

## Moser Reaches 1000 Points



Senior Mitchell Moser became the 6th boys basketball player in Oakfield history to reach 1000 career points.  
*Congratulations Mitchell!*



## ★ High School Students of the Month ★

### Senior Mackenzie Liebelt

'Mackenzie comes to class with a positive attitude and always gives 100%.'



### Sophomore Ava Lamb

'Ava is always working hard towards self improvement and is doing a great job of preparing herself to become a lifelong 'go getter.'



### Junior Hailey Rothering

'Hailey is always positive and ready to work hard in class and in extracurriculars.'



### Freshman Addison Hanke

'Addison is very positive and works hard!'



## Highlights

PAGE 2: Principal's Messages

PAGE 3: District Administrator Message

PAGE 4-5: OHS Sports

PAGE 6-7: Community

PAGE 8: OHS Choir

PAGE 9: Ash Tree

PAGE 10: World Day

PAGE 11-14: Family History

PAGE 15: School Board Minutes

PAGE 16: Communication Form/Calendar

## Dates to Know

March 24 - March 28: No School Spring Break

April 4, 5, 6: Spring Musical: Annie @ OES

April 6: FFA Alumni Toy Show: MS/HS

April 12: Prom: The Rock in Waupun

April 16: Trailways Honors Banquet

## 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. Once again we have a state wrestling qualifier in sophomore Austin Harmsen who, yet again, won a match at the state wrestling tournament! Our Boys Basketball team is the Trailways North 2025 Conference Champions and Regional Chmapions. By the end of February our girls basketball qualified to the regional finals and the co-op hockey team won their first round at regionals. 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!

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.

I will encourage everyone to become knowledgeable of the issues surrounding our upcoming referendum vote in April. Please be sure to get out and vote!

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  
tbrown@oakfield.k12.wi.us  
(920) 583-3958

# Message from Mrs. Doyle



Wow! We are already in the third trimester! Report cards were recently sent home, and now our staff and students are focusing on the Wisconsin Forward Exam, strengthening academic skills, and making the most of the remainder of the school year. April is a critical month for academics, and we are working hard to master as much of the curriculum as possible. This can be a time of great growth for students!

Please continue to set your child up for success each day by maintaining nightly routines, including consistent bedtimes, organized backpacks, completed homework, and quality family time. With spring bringing more evening activities and extended daylight, staying diligent with routines is more important than ever.

We are also in the process of registering new students for the 2025-2026 school year. If you haven't already, please register any 4K students for the upcoming school year. This helps us plan for enrollment numbers. Students must be 4 years old on or before September 1, 2025.

Keep up the great work, Oakfield Elementary students and families! Supporting our students is a team effort, and I am so proud of all the dedication, celebrations, and conversations happening to guide our kids on their learning journey.

Thank you for your continued support!

Mrs. Doyle  
-Oakfield Elementary Principal

### March Dates to Know

**March 24 - March 28: No School Spring Break**

## April Dates to Know

**April 4, 5, 6: Spring Musical: Annie @ OES**

**April 6: FFA Alumni Toy Show: MS/HS**

## April 7 and 9: Middle School Forward Testing: Social Studies

## April 7, 9, and 11: Middle School Forward Testing: Science

**April 8:** Grade 9 and 10 Pre-ACT Test: 100% virtual classes for students in grades 6-8; 11-12.

**Saturday, April 12: Prom: The Rock in Waupun**

## April 14 - 16: Middle School Forward Testing: Mathematics

## April 16: Trailways Honors Banquet

## End of Year Dates to Know

**May 9: MS Spring Dance (Semi-Formal)**

**May 14: 6:00 Senior Awards Night**

**Sunday-Monday, May 18 and 19: Senior Trip**

**May 21: High School Spring Band and Choir Concert: MS/HS Gym 7:00**

**May 28: Middle School Spring Band and Choir Concert: MS/HS Gym 7:00**

**June 5: Last Day of School: 1:25 release**

**June 6: Graduation MS/HS Gym 7:00**

# Message from Dr. Sarah Poquette



Dear Oakfield Community,

Have you noticed the change in daylight hours as much as I have? For some reason, when Daylight Savings Time takes over in March, the sun seems to shine a little brighter, and the outlook feels a little lighter. It becomes easier to see the positives that were always there—hidden in plain sight. Sometimes, we just need a shift in perspective to appreciate them. When we get busy and settle into routines, it’s easy to over-look the small joys happening around us.

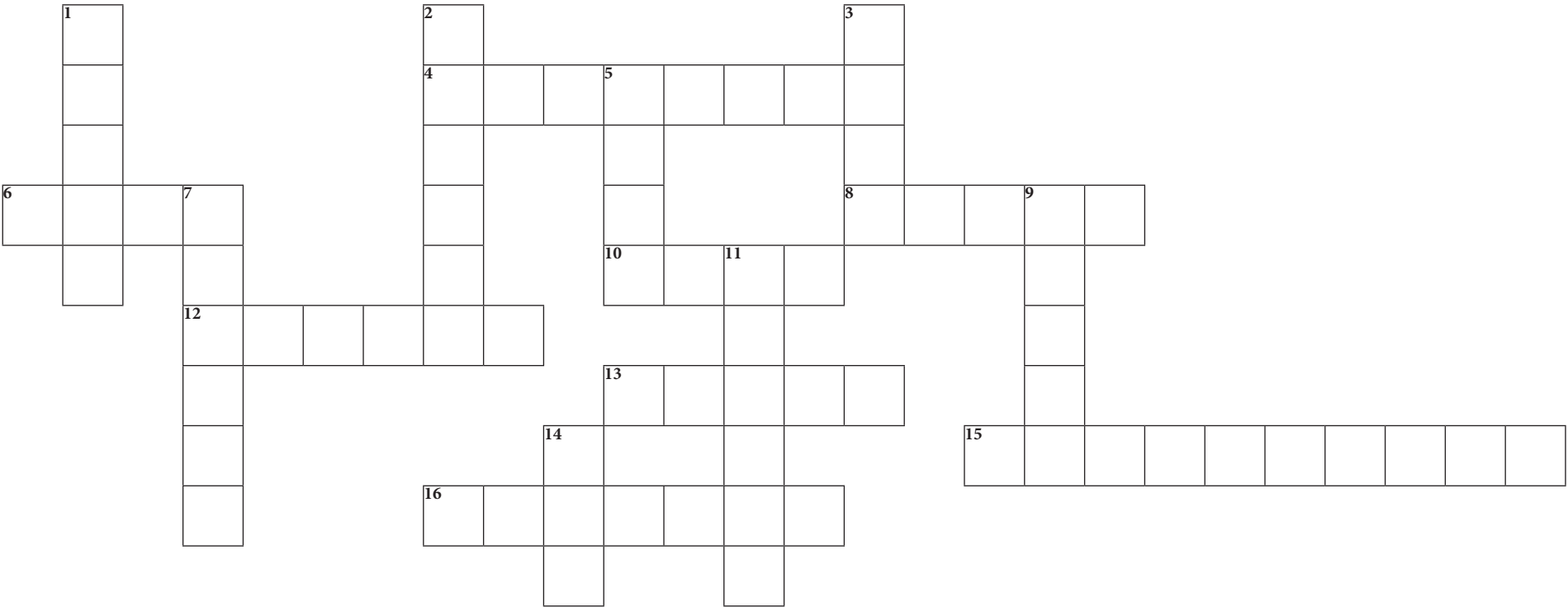
This past month has been filled with inspiring moments in our school community. We celebrated Read Across America Week, enjoyed Breakfast and a Good Book, and watched Mrs. Doyle—better known as the Cat in the Hat—bring stories to life for students. I saw Mr. Brown encouraging students in study hall, student wrestlers reaching personal milestones and success at the state tournament, and a standout female powerlifter receiving well-earned recognition from the community during a basketball game. The hard work and dedication of both the girls’ and boys’ basketball teams have been incredible to witness.

And the excitement doesn’t stop there! There are so many opportunities to engage with our schools. In April, our talented students will bring “Annie” to the stage for the school musical, and the FFA Awards Ceremony will celebrate the achievements of our future agricultural leaders. Spring sports are also kick-ing off, and before we know it, the fields will be buzzing with competition and community.

With all this energy and momentum, I would be remiss not to encourage everyone in our community to get out and vote on April 1. This election is a crucial one for our school district as we shape the programming for the 2025-2026 school year. Our district is filled with light, enthusiasm, and promise—let’s keep the sunshine going strong. Our students deserve it.

Sincerely,  
*Dr. Sarah Poquette*  
District Administrator  
School District of Oakfield

## SPRING CROSSWORD



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.

