., The Howard, 405 Washington Ave.  
Marine Corps League bingo, 5:30 p.m., 4715 Sherman Road  
Blind Date with a Book, 5 p.m., Caramel Crisp & Cafe, 200 D City Center

### Saturday, Feb. 11

Fox Cities Golf Expo, 10 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center  
Oshkosh Polar Plunge, 8:30 a.m., Miller's Bay in Menominee Park  
Oshkosh Winter Farmers Market and craft fair, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Arena  
Downtown Oshkosh Chocolate Stroll, 1 p.m., 100-700 blocks of North Main Street  
EAA Winter Flight Fest, 8 a.m., EAA Aviation Museum  
Fox Cities Roller Derby, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Arena  
Live Comedy Night, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 Main St.  
Tom Uttech: One With Nature exhibition opening, Paine Art Center & Gardens

### Sunday, Feb. 12

Fox Cities Golf Expo, 10 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center  
Skate the Arena, 2 p.m., Oshkosh Arena



Submitted photo

## Winning soup

Maj. James Mungai of the Oshkosh Salvation Army presented The Hangar Bar and Grill owner Lisa Marshall with the organization's annual Tin Cup trophy for its "best soup in town" competition at the fall Tin Cup luncheon. The Hangar provided a cheesy baked potato soup.

## A capella group returns to The Grand

Six Appeal vocal band is back at The Grand Oshkosh at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 23.  
What started as a collegiate hobby in 2006 quickly transformed into an award-winning a cappella phenomenon. With a wide range of musical styles, without a single instrument, the group leaves no genre untouched.  
Six Appeal also shares its love for music with every audience and empowers young singers through its educational outreach

program. During their time in Oshkosh, Six Appeal members will visit Lourdes Academy to do an a cappella master class before their performance.  
The performance is sponsored by Triangle Manufacturing Co. and part of the Artreach series sponsored by First Business Bank.  
Tickets can be found at TheGrandOshkosh.org or by calling The Grand Oshkosh Box Office at 920-424-2350.

## Former resident pens child development book

Child development expert and former Oshkosh resident Jerry Bures has recently released a new book called "When Kids Leave Clues: 26 Timeless Stories of Inspiration and Essential Life Lessons Taught to Us by Our Own Children."  
It is the Wisconsin author's first book for parents and other adults working with children. Each chapter begins with an inspirational story of a child protagonist, followed

by an analysis of the trait expressed and action steps to help apply it to other families. A father of six, Bures, gives a roadmap for raising emotionally strong kids even under the most difficult circumstances.  
Bures previously lived in Oshkosh and was employed at Oshkosh Corp.  
The book was published in early December and available on Amazon.com in the Kindle store or in paperback.

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# EAA announces early AirVenture lineup

Some of the world’s top air show performers have made commitments at the Experimental Aircraft Association’s AirVenture Oshkosh 2023 as part of the afternoon and night air show lineups.

The performers include aerobatic champions and longtime Oshkosh favorites for the 70th EAA fly-in convention, scheduled for July 24-30 at Wittman Regional Airport.

The event features nine air shows over seven days, including night airshows on July 26 and 29.

“This is already an outstanding all-star air show lineup for the 70th EAA fly-in convention and we’re just getting started,” said Rick Larsen, EAA’s vice president of communities and member programs. “There are returning performers, new air show acts, and particular aircraft connected with specific events and anniversaries. We’ll be adding more exciting acts and performances in the coming weeks that will again make the nine air shows during AirVenture week unforgettable.”

EAA marked its 70th anniversary last Thursday, a milestone for the Oshkosh-based organization that was founded in Milwaukee on Jan. 26, 1953, and has been a leader in the emergence of the amateur-built aircraft movement. It currently certifies more new small aircraft with the FAA than any aircraft company.

The annual AirVenture convention, the world’s largest of its kind, draws well over a half-million people to the area for the weeklong celebration.

Among the performers and aircraft on the schedule:

- AeroShell Aerobatic Team (T-6s)
- Randy Ball (MiG 17)
- Vicky Benzing (Stearman)
- Bob Carlton (Super Salto)
- Kevin Coleman (Extra)
- Dell Collier (Jet Waco)
- Susan Dacy (Stearman)
- Kyle Fowler (Long-EZ)
- Kyle Franklin (Piper Super Cub)

- Michael Goulian (Extra)
- RJ Gritter (Decathlon)
- Greg Koontz (Decathlon)
- Nathan Hammond (Super Chipmunk)
- Rob Holland (MXS-RH)
- Jerry Kerby (RV-8/T-28)
- Lee Lauderback (P-51)
- David Martin (Beech Baron)
- Jessy Panzer (Pitts)
- Jim Peitz (F-33 Bonanza)
- Red Bull Air Force
- Ken Reider (RV-8)
- Bill Stein (Edge 540)
- Skip Stewart (Prometheus 2)
- Jim Tobul (F4U-F Corsair)
- Hubie Tolson (Sukhoi SU-31)
- Trojan Phlyers (T-28s)
- Bernie Vasquez (Sea Fury)
- Patty Wagstaff (Extra)
- Scott Yoak (P-51)
- Matt Younkin (Beech 18)

More performers will be announced along with exact days for each performer and complete daily air show lineups as they are finalized.



Submitted photo

Longtime rocker Lita Ford will be performing at Waterfest this summer.

## Waterfest returns for 37th season

Oshkosh Herald

Waterfest launches its 37th season June 15 with at least two dozen music artists over eight Thursday evenings through the summer at the Leach Amphitheater in Riverside Park.

Two dates have been booked and were announced this week.

The bombastic 1980s arena rock of Hairball returns to Waterfest on June 22. Joining them are ’80s glam band Tuff that features Oshkosh’s Steve Rochelle.

The evening starts with Akron, Ohio-based guitar virtuoso The Michael Weber Show.

Another rock show on schedule includes Warrant, Lita Ford and Firehouse on Aug. 10.

Warrant has sold 10 million albums with nine charting singles including “Heaven” and “Cherry Pie.”

Lita Ford has sold more than a million albums and charted songs like “Cherry Bomb” with The Runaways, “Close My Eyes Forever” with Ozzy Osbourne and “Kiss Me Deadly.”

Firehouse has sold more than 7 million albums and charted hits including “When I Look Into your Eyes” and “Love of a Lifetime.”

Tickets go on sale Feb. 15 for both of those shows at Waterfest.org.

Waterfest will announce additional dates in coming weeks. Season passes are expected to go on sale May 1 at Waterfest.org.

Volunteers, donors and sponsors help make the concert series one of the most affordable and attractive summer activities in Wisconsin. For volunteer, sponsor, donor and group sales inquiries contact Rob Kleman at Rob@OshkoshChamber.com.

## EAA sets Skiplane Fly-in event for Feb. 11

The annual Winter Flight Fest will bring family activities and the popular Skiplane Fly-in to the EAA Aviation Museum from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Feb. 11.

The day is designed for all ages in the museum and at its Pioneer Airport facility. Among the hands-on highlights included with regular admission are the Wright Flyer simulator, paper airplane launcher, X-Plane creation, pararescue challenge, indoor model airplane flying and clothespin airplanes.

