



The Oakfield Difference

Our Roots Run Deep - Our Branches Stretch Far

March 2024

Oakfield School District, 250 E. Church St., Oakfield, WI 53065



Senior Spotlight - Aly Lamonska

Where do you plan to attend college next year?
UWSP for Wildlife Ecology

Favorite High School Memory?
Senior Skip Day

Which teacher made the biggest impact on your life? Ms. Lagore, I wouldn't have gotten through high school without her

What is your favorite class?
Spanish 4

What advice do you have for underclassmen?
Do your work, it's not that hard

What will you miss most about high school?
Softball



Beater of the Month - Westin Bass

Years you have owned it: Half a year

Nickname: The DD (Designated Driver)

Special Features? Sports mode

Favorite Feature? Can drive itself

Favorite Memory? Brakes locking up



Middle School Student of the Month - Adeline Mouw

Favorite Teacher? Mrs. Kintzler

Favorite Subject? ELA

Favorite Sport? Softball

Favorite Color? Baby blue / light pink

If you could have a superpower, what would it be? Teleportation so I won't be so late to softball practice or other stuff.

School District of Oakfield Announces Selection of Next District Administrator

Oshkosh Area School District Principal Sarah Poquette to lead the District beginning July 1.

OAKFIELD, WIS. – The School District of Oakfield has selected Dr. Sarah Poquette as the District Administrator, effective July 1, 2024. Pending board approval on Monday, March 11, Poquette will succeed Tracey Conners, who will retire on June 30 after leading the District for three years.

Board President Paul Dercks said that Poquette will continue moving the district forward. "In a group of three excellent candidates, Sarah's experience, knowledge, and personality stood out as an excellent fit within the School District of Oakfield," said Dercks. "We are really looking forward to having her on board and to all that's ahead for our District with her at the helm."

Poquette comes to Oakfield from the Oshkosh Area School District, where she has served as principal of Perry Tipler Middle School and ALPs Charter school since 2019. Additionally, Poquette has served the Oshkosh Area School District in several other capacities since 2001, including principal at Merrill Elementary School; math intervention, gifted and talented and professional development teacher at Merrill and Oaklawn Elementary Schools; Lighted School House project director and 5th grade teacher at Webster Stanley Elementary School; and district-wide peer coach. She has also held several committee and leadership positions within the District, including her service as the co-chair for EPCOT (Emergency Preparedness Collaborative Operations Team) since 2016 and principal mentor since 2010.

Poquette holds a bachelor's degree in education from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, a master's degree in educational leadership from Marian College, and a doctorate in educational leadership and policy from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

"I am really excited to start working alongside and building relationships with the School District of Oakfield staff, Board of Education, and community," said Poquette. "Together, we will continue building and growing, with an emphasis on advocating for students and creating additional opportunities for their success. It is an honor to have been selected and I look forward to serving the District"

Poquette's position as District Administrator will officially begin July 1, 2024.

About the School District of Oakfield:

The School District of Oakfield serves more than 500 students in grades PreK-12. The "Mighty Oaks" community is dedicated to planting seeds of knowledge, nurturing the whole child, achieving academic excellence, and enhancing educational opportunities while remaining firmly rooted in strong community partnerships. A rigorous curriculum, newly-renovated learning environments, and a broad range of curricular and co-curricular opportunities all aim to empower students to flourish and reach their full potential. Two school buildings, Oakfield Elementary School, serving students in grades 4K-5, and Oakfield Middle/High School, serving students in grades 6-12, serve as home to our students, as well as a community childcare center.

For more information, follow the District on Facebook @oakfieldschools or Instagram @oakfield_schools or visit the website at oakfield.k12.wi.us.

For release: March 8, 2024
 Contacts: Paul Dercks
 Board of Education President
 pdercks@oakfield.k12.wi.us
 Ted Neitzke, CEO, CESA 6
 tneitzke@cesa6.org

Non Profit Org
 ECRWSSEDDM
 U.S. Postage PAID
 Oakfield, WI
 Permit No. 4

POSTAL PATRON

Highlights

- PAGE 2: Principal's Messages
- PAGE 3: District Administrator Message
- PAGE 4-5: Solo Ensemble - Band/Choir
- PAGE 6-7: MS/OHS Sports
- PAGE 8: MS/OHS Scoreboard
- PAGE 9: Community
- PAGE 10-11: Hello Spring
- PAGE 12: School Board Minutes
- PAGE 13-15: Funeral/Prison Field Trips
- PAGE 16-19: U.S. History Family Research
- PAGE 20: Communication Form/Calendar

Dates to Know

Spring Break March 25-29, 2024
 No School

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The School District of Oakfield does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, age, sex (including gender status, change of sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity), pregnancy, creed or religion, genetic information, or disability in its education programs or activities. Federal law prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap and/or any other characteristics prohibited by State or Federal law. If any person believes that the School District of Oakfield or any part of the school organization has failed to follow the law and rules of s.118.13 Wis.Stat. or in some way discriminates against individuals on the basis listed above, send a complaint to the administration office at the following address: Oakfield District Office, 250 E Church St Oakfield, WI 53065.

Message From Mr. Brown



What a great winter season. Oakfield had our latest state wrestling qualifier in FRESHMAN Austin Harmsen (who won a match at state!) AND we had five (5!) students that qualified for state in powerlifting: Treyden Marchenkuski, Noah Patterson, Marissa Kottke, Bailey Schepp and Lainey Schepp. Our girls basketball and co-op hockey teams capped their season at the regional finals, and our boys basketball has the opportunity to make a deep postseason run. Our bowling team finished a successful season and our boys swim co-op supported students in ways we cannot here at the MS/HS. We had another truly amazing winter sports season!

March 18 at 6:00pm is the sports banquet. Mr. Mock will be sending information out in the near future. All high school students involved in a sport and their families will be invited to this event.

The momentum our athletic and co-curricular teams have given us all a continued sense of school pride. We are expecting our sports success to translate to classroom achievement. The Junior ACT test and Pre-ACT for freshmen and sophomores as well as the 6-8th grade Forward Test is looming large. I feel a positive vibe and improved attitude amongst our student body. Spring is definitely in the air.

Our building is fully functional. At this point we are finalizing all minor tweaks and focusing on improving the branding, positive messages, and building a sense of Oak Pride throughout!

Please do not hesitate to reach out if there is anything we can do to improve the climate and culture of our school!

It is truly a great time to be a Mighty Oak!

Timothy J. Brown
Middle and High School Principal
tbrown@oakfield.k12.wi.us
(920) 583-3958

March and April: Dates to Note

Monday, March 25 - Friday, March 29: No School: Spring Break

Friday-Saturday-Sunday April 5-6-7: Spring Musical: Beauty and the Beast at OES

Sunday, April 7: FFA Alumni Toy Show at MS/HS

Monday, April 8: School Board Meeting 5:30 at MS/HS Library

Tuesday, April 9: Freshmen and Sophomore pre-ACT Test Date: All other students 6-8 and 11-12 virtual

Wednesday, April 10: FFA Banquet

Saturday, April 13: High School Prom at The Rock in Waupun

Wednesday, April 17: National Honor Society Induction

Monday, April 22: School Board Meeting 5:30 at MS/HS Library

Sunday, April 28: Lions Club Pancake Breakfast at MS/HS

Message from Mrs. Doyle



Wow! We are in the third trimester already! Report cards went home recently, and now staff and students turn their focus to the Wisconsin Forward Exam Testing, growing academic skills, and finishing the year strong. April is a month of great focus on academics. We are working hard to master as much curriculum as possible in the last trimester of school. This can be the biggest growth period for students. Please continue to set your child up for success each day by keeping the nightly routines at home with bedtimes, backpacks, homework, and time to connect as a family in place. Spring brings new activities at night and more daylight, so stay diligent with routines.

We are also busy registering new students for the 2024 - 2025 school year. Last, if you haven't done so already, please make sure you register any 4K students for the upcoming school year. This will allow us to plan for enrollment numbers. Students must be 4 years or older on or before September 1, 2024.

Keep working hard Oakfield Elementary students and families. It is a team approach to guide kids on their learning journey. I am proud of all the hard work, celebrations, and conversations happening to support kids!

Mrs. Doyle
-Oakfield Elementary Principal



Message from Ms. Conners



Dear Oakfield Families & Community Members,

Exciting updates are coming to Oakfield Elementary school! We're thrilled to announce our renovation project, designed to enhance safety and improve facilities for our students. Here's what you can look forward to:

1. **Safe entrances:** The main office area will feature secure entrances, ensuring a safe environment for everyone. Additionally, the main office and health room will undergo renovations to better serve our school community.
2. **Energy-efficient lighting:** Say hello to retrofitted LED lighting throughout the entire building, contributing to sustainability efforts and providing a bright, welcoming atmosphere.
3. **Special Education room enhancements:** We're renovating the Special Education room to better meet the diverse needs of our students, ensuring an inclusive and supportive learning environment.
4. **Updated 4-year-old kindergarten room:** Our youngest learners deserve the best! The 4-year-old kindergarten room, that was the choir room, will receive updated cabinetry that includes a sink, paint, flooring and an ensuite bathroom for added convenience and supervision.
5. **Bathroom remodels:** We're giving the bathrooms outside the gym a complete makeover, and reconfiguring the childcare entrance to enhance safety measures.

These improvements are a testament to our commitment to providing a top-notch educational experience for all students here in Oakfield. We appreciate your support and patience as we work to create an even better learning environment for our elementary students. These renovations will take place over the summer. Stay tuned for more updates as the project progresses!

Preparing for the New District Administrator,

It has been my privilege to serve as the Oakfield School District's Administrator for the past three years. After the announcement of my retirement, the Board interviewed candidates and selected Sarah Poquette to succeed me starting July 1, 2024. Sarah and I will begin to plan her transition into the district over the next few months. The most important item we will plan for is the successful renewal of the operational referendum that we currently have in place. The School District of Oakfield currently has an Operational Referendum of \$1.1 million per year that allows the district additional funds above the state's revenue limit cap. This referendum is essential for funding staff salaries, benefits, and annual maintenance and supplies. Renewing this operating referendum in November of 2024 is crucial for the district's financial stability. The district is not asking for more money from the community, we are asking you to continue the funding at the same level in order to sustain the momentum of success in our schools we have been building. Oakfield has a strong tradition of supporting the education of our young people. We will continue to keep you informed as the district moves forward with both the transition of administrators as well as plans for the operational referendum in November.

Thank you,
Tracey Conners
District Administrator
School District of Oakfield



Band Solo and Ensemble

On Saturday, February 17th, Oakfield band students traveled to Wayland Academy in Beaver Dam for the Trailways North Conference District Solo and Ensemble Festival. Sixteen band students performed in twenty events during the day. This was a brand new experience for seven of Oakfield's performers.

A special note of congratulations goes to Leyton Batchelder and Autumn Dubey who will each be performing a solo and their duet at State Festival in April!