SEASONS	KITE	MARCH	SHOWER
EASTER	WARM	PUDDLE	UMBRELLA
TULIP	RAIN	APRIL FOOLS	APRIL
MAY	SPRING	NEST	MELTS



Senior Spotlight - Megan Miller



**What are your plans after high school?**  
U.W. Stevens Point for Nursing

**Favorite teacher?**  
Heidi West

**One thing you wish you would have done differently?**  
Been more involved and attending activities.

**Favorite High School Memory?**  
Hanging out with friends.

Middle School Student of the Month  
Renee Holl



**What is your favorite movie or TV show series?**  
Harry Potter

**What sports have you played?**  
Bowling, soccer, and cross-country

**What is your least favorite class?**  
Social Studies

**What is your favorite color?**  
Purple

Beater of the Month - Brayden Joas



**Make and Model?**  
1999 Saturn

**How many Miles?**  
180,000

**Favorite Feature?**  
Check engine light

**Favorite Memory?**  
Mudding with it

Teacher of the Month - Mrs. Daane



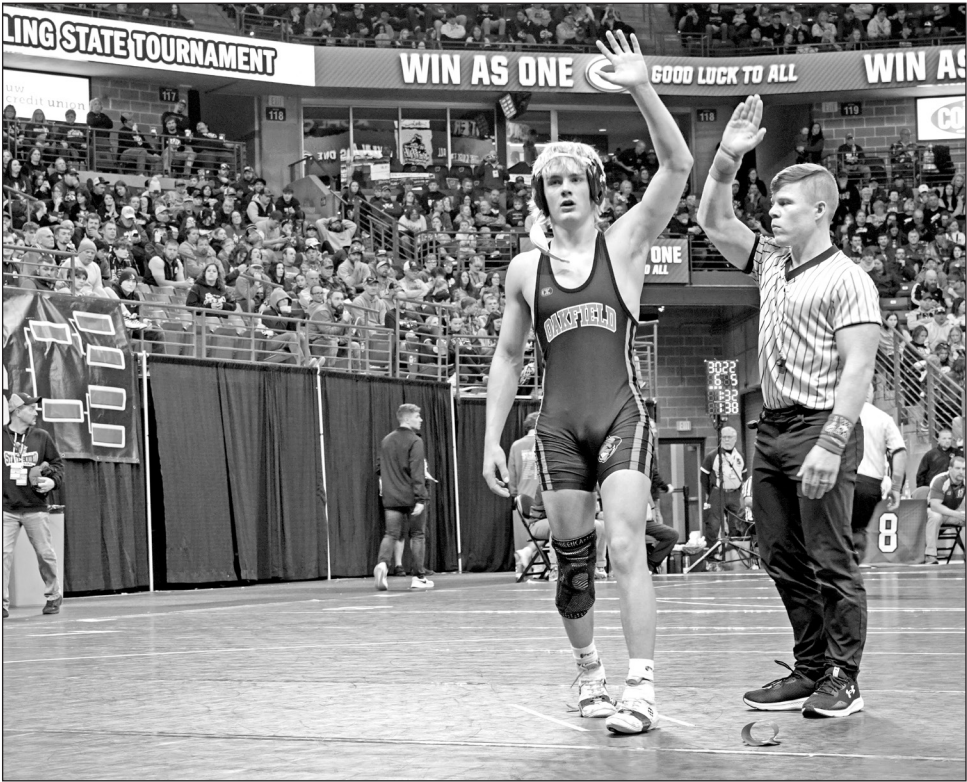
**How many years have you been teaching for?**  
4.5 years

**What are you looking forward to this school year?**  
All the field trips for the food processing and vet science classes.

**What's your favorite part about your job?**  
Coworkers and students

**What's your favorite class to teach?**  
6th grade agriculture

State Wrestling



The Oaks boys wrestling season came to a close in Madison as sophomore 138-pounder Austin Harmsen made it to his second consecutive WIAA Individual State Wrestling Tournament. He finished the season with an excellent 48-13 record. This broke his previous single-season school record for victories. He also broke a three-way tie for pins in a season as he set a new standard with 29. Seniors Brent Morell 29-10 with 14 pins and Ben Crile 12 wins saw their seasons come to unfortunate early ends before the post-

season with an injury and an illness. Morell, Crile, and Harmsen served as team captains. Junior Noah Fisher was injured early in the season but came back late to post 9 victories. The team also got significant contributions from its freshmen class this season as Blake Machmueler had 25 wins, Elishia Hartwig had 20 wins, and Estevan Luna had 15 wins. The hard work paid off for the team as they with the help of the lady Oaks, won 10 dual meets this year, the most in over a decade.

State Powerlifting



Lainey Schepp was the Oakfield participant at the State Powerlifting meet on March 8 at the Fox Cities Exposition Center in Appleton. Lainey had qualified for state at the Laconia/Waupun meet in December and put in a lot of work between qualifying and state, and her effort paid off. She had a goal of being in the top ten in her weight class (60 Kg) and she crushed that goal. Lainey lifted 100 Kg (220 pounds) in the squat, followed it up with 52.5 Kg (116 pounds) in the bench press, and finished her day lifting 132.5 Kg (292 pounds) in the deadlift. All three of her lifts were personal records for Lainey.

All in all, Lainey finished the day with a total of 285 Kg which is 628 pounds, which was a personal meet record. She received a fourth place medal in her division. When you see Lainey, be sure to congratulate her on her effort and achievement.



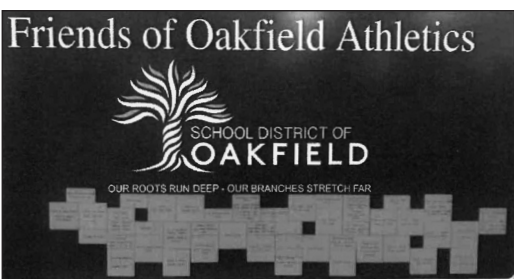


Back to Back  
Conference Champions

Regional Champions



**Hello Oak Nation,**  
We are accepting donations for Hudl Cameras which stream our activities to the public. Contact Doug Mock for more information at 920-583-3141. **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



**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 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.*



**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 • 250 E. Church St., Oakfield, WI 53065



OAKFIELD THEATER  
PROUDLY PRESENTS



FRIDAY APRIL 4, 2025 7:00 P.M.  
SATURDAY APRIL 5, 2025 7:00 P.M.  
SUNDAY APRIL 6, 2025 2:00 P.M.  
OAKFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GYMNASIUM  
200 WHITE STREET OAKFIELD WI 53065  
TICKETS ON SALE BEGINNING MONDAY MARCH 10TH  
AT THE OAKFIELD HIGH SCHOOL OFFICE

TICKETS

- \$8.00 ADULTS
- \$5.00 SENIORS (60+)
- \$5.00 STUDENTS

ORIGINAL BROADWAY PRODUCTION DIRECTED BY MARTIN CHARNIN  
BOOK BY THOMAS MEEHAN    MUSIC BY CHARLES STRAUSE    LYRICS BY MARTIN CHARNIN  
Annie JR. is presented through special arrangement with  
and all authorized materials are supplied by  
Music Theatre International, New York, NY mtishows.com

## Oakfield Community Blood Drive

Friday, March 7, we collected 44 units of Blood at our drive. Thank you to the following students for their assistance in unloading the Red Cross Truck: Carson Fisher, Keira Marchekuski, Alexis Liebenow, Krista Sabel, Jorja Hofman, Madeline Meredith. Thank you to our Lions Club Members for their continued work in keeping this drive going: Lions Diane, Mary, Gail, Judy, Karen, Al, Stuart, Jeff, and Joe.

Special thank you to the Ladies of the Lutheran Church here in Oakfield for the donation of wonderful cookies and bars.

Even though we collected 44 units of blood, we are still short of our goal for the year 200+.

Our next Blood Drive is May 2 at the Community Center. We are asking everyone who can to step up and help us reach our goal. By donating at this time you are saving many lives and you are helping The Lions Club provide scholarships for our graduating seniors.

### General Mills 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](https://boxtops4education.com)  
*Earning is Easy!*





OPEN ENROLLMENT  
February 3rd - April 30th



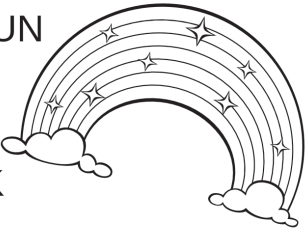
## SAINT PATRICK'S DAY Wordsearch

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

#### WORD LIST

CELEBRATE  
COINS  
GOLD  
GREEN  
IRELAND

LEPRECHAUN  
LUCK  
MARCH  
RAINBOW  
SHAMROCK



Homemade  
GIFTS MADE EASY



FFA

The Oakfield FFA has wrapped up their annual strawberry sale! Thank you to all who have purchased and sold, your support doesn’t go unnoticed. Eight middle school FFA members attended a leadership conference. This is the first conference FFA members are able to attend. The Oakfield FFA Alumni has started their meat raffle! Tickets are 1 for \$20 or 3 for \$50. See any FFA Alumni for more information and tickets. Please see the poster for more information. FFA members will be presenting their supervised agriculture experience (SAE) during Ag Showcase this year. Oakfield Alumni will be providing concessions this year! Ag Showcase will be March 21st-23rd. We hope to see you there!

-Abigail Dorn,  
2024-2025 Oakfield FFA President



**OAKFIELD FFA ALUMNI**  
**Meat Raffle**

4 lots— 1/4 Beef  
4 lots— Half a Pig  
4– Tailgate Box  
(Worth \$250)  
4– Party Pack  
(Worth \$100)  
See ticket for more info!

Drawing will be held  
**April 9th, 2025**  
Following FFA Banquet at Oakfield High

**TICKETS: 1 FOR \$20 OR 3 FOR \$50**

Sponsored by Becks Meats

Oakfield FFA Alumni  
Toy & Craft Show

-Sunday,  
April 6th  
9am-2pm

-Oakfield  
Middle/High School  
250 Church St.

-Admission: \$3  
(8 & under are  
free)

-Concessions by  
Oakfield FFA

Any questions, please contact  
Jason Dorn - 920.979.8595 or  
jasondorn1979@gmail.com



How to Read Your Tax Bill

Tax bills are mailed annually in mid-December. The following information will help to understand the different sections of the tax statement. The image below shows a tax statement from 2023 from the Town of Oakfield. Personal information has been removed. Each municipality bill might look a little different, but the same general information is provided. Each orange letter corresponds to a description below the image. A definition of terms can be found at the end of the document.



TOWN OF OAKFIELD TREASURER  
N3330 OAK CENTER ROAD  
OAKFIELD, WI 53065

HOMEOWNER  
N123 MAIN RD  
OAKFIELD WI 53065

**FOND DU LAC COUNTY-STATE OF WISCONSIN  
PROPERTY TAX BILL FOR 2023  
REAL ESTATE**

Homeowner  
Parcel Number:T151123456780320  
Bill Number: 8276532

Important: Be sure this description covers your property. Note that this description is for tax bill only and may not be a full legal description. See reverse side for important information.

**Location of Property/Legal Description**  
**N123 MAIN RD**  
Sec.3,T14N,R1  
S3T14NR21E1LOT1CSM #937-8-97 LOC IN SE1/4 NE1/6  
(V123 579) ALSO 60' STRIP ADJ ON S AS REC V1282-5453.61A  
2 ACRES

Please inform treasurer of address changes.