An airplane model building contest will have divisions for adults and youth. Contestants can build their models before Feb. 11 but must have them registered by 1 p.m. with judging at 2 p.m.

The Skiplane Fly-In brings in pilots from the upper Midwest to the snow-covered airstrip at Pioneer Airport. Visitors are welcome to walk among the parked airplanes.

EAA is offering a family membership discount for first-time family members of \$50.



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## Moscato performing at national convention

Oshkosh singer Franki Moscato will be performing at the 2023 Cattle Industry Convention & National Cattlemen’s Beef Association (NCBA) Trade Show set this weekend in New Orleans after winning the organization’s 10th annual National Anthem Contest in November.

Moscato will sing the “Star-Spangled Banner” at the opening general session as well as at the Friday night Party Gras concert.

“Farming has been part of my family’s history since before my ancestors arrived from Wales in 1857,” Moscato said after winning the NCBA contest. “It is an honor to be chosen to sing for an industry that means so much to me.”

Moscato has performed at Lambeau Field and competed on the television show “American Idol.” Moscato created the Franki Moscato Foundation that focuses on teen suicide prevention.

**WRITING OPPORTUNITIES**

**Do you have the pulse on the community? Interested in feature stories or prep sports?**

We are looking for writers interested in creating community features, news stories or sports reporting on a freelance basis for either the Oshkosh Herald or Neenah News weekly newspapers. Submissions would need a local focus that also can connect to broader topics. Compensation is on a story-by-story basis.

Contact [editor@oshkoshherald.com](mailto:editor@oshkoshherald.com) to get more details.





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What question would you like answered at this year’s program? Scan this QR Code or visit the City website Hot Topics to share your input.





Submitted photo

## North Chorale fan

The Oshkosh North Chorale under the direction of Bridget Duffy-Ulrich performed at the Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB) 2023 State Education Convention last month. The group performed directly before a speech by Gov. Tony Evers, shown with the group along with Oshkosh Board of Education president Barbara Herzog (left), who served as president of WASB. The choir auditioned for this musical showcase and were selected as the only vocal group to perform.

## Altrusa seeks scholarship applicants

Altrusa International Club of Oshkosh will award five scholarships totaling \$7,500 this spring to individuals who are a high school senior or an undergraduate or graduate student planning to attend a university, technical college or institute. Altrusa has worked as a part of the Oshkosh volunteer community since 1949 by providing volunteer services and financial support to projects that enhance many areas of life. Literacy is at the foundation of the organization.

Scholarship applicants must be a resident of the Altrusa International Club of Oshkosh Inc. service area (Oshkosh, Neenah, Menasha, Omro and Winneconne) and have high school senior status or be an undergraduate or graduate student. All completed applications must be postmarked no later than April 14. Applications are available at [districtseven.altrusa.org/Oshkosh](https://districtseven.altrusa.org/Oshkosh). Contact Barbara Kamp at [bkamp@northnet.net](mailto:bkamp@northnet.net) for more information.

## City panels

FROM PAGE 1

The 2017 study noted that state statute requires certain boards and commissions, including:

- Business Improvement District
- Board of Zoning Appeals
- Board of Review
- Extraterritorial Zoning Committee
- Housing Authority
- Landmarks Commission
- Library Board
- Plan Commission
- Police and Fire Commission
- Redevelopment Authority

Some of these boards and commissions have council liaisons as well, which is not a state requirement but rather a result of local ordinances passed by a previous council. “The real key (now) is that we have 10 BCCs that are mandated by state statute, and another 13 BCCs that are created by council via ordinance,” Rohloff said. “The study shows 14 ‘optional’ BCCs in 2017; the Grand Advisory was folded into the Landmarks Commission as a result of the 2017 study, and Traffic was folded

into Parking, for a loss of two BCCs; Our Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee was added in 2019, leaving a net decrease of one since 2017.”

These boards and commissions have vacancies that can be filled by city residents:

- Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
- BID Board
- Board of Review
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee
- Extraterritorial Zoning Committee
- Landmarks Commission
- Long Range Finance Committee
- Public Arts and Beautification Committee
- Redevelopment Authority
- Rental Housing Advisory Board
- Stormwater Utility Board
- Sustainability Advisory Board
- Traffic and Parking Advisory Board
- Transit Advisory Board

There is no set timeline of completion for the special committee’s review. Applications for boards and commissions, as well as when each one meets, can be found at [onboard.ci.oshkosh.wi.us](https://onboard.ci.oshkosh.wi.us).

# UWO Hmong Studies director selected as emerging scholar

By Laurie Schlosser  
UW OSHKOSH TODAY

The Hmong Studies director at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh has been named an emerging scholar by *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*. News of Mai See Thao’s selection was released Jan. 19 by the magazine. Scholars were chosen based on research, educational background, publishing record, teaching record, competitiveness of field of study, and uniqueness of field of study.

“I felt very honored that my hard work was being recognized and uplifted,” Thao said upon hearing she was named. “Sometimes you forget how much you’ve done until someone tells you that they see you, the work you’ve done, and the difference you’ve made.”

Thao began work in fall 2020 as UWO’s inaugural Hmong Studies director. She quickly built a solid foundation for the program and obtained full approval for the Hmong Studies certificate in her second year on the faculty.

“The approval was a pivotal moment in our university’s history, one that had been building momentum since the first Hmong students enrolled at UWO in the late 1970s,” wrote Alicia Johnson, former interim university diversity officer, in the nomination for the award.

Johnson also noted that Hmong students pushed for greater representation of students, staff, faculty and curriculum.

UWO junior Mikenzi Thao, of Appleton, said her goals that were “once only a dream” are now becoming reality since enrolling in Mai See Thao’s Hmong Studies courses—courses that examine the history of the Hmong through a critical trauma lens, going in depth of the systemic oppressions that have shaped the community.

“In taking these courses, you develop new knowledge and learn to understand more about the Hmong diaspora (dispersion of people from original homeland),” the student added. “I encourage my peers at UWO to enroll in these courses to learn more about the Hmong diaspora and to see your own dreams become a reality of accomplishments.”

Associate professor Jordan Karsten, chair of the anthropology, global religions and cultures department where Thao also serves as an assistant professor, said she is

deserving of the emerging scholar honor. “In her short time at UWO, she has developed the Hmong Studies program with a rigorous curriculum that has attracted attention from across the country. Her scholarship is particularly impressive, especially her success in being awarded large and prestigious grants to continue her work with Hmong diaspora populations. There is no doubt UWO is lucky to have Mai See and the unique educational opportunities she provides students.”

Anne Stevens, dean of the College of Letters and Science, said she is proud of Thao and the recognition of her achievements.

“In creating and expanding the Hmong Studies program she is providing much needed curriculum to serve our region and positioning UWO as a national leader in the field of Hmong Studies,” Stevens said.

Thao has continued to grow the program and requested funding so all ethnic studies programs could hire a second faculty member to reduce isolation and increase retention.

