

**ATV info,
what's
'affordable'
housing,
and more**

By Aynsley Hoelscher
Mount Horeb Mail

The village board of Mount Horeb approved a certified survey map for the Sienna Hills subdivision, reviewed a loan for street improvements, learned about the state of housing in the village, heard a report from the county executive and heard a clarification from the ATV club.

Street improvement loan
Village financial advisor Kevin Mullen presented the proposed borrowing about \$5.3 million for the next
continued on page 10

**Department
heads give
updates to
village's
utility
commission**

By Erin Herndon
Mount Horeb Mail

Mount Horeb Utilities department heads updated the Utility Commission on their Dec. 2024 activities. The Commission met for their monthly meeting Jan. 14, 2025, receiving updates from the Electric Department, Water Department and Wastewater Department. They additionally approved their Dec. 2024 meeting minutes and finances.

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Karakahl Country Inn

With the fire-damaged Karakahl auctioned off to the bank, village leaders mull land's fate

By Matt Geiger
Mount Horeb Mail

The 2024 Presidential Election was taking place. While people across the nation waved signs, yelled at one another on social media, and

headed to the poll to cast their ballots, an era was quietly ending in the Village of Mount Horeb. The Karakahl Country Inn was sold at a Dane County Sheriff's Office foreclosure auction, and the East Coast-based Home Loan Investment Bank, which

previously held the mortgage, became the property's owner.

Located at 101 Perimeter Road, the Karakahl has a complicated history. It is inarguably one of
continued on page 4

Stirring things up at the library



Mimi Phan-Dinh (left) and Bess Miller (right) headed up a popular cooking class at the Mount Horeb Public Library on January 18. Phan-Dinh is the founder of the Halo Halo food truck, and Miller is its current owner. Photo by Melissa Roelli.

Puzzle Contest Winners

See Page 8

PERSPECTIVE

GEIGER Counter



by Matt Geiger, Editor



Deer in the headlights

Earlier this winter I thought God was arresting me in the woods just before sunrise.

It was a chilly morning, and I crawled out of bed at 4:30 a.m., drank some smokey black tea, meticulously washed myself, put on layers of blaze orange clothing, and headed out. I parked far from my spot and tiptoed through the dark mire of early morning, trying to avoid brittle branches and crunchy leaves. Step by step, I sneaked all the way to my spot and sat down. I was pleased with myself for getting there so quietly, and my clandestine morning hunt was going perfectly. Hopefully it would mean a doe for the freezer.

My phone was already on the “Do Not Disturb” setting, and I shoved it into my pocket.

The morning was still dark, still pregnant with dawn, the sun not yet brimming the edge of the world. The woods were silent and still. I tried to remain motionless, the cold wind blowing in my face. I had been so quiet, so careful with sound, sight and scent.

That’s when the bright lights started flashing. Then the siren started blaring.

In a life full of surprises, this was a moment of earnest confusion. It felt like I was in a room the color of bewilderment with an accent wall painted a shade of panic.

I am deaf in one ear, and my good ear cannot tell, all by itself, which direction sounds are coming from. All I knew for sure was that the emergency lights were very bright, the siren was very loud, and all the animals within a 10-mile radius now knew exactly where I was sitting and were bounding in the other direction.

All my troubled conscience could come up with was the possibility that this was some type of bust. I had a hunting license and was following Wisconsin’s rules for the ethical and legal pursuit of Whitetails, but perhaps the universe was engaged in a sting operation, and this was a raid for 45 years of minor moral transgressions.

The honey stick I stole from an apple orchard when I was five years old? The thousand times I told people I had “a work meeting” when I actually just wanted to sit at home and watch documentaries about 19th century Welsh sheep farmers? The myriad lies I tell whenever I fill out the form to adopt a new pet? The time I coveted a really cool tweed hat? The many times I clicked a box

saying I had “read the user agreement” on something when I hadn’t actually read it?

Someone had probably tipped off God and he had sent an angelic SWAT team to seize me and throw me in a metaphysical jail where I would be punished for all my sins.

Then I realized that the troubling lights and sirens seemed to be coming... *from inside me*. In the Bible, God speaks to humans in all kinds of strange ways. From a whirlwind. From a burning bush. From the mouth of a donkey (seriously). But I had never expected him to proclaim his judgement from my pelvis.

