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Agencies gear for increased need for aid

By Chris Lusvardi
OSHKOSH HERALD

Ryan Rasmussen has seen members of the Oshkosh community step up to help others in times of need many times before now.

For example, he said about \$70,000 of the \$120,000 that was lost in August with the expiration of the Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program has since been raised back through donations.

He's hoping the community rallies again

as the Oshkosh Area Community Pantry (OACP) is among the groups preparing for the uncertain impacts of the federal government shutdown.

"It's going to be important for the community to help step up for people to keep buying food," said Rasmussen, the OACP's executive director. "Raising that money back for LFPA gives me a little piece of hope we can do it again."

Among the government shutdown's impacts looming largest is the loss of federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Pro-

gram (SNAP) benefits.

SNAP, which is known as FoodShare in Wisconsin, provides essential monthly support to help individuals and families to be able to afford groceries and keep food on the table. The future of SNAP funding has recently become uncertain and the Trump administration has not agreed to release multi-billion dollar SNAP contingency funding to temporarily ensure families' access to food.

SEE **SNAP suspension** ON PAGE 4



Photo by Michael Cooney

Fall concert

The Oshkosh Area Community Band performed songs with a Foreign Friends theme Saturday during its fall concert in the Alberta Kimball Auditorium at Oshkosh West High School. Music Director David Berndt led the group with works by Milhaud, Von Suppe, Lloyd Webber, Jobim, Offenbach and others. The performance is a prelude to the band's 2026 concerts which will celebrate America and American composers for the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

City sets spending plan for upcoming capital projects

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

Oshkosh is set for another year of road projects and a plethora of other purchases next year after the city's capital improvement plan was approved.

The capital improvement plan (CIP) is a significant portion of the city's annual budget. For 2026 the city is set to spend around \$100 million and will be borrowing \$21 million to complete the projects and purchases.

The other part of the budget is the tax levy that pays for operations within the city,

which will be voted on by the council on Tuesday.

The CIP will be funded for 2026 but the document lists projects for 2026 through 2035. This gives the city a 10-year outlook for what projects are coming and what purchases will need to be made in the future.

One of the projects that has been on the CIP for years is the 221 N. Sawyer St. facility. It was initially supposed to be a fire training facility before plans shifted to renovate the building into a joint fire and police training facility.

The CIP earmarks \$14 million for the

renovation of the facility, \$4 million for 2026 and \$5 million in both 2027 and 2028.

Mayor Matt Mugerauer questioned the funds set aside for the training facility, stating the number was created as a placeholder.

"If we put a placeholder in there, the firm that does the study for us and the architect is going to find a way to spend all of the \$14 million we allocated for it," he said.

Mugerauer suggested \$10 million, noting it was unlikely any work would be done in 2026 at the facility. He said it would be

better to start taking on the debt for this project in 2027.

Oshkosh Police Chief Dean Smith said the city did a study six years ago for a police training center and is hiring an architectural firm to do another study for the proposed joint fire and police training facility.

Oshkosh Police Public Affairs Officer Kate Mann told the Herald it is unknown how much the new study on the joint fire and police training facility will cost as the department is still looking at proposals.

SEE **Spending plan** ON PAGE 12

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Veterans, businesses can participate in rewards program

Oshkosh Herald

The Winnebago County Register of Deeds Office is inviting veterans and local businesses to participate in the Honor Rewards program, a free initiative designed to give back to veterans.

The Register of Deeds Office serves Veterans by recording and safeguarding military discharge certificates (DD-214s). In partnership with the County Veterans Service Office, veterans and their families are also provided with free certified copies of their DD-214s.

The Honor Rewards program is a community service that thanks and acknowledges the nation’s veterans for their sacrifices.

Once a Veteran enrolls and their DD214 is verified and recorded with the Register of Deeds Office or CVSO, they will receive an Honor Rewards Card within three to four weeks, which can then be used to access discounts and benefits at participating businesses such as retailers, restaurants and service providers throughout Winnebago County and beyond. Each business determines the discount or benefit it wishes to offer.

This service is being made available at no cost to veterans, the county and its taxpayers.

Veterans can register online at HonorRewards.com or through the Winnebago County Register of Deeds website winnebagoountywi.gov/Register-of-Deeds, by visiting the Winnebago County Veter-

ans Service Office or signing up in person at the Register of Deeds Office. They can view participating businesses across the state and country at HonorRewards.com.

Businesses can participate by enrolling online at HonorRewards.com (scroll down to the “Businesses” link) and specify Winnebago County. They can also contact the Winnebago County Register of Deeds Office directly at 920-232-3390 or rod@winnebagoountywi.gov.

Participating businesses will receive a listing on the Winnebago County Honor Rewards website, promotion through regular email updates sent to program members and complimentary promotional materials such as window stickers and flyers to display their support.

County offers property fraud alert service

Oshkosh Herald

The Winnebago County Register of Deeds Office is offering Property Fraud Alert, which is a free online notification service available to the public. This service allows individuals to have their name monitored within the Register of Deeds Office to track possible fraudulent recordings.

Subscribers receive an alert each time a document is recorded with their name, or a similar name, at the Register of Deeds Office. With the growing threat of mortgage fraud and identity theft, many victims are unaware their property has been compromised until significant damage has occurred.

While Property Fraud Alert cannot prevent fraud, it serves as an early warning system, giving property owners the opportunity to take timely action if suspicious activity is detected.

Anyone interested can sign up online at PropertyFraudAlert.com, through winnebagoountywi.gov/Register-of-Deeds or in person at the Winnebago County Register of Deeds Office.

For more information, contact Winnebago County Register of Deeds Office by calling 920-232-3390, email rod@winnebagoountywi.gov or online at winnebagoountywi.gov/Register-of-Deeds.



WCHS President Austin Frederick (right) accepts “Sailing Around Garlic Island” by Joye Moon.

Historical Society receives artwork

Oshkosh Herald

The Winnebago County Historical Society (WCHS) has received a piece of art depicting the history of the regattas once held annually on Lake Winnebago.

The society commissioned local artist Joye Moon to paint a scene from Oshkosh’s past. “Sailing Around Garlic Island” is a watercolor painting that will be added to the society’s collection of local artists and will be displayed in Morgan House.

Moon presented the painting to the society during its annual meeting Oct. 5 at Morgan House. Moon, a local artist who specializes in watercolor art, is a fine arts graduate from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

She works from her studio in rural Oshkosh and has taught over 200 watercolor workshops throughout the country.

VETERAN’S DAY EARLY AD DEADLINES

Oshkosh Herald Nov. 12 issue

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Back in the Day

Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical Society

Nov. 2, 1903

Classified Ads Found: Set of false teeth near Wisconsin Central Depot. Finder may have same by calling at this office and paying for this ad.

Source: Oshkosh Northwestern, Nov. 2, 1903

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Washington School site sold to build new homes

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

A plan for 18 new homes in Oshkosh continues with a partnership between the city and a non-profit organization that could become a new model for building in the area.

The city of Oshkosh and Habitat for Humanity Oshkosh are teaming up to build single-family homes in Oshkosh on the site of the former Washington School on Winnebago Avenue. The school closed in May 2024 as part of the Oshkosh Area School District's long-range facilities consolidation plan.



Simon

The plan for the city and Habitat that has been in the works since before the sale of the school in 2024 is to divide the large lot into 18 buildable lots, with Habitat buying nine of the lots to develop and the city using private builders to build homes on the remaining nine lots.

Habitat for Humanity Oshkosh Executive Director Tom Simon was thrilled when he found out the Oshkosh Common Council had approved the sale. He said it has been a great partnership with the city despite the personnel turnover the city has endured since the project began.

"This has been a two and a half year project and we're ready to start building," Simon said.

Habitat first became interested in Washington School two and a half years ago and was at that time working with former city manager Mark Rohloff and former



Oshkosh Herald

The site of the former Washington School does not look like much today but next year the city believes this lot could be the site of eight new homes with a total of 18 scheduled to be built on the site.

community development director Kelly Nieforth. Simon was impressed that through the transition the partnership stayed on track and the deal was completed.

Simon spoke with the Herald last year about how this partnership and how other Habitat affiliations are looking at Oshkosh as a prime example of how Habitat can partner with municipalities.

"The most difficult thing for Habitat is getting the land," he said. "Other Habitat affiliates are looking at this path forward as a viable option for building."

A similar project was recently completed in Omro where Habitat built four homes and private developers then built six homes in the same area.

"Now that neighborhood has 10 new

homes," Simon said.

He said there are four families waiting to build their new homes in Oshkosh.

"This is four families that want to live in this neighborhood and they work in Oshkosh, they have kids, they specifically want to be a part of this historic neighborhood," Simon said.

Simon says 46 families applied for the first four spots and he expects similar numbers in the future when Habitat prepares the other five lots for homes.

The city purchased the school for \$75,000 with ARPA funds. The city demolished the school, started installing utilities and divided the large parcel into 18 parcels for single-family homes. City officials are trying to add housing units across the spectrum from apartments to

single-family homes.

"We are focused on housing of all sorts," council member Karl Buelow said.

Oshkosh has spent \$267,925 on purchasing the school, removing all asbestos and demolition. The city hired Environet Inc. of Wisconsin to remove all asbestos from the site before the school was demolished which was completed by Wolverine Construction.

The city will contract developers to build on nine of the lots and Habitat for Humanity has purchased the other nine lots. These lots will be shovel-ready, meaning utilities will be installed and the site will be prepped for new homes.

The Oshkosh Common Council voted to sell the nine lots to Habitat at its Oct. 28 meeting. Habitat will purchase each of the lots for \$35,000 for a total of \$315,000.

Oshkosh Community Development director Sarah Rutkowski said ground could be broken on all 18 lots in the spring and the potential for eight new homes to be built next year on the former school site.

"This is huge for us because it isn't anything we've ever done before," she said. "We don't see a lot of municipalities building single-family homes, but as the councilor said, we know we need this and we're trying to find housing in a variety of areas and a variety of ways in our community."

Habitat for Humanity Oshkosh has built 53 homes in the region. The group has grown from building one home a year to now averaging four new homes a year.

"That's 300 people sleeping in houses that we've built," Simon said. "We plan on turning that number into 400 or 500 people. Because when you own something, your outlook is totally different."

NOV 7
Turn to Stone:
A Tribute to ELO
The Grand Oshkosh | 7:30pm
A magical tribute to Electric Light Orchestra.

NOV 8
Kansas & Blue Oyster Cult
Oshkosh Arena | 7pm
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UWO Football
JJ Keller Field | 1pm
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SNAP suspension

FROM PAGE 1

The administration agreed Monday to provide half of the usual food stamp benefits this month but decided against pulling funds from other sources to provide full SNAP benefits.

More than 17,000 Winnebago County residents rely on FoodShare each month. In the Oshkosh area, 40% are children and 10% are seniors.

“We at the Oshkosh Area Community Pantry are deeply concerned about the recent delays in SNAP benefits,” Rasmussen said. “For thousands of local families who rely on assistance to buy groceries each month, even a short delay can create a major hardship.”

The OACP is planning to temporarily expand its hours in November in an attempt to meet the needs of area families, which Rasmussen said has already been increasing even before the government shutdown.

In the past four years, guest usage has gone from 1,300 per month to 2,800. In October, Rasmussen said families visited OACP 3,153 times, the second highest month on record. He added OACP welcomed an average of 100 new families every month for the past three years.

Even if the pantry’s usage increases 30%, Rasmussen said it could lead to serving several hundred additional households per month.

“In a high scenario, demand could potentially increase about 50% to 70%, placing extraordinary strain on our resources,” Rasmussen said. “Either way OACP expects to see an increase in both new and returning guests in the days and weeks ahead. Our shelves, volunteers and resources will all be under additional pressure. But we are ready to respond as we always do with compassion and community support.”

The food pantry will be open from 10 a.m. to noon this Saturday and Nov. 22 in addition to its normal hours of 2 to 6 p.m. Monday and 10 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday.

Guests may shop twice per month plus one emergency shop per year. The added Saturday hours are intended to give those



Photo by Michael Cooney

Oshkosh Area Community Pantry Development Manager Emily James helps to stock shelves Friday, the day before SNAP benefits were suspended for thousands of people in Winnebago County and elsewhere throughout the state and country.

unable to visit during normal weekday hours an opportunity to shop, not to allow extra visits beyond the twice-per-month limit.

OACP asks that guests who can shop during regular hours continue to do so, to ensure Saturday access for those who cannot.

“We want to give extra access to food for those who need it most,” Rasmussen said. “We’ll see what the response is like. We are so grateful to the partners, donors and volunteers who continue to support us and have stepped up to make this emergency response possible. Together we are going to continue working for our same collective vision, which is a community where nobody goes hungry.”

Now, the need could become even greater with the winter and holiday season quickly approaching, Rasmussen said.

“We generally see an uptick,” he said. “We know families are getting together and the need increases as it gets colder outside.”

Other groups are stepping up their efforts to help as many community members in need as possible.

The Hope Fridge reopened in October outside Trinity Episcopal Church, 203 Algoma Boulevard, with the support of a coalition of community groups.

Since then the fridge is usually filled multiple times daily as food is taken from it, said volunteer Ria Di Peebles. Groups have been helping to keep the fridge filled as much as possible, she said.

“So many people can’t wait to grab something from the fridge,” Di Peebles said. “We hope those who need food can grab from it as it belongs to the entire community.”

Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods is partnering with Middle Village Neighborhood Association and state Rep. Lori Palmeri to organize a food drive this month.