A complete list of the ratings from this event are as follows:

Class A I*

- Leyton Batchelder - clarinet solo
- Autumn Dubey - flute solo
- Autumn Dubey and Leyton Batchelder - flute and clarinet duet

Class B I

- Dannica Hartwig - flute solo
- Elisha Hartwig - snare drum solo

Class B II

- Georgie Jewson - trumpet solo

Class C I

- Lola Braker - euphonium solo
- Addie Dubey - euphonium solo
- Addie Dubey - trumpet solo
- Dannica Hartwig - alto sax solo
- Aria Husak - trumpet solo
- Braelinn Vielbig - timpani solo
- Isabel Weber - trumpet solo
- Lola Braker and Abby Engelbert - euphonium duet
- Addie Dubey and Isabel Weber - trumpet duet
- Dannica Hartwig and Elisha Hartwig - flute and bell duet

Class C II

- Owen Engelbert - oboe solo
- Eli Freund - timpani solo
- Chace Schuh - trumpet solo
- Caelynn Shepherd and Mason VanStraten - tenor sax and trumpet duet



High School Students of the Month



**Senior
Bailey Schepp**

'Bailey continues to lead by example, both in the classroom and throughout our school community.'

**Junior
Tysen Craig**

'Tysen works extremely hard no matter what. He gives his best effort every day!'

**Sophomore
Leyton Batchelder**

'Leyton brings his A game everyday. Very respectful student who crushes it day in and day out in the classroom!'

**Freshman
Owen Engelbert**

'Owen has been very respectful in class and has taken initiative to improve if he needs it. Thanks for the great work!'



Choir Members Perform Well at Solo-Ensemble

Between Saturday, February 17th and Saturday, March 2nd, vocal music students from Oakfield High School and Oakfield Middle School participated in the Trailway North Conference Solo-Ensemble Festivals.

Students receiving starred (*) 1st ratings will perform at the state festival at UW-Oshkosh on April 27th.

A complete list of the ratings from this event are as follows:

Class A 1*

- Mekena Gerlikovski ~ vocal solo
- Bailey Schepp ~ vocal solo
- Mackenzie Liebelt ~ vocal solo
- Bethany Braker ~ vocal solo
- Annabella Hartwig ~ vocal solo
- Mekena Gerlikovski ~ musical theater solo
- Madeline Marschie ~ musical theater solo
- Mekena Gerlikovski and Bailey Schepp ~ vocal duet

Class A I

- Hannah Gurno ~ vocal solo
- Chloe Gudex ~ vocal solo
- Gwen Fisher ~ vocal solo
- Madeline Marschie ~ vocal solo
- Annabella Hartwig ~ musical theater solo
- Bethany Braker ~ musical theater solo
- Madelyn Adamson ~ musical theater solo
- Willow Berndt ~ vocal solo

Class A II

- Annabella Hartwig and Mackenzie Liebelt ~ vocal duet
- Isabel Weber ~ vocal solo
- Madelyn Adamson ~ vocal solo

Class A III

- Willow Berndt ~ musical theater solo

Class B I

- Kealeigh Willett ~ vocal solo
- Caleb Simmons ~ vocal solo
- Addie Dubey ~ vocal solo
- Clare Haase ~ vocal solo
- Dannica Hartwig ~ vocal solo
- Clara Hartwig ~ vocal solo
- Clara Hartwig ~ piano solo

Class C I

- Evelyn Kottke ~ vocal solo
- Ayanah Adams ~ vocal solo
- Spencer Geidel ~ vocal solo
- Avery Bruggink ~ vocal solo
- Joy Simmons ~ vocal solo
- Wynsor Berndt ~ vocal solo
- Sloan Morris ~ vocal solo
- Addie Mouw ~ vocal solo
- Arianna Schroeder ~ vocal solo
- Lucy Potratz ~ vocal solo
- Henry Daniels ~ vocal solo
- Kealeigh Willett and Chris Gruetzmacher ~ vocal duet
- Arianna Schroeder and Lucy Potratz ~ vocal duet
- Clara Hartwig and Dannica Hartwig ~ vocal duet
- Evan Harmsen, Caleb Fisher, Victor Hilbert, Bennett Bovee, Garrett Drazkowski and Clayton Marschie ~ vocal solo ensemble

Class C III

- Branson Nell ~ vocal solo

CONGRATULATIONS to all of these students on their outstanding performances!!



On Tuesday, March 5th, nine members of the Oakfield High School Choir traveled to Ripon to participate in the Ripon College Rally Choir Festival. They worked under the direction of Paul Thompson along with 170 other students from 10 different schools. They rehearsed for the better part of the day and performed a concert at 4:15.





Conference Champions



Oakfield Boys Basketball claimed the 2023-24 Trailways East Conference Championship this year. The Oaks conference record was 11-3. They finished their season with an 19-8 overall record. Congratulations on an outstanding season!

OHS Wrestling

Austin Harmsen had a historic freshman season as he qualified for the state tournament. His postseason started with an individual conference championship as he avenged a loss from earlier in the season in the finals. The following week he headed to regionals where he won his first match by pin. He lost a highly competitive semi-final 11-10, but came back in the third-place match with a dominant 10-2 victory, se-

curing a bid in sectionals. At the sectional Austin again opened up with a dominant 9-2 win. He then moved to the semifinal match where he faced the wrestler that won Austin's regional the week before. Austin was able to tough out a 5-2 victory punching his ticket to state and making the sectional final. In the final Austin faced a wrestler that he had lost to earlier in the season. This time around Austin turned the tables and was leading 4-0 when he pinned his opponent claiming the sectional championship. At the state tournament Austin found himself wrestling the same wrestler in the first round that he faced in the sectional final. Oddly enough, he was seeded three places ahead of Austin. Austin left no doubt as he was leading 11-0 in the second period when he pinned his opponent and made it to the second day of the tournament. On day two Austin lost two matches to wrestlers who eventually placed second and fifth at the state tournament. When his season came to a close, Austin had established a new school record for wins in a season at 43 and tied the school's single-season mark of pins with 28. In addition to a conference and sectional championship, Austin won two other invitationals. An excellent season overall!



State High School Powerlifting

The Wisconsin High School Powerlifting Association State Championships meet was held on March 2nd and March 3rd. Oakfield's Powerlifting team had 4 members compete. Lainey Schepp, Marissa Kottke, and Noah Patterson were in the morning session, Treyden Marchenkuski was in the afternoon session. The meet overall was a success for the Powerlifting team.

Here is each lifters performance and placing:

Lainey Schepp took 19th place in the 56kg (123lb) weight class. She went 8/9 on attempts. Her squat opener was 77.5kg (171 lbs) and the final successful attempt was 95kg (209 lbs). Bench opener was 37.5kg (83lbs) and final successful attempt was 42.5kg (94 lbs). Deadlift opener was 97.5kg (215lbs) and finished strong with 110kg (243 lbs).

Marissa Kottke took 7th place in the 60kg (132lb) weight class. She went 5/9 on attempts. Her squat opener was 102.5kg (226 lbs) and the final successful attempt was 107.5kg (237 lbs). Bench opener was 55kg (121lb) and was her final successful bench. Deadlift opener was 127.5kg (281 lbs) and finished with 132.5kg (292 lbs).

Noah Patterson took 14th place in the 67.5kg (148lb) weight class. He went an impressive 9/9 on attempts. His squat opener was 132.5kg (292 lbs) and final successful attempt was 145kg (320lb). Bench opener was 85kg (187lb) and final successful attempt was 95kg (209 lbs). Deadlift opener was 182.5kg (402lbs) and finished with an even 200kg (441 lbs).

High School Spring Sport Season

- Track & Field** Practice Start: March 4, 2024
Game Start: March 12, 2024
State: May 31- June 1, 2024
- Softball** Practice Start: March 11, 2024
Game Start: March 19, 2024
State: June 6-8, 2024
- Baseball** Practice Start: March 18, 2024
Game Start: March 26, 2024
State: June 10-13, 2024
- Golf** Practice Start: March 25, 2024
Game Start: March 28, 2024
State: June 3-4, 2024
- Boys Tennis** Practice Starts: March 25, 2024
Matches Start: March 29, 2024
State: June 7-8, 2024
- G. Soccer** Practice Start: March 18, 2024
Game Start: March 26, 2024
State: June 13-15, 2024
- Trap** Season: March thru May

Middle School Spring Sport Season

- MS Volleyball**
Practice Starts: February 7th, 2024
Matches Start: February 15th, 2024
- MS Baseball**
Practice Starts: March 27th, 2024
Game Start: Early April , 2024
- MS Softball**
Practice Starts: March 28th, 2024
Game Start: Early April
- MS Tr & FD**
Practice Start: March 28th, 2024
Game Start: Early April
- MS Trap**
Practice Start: March-Early May

OHS Receives Scholarship

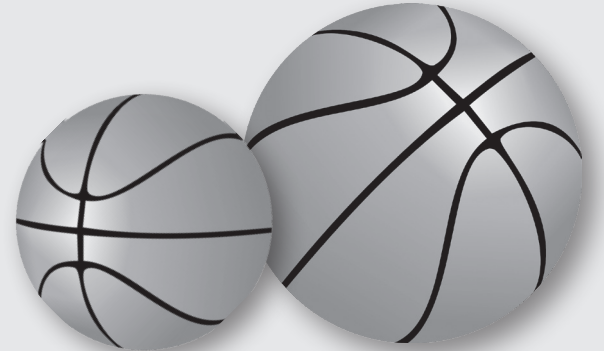
Oakfield High School received the Amazon Project STEM scholarship/sponsorship for the 2024-25 school year. This sponsorship is provided by Amazon's Project STEM progra. This program provides resources for the high school STEM classes, specifically the computer and coding classes.

Congratulations Oakfield High School!



Girls High School Basketball 2023-24 Trailways Conference – Basketball All Conference 2023-24 Girls Basketball East

<u>First Team</u>	<u>Second Team</u>	<u>Honorable Mention</u>
Lucia McGuinness : Senior	Ella Slusarski : Senior	Krista Sabel : Junior
Stella Hofman : Senior	Maria Jose Acon : Senior	Tabitha Buwalda : Junior
Anna Y Giannopoulos : Senior	Emma Carpenter : Senior	Charley Mullen : Senior
Emma Hoffman : Senior	Cyri Reinwald : Junior	Lizzie Fink : Sophomore
Jorja Hofman : Junior	Samantha Braskamp : Junior	Taylor Hoffman : Junior
Hailee Bauer : Junior	Mallory Kohn : Junior	
Delaney Ruedinger : Junior		



OAKFIELD THEATER

PROUDLY PRESENTS

Disney
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST



Friday April 5, 2024 7:00 p.m.
Saturday April 6, 2024 7:00 p.m.
Sunday April 7, 2024 2:00 p.m.