“CONTACTING EMERGENCY SERVICES IN 5, 4, 3, 2...” boomed a voice from somewhere near my appendix.

A wave of understanding, the rarest of emotions, suddenly washed over me.

“My phone!” I thought, ripping off my heavy mittens, digging it out of my pocket and swiping frantically to cancel the SOS call.

This is how I learned that if you put an iPhone in your pocket, and then sit down in such a way that both sides are pressed firmly for a few moments, it thinks you are a victim of human trafficking and takes the liberty of calling 911 for you.

Needless to say, I did not

harvest a deer that morning. The woods after my incident were remarkably still. It was like I had snuck out there only to evacuate them, like a backwards backwoods Noah.

Later, as I sighed and walked away, the air warmed and a heavy winter fog blanketed the rural countryside. As I came over a rise on my way back to the car, I saw a set of antlers floating across the edge of the field before me. And then another. And another. And yet another. The fog was so thick that it made nearly every shape foreign, strange, inconceivably alien and beautiful. In it, these four bucks could not tell what I was, standing frozen on the edge of a field. They walked right up to me, examined me as they would a solitary oak sapling. Only after catching my scent did they bound away, vanishing into the thick white haze of the day. I did not have a buck tag, so I could not shoot, only watch in awe as they appeared and then vanished back into their wild, mysterious world.

As I headed home, I remembered another time a group of deer came surprisingly close to me. I was hunting a different farm, where the trees and fields are so close to a highway you can hear the soulless whirl of the cars and trucks and their lights flashed strangely

across the beautiful agrarian landscape. That evening, I hunted on the edge of a field laden with deep snow, and as I climbed down, just as I dropped from the tree stand’s ladder, a group of 11 deer came bounding into the field right in front of me.

Legal shooting hours were over, so I could not shoot, but if I kept walking I would educate them about my spot and ruin future hunts. So I simply laid down in a deep drift of snow, tunneling deep and watching, waiting for them to leave of their own accord. They came closer, and closer, and eventually they were so near I could smell their musky scent in the cold night air. Right in front of me, they sparred with one another, chasing and clattering their antlers together. A series of emergency vehicles sounded in the distance, like some howling pack of strange nocturnal creatures. Their wailing grew closer and closer, and then their flashing red and white lights became visible, reaching out from the highway like some chimeric hand that fell across the black and white field before me. In this strange ruby light, the deer continued to leap and play, their forms illuminated for a moment. It was a dance they have danced on this land for 3.5 million years. Soon it will be swallowed up by concrete, by houses and businesses, and they will dance no more.

It was remarkable that while a human somewhere nearby suffered – perhaps a house had caught fire, a heart had stopped in its chest, or a car had slammed into a tree – these creatures danced as they have for so long in the darkness of night. I watched them for what seemed like ages, suspended in a brief, strange, human-made light.

And then the ambulances passed, and it grew dark again, darker even than be-

fore, the night somehow stronger in the absence of such recent light. I lay there, my fingers and face numb with cold. I waited. And then they left, as quickly and surprisingly as they had arrived. I stood up, brushed the snow off from my blaze orange coat, and headed home for the evening.

Plato wrote that we are like brutes living in a cave, watching the shadows of reality as they fall, distorted, flat and baffling on the rocky wall before us. It’s true that reality and truth are not unlike love, justice, beauty, or some celestial deity; they are all merely a presence we sense, but we cannot ever stare directly at them without risking blindness, madness or both. In the Bible, no one can ever stare directly at the face of God, and that is why He speaks to people through whirlwinds, burning bushes, farmyard animals, and sometimes out of a solitary hunter’s pelvis.

But there are little moments when the lights – whether they are coming from a phone in our pocket, an ambulance 400 yards away, or the burning orb of all things ancient, mysterious and true – stream into our cave, and we do see the world as it really is: stunningly beautiful, full of forests and fields, deep snow drifts and dancing animals, and always here for only a moment before vanishing into the fog, the blackness of night, or the endlessly hungry mouth of time. Those lights are nothing. Cell phones are insignificant, as are motor vehicles and their lights. It is the things they illuminate that matter. Strange, wild things, seen and felt only in caves and woods and fields. Creatures that dance in the night, just as they always have, then vanish as quickly as they arrived.