<b>B</b>	ASSESSED VALUE LAND 33,500	<b>C</b>	ASSESSED VALUE IMPROVEMENTS 177,100	<b>D</b>	TOTAL ASSESSED VALUE 210,600	<b>E</b>	AVERAGE ASMT. RATIO 0.717225628	<b>F</b>	NET ASSESSED VALUE RATE 0.02288671 (Does NOT reflect credits)	<b>NET PROPERTY TAX</b>	4391.29
<b>G</b>	ESTIMATED FAIR MARKET VALUE LAND 46,700	<b>H</b>	ESTIMATED FAIR MARKET VALUE IMPROVEMENTS 246,900	<b>I</b>	TOTAL ESTIMATED FAIR MARKET VALUE 293,600	<input type="checkbox"/>	A star in this box means unpaid prior year taxes.	<b>J</b>	School taxes also reduced by school levy tax credit 476.06	<b>POWTS</b>	7.00

TAXING JURISDICTION	2022 EST. STATE AIDS ALLOCATED TAX DIST.	2023 EST. STATE AIDS ALLOCATED TAX DIST.	2022 NET TAX	2023 NET TAX	% TAX CHANGE
FOND DU LAC COUNTY	49,795	61,293	1,418.96	1,442.37	1.6%
TOWN OF OAKFIELD	172,015	227,108	719.50	725.83	0.9%
OAKFIELD SCHOOL	1,042,950	1,026,624	2,359.30	2,480.63	5.1%
MORaine PARK TECH	64,774	64,191	125.76	171.10	36.1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,329,534</b>	<b>1,379,216</b>	<b>4,623.52</b>	<b>4,819.93</b>	<b>4.2%</b>

**O** → **FIRST DOLLAR CREDIT**

**N** → **LOTTERY AND GAMING CREDIT**

**N** → **NET PROPERTY TAX**

**A** → **FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY -Voter Approved Temporary Tax Increases**

Taxing Jurisdiction	Total Additional Taxes	Total Additional Taxes Applied to Property	Year Increase Ends	Taxing Jurisdiction	Total Additional Taxes	Total Additional Taxes Applied to Property	Year Increase Ends
TOWN OF OAKFIELD	12,576	41.79	2036				
OAKFIELD SCHOOL	247,347	933.11	2025				
OAKFIELD SCHOOL	231,640	873.86	2043				
MORaine PARK TECH	10,034	33.34	2043				

**M**

2022	2023	% TAX CHANGE
-87.08	-90.77	4.2%
-285.83	-337.87	18.2%
<b>4,250.61</b>	<b>4,391.29</b>	<b>3.3%</b>

**TOTAL DUE: \$4,398.29**

FOR FULL PAYMENT  
PAY BY:  
JANUARY 31, 2024

Warning: If not paid by due dates, installment option is lost and total tax is delinquent subject to interest and, if applicable, penalty.  
Failure to pay on time. See reverse.

Definition of Terms

The following terms are used on tax bills, in this document and in other written material about property taxes.

**Assessed Value:**The value that is assigned to property by the assessor for the purpose of taxation.

**Assessment Ratio:**The average assessment ratio is provided by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue and is used in calculating the estimated fair market value shown on tax bills. Assessed value is divided by the average assessment ratio to get the estimated fair market value.

**Equalized Value:**This is the estimated value of all taxable real and personal property in the district. The value used is the market value, which is the most probable selling price.

**Fair Market Value:**This is the real market value of a property. In other words, it is the price for which a property would be sold by a willing seller to a willing buyer, under normal market conditions.

**Levy:** The total amount of property taxes imposed by a taxing jurisdiction.

**Taxation District:**A city, village, or town. If a city or village lies in more than one county, this is the portion of the city or village which lies within each county.

**Taxing Jurisdiction:**Any entity authorized by law to levy taxes on property located within its boundaries. This includes the state, the city (or other local government), the county, the school district, and/or the local technical college.

How to Read Your Tax Bill

**A: Referendum/Resolution Reminder:** State law requires that the items listed below are displayed on Wisconsin property tax bills for each county, municipality, school district and technical college that has a temporary change in tax levy approved after December 31, 2014, by referendum or resolution (for towns with a population under 3,000). This is not a special assessment for any individual jurisdiction listed on the bill.

**B: Assessed Value Land:** The value of taxable land, as determined by the assessor for the purpose of taxation.

**C: Assessed Value Improvements:** The value of taxable buildings, as determined by the assessor for the purpose of taxation.

**D: Total Assessed Value:** The total value of land and buildings, as determined by the assessor for the purpose of taxation. This figure is the sum of (B) and (C) and it may be higher or lower than the current market value of the property. This is multiplied by the net assessed value rate (tax rate) to determine the amount of tax that each property owner must pay.

**E: Average Assessment Ratio:** The average assessment ratio is determined by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue and is used in calculating the estimated fair market value shown on the tax bill. The assessed value divided by the average assessment ratio = estimated fair market value.

For example, if the assessment of a parcel of land, which sold for \$150,000 (fair market value) was \$140,000, the assessment ratio is said to be 93% (140,000 divided by 150,000).

**F: Net Assessed Value Rate (Tax Rate):** The tax rate is determined by dividing the amount of the tax levy — that is, the total amount that is taxed in the entire district — by the total assessed value of all property in the district. The tax rate is then multiplied by the total assessed value to determine the amount of tax that each property owner must pay.

**E: Estimated Fair Market Land:** This figure is the assessed value land figure (B)divided by the average assessment ratio (E).

**H: Estimated Fair Market Improvements:** This figure is the assessed value improvements figure (C)divided by the average assessment ratio (E).

**I: Total Estimated Fair Market Value:** This figure is the sum of the estimated fair market land figure (E)and the estimated fair market improvements figure (H)

**J: School Levy Tax Credit:** The school levy tax credit is a credit that is paid to municipalities, not the school district. It issues revenues back to the public in an effort to offset property taxes. This credit is automatically applied to all properties that qualify. It is funded using income, sales and excise taxes.

Despite the fact that these funds do not go to schools, the state considers these dollars part of its commitment to education. School levy tax credits are distributed based on each municipality’s share of statewide levies for school purposes. These amounts are decided based on the value of an individual property as a percentage of the district’s total value.

**K: Taxing Jurisdiction:** Any entity authorized by law to levy taxes on property located within its boundaries. This includes the state, the city (or other local government), the county, the school district, and/or the local technical college.

**L: State Aid:** This shows the revenue received from the state for each jurisdiction, for this and the prior year.

**M: Information from Prior Years:** This shows the taxes due for each jurisdiction. For comparison, the figures for the prior year are listed with the percent change.

**N: Net Property Tax:** This figure is the total property tax minus the lottery and gaming credit, described below.

**O: First Dollar Credit and Lottery and Gaming Credit:** Like the School Levy Tax Credit, the First Dollar Credit issues revenues back to the public to offset property taxes. This money does not go to schools, although the state considers it part of its commitment to education. It should be automatically applied to all qualifying properties.

The Lottery and Gaming Credit is a property tax credit, which is provided by the State from its lottery and gaming revenues. The lottery and gaming credit is determined in November of each year and depends on the revenue gained from lotteries, pari-mutuel on-track betting, and bingo for the year. In most cases, the credit is applied automatically.





# Choir Members Perform well at Solo-Ensemble

On Saturday, February 22nd vocal music students from Oakfield High School and Oakfield Middle School participated in the Trailway North Conference Solo-Ensemble Festival at Cambria-Friesland High School. Students receiving starred (\*) 1st ratings will perform at the state festival at UW-Oshkosh on April 26th. A complete list of the ratings follows:

- Class A \*I**  
Annabella Hartwig ~ vocal solo  
Annabella Hartwig ~ musical theater solo  
Addi Dubey ~ vocal solo  
Clara Hartwig ~ vocal solo  
Dannica Hartwig ~ vocal solo  
Annabella Hartwig and Madeline Meredith ~ vocal duet Class A I  
Isabel Weber ~ vocal solo  
Caleb Simmons ~ vocal solo  
Madelyn Adamson ~ vocal solo  
Willow Berndt ~ vocal solo  
Willow Berndt ~ musical theater solo  
Clara Hartwig and Dannica Hartwig ~ vocal duet

- Class A II**  
Kate Haase ~ vocal solo  
Bethany Braker ~ vocal solo  
Kealeigh Willett ~ vocal solo  
Madelyn Adamson ~ musical theater solo  
Clare Haase ~ vocal solo

- Class B I**  
Avery Bruggink ~ vocal solo  
Kylynn Gerlikovski and Ava Lamb ~ vocal duet  
Arianna Schroeder ~ vocal solo  
Lucy Potratz ~ vocal solo  
Wynsor Berndt ~ vocal solo  
Adeline Mouw ~ vocal solo  
Clara Hartwig ~ piano solo  
Arianna Schroeder and Lucy Potratz ~ vocal duet

- Class B II**  
Mitchell Gruetzmacher ~ vocal solo  
Aria Husak ~ vocal solo

- Class C I**  
Victor Hilbert ~ vocal solo  
Renee Holl ~ vocal solo  
Isabel Doering ~ vocal solo  
Isabel Weber and Addi Dubey ~ vocal duet  
Abby Engelbert and Isabel Doering ~ vocal duet  
Ayanah Adams and Joy Simmons ~ vocal duet



- Class C II**  
Lacy Johnston ~ vocal solo  
Wynsor Berndt and Kailey Paz ~ vocal duet  
Renee Holl, Shelby Wieting, Scarlet Demoske, Stella Fisher, and Emma Justman ~ vocal ensemble  
Claire Collien, Heidi Doering, McKenna Williams, Lacy Johnston, and Callie Breister ~ vocal ensemble

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

*On Tuesday, March 4th, ten 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 190 other students from 11 different schools. They rehearsed for the better part of the day and performed a concert at 4:15.*





# What was Lost: The Ash Tree Northeast of the Horicon Marsh

By Karl McCarty

It's a land of outcropping bluffs, walking ferns, filtering water and making maple syrup. And somewhere between the consistency of the old eastern red cedars and a random black bear is a dying tree which lived long enough to justify its history with Native Americans. Here are the reasons an ash tree on the bottom of the Ledge in the Town of Oakfield should be distinguished as a potential trail marker tree.