Non-perishable items will be collected and donated to the Oshkosh Area Food

Pantry. Specific items that can be donated include canned goods, cooking oils, rice, pasta, grains, baking mixes and Thanksgiving staples. Donations can be made during normal business hours through Nov. 14 with a collection box on the front porch at 135 Church Ave.

Food is seen as one of the basic human needs for existence, said Roseangela Berbert, executive director of Samaritan Counseling Services.

“It’s amazing to see the kind of resources we have in our community,” Berbert said. “We have lots of resources. We’re going to do all we can do to help our neighbors. We need the people with power to really make something happen and do their job and find the funding from the top down so this will not last too long. It just cannot last.”

Others participating in a press conference Friday at Multicultural Coalition, Inc. in Menasha are worried the situation could have an even deeper impact as it has led to mental health concerns for those facing tough choices.

“This is all hands on deck here,” said Jeffrey Watson, a community organizer with ESTHER. “This is no joke. This is a ringing the bell call. As we deal with the mental health of the community which is sorely needed as the cascade starts happening when people have to decide whether to buy this amount of food or pay this bill.”

People are wondering what to do to help, Watson said.

“You have options right here and all over the place,” Watson said. “It’s not only financial; it’s also volunteering to help with stocking shelves and intake. People are needed as we come from villages. It’s people helping people, and that’s what we do.”

Nutrition assistance is at risk for more than 700,000 residents across Wisconsin, including many in rural communities. Seven of ten Wisconsin counties with the highest FoodShare participation are rural.

“This really challenges that misconception about who relies on this program,” said Amanda Martinez, a senior policy analyst with Kids Forward, a statewide organization. “This support is at risk. Thousands of families are going to lose the food assistance that they rely on. Making sure families are fed should be a nonpartisan issue.”

Every day of inaction puts more families at risk, Martinez said.

Festival Foods sale won’t have impact on sponsorship of city’s fireworks

Oshkosh Herald

The recent sale of Wisconsin-based Festival Foods to an out-of-state company will not affect the grocer’s sponsorship of area fireworks displays, the company confirmed last month.

St. Louis-based 1939 Group announced in September that it planned to acquire 100% of the shares of Skogen’s Festival Foods and

Hometown Grocers, including the shares held by CEO Mark Skogen and the company’s Employee Stock Ownership Plan.

The sale closing was finalized in October. Festival Foods and Hometown Grocers will continue operating under their existing names and maintain their headquarters in Onalaska and Green Bay, respectively. Festival Foods has a store lo-

cated at 2415 Westowne Ave. in Oshkosh.

The 1939 Group is owned by the family that owns Schnuck Markets. Schnuck’s spokesperson Paul Simon said Skogen’s Festival Foods and Hometown Grocers will maintain their existing workforces while operating with the corporate structure and headquarters currently in place.

“We are honored to be entrusted with

the legacy created over the last 80 years by the Skogen family and their team,” he said.

Simon said the grocer’s tradition of local support will remain unchanged.

“Our companies have had success over the years because of strong community involvement, and we expect that to continue,” Simon said. “The fireworks sponsorship will continue.”



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Imagine the possibilities!



Supervisors support food pantries

By Bethanie Gengler
OSHKOSH HERALD

With uncertainty over federal food assistance for nearly 700,000 Wisconsin residents, including 17,000 in Winnebago County, several county supervisors are ramping up efforts to support food pantries and raise awareness about local food resources.

The state Department of Health Services warned last month about funding for Food-Share, which is Wisconsin’s version of the federal SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), running out as the current government shutdown continues. The disruption stems from a lapse in federal funding that halts benefit distributions until Congress approves a new spending measure or the use of emergency funds is approved.

County supervisors Billy Halbur of Oshkosh, Kate Hancock-Cooke and Stefanie Holt of Neenah, and Kristl Laux of Menasha are expanding outreach efforts and encouraging local businesses to participate in donation campaigns for food pantries.

Hancock-Cooke, who represents District 7, said food pantries are expected to see increased demand if the federal government shutdown continues to halt food benefits.

“These are people who work at Walmart who are on SNAP,” she said. “These are people who work at McDonald’s. They have jobs. They just are below the poverty line, or very low fee jobs.”

One of the initiatives involves posting QR codes at businesses like Great Harvest, enabling customers to make direct monetary donations to local food pantries. Hancock-Cooke is also encouraging businesses to post a list of the local food resources that are available. The 15-page list is on the county website at winnebagocountywi.gov..

“I want to make sure that people are aware that this is going to impact their friends and neighbors, and that our local communities need our support,” she said. “These people need our support, and this is a direct way to do it, and it’s the most efficient way to do it.”

Laux, who represents District 2, said she’s been visiting and contacting grocery stores to implement their “round up” programs, an initiative that allows customers to round their purchase totals up to the nearest dollar, with the extra change donated to local food pantries.

Laux said her goal is to help Winnebago County residents access food, and providing supplies to local food pantries is the quickest way to do that. She added that she hopes food pantries will temporarily ease their requirements by reducing paperwork and lowering barriers for those seeking assistance.

Winnebago County has already made financial contributions to assist local food pantries during the shutdown, allocating a total of \$40,000 this month through its Human Services Department. The funding includes \$5,000 each for the Omro Community Food Pantry and the Winneconne Community Foundation, and \$10,000 each for the St. Joseph Food Program, Oshkosh Area Community Pantry and Salvation Army.

County Executive Assistant Koby Schellenger said officials plan to request contingency funds from the Personnel and Finance Committee on Thursday to provide grocery relief assistance through the Human Services and Veterans Services programs. Details of the proposal are still being finalized.



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SINCE 1899

County Board approves \$238 million spending plan

By Anya Kelley
OSHKOSH HERALD

Winnebago County Executive Gordon Hintz is hoping the 2026 budget that the board of supervisors approved last week addresses the county’s top challenges.

The board voted 34-2 in favor of the budget with 11 total amendments Oct. 27 at their annual budget session.

The budget includes a \$238 million spending plan that aligns with the Winnebago County Strategic Plan. The strategic plan is built on five pillars: transportation, housing, economic development, efficient government and quality of life. The strategic plan is set to run from 2025-2029.

In Hintz’s presentation, he laid out the six largest needs in the county: the UW-Fox campus, housing and homelessness, public safety, service delivery, county workforce and resiliency. Hintz had about four months to work on the budget after

taking office in April and focused heavily on getting a county-wide perspective.

“The challenges the county faces are broad and changing rapidly,” Hintz said during the meeting. “And I hope that tonight can be carried on in a spirit of collectively addressing these challenges.”

This year’s budget process was updated both internally and externally. Hintz met with county department heads to address their individual needs, delivered a line-item budget breakdown earlier than usual to allow for in-depth review and held 10 committee meeting reviews.

This year’s budget was made into a booklet for the public, Hintz held five public listening sessions, two civic organization sessions and the amendments were published ahead of the annual budget session to give the public the chance to speak on them.

Hintz laid out seven key highlights from the adopted budget. County po-

sitions will receive a 3% market adjustment and 2% achievable merit pay to help recruit and retain employees. The 2026 budget includes reduced use of reserve funds and enhanced cost recovery for program funding to alleviate reliance on property taxes.

The capital improvement plan increased by 7%. Hintz said the biggest goal for the CIP is to not fall further behind on the \$67 million of deferred maintenance the county has accrued. Department heads were also asked to provide a five-year plan to address possible future capital needs they will face in the coming years.

The 2026 budget also enshrines the Homelessness, Eviction and Loss Prevention (HELP) program as a permanent fixture moving forward. A statement released by the county said this year’s budget “strengthen[s] core county services adding targeted resources in public safety, election administration, human services,

emergency management and parks to maintain reliable services and meet state and federal requirements.”

The Barlow Planetarium, Communications Arts Center and Fieldhouse on the former UW Fox Cities Campus will be preserved as cultural assets in the 2026 budget, and the budget will increase investment in the capital improvement program for county-wide infrastructure needs.

Going forward, departments are required to analyze program spending through mandatory versus discretionary spending analysis. The next budgeting process will include an analysis of the budgeted versus actual spending to better understand where money is moving throughout the county.

Hintz said he will also look further into where resources can be shared across departments and where operational efficiencies can be improved.

City considers changing approach to humane society funding

Organization looking at 44% reduction in funds

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Oshkosh Area Humane Society will have to do more with less in 2026, even if that means operating at a loss due to proposed changes in the city budget.

The animal control portion of the Oshkosh Police Department budget outlines services provided by the OAHS for the city. This includes the shelter taking in stray and abandoned animals, along with police-requested impound animals.

“We don’t want to overspend our resources as it pertains to the humane society,” Police Chief Dean Smith said at an October budget workshop. “We want to be fair to our taxpayers. We also want to be able to charge per animal.”

The OAHS received \$107,582 in 2025 for animal control services. The 2026 budget drops that figure to \$60,000, a 44% decrease in city funding.

Smith said the department is shifting from giving money to the organization for all the animals and switching to a model that a large sum is given for the first 500 animals and \$100 for every animal after that.

OAHS executive director Ieva Engel said the new contract will provide \$50,000 for the first 500 animals brought in and then \$100 for each animal after that.

“The humane society is, in fact, losing money on these strays as it is without the lower payment,” Engel said.

The \$60,000 figure estimates the city will need OAHS to take in 600 animals, which is less than the shelter has averaged in recent years.

Based on 2024 numbers, the OAHS took in 701 animals and using the new formula the organization would have received \$70,100 instead of \$104,958 the

group received in 2024.

OAHS annually takes in over 700 strays or animals that need to be impounded. Under the current agreement, Engel said OAHS receives about \$150 per animal.

The current contract between the city and humane society states city personnel can take strays or abandoned animals to the shelter 24/7, which resulted in the 701 animals in 2024.

The Herald reached out to city officials who reported between 92 and 112 animals were taken in by the humane society in 2024. These were just police-requested

SEE **OAHS funding** ON PAGE 8



Dan and his wife Jill from Appleton, WI

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Calendar of events

Thursday, Nov. 6

Veterans Day Program, 9 a.m., Frank Schade Fieldhouse, Oshkosh North High School
Meet Local Author Machaela Jackson (My Othello), 5:30 p.m., Caramel Crisp Bookstore, 200 D City Center

Friday, Nov. 7

NEWGame - Northeast Wisconsin Gameapalooza Annual Board Game Convention, 9 a.m., Culver Welcome Center
Morgan House Tour, 6 p.m., 234 Church Ave.
Princess Bride, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater
UWO Theatre presents An Evening of Performance Pieces, 7:30 p.m., Experimental Theatre of the Theatre Arts Center
Turn to Stone: A Tribute to ELO, 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Saturday, Nov. 8

Holiday Wonders Shopping Expo and Craft Fair, 9 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center
NEWGame - Northeast Wisconsin Gameapalooza Annual Board Game Convention, 9 a.m., Culver Welcome Center
Oshkosh Philatelic Society Stamp Show, 9 a.m., Father Carr’s Place 2B
Brittany Feria, Author of Sammy Goes to the Doctor, Book Signing, 10:30 a.m., Caramel Crisp Bookstore
Family Discovery Days, 11 a.m., Oshkosh Public Museum
Oshkosh Garden Club Scholarship Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., TJ’s Highland Steakhouse
Metallica with Scorpions Tribute Shows, 6:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh
Kansas and Blue Öyster Cult, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena
Labyrinth, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater

Sunday, Nov. 9

Oshkosh Communities Autumn Craft Fair, 9 a.m., Frank Schade Fieldhouse, Oshkosh North High
NEWGame - Northeast Wisconsin Gameapalooza Annual Board Game Convention, 9 a.m., Culver Welcome Center
Hymn Festival and Sing with Guest Organist Dr. Mark Bloedow, 3 p.m.,

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 2450 W. Ninth Ave.
Tuesday, Nov. 11
Sweat for a Vet fundraiser, 6 a.m., Frank Schade Fieldhouse, Oshkosh North High School
AEGIS Financial Veterans Day Breakfast, 7:30 a.m., Military Veterans Museum, 4300 Poberezny Road
Oshkosh Patriotic Council Veterans Day Ceremonies, 10:45 a.m., American Legion Post 70, 1332 Spruce St.
Wisconsin Herd vs. Windy City Bulls, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Arena
An Evening With Jeff Daniels, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Wednesday, Nov. 12

Lakeside Speaker Series featuring Fr. Joe Mattern, 6:30 p.m., Jesuit Retreat House, 4800 Fahrnwald Road
Thursday, Nov. 13
“When the Ends Don’t Meet” Exhibition and Speaker Stephanie Land, 5 p.m., Culver Center at UWO

Friday, Nov. 14

Meet Author Robert Vajgrt, Writer of “The Story in Your Head,” 2 p.m., Caramel Crisp Bookstore, 200 City Center
Saturday, Nov. 15
Oshkosh Hmong New Year, 8 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center
TedxOshkosh, 8:30 a.m., The Grand Oshkosh
Craft and Vendor Fair, 9 a.m., Vel Phillips Middle School
Oshkosh Farmers Market, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Arena
Cranksgiving Benefit Ride, 2:30 p.m., Becket’s
The Land Before Time, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater

Sunday, Nov. 16

12:34 Music Series featuring TAE & The Neighborly Duo, 11:30 a.m., Algoma Boulevard UMC, 1174 Algoma Blvd.
Bowl for the Kids, 2 p.m., Revs Bowl Bar & Grill, 276 N. Washburn St.
Instability (The Pilot Premiere), 4 p.m., Time Community Theater
Sherlock, Jr. with the Carthage Wind Orchestra, 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Tuesday, Nov. 18

A Celtic Christmas by A Taste of Ireland, 4 and 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Wednesday, Nov. 19

Wisconsin Herd vs. Grand Rapids Gold, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Thursday, Nov. 20

EAA Speaker Series: Flying the F-35, 7 p.m., EAA Aviation Museum

Hmong New Year offers family-friendly entertainment

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh Hmong New Year will include a full day of entertainment starting at 8 a.m. Nov. 15 at the Sunnyview Expo Center.
The event will feature live music, food and drinks, kid’s games, fashion show,

cornhole tournament and more. A raffle drawing will be available for daytime attendees along with a 50/50 raffle at the night party.
The night entertainment starting at 7 p.m. will be provided by EC Band.
Entry to the event is free.