She is happy to report that they were able to make offers to two candidates.

“This is history in the making,” she said. “This is the first Hmong Studies program to ever have not only two but three Hmong Studies faculty. This is a historical moment for UWO and the academic field of Hmong Studies.”

She said increasing Hmong Studies faculty was a goal when she started. She is thrilled it happened as quickly as it did.

“Adding new faculty, for me, wasn’t just about growing but it was really about sustainability. How do we create something that lasts?”

Some of her goals are continuing to conduct research and planning and mapping for the future.

She’ll work on applying for additional grants, work with community partners to develop quest courses, as well as focus on student recruitment and developing an online course offering.

“I’ve been asked by many students across the country if they could take my courses,” she said. “I really think we can make that happen now that there’s more than just me with expertise in Hmong Studies.”

She hinted that there may be study abroad to Southeast Asia sometime in the future.

Thao is a medical anthropologist with research interests in historical trauma, displacement, the refugee body, biopolitics and care (long-term care and chronic disease management).



Thao

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# Knights chop down Oaks in Trailways East tussle

By Steve Clark  
OSHKOSH HERALD

Lourdes Academy’s boys basketball team had won just once in its previous nine games heading into last Thursday’s showdown with Oakfield in The Castle.

Some teams in that situation may find it difficult to bring much intensity and focus to the court. Not the Knights.

They had energy coming out their ears. “We just had to get that out of them. We had to get that energy monster out of them,” Lourdes Academy head coach Brett Baehman said after watching his team beat the Oaks, 67-51. “That’s what makes a world of difference for us. When we play with energy, that’s what gives us that confidence and you can just see it. I’m glad that they finally see it and its starting to catch on at the right time.”

The Knights scored the first points of the game and trailed for all of about three minutes the entire night.

Lourdes Academy took the lead for good with a 14-1 run in the first half to take an 18-6 lead, with Dominic Bauer, JJ McKellips and Calvin Tollard each chipping in four points in the outburst.

“If you can get out on a team early and they have to fight to get back, they are going to start rushing shots, shooting more 3s and making simple mistakes trying to claw their way back into a game,” said Knights’ senior Lucas Schettler. “If you can get the early lead, you can just play your game. There have been games where we have been playing from behind from the get-go, so we know that feeling.”

The 12-point lead was the largest of the first half for the Knights and the Oaks were able to trim the gap to seven at halftime.



Lourdes Academy’s Lucas Schettler puts up a shot under heavy defensive pressure against Oakfield last Thursday.

Photo by Andy Ratchman

Oakfield was able to hang around early in the second half before McKellips went 3-of-3 from 3-point range over about a four-minute span to keep the Knights in front.

“It’s awesome to have JJ in those moments. He senses it. He’s been there before and he feels when he needs to take over and he does it in a great way where he knows how to get his chances. He doesn’t

force it by any means. And when he hits those bug shots, it gives everybody confidence.”

Lourdes would lead by double digits the rest of the way, although the Oaks were able to pull within 49-38 with about eight minutes to go.

Mitchell Wing’s 3-pointer pushed the lead back to 14 and swayed momentum back to the Knights.

Wing was one of three players in double figures with 14 points, behind McKellips’ game-high 20 points and 15 points from Schettler.

“It’s a night and day difference when we can have three guys in double figures instead of just one,” Schettler said. “If you have one or two guys trying to do it all, the opposing team is going to focus on that guy and try to take away that scorer. If you have three or four guys who can score effectively and get into double figures, they have to be alert.”

Both Wing and Tollard, who chipped in eight points, missed games due to injury during the Knights’ losing skid but are now back at full strength.

Baehman said having the full group available to play makes a notable difference in how the Knights play.

“Just getting everyone back healthy and being back in their roles and playing with each other is big,” Baehman said. “It’s the right time of the year for them to understand their roles and they are playing really well with each other.”

With the win over the Oaks coming on the heels of a hard-fought loss to CWC, the Knights seem to be cranking things up as the regular season is starting to wind down.

“This could be the turning point to getting our feet under us and getting back on a roll,” Schettler said. “It’s never easy for any team for a starter to be missing. Now that we have all of our pieces, it opens the door for a lot of key aspects.”

Lourdes Academy will be hosting Horicon on Friday night for its next action. The Marshmen beat the Knights 48-46 earlier this season.

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New coach

FROM PAGE 1

Hartkopf replaced longtime coach Ken Levine.

Ray was recommended by an interview committee.

The Wildcats finished 1-8 last season and have not had a winning record in a normal fall season since 2010. West did finish 4-3 in the spring 2020 COVID season.

“I think people nowadays look for that instant change of instant gratification and it is going to take time to get things better,” said Ray, who is originally from Denver. “We have to put in the work to get it done and with that comes stability. West hasn’t been able to do that because they haven’t had (stability) and that’s where I’m hoping to bring that missing piece.”

Ray hasn’t set a specific goal pertaining to how long he expects it to take to have West contending in the Fox Valley Association, but he is certain about when building the program is going to start.

“What we are going to focus on is just getting better one day at a time, doing the little things right every single day and do common things in an uncommon way every single day and eventually it will get better,” Ray said. “At Hamilton, we were super blessed that it happened pretty quick; other places it takes longer and there are a lot of variables that will go into that.

“I’m not going to put a number on it. The second you put a number on something like that, your priorities are in the wrong spot.”

With his hiring official, Ray is set to meet the West players and parents today

(Wednesday) and will start to assemble a staff.

With his background on the defensive side of the ball, he plans to have a hand in what the Wildcats do, but hasn’t decided of whether there will be an additional defensive coordinator.

Offensively, Ray said he is not married to any specific style and is open to what will work best for the program and suit the offensive coordinator’s background.

“I’m looking for the right coach more than anything,” said Ray, who played football at Wisconsin Lutheran College. “At the state championships this year, there are teams that run the wing-T, there are teams that run heavy personnel gap scheme and there are teams that run the spread. To me it’s about believing in the system, having guys who can teach the system and the guys who are going to invest in the system.”

Coming from the Greater Metro Conference should prepare Ray for what awaits him when FVA play begins next fall and the roster of strong teams that appear on the yearly schedule.

He said he is looking forward to the challenge and believes he has the experience to thrive leading a team against a rigorous schedule.

“I am used to those big games and have coached in those big games, so I know the mindset,” Ray said. “But whether it’s a big game or not, it’s about approaching every day the same. If you look at it as a big game, that’s when kids get wide-eyed and worried so it’s more about focus on the task at hand and by the time we get to Friday, we’re confident in what we are doing and we are excited for it.”

Realignment Task Force offers modified plan to WIAA board

The WIAA Conference Realignment Task Force modified its original proposal from last year and introduced the new plan at its January meeting.

The preliminary proposal would have seen 105 teams change conferences in 11-player football beginning with the 2024 season, with only 17 of the 49 conferences not impacted in some way.

The new realignment plan was released after school representatives had the opportunity to express concerns about the realignment.

The Fox Valley Association was one of the conferences affected by the realignment and it would remove Oshkosh North from the league. It would mean Oshkosh North and Oshkosh West would not be in the same conference for football.