- 1. An Old Ash.** For example, there is a red oak trail tree above the Ledge on Derek Komp's land (previous article) that is next to an ash tree that recently fell down. When that ash died, it was about 175 years old with a circumference of seven and a half feet. In contrast, the ash tree on the bottom of the Ledge that is a likely trail tree has a circumference of 9.5 feet. "The other one is much bigger," Derek said of the ash marker tree. Therefore, that older ash is not only strange in its arms, but defiant in its size.
- 2. Uneven Arms.** Ash typically grows even in its branch placement. Noteworthy with this bent tree on the bottom of the Ledge, is that its branches uniformly hug the southwest direction toward the Horicon Marsh. "It's almost like the wind wrapped it and all the branches are on the one side," Derek said. This all the more interesting given this ash didn't have a large competitor to the northeast side of it. "That one caught my attention because I said, 'Why are there no branches on this side of the tree [to the northeast], even though there is no big tree next to it that would have forced it that way [to point to the southwest]?"
- 3. Healed Knobs.** There are knobs that seem to have healed on this ash tree's trunk where bending of branches occurred. Despite ash's straight grain and great linear footage, the sides of the tree bubbles out in the area where the arms are bent to the Horicon Marsh. Recall that the bending of these trees would have occurred in the 1800s, so once these branches were bent, some of their pulling may have healed over. Also, it's possible some of the branches were bent so low that they were killed out by the canopy. When this occurs, branches shrivel up and die (atrophy). Over years and decades, those branches fall off, and/or can heal over time. And time is a lot of what this ash tree has had, whose bending might date back to the Jackson Administration and the subsequent consequences of Indian Removal, which impact a lot more than just the five tribes of the American Southeast (Creeks, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Seminoles and Cherokee) but also tribes in the remnants of the Northwest Territory.
- 4. Tough Soil.** Derek pointed out maples in the area that fell in recent years, their diameter was only a few inches, but those saplings were already 30 to 35 years old. It takes a lot of durability to live on the Ledge. "I can't believe they even grow, to be honest. Because you look at them, and they hit rock six inches down. They are just fighting to stay in that and grow." Understand that this ash tree exists on a slight elevation, and although the species can be a faster growing tree, it is in the same rocky base that makes it all the more impressive for its size.
- 5. Corroborates with Messner.** The ash is an equivalent to the Messner Tree in the same township reported earlier. Both the ash at Komp's and the oak at Messner are over 200 years old. Both are at the bottom of the Ledge. Both bends are through the branches, not the leader. Both have knobs of potential healed overgrowth where bending occurred or were attempted. Both open up southwesterly toward the Horicon Marsh. In addition, thankfully both trees are looked over by families who want to preserve the Ledge as is.

Here are some additional questions to consider. First, how often was ash used by Indians to mark places or trails?

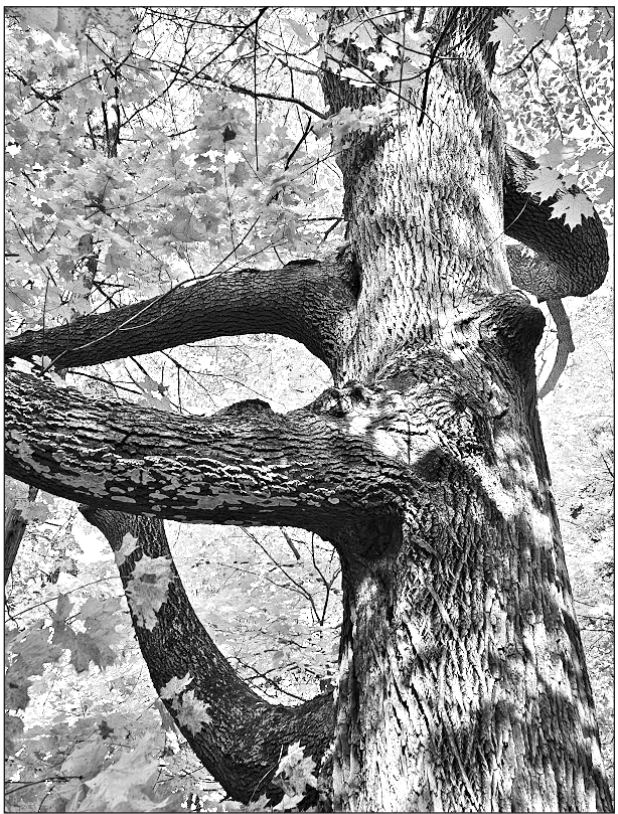
Ash is a very straight grained tree. Given I have only located one marker tree that was ash (Town of Ashford) so far, my concern is that once bent by the leader, the ash tree split. Therefore, ash was a good choice for bending on the Ledge because the Ledge trees focus on a branch (arm) bend rather than the leader. That ash in Oakfield Township was also likely to outpace the red cedar next to it in height. Because ash does well in lowlands, it's fitting that it is on the bottom of the Ledge. However, given the decimation of ash via the emerald ash borer, it's a concern that ash bent by Natives long ago have already broken, 'caked' and rotted from the disease. Are there any area Native American marker trees in the species of ash still living or structurally standing?

Another question is how the ash's branches were bent. Ash has very straight grain, so a sharp 90 degree bend might cause an eventual split in the tree at the bend. Natives might have been aware of the potential problems with the species, but the ash was still a better choice as a directional over the eastern cedars. If vines were used, they may have been placed more lightly on the ash tree to smoothly shape the directional marker.

Overall, Komp's preservation of the history of his woods is important. Sometimes it's a wonder too if the right people get to the land. And also if the tree

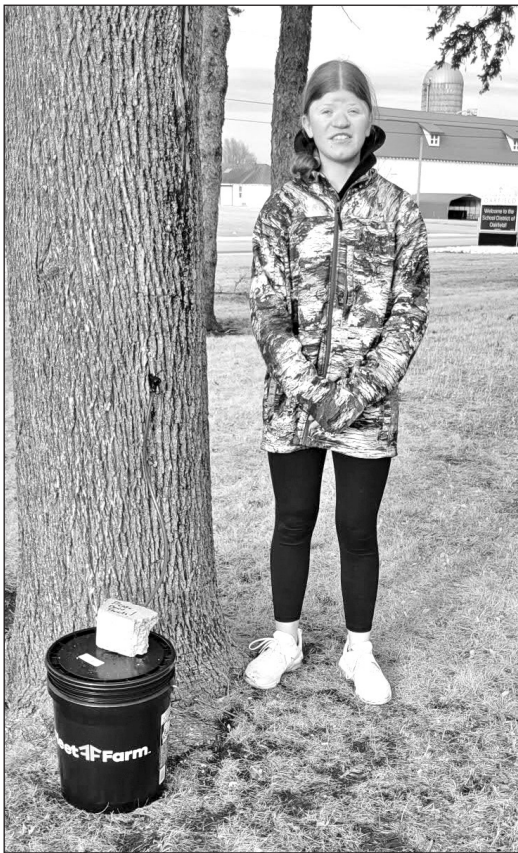
lived long enough for people in the area to believe its history and story. The location is almost like a whole other world. There are beautiful eastern red cedar so old and native to the ledge. Having grown so slow, the only thing green on them is their canopy high above the cedar trunks. It's a sign of what was—when red cedar grew pronounced and the ash and oak were bent toward the Horicon Marsh. Besides the aged red cedar, Derek spoke of the spring water running out of the Ledge. "At the bottom of the Ledge, when everything is thawing...it is just pumping water. It looks like white water rapids." In the spring of 2023, he even drank it. He said it tastes pretty fresh. To witness the conservation of such land and its history is equally refreshing.

"It's too bad. I wish I had been her five years earlier, I probably could've saved it." Derek was open to using a treatment which could have prolonged its life. Nonetheless, the ash marker tree hasn't shed its bark yet, but it's dead, and no shoots are coming up. "An impressive tree," Derek said. But it too will fade in the soil. That is why it's important to share that tree's story, before the ash starts to weaken and "cake." In time the branches will fall and eventually even the tree will fade. This is why we are fortunate for Derek to allow it to be documented. We also thank him for letting our U.S. History students see it in October.



Side angles of the same tree on the bottom of the Oakfield Ledge. This ash tree is over nine feet in circumference, an impressive size given the rocky foundation it grows through. One way the branches could have been bent is by using vines to pull the branches down. Photos by Karl McCarty.