Oakfield Elementary School gym
200 E White St. Oakfield WI 53065

Tickets sales begin

Monday March 4, 2024

Oakfield High School office & at the door

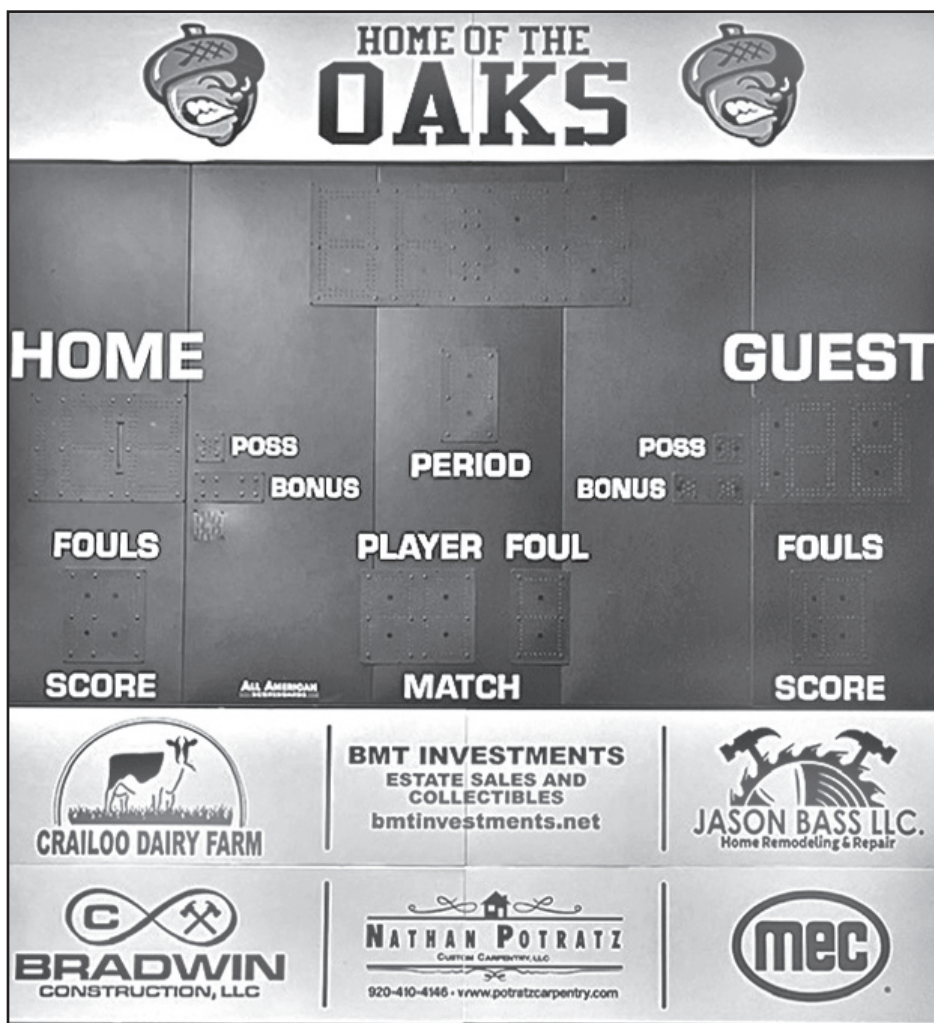
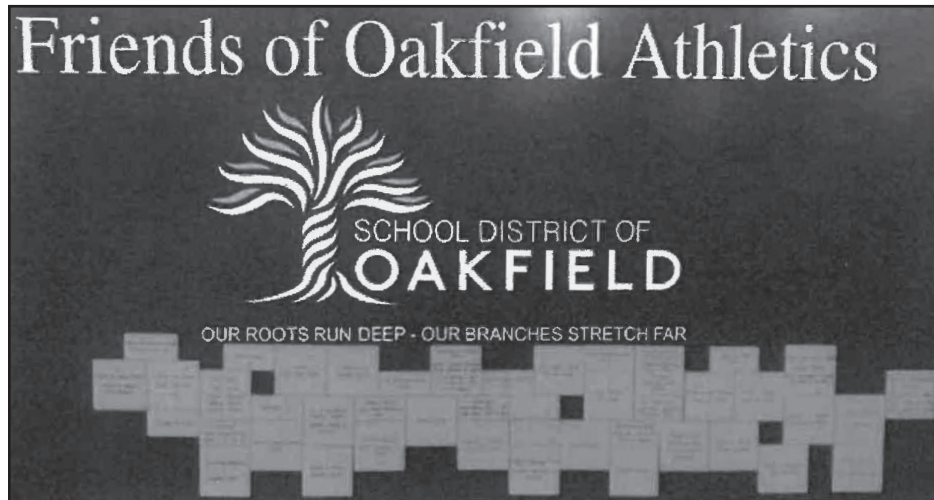
Adults \$10.00-Seniors \$5.00-Students \$5.00

Music by Alan Menken Lyrics by Howard Ashman Book by Linda Woolverton
Tim Rice

Disney's Beauty & the Beast JR. is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized materials are supply by Music Theatre International, New York, NY. Mtishows.com

Hello Oak Nation,

We are moving forward with the installation of two new scoreboards in the MS/HS gym. We are also upgrading our stream link that will provide a better viewing experience and an onscreen scoreboard. The school district is offering two different ways for families or businesses to help financially support these upgrades. **GO OAKS!!**



Gym Brick: Is to purchase a brick for the sign that is located on the wall behind the ticket table when you enter the gym on the Oakfield side.

3" X 6" with text is \$75.00

*6" X 6" with text is \$100.00

Oakfield Gymnasium Bricks

The School District of Oakfield has committed funds to update and modernize the Middle School/ High School. We are bringing back the opportunity for you to purchase a "Brick/Plate" in the gym. Proceeds from the initial "Brick" sale helped pay for the wan board and score table. There is still a need to replace the scoreboards which are very outdated and will need attention in the future. Purchase a printed "brick" on the new wall. Families, individuals, companies. All are welcome.

Option 1: 3 x 6 with text \$75.00

Option 2: 6 x 6 with text \$100.00

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Option 1: _____

Option 2: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Text for bricks:

Mail to:
Oakfield School District
PO BOX 39
Oakfield, WI 53065

Scoreboard Advertisement: Is to purchase a panel that surrounds the scoreboards. It is a financial commitment of \$2500.00 for a five-year placement of your business advertisement. Payment can be an annual payment of \$500.00 or a one-time payment of the full amount.

Oakfield Scoreboard Ad Panel

The School District of Oakfield Is offering business and community members the opportunity to purchase an ad panel that surrounds the new scoreboards in the MS/HS Gymnasium.

It is a financial commitment of **\$2500.00** for a five-year placement of your message. *Payment can be an annual payment of \$500.00 or a one-time payment of the full amount.*

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

The School District will need a jpeg file of your business logo, to be displayed on the board.



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
OAKFIELD

Pajama Donation

Oakfield Elementary 3rd graders donated over 75 pajamas to the Fond du Lac County Social Services Department.



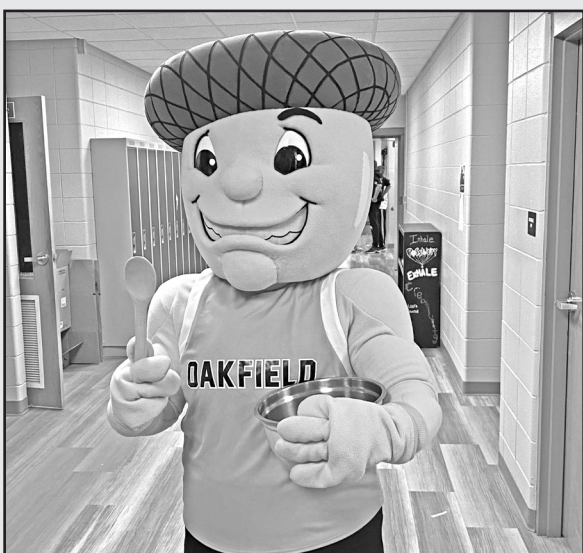
Cereal Box Domino Challenge



Oakfield Middle School partnered with Do Good Wisconsin for a second year, and participated in the Cereal Box Domino Challenge! Students competed with the middle school Oakrichment classes to see who could collect the most boxes of cereal. After 2 weeks of collecting, the middle school had collected 226 boxes of cereal, which was a significant increase from the 139 boxes we had collected last year.

On Friday, March 1, students gathered to build and record the domino effect with the cereal boxes! Fun was had by all! The video was edited and submitted to Do Good Wisconsin, where it will be compared with other like-sized schools, to determine who had the most boxes, and most creative video! We eagerly await hearing how the Oakfield video compared to others!

A HUGE SHOUTOUT to Ms. Newhouse and her 7th grade Oakrichment, together they collected 100 BOXES OF CEREAL! Because of the generosity of our students and families, we were able to donate 40 boxes of cereal to the Oakfield food pantry.



✚ Blood Drive ✚

Our March 1 Blood Drive yielded 53 units thanks to our wonderful donors who once again stepped up to make this drive a success. We would like to thank the following students for coming over to help take down chairs and unload the Red Cross Truck: Megan Miller, Austin Harmsen, Henry Drazkowski, Sara Testroete. Rhyan Vielbig, who will be coordinating Summer Drive, was their getting some hands-on training. Rhyan will be looking for a helper for the summer, so if anyone is interested, please contact her. Thank you Etta Held (representing the Lutheran Church) for the delicious treats. We so very much appreciate the kind donation of cheese, thank you Knaus Cheese for that.

Lions, Al, Jeff, Stuart, Mary, Diane, and Gail help with the food and picking up, thank you.

Our next drive is

May 3rd

at the Oakfield Community Center.

Karen Bovee Kern, Blood Drive

General Mill Box Tops is DIGITAL

Box Tops is a program that the Oakfield Elementary School has participated in for years to earn funds for the library.



BUY BOX TOPS PRODUCTS

Earn for schools with HUNDREDS of products from brands you love.



SCAN YOUR RECEIPT

Use the Box Tops app to submit your receipt within 14 days of purchase.



EARN CASH FOR SCHOOLS

Box Tops products are identified and earnings are credited online.

Learn More:
boxtops4education.com

Earning is Easy!





Springtime Experiences Help Children Connect with Nature

April 3, 2023 | Cindy Thompson

AMES, Iowa – According to an old saying, April showers bring May flowers. However, according to research, April showers also provide rich outdoor learning experiences for children, says Cindy Thompson, human sciences specialist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

“It is important for children to experience the outdoors during each season, but spring is an especially unique time to watch the world wake up from winter – with fun-filled puddles, squishy mud, earth worms and so much more,”

said Thompson, who specializes in family wellbeing.

Research gathered by the Children and Nature Network highlights many benefits of being in the outdoors. Children who spend time outdoors are more active, less likely to be overweight, have more balance and coordination, and are less likely to need glasses. Research also supports behavioral benefits to children being outdoors, such as increased concentration, creativity, problem solving and cooperative behavior, the Children and Nature Network reported.

“Spending time outdoors also has been shown over and over again to reduce cortisol levels, which is the hormone linked to stress, in both children and adults,” Thompson said. “Being outside helps us feel happier and less stressed.”

The challenge for many families, though, is the belief that there just isn’t time. Spring often brings new sports schedules, religious events, graduations, and for many families, fieldwork or changes in work schedules.

“Managing the day-to-day tasks of family life brings its own type of stress,” Thompson said, “but spending even brief periods of time in nature can help calm nerves and reconnect children and parents to each other.”

An important element of getting outdoors in the spring is accepting messiness. Children’s natural curiosity draws them to puddles, mud and new things to see in the spring. “Embrace the messiness and plan ways to support this curiosity,” Thompson said.

Keep old shoes or rain boots easily accessible. “You can also use bread sacks as an easy shoe protector for little feet,” said Thompson. Use the extra daylight for a quick walk around the yard or neighborhood to look for flowers and grasses starting to grow.

Sit on the back porch and listen

for birds. “Children experience the world through their senses. Seeing, listening, touching and even tasting are ways to engage children in the benefits of being outdoors,” Thompson said.

ISU Extension and Outreach offers educational opportunities for early childhood professionals to help them nurture children’s sense of wonder and transform their preschool or child care play spaces into fun, joyful areas where children can explore nature. Participants are eligible for professional development credit approved by Iowa’s Department of Health and Human Services.

“Parents can encourage their child care providers to take advantage of this education from ISU Extension and Outreach. It’s another way to provide opportunities for children to experience nature,” Thompson said.

