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Prevent & Reduce Youth and Adult Substance Use

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Overdose upturn prompts warning

County issues alert on fake oxycodone pills

Oshkosh Herald

The Winnebago County Medical Examiner's Office and Sheriff's Department issued an emergency public announcement last week after a spike in overdoses where counterfeit pills have been associated with the deaths.

County officials are reporting fake M-30s, which are 30-milligram oxycodone pills, that are testing positive for fentanyl and are lethal.

The Medical Examiner's Office confirmed that 12 of the 15 overdose deaths thus far in 2023 are attributed to fentanyl, with another seven pending that are suspected to be fentanyl overdoses.



Matz

Sheriff John Matz told the County Board's Judiciary and Public Safety meeting last week that the

TruNarc narcotics analyzer obtained this year has helped identify some of the drugs

getting into the jail.

"We've used (TruNarc) three times since we've received it. Two fentanyl positives and one cocaine positive, all three in the jail – people trying to bring it in and that continues to be a huge problem for us," he said. "One instance it got into the block, but it was not used, but certainly that could be extremely fatal for people that are in our cell blocks."

Counterfeit pills have different ingredients than the actual medication they are resembling. They may contain no active

SEE **Fake pills** ON PAGE 5

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Top 10 finish
Lourdes golfer cards success at state
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Iconic sculptor
Paine opening major Rodin exhibit
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Photo by Michael Cooney

Freedom festival

Oshkosh City Manager Mark Rohloff speaks at the inaugural Juneteenth BGosh celebration held Sunday at the Leach Amphitheater ahead of the national holiday created in 2021 that will be recognized Monday. The local organization presented a program of music and information with a goal of promoting youth development efforts in the city.

Nature area takes advantage of dry spring to clear trees

Sheldon woods' infested ash trees cleared out

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

Visitors to the Sheldon Nature Area will notice there are a lot fewer trees this summer as loggers have gone in and cut down all the ash trees that were destroyed by the emerald ash borer.

The approximately 26 acres of land next to Oakwood Elementary was donated to the school district to be used as an educational space for students in 1991. In 1998, the Sheldon Nature Area Committee (SNAC) was formed as a joint venture with the district with the committee man-

aging the property.

About seven acres are green ash trees – about 95% are infested – so every ash tree is set to be cut down and removed.

The trails were closed last week and will remain off-limits until the logging is completed. The area is set to open back up to regular summer programming with the Oshkosh Recreation Department on Tuesday.

"The Sheldon Nature Area provides a good environment for learning opportunities where students and the community can see different ecosystems that occur naturally in this area (of the state)," said Drew Niehans, the district's executive di-



Oshkosh Herald

Sheldon Nature Area was logged last week to remove diseased ash trees and clear out the area in preparation for revitalizing the school district land.

SEE **Nature area** ON PAGE 17

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