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Speaker to blend spiritual life with music

Oshkosh Herald

The Rev. Joe Mattern will make a presentation as part of the Lakeside Speaker Series at the Jesuit Retreat House.
Mattern is a Catholic, priest, musician and founder of Casa Esther Catholic Worker House in Omro. The event will be from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Nov. 12 at 4800 Fahrnwald Road.
Mattern blends his deep spiritual life with a lifelong love of music. He will be

joined by a trio of jazz and classical musicians for an evening of reflection and performance inspired by one of Dorothy Day’s favorite quotes: “The world will be saved by beauty.”
Guests are invited to experience a soulful evening where faith and music come together in harmony along the shore of Lake Winnebago. The event is open to the community free of charge. For more information, go to jesuitretreathouse.org.

FVTC club will host Bowl for the Kids

Oshkosh Herald

The Fox Valley Technical College Circle K is hosting a fundraising event, Bowl for the Kids.
The student-led organization’s event will feature raffles, prizes and an afternoon of bowling to benefit local children in need.

Doors open for the event at 1:30 p.m. with bowling starting at 2 p.m. Nov. 16 at Rev’s Bowl Bar & Grill, 276 N. Washburn St. The entry fee is \$25 (cash only).
For more information or to register, community members can contact Stormie Fry at fry@fvtc.edu or 920-236-6123.

Oshkosh North hosting veterans program

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh North High School is opening its doors Thursday to show honor and respect to veterans.
All guests must check in upon arrival. Enter through Door 20.
A welcome reception will be held from 9 to 9:45 a.m. in the North Commons.
The Veterans Day Program from 10 to 11

a.m. at the Frank Schade Fieldhouse will be followed by a luncheon from 11 to 11:45 a.m. behind the stage in the fieldhouse.
RSVPs are appreciated but not required by contacting Communities at Oshkosh North at 920-379-7458 or email communitiesonhs@gmail.com. Those unable to attend can watch at youtube.com/@oshkoshmedia.

Concert series features food, live music

Oshkosh Herald

The 12:34 Concert Series will feature free food and a free concert featuring TAE & The Neighborly Duo.
The event starts with a potluck at 11:30 a.m. Nov. 16 followed by music starting at 12:34 p.m. at Algoma Boulevard UMC, 1174 Algoma Boulevard.
The 12:34 name comes from the concert start time. The mission of 12:34 is all about getting people together to eat, listen

and connect with their neighbors, said Travis Worth, the church’s music leader.
“Food for the body and the soul,” Worth said. “Original, local music in a family friendly, listening room environment. We built 12:34 as a way to create opportunity for our community to forge real connections through food and music and with no barrier of entry.”
The series is held every third Sunday of the month.

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ATV usage in city turned down after council discussion

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

Despite public opinion opposing ATV traffic on city streets, the Oshkosh Common Council last week continued discussions on the topic.

The city had earlier conducted an online survey seeking public input on the topic. The results showed that 40% of the more than 1,400 respondents were in favor of allowing ATV/UTV traffic on city streets, compared to 5% who had no opinion and 55% who were opposed to the idea.

About 33% reported owning an all-terrain vehicle.

Both sides were able to express their concerns in the survey with people opposing ATVs noting the traffic concerns and highlighting they think that drivers in Oshkosh are bad and this would add to the bad driving on Oshkosh streets.

People in favor of allowing ATVs on city streets noted the economic impacts and that other communities have already approved ordinances and highlighted the dangers of other vehicles like motorcycles.

No major city in Wisconsin has opened streets to ATV traffic. However, Winnebago County earlier this year opened most county roads up to ATV/UTV traffic with a few exceptions.

County roads are open to ATV/UTV traffic excluding:

- County Highway A (except from County Highway G to Indian Point Road)
- County Highway AA or Harrison Street (Libbey Street to County Highway A)
- County Highway AP (County Highway P to Oneida Street)
- County Highway BB (State Highway 76 to Cold Spring Road)

- County Highway CB (County Highway JJ to County Highway BB)
- County Highway II (State Highway 76 to Green Bay Road)
- County Highway JJ (State Highway 76 to County Highway CB)
- County Highway M (Lasley Point Road to State Highway 116)
- County Highway O (County Highway II to Green Bay Road)
- County Highway P (State Highway 47 to 9th Street)

The idea to open city streets up to ATV traffic came from former council member Kris Larson, who resigned his seat in October. Larson, who is the owner of Becket's restaurant, promoted the idea and said it would benefit downtown businesses bringing in more tourist dollars to the city.

Other council members got behind Larson's idea and asked the transportation committee to look at the topic in September. Mayor Matt Mugerauer stated he has safety concerns with opening roads to ATVs.

However, most of the council members had changed their stance and during its Oct. 28 meeting were opposing the addition of all-terrain vehicle traffic on city streets. Council member Brad Spanbauer noted that two groups, Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association and Special Vehicle Institute of America, are opposed to ATV/UTV traffic on paved roads.

"These are two entities who deal with regulation, sale of ATVs and UTVs and both of these organizations oppose the legislation allowing for ATVs on paved roads, not on designated trail systems because ATV manufacturers design, test and sell ATVs for off-highway use only," Span-

bauer said. "Unlike cars and trucks, ATVs do not meet federal motor vehicle safety standards."

Transportation committee chair Al Hartman went over all the pros and cons that were discussed in the comment section of the city's poll.

"The cons were more tangible than the pros," he stated.

Council member Jacob Floam was not satisfied with the transportation committee's work and was concerned that Oshkosh not having an ATV/UTV ordinance will cause confusion in the city, especially for roads that go through the city like County Road Y.

The Winnebago County Highway Department is responsible for signage for the ATV routes. The department did not respond to multiple requests for comment.

Other communities across Wisconsin have clear signage that indicates where ATV traffic is allowed and a route ends. This would be helpful to address Floam's safety concerns. It is currently unknown how much signage has been placed by the highway department.

Dave Schmidt, who lives in Oshkosh, is the chairman of the Winnebago County

ATV/UTV Alliance. He brought a study released last year that claims "ATV/UTV riders in Wisconsin were responsible for generating an estimated \$4.2 billion in direct economic activity, supporting the creation of 25,845 jobs" in 2023.

The study was completed by the Greater Minocqua Area Visitors Bureau in 2024.

Schmidt has said this could be an excellent opportunity for Oshkosh to be the first "urban community" to allow ATVs on streets.

Oshkosh Police Chief Dean Smith has stated other communities are looking at Oshkosh as a guinea pig to see if a large city can handle the additional traffic if the city were to approve an ordinance.

Other issues the transportation committee discussed were that violations like drunk driving on an ATV is not a criminal offense but is a DNR violation. Also, if someone has a suspended license from drunk driving they would still be allowed to ride an ATV.

The topic could potentially be brought back to the council, but as of now based on the recent discussions, the city will not be moving forward or drafting an ordinance to allow ATV traffic on city streets.

Suspect in custody after overnight shooting

Oshkosh Herald

Police are investigating an early morning shooting last week inside an Oshkosh business.

Oshkosh police reported the shooting occurred at 1:50 a.m. Oct. 29 in the 1800 block of Jackson Street, just north of the Murdock/Jackson roundabout. Oshkosh Police received a report of a shooting that happened inside a business involving two employees.

OPD arrested a 24-year-old man from Oshkosh for reckless injury, carrying a concealed weapon and disorderly conduct.

The two employees allegedly got into a

verbal argument that turned into a physical fight and led to the victim being shot. The victim was transported to a local hospital for treatment of a non-life-threatening injury.

Officers were able to locate the suspect 14 minutes after arriving at the scene. When he was taken into custody, officers allegedly found a loaded handgun in his possession.

OPD did not release the name of the suspect. Police said it is department policy to not release the name of people they have arrested until charges are filed by the district attorney's office. At press time no charges had been filed related to the incident.

OAHS funding

FROM PAGE 6

impound animals.

"The city will be meeting with the humane society in the near future to discuss the agreement that is in place at this time and expires on December 31, 2025," Smith told the Herald. "The new approach more closely aligns Oshkosh with regional cost models and ensures that taxpayer dollars are used directly for contracted services, rather than a lump sum payment."

Smith explained the department had requested 112 animals be taken in and the remaining 589 animals were taken in by other city personnel. He declined to comment further on the topic as the department will be entering contract negotiations.

The department looked at other animal

control budgets in the region and the annual contracts municipalities have with shelters. Smith reported that Appleton has budgeted \$16,000 on animal services for 2026 and that Fond du Lac spent \$19,300 in 2024.

Based on the 2024 numbers, OAHS would get about \$100 per animal. On average the OAHS spends \$250 to care for animals at the shelter. Engel added that does not include animals that need specialized medical attention which animals often need on top of the basic medical care that every animal at the OAHS receives.

OAHS relies on private donations as it is not affiliated with any local or national humane society organization. Of the group's annual budget, 80% comes from private donations, community members and fundraisers.

The city held a public hearing on the 2026 budget Tuesday night and will be voting to adopt the budget at the Nov. 11 meeting.

"We hope the taxpayers are proud of the work we do," Engel said. "The shelter saves taxpayers money by providing what used to be a government-run service in the non-profit sector and contracts with the city to provide that service for a fraction of the overall cost of doing business."

The OAHS is continuing its work in the community and will be holding an open house and Pawlday Craft Fair on Dec. 6 at the shelter. More information on how to support the OAHS can be found at oahs.org.

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Waukau Dam Park reopens after restoration project

By Chris Lusvardi
OSHKOSH HERALD

Winnebago County Executive Gordon Hintz first visited the Waukau Dam Park while looking for something to do outdoors with his family during the COVID pandemic.

“I had never been out here,” Hintz said Thursday during a ribbon cutting celebrating a recently completed restoration project of the park. “It’s become one of my favorite places to walk around.”

Now, he’s hoping others visit to experience the beauty of the park in the Town of Rushford after the \$1.7 million project was finished in October. The Wisconsin DNR contributed \$751,000, or about 43%, of the engineering and construction costs using a Knowles-Nelson Stewardship grant. The remainder of the project was funded through the Winnebago County Capital Improvement Program.

“We’re reopening the preserve, which is one of the unique, most important parts of the Winnebago County park system,” Hintz said. “At a time when so many people are rediscovering the outdoors, it’s more important than ever that we maintain spaces like this and other places that are welcoming, accessible and sustainable.”

A major part of the project that started in May was ensuring the pond doesn’t flood, Winnebago County Parks and Expo Director Adam Breest said. In the past, Breest said the pond frequently overflowed its embankment. He explained the sidewalk was constructed in such a way to prevent soil erosion and keep it from washing out if flooding occurs again.

“The water from the fishing pond would normally go over the top of the embank-



Oshkosh Herald

Adam Breest explains how a sidewalk in Waukau Dam Park was constructed to protect it from being damaged by flooding.

ment to create large channels, and it became really hard to continue keeping up with it,” Breest said. “We’re hoping the armored embankment will stay in place for years to come and we won’t lose the pond.”

Being able to control the water that flows through the park is an important part of flood prevention efforts in the surrounding Fox and Wolf river watersheds.

Additionally, the paths through the park have been opened up to connect with the Waukau Dam Mountain Bike Trail, a three-mile, single track trail that is part of

the North East Wisconsin Trails (NEWT) system.

That adds an alternate route for bikers rather than relying on Wisconsin Highway 116, which Breest said had become dangerous.

A three-foot drop-off behind one of the bridges along a path was also removed to improve safety for those using the park, Breest said.

Additional improvements include paving the parking lot and adding lighting. Breest said the parks department is working with the Winnebago County Sheriff’s

Office in hopes of installing a camera in the parking lot as an added safety measure.

A shelter and two wooden fishing piers were added along with updating the existing fishing pier.

“It’s more ADA accessible so more people can enjoy its beauty,” Hintz said. “By combining local leadership with state and community support to make our park system stronger and more resilient, we can have our impact last for the next generations. I hope this space reminds you of what’s possible when the community takes care of the places that take care of us.”

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Exhibit at UWO focuses on local food, housing insecurity

University to host author of Maid later this month

Oshkosh Herald

The public is invited to “When the Ends Don’t Meet” featuring an exhibition and speaker focusing on the topic of food and housing insecurity in the Oshkosh community. The event Nov. 13 will begin with the exhibition opening at 5 p.m., followed by the featured speaker Stephanie Land at 6 p.m. in the Culver Center at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

Land is the author of the book Maid, which was later made into a Netflix television series, and Class: A Memoir of Motherhood, Hunger, and Higher Education.

“When the Ends Don’t Meet” features an exhibit created and designed by UWO

students in two experiential learning courses: Telling Stories for Fun, Profit, and World Peace with Grace Lim, lecturer in the University Studies Program, and Sex, Power, and Policy with Amber Lusvardi, associate professor of political science.