The other seven teams in the league would remain and Hortonville would be added to complete the eight-team conference.

Oshkosh North would be relocated to the Fox River Classic Conference South Division, which also includes Menasha, Sheboygan North, Sheboygan South, Manitowoc Lincoln, Green Bay East, Green Bay West and Green Bay Notre Dame.

The Spartans would likely benefit from

a competitive standpoint from the move, however, Oshkosh North would have to endure much more travel.

The Fox River Classic Conference North Division would be composed of Ashwaubenon, Green Bay Southwest, Bay Port, Green Bay Preble, Appleton West, De Pere, Pulaski and West De Pere

Although North and West would no longer be in the same conference, the two schools could still continue their rivalry if they opt to play a nonconference game against each other.

The Trailways Conference, which includes Lourdes Academy, would also look slightly different.

Four members of the current league would remain in Lourdes Academy, Cambria-Friesland, Johnson Creek and Randolph.

That foursome would be joined by Dodgeand, Palymra-Eagle, Westfield and Milwaukee School of Excellence.

The new proposal will be voted on at the March 7 Board of Control meeting. The Board of Control has the authority to approve, reject or send the realignment plan back to the task force.

A complete breakdown of the realignment plan can be found on the WIAA’s website.

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# Prep sports roundup

## BOYS BASKETBALL

### Wildcats rally to knock off Ghosts

Tristan Johanknecht put Oshkosh West ahead with about a minute to go and two free throws by Devonte Kershaw with 10 seconds left helped seal the Wildcats' 68-65 win over Kaukauna in a Fox Valley Association game on Thursday night.

West outscored Kaukauna 36-25 in the second half to erase an eight-point half-time deficit.

Dylan Taylor led the way with 24 points, while Johanknecht scored all 13 of his points in the second half. Drew Blair also scored 13 points and Kershaw chipped in nine points.

The Wildcats finished 18-of-19 from the free-throw line in the game to help secure the win.

### Johanknecht leads West past Menomonee Falls

Tristan Johanknecht posted a double-double to lead Oshkosh West to a 69-59 nonconference win over Menomonee Falls on Saturday.

The senior finished with 25 points on 11-of-17 shooting from the floor, while also grabbing 16 rebounds in the win.

Drew Blair added 20 points, including four 3-pointers, while Dylan Taylor added 14 points, nine rebounds and six assists.

West went 11-of-23 from 3-point range in the game.

### Spartans fall at buzzer to Polar Bears

Hortonville's August Mauer hit a 3-pointer at the buzzer to sting Oshkosh North in an 87-84 loss last Thursday.

The Spartans rallied from a 45-32 half-time deficit and had the game tied at 84 but couldn't complete the win.

Steven Clark finished with a game-high 37 points, which included a 12-of-15 performance at the free-throw line. Xzavion Mitchell went 8-of-9 from the free-throw line and added 26 points. Mitchell also finished with 12 rebounds and six assists.

Carter Strange also reached double figures for the Spartans with 12 points, while Bryce Ott chipped in nine.

### Strong second half not enough for Warriors

Valley Christian outscored Hustisford in the second half but came up short in the end, falling 61-44 last Thursday.

The Warriors trailed 32-12 at halftime.

Joshua Johnson led the way for the Warriors with 14 points, while Eli Humiston added 11 and Cade Krause finished with seven.

## GIRLS BASKETBALL

### Oshkosh West tripped up by Kaukauna Ghosts

The Wildcats had three players finish with at least nine points but couldn't overtake the Ghosts as they dropped a 46-39 decision Friday.

Paige Seckar scored 12 points and Mad-di Choinski added 10 for West, which trailed just 17-16 at halftime. Braelee Jodarski chipped in nine points.

Kaukauna went 13-of-16 from the free-throw line to help preserve the win.

### Spartans struggle in loss to Polar Bears

Oshkosh North was held to just five points in the second half and fell to Hortonville 64-18 at home Friday.

Ava Hanson was the lone double figure scorer for the Spartans finishing with 10 points. Mallory Ott was the next highest scorer with four.

## WRESTLING

### Oshkosh West dominates in win over Appleton East

The Wildcats registered nine pins as they cruised to a 63-12 win over Appleton East last Thursday.

Edwyn Schroeder (126), Ryland Schneider (132), Lukas Schroeder (138), Jaxen Lloyd (145), Jaiden Fronczyk (160), Juan Heredia (170), Vinny Bird (182) and Nelson Fournier (220) all won by pin for Oshkosh West.

Kieran Patrick won by decision at 195 pounds, while Zach Bartels (152) and Garth Martell (285) each won by forfeit.

### Spartans can't match Polar Bears

Oshkosh North won two of the first

three matches but had to forfeit at four weight classes as they fell to Hortonville, 48-28, on Thursday.

Jamaul Ragland-Schreck (170) and Brayden Klauer (182) each won by pin as the Spartans grabbed a 12-6 lead. Hortonville would score points five of the next six weight classes – the other being a double forfeit – to take control of the match.

Jonathan Burk (126) and Ben Boelter (152) added pins for the Spartans, while Jonathon Molash earned a major decision win.

### West, North compete at Dirk Sorenson invite

Oshkosh West and Oshkosh North both competed at the Dirk Sorenson Invitational hosted by Sturgeon Bay High School on Saturday.

The Wildcats took second place in the 19-team invitational, finishing about 50 points behind champion Wittenberg-Birnawood.

Edwyn Schroeder (126) and Nelson Fournier (220) each finished first in their respective brackets. Schroeder posted one pin and beat Iron Mountain's Shawn McGuire 5-0 in the title match, while Fournier picked up two pins, including a stoppage over Bay Port's Tevyn Montgomery in 5:01 in the final.

Garth Martell (285) added a second-place finish, while Ryland Schneider (132), Zach Bartels (152) and Vincent Bird (182) were each third. Kieran Patrick

SEE **Prep roundup** ON PAGE 23

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# Wildcats drop final FVA dual meet of the season

By Steve Clark  
OSHKOSH HERALD

Oshkosh West wrestling coach Matt Cuadra liked what he saw from his Wildcats last Friday night against Kimberly. The final score may have not been what he and his team wanted, but what he witnessed on the mat certainly left him with a smile.

"I think, overall, our kids wrestled tough," Cuadra said after the Wildcats dropped their final Fox Valley Association dual meet of the season 45-23 to the Papermakers. "We came out and battled at every single spot. We just didn't end up on top at the right times."



Martell

With the conference meet looming on Friday and the WIAA Tournament series to follow, the dual meet served as a good measuring stick as to where the team is at. "(We had guys) wrestle their opponents tonight a lot tougher so it shows that everything we are doing in the room is getting the guys better," Cuadra said. "We're not done. We are still improving so we can peak at the right time."

The match started on the right foot for the Wildcats as Lukas Schroeder opened things with a 7-3 win over Kimberly's Logan Hubert.

Schroeder nearly pinned Hubert in the first period when he had the Papermaker wrestler on his back for more than a minute but had to settle for the decision win.