About the Authors:

Cindy Thompson
Human Sciences Extension and Outreach
Family Life
319-334-8013
cpthom08@iastate.edu

Springtime Experiences Help Children Connect with Nature. (April 3, 2023). News. <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/springtime-experiences-help-children-connect-nature>



Photo credit: Maria Sbytova/stock.adobe.com

SEASONS

EASTER

TULIP

MAY

KITE

WARM

RAIN

SPRING

MARCH

PUDDLE

APRIL FOOLS

NEST

SHOWER

UMBRELLA

APRIL

MELTS

ACROSS

- 4. Rain or sun protection
- 6. Flying a _____ is the perfect windy day activity
- 8. What snow does in Spring
- 10. Where a bird lays its eggs
- 12. A brief period of rain
- 13. First month of Spring
- 15. A day for playing tricks
- 16. Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter

DOWN

- 1. Fourth month of the year
- 2. A small accumulation of water
- 3. Not cold or hot
- 5. Drops of water that fall from clouds
- 7. The day kids hunt for eggs
- 9. A Spring flower
- 11. The season after winter
- 14. Mother's Day is celebrated this month

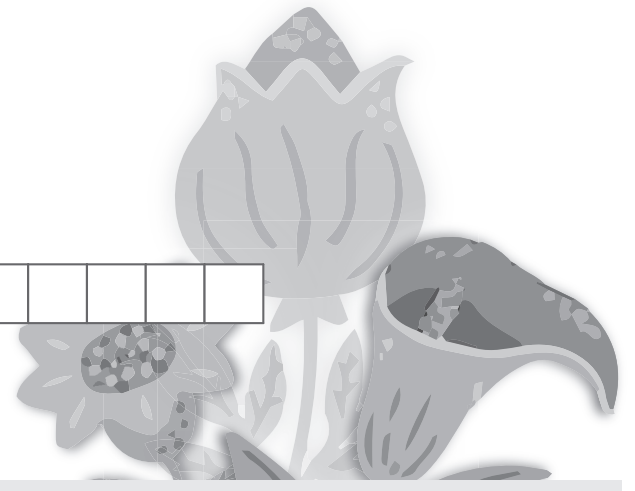
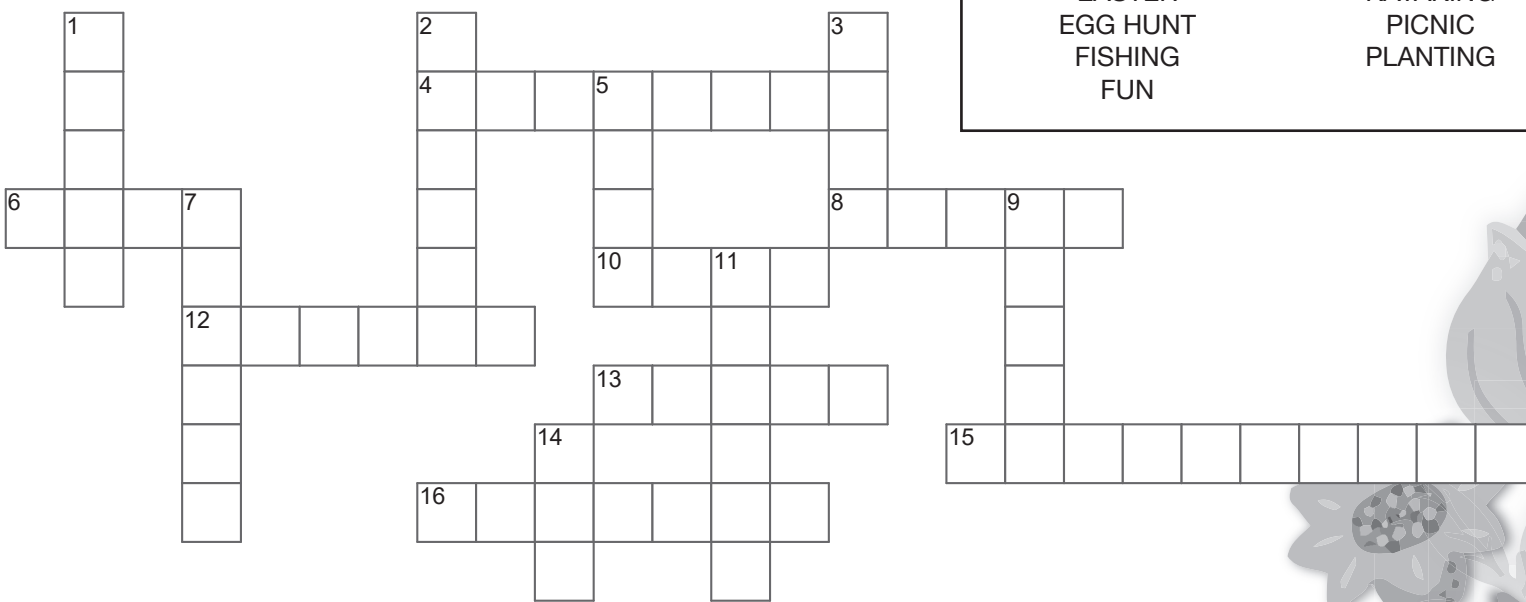
SPRING ACTIVITIES

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

BASEBALL
 BIKE RIDING
 CLEANING
 EASTER
 EGG HUNT
 FISHING
 FUN

GARDENING
 GOLF
 HIKING
 KAYAKING
 PICNIC
 PLANTING

RELAXING
 ROAD TRIP
 SOCCER
 SWIMMING
 TENNIS
 VACATION

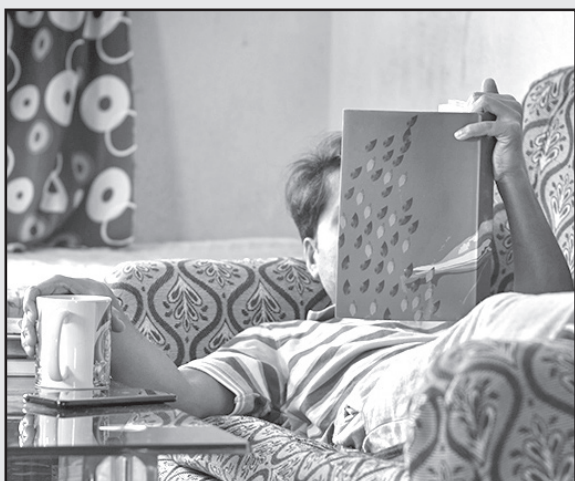


1. Florida

.....
*Top Five
 Spring Break
 Destinations*



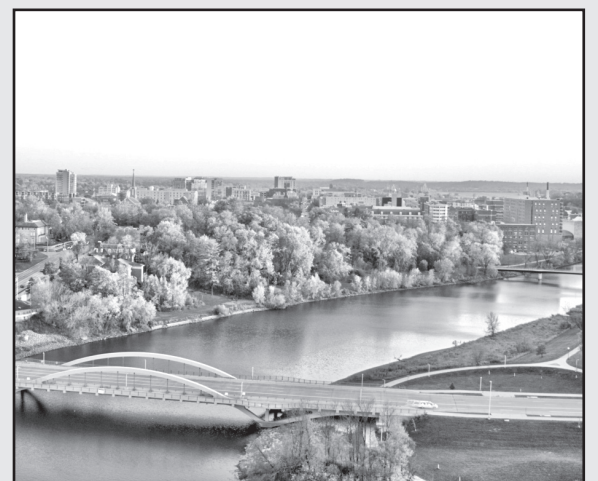
2. Tennessee



3. Staying Home



4. Fond du Lac



5. Iowa

Regular Board Meeting

(Monday, February 12, 2024)

Generated by Heather Bradwin-Haseman on Tuesday, February 20, 2024

1. Introduction

Procedural: A. Call to Order

Procedural: B. Pledge of Allegiance

Procedural: C. Roll Call

Present: Paul Dercks, Angie Patterson, Heidi Kopf, Jessica Shepherd, John Totz, Tim Wiese, Sal Arellano

Absent: None

Staff: Tim Brown, Becky Doyle, Jackie Hungerford, Heather Bradwin-Haseman, Jen Harrison

Other: Mary Basel, Kelli Jacob, Maggie Landowski, Jenn Wiese, Joyce Wiese, Chris Haase, Emilie Winger

Procedural: D. Board Mission Statement

2. Consent Agenda

Action (Consent): A. Approval of Consent Agenda

Recommended Action: Move to approve all items under consent agenda.

Mrs. Patterson, seconded by Mr. Totz moved to approve all items under consent agenda as presented.

Motion carried 7 /0/0

Action (Consent), Minutes: B. January 22, 2024 Regular meeting minutes

Recommended Action: Move to approve the January 22, 2024 Regular meeting minutes as presented.

Action (Consent): C. Warrants through February 9, 2024

Recommended Action: Move to approve warrants through February 9, 2024

3. Public Comments

Information: A. Public Comment Procedures

Maggie Landowski, N11925 Westline Rd Brownsville 53006 commented on land.

Kellie Jacob, N6452 Fenner Rd Fond du Lac 54937 commented on policy.

4. Reports

Discussion, Information: A. DLT Reports

Mr. Brown reported on the MS/HS: last week attended AWSA conference-great content, encourage our staff to be leaders, counselors doing great things started parent meetings with sophomores about career planning, graduate profile of our student body, and meeting with 8th grade parents, had our first student graduate early-will still walk with class.

Mrs. Doyle reported on the OES: child development day at the end of the month and 4K tours, parent teacher conferences this week, 4K 5 day program is doing well, kids have made great progress, Rosendale/Brandon district visiting to see how we're doing with our 4k program, Officer Tikkanen took the ACE graduates on a tour of the sheriff's office, Girls on the Run program continues, No before/after program this week because of conferences, will start again next week.

Information: B. Financial Update

Mrs. Hungerford overviewed the financials, Mr. Wiese asked for breakout of some items for the Board, Mrs. Hungerford will email them.

Information: C. CESA 6 Update

No updates at this time

5. Discussion Item

Discussion: A. M3 Insurance-Discussion on Insurance Consortium

Mary Basel was present and discussed what a consortium was and some benefits of joining the Quad County Consortium which includes some area districts, As part of consortium, everyone's premiums are pooled to help even out percentages, average 2. 7% over last 5 years but has taken 9% and 18% increases previously. All employees would be part of a PPO-Choice Plus Network. Mrs. Hungerford will reach out to districts currently in the consortium for feedback.

Discussion: B. Act 20

Jennifer Harrison presented on Act 20, Oakfield is in a good spot, more information to come as available.

Discussion: C. Elementary Design

Jared Tatro from Nexus was present and reviewed the plans and design for the Elementary School.

6. Action Items

Action: A. 2024-25 School Calendar

Recommended Action: Move to approve option 1 and option 2 of the 2024-25 school calendar as presented.

Mrs. Patterson, seconded by Mrs. Kopf moved to approve calendars as presented with adopting Option 2 early start if approved through legislation.

Action, Discussion: B. Board Member Attendance at Meetings

There was a discussion on Board Member Attendance. Mr. Dercks stated there is no need to create a policy at this time, Board members are elected and should be at all meetings unless personal obligation or sick. No action needs to be taken at this time.