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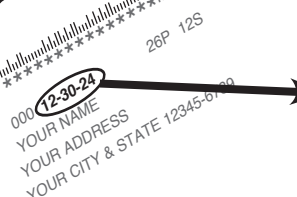


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Gleanings

By **BARB JOHNSON**
Mount Horeb Mail

140 Years Ago-Feb. 20, 1885

St. Valentine’s day has come and gone. Did you send your valentine a valentine on that day? Some of you boys are mistrusted. This is a pointer.

Jens Moen is hauling lumber for a barn to be erected on his place during the coming summer.

We are pleased to inform your readers that Mrs. H. Opsal has recovered her eyesight. At one time it was feared that at least one of her eyes would lose its sight, but under the skillful treatment of Dr. Evans, of this place, the affected member was saved.

John Mennes and Andrew Gjesme met with considerable unpleasantness when delivering their crop of tobacco last week, as it was claimed by the buyer to contain unmerchantable tobacco, although, after considerable powwowing the affair was settled, something like this: The tobacco was to be sorted in three grades, wrappers, binders and fillers. The agreed upon was 13, 6, and 1 cents. The former price being 81/2 cents in the bundle.

A Norwegian giving his name as Nelson, froze to death near Madison last Saturday while journeying afoot, bound for Stoughton.

Rufus Weber hauled a load of wood to the Mount Horeb Broom Factory last Saturday.

130 Years Ago-Feb. 21, 1895

Martin Halverson has stepped out of the Mount Horeb Building and Manufacturing Co. The miller at the Model Roller Mills has gone to Janesville to get coupled up.

A sad and fatal accident occurred Friday noon of last week as the school children were catching rides on farmer’s sleighs. Little Carlie Wagner son of Conrad Wagner, the section foreman at this place, fell under a sleigh runner and received injuries from which he died an hour and a half afterwards. This was a sad shock to the parents and a very costly lesson to the playmates of the unfortunate boy, and it is hoped that this will teach our younger population to desist from this dangerous practice of clinging onto sleighs while moving.

John Hendrit an old settler of Springdale is not expected to live.

The chicken pie sociable at the hall last evening for the benefit of the Nebraska sufferers, was a success financially as well as socially, \$57.45 being the receipts.

120 Years Ago-Feb. 23, 1905

The high school was not in session last week in respect to the death of Miss McKenzie, one of the students.

Gundor Haaverson, Perry, died suddenly February 15. He was an old settler of the township.

A bowling alley is being installed in the furniture store recently vacated by John de Fine. Halsten Knudson has been in the grip of grippe.

Henry Bole of Blue Mounds ventured out last Friday to see if the roads were really as bad as reported. It seems that it has become the second nature with these old settlers to venture out when there is danger and hardship to encounter. This may be said of their honor and to the welfare of the country.

As briefly stated in our last week’s issue, Mrs. O.B. Dahle died at her home here on Friday, Feb. 17, at the age of 76 years and 6 months. The funeral was largely attended. Rev. Holte preached the funeral sermon in the English language. Rev. Hageseth spoke in Norwegian. The flowers were beautiful and symbolized the life of the deceased.

The railroad snow blockade lasted nearly a full week, that is, freights were abandoned and passenger traffic was practically tied up also. Had the conditions not took a change when it did, many would have found their supply of the necessities of life rather scarce.

March 1st is becoming the proverbial moving day in place of April 1st as heretofore, especially among ruralers.

110 Years Ago-Feb 26, 1915

Adolph Sutter of Springdale was a pleasant caller at our office Monday and became a volunteer on our subscriber list.

I have a few fine resident lots left south of the viaduct in my addition. For price and further particulars please call. Henry Witte

I have some good dry cordwood for sale at \$6.00 per cord. Can deliver it at Mount Horeb at short notice. Erling Punsvick

Mr. Lloyd Davis of Dubuque, Iowa, arrived here Saturday with a car of household goods, farm implements and horses and has moved onto the Wm. Lohff farm, which he has rented.

Mr. Davis is a well-trained Hawkeye farmer. We wish them welcome to Badgerdom.

Miss Anna Swiggum of Madison visited between trains