"Six points (for a pin) would have looked amazing right there and maybe got the ball rolling in a different direction," Cuadra said. "But Lukas knew the goal and it's going out and getting wins. It was Senior Night so it was nice for him to get that win in his last home meet."

Schroeder's win came in the 138-pound weight class and West wouldn't win again until 195 pounds, when Kieran Patrick won a hard-fought 5-4 decision over Owen Ott. Patrick earned the win with a third-period takedown of Ott and with-

stood a late penalty point for the win. In between those two West wins, though, Kimberly racked up five straight wins – two pins and three major decisions – and even after Patrick's win led 24-6.

The Papermakers got a decision win at 220 pounds but West came storming back at heavyweight, where Garth Martell pinned Jack Jorgensen in 3:38.

Martell led 2-0 after the first period and then scored an escape to open the second. He then earned his second takedown of the match and – after a restart – rolled Jorgensen to his back for the win.

"Coming back to the middle (for the restart) I knew I wanted six for the team," Martell said. "When there is a lot of time left in the period, I feel like there is time to settle in and get a six for my team. When I get him on his back, I am not going to let him off until I get that pin."

Martell, whose pin brought West to within 27-12, was hoping the pin might change the tide of the match.

"You always love to change the roll. It takes one match to change everything," Martell said. "When I get that opportunity, I'm always going to try to change that."

Unfortunately for the Wildcats, they couldn't carry the momentum off of Martell's win as the Papermakers won the next three matches to secure the dual meet victory.

West's Edwyn Schroeder (126) and Ryland Schneider (132) closed the match with first-period pins for the final margin.

Schroeder stopped Garrett Semenuk in 1:53, before Schneider closed the match by pinning Andrew Weborg in 1:14.

The Wildcats now turn their attention to the FVA Meet, which will be held Saturday in Neenah, followed by the start of the WIAA Tournament with the regional meet at Slinger.

Martell, like the rest of his teammates, is ready for the tournament season to begin.

"This is my favorite time of the season," Martell said. "I'm ready to make some noise."



Photo submitted

Lourdes Academy's Jasmine Saiyed deadlifts 300 pounds during a meet at Neenah on Saturday.

## Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 22

(195) added a fourth place.

Jonathon Burk (126) was the top finisher for Oshkosh, placing fifth.

### POWERLIFTING

#### Saiyed leads Lourdes powerlifters in Neenah

The Lourdes Academy Girls Powerlifting Team competed at the Neenah Regional Meet on Saturday.

The Knights were led by freshman Jasmine Saiyed. Saiyed, who came into the meet ranked eighth in the state, finished second with a total of 680 pounds, a 20-pound increase in her state ranking total.

Sophomore Bree Kane finished seventh

with a total of 555 pounds and sophomore Natalie Edwards finished eighth with a 515-pound total for their weight class.

Other lifters for Lourdes Academy were Olivia Nielsen, Kate Lynn, Kathleen O'Connor, Ava Geffers, Grace Meyers, Franki Tuttle and Taylin Mecklenberg.

### BOYS HOCKEY

#### Ice Hawks fall to Rhinelander

Isaiah Koeppen tallied the only goal for Oshkosh in a 6-1 loss to Rhinelander on Saturday.

Koeppen scored in the third period off an assist from Winston Knobloch that made the score 5-1.

Gage Bauer made a whopping 47 saves in the game as the Ice Hawks were outshot 53-23.

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# Hard-working Bird looks to soar in final season



Oshkosh Herald

*Oshkosh West senior Vinny Bird aims to cap his senior season with a trip to the state wrestling tournament at the Kohl Center in Madison.*

By Tim Froberg  
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Vinny Bird took a seat at Madison's Kohl Center and watched the 2022 WIAA state individual wrestling tournament unfold.

Bird is shooting for a return to the Kohl – only this time he wants to be on the mat as a competitor.

The Oshkosh West senior was a sectional qualifier as a junior and is hoping to close his prep wrestling career in style as a first-time state meet qualifier.

Bird sets high goals for himself and won't be content just competing at the Kohl. He wants to place.

"Making podium at state – that's what I'm hoping for," Bird said. "We have a pretty tough sectional, so if I can make it through sectionals, there's no reason I shouldn't place at state. Qualifying for state has been my dream since I got serious about wrestling."

Bird is off to a good start in his quest to reach Madison. Thirty-five matches into the season, Bird had compiled a 24-11 record with eight pins in the 182-pound weight class. A year ago, Bird went 24-12 at 182. He missed a few weeks of the season with a knee injury, but returned for the postseason and won a few sectional matches before being eliminated.

“Just watching the atmosphere of it (the state tournament) as a spectator last year – it was incredible,” Bird said. “I can’t even imagine what it would feel like to be out there.”

Bird hopes to find out. He's a skilled wrestler who is committed to the sport and determined to make his hard work pay off.

“After our first practice of the season, I walked up to our coach (Matt Cuadra) and said, ‘One of my goals is to be the hardest worker in the room.’ I asked him to hold me accountable for that. No one is going to outwork me this year.”

Cuadra admires Bird's work ethic and his willingness to accept coaching.

“Vinny is a kid who always wants to be pushed to make himself better,” Cuadra said. “He’s always willing to listen and learn.”

Bird has been wrestling since the fifth grade, starting at the Mat Rats level. He became a regular varsity wrestler his sophomore year.

“Wrestling is kind of a combat sport,” Bird said. “It’s a whole different animal compared to football and other sports. There’s a lot to it. You have to manage your weight. There’s a whole different level of work ethic and accountability to it.”

“With football, you can point fingers. You can say, ‘This guy missed his blocking assignment or the wide receiver ran the

## Senior Spotlight

wrong route.' But in wrestling, when things don't go your way, it's, 'I messed up. I didn't work hard enough. I didn't put in the time.' There is no one to blame but yourself."

Bird wrestles at a higher weight class (182) where he can't just rely on brute strength. He's a sound technician and a taller wrestler at 6-foot-2, who takes advantage of his height.

"A lot of guys are similar in strength to me," Bird said. "The thing that helps me is that I'm relatively tall and have long arms. I'm able to use leverage in a lot of positions where other guys can't. I try and be as technique conscious as I can, especially if I know it's going to be a close match."

Bird is a two-sport athlete who played football for the first time in his prep career last fall. Despite his inexperience on the gridiron, Bird was a solid Wildcats' contributor at defensive end, finishing with 19 tackles – three for loss – and a sack.

“My friends convinced me to play,” Bird said. “They were like, ‘Hey, it’s your senior year. You should give it a shot.’ I’m really glad I did it. It was a lot of fun. Our record wasn’t the greatest, but I’ll never forget that locker room.”

Staying in shape for football was no problem for Bird.

“If you’re in wrestling shape, you’re in better shape than any other sport,” Bird said. “I did football workouts and I was like, ‘This is nothing compared to a wrestling practice.’”

Bird has enlisted in the Wisconsin Army National Guard and will go through basic training after his graduation at Oshkosh West before heading to college.