7. Next Meetings

Information: A. Closed Session, Wednesday February 14, 2024 4:30 p.m. at Oakfield MS/HS IMC

Information: D. Regular Meeting, March 11, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at Oakfield MS/HS IMC

Information: E. Committee of the Whole-Monday, April 8, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at Oakfield MS/HS IMC

8. Adjournment

Action: A. Adjourn

Recommended Action: Move to adjourn the meeting

Mr. Dercks, seconded by Mr. Totz moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Special Meeting

(Friday, February 23, 2024)

Generated by Heather Bradwin-Haseman on Friday, March 1, 2024

1. Introduction

Procedural: A. Call to Order

Vice President Mrs. Patterson called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

Procedural: B. Pledge of Allegiance

Procedural: C. Roll Call

Present: Angie Patterson, Heidi Kopf, Jessica Shepherd, John Totz, Sal Arellano

Absent: Paul Dercks, Tim Wiese

Staff: Tracey Conners, Heather Bradwin-Haseman, Jon Wessel, Becky Doyle

Other: Brent Warren

Procedural: D. Board Mission Statement

2. Action Items

Action, Discussion: A. Bid for Elementary chiller

Recommended Action: Move to approve a bid for the elementary chiller.

Mrs. Patterson, seconded by Mr. Totz moved to approve the chiller from Masters Building Solution as presented. Motion carried 5/0/2

3. Next Meetings

Information: A. Regular Meeting, Monday March 11, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.-Oakfield MS/HS IMC

Information: B. Committee of the Whole Meeting, April 8, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at Oakfield Elementary School IMC

Information: C. Regular Meeting-Monday, April 22, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at Oakfield Elementary School IMC

May have to add a virtual meeting on March 13 to discuss and approve the next bid package (main elementary remodel). Information will be sent to the Board when finalized.

4. Adjournment

Action: A. Adjourn

Mrs. Patterson, seconded by Mr. Totz moved to adjourn the meeting at 10: 18 a.m. Motion carried 5/0/2

School Board Meeting Schedule (2023-2024)

Monday, April 8, 2024
Committee of the Whole Meeting
5:30 p.m. MS/HS IMC

Monday, April 22, 2024
Regular Meeting
5:30 p.m. MS/HS IMC



School District of Oakfield

OPEN ENROLLMENT

February 5th - April 30th

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
OAKFIELD

Thoughts on Funeral Home Field Trip

By Mr. McCarty

On March 6, Chris Holz of Uecker-Witt Funeral led a tour of his profession which was very helpful to our Psychology 2 students. After the field trip, they got into groups and answered the following questions, which are headings below. The experience was very valuable, and we thank the folks at Uecker-Witt for their time in their busy schedule.

What were the best questions answered during the visit?

Kaiya Demoske, Aya Savorgino, Cassidy Anton and Lola Basty explained, "One good question that was asked was how long the embalming process takes. It takes about an hour to an hour and a half, Chris said. Which we thought was interesting that someone asked, because we've never thought about that. Another question someone asked was, 'What are the hardest funerals to do?' Chris said children 3 years old to 8 years old. We thought this was an interesting question because many people wonder about how difficult it is to go through the process with a kid who passed and he confirmed they are very hard if not the hardest."

Alyssa Laning, Stella Hofman, Maci Patten and Sydney Warnes thought the best question answered was "How long did it take to get used to seeing the bodies?" We think this was a good question to ask because many people do not handle death well, and may have never even experienced death. Asking this question showed how certain people are naturally okay with death, like Chris, but also that schooling helps desensitize you to the bodies. Chris said he has always wanted to be a doctor so this profession was natural to him and it was easy to cope with. He showed the group with this answer that sometimes it takes awhile to adjust to death but sometimes people can just handle it.

What did you expect on this trip versus what you observed?

Lily Fox and Savannah Tapp wrote, "We weren't expecting the funeral home to be so big and have so many rooms. There were so many different rooms that had different purposes. There was also a drastic change in the rooms open to the public and the back rooms. Before going to the funeral homes we expected the prices to be way more expensive. Some people in the class predicted the overall cost to be around \$20,000 but we learned that it is actually around \$14,000. Additionally, we overestimated the cost of the caskets, we originally thought they would be at least \$5,000 but there were some for \$2,000. We expected the workers to be very serious and somber but they were surprisingly cracking jokes and found their jobs to be very fulfilling. This was very surprising to us because we expected them to think that their jobs were very depressing. We weren't expecting the funeral home to do over 1000 cremations every year. Since they have 2 cremation ovens they do them for many funeral homes in the area. Also, the fact that cremations have become so much more popular since COVID. We were surprised that the funeral directors also do the embalming of the bodies. We thought that was a separate job for a different person. It makes more sense now because they had to do so much schooling."

Alyssa Laning, Stella Hofman, Maci Patten and Sydney Warnes wrote, "We were not expecting to see the whole process of the funeral home, and we did not expect that in depth of a tour. We went in thinking it was more of a sit and talk kind of field trip but instead we were shown almost every room and part of the funeral home. The biggest shock to see for us was the crematory, especially since the fridge for bodies was right behind us, and the ovens were on. The most talked about part of that tour was how hot the crematory was because both ovens were heating up. We were also shocked to find out all the measures they take to make the body look presentable such as the eyelid covers to hold the eyes shut. The embalming process was probably the most interesting and shocking room and process of all, because there's so many steps and chemicals involved. The part we couldn't stop talking about was where all the fluids went after the embalming and how the chemicals filled out the muscles of the dead person."

Abi Dorn, Mackenzie Liebelt and Madeline Meredith concluded, "Leading up to the field trip, we all thought that the funeral home was going to be dimly light, depressing, and hospital-like. We expected to see a dead body somewhere along the tour. We were also not expecting to receive a pen at the end of the tour. But instead, most of the rooms, except for the chapels, had fluorescent lighting and pictures on display. Most of the rooms had a lysol clean smell, reminding us of going to the dentist. We also didn't expect the level of how much they enjoy their job, and what their annual pay is. We observed that they weren't really hiding anything from us- besides the dead bodies- and that all of the information provided was truthful/accurate. Overall, what we expected versus what we observed was quite the opposite."

Wolfgang Stalf said, "One thing we expected during the field trip was to learn about how a funeral home functions and what all goes on inside the funeral home. Before we went I assumed the funeral home was just the area where they would plan out and host the funeral for the dead people and their families. But after we went there and started learning about the funeral home and started learning about what the funeral directors all do for their job I was surprised. It turns out they are also the ones that embalm the bodies as well as cremate and dress them and make them look good for the funeral. This was interesting to me to see that all goes on behind the scenes of the funeral homes and what the funeral directors are all responsible for doing."

Owen Holzman reflected, "Another thing we

didn't expect was a store in the back. When we walked into the funeral home we expected just the normal things like a family room, the chapel and an office. We didn't expect a whole store in the back because we thought they had a catalog to look at, and got to pick and customize based off of that and not get to walk through a giant room and be able to look and touch everything. It was just weird because it is not something you expect when you walk into a funeral home because you usually just expect chapels and other basic things."

Noah Patterson said, "Another thing I wasn't expecting was the lift room where they can lift the bodies up onto the caskets without anybody having to do any heavy lifting. He claimed that in past years they used to lift the bodies by hand which can be heavy for certain people. I was expecting one main room where everything would happen so they wouldn't even need to lift any bodies. When in reality, there were individual rooms for each step of the process so I can see why a lift is important."

Can you explain why this trip is valuable?

Kaiya Demoske, Aya Savorgino, Cassidy Anton and Lola Basty explained, "It normalizes the conversation topic on death which can be a touchy or sore subject. Us going there and learning what happens after death and preparing the funeral makes us more knowledgeable for the future and more accepting of death."

August Shepherd and Natalie Floyd wrote, "The thought of going to a funeral home for a school field trip may not seem ideal but in reality it can be quite helpful. It teaches people to be less afraid of what happens after you die, and can help you process the grief of your own loved one who has passed away, it can also help you prepare actual funeral plans for yourself or others. During our tour, we discussed with the funeral director how people prepare for a funeral and how older people can plan their own funerals. Throughout the process, it can be stressful, which is why the funeral directors are well educated for their job, and have a passion to help people through the rough time. While we were there we also learned about the different options available to you after you die; you can choose to either have a burial or a cremation. The burial is the more expensive option of the two, it averages around 10-12 thousand dollars, while the direct cremation averages about 3-4 thousand. With visitation the cremation will cost more. Being able to speak with the directors makes someone more comfortable about how yourself or your loved ones will be taken care of properly after they die, this gives some type of comfort in the fact after death, along with possible religion. The funeral home helps with everything after you die. The process includes



picking up your body from your place of death, they embalm you, they prepare you for the funeral, and they bury or burn you depending on your choice. We learned many things about preparing and informing your family of what you want after death, and having that conversation with them before the time comes. This gives you time to process the exact details, while also creating a more comforting feeling about actually dying. Overall, the trip was a great learning experience to teach us about what they do with your body when you die, how the directors help you grieve with the loss of your loved ones, and how you can be prepared for yourself and close family or friends when the time comes.”

Alyssa Laning, Stella Hofman, Maci Patten and Sydney Warnes said, “It gave us an experience and a background knowledge on the process of a funeral home. From picking the coffin, to the day, to picking out a headstone, many people do not know how to handle this situation. We now know the funeral home can walk you through almost every part, and will set up most parts of the funeral. This also gave us a look into the different ways that we could be preserved when we or a loved one dies, like a coffin or being cremated. Many people have never experienced this and are oblivious to what needs to be done beforehand and afterwards.

Explain the most interesting aspects of death, dying and the funeral process learned.

Kaiya Demoske, Aya Savorgino, Cassidy Anton and Lola Basty explained their interest in how many aspects of a funeral Uecker Witt handles in that building alone. “The funeral home directors take care of the financial aspects, cremation, transportation, having a display of caskets/urns, embalming and preparing the

body for presentation.” The group also noted how comfortable they were in their workspace. “Coming from high schoolers who are not around death as much, it was hard for us to imagine how used to their job they are. They have to cut open the body for embalming, clean the body, help prepare after bone and skin donations, as well as moving them to the cooler and crematory.” In addition, “They do not get paid as high of a salary as what we expected. They nationally average \$55,000 a year depending on how long they have been working in that career. We expected a higher salary because being a funeral home director you are constantly on call and have to work a job surrounded by death which can sometimes include your own family members.” Davis Dercks, Ariel Paz, Mitchell Moser and Brent Morell wrote, “We noticed a lot of interesting things while at the funeral home. Among them is the humor that the funeral directors seem to possess. It seems they have a very frank view of the World, and don’t see it through rose-tinted glasses. This is because they understand the scariest part of life: dying. What comes with this is they seem to have a very good sense of humor that most people don’t catch on to because it is kind of dark, and oftentimes has to do with death, which most people aren’t comfortable laughing about. The funeral directors are comfortable laughing about death because they understand that it is a part of life and there is no reason to deny it. It seems like funeral directors have their own sense of humor that is almost like a part of their culture. We also found the embalming process interesting because of all the different chemicals that get put into the dead bodies; along with the fact that they can’t move the bodies after the chemicals have set. Another interesting aspect is how they

have to transport bodies, especially when they have to send them to a different state or country, like Greece. In addition, one other aspect was how covid affected the funeral home. One way is the amount of cremations that they had to do in response to the amount of deaths that were happening from the virus [Covid].”

What do you need to be prepared for before a death occurs?