## Tapping into Spring!



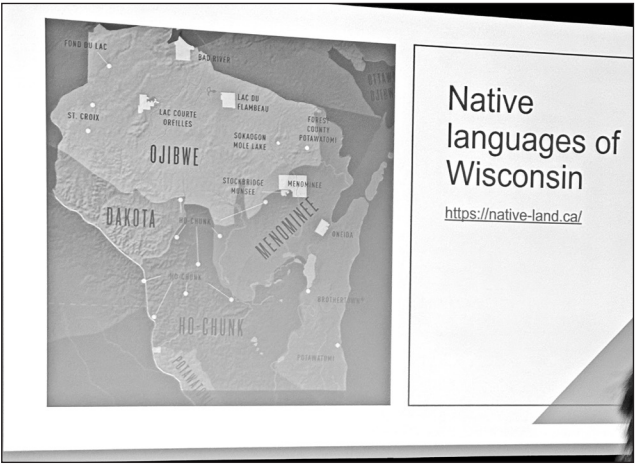
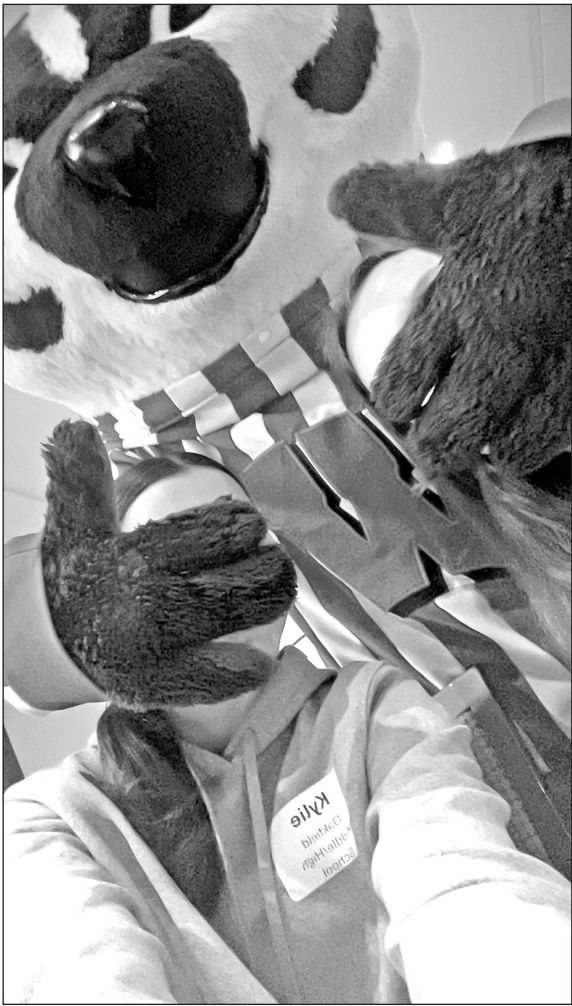
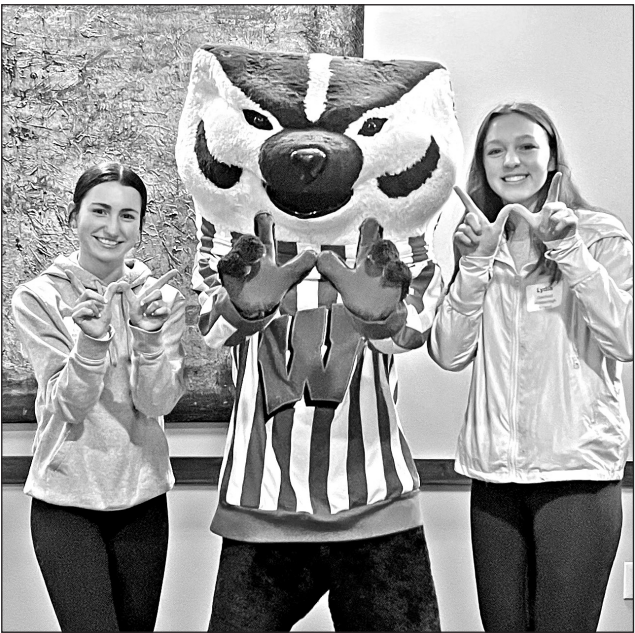
I have been tapping trees and making maple syrup for the last 4 years. I ended up observing my dad at first so that the next year I could learn from his mistakes, and so that I could start tapping trees and making maple syrup all by myself. During the first semester I got permission from Mr. Brown to tap the 7 maple trees in front of the school, for my SAE (Supervised Agricultural Experience). However during the first semester I could only do research for my SAE because the Maple trees typically should not be tapped during that time. Once the second semester hit, I started to prepare to start tapping the trees. On March 3rd, I tapped the trees in front of the school. I was very excited when I saw that the sap started to flow non stop. On a good day, I should be able to get around 1.5-2 gallons of sap a day from each tree, however trees can be unpredictable. One thing to know when estimating how much syrup you will get from the sap, is that if a tree is a Sugar Maple, then it takes 40 gallons of sap to make 1 gallon of syrup, if it is not a Sugar Maple, then it takes about 60 gallons of sap to make 1 gallon of syrup. After tapping the trees, I will boil it down into syrup, which can be quite tedious because it takes many hours to boil it all down. I learned that the more patience you have when boiling down the sap, the better the final product will taste. I highly encourage learning how to tap trees, and making your own syrup because it is a very fun hobby that brings your family closer together each year. (Photo courtesy of Frank Stanczyk, caption written by Khloe Stanczyk.)



# World Day

On March 5, 19 students from Spanish 2 through 4 had the opportunity to participate in the annual Languages of the World Day held at UW-Madison. Along with two dozen different high schools across the state, students attended various presentations about different cultures and languages. Presentations included Indonesian dancing, French stereotypes in media, Italian food and culture, Hindi meditation, Dutch pirate songs, unlocking the Zulu click language, Ukrainian creativity when cursing, Hip Hop and pop music in Kazakhstan, learning about opportunities to learn indigenous languages in Wisconsin, and the list goes on.

It was a great time and Oakfield even came in 2nd place for the end of day trivia event! We all learned something new and were inspired to continue learning different languages.



# Color the World with Kindness

First grade students in Mrs. Lindsley's and Mrs. Zuehlke's classrooms recently learned about places in a community and why each is important. As part of Oakfield Elementary's school theme, Color the World with Kindness, first graders wanted to spread kindness into the community. Each first grader chose a place in our community and wrote about why it is important. They put all of their pages into a book and delivered it to the businesses in the community. In addition to the books, first graders delivered a small plant as a way to say thank you. Thank you to all of our businesses in our Oakfield community!





# Family History

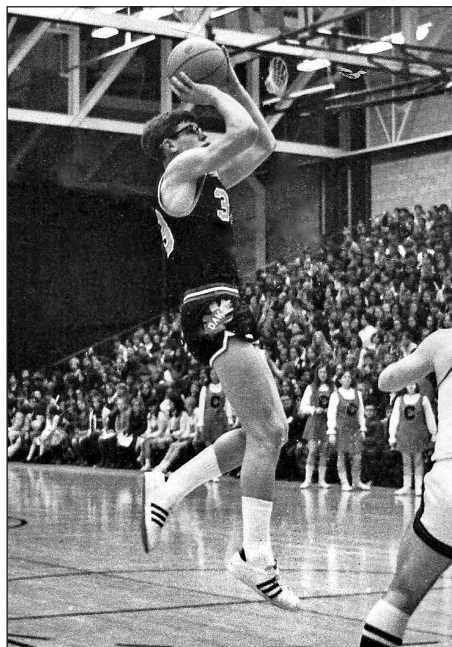
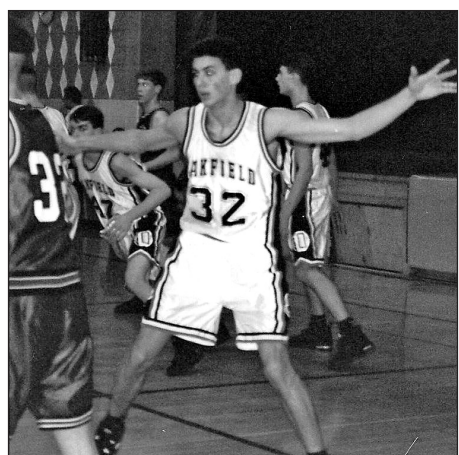
This picture was clearly taken in the year 1922 as it is shown written on the basketball. The person holding the basketball is my great great grandpa George Wonser and to the right of him is his brother, Newton Wonser. As you can see on some of the shirts they are wearing the letter "L" which stands for Lamartine, the township in which they lived. They played in a building in the village of Lamartine. There have been many generations of my family that have played basketball. These photos represent the many generations of basketball players in my family.

The picture at the bottom middle was taken in 1970 and it's a picture of my grandpa Greg Collien playing against Manitowoc because there were no divisions based on the student body. At that time there was no three-point line. One headline in 3/19/70 was "tiny oaks advanced on regional victory". They moved onto the Manitowoc sectional tournament with an undefeated season. The sectional game was against the Manitowoc Ships, where they lost by one point. At the time their coach was Ed Baeten who was inducted into the Wisconsin Basketball Hall of Fame.

The picture at the bottom left is a picture of my father Jason Collien. In this picture they were playing at Oakfield High School, they were believed to be playing Green Lake. The 95' Oakfield Oaks had a record of (25-4). At the time

the Oaks were still in the flyway conference, they won the conference this year. They won the regional championship against Hilbert, they also won the sectional championship against Pecatonica. That meant they would be taking a trip down to Madison for the state tournament. In the state semifinals they played Plum City and beat them 59-28. For the division four state championship they played Cassville. Cassville had a top ten recruit in the nation, Sam Okey. Okey later played for the Wisconsin Badgers and won the Big Ten freshman of the year. The Oaks ended up losing to Cassville 56-43.

In the picture at the bottom right of me you can see that we still play in the same gym as they did 30 years ago. (Captions by Broede Collien; first three photos courtesy of Carol Collien, bottom photo by Heidi West).



Wallendal's Super Service  
By Jaelyn Wallendal

Roger and Jacob always had a passion for cars. In the early 1950's Jacob Wallendal opened his own business called Wallendal's Super Service. This was mainly run by Jacob himself and his son Roger. Wallendal Super Service was a full service gas station that did everything from pumping your gas to fixing your car, and even towed it to their station. It was located just off of Highway 67 in Ashippun, WI. They also sold car parts and even had a small store area to buy a quick candy bar. Roger married Bonnie Jean Beekman (born July 3, 1937) on September 15, 1956 in Theresa, Wisconsin. Caroline and Bonnie did all the accounting, bills, and pa-

perwork for Wallendal's Super Service, with some occasional help from Vera (Caroline and Jacob's daughter/Roger's sister)

The top photo shows the Wallendal's Super Service in its early years. It was first a DX gas station. The second/bottom photo shows the station in its later years when it was later changed over to ENCO. Those photos are courtesy of Lori Wallendal.

The Wallendal house was located right next door to the station, this made it easy for Jacob to help customers, no matter the time. Jacob became very well known and had customers come from miles around for his car expertise. The Wallendal's Super Service also took part in parades. The third image shows Jacob and

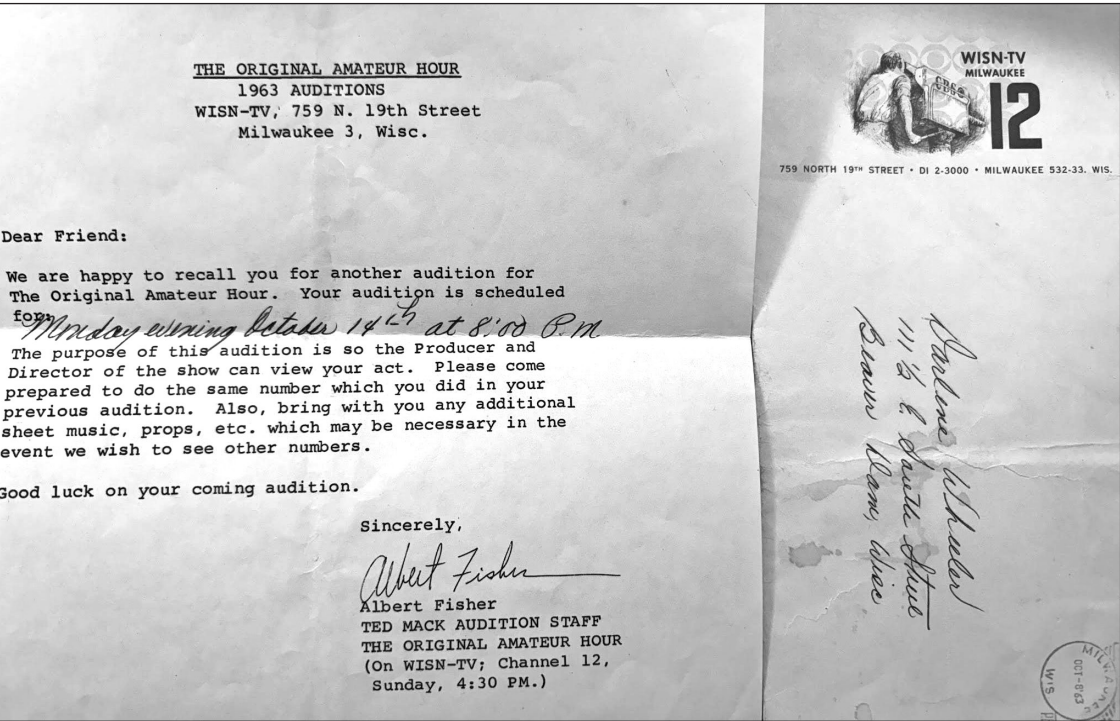
Carrie in the front, preparing the truck for the parade. While Bonnie (Roger's wife, but girlfriend at the time) and Vera (Caroline and Jacob's daughter/Roger's sister) are on the back of the truck. The photo is courtesy of Lori Wallendal.