Students in Telling Stories for Fun, Profit and World Peace class have spent the semester documenting the stories of individuals and families in Oshkosh who are struggling to make ends meet. Partnering with the Day by Day Shelter, the Oshkosh Area Community Pantry and the Tiny House Village, students conducted interviews and took portraits to shine a light on local housing and food insecurity — and on the people working every day to overcome those challenges.

The When the Ends Don’t Meet Proj-



Submitted photo

UWO students Aricka Schwab, Payton Purdy and Jewel Bach interview Day by Day Shelter client and employee Anthony for the When the Ends Don't Meet Project.



Submitted photo

Gigi, former resident of Tiny House Village, now works as the resident liaison, shows UWO students Anna Koestler and Kendall Levy around the tiny houses campus.

ect first began 10 years ago as part of the larger Humans of Oshkosh Storytelling Project, which aims to amplify the voices of people often unseen or unheard in the community.

“My students learned that meaningful storytelling starts with showing up and listening,” Lim said. “They saw that the people they interviewed aren’t defined by hardship but by strength and humanity. Those lessons will stay with them long after the semester ends.”

Focusing on the policy side of food and housing insecurity, students in the Sex, Power, and Policy class have developed an exhibit that looks at how policy can help to alleviate food and housing insecurity and where that policy falls short.

Students have interviewed local legisla-

tors such as state Rep. Lori Palmeri, state Sen. Kristin Dassler-Alfheim, Oshkosh Common Council Member Karl Buelow, Winnebago County Executive Gordon Hintz and Winnebago County Board member Joshua Belville. They also spoke to local agencies doing front line work with the community such as Oshkosh Area Food Pantry, Father Carr’s Place 2B and the Oshkosh Police Department Community Impact Team.

“Being able to spend time with legislators and advocates talking about these very real local issues has given students in my class a sense of how politics and policy can shape people’s lives in our community,” Lusvardi said.

For more information about the event, visit uwosh.edu/community-engagement.

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Wisconsin manufacturers seek ways to benefit from AI

By Chris Lusvardi
OSHKOSH HERALD

John Pfeifer sees opportunities for companies such as Oshkosh Corporation to benefit from AI by using it to help solve problems.

The company is actively engaged in using AI in a lot of different areas, including how its products perform, its manufacturing operations and supply chain. Pfeifer, Oshkosh Corporation's president and CEO, spoke Oct. 29 during a panel discussion organized by the University of Wisconsin-Madison Alumni Association at the EAA Aviation Museum in Oshkosh.

"AI is teaching us not what happened and why did it happen," Pfeifer said. "It's teaching us what's going to happen and therefore what we should do about it. Based on data I'm seeing and what I have learned over time, I know something is going to happen that you need to know about, and I know what the options are to address that problem."

Pfeifer said manufacturers are on a journey to make sure they have a value-added operation.

"We can use AI agents to tell us about our operations, what's happening and this is what's going to happen and this is what we should do to maintain ultimate productivity in the plant," Pfeifer said. "We're not perfectly there yet. You have to start somewhere."

The journey to be efficient and best use the available data continues into the supply chain, Pfeifer said.

"The most successful manufacturing companies in the future are going to be the ones

that understand how to harness this in the right ways to solve real problems ultimately for customers that they're serving," Pfeifer said.

Benefitting from AI means different things for different manufacturers, said Scott Manley, Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce executive vice president, government relations.

Automated robotic equipment is being used alongside human workers to improve the safety of the worker, Manley said.

"With a lot of the heavier things that we make in this state you can get injuries, soft tissue and joint injuries, for workers because they're doing a lot of repetitive tasks over and over," Manley said. "We're actually reducing workplace injuries, which is a good thing."

Companies are using AI to predict demand for orders, show how often they need to order raw materials and perform predictive maintenance on equipment.

"There's just this tremendous opportunity for manufacturing companies in the state to harness AI and be more efficient," Manley said.

In terms of what AI means for the future of jobs, Manley said back-office jobs likely will be replaced by AI.

"That will free those workers up to do other productive jobs within manufacturing," Manley said. "(Robotics) are working with workers to make the worker more efficient and safer. I do think there will be some jobs lost but I think it will be employees repur-

posed for other aspects of manufacturing," Pfeifer said AI allows for productivity improvement, which is good.

"There's going to be jobs that are displaced," Pfeifer said. "That's what productivity does. If you don't have productivity growth in an economy, then there can be no real wage growth and there can be no standard of living improvement. You have to have productivity improvement."

What AI does is it's another frontier of productivity improvement, Pfeifer said.

"People are going to be displaced and it's going to be up to us - to me, as an example, as a leader at my company to make sure that as that's happening people are being reskilled or given opportunities to do more productive work than perhaps they were doing before," Pfeifer said. "What we don't want to have is have productivity go skyrocketing up and we see big unemployment rates. That's bad."

"We've got to make sure that we've got people moving into new more value-added jobs as we continue to see productivity improvement. That's what we want to try to

have happen." UW-Madison is working to support the growth of manufacturing in the state and beyond, College of Engineering Dean Devesh Ranjan said.

It is working with companies to shape classes to give students skill sets in the use of AI, Ranjan said.

"There is an opportunity to upscale what we do for our current workforce and take it to the next level to do bigger things," Ranjan said.

Chancellor Jennifer Mnookin said university leaders engaged in a civil dialogue hosted at Oshkosh Corporation prior to the event at the EAA Aviation Museum. She said 200 graduates this year reported having jobs in the Fox Valley area, a number that is certainly higher because not everyone responds to the requests from the university for information.

"There are so many companies in this region," Mnookin said. "We do all we can to meet workforce needs of employers in Wisconsin. We want to keep more Wisconsin students in the state."



Pfeifer



Mnookin

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Ambulance board sets date to begin providing services

By Anya Kelley
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Southern Winnebago County Emergency Medical Services (SWEMS) board will begin providing emergency services to seven surrounding municipalities on Jan. 5, 2026.

Originally, the board had asked the Winnebago County Sheriff’s Office to transition on Dec. 29 to allow enough time to get services up and running before the City of Oshkosh dropped services on Jan. 1. That date proved to be problematic with the surrounding weekends and hol-

idays.

Oshkosh will charge a fee for the five days they cover in the new year, but board chairman Frank Frassetto said the amount should be negligible. Details of the cost are still being worked out.

Mike Krueger, EMS operations consultant for LifeStar, said he is in the process of working out what billing will look like.

Mutual aid agreements have been reached with Oshkosh, the City of Berlin and Gold Cross. At the last meeting, concerns were raised after Omro city administrator Brandon Hennes said Oshkosh was

thinking about potentially charging for mutual aid. Krueger said Oshkosh would agree to a six-month term at no cost and potentially renew that agreement after evaluating the amount of resources they are using on mutual aid.

“It should be an agreement without any charges as long as it’s a somewhat equal mutual agreement, which is how it should be,” Krueger said.

The contract is now waiting for City Manager Rebecca Grill to approve it. Each mutual aid partner will be assigned to cover certain areas of the SWEMS district.

Waushara County will likely cover the Town of Poygan; Berlin EMS will cover the Town of Rushford; Oshkosh Fire will cover the Town of Omro and the City of Omro, half of the Town of Utica, the Town of Black Wolf and the Town of Nekimi; and Gold Cross will cover both the Town and the Village of Winneconne.

The next SWEMS board meeting is at 6 p.m. Nov. 13 in the Town of Omro Town Hall. The board hopes to have updates on lease agreements and potential funding sources by then.

Spending plan

FROM PAGE 1

Mann also could not confirm the initial cost of the study Smith mentioned that was done six years ago.

Smith said he hopes to break ground on the facility in late 2026.

“It sure seems unlikely we’re going to advance much in 2026 on this project, given that we’re already in October and to do the analysis, do the design work, bid it, start construction. It sure doesn’t seem like 12 months on something like this is very feasible to me,” Mugerauer said.

Mugerauer said the council still supports the facility, but that the council cannot take out more debt than necessary. The council voted to amend the CIP reducing the funding for the facility to fund \$2 million of the project in 2026 and \$4 million in 2027 and 2028.

Road projects

Construction projects are often the most eye-catching projects in the capital im-

provement plan as they have the most daily impact on citizens and next year is no different.

A full reconstruction of 16th Avenue between Ohio Street and Oregon Street is set that will replace utilities under the road and will repair sidewalk sections in the area. The project is set to cost \$6.1 million.

A similar project is planned on West 14th Avenue in 2027.

Ohio Street between South Park Avenue and West 17th Avenue is scheduled for a full reconstruction next year, which will include replacing the public utilities and replacing sidewalks. The project is expected to cost \$4.3 million.

Scott Avenue between Jackson Street and Elmwood Avenue will also be fully reconstructed with utilities being replaced and an existing six-inch water pipe will be replaced with an eight-inch water pipe. Sidewalks will also be repaired as needed. The project is set to cost \$4.7 million.

Scott Avenue from Jackson Street to North Main Street is part of the CIP for 2027.

Another street project is extending sewer

and water on Clairville Road on a recently annexed portion of the city. The plan is to spend \$4.6 million over the next two years to extend water service as a new subdivision is planned in the area. There is also a safety concern from city officials.

Bruce Baier lives on Clairville Road and questioned why the city is spending so much to install water and sewer in the area. Baier noted there are four houses on Clairville and that the utilities will primarily serve the new subdivision homes.

“I’ve gotta pay for it, so somebody else can make the money off of it,” he said. “The city is making the four people that live on Clairville pay for this new subdivision’s water. It’s not right.”

Public Works Director James Rabe explained at the council meeting Oct. 28 that the system could fail at any time because the homes’ utilities do not loop back into the system. This means all houses in the area would not have water for days and would have a boil-water order in place for all homes in the area.

If the system fails before this work is done, Rabe said, 125 homes will be with-

out water. Rabe also mentioned the project will be helpful for developers of the subdivision that are waiting for utilities to be installed.

Other items

Other high price items on the CIP include money earmarked in the future for City Hall and the Clearwells.

The Clearwells will store the city drinking water as the current tanks do not meet DNR requirements. The final design plans have not been approved by the DNR and the Public Service Commission so the city cannot move forward with the project.

However, the city has set aside \$25 million for potential project costs in 2026 and an additional \$20.5 million earmarked for 2027.

The city has also earmarked \$40 million for City Hall renovations. City officials have discussed three options for City Hall – renovating the current city hall, buying land to build a new city hall or leasing a portion of City Center and renovating the space to accommodate the city’s needs.

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<div>750 ml Bottle Riunite Wine</div> <div></div> <div>2/\$5</div> <div>WHEN YOU BUY 2 OR \$2.99 EACH</div>	<div>Food Club, 5 lb Bag Flour</div> <div></div> <div>2/\$4</div> <div>WHEN YOU BUY 2 OR \$2.49 EACH</div>	<div>Food Club, 4 lb Bag Granulated Sugar</div> <div></div> <div>2/\$6</div> <div>WHEN YOU BUY 2 OR \$3.49 EACH</div>	<div>From Our Deli! Rogge's</div> <div>White or Mustard Potato Salad</div> <div></div> <div>\$2⁴⁹_{lb}</div>
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4.99

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1.99

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5/\$5

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2/\$4

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4/\$5

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13.99

12 pk, 12 oz Cans New Glarus Craft



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Waffles
or Pancakes



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2/\$3
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2/\$4
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Taco Shells
or 10 oz Enchilada Sauce



3.29
10-18 ct or 8.8-11.4 oz
Old El Paso
Dinner Kits
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5/\$5
14.5 oz
Swanson
Broth



2/\$5
15 oz
Famous Dave's
Corn Bread Mix



3.49
15-24 oz
Bertolli
Pasta Sauce



1.89
6 pk
Maruchan
Ramen



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Gold Medal
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7.99
20-24 oz
Nestle Toll House
Morsels



5.99
10 oz
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4/\$5
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16.3 oz Food Club Brownie Mix...3/\$5



1.99
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Crackers



2/\$5
15 oz
Famous Dave's
Corn Bread Mix



3.49
18-30 oz
Food Club
Mayonnaise or
Salad Dressing



4/\$5
13.25 oz
Food Club
Cake Mix



16.3 oz Food Club Brownie Mix...3/\$5

snacks



2.99
3 pk
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Redenbacher
Popcorn



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8-10 pk
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9.69 lb

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Select 8 oz BelGioioso Italian Cheese Wedges



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4.99

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99¢ ea

Select Indulgent Cookies



beer, wine & spirits



14.99

12 pk, 12 oz Cans or Bottles Corona or Modelo



15.49 ea

1.75 ml Bottle Kessler Whiskey



16.99

3 ltr Box Black Box Assorted Wines



18.99

30 pk, 12 oz Cans Miller High Life



23.99

30 pk, 12 oz Cans Michelob Ultra



12.99

750 ml Bottle Kim Crawford Sauvignon Blanc



6.99 ea

6 pk, 12 oz Cans or Bottles Leinenkugel's Craft



13.79

12 pk, 12 oz Cans or Bottles Blue Moon Craft



14.99

750 ml Bottle La Marca Prosecco



18.99

8 pk, 12 oz Cans High Noon Sun Sips



11.49

4 pk, 12 oz Cans Cutwater Cocktails



7.99

750 ml Bottle Dark Horse Assorted Wines



20.99

1.75 ml Bottle Korbel VS Brandy



30.99

1.75 ml Bottle Tito's Vodka



26.99 ea

1.75 ml Bottle Captain Morgan Spiced Rum

Veteran remembered for his service during World War II

Oshkosh Herald

With Veterans Day approaching, Carl Johnson of Oshkosh wants to remember his father-in-law, Frank M. Combs Jr., who served in World War II and received a Purple Heart.