Alyssa Laning, Stella Hofman, Maci Patten and Sydney Warnes wrote, “We all agree that the first step to preparing your own death, should be deciding how you would like your body taken care of, whether that’s a basic coffin funeral, or the cremation process. This is important so that your family is not stuck deciding for you and they don’t pick the wrong option to honor you. The second step would be to have money set aside for your funeral so that you don’t have your family shocked and unprepared to pay for it at that time. The third thing you should prepare is renting out a venue for your funeral so that it is prepared and ready whenever you need to go. This way you have exactly what you want in the end and no one can change what you have set. The fourth thing we think is important is that you write a will and an end of death note to list out what you want in the end so it is final and sorted out for your family. This way no one can argue about what they think you want. The last thing we believe you should prepare beforehand is writing your own obituary so that you know what it says, and that honors exactly the person you were and all of your accomplishments. If you leave suddenly, at least you will have these documents for your life and the requests you have for end of life care.”

Teacher of the Month Mrs. Kintzler

What subject do you teach? And how long have you been teaching?

I teach Middle School Language Arts. This is my 16th year teaching, my 11th year here in the School District of Oakfield.

Where did you go to school/ college?

I received my initial Bachelor’s Degree from Ripon College in 2007, and then furthered my education with a Master’s Degree from Marian University in 2010.

What are some of your hobbies?

I enjoy coaching Varsity Volleyball here at Oakfield, but also coaching my kids through Oakfield Recreation and Oakfield Crush Softball. I enjoy spending summers at the lake with my family, watching my kids compete in sports, and running with our dog, Mack.

What’s your favorite part of teaching?

My favorite part of teaching is supporting students with hard tasks--making writing and reading make sense. I also love being here at the MS/HS where I can stay connected to generations of students all the way through their graduation.

What is something exciting that has happened to you recently?

As a coach here at Oakfield, having the Lady Oaks bring home the Regional Championship Trophy this season in volleyball.

With your time at Oakfield high school, what has been your biggest accomplishment?

My biggest accomplishment here at Oakfield has been making connections with students that return for visits far after their MS years. I love getting to see so many students leave MS and be successful young adults in HS and beyond.



Teacher of the Month Mr. Johnson

What subject do you teach? And how long have you been teaching?

I am in my 3rd year of teaching (all of them proudly at Oakfield)! I currently teach: Algebra, Geometry, and AP Statistics.

Where did you go to school/ college?

I attended the University of Wisconsin Madison for both my Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees.

What are some of your hobbies?

Some of my hobbies include: hiking (especially at nearby state parks), traveling to new places, and watching my favorite sports teams. I especially enjoy cheering on our students in their extracurricular activities!

What’s your favorite part of teaching?

There are many parts of teaching that I enjoy! One of my favorite parts is watching students grow throughout the years academically and individually. Whether it’s gaining confidence in a class/subject or pursuing postsecond-ary options, I believe the best part of teaching is when students accomplish their goals.

What is something exciting that has happened to you recently?

I recently attended my 160th Wisconsin Badger game! My goal is to someday reach 200 games, with hopefully MANY more wins along the way!

With your time at Oakfield high school, what has been your biggest accomplishment?

I am proud of the growth in our AP Statistics program in recent years. I believe the successes of the class are a testament to the outstanding work ethic of the students I have the chance to work with, and their willingness to challenge themselves.





Members of Mr. McCarty's Psychology 2 class had the opportunity to visit Kettle Moraine Correctional Institution on Thursday, February 22nd. The staff at KMCI was great to work with, and the experience provided our students the ability to converse with convicted felons about making good choices. Pictured here is half the class as we waited to go through security. Thanks again to KMCI for this learning experience. Photo by Mr. McCarty.

Thoughts on Prison Field Trip

By Mr. McCarty

On February 22, 2024 the Psychology 2 class at Oakfield High School visited the Kettle Moraine Correctional Institute. The following are some of the questions groups of students chose to answer after our visit.

What was the value of the conversations you had with the inmates?

The following answers came from Lola Basty, Aya Savorgino, Kaiya Demoske, and Cassidy Anton.

First off, "Talking face to face with the inmates made the experience feel more personal and created a more emotional response rather than watching or hearing the stories online. One of the inmates agreed with us saying that the message didn't seem to go through as well when they did the same talk with past students over zoom calls."

A second value worth mentioning was, "Being in a small group we were able to ask more questions. It was easier to see the inmates body language and conversation behaviors to try and gauge how they felt and if they were bluffing or being truthful."

The group also noticed with one of the inmates, "that he did not like making eye contact and seemed very nervous by showing traits of tapping his foot on the ground and messing with his fingers. This made us question if he was potentially lying about something, had social anxiety, or was a side effect of the drugs he used in the past."

The group also noticed the format was helpful. "It was nice to be able to see them as more than prisoners and ask them more simple questions such as what they do to keep busy and what hobbies they have picked up." Finally, "Some prisoners had said they like using their time to crochet, work out, and even using their jobs or volunteering for classes."

What is your conclusion on why people end up in prison?

This was the question seniors Ella Meyer, Savannah Tapp, and Lily Fox chose to answer. They were encouraged

to use any or all of the all five inmates met to explain the environment which influenced their path to prison.

"The man who committed arson had a good life and job before he was pressured by one of his friends to help him. He felt like he had to help one of his childhood friends when they were in trouble. He felt peer pressured to commit arson on a DA's house. This is something that happens to many people when they go to prison, they feel pressured by the people around them and make mistakes because of that. The man arrested for drunk driving started drinking when he was 7 or 8, which led him to drink for the rest of his life. One night after a work event where he was drinking and decided to drive drunk and ultimately crashed into a car of teenagers, killing one. He made a foolish mistake by driving drunk but because of the environment of his childhood where it was normal to drink he didn't second guess that decision of driving drunk. The man who murdered a nurse for a car was influenced by his environment. He grew up in the "hood" and was the youngest in his family. He believed that everyone treated him like a child so he moved out with his girlfriend. He then was pressured by his girlfriend to get a car and the only way to do that was to kill the nurse. He grew up thinking these things were normal and to always be loyal to your loved ones. This is why he eventually killed the nurse and ended up in jail. The man who had the drug charges involved himself with the wrong kids in school, he wanted to fit in with the older kids so he convinced himself he had to do everything they did to fit in and seem like a good friend. That led him to do drugs and act out which put him in a group home where they would pat him down every time he left and came back to the house. He still hung out with these bad people which kept him involved with drugs, eventually leading him to prison. The influence of the older kids in his early life led him to get addicted to drugs which kept putting him in prison. In regard to the man who ran over another man in defense of his girlfriend, although many people are

in prison because they did bad things, there are also injustices in the judicial system. This man was trying to protect someone he loves but ended up with 20 years in jail. Also, his jury was all white which most likely played a role in the fact that he had such a long sentence. We believe that he didn't deserve the sentence that he got and really saw the imperfections in the court system."

Can you explain the ways prisoners cope with stress at prison?

Earlier in the semester we have learned about stress in Psychology 2. Students were asked to apply concepts like the hardiness of the individual, the explanatory style of events, and the relaxation techniques and forms of distraction which the inmates might have used. Abigail Dorn, Krista Sabal, Mackenzie Liebelt and Madeline Meredith answered with the following:

"A lot of the prisoners found forms of distractions to be able to cope with their stress. Two of them loved to crochet in their spare time, and 2 others like to workout. All of the prisoners got along well with their prison mates and spent their time reading or watching TV/ going on their tablet. One of the prisoners taught themselves how to play the piano and the guitar. One of the prisoners talked about how he took advantage of the schooling and classes provided throughout the prison, they even achieved their bachelors degree through the time they have spent in prison. One of the prisoners used an explanatory style, explaining that he felt he 'shouldn't be in prison'/ 'he doesn't deserve to be there'/ 'the reason I'm here is not my fault'. He was always looking at someone else to blame other than himself for why he was in prison. Overall, the prisoners found ways to cope with their stress from the events that caused them to be in prison through distractions they used before they were in prison and through things they have been provided.

Alyssa Laning, Stella Hofman, Sydney Warnes and Maci Patten also answered the question in regard to the stress relief they witnessed from the prisoners.

"When we went to the prison, we met with a bunch of inmates, and we asked how they coped with the stress. Some examples were distractions and vocalization (talking through their issues with others), and the main distraction we were told was hobby crafts. Many guys told us that they actually crocheted to pass the time and they were taught this from other inmates. Many guys made rugs or hats or even blankets to pass time and destress, but they are not allowed to keep their crafts after. Another distraction the inmates used to destress was jobs and programs. The prison was called a mini town, meaning there are many jobs to be done, like laundry, kitchen duties, and then cleaning duties. Any inmate can get a job and they get to choose what job they want so it eliminates people hating their jobs. With programs and school classes, this

is seen as a bigger destressor because they are fun programs that are either job related or just something crafty that the inmates WANT to do. Another option to destress is one on one therapy, that many of the RYTE program members said was helpful, and important in the process of accepting their fate in prison. The last destressor we heard helped the inmates was being able to communicate with their families. Many still have visitation hours that they receive to see their family, and the others use zoom calls multiple times a week in the visitation center. Some even write letters home. We were told that well-behaved inmates get up to 6 visitations a week, whether they use that on zoom or in person visits. With all those ways to destress, we saw that inmates have the chance to be calm in prison, and even rehab themselves to act better for the outside world.

What was it like at KMCI?

Owen Holzman, Noah Patterson, Carson Fisher and Wolfgang Staff explained what it was like to be at Kettle Moraine Correctional Institute.

"When the four of us showed up to the prison yesterday, one of the first things we saw when we got there was a guard tower right out front with two gates for vehicles entering the prison. The visitor center was an older building that looked like it hadn't been remodeled in a while. We all walked into the corner of the building to sit in some colored, plastic chairs all formed in a row. Our chairs were blue, and the prisoners' chairs were red. After waiting for what seemed like forever, the prisoners in all green walked into the room and seated. The first to stand was a middle aged man with longer hair on top, and shorter around the sides. He was the first to speak and the leader of the program. He was in for being black mailed into throwing a molotov cocktail into the district attorney's house. The second guy was an older guy that killed one and injured two kids that were in the area. He talked about how he started drinking at a young age which led him into a downward spiral which resulted in him ending up in prison. ... Then just sitting down with them you could pretty much see how they were still somewhat normal even though they screwed up. They made some bad choices but they were still people. The third guy was a younger man who was the only one wearing glasses out of all the prisoners. He is in for strangling a nurse to steal her car. The fourth guy was in for drug use, which led to sneaking drugs into prison. This then led to doing drugs with other inmates in prison which ended with an overdose. The fifth and final guy seemed like the most interesting and open of them all. He was a sports man who had a passion for basketball. He was in for a simple misunderstanding which escalated the situation of a man with a gun hurting his wife, which then led to the now-inmate running him over with his car to save her."

U.S. History Family Research

At the end of second semester, students in Mr. McCarty's U.S. History took the time to research their family histories. The following are some samples of the work our students did, and shed light on the interesting stories and people from which they descend from.



Caption and photo courtesy of Jorja Hofman.

I chose to interview my grandmother (Toni Hofman) because I look up to her and she is somebody that I idolize. She also likes to talk a lot, and I knew she would give me good, in-depth answers.

This is my grandmother standing in her sunroom attached to her small trailer house. My grandparents live at their cabin in Wautoma, Wisconsin year round, but officially bought a trailer house for the winter. They did this because they love watching me and my sister play basketball, and like being closer to watch all of the games. The trailer my grandparents bought was a fixer-upper. This picture was taken after my grandmother had spent the entire day sanding down the floors in her sunroom, to show the true fir wood underneath. She had spent her whole day sanding down the entire floor with a hand sander. This shows another one of the reasons I adore her, the determination and hard work.