Wallendal's Super Service was a booming business until it eventually came to an end when they made their move to Mayville and sold the business in the late 1970's. Jacob passed away on October 16, 1999 and his wife followed on January 9, 2007.

This bottom image is what the building looks like as of June 2024. This photo is from Google maps. This building that was once Wallendal's Super Service is now Shake'r Up Garage.







My grandma, Darlene Wheeler was born on August 20th, 1946 in Beaver Dam Wisconsin to Dorothy and Fred Wheeler. She started taking tap dance and baton lessons at 10 from Gloria Whalen in a dance



studio in Beaver Dam. In 1963, as a Junior in high school, she was invited to audition for Ted Mack's Original Amateur Hour. The audition took place in Milwaukee and the letter to the top right is notifying her that she made it to the 2nd round of auditions. She cannot recall if she actually appeared on tv or not, but nonetheless, she says it was an amazing experience. She continued taking dance and baton lessons from Gloria until she was 18, and even did fire baton twirling. Throughout her childhood she competed every summer at the Fond Du Lac fair for tap dancing, baton, and modern jazz. Also, in high school, Darlene loved to go to a roller skating rink outside of Beaver Dam called Crystal Lake Beach Dance Hall/roller rink. She talked fondly of her memories racing around the roller rink and competing against

other boys and girls in races. At the rink, she also danced on roller skates competitively or just for fun. Unsurprisingly, Darlene also loved to go ice skating during the winters in Wisconsin. As if all this activity wasn't enough, my grandma participated in the Girls Athletic Association (GAA) at Beaver Dam High School. Because there were no girls high school teams until 1972, they were only allowed to play club sports through the GAA. All the girls who wanted to play were split up into teams and then played each other after school. The sports Darlene played included basketball, softball, and track. Darlene enjoyed all these sports but indicated that basketball was her favorite of the three, as she was one of the tallest girls and very athletic. Caption by Davis Dercks, Photo is courtesy of Darlene Schroedl.

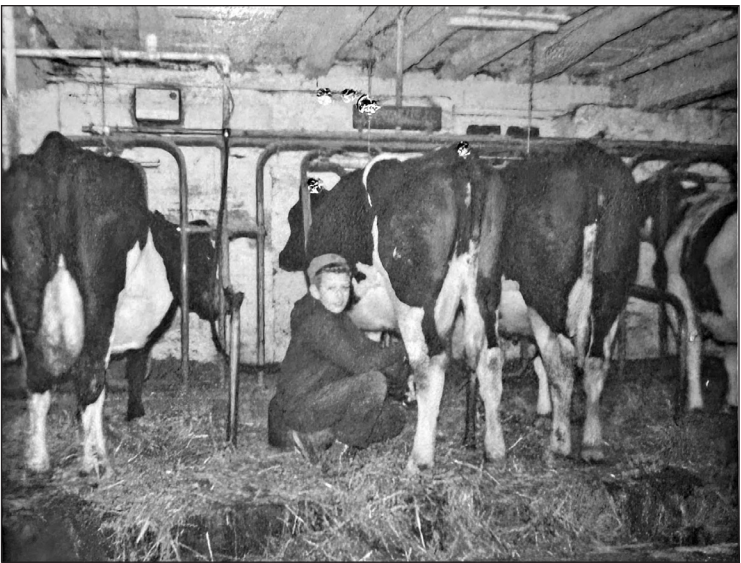


My grandma's mom, Dorothy, owned a cafeteria inside of the Wyenberg shoe factory in Beaver Dam, and throughout high school Darlene often found herself being dragged into helping her mom out at the cafeteria. After graduating high school in 1964, Darlene worked at Weyenberg Shoe Factory making shoes. Her dream was to go to college and become a choreographer but her family could not afford it. She continued to work at the shoe factory and married Robert Grant in December of 1966. (Divorced in 1971) Then, in 1967 she gave birth to my mom, Kelli, and in 1969 gave birth to my uncle, Chris Schroedl. In 1973 she began working for Don Keller Construction as a secretary and later worked for Tim Thousand at Computations Unlimited, now called Scooter Software. Tim Thousand taught her how to be an accountant, even though she had no schooling for it. Tim treated her very well and they are still very good friends to this day; My grandma and mom both think very highly of him. My grandma enjoyed her work at Computations Unlimited, but it was the people that she worked with that made her love her job. On her 40th birthday, while she was working for Tim, her coworkers surprised her and dressed up like elderly people for her birthday. This moment is captured in the image to the right. After they surprised Darlene, they took her in a limo to a coworker's house, and on the road they took to get there, University Avenue, there were signs posted in celebration of Darlene's 40th birthday. Darlene continued to work at Computations Unlimited until Sept 1991, when she started to work at Flad Affiliated Corp, a client of Computations Unlimited. At this time, she was an

accountant and did a lot of computer work/data entry. When talking to my grandma about her experience working at FAC, she mentioned how she was able to work from home at times; plugging in a modem into the phone to do work on her computer. Immediately, when my mom heard us talking about this, she chimed in on how much she hated this situation because having the modem plugged into the phone caused her to not be able to call her friends. Grandma and her shared a laugh on this subject because Darlene remembered how frustrating it was for a teenage Kelli to not be able to call her friends on the family phone, when it was her only way to quickly contact her friends from home. Darlene continued to work at FAC until Feb, 2019, when she retired. When asked if she enjoyed working for FAC, she responded emphatically; she loved to travel and got to fly to offices in places like Florida, San Francisco, and New York to train people that she enjoyed being around. Like at Computations Unlimited, a large part of the enjoyment in her work was with the people she interacted with, this time with people at different offices in the U.S. Caption by Davis Dercks, Photo is courtesy of Darlene Schroedl.



In 1972, my grandpa, Denny, bought a brand-new 1972 orange Chevy Chevelle SS with two black stripes. He had to order the car to be delivered by railroad to his local dealership since it was not in stock there, as it was brand new. When the car arrived, it was obvious that someone had jacked it and taken the wheels off, stereo out, and ripped up the interior in the process. With the option to have it be fixed at the dealership or send it back and order a new one, he sent it back and got a new one that arrived untouched. In the summer of 1973, Denny decided it would be fun to take the Chevelle to Rockford Dragway for a quarter mile race. When he arrived there, there was no one in his race class, as his car didn't have a lot of horsepower compared to the other ones that were used for racing. This meant he won his class, and with it, a trophy. Unfortunately I do not have a picture of this trophy right now. My grandpa kept this orange Chevelle for a few years, and decided he wanted one again in 1991 when he bought a wrecked 1972 Chevelle SS. Denny took the car apart and completely restored it, built the engine for it, and had it painted red with two black stripes. This process, from start to finish, took him about 4 years. The photo you see to the right is this red Chevelle. He enjoyed taking this car for drives in the summer for the 5 or 6 years he had it, often driving it to my uncle, Chris's, baseball games. Although, before he sold it, he earned a trophy at the Beaver Dam Swan City Park Car Show with this Chevelle. Caption by Davis Dercks, Photo is courtesy of Darlene Schroedl. My grandpa, Denny Schroedl, was born on December 8, 1950 to Della and Francis Schroedl. His family owned a small farm between Deerfield and Lake Mills. This meant that Denny spent some of his time as a child helping out on the farm by milking cows, cleaning the barn, and pitching silage. The most cows they ever had at a time was likely 30, but Denny and his siblings had to milk the cows by hand, as you can see him doing in the bottom right photo. Denny attended a one room schoolhouse from 1st-6th grade called Badger School. In this school, he only had 3 in his class including him: One girl and one boy. When I asked him if he could recall any stories or things he remembers from that school, he talked about the recess period they had every day when the majority of all 6 grades (20 kids) would split up into two teams and play baseball. Ms. Kohl (later Mrs. Huff) would pitch for both teams. The top right picture is from a newspaper that depicts the 30 students that attended Badger School in 1960 from grades 1st-6th. My Grandpa, who would have been 10 in this image, is the kid in the very bottom right corner. Caption by Davis Dercks, Photo is courtesy of Darlene Schroedl.







The photo to the right is of my grandma, Darlene, at a flea market, sitting in an antique bathtub. Darlene has been selling antiques at various antique malls and flea markets in the Deforest/Madison area for the past 30 years. She enjoys looking at different historical pieces, but I believe her favorite part of selling antiques is interacting with the people who come to her shop and conversing with them, especially at flea markets.

Also, she is not solely interested in antiques to make a profit, but rather, she genuinely enjoys looking at antiques and hearing the stories behind them. She has given us grandkids many antiques if we have a use for them or think that someone we know may like them. I hope to go to a flea market with her this spring/summer because I have not gone to one in a long time. Caption by Davis Dercks, Photo is courtesy of Darlene Schroedl.