But Combs was never officially recognized as MIA and a POW, a distinction Johnson said would have been most meaningful to Combs.

“Wars have many distinct faces,” Johnson said. “There are many stories of the heroics of war and the honored heroes involved. There are also stories of tragedy and suffering of many men who were not honored in the same way as the heroes. World War II was certainly such a war.”

Johnson said Combs’ heroics were completely forgotten by U.S. Army records.

Combs was born in October 1925 and raised in a house located a few doors down from the Morgan Company property on Sixth Avenue where his father, Frank M. Combs, Sr., was an employee. Frank Jr.’s father served the country during World War I and was honorably discharged in June 1919.

Combs graduated from Oshkosh High School in 1943 and had secured a job at Baer’s grocery store on Sixth Avenue near Minnesota Street. That employment lasted a short time as he joined the Army in June 1944, Johnson said.

Combs’ basic training was completed at Camp Blanding, Fla. He completed his basic training in January 1945 and was sent to his new assignment on the front line of the war in Germany.

He was sent to Rhineland Central Europe in Cologne, Germany with the 13th Infantry Regiment. Combs was wounded on Feb. 22, 1945 and taken captive a day later. Combs kept a full diary of his imprisonment and liberation.

It is not known if the small notebook found in Combs’ wartime belongings after his death was something he concealed during his captivity or details he transcribed from memory at some point after his liberation.



Submitted photo

In a photo published May 29, 1945 in The Sheboygan Press, Wisconsin soldiers show a coast-guardsmen the souvenirs they are bringing back to show the folks at home. The men are getting their first taste of freedom after having been confined in a German prisoner of war camp. Pvt. Frank M. Combs of Oshkosh is shown third from left.

“The information was stunning,” Johnson said. “Those of us who were fortunate enough to have known Frank were aware that he had an incredible memory for numbers and details. His diary of events is very revealing. It gives insight into the atrocities of the ground war in Germany and the treatment of POWs at that time. The pages of the diary are written in brief humanistic detail.”

The traumatic effects of Combs’ captivity were being felt back home in Oshkosh. Combs’ parents received a number of telegrams from the Army informing them of his captivity and eventually his liberation. Telegrams between the U.S. government and Combs’ parents and from Combs to his parents were the only means of communication.

After hospital recuperation time and home visits back in Oshkosh, Combs completed his service time stationed in the U.S. During his remaining time in the military, Combs completed specialized training in a cook’s course at an Infan-

try Replacement Training Center at Fort McClellan, Ala. He earned a certificate of achievement for the time spent from early August to the end of September 1945 for completing that course.

Combs completed his tour of duty with an honorable discharge in May 1946. That discharge certification recorded only some of the history of his wartime enlistment record. According to his discharge recognition, the U.S. Army only recognizes Combs was wounded, Johnson said. The discharge records do not recognize that he was MIA or a POW.

“The copies of telegrams from the Department of Defense certainly specified that Frank was missing in action, and another telegram stipulated that he was ‘recaptured from the enemy,’” Johnson said. “Unfortunately, this part of Frank’s journey seems to have eluded the Department of Defense records.”

After his discharge, Combs returned to Oshkosh to take care of his aging parents. At the same time, he started his career

at Sebor’s Piggly Wiggly stores. Combs made friends while working at Sebor’s Piggly Wiggly from the 1950s to 1990s.

“He was definitely an Oshkosh ambassador and historian,” Johnson said. “He also loved to travel the roads of Wisconsin, especially with his wife Eleanor at his side.”

Combs was always reluctant to talk about his time in captivity, Johnson said.

“If family members tried to start conversations about his wartime experiences, the responses were short and very emotional,” Johnson said. “That part of his life was very private to him. Frank was liberated from POW captivity way back in 1945. Unfortunately, he was never liberated from the trauma of the experience.”

Combs was decorated by the U.S. Army for his time served during World War II, including the Purple Heart. His many decorations are listed on his official May 3, 1946 discharge papers. He received some of the medals and ribbons that he was entitled to, but in the end, Johnson said he never received the recognition that he truly deserved as an MIA and a POW and a true American hero.

“Frank told me once that all the decorations meant very little to him,” Johnson said. “He said his most cherished achievement was returning home safely. His concern was always for the families who lost their loved ones in the fighting of this horrible war.”

Combs died on April 12, 1999.

Third graders to receive book about importance of recycling

Oshkosh Herald

The Tri-County Recycling Partnership is releasing The ABC’s of Recycling Right, a new educational resource designed to teach third-grade students the importance of recycling.

The book provides up-to-date recycling information using every letter of the alphabet, paired with interactive in-classroom activities that make learning about recycling fun and hands-on.

The ABC’s of Recycling Right is a tool for

teachers to inspire the next generation of environmentally conscious citizens. Each letter introduces a new recycling concept and includes a classroom activity, helping students learn by doing and reinforcing good recycling habits from an early age.

To support local education and sustainability, the Tri-County Recycling Partnership is providing free copies of the book to all public and private third-grade classrooms in Winnebago, Outagamie, and Brown counties. By bringing current

recycling information directly into classrooms, the partnership hopes to spark curiosity, promote responsible environmental practices and empower students to make a difference in their communities.

Teachers in the three counties can expect to receive their copies soon. The ABC’s of Recycling Right is part of the Tri-County Recycling Partnership’s ongoing effort to engage students, teachers and families in building a more sustainable future.

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Spanbauer leads Knights' return to state cross country

Oshkosh Herald

The Lourdes Academy boys cross country team was back at the WIAA State Cross Country Meet for the first time in 15 years and finished 14th out of the 16 teams in the Division 3 field.

The Knights, one of only three teams in the Division 3 field without a senior in its lineup, finished two points ahead of Peshtigo for the 14th spot totaling 306 points in the meet. St. Ambrose Academy won the team title with 113 points.

Henry Spanbauer led the Knights' runners by finishing in 31st position, holding his spot in the field over the final mile. It was Spanbauer's second trip to state and he improved on his 66th-place finish from last year.

Mason Piechowski was the second Lourdes Academy runner to finish, placing 69th in the field of 151 runners.

Zach Foster placed 101st for the Knights, followed by Cameron Kapral in 129th, Kody Neitzel in 146th and Connor Salm in 149th.

The last time the Knights made it as a team was in 2010, when they finished ninth overall. It was the program's sixth trip to the WIAA state meet as a team overall.

In the Division 3 girls race, Mya Moran finished 36th overall among the 152 runners.

It was Moran's second time running

SEE **Cross country** ON PAGE 20



Valley Christian's Mya Moran (219) keeps pace with her fellow runners during the Division 3 girls race at the state cross country meet on Saturday.



Lourdes Academy's Henry Spanbauer sprints to the finish at the state cross country meet on Saturday.

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Photo by Doug Sasse
Tianna Hayes was the first Oshkosh North girl to qualify as an individual since 2017 and finished 143nd overall.

Cross country

FROM PAGE 19

at the state meet and she posted a nearly identical finish. The junior finished 34th after qualifying as a freshman and her time was four seconds faster this year. Moran narrowly missed qualifying last year as a junior.

Division 1

Oshkosh West placed 18th out of 20 teams in the Division 1 field in its return to the state meet after falling short the past two seasons. The Wildcats finished 12th in 2022 after finishing 19th the year before. The program's best finish in its six trips to state was in 1994 when West placed fifth. Abby Tercha led the Wildcats with a 74th place finish overall. Tercha was only about 20 seconds short of finishing in the top 50. Hayllie Hullar and Coraline Strebelinski finished about one second apart in 107th and 110th place, respectively, while Gwen Liptow in 133rd place and Rowen Stellpflug in 150th place rounded out the scoring runners. Liptow and Stellpflug were both on the Wildcats' team that qualified in 2022. Also competing for the Wildcats were Mila Crowe, who finished 181st, and Ellie Trebiatowski, who placed 189th. Oshkosh North was also represented in the girls Division 1 state meet as senior Tianna Hayes competed and finished 132nd overall.

Hayes was the first North girl to compete at the state meet since 2017 when both Sydney Knepfel and Sydney Clark qualified for the race. Knepfel finished 67th and Clark finished 69th. On the boys side, Oshkosh West had



Photo by Doug Sasse
Oshkosh West's Dominic Moore was one of two Wildcats to qualify for the Division 1 boys race as an individual. He was joined by Carter Crowe.

a pair of individual qualifiers in senior Carter Crowe and sophomore Dominic Moore. It was the second straight year that West has had an individual qualifier in the boys race as Celso Collins competed last year. Crowe's finish was the best for a Wildcat runner since 2021 when Elijah Geffers placed 61st. Crowe finished 68th overall, while Moore placed 85th as the two runners finished only about seven seconds apart.

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Oshkosh North’s offense clicks in victory over New Richmond

Oshkosh Herald

Bryce Ott threw for four touchdowns and Oshkosh North made the most of a four-hour oad trip with a wild 42-36 win over New Richmond in a WIAA Division 2 second-round playoff game last Friday.

The Spartans, who are seeded third in their regional, will face another long road trip on Friday when they travel to face top-seeded River Falls. The Wildcats knocked off La Crosse Central 50-24 on Friday.

“It was a great win and it means a lot to get the win,” North head coach Luke Ott said. “We had a lot of guys step up and that’s what you need in playoff football.

New Richmond, which beat River Falls, 23-6, during the regular season, scored on its opening possession to take the lead on the Spartans, but that would be the only time North trailed in the game.

Ott connected with Jackson Anderson for a 20-yard touchdown on the Spartans’ first possession of the game, while the duo hooked up again for a 26-yard touchdown the next time North had the ball to give the Spartans a 14-7 lead.

New Richmond was able to tie the game on its next possession but North kept scoring.

Jamond Thompson-Schreck burst free for a 40-yard touchdown run to give the Spartans a 21-14 lead and then, after the Tigers tied the game again, Jamare Scott scored on a 53-yard touchdown pass from Ott to give North a 28-21 advantage.

New Richmond was driving to tie the score just before halftime, but the Spartans stopped the Tigers on fourth down at the North 8-yard line to protect the lead.

“That stop was huge,” Luke Ott said. “Joe Sanders and Cole Meiselwitz stepped

up and by less than six inches we stopped them.”

Thompson-Schreck picked up his second touchdown run of the game on the opening drive of the second half as he scored from 14 yards out to give North its biggest lead at 35-21.

New Richmond scored again and added a two-point conversion late in the third quarter to pull within six, but North responded with a nine-play, 54-yard drive capped by a seven-yard touchdown pass from Ott to Anderson for a 42-29 lead.

The Tigers again pulled within a touchdown on their next drive and then kept the Spartans from scoring. North missed a 42-yard field goal attempt to keep the game at a one possession margin.

But with New Richmond driving late in regulation, Max Rohr came up with a pass break-up to force a third down, while Eli Ott and Manny Tlapeta combined to knock the ball away on the Tigers’ fourth down pass and the Spartans were able to run out the clock.

Ott finished 15-of-19 for 269 yards and the four touchdowns, with three going to Anderson – who caught six passes for 110 yards. Dalton Clark also had seven catches for 111 yards for the Spartans.

Thompson-Schreck led the rushing attack with 81 yards on 14 carries, while Scott added 109 yards of total offense on 14 carries and one reception.

Clark led the defense with 12 tackles, while Andrew Brockman, Andrew Oehler, Tlatelpa and Meiselwitz each finished with eight.

The Spartans will now face a dynamic offensive attack with the Wildcats, who have rushed more than 2,100 yards this

SEE **North football** ON PAGE 22

Prep sports roundup

SOCCER

Lourdes/Valley falls in shootout

The Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian soccer team came up short in a WIAA Division 4 sectional semifinal last week, falling in penalty kicks to Xavier.

The match was tied 1-1 after regulation, but the Hawks outdueled the Knights on penalty kicks, 5-4, to advance.

Isaak Rucinski scored the lone goal for the Knights off an assist from Mat Yaggie in the second half.

The Knights, who beat Xavier 3-0 during the regular season, finish the season with a 16-2-1 record.

SWIMMING

Dietschweiler wins two events at FVA meet

Oshkosh West’s Kiersten Dietschweiler won a pair of events at the Fox Valley Association meet held on Saturday at Appleton East.

Dietschweiler set the pool record in winning the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 5-minutes, 7.66-seconds. The junior finished nearly 21 seconds ahead of the rest of the field.

Dietschweiler also finished first in the 200-yard freestyle, winning the race by nearly 10 seconds and finishing just .26 seconds off the conference and pool record for the event.

Dietschweiler also joined Molly Dudzinski, Avery Booms and Hailey Knutson in placing second in the 400-yard freestyle relay and third in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

The Wildcats also fared well in the diving competition with Neva Schleis placing a close second and Mia Drexler earning a



Photo by Andy Ratchman

Lourdes/Valley's Kaleb Richardson tries to control the ball in Thursday's sectional semifinal against Xavier.

fifth place.

Other top-seven finishers for the Wildcats were: Knutson, sixth in the 100-yard freestyle and seventh in the 50-yard free-style; Dudzinski, sixth in the 100-yard butterfly; and Booms, seventh in the 100-yard backstroke.