"I've always considered the armed forces to be an option," Bird said. "It's always been in the back of my head. It's a weekend-a-month type deal and they pay for a lot of your college. There's a whole bunch of benefits you can get."

A strong student with a 3.4 grade-point-average, Bird plans to attend Fox Valley Technical College following his National Guard training and pursue a degree in criminal justice.

"I'm looking at a couple different career options," Bird said. "One of them is law enforcement and the other is forensic psychology. I've always thought it would be cool to be an FBI profiler."

In the meantime, Bird is focused on finishing his prep wrestling career with a bang.

"I look forward to wrestling season every year and I'm very sad that it's going to be my last year wrestling," Bird said. "I'm just trying to enjoy it while I can."

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Photo submitted  
The Oshkosh North dance team will be competing at the state meet in La Crosse on Saturday. The group will compete in the D1 Hip Hop division.

## Oshkosh North dance team going to state

The Oshkosh North High School dance team qualified for state competition that will be held Saturday in La Crosse. The group will compete in the D1 Hip Hop routine at 6:30 p.m. in the La Crosse Center. Dancers include Giorgia Adamo, Iya

Blackwell, Kendra Gaulke, Diamond Johnson-Speed, Maggie Lynch, Brynn McCartney, Aliah Moua, Keirah Palmquist, Mackenzie Pate, Cadence Preston, Allison Salzsieder and Kaylee Schlenske. Coaches are Char Golliher, Katalina Lor and Kaitlin Stindt.

## UW Oshkosh Foundation launches 1871 Society

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Foundation recently launched the 1871 Society, a new fundraising push named in honor of the year the university began and focused on bringing scholarship resources to students. The membership is a three-year commitment of \$1,871 annually. The Foundation's goal is to have 53 donors join the society in the first year. The Foundation will provide a first-year match of \$1,871 for each of the 53, adding \$100,000 to student scholarship funds. The society will aid general scholarship funding at UW Oshkosh, which helps the university with recruitment and retention. It will supplement existing scholarship funds and boost scholarships for incoming first-year students at the Oshkosh campus, incoming transfer students and access campus students. Donations to the 1871 Society will,

for example, help fund the Titan Promise Incoming Freshman Scholarship. The award considers the incoming student's academic history, grade-point average, extracurricular participation, community involvement and financial need. This year, UW Oshkosh will be able to provide 88 incoming first-year students with awards of \$2,000. In spring 2022 it gave \$1,000 awards to 100 students. Society members will enjoy added benefits. Along with the first-year match of \$1,871, donors will receive an 1871 Society pin, communications from the Foundation and UW Oshkosh about how their dollars are impacting students, and more. Starting in year two, the Foundation will host a special recognition event for 1871 Society members. More information can be found at [uwo.sh/1871society](http://uwo.sh/1871society).

## Obituaries

### Darlene M. Paulsen

Darlene M. Paulsen, age 86, passed away surrounded by her family on January 28, 2023. She was born to the late Hilbert and Jennifer (Pruski) Ochowicz on April 5, 1936, in Wauwatosa, WI. She married Walter Paulsen on April 18, 1964, in Oshkosh, WI. Together they had two children, Tina, and Sue. Darlene was a wonderful homemaker who loved taking care of her family; she also enjoyed relaxing watching TV and watching birds from her house, especially her local cardinals. Darlene is survived by her daughter, Tina (Brett) Koch, Sue (Mike) Moore; grandchildren, Tyler (Rhianna) Cartwright, Ashley (Michael) Dodd, Ashley

(Cody Volk) Rice, Zachary, and Sydney Koch; great grandchildren, Peyton, Carson, Kayden as well as one great grandchild on the way. She's also survived by her niece, Penny (Dan) Dilly and nephew, Allen Ochowicz. In addition to her parents, Darlene is preceded in death by her brothers, Robert, Donald, and Frederick Ochowicz; and nephew, Brian Ochowicz. Per Darlene's wishes, a private graveside service will take place. The family would like to thank the nurses and staff at Aurora at home hospice for their wonderful care of Darlene.



### Lyle C. McDonald

Lyle C. McDonald, age 95 of Oshkosh, passed away on January 23, 2023. He was born on November 13, 1927 to the late Robert and Elsie (Kunde) McDonald. Lyle married Jacquelyn (Sang) on September 23, 1950. They were married for 60 years. Lyle was a life long member of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Army Air Corp. during World War II and later in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. Lyle was employed at the UWO for over 20 years retiring in 1991. He was an amateur radio operator with the call letters WA9NBE. He also enjoyed photography. Lyle is survived by his children, Steven

(Ellen) McDonald, Gary (Sue) McDonald, Lynda Maus, Debra McDonald and Pamela (Doug) Tice. His Grandchildren, Shelly Scott, Jesse McDonald, Christine Burns, Scott (Heather) McDonald, Michael McDonald, Kelly (Ryan) Tuley, Sarah Klessig and Mackenzie (Chase) Daniels. Great Grandchildren, Madeline, Alison, Isaac, Ellie, Veda, Keliah, Bethany, Marcus, Jaclyn, Lydia, Naomi, Lyle, Claire and Matthew. In addition to his wife and parents, Lyle was preceded in death by his sister Donna Wolff, brother James McDonald and great grand son Alex McDonald. Honoring Lyle's wishes no formal service will take place.

### Joyce A. Schunk

Joyce A. Schunk, 75, passed away in Oshkosh, WI on January 28, 2023. She was born in Oshkosh, WI on May, 1, 1947 to Marian (Ilk) and Edward Fretschel. Joyce married Tom Schunk on April 8, 1967 and together they shared 55 happy years of marriage. They would often go on cruises and vacations together, visiting the Caribbean, and Mexico. She loved to go bowling and reading mystery novels. Joyce will be remembered as being a loving wife and best friend, mother, and grandmother. She is survived by her husband of 55 years, Tom Schunk; children, Joseph Schunk, Brian Schunk, and Jennifer Schunk; grandchildren, Emma, Hailey (Hunter), Austin, and Mason. She is further survived by her siblings, Ellen (John) Entringer, Edward (Connie) Fretschel, and Paul (Mazie) Fretschel; and many nieces and nephews; as well as her Fleet Farm family and all the friends she made while working there. She is also survived by her dear friend Sarah Dennin. Preceding her in death are her parents,

Marian and Edward; and daughter-in-law, Jennifer Schunk. A memorial service will be held on Friday, February 3, 2023. Visitation will be held at Seefeld Funeral Home from 9am until 11am with services to follow. The family extends a special thank you to Compassus Hospice.