Talking to both my grandparents on my Mom's side, I was able to learn a lot of details about each of their lives that I had not known before. I already knew all of the big events, but it is the little stories that I got to hear that were the most valuable to me. Before this project, I felt that I hadn't learned enough about my mom's grandparents and their lives before I was born. Now, after getting to listen to interesting stories, I feel like I have a better understanding of who my grandparents were throughout their entire

life. I don't ask any of my grandparents on either side enough questions that have valuable answers or a story behind them, so I am happy that I was able to do this research project and gain a better understanding of who my grandparents are. My favorite part to learn about in each of their lives was their childhood. I love comparing their childhood to mine and seeing the glaring differences and striking similarities between them. Caption by Davis Dercks, Photo is courtesy of Darlene Schroedl.



This picture shows a the Wuthnow school that my Great-Great Uncle Donald Sperger and Great-Great Aunt Henrietta Sperger attended. The center row in front shows Donald Sperger. The second row, center, shows Henrietta Sperger. Wuthnow School was a one room schoolhouse in Leroy and this picture was taken during the school year of 1936 - 1937. Their teacher, Anita

Zahn would walk to school every day from her house a few miles from the school. Anita stayed with the Sperger family in the Winter of 1936, because my Great-Great Grandpa Ruben Sperger gave her rides to school. Ruben Sperger, along with running the farm, also worked as a school board clerk. (Caption by Kylynn Gerlikovski, picture courtesy of Janeen Gerlikovski).



Courtland Sperger Sr started out with about 5 Angus cows and over time it grew to 103 milking cows. They would milk the cows at 4:30 in the morning and 4:30 at night. It would take them about an hour and a half to milk all the cows. The animals they had were cows, pigs, chickens, and horses. They also did field work planting oats, corn, etc. They also had dogs for security from the wild animals and had cats to eat the mice. A Farmall F20 was the first tractor on the Bona Vita farm; it was a grey tractor with steel wheels. Courtland Sr would also get together with all of his neighbors for threshing. One of them had a threshing machine and they

would go farm to farm together to harvest wheat.

Together Courtland and Romona Sperger had 4 children (Courtland Jr. (Butch) Bob, Mike and Mona Sperger). Butch being the oldest, and with the most responsibility, always lent his father a hand no matter what age. Courtland needed Butch to drive the tractor home because they didn't have enough people to get everything back from the pea viner. Butch was put on the tractor and not given any instructions but to drive it home. As he was driving he realized that he didn't know how to stop so his solution was to drive right into a silo to stop. Luckily he wasn't driving too fast so it didn't cause a ton of damage and he didn't get hurt, but Courtland Sr was still not happy. Bob and Mike Sperger worked on the farm as well as Butch, while Mona Sperger worked at the Alto creamery. Romona, Courtlands wife, worked at Select Sires as a secretary.

On August 14, 1978 at 7:45 the Wisconsin governor, Gov-

ernor Martin J. Schreiber came to Sperger's Bona Vita Farms for an event called Breakfast on The Farm. Many people came to the event as shown in the bottom picture. The top picture shows Courtland Sperger Sr and Governor Schreiber talking on the Sperger's Bona Vita Farm. Courtland Sr was on the board of directors for the Federation of Cooperatives. Weeks were spent fixing and cleaning up the farm for this event because city people would think that farms are all dirty if they didn't. During the event there was a tour of the farm with the Sperger family and Governor Schreiber. Courtland Sr gave a welcome speech and after that Rod Nilsestuen and Glen Gearing both spoke. Governor Martin Schreiber had a signing of the proclamation that declared October as Co-op Month in WI. The child that the governor Schreiber is holding is most likely one of his own. We know that it isn't one of Courtland's kids. (Caption by Kylynn Gerlikovski and photo courtesy of Janet Sperger).



My mom's family came from a lot of different backgrounds. The Spergers, who are on my mom's paternal side of the family, came from a long line of farmers and strong ties to the Catholic religion. Meanwhile, on the maternal side, my great grandma Wienke, who later remarried to Dawson, came from no religious background, but was introduced to the Lutheran religion when she was young. When my late grandpa, Courtland Sperger Jr married my then grandma Janet Wienke, both families were joined and learned many different things from each other

Courtland Sperger Sr lived on a farm with his family during World War II. His dad, Ruben Sperger, was sick so Courtland Sr. wasn't able to get drafted. He stayed home to run the farm and keep all of the operations up. After Courtland Sr married Romona Bauer, he moved to Alto and bought a farm there known as Sperger's Bona Vita Farms. They named the farm Bona Vita because it means "the good life" and that was what they wanted to live by. His father Ruben helped him put money down on the farm to buy it in 1950. Courtland Sr was 23 years old. He was an outsider in Alto because everyone there was of Dutch background but still he gained a lot of respect and popularity because he never turned down an opportunity to help others. Courtland Sperger was part of one of the three Catholic families that settled in the Dutch reformed community known as Alto. The picture showcases the farm when Courtland Sr. first bought it. Since then they have made quite a few changes. (Caption by Kylynn Gerlikovski; picture courtesy of Ryan Sperger).







In this picture it shows how my family has lived by the value of helping others before themselves. This picture was taken in Alto. It showcases my family helping the Clustobore family with field work. This photo captures all of them taking a lunch break while they rested and talked amongst themselves. My Grandpa “Butch” (Courtland Jr) is in the center in the blue coat with yellow sleeves. At this time he was 18 years old. Every time a bunch of farmers would get together and work on each other’s farm, the wife of the farm owner would make everyone lunch. In this picture the woman who brought them lunch was named Louise Clustobore. (Caption by Kylynn Gerlikovski, picture courtesy of Ryan Sperger.)



My family would butcher their own animals because they had all of the tools and knowledge for it. When they would have to butcher a cow they would shoot the cow when it was in the cattle trailer so that it was relaxed, which prevented the meat from becoming tough. After the cow was killed, they would skin it outside. Then they would hang it in the shop from the bucket of a tractor and let it bleed out.

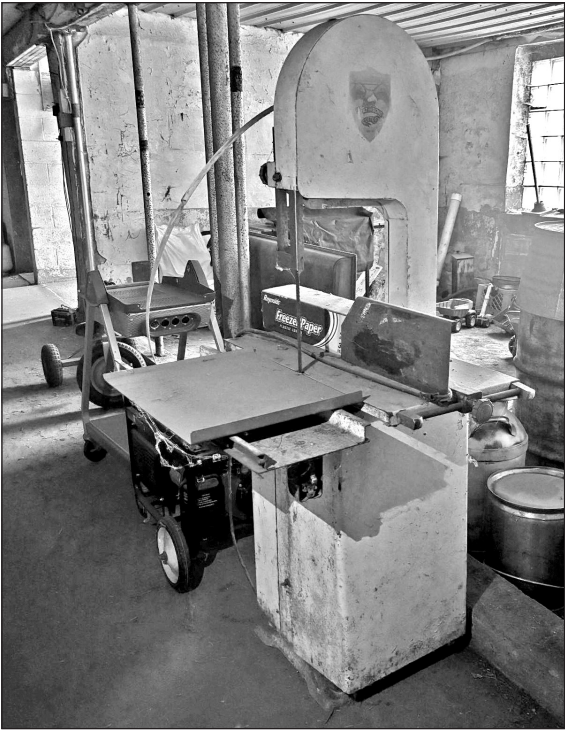
After it was finished bleeding out, they would quarter it and carry it down into the basement of the farmhouse. Then they would cut it up into different cuts of meat and process it. They would wrap each cut in freezer paper and then stack them in the freezer. The pictures show the meat grinder and stuffer that the Spergers have been using for generations. (Captions and photo by Kylynn Gerlikovski) .



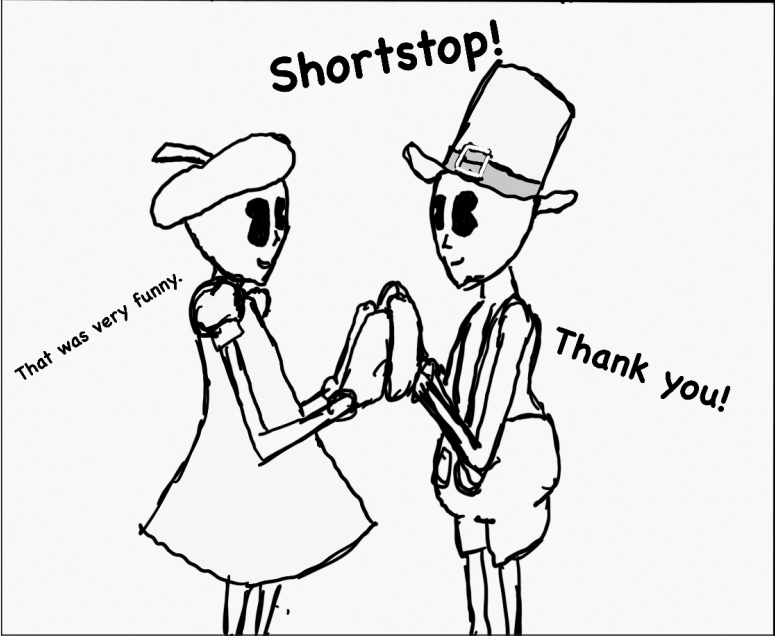
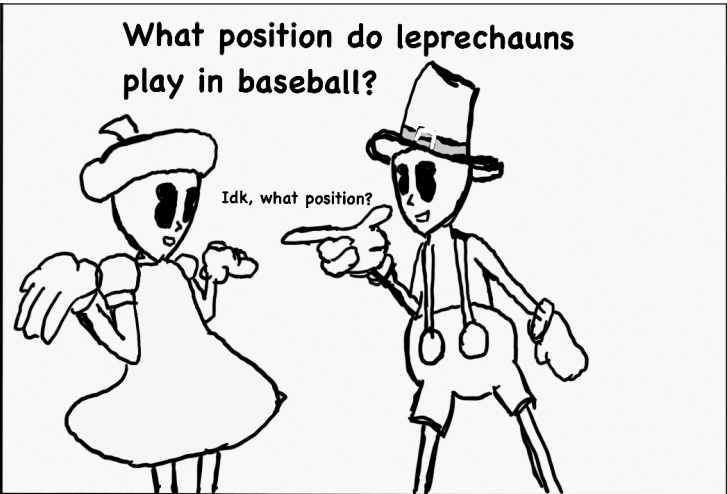
This is a picture of my Great- Great Grandpa Ruben Sperger, his son Courtland Sperger Sr, his son Courtland Sperger Jr (Butch), and his son Steven Sperger. The picture was taken at Butch’s house in Alto WI in 1976 capturing four generations of the Sperger family. All of the men

in the photo were farmers, and Courtland Sr’s farm is still family owned and now operated by the third generation. This picture was given to me by my mother who found it in Courtland Sr’s house after he passed away. I like this picture because it shows all of the generations of farmers in our

family.  
Courtland Sr was also on the Alto Fair Board. His job was to be in charge of ordering tents and making sure that they would be set up on time. He also had to make sure that all of the vendors in the vendor tent were all set up as well. If there were any issues with the cattle or the tractor pull he would be the one to help out. My uncle, Ryan Sperger, now does most of the same stuff. He helps out the President of the fair, Mark Navis. One year during the fair it had rained so much that the grounds were almost flooded. Local farmers hauled in corn cobs to lay on the ground to help soak up all of the water. The band’s vehicle even got stuck in the ground so they needed a tractor to pull them out. Every year after the fair is over tons of farmers and volunteers around Alto come and help to clean everything up. (Caption by Kylynn Gerlikovski and photo courtesy of Janeen Gerlikovski.)