Oshkosh North/Lourdes Academy’s best finish came from Addison Perzentka, who finished fourth in the 100-yard backstroke. She also finished fifth in the 100-yard butterfly.

Ashlynn Anderson added a sixth place in the 100-yard breaststroke and Teya Zinth was seventh in the 100-yard free-style.

North/Lourdes also placed sixth in a pair of relays. Perzentka, Anderson, Zinth and Lucy Schade were sixth in the 200-yard medley relay, while Schade, Anderson, Perzentka and Mya Sonnleitner were sixth in the 400-yard freestyle relay.

Oshkosh West finished tied for third place with Fond du Lac in the team standings, while North/Lourdes placed sixth.

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STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, WINNEBAGO COUNTY

Case No. 25CV820

Code No. 30301

Summit Credit Union Plaintiff,

v.

Tabatha L. Bartlett XYZ Unknown Defendant, Defendants.

PUBLICATION SUMMONS

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

To each person named above as a Defendant:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The Complaint, which is attached, states the nature and basis for the legal action.

Within 40 days after October 29, 2025, of receiving this Summons, you must respond with a written Answer, as that term is used in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the Complaint. The Court may reject or disregard an Answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The Answer must be sent or delivered to the Court, whose address is Clerk of Circuit Court, Winnebago County Courthouse, 415 Jackson St, PO Box 280, Oshkosh, WI 54903-2808, and to Plaintiff's attorney, whose mailing address is PO Box 1473, Wausau, Wisconsin 54402-1473. You may have an attorney help or represent you. If you do not provide a proper Answer within 40 days after October 29, 2025, the Court may grant Judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Complaint. A Judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

Dated this 21st day of October 2025.Bates Legal Group, LLC, Attorney for Plaintiff

By: /s/ Attorney Justin J. Bates

Justin J. Bates

State Bar No. 1066128

PO Box 1473

Wausau, WI 54402-1473

(715) 843-5599

Runs: October 29, 2025, November 5, 2025 and November 12, 2025

WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, WINNEBAGO COUNTY

Case No. 25CV758

Code No. 30301

Summit Credit Union Plaintiff,

v.

Savana Hiltz XYZ Unknown Defendant, Defendants.

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THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

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Dated this 21st day of October, 2025.

Bates Legal Group, LLC, Attorney for Plaintiff

By: /s/ Attorney Justin J. Bates

Justin J. Bates

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WNAXLP

Notice of Public Hearing

The Specialized Transportation Assistance Grant Application for 2026 is scheduled for public hearing on Monday, November 10th, 2025, at 3pm at Winnebago County Department of Human Services, 220 Washington Avenue, Room 033(lower level), Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

The Public hearing will be held to receive public comment on Winnebago County's proposed plan for spending \$433,472.00 authorized under Section 85.21 of Wisconsin State Statute to implement elderly and disabled transportation services in Winnebago County.

Proposed 2026 projects requesting 85.21 funds include GO Transit specialized transportation services (\$216,736.00) and Valley Transit specialized transportation services (\$216,736.00).

For those persons unable to attend the hearing and wishing to submit comments in advance may do so by mailing their comments to:

Nicole Hecimovich, Adult and Aging Program Supervisor Winnebago County Department of Human Services P.O. Box 2187 Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54903-2187 877-886-2372 nhecimovich@winnebago-countywi.gov

Runs: November 5, 2025

WNAXLP

Titans suffer second straight road loss in falling to Pioneers

UWO Sports Information

UW-Oshkosh football hung in with UW-Platteville through all four quarters on the road on Saturday (Nov. 1), never allowing the Pioneers to lead by more than two touchdowns in its final road game of the regular season.

The Titans (4-4, 2-3 WIAC), ranked 25th in Division III by D3football.com and receiving votes from the American

Football Coaches Association this week, led the No. 13/15 Pioneers 220-170 in passing yards, completing 20 of their 33 attempts for 6.7 yards per attempt and two touchdowns. Platteville held the edge in rushing yards (223-54), total offensive yards (393-274), and first downs (23-11).

Oshkosh converted five of its 14 third down chances and succeeded in scoring on its only red zone trip.

Sharing the passing responsibilities at Ralph E. Davis Pioneer Stadium, Quentin Keene completed 12 of 19 attempts for 142 yards, a touchdown, and an interception while AJ Korth went 8-for-14 with 78 yards and a touchdown. Korth also rushed for a team high 31 yards on eight attempts on the ground.

The Titans' top receiver was Hunter Gibson. He caught one pass for a 69-yard touchdown, followed by Doug Burson with 42 total offensive yards and Jackson Brush, who caught three passes for 28 yards.

On the defensive side of the ball, Kyle

Dietzen, the WIAC leader in total and solo tackles, reached double-digit tackles for the fifth time this season. He recorded 10 tackles (seven solo) and was followed by Ben Wellhoefer with six (three solo).

The Titans will host a pair of WIAC opponents in the next two weeks to close out the regular season.

They play UW-Stevens Point (4-4) on Saturday, November 8 as UW-Oshkosh celebrates the 2015 WIAC Championship team and welcome No. 8/8 UW-White-water (6-2) to J. J. Keller Field at Titan Stadium on Saturday, November 15 on Senior Day.

UWO dedicates softball complex to Nienhaus

Oshkosh Herald

The home of UW-Oshkosh softball has been renamed in honor of Mary Beth Nienhaus, a Fox Valley philanthropist, educator and coach.

The dedication for the Mary Beth Nienhaus Softball Complex, formerly known as the UW-Oshkosh Softball Park, was held Thursday.

An Appleton native that started breaking barriers as the first female student-athlete at Marquette University in the 1960s, Nienhaus was one of the top amateur golfers in Wisconsin, winning a pair of amateur championships before joining the men's team.

While serving as a teacher for more than three decades and coaching numerous sports over 28 years, Nienhaus led the Appleton West High School girls golf team to four WIAA State Championships between 1981 and 1986 and was named the Ladies Professional Golf Association

Coach of the Year in 1987.

During her remarks, Nienhaus noted that supporting women's athletics, in an effort to empower opportunity and excellence, has been a longtime passion of hers. She hopes the facility will inspire future student-athletes to chase their dreams on and off the field.

Nienhaus served as owner, manager, and golf pro at Winagamie Golf Course for more than 40 years. She became a partner in the course in 1972 and took sole ownership in 1993. When she retired in 2013, she donated the course to the Appleton Education Foundation.

Nienhaus has started a campaign to raise money for the UWO baseball and softball parks under the name Fields for the Future. Projects at both facilities include lights and new scoreboards while Tiedemann Field at Alumni Stadium, the baseball program's home, looks to transition to a turf playing surface.

Lourdes football

FROM PAGE 1

tempts going 13-of-25 for 252 yards.

Over the past three games, Hilbert has allowed a total of 40 points and have held six of 11 opponents this season to less

than 10 points per game.

The winner of the game will face either Cochrane-Fountain City or Boyceville in a state semifinal.

The Knights made it to the quarterfinals last year before falling to Edgar. This is the fourth trip to the WIAA quarterfinals in school history.

North football

FROM PAGE 21

season and thrown for 2,242 yards.

River Falls' senior running back Joseph Tarasewicz had rushed for 1,713 yards and 32 touchdowns this season, while senior quarterback Tino Massa has completed 72 percent of his passes for 2,237

yards and 23 touchdowns. Senior Mason Novak is the team's leading receiver with 61 catches for 873 yards.

The Wildcats have been held to less than 28 points only once this season and have scored at least 40 points in nine of their 11 games.

"They are a very good solid team," Luke Ott said. "They're physical and strong up front and they throw the ball a fair amount."

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Warriors can't get past Hilltoppers in sectional semifinal

By Steve Clark
OSHKOSH HERALD

The second time around didn't go as well for Valley Christian.

After knocking off Montello during the Trailways Conference the Warriors couldn't make it two in a row over the Hilltoppers as they picked up a four-set win over Valley Christian, 25-11, 18-25, 25-18, 25-14, in a WIAA Division 4 sectional semifinal at Oshkosh West last Thursday.

"Sometimes you don't want to be on the end of just beating somebody because you know they are going to come at you with a little bit more. They were the ones with the chip on their shoulders," Valley Christian head coach Lizzy Potratz said. "They adjusted quickly and were switching things up and we were sometimes like a deer in headlights and weren't making the adjustments we needed to make quickly enough."

One of the keys to the win over the Hilltoppers at the conference tournament was the Warriors ability to dig up the majority of spikes from Montello's talented group of hitters.

Montello still did its share of swinging away last Thursday, but also used a bevy of tips – especially early – which affected the Warriors defensive approach.

"They came in with a different plan and it did catch us off guard," Potratz said. "We were prepared for them coming out with the big swings – and they swung – but they tipped a lot because we weren't adjusting quick enough to it."

After dropping the opening set, Valley Christian seized control of things midway through the second set as Aubryn Lehman served the Warriors from a one-point lead to an 18-6 advantage.

Lizzy Fink had a pair of kills in that



Valley Christian's Laila Gostas-Sims drills a spike between a pair of Montello blockers during last Thursday's sectional semifinal at Oshkosh West.

stretch as well as a block, while Lehman notched back-to-back aces.

"Aubryn has been one of our spark plugs at the service line coming in and getting us on runs," Potratz said. "We were hoping she could do it a little more for us. She's someone who stays very composed at the service line."

Montello was able to halt Lehman's service run but never threatened the Warriors lead as Brielle Birr's kill for the final point of the second set evened the match.

Valley Christian stayed close at the start of the third set as Fink's kill cut Montello's

lead to 9-8 but the Hilltoppers rattled off the next five points and then had another run to take a 19-12 lead.

Montello extended the advantage to 23-13 before a block from Anna Giannopoulos started a run for the Warriors. A spike from Birr before a Montello hitting error brought Valley Christian to within six before a Laila Gostas-Sims kill narrowed the gap further.

But on the play with Gostas-Sims' kill, Birr suffered a leg injury and would not return and the Hilltoppers were able to close out the set.

Montello took advantage of three Warrior errors to put together a five-point run that earned the Hilltoppers a 10-5 lead early in the fourth set and Valley Christian was unable to get close after that.

A tip from Lydia Hardy and a kill from Giannopoulos brought the Warriors to within 20-14 but Montello reeled off the next five points to end the match.

"The one thing you want to do against Montello is get them out of system and one the reasons we did as well as we did the last time is that we were able to get them out of system," Potratz said. "They passed it much better and they were able to use their right-side hitters which is something they weren't able to do last time."

Gostas-Sims had a big night to lead the Warriors, totaling 12 kills, 12 digs and two aces in the match.

Potratz was impressed with the way the freshman played.

"Laila gets better the bigger the moment is and I love that fire and that competitor in her," Potratz said. "She is probably one of the most composed in the big moments as a freshman I have coached."

Fink added 10 kills and Giannopoulos had nine, while Bella Birr led the team with 17 assists and Hardy finished with 13. Ellie Demler had a team-high 13 digs.

Although the Warriors will lose some key pieces to graduation, Potratz will return a strong nucleus from the roster next season and believes the experience of playing in a sectional match will be a benefit.

"They are going to know what to expect playing at this level," Potratz said. "It's exciting for this group because we are going to have them for a few years and it will be exciting to see how they move forward."

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Trip of a lifetime

Maggie Foust earned a trip to last week's World Series after competing in the MLB Pitch, Hit and Run competition earlier this summer at Oshkosh North High School. Foust was in the top five in her 9-10 age group competing with kids from the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh and others in the community. She then advanced to the regional competition in Milwaukee and was in the top five of the region. Foust was in Toronto Oct. 25 and Oct. 26 for the national competition at the World Series and was introduced at one of the games.

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Obituaries

Paul L. Weinkauf

Paul L. Weinkauf, age 71, of Oshkosh, WI, passed away unexpectedly at his home on October 17, 2025.



Paul was born on October 5, 1954, in Oshkosh, the son of the late Edward and Wanda Weinkauf. He graduated from Oshkosh North High School and worked a variety of jobs throughout his life, later becoming well known as a utilities locator. On July 17, 1976, he married the love of his life, Nadine, and together they shared nearly 50 years of laughter, adventure, and love.

Paul was happiest outdoors — hunting, fishing, and spending time surrounded by nature. He enjoyed mini golfing with family, going for long rides with Nadine, and taking trips that created lasting family memories. He also liked going out for breakfast with friends, sharing stories and laughs whenever he could.

Paul had a mischievous sense of humor and took pride in being a self-declared “grumpy old man,” always ready to play a prank or crack a joke. He had a passion for collecting unique treasures for what he fondly called his “dead room,” a space that perfectly reflected his one-of-a-kind personality. Paul loved animals deeply and is now reunited with all the pets that

brought him joy and companionship over the years.

Paul is survived by his loving wife, Nadine; daughters, Shannon (Derek) Kohler and Molly Weinkauf; grandchildren, Grayson and Evelyn; sister, Lynda (Dennis) Lord; and many beloved nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews. He will also be missed by extended family and countless friends who were lucky enough to know him.

He is preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Richard Weinkauf; and other family members who went before him.

Paul will be remembered for his humor, his stubborn but loving heart, and the joy he found in simple moments. His family and friends will forever cherish the laughter and memories he brought into their lives.