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Obituaries

Harland William Krueger

Harland W. (Bill) Krueger, age 88, passed away peacefully with his daughters by his side on Thursday, January 26, 2023. He was born in Oshkosh on August 29, 1934, to the late Harland and Katherine (Bates) Krueger. In 1952 at the age of 18, Bill joined the United States Marine Corps and proudly served as part of the United Nations Expeditionary Force during the Korean Conflict. He returned to Oshkosh and married Donna J. Miller of Cambridge, Maryland, with whom he would spend the next 50 years. Together, they raised five beautiful daughters. Bill



was a self-made man, whose keen eye and artistic sensibilities would lead him to start his own photography business. While he found his greatest success as a commercial photographer (e.g., his ongoing contributions to the once omnipresent Miles Kimball catalog), Bill actually preferred shooting outdoor images, focusing his lens on landscapes, plants, and wildlife. Another favorite subject was his family, as Bill never tired (although they did) of having his children pose for him in his studio. After a career spanning decades he retired from his business, but he was in no way done creating beautiful effects. Bill brought his aesthetic vision to the Oshkosh Public Museum, where he worked as a photographer to preserve the history and heritage of the place he called home.

Bill was always active, whether it be tinkering with his assemblage of vintage jukeboxes or simply taking long walks with his daughters. He appreciated great music, especially the standards, and books, principally those full of vibrant colors. Bill made instant connections with people he met and had a special place in his heart for animals, especially his beloved friend and companion, Henry. And of course, he was an avid collector of just about anything that could be collected.

Bill is survived by his daughters, Jody (Scott) Hutchinson, Sharli Mockus, Jenny Stusek, and Melanie (Joe) Weber; his grandchildren, Jennifer Baker, Katie Davis, Peter Davis, Marla Mockus, Mindi (John) Prather, Joe (Jade) Weber, Jr., Mackenzie Weber, Lucas (Evlyn) Weber, Olivia (Jake) Johnson, and Charlie We-

ber; and his 11 great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, Bill was preceded in death by his wife, Donna, and by his daughter, Kristy (Gary) Davis.

A private celebration of life will be held. The family would like to give special thanks to St. Croix Hospice nurses, Bluestone Physician Services, his dear friend Max, and the caregivers at the Courtyard at Oshkosh, with special acknowledgment to Crystal, whose gentle and compassionate care of our dad was amazing to behold. Her words, "Heaven will be picture perfect," will stay with us always.

In lieu of flowers or a memorial, please consider finding an opportunity for a random act of kindness.



Mary Ann E. Basso

Mary Ann E. Basso, a loving and caring mother, grandmother, and friend, passed away at Aurora Medical Center on Wednesday, January 25, 2023.

Mary Ann was born on April 25, 1941, in Marquette, Michigan to John F. and Elizabeth C (Homer) Martin. She was a graduate of John D. Pierce High School in 1959. In 1963, she graduated from Northern Michigan University and began her career as an elementary school teacher in Green Bay, Wisconsin moving on from there to teach in Wauconda, Illinois, and finally settling in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Mary Ann went on to become a personal banker at Valley Bank which later became M&I and BMO Harris Bank where she retired



after 24 years.

In 1958 Mary Ann was elected prom queen of John D. Pierce High School and Honored Queen of the International Order of Jobs Daughters, Bethel #16, in Marquette, Michigan. She had many fond memories of the Upper Peninsula ('da UP'), including spending time in the summer at her family's 'Camp' on Farmers Lake in Little Lake, Michigan; hiking Sugarloaf Mountain; enjoying the beautiful scenery of Pictured Rocks, Presque Isle, and Lake Superior; blueberry picking; Art on the Rocks and attending many high school and college class reunions.

Mary Ann was a dedicated member of Trinity Episcopal Church where she held the role of Sunday School superintendent



and was very active in Cursillo.

Although she always said she would retire in Florida, her close group of family, friends, and grandchildren made it easier for her to reside in Oshkosh. Mary Ann enjoyed playing cards and dominoes with her friends and grandchildren. She would always remind us by saying, "Don't forget I have dominoes tonight!" She also loved being an active member of Learning in Retirement, crocheting, stamping, crafts (particularly her annual Christmas ornament), and any chance to use glitter.

Mary Ann is survived by her loving family, Carol (Todd) Barr of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, Kevin (Tara) Basso of Mesa, Arizona, and Cathy (Steve) LaClair of Denver, Colorado; grandchildren Jayne and Lydia Barr, and Brady and Carsen LaClair; as well as her brother, Andy (Bonnie) Martin of Aspen, Colorado. She was preceded in death by her parents.

A memorial service for Mary Ann will

be held in the spring. Cremation has taken place.

Memorials may be made to Trinity Episcopal Church, 311 Division Street, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, 54901, or to Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services, 206 Algoma Boulevard, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, 54901.

Her family would like to thank the entire staff at Eden Meadows for the excellent care Mary Ann received while living there. We are also grateful to the nurses and staff at Aurora Medical Center and Aurora Hospice for their compassionate care of Mary Ann during her final days. In addition, her daughter Carol would like to personally recognize and thank their mutual and dearest friend Mary Beth Bossert, for being such a generous, selfless and supportive person who always puts others first. You are truly amazing.





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Obituaries

Joyce Goers

Joyce Goers died peacefully with her family by her side on January 11, 2023, at Hope Hospice in Cape Coral, Florida.



Joyce was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on July 1, 1939. She met the love of her life, H. David Goers, at a family picnic while she was 14 years old and they married November 22, 1961.

A selfless, remarkable woman devoted to her family, Joyce was always the biggest cheerleader for her children and grandchildren in whom she instilled the values of the importance of education, hard work, concern for others and having fun. Like the great gardener she was, she created the conditions for the growth of joy in others. Never was a person as aptly

named as Joyce was. Her volunteer work in schools, churches, and leadership roles in community organizations both in Oshkosh and in North Fort Myers, Florida, brightened the lives of others across ages, years and miles. While she never took on any role for recognition, part of her legacy will shine through the success of children whose parents she taught to read in adult literacy classes.

Other than her family, there was nothing that brought Joyce as much joy as the Green Bay Packers, of which she was an owner. Her love of the Packers serves as a metaphor for her views on life. She genuinely wanted and looked for the best in everyone and wholeheartedly believed in the goodness and potential that resides within each person. She always had faith—even when the results looked bleak. Her enthusiasm for the Packers was contagious as she celebrated even their smallest successes with a hearty “Woo-hoo!!”

Joyce was beloved by all who met her for her warm heart and charm. Everyone who entered her home was treated like family. She expertly cooked and baked nearly every day of her 61 year marriage for Dave and her family. She delighted in hosting multi-course dinner parties large and small—always preparing each dish. Her desserts were legendary!! In addition to her parties, she loved to cajole the neighbors and socialize with others while playing cards, participating in the Oshkosh or Heron’s Glen Garden Club, or at St. Andrew’s church in Oshkosh or Messiah Lutheran Church in North Fort Myers, Florida.

Joyce was preceded in death by her parents Willard and Anna Mae Conrad; her sister Marilyn Stromski and her sister-in-law Joanne Goers. She is survived by her husband H. David, sister Carol Ziarniak, sons Gregg (Shannon), Garry (Nikki), Jason (Amy) and Jeremy (Kaley); her grandchildren Brittany Reed (Josh), Alexa (special friend Trevor), Nick (special friend Eric), Olivia, Eli, Brooke, Hudson and Finn; and great-grandchildren Ruby, Teddy, and Harrison.

A celebration of life ceremony was held at Hope Hospice in Cape Coral, Florida, on January 13, 2023.