A few things they processed were sausage, pig brains, and multiple cuts of beef. My great grandmother, Romona Sperger, would take the brains of a pig and fry them up. Then she would put them on toast and serve them to people. When they wanted to make sausage they would kill a pig and a cow. They had a meat grinder to grind all of the meat together. They got casings made of intestine from a local meat market and filled those casings with the sausage meat they made. During the Great Depression they would use their own natural casings. One time Courtland Sr dropped a bowl of pig’s blood and got yelled at because they had to use everything they could get from the animals during that time. After casing the sausages, they would hang them in the smoke house until they were ready. The picture shows the meat saw that they used to cut up the cows. It was in Courtland Sr’s basement, but has since been moved to the barn. (Caption and photo by Kylynn Gerlikovski.)





**Regular Board Meeting**  
**(Monday, February 24, 2025)**  
*Generated by Heather Bradwin-Haseman on Tuesday, February 25, 2025*

**1. Introduction**

Procedural: A. Call to Order  
Vice President Patterson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.  
Procedural: B. Pledge of Allegiance  
Procedural: C. Roll Call  
Present: Paul Dercks (5:47pm), Angle Patterson, Heidi Kopf, Jessica Shepherd (5:31pm), John Totz, Sal Arellano  
Absent: Tim Wiese  
Staff: Sarah Poquette, Tim Brown, Becky Doyle, Heather Bradwin-Haseman  
Other: Lauren Price-  
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 the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried 5/0/2  
Action (Consent), Minutes: B. January 20, 2025 Regular meeting minutes  
Recommended Action: Move to approve the January 20, 2025 Regular meeting minutes as presented.  
Action (Consent), Minutes: C. February 10, 2025 Committee of the Whole minutes  
Recommended Action: Move to approve the Feb 10, 2025 Committee of the Whole minutes as part of the consent agenda.  
Action (Consent), Minutes: D. January 6, 2025 Special meeting minutes  
Recommended Action: Move to approve the January 6, 2025 Special meeting minutes as presented.  
Action (Consent): E. Warrants through February 21, 2025  
Recommended Action: Move to approve warrants through February 21, 2025  
Action (Consent): F. Coaches

Recommended Action: Move to approve the coaches as presented as part of the consent agenda.

**3. Public Comments**

Information: A. Public Comment Procedures  
No public Comments

**4. Presentation**

Presentation: A. 2023-24 Audit Presentation  
Lauren Price from Vesta presented the audit letters and findings from the 2023-24 financial audit.  
Information, Presentation: B. Community Referendum Presentation  
Dr. Poquette presented the community referendum presentation to the Board.

**5. Reports**

Discussion, Information: A. DLT Reports  
Dr. Poquette reviewed the District including: finished a good FFA week this past week-lots of fun activities; breakfast and a good book at the elementary school, referendum planning-needed Board members to continue talking to village members; community meetings are going ok, a few more scheduled-Board member attendance is appreciated; PTO family night this week at the elementary school, posted for hiring a second shift custodian at the MS/HS.  
Mrs. Doyle reported on the elementary: great parent/teacher conferences 2 weeks ago, teachers met with about 50% of kids/parents in district; new families in district very appreciative of what their kids are getting at Oakfield; rounding up 4K students-held Future Oaks Night last week, healthy numbers coming in; PTO Beach Party this Friday and Ted Nietzsche presentation on Monday for Modern Parenting workshop.  
Mr. Brown reported on the MS/HS: Busy month-AWSA principal connection and networking-thank you for al-

lowing me the opportunity to attend great things; moved to an adaptive schedule-oak richment is second hour now-feedback is good, teachers are able to have good conversations with students who need help; 2 week left to ACT; new students and parents-nothing but good things to say about the district; great winter sports season? Boys are conference champs, Austen Harmsen is state qualifier for wrestling, girls are continuing on; state mandate on banning cell phones in classes is coming-working on language and will be bringing it to the Board in the future for policy approval.

Information: B. Financial Update  
Dr. Poquette reviewed the financial update.

**6. Action Items**

Action: A. Accept/Acknowledge Donation from Winnebagoland Conservation Alliance  
Recommended Action: Move to accept and acknowledge the donation from Winnebagoland Conservation Alliance.  
Mr. Dercks, seconded by Mr. Totz to accept/acknowledge the \$1000 donation from Winnebagoland Conservation

Alliance. Motion carried 6/0/1  
Action: B. 2025-26 School Calendar  
Recommended Action: Move to approve the 2025-26 school calendar as presented  
Mrs. Patterson, seconded by Mrs. Kopf moved to approve the 2025-26 school calendar as presented. Motion carried 6/0/1  
Action: C. 2023-24 Audit Approval  
Recommended Action: Move to approve the 2023-24 audit as presented. Mr. Dercks, seconded by Mr. Totz moved to approve the 2023-24 financial audit as presented. Motion carried 6/0/1

**7. Next Meetings**

Information: A. Regular Meeting, March 10, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at Oakfield MS/HS IMC  
Information: B. Committee of the Whole-Monday, April 14, 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 6:17pm

**School Board Meeting Schedule**  
**2024-2025**

Monday, April 14, 2025  
Committee of the Whole Meeting  
5:30 p.m. MS/HS IMC

Monday, April 28, 2025  
Regular Meeting  
5:30 p.m. MS/HS IMC



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF  
OAKFIELD



**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF  
OAKFIELD CENSUS**

Is your young family new to the district in the last five years? Did you recently have a baby?

If you answered "YES" to either of these questions, we'd love to include your child in our school district census directory to ensure we have accurate information. Maintaining an up-to-date census is a state-mandated activity, and we strive to include all new families in the district. Please take a moment to complete this form so we can keep our records current.

For any questions, feel free to email us at [info@oakfield.k12.wi.us](mailto:info@oakfield.k12.wi.us) or call the District Office at (920) 583-4117.  
Thank you for helping us stay connected!



To ensure your child doesn't miss out on these opportunities, join our Census by choosing one of the following options:

Visit our website at [oakfield.k12.wi.us](http://oakfield.k12.wi.us), select Menu, Families, Census Form in the drop down.

- OR -

Complete and return this form to:  
Census  
Oakfield School District  
250 E Church St  
Oakfield, WI 53065

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City and Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_





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:

Please send to:  
Sarah Poquette  
District Administrator  
School District of Oakfield

2024-25 District of Oakfield Academic Calendar


March 2025							April 2025							May 2025							June 2025									
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March 24-March 28, 2025  
April 18, 2025  
April 21, 2025  
May 26, 2025  
June 5, 2025  
June 6, 2025

Spring Break--No School  
Good Friday--No School  
No School--Teacher Professional Development  
Memorial Day--No School  
Last Day of School-early release (2 hours early)  
Teacher Workday-Graduation



2025-26 District of Oakfield Academic Calendar



**Oakfield Elementary**  
920-583-3146  
Normal Day Schedule:  
8:00 a.m.-3:15 p.m.

**Oakfield Middle/High School**  
920-583-3141  
Normal Day Schedule:  
8:00 a.m.-3:25 p.m.

**Dr. Sarah Poquette**  
District Administrator  
920-583-2226

**Mr. Timothy Brown**  
MS/HS Principal  
920-583-3958

**Mrs. Becky Doyle**  
Elementary School Principal  
920-583-3146

**Mrs. Holly Rabe**  
School Psychologist/  
Director of Special Education  
920-583-3146

**Mr. Doug Mock**  
MS/HS Activities Director/Phy Ed  
920-583-4599

**Johnson Bus Service**  
920-583-3335

**Oakfield Child Care/Learning Center**  
Director-Bre Reis  
920-583-2648

Aug/Sept 2025	February 2026																																																																													
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School Day

No School

Teacher Professional Development-no school

School Open House

First/Last Day of school

Snow Make-Up Days

Early Release (2 hours)

To be determined

PT-Parent Teacher Conferences

August 25-28, 2025  
August 27, 2025  
September 2, 2025  
October 14 & 16, 2025  
October 17, 2025  
October 20, 2025  
November 26-28, 2025  
December 1, 2025  
December 23, 2025  
December 24, 2025-January 2, 2026  
January 19, 2026  
February 17 & 19, 2026  
February 20, 2026  
February 23, 2026  
March 23-27, 2026  
April 3, 2026  
April 27, 2026  
May 25, 2026  
June 4, 2026  
June 5, 2026

No School--Teacher Professional Development  
District Open House 4pm-6pm  
First Day of School  
Parent Teacher Conferences 3:30-7:30 pm  
No School  
No School--Teacher Professional Development  
Thanksgiving Break--No School  
No School--Teacher Professional Development  
Early Release (2 hours early)  
Winter Break--No School  
No School--Teacher Professional Development  
Parent Teacher Conferences 3:30-7:30 pm  
No School  
No School--Teacher Professional Development  
Spring Break--No School  
Good Friday--No School  
No School--Teacher Professional Development  
Memorial Day--No School  
Last Day of School-early release (2 hours early)  
Teacher Workday- Graduation 7pm

\* denotes end of semester MS/HS  
\*\* denotes end of trimester elementary school

\*Board Approved 2.24.25