My grandma's 7th grade class.



Caption by Jorja Hofman.

My grandma, (Toni Hofman) and grandpa, (Gene Hofman) have been through so many ups and downs, but stayed strong through all of it. During my grandmas interview, I asked her how her and my grandpa met. She responded, "When I was 17, he walked into a gas station in Wautoma, Wisconsin, where I was a cashier. First thing I noticed was his long black hair and how tall he was. Anyways, he bought a comb and asked me for directions. I gave them to him and he left, only to come back and ask me out. After about 2 hours of him wearing me down, I finally said yes, and we went on a date that night. Been inseparable since."



Caption by Jorja Hofman.

I asked my grandma what her favorite childhood memory was. She responded with, "At the end of my seventh grade year, my family moved from Lockport IL, to Wautoma. On the last day of school, all of my teachers, classmates, and friends threw me a surprise going away party. I remembered walking into the classroom and feeling overwhelmed with how many people were there." Then, I asked her what her favorite memory of my dad was while he was growing up. She responded, "My favorite memory of your dad. That's a hard one. Probably when he took out the table and chairs at the state tournament, then proceeded to stop the game and pick up every last chair. He was a good kid, there was no way he was going to let someone else clean up his mess. But I have more and more memories of him everytime he shows what an extraordinary kind of person he is."



One snack that my grandma always made for us was banana bread. My grandmother still loves making it for us, so she makes every one of Stella and my teammates their own loaf at the end of every sports season. My grandma is the type of person to show random acts of kindness, expecting nothing in return. This is one of the many reasons I look up to her. Her kindness and selflessness are some of the characteristics I adore. She cares about the wellness of her family and friends before the wellness of herself, and I feel that is a strong characteristic.

My grandmother's banana bread is infamous throughout Oakfield. All of my friends and family love it. Her recipe isn't very intricate, and sort of has a good simplicity to it. The dry ingredients needed are 1 cup sugar, 1 teaspoon baking soda, 1 1/2 cup flour, and 1/2 teaspoon of salt. The wet ingredients are 2 eggs, 1/2 cup margarine, 1/2 cup plain lowfat yogurt, 1 cup mashed banana, and 1 teaspoon vanilla. My grandmother creams the margarine and sugar, then adds the eggs and beat. My grandma says to beat way longer than you think you need to. After done beating, add the remaining ingredients. This recipe makes two loaves of banana bread, so pour mixture into 2 small buttered bread pans. Then you bake at 350 for 45-50 minutes, and let cool before eating. (Jorja Hofman)



My family is odd but branches back a long way in Wisconsin's history, most of us are either dead or no longer talk to each other but I managed to gather some information from when my parents were younger. I have also gathered information from my own memories and old photos that I have found. A majority of this information though, will be revolving around the memories I have with my grandmother.

My family used to run a carnival, it started sometime in the 50's up until sometime in 1998 when my great uncle retired. My parents had

the offer to buy the carnival from them but they chose not to go that route because my mother (Jessica Shepherd or Jessica Ringhand as she was known when it was still running) did not believe her father would approve of it and she just knew that it would not have ended up being profitable. During the time the carnival was running it was named Knight Rider Shows and they usually traveled around Wisconsin and some surrounding states, such as Iowa and Michigan. According to my parents, working on the carnival was difficult work, they would spend almost all day out in the blistering sun either running rides (this is what my dad did), selling food, or running the games.

My mother started working at the carnival at age 10. She started out helping with the duck pond and balloon board game. Once she was a bit older she began working at the food stands, she made your typical fair foods, corn dogs, cotton candy, nachos, pizza, popcorn, ect. After a while of working she started running her own game. She ran a fish pond. This is where people would throw ping pong balls into the little bowls filled with water and you would win a fish if you made it in. This game made her more money than the rest of the people who worked. She made around \$400-\$500 in a week. This is also the game my dad would hang around the

most. He hung around there both because of my mom and because people would pay him to swallow their goldfish prizes.

The hardest days were the ones where they had to tear everything down and put it back up again in a new town, they had to do it in the span of 1 to 2 days these days were usually Sundays and Mondays, occasionally it would spread into Tuesdays as well depending on how far they were traveling that day. My father described the carnival as a family because they lived together, ate together, worked together, and just generally around each other pretty much all day everyday. The workers made about \$100-\$200 a week. The money didn't go far because moving around and living on the road gets extremely expensive for them. It also wasn't the healthiest as they pretty much ate only fair food everyday. Without the carnival I would most likely not exist as that is where my parents first met, my dad describes it as my mother falling in love with him at first sight, she says it's the other way around though.

This picture is my great great uncle Harvey and my Uncle Tim working one of the carnival games. I never got to meet Harvey but I do know Tim who's still alive. He comes to our house every year in the summer for a pig roast. *(August Shepard)*

For the little I know about my family I do know quite a bit about one person and that would be my Grandma Sharon. She was born on October 9th, 1950 in Columbus Wisconsin. Her parents were Merlin (her father) and Hazel (her mother). She was one of 13 children most of which I have never actually met. On April 12th, 1975 she married my Grandpa Victor (Ringhand) In Columbus Wisconsin. They had 3 children, all daughters. Heidi (My aunt), Jessica (my mom), and Becky (My Aunt).

My grandma was probably my favorite member of my family, she taught me how to bake, how to cook, and all the good shows to watch on tv. My grandmother was an amazing baker and after her death on October 10th, 2019 she left behind all of her old recipes, looking back on them makes me smile more than you could imagine. I see myself again as a small child in the kitchen watching and learning about how to properly measure out ingredients and the entire process needed to make specific desserts. Some of my favorite items she baked were pumpkin bars, christmas cookies, and different types of breads (banana, zucchini, rhubarb, ect.) other than a basic chocolate chip cookie pumpkin bars were one of the first things she taught me to bake.

The process is fairly simple and I barely even need a recipe at this point. The ingredients required for baking pumpkin bars are 2 cups of flour, 2 tsp of baking powder, 1/3 tsp ginger, 1 tsp baking soda, 4 eggs, 1/4 tsp salt, 2 tsp cinnamon (feel free to add more than that if you want to avoid the pumpkin taste), 1/4 tsp chives (optional, I personally prefer it without), 1/4 tsp nutmeg, 2 of cups sugar, 1 cup vegetable oil (can be substituted with canola oil), 16 oz of pumpkin (you can use canned pumpkin but I prefer fresher stuff). Those are all the ingredients required, there isn't a very

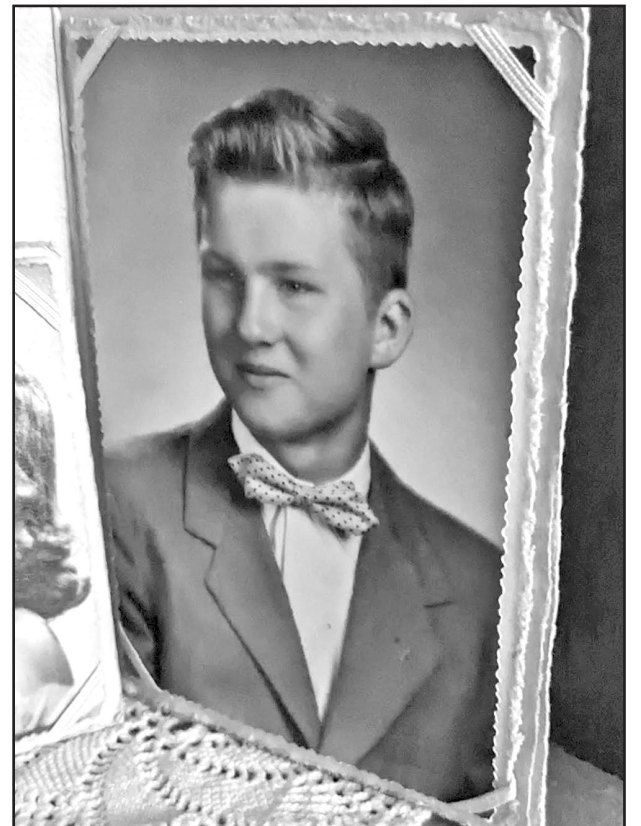


specific way to put them together. It's pretty much up to preference but I personally prefer to start with the pumpkin, then mix in the oil, and finally add in the dry ingredients. Feel free to be generous when measuring most of the dry ingredients as my grandma wasn't really big with measuring most things, I always liked to say measure with your heart.

Once you have thoroughly mixed all your ingredients find a cake pan, no specific size just whatever you think will fit all the batter but a good estimate would be around 17x11 (ensure that you account for the amount it's going to rise, usually about 1-2 inches depending on the amount), After greasing the pan with crisco (she always found that it worked better than the pam spray), pour in you batter and put it in the oven at 350 degrees for around 20-30 minutes (this may take longer depending on the amount you are making and the type of oven, doubling the

recipe adds about 10 minutes onto the time).

While the bar itself is cooking you can make the cream cheese frosting for the top, for that you will need 4 oz of cream cheese, 1 stick of butter (for a smoother frosting soften both in the microwave or leave on the counter for a day), 1 tsp of vanilla (can be vanilla extract), 1 tsp of milk (any type works I use coconut or almond as I prefer dairy free options, you can also use liquid coffee creamer, it offers the same results), 2 1/2 cups of powdered sugar (you may need more than this depending on how thick you want your frosting to be). Once all your ingredients are in the bowl use a hand mixer (beater) to ensure a smooth combination of ingredients. Do that until you no longer see any chunks of powdered sugar. Once your bar is done, leave it to cool before frosting the top. Then you have your finished pumpkin bars and if you anything like my family they will be gone by the next day. *(August Shepherd)*



When presented the idea of this project, I knew in an instant that I would interview My Great-Grandmother, Shirley Schultz. Not only because she is the oldest living family member on both my mother and father's sides, but she has an amazing memory and she keeps track of basically every family event and picture. She has been an outstanding member of her community, as she has stayed local for her whole life. She contributes in her local historical society and church while still finding time to be around her family (children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.)

My Great-Grandmother, Shirley Esther Schwartz (later Schultz) was born on October 31, 1936 at the St. Agnes hospital in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. She weighed 7 lbs and 10 oz. and was 19 in tall. When talking with my grandmother, she recalled that her mother (my great-great grandmother, Viola Schwartz) was very upset over the fact that she was born on halloween.

The image on the left is Shirley when she was very little. She wasn't entirely sure when the image was taken but when you look closely in the image you can see a small bear to the right of her. That is the same bear in the image on the right. Shirley told me that her father, John Schwartz, told her that one of their dogs got ahold of the bear at some point and that explains why the feet aren't in the best condition. (Autumn Dubey)

To the right is my great grandfather Gordon Jerome Schultz. He was born September 6, 1936 (just 25 days before Shirley) and died on April 24, 2016.

He graduated from Lomira in 1953 and then was enlisted in the Marine Corps in March of 1954. He served from 1954 to March of 1957. He was a tank mechanic and also served time in Korea in 1955. According to his obituary, "He worked as an auto mechanic for various shops and dealerships, retiring in 1998 from EVS. Gordon's hobbies were hunting, fishing, woodworking, and casino trips. He was an avid fan of the Packer, Brewers, and Badgers." (Autumn Dubey)

Apple Kuchen

Crust

- 1 c. flour
- 2 tbsp sugar
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/2 c. Butter or veg. shortening

Streusel

- 1/2 c. sifted flour
- 1/2 c. sugar (use in moderation)
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 4 tbsp butter

Preheat the oven to 350

- Mix all ingredients with a pie blender and pat into a glass pan.
- Peel and slice 4 c. apples (Cortland's are best) (Usually 3 apples) and add 1/2 c. sugar (use in moderation, only add more if needed) and 1/2 tsp cinnamon.