Daniel L. Kuhn

Daniel L. Kuhn, age 70 of Oshkosh, passed away on Saturday, January 21, 2023 at the Centennial Inn.



He was born on May 16, 1952 in Oshkosh to Lawrence and Anna (Payne) Kuhn. Daniel worked as a truck driver throughout his life. He raced stock cars for many years at Leo’s Speedway. He loved attending Christian Life Center.

Daniel is survived by his daughter, Carman Aguilar; grandchildren, Alexis, Havana, Joaquin, Vida, Veronica and Anaro-

sa Aguilar; mother, Anna Kuhn; sisters, Dorothy Schulz and Diane Kuhn and nephew, Paul Schulz.

Daniel was preceded in death by his father, Lawrence Kuhn; infant brother, Larry Kuhn; brother, Michael Kuhn; brother-in-law, Robert Schulz and nephew, Brian Schulz.

A memorial service for Daniel will be held at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home-Eastside, 402 Waugoo Ave. on Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 12:00 PM.

Visitation will be held from 10:00 AM until the time of the service.



Daniel Hastings Schumann

Daniel Hastings Schumann, age 37, of Oshkosh, lost his long battle with bipolar disorder on Thursday, January 26th, 2023.



Daniel was born on July 24, 1985, in Neenah, Wisconsin, the son of James and Mary Schumann. He graduated from Oshkosh West High School in 2004 and attended the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He worked as a Senior Developer at Port Light Technology, writing complex code. Dan was a self-taught programmer and loved computers.

Daniel was brilliant, funny, kind and a joy to be with. His hobbies included playing video games and working on his physical fitness. At the time of his death, Dan was working to build a new life for himself; he had recently sold his house, moved into a new apartment and adopted

two cats. Daniel was preceded in death by his grandparents, Hon. Arnold K. Schumann and Catherine Schumann, and Champlain and Genevieve Castle, as well as an uncle, Dennis Castle. Daniel is survived by his parents; his sister, Jamie Lemerond (husband Jonathan); and many cousins, aunts, uncles, and friends. Dan valiantly fought mental illness for many years and will be tremendously missed by all of us who were cheering him on in his battle.

A private family gathering will be held in the warmer weather. His burial will be in Riverside Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations in Daniel’s name be made to the Oshkosh Area Humane Society.

If you have bipolar disorder, please keep taking your medicines. If you or someone you love is feeling suicidal, please call the Suicide and Crisis Hotline by dialing 988.



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Specialty Wisconsin HER jerseys will feature purple silhouettes of women with different hair styles, different facial structures and different skin colors for Friday's game.

### Herd jerseys to support HER empowerment

The Wisconsin Herd has partnered with BMO to temporarily change its name to the "Wisconsin HER" to support women's empowerment for Friday's game at the Oshkosh Arena.

The Herd will wear Wisconsin HER jerseys that will be auctioned off to benefit We EmpowHER, an organization where participants are encouraged and empowered to engage in year-round programming, use community resources and embrace the best versions of themselves.

The overall jersey and shorts are purple, white and green to symbolize women's equality. Jerseys will be auctioned off at [WISCONSINHER.givesmart.com](http://WISCONSINHER.givesmart.com) until Feb. 10. Fans can also bid on the jerseys at the game, which tips off at 7 p.m.

A free Wisconsin HER day event will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. before the game with on-site registration beginning at 1:45 p.m. and breakout sessions lasting for 45 minutes.

More information can be found on [wisconsin.gleague.nba.com](http://wisconsin.gleague.nba.com).

Photo submitted

## Herd split pair with Swarm

The Wisconsin Herd split a pair of games with Greensboro Swarm over the weekend at the Oshkosh Arena.

The Herd won Friday night's contest 115-112, while falling on Saturday, 116-102.

On Friday, Paris Bass turned in a huge effort off the bench, totaling 35 points and 12 rebounds. He finished 5-of-8 from 3-point range, as the Herd knocked down 16-of-22 3-pointers in the game.

Elijah Hughes added 22 points and Iverson Molinar chipped in 21 points as Wisconsin rallied from a 75-47 halftime deficit to collect the win.

Rob Edwards and Jordan Bone also reached double figures with 16 and 11 points, respectively.

Wisconsin held Greensboro to just 37

points in the second half.

The Herd again tried to rally from a half-time deficit and outscored Greensboro 25-14 in the fourth quarter but it wasn't enough to earn the win.

MarJon Beauchamp, who was the first-round draft pick by the Milwaukee Bucks last summer, led the team with 20 points, while Joe Wieskamp added 19 and Hughes finished with 18.

Alize Johnson with 12 points and AJ Green with 11 also reached double figures for the Herd.

The Herd are at home for their next three games as they host the Westchester Knicks on Wednesday, the Windy City Bulls on Friday and the Santa Cruz Warriors on Tuesday.

## Winnebago ice report

By Jim Nobbe  
PAYNE'S POINT HOOK AND SPEAR FISHING CLUB

As of Monday, I am finding 9 to 12 inches of ice in the bays, and 10 to 14 inches on the main lake body in the areas out from Payne's Point Hook and Spear Fishing Club. Yesterday we put one of our ATV/ UTV/ snowmobile bridges on the main working crack. The bridge is located 1.9 miles east of our clubhouse toward Faro Springs Road on the east shore. It is just south of Stevens Reef and is marked with a Christmas tree standing next to it.

We followed the crack yesterday to the north for a couple of miles and determined that it must run into shore east of Fire Lane 8 and in the area of High Cliff. To the south it hits Blackbird Island then

runs south to Garlic Island, then toward Oshkosh.

Travel on the lake is still pretty easy. There is a few inches of snow on the ice with drifts up to a foot tall in places. With the cold weather we have coming this week, it will really help us make some ice by the shore lines where we are seeing the least amount of ice currently.

From what I have heard, water clarity is pretty good as of right now. Hopefully that stays true as runoff continues to work through the lake from the recent rain we received. I will do my best to keep updates to changing conditions Payne's Point Hook and Spear Fishing Club's website and Facebook page. Remember, the ice is never 100% safe.



## The Time is Right to Consider New Options in the NEW YEAR



Choose Well. Live Well.  
MUNCH and LEARN



This is an ideal opportunity for older adults and their grown children to understand the continuum of services and lifestyle options available to seniors.

RSVP for the seminar or schedule an appointment by contacting **Melisa** at **920-969-8020** or [mellingson@encorecares.com](mailto:mellingson@encorecares.com).

THE **Courtyard** at OSHKOSH  
ASSISTED LIVING & MEMORY CARE



Thursday, **February 16**, 1:30pm-3:30pm  
3851 Jackson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901

Seniors and their adult children are invited to learn about the various senior care options and enjoy **complimentary hors d'oeuvres** followed by an informal **Q and A with area experts** and learn about:

- The differences between independent, assisted living, and memory care.
- Signs that may indicate it's time to consider making a move.
- The various services, amenities, and benefits senior living offers.
- The various costs involved with senior care options.

[thecourtyardatoshkosh.com](http://thecourtyardatoshkosh.com)