A memorial service for Paul will be held on Saturday, November 15, 2025, at 3:00 PM at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home – Westside, 100 Lake Point Drive Oshkosh, Wisconsin. A time of visitation will take place from 1:00 PM until the start of the service.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be made through the donation of a new toy to Toys for Tots in Paul's memory. Toys may be brought to the funeral home or donated directly to the organization.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN FUNERAL HOMES

James E. Peppler

James E. Peppler, age 86 of Oshkosh, passed away at Oakwood Manor on October 24, 2025. He was born the youngest of five boys on his family farm in Pickett Wisconsin, Jan. 19, 1939, son of the late George and Lydia (Meyer) Peppler.



Jim left at the age of 17 to California in hopes of becoming the next James Dean. Since that didn't work out, he ended up in San Diego enlisting in the Marines. A month after he finished basic training he injured both feet and was medically discharged and ended up back in Oshkosh where he met and married his wife Jean of 54 years.

He continued his life having four children, working different jobs, one of which was 13 years as a deputy sheriff for Winnebago County. He then finished after 20 years retiring from Moes Marine of Oshkosh. Jim had many hobbies, playing accordion in his band (the Moonlighters), flying his airplane (Patches), hunting, fishing, and shooting trap.

He is survived by his three sons, Daniel (Shirley) Peppler, David (Kathy) Peppler, Steven Peppler (former wife Tammy); and his daughter, Cindy (Rick) Voelkel. Grandchildren, Kevin Peppler, Bryan Peppler,

Caitlyn (Martin) Vajgrt, Amber Voelkel, Morgan (Jordan) Grams, Lucas (Amber) Peppler, Rachel Peppler, Christopher Peppler, Amanda (Ben)Cunliffe, Stephanie Peppler and Marissa Peppler. Great-grandchildren, Kennedy, Samuel, Noah, Rylee, Rayna and Nora. Sisters-in-law, Vivian Peppler, Lauralee Peppler, Barb Cegielski, Janet Fischer and Betty Dorow.

He was proceeded in death by his wife, Jean (Dorow) Peppler; his brothers, Marvin, Nate, Duane and Charles Peppler. Sisters-in-law, Audrey and Betty Peppler, Darlene Draves and Judy Dorow; brothers-in-law, Carlton Draves, Russel Dorow and Paul Fisher.

Visitation for Jim will be held at Lakeview Memorial Park Cemetery on Thursday, November 13, 2025, from 2 PM-3 PM, with a small service to follow. Memorials may be sent to Lakeview Memorial Park Cemetery, 2786 Algoma Blvd., Oshkosh, WI.

The family would like to thank the staff at Arbor view and Oakwood Manor assisted living for the care they have given Jim in the last days of his life. He is now at peace in heaven with the Lord and his family.

Fox Cities Funeral Home
3026 Jackson Street
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Leroy L. Zacher

Leroy “Skip” L. Zacher, age 82, passed on unexpectedly on October 29, 2025, in Oshkosh, WI. He was born on January 30, 1943, to parents Alois and Margaret (Stefen) Zacher, in Wisconsin, one of three children. For the full obituary, please visit the funeral home website at https://www.seefeldfuneral.com/.



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Obituaries

P. John Whitsett
August 8, 1947 – October 28, 2025

P. John Whitsett passed away on October 28, 2025, surrounded by the love of his family. Born on August 8, 1947, he lived a life defined by curiosity, creativity, and connection.

John was preceded in death by his beloved mother, Shirley Louise Whitsett, and is survived by his devoted wife, Sue Whitsett; his brother Stephen R. Whitsett (Charisse); children Stephen L. Whitsett (Dawn), Kimberley E. Johnson (Brent), and Jackie E. Morris (Bryan); stepchildren Kelly S. Lawler (Chad) and Greg K. Dewing (Lyndsey); and grandchildren Grant, Jordan, Jocelyn, Fiona, Vivian,



Judith A. Eichinger
Judith A. Eichinger, age 83, formerly of Oshkosh, died on Tuesday October 28, 2025 at Aurora Baycare Medical Center in Green Bay. She was born on June 3, 1942 in Oshkosh, the daughter of George and Emma Felker Eichinger.

Judy enjoyed playing bingo, cheering on the Green Bay Packers and the Milwaukee Brewers, watching the Hallmark Channel, and participating in various activities at Wyndemere Assisted Living in Green Bay where she resided the last several years of her life.

She is survived by her brother Robert Eichinger, one nephew Craig (Kathy) Eichinger, one niece Beth (Russell) Meyers, and four great-nephews Steven (Sara Dorow) Eichinger, Brian (Alexa) Eichinger, Zachary (Kelsey) Meyers, and Dillon (Vanessa) Meyers, and several

Reid, Avery, Bladen, Hadley, Aiden, and Lehna, who all lovingly knew him as Papa John.

John was a lifelong teacher at heart—both in the classroom and beyond. His passion for science and discovery earned him the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST), and he served as President of the National Science Teaching Association (NSTA), and President of Wisconsin Society of Science Teachers (WSST) where his enthusiasm for learning inspired countless others. We were always learning through his analytical nature as a chemist—his ability to see patterns, ask questions, and turn ordinary moments into opportunities for discovery.

A true Renaissance spirit, John found joy in many pursuits. He was a chef-level cook who believed that meals were meant

great-great nephews and nieces.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and her sister-in-law Jeanne Eichinger.

Graveside services for Judy will be held on Saturday November 8, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. at Lake View Memorial Park.

The family would like to thank close friend Carla Nigl, Shirley, Renee, and the staff of Wyndemere Assisted Living for their care and support of Judy for many years.

Even though she is gone from our sight, Judy's light remains — shining through the laughter she shared, the love she gave, and the countless lives she brightened. Her infectious joy and positive spirit will continue to guide and comfort all who were blessed to know her.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
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to be shared—with good wine, smooth bourbon, and plenty of conversation. He loved travel, camping trips, and days on the lake with family. His handcrafted woodworking projects remain cherished reminders of his creativity, precision, and love.

John's humor was quick and perfectly timed; he could make anyone laugh, even in the hardest moments. His sharp mind, humble confidence, and gentle presence made him a steady and unforgettable part of every room.

To his children, John was a guiding light—a hero whose wisdom, patience, and humor shaped who they are today. He loved them deeply and took great pride in watching each of them build lives centered on family, fueled by an intellectual spark, and grounded in compassion—values he modeled every day.

He loved his family deeply—his wife, his children, and his grandchildren—and found great joy in watching his blended “Brady Bunch” grow together. He treated his stepchildren with the same love and

pride he gave his own, never making distinctions between them. In everything he did, he made it clear that family was chosen as much as it was given—and he always chose love.

John and Sue shared a partnership built on laughter, deep respect, and unwavering love. They were true companions and soulmates—best friends who built a life rich with warmth, good food, and shared adventures.

Above all, John lived as a man of integrity who believed that life should be experienced fully—with love, learning, and gratitude. His legacy continues in every meal shared, every project built, every story told, and every spark of wonder passed down through his family.

A celebration of John's life will be held at a later date, where family and friends will gather to toast a man who truly knew how to live. Holly Funeral Home of Waupaca is assisting the family with arrangements.





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Obituaries

Gloria Jensen

Gloria (Storandt) Jensen, age 90, of Oshkosh passed away peacefully at Aurora Medical Center, with her family by her side, on Monday October 27, 2025. She was born on May 27, 1935 to the late Raymond and Aagot (Hanson) Storandt on the family farm in Mindoro, WI.

She graduated from Melrose-Mindoro High School. After graduating high school, she worked for the 1st National Bank of La Crosse. She met Jacob Jensen in La Crosse, WI and they were married at English Lutheran Church in La Crosse on August 27, 1960.

Gloria and Jake moved to Oshkosh in 1960. She then worked at the 1st National Bank of Oshkosh up until she began having children. She was a member of First English Lutheran Church of Oshkosh. Gloria enjoyed bowling in league with her friends. She was an avid Milwaukee Brewers and Bucks fan. She was a wonderful cook and baker. She was a very caring and loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and aunt.

Gloria is survived by her husband Jacob, by her children, Terry Jensen and Tim (Stacy) Jensen; her grandsons, Pierce (Allison) Jensen and Landon Jensen, and her great-granddaughter Ava Jensen. She is also survived by several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Gloria was preceded in death by her in-laws Henry and Marie Jensen, her brother Reuben (Carol) Storandt, infant brother Raymond Storandt, sisters Margaret (Donald) Haag and Marcella (Robert) Koss, her nieces Nancy Somerville, Marjorie Windsor, Lori Koss; her nephews Kenneth and Michael Koss. She was also preceded in death by Jacob's siblings, Harold (Doris) Jensen, Donald Jensen, Marvel (Hilmar) Martinsen, and Arlene (Leonard) Jensen.

The family would like to give thanks to the caring staff at Oshkosh Aurora Hospital, the staff at Fresenius and Davita Kidney Care, and the caregivers at Oakwood Manor Assisted Living. Her Physicians and especially to Dr Edward Lake MD for his excellent care.

As per Gloria's wishes, a family graveside memorial will be held in Mindoro, WI.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Bonnie Jean Droessler

Bonnie Jean (Brayton) Droessler, 79, of Waterville, OH, passed away early September 15, 2025 at St Clare Commons.



She was born November 19, 1945 in Oshkosh, Wisconsin to Art and Bonnie (Flanagan) Brayton. She was one of four-teen children.

She graduated from Oshkosh High School in 1963.

She worked for many years, and retired from MCO (currently UTMCI) in Toledo, OH.

Bonnie dearly loved and rescued many

cats and had a passionate love for horses.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two of her brothers, Bob and Jeff.

Surviving are her two sons, Gregory Droessler of Waterville, OH and Paul Droessler of Columbus, OH; eleven brothers and sisters, Anne, Liz (Mike), Jane (Dick), Ellie, Cindy, Kate (Chris), Bev (Jim), Bill (Roberta), Tim (Gina), Don and Ed (Tami); very dear friend, Fae Leffler; and great friends and neighbors, Brenda, Mary Jo, and Donna.

She was loved by many and will be dearly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

In remembrance of Bonnie, the family asks that donations be made to your local Humane Society or pet shelter.

Hal Fox

Hal Fox died after a brief hospitalization on Tues. Oct. 28, 2025.



Hal was born in Dixon, IL Sept. 3, 1938 to Harold F. Fox, Sr. and Helen (Grabs) Fox. Hal grew up in Dixon until he was 16 years old. After his mother's death in 1955, he and his father moved to Plymouth, WI.

Hal met the love of his life Carol (Suhcke) at the beginning of their Junior year at Plymouth High School and married June 10, 1961. He is survived by Carol, his

daughter Ann E. Fox and son-in-law Kevin Virobik.

Hal graduated from Plymouth High School (Class of 1957). He joined the U.S. Navy after graduation and served in active duty as a Corpsman for the Marines and Seabees; he also served in the U.S. Army Reserve for a total of 22 years of military duty.

Hal obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1970 from Wisconsin State University-Oshkosh benefitting from the G.I. Bill. He worked as an Art Teacher in the Kimberly School District for 23 years.

Hal's interest in sculpture led him to found "Gold Creations" as a side hustle

where he created original-design, custom jewelry for friends and family.

Hal was an avid fisherman who loved catching Walleyes and Northerns in Northwest Ontario, Canada where he returned every summer for 50+ years releasing more than 99% of the fish he caught as part of his passion for sustainable conservation.

In retirement he and Carol traveled to all eight continents and more than 70 countries where he was able to visit many renowned art museums and galleries and to taste exotic cuisines. He and Carol especially enjoyed going on cruises as Hal never tired of going to sea.

Hal also enjoyed playing pool both in league play while wintering at Roadhaven in Arizona as well as casual play with friends at The Varsity Club in Oshkosh.

Hal was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Jim.

A visitation will be held from 9a – 11a on Friday, Nov. 14th immediately followed by a memorial service at 11a at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home located at 100 Lake Pointe Drive (off of Witzel) in Oshkosh, WI.



KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

James Knaggs

James (Jim) Knaggs, age 68, passed away unexpectedly on October 17, 2025, at St. Elizabeth Hospital. He was born to parents, Clifford and Leone (Harrison) Knaggs on December 16, 1956, in Oshkosh, WI.



He married the love of his life, Cynthia (Cindy or Lu) Stein-

ert on October 6, 1984, at the home of Al and Miriam Knaggs. Together, they raised a son, Zachary, and a daughter, Danielle.

Jim had a big heart, was selfless and was a good conversationalist. Skills that would carry over in his work and business in the community.

He loved living on the lake, hunting, fishing, cooking in the deer camp and learning about the weather. He also enjoyed his cocktails and spending time with family and friends.

Jim is survived by his loving wife, Cindy Knaggs; son, Zachary (See) Knaggs; brothers, Charles and Neil Knaggs; grandchildren, Evan, Ryan, Benjamin and Andrew; as well as many other family and friends.

Preceding him in death was his daughter, Danielle Knaggs; parents, Clifford and Leone Knaggs; father-in-law, Charles D. Steinert; and special aunt and uncle, Miriam and Al Knaggs.

A private family service will take place on November 8, at Lake View Memorial Park. On November 15, please join the family for a celebration of Jim's life. It will take place at Westward Ho from 4:00pm to 9:00pm, 4905 County Hwy S, Oshkosh. All children are welcome.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Covey, 1903 Algoma Blvd., Oshkosh, WI, 54901 or on their website at www.Covey.org.



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James C. Cahill

James C. Cahill, 91, passed away on November 1, 2025 in Oshkosh, WI. He was born on March 2, 1934. He married Beverly Ann on May 23, 1959 in Oshkosh, WI and together they had five children.



James was an avid outdoorsman, and was an active member

in many organizations, he was the Vice President of the National Wild Turkey Federation, Treasurer for Ducks Unlimited and he won educator of the year for Hunter's Safety. He also enjoyed wood-working and being an amateur photographer. He owned his own chainsaw sharpening business.

He is survived by daughters, Patti Cahill of Mars Hill, NC, Kelley Hale; sons, Kevin Ca-

hill, Brian (Apryl) Cahill of Flower Mound, TX, and Mike (Jackie) Cahill; grandchildren, Jason Stieg, Justin Stieg, Austin Swan, Stephanie Cahill, Jeremy Cahill, Marshall Cahill, Brady Cahill and Abigail Cahill; ; great-grandchildren, Jackson Stieg, Kai Cahill and Zane Stieg; brother, Harold Pagel and family. He is further survived by two sisters-in-law, and two brothers-in-law.

Preceding him are his wife, Beverly Cahill; son-in-law, Ron Hale; and grandson, Christopher Cahill.

A committal service will be held at Lake View Memorial Park in Oshkosh on Friday, November 14, 2025 at 11AM. A short gathering will take place immediately prior to services.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial is being established.



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Obituaries

Judy Groskreutz

Judy was welcomed into the loving arms of our Lord on October 27, 2025, after a hard-fought battle with cancer. She was born in Neillsville on March 10, 1946, the fourth child of 16 born to Bernard and Ruby Kuhn. The family lived on a farm and the children always had plenty of playmates. Judy graduated from Neillsville High School in 1964.

Judy graduated from beauty school and worked at salons before marrying her husband, Paul, in 1970. Judy & Paul had 4 children and the family lived for most of the kids' childhoods on a small hobby farm just outside of Oshkosh. In addition to raising her children, Judy worked at the family excavating business, taking care of all of the office work. The family also built rental properties and homes and, as a result, Judy definitely knew her way around a floorplan. She could be found often on jobsites – staining and varnishing all woodwork was her speciality.

She was a hard worker, but took time for vacation, too. The family enjoyed many camping trips throughout the US when they were younger. In her later years, she and Paul went on frequent trips with Tom's Christian Tours, went on cruises, and enjoyed countless performances at the Fireside Theater. Judy's favorite trip was one to New Zealand, Fiji, and Australia in 2007.

When grandchildren were born, she volunteered to babysit those that lived nearby. At her busiest, she watched five toddlers under the age of 5. But she loved it! As the grandkids grew older, sporting events, concerts, recitals, and plays were added to the mix. Judy attended every event that she could. Her bleacher seat cushions and lawn chairs became permanent fixtures in the car trunk for many years. She, of course, sported her school spiritwear or Grandma shirts most often.

She was a familiar face at Grace Lutheran Church & School. Many of her grandkids attended and she could be seen often dropping off or picking up a carload of them before and after school. Judy served on many committees there and volunteered countless hours of her time. She was a member of the Graceful Quilters, Prayer Circle, Lutheran Women's Missionary Society, and many others throughout the years.

Judy was always there to lend a helping hand, chair a committee, and of course, make delicious food. She was known for

her baking and desserts especially. Rhubarb custard pie, pink fluff, and birthday cakes & cupcakes were common requests from family and friends. Judy will be remembered for her generous spirit and unwavering love.

Judy will be dearly missed by her husband of 55 years, Paul Groskreutz, Sr, and children Jo (John) Stahl, Paul (Jen) Groskreutz, Jr, Geoff (Angie) Groskreutz, and Robin (Eric) Barber. Grandchildren Owen & Aly Stahl; Ethan & Carly Groskreutz; Kimberly Groskreutz; and Cody (Special Friend Lexi), Isaac (Fiancee Katelynn), and Blake Barber will all miss their Grandma Groskreutz, as well as great-grandchildren Hayden & Amelia.

She is further survived by siblings Patricia Sorenson, James (Becky) Kuhn, Ken (Eileen) Kuhn, Mildred Gumz, Wendell (Lin) Kuhn, Ed (Cheryl) Kuhn, Diane (David) Froehlich, Vickie Dux, Lois (John) Garbisch, Mary Ellen (Duane) Bol, Virginia (Michael Schlecht) Kuhn. Also surviving are her brothers-in-laws and sisters-in-laws Bev Schinschke, Pat Kramer, Jim (Sheila) Groskreutz, Ron (Kathy) Groskreutz, and Linda (Charles) Balch-List.

Many nieces, nephews, other family members and friends also survive Judy.

She was preceded in death by her parents; sisters Josephine (in infancy) and Sylvia; brothers Wayne (in infancy) and William; brothers-in-law DeWayne Dux, Elwood Hale, Thomas Sorenson, Larry Kramer, Lynx Balch, Dick Schinschke, Marlin Zellmer; sister-in-law Barb Zellmer.

The family would like to especially thank Vickie Dux, Susan, and Moments Hospice, for their loving care of Judy.

Funeral Services will be held at Grace Lutheran Church, 913 Nebraska St, Oshkosh, WI 54902, on Saturday, November 15, at 11:00 AM. Visitation will be from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. A lunch will follow the service in the church cafeteria. The family is working with Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts can be sent to Grace Lutheran Church at 913 Nebraska Street, Oshkosh WI 54902 for their debt reduction.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN FUNERAL HOMES

Betty Lou Ploetz

Betty Lou Ploetz, age 82 of Oshkosh, passed away on Sunday, November 2, 2025. Services are currently pending; a full obituary will follow. Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home, 920-231-1510.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN FUNERAL HOMES

Brett Voss

Although the world became a little less bright, Brett found his heavenly dwelling with Jesus on October 24, 2025. Brett was born on February 2, 1976, in Oshkosh, WI, to Larry and Trina Voss. He attended Grace Lutheran School Oshkosh, WI and graduated from Winnebago Lutheran Academy, Fond du Lac, WI in 1994. Brett found a love for cooking through his work experiences in high school at several restaurants which sparked his desire to attend and graduate from Pittsburg Culinary Arts College in Pittsburg, PA. Known for his infectious smile and unwavering kindness, Brett always put others before himself. His warmth was astonishing and will be greatly missed.

Brett loved cooking, music, hunting, fishing, his dogs and his people. He lived a lot of lives inside one. He traveled the country cooking but found his way back to Wisconsin where he worked the line until the wear and tear that claims so many chefs caught up to him. Instead of wallowing, he pivoted. Whatever came his way, he found a way through. And even when he wasn't getting paid to cook, he cooked! As a proud Freemason, he organized "A Helping of Hope," a 5-course dinner with all proceeds going to King Veteran's Home in Waupaca, WI for the past 2 years.

He left us way too soon, but that was Brett – he never waited around. He just lived, pivoted, pushed forward through whatever came at him - both the things' people saw and the things they didn't.

Brett leaves behind his wife of 16 years, Kelly (Kinderman) Voss; father, Larry Voss; sister, Tiffany (Jason) Vollrath and their children, Andrew, Taylor, and Anthony; father and mother-in-law, Craig and Bickey Kinderman; brother-in-law,

Kevin (Jennifer) Kinderman and their children Charlotte and Ava; brother-in-law, Kyle (Becca) Kinderman and their children Jack and Olive; as wells as uncles, aunts, cousins and his newly rescued dog, Sasha Lee.

Brett was reunited in Heaven with his momma, Trina Voss; 3 angel babies; and his soul dog, Leelee Pup.

There will be a visitation at the Oshkosh Masonic Temple (204 Washington Ave Oshkosh, WI) on Saturday, November 8 from 1:00 – 3:00 pm with a Masonic Funeral to follow.

To honor Brett's legacy and in lieu of flowers, the family respectfully asks to consider a donation to help with the unexpected funeral expenses. Donations can be made via Venmo to his wife, @kellyvoss76, or to their GoFundMe page: Kelly.Brett Voss GoFundMe


Isaiah 57:1-2

The righteous perish,
and no one takes it to heart;
the devout are taken away,
and no one understands
that the righteous are taken away
to be spared from evil.
²Those who walk uprightly
enter into peace;
they find rest as they lie in death.


Ecclesiastes 12:7

And the dust returns to the ground
it came from, and the spirit returns to
God who gave it.

"Sometimes it hurts, it even breaks your heart. But that's ok. The journey changes you. It should change you. It leaves a mark on your memory, on your consciousness, on your heart, and in your body. You take something with you. Hopefully, you leave something good behind." Anthony Bourdain.



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Veterans Day

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month people around the world remember the soldiers who have fought in wars.

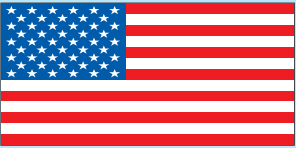
It was started after World War I. More soldiers had died in WWI than in any other war before that one. An Australian journalist by the name of George Honey asked people around the world to observe two minutes of silence at 11:00 a.m. as the treaty to end the war was signed.

Color this flag. Cut it out and display it in a window on Veterans Day, November 11.

Flags: A High-Flying Tradition

People fly the American flag on Veterans Day. How many times a day do you see the flag?

Every country in the world has a flag. A flag is a **symbol** of a country. A symbol is a picture that tells us something without using words.



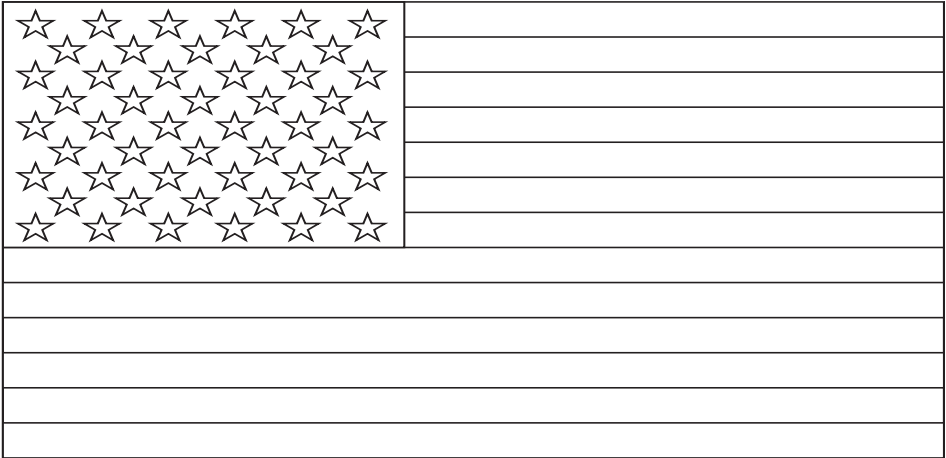
The American flag has a blue corner section with white stars, called the **union**. The rest of the flag has red and white stripes.

Why stars and stripes?

Stars are considered a symbol of big dreams. When we say, "Reach for the stars," it means dream big.

The stripes are symbolic of the rays of light emanating from the sun.

There are 50 stars representing the 50 states and there are 13 stripes representing the 13 original states. Red symbolizes hardiness and valor. White is for purity and innocence. The blue represents justice.



THANK YOU VETERANS!

The Six Branches of the U.S. Military

Men and women who serve in our military are called veterans. Veterans Day is a day to thank them for their service defending our nation. Use the code to discover the six branches of the American military.

SECRET CODE	
Red square	= A
Blue square	= C
Yellow square	= D
Green square	= E
Purple square	= F
Orange square	= G
Brown square	= H
Pink square	= I
Grey square	= L
White square	= M
Red circle	= N
Blue circle	= O
Yellow circle	= P
Green circle	= R
Purple circle	= S
Orange circle	= T
Brown circle	= U
Pink circle	= V
Grey circle	= Y

How many stars can you find on this page? Have a friend try. Who found the most stars?

Circle every third letter to discover a nickname of the American flag.

ODFLJSDWV
GBNLQLOB
CRUGY





Extra! Extra! Veterans Day Words





Look through the newspaper for five or more words that describe a veteran. Put the words into ABC order.

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Here are some common symbols. Circle each one you have seen. Underneath each symbol, write what it means.





Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

VETERANS MILITARY COUNTRY SYMBOL PURITY SECRET NATION DREAM VALOR STARS LIGHT FLAG CODE BLUE





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

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

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

Kid Scoop Together Flag Etiquette

There are rules for flying the American flag that help people show their flag the proper respect.



- Flags are flown at half-mast to show grief for lives lost. When the flag is flown at half-mast, it should first be raised to the top of the flag pole for a moment and then lowered slowly to the half-mast position.
- The union (stars and blue panel) should always be in the upper left corner when a flag is displayed as shown above.
- The flag shouldn't be flown in bad weather. When possible it should be taken down at night. If the flag is flown at night, it should be illuminated by a spotlight.
- The flag should never touch the ground.
- When a flag becomes old or damaged, it can be donated to a local Scouting troop for proper disposal.

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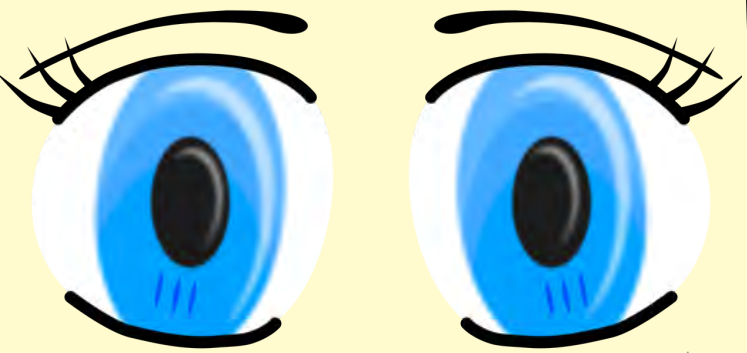
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