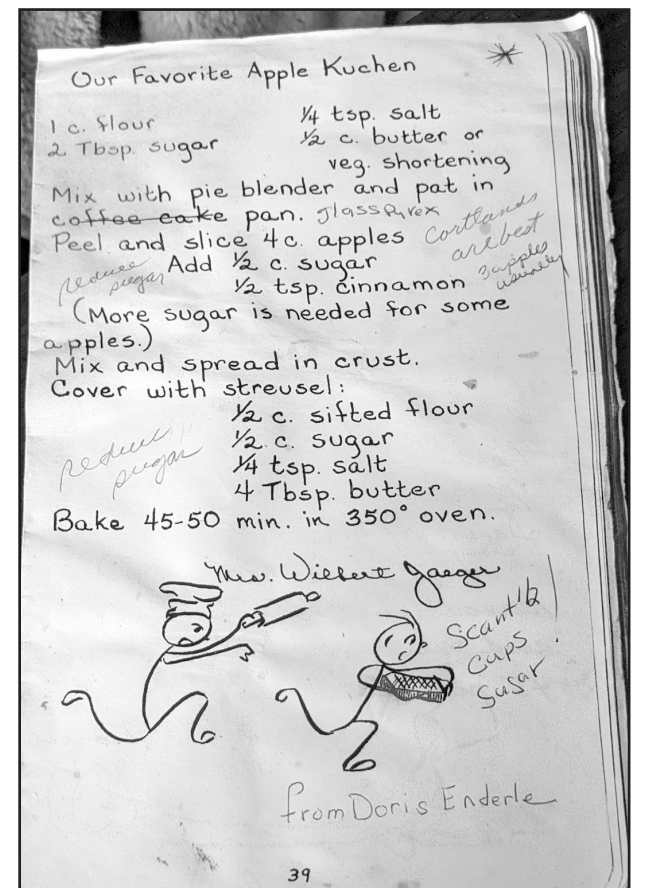
****If you use different apples, you may need more sugar****

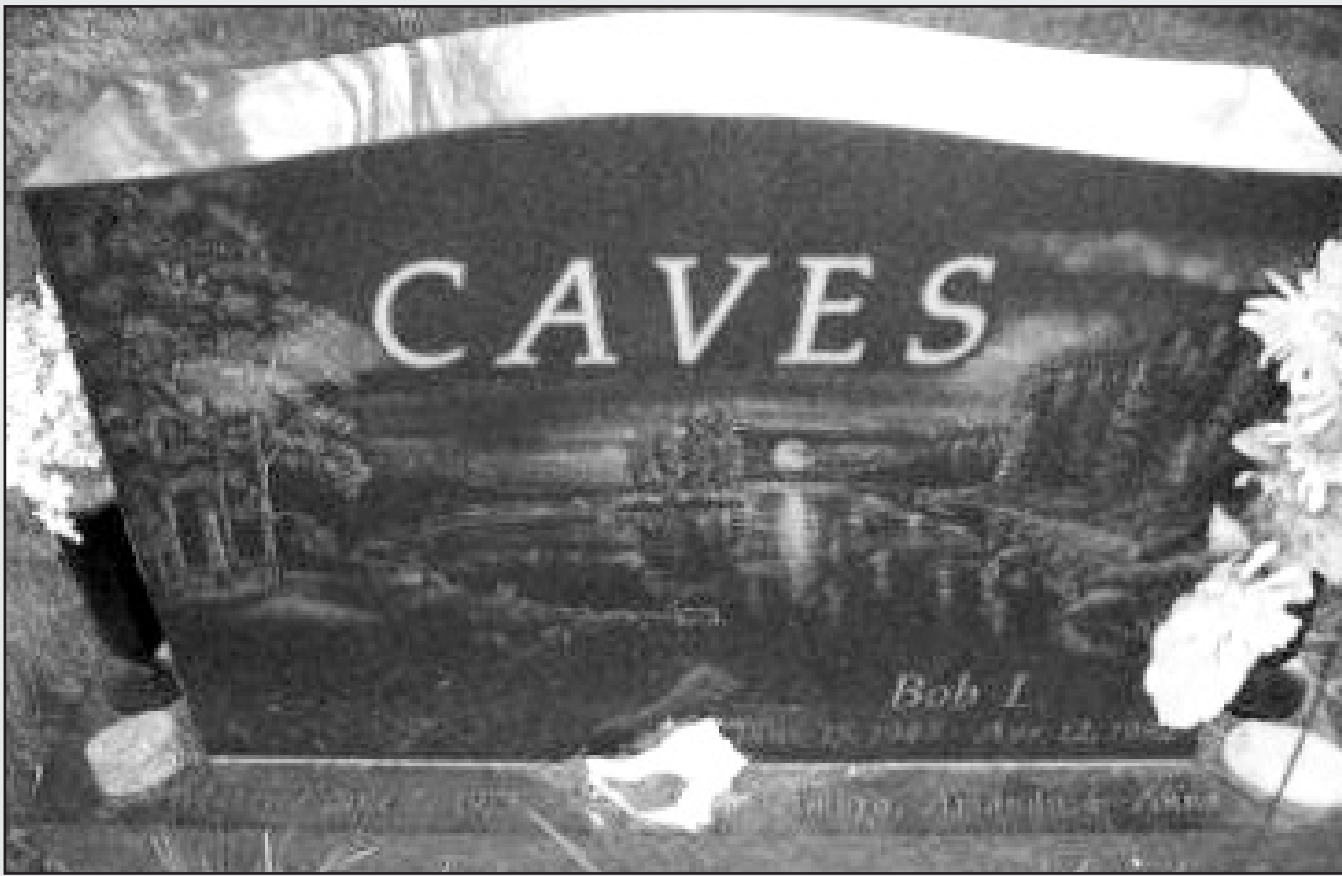
- Combine apple mixture and spread over crust.
- Lastly, cover with streusel and bake for 45-50 minutes.

I decided to make my great-great grandma Viola's Apple Kuchen as my dish. While making this I noticed that it takes a lot of attention to detail, time and patience to make sure it is prepared and executed correctly. (Autumn Dubey)



The picture to the above is a painting of my great grandmother's childhood home she lived in the country outside of Lomira in a "Side Gabled Farmhouse" (log cabin). This house is actually recognized by Dodge County as a "Historic Landmark" and was featured in the Dodge County Heritage Tour of Historic Agriculture. This specific picture is especially unique because it is a one of a kind painting of her house done by one of her close friends. (Autumn Dubey)





This is Robert "Bob" Caves' grave he would have been my nana's brother, my great uncle. He coached girls basketball for Oakfield. He had fluffy hair and a killer mustache that everyone in my family knew him for. He graduated from Mayville in 1965 and graduated from UW Oshkosh in 1969 and got his masters degree in 1975. He was the Oakfield guidance counselor for 14 years and in 1987 he took the girls basketball team to the state tournament. He died in 1992 when a drunk driver ran a stop sign and T-boned him on the driver side of the car. He was taken to the hospital for his injuries but didn't make it. He was such a great figure in Oakfield and even Mr. Mock remembers when he was here and worked with him.

From what I've heard from family Bob loved it here in Oakfield he loved the kids and the school everything about this place. Something kind of coincidental that happened the day he died was that Al and Judy Messner were at the hospital for something else when they brought Bob in. They somehow heard what happened and then while they were there they eventually got the news that he had passed away. There is now a metal memorial sign that has been hung up in the gym just above the scoreboard on the visiting side. That memorial sign was very important to my mom's side because of how much Bob loved it at Oakfield and coaching the girls basketball team. *(Easton Backhaus)*



Old Papa was born in 1939 to Peter and Elizabeth Marschie. Papa Glenn dropped out of school at the age of 11 to find a job. He joined the army at the age of 17 1/2. When he was stationed in Forgoe, Georgia, he met the love of his life Sara. After he was discharged from the army, they moved back to Wisconsin to start their family. They had six children, 3 boys and 3 girls.

Even though he had a 6th grade education he was a very smart and hard working man. He work many different jobs during his lifetime including, milk hauling, Mercury Marine, and Gellings implement. Papa always loved farming, he wanted to be able to farm by himself at the age of 35, Papa and Granny bought a farm in 1974 and continued to improve it throughout the year. Papa Glenn became ill with cancer. He battled a short time and passed away at the age of 73 in 2012. *(Abigail Dorn)*

In February 1990 my grandpa and grandma bought a little farm house and they decided to renovate it. My grandpa started renovating by himself with the help of some family. He had to rip out all of the walls because there was a beehive half the size of the wall. He spent a lot of time on the house but needed some help with doing the kitchen so he hired Pinno Construction to help. Pinno also helped put in a sunroom and a porch. My grandpa is most proud of the garage. He said "I touch every single brick that was laid!" He also said "That garage is so strong you can take the roof off and build on top of it." *(Abigail Dorn)*



Papa Glenn started farming on his own, with the help of his family, in 1974. On the farm he milked dairy cattle, he also has a couple of horses and farm dogs. His favorite horse was a Morgan. The horse was very smart and would do anything he asked. Papa Glenn also bought a dog that was named Taffy. My Papa Chris told me whenever they would be working cattle and Papa Glenn would need Taffy he would whistle once and she would be right at his side, no matter how far away she was.

Throughout the years Old Papa improved the farm by doing basic maintenance on the barn, lifting the silo, and adding onto the house. He milked dairy cattle until 2008 and then auctioned off most of the equipment and cattle. He continued to work on tractors and fix things around in the barn until he became ill with cancer. *(Abigail Dorn)*



Old Papa (Glenn) and Old Granny (Sara) Marschie got married after only 6 weeks of knowing each other. Aunt Ruth (Sara's sister) set up a double blind date where Glenn and Sara first met. They later got married in February 1958 in Aikens, South Carolina. After Old Papa was discharged from the Army, he and Granny moved to Brownsville, Wisconsin. They later had six kids, Chris, Sherry, Sharlene, Keith, Shenette, and Joshua. Every three years they would make a trip back to Georgia to visit Old Granny's family. *(Abigail Dorn)*



Ms. Conners
District Administrator

Resident/Parent/School Communications

This form is available for you to offer suggestions or make comments about any facet of the School District of Oakfield. If you would like someone from the District to respond to what you have written, please furnish us with the information requested below.

CHECK ONE:

I hope my input is helpful but it is not necessary for someone to contact me with a response.

Please respond to my comments/suggestions:

Name:

Address:

Email:

Phone:

COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS:

Multiple horizontal lines for writing comments and suggestions.

Please send to:
Ms. Conners
District Administrator
School District of Oakfield

2023-24 District of Oakfield Academic Calendar

Academic calendar grid showing months from Aug/Sept 2023 to June 2024. Includes contact information for Ms. Tracey Conners, Mr. Timothy Brown, Mrs. Becky Doyle, Mrs. Holly Rabe, Mr. Doug Mock, and Johnson Bus Service. Includes a legend for symbols like School Day, No School, Teacher Professional Development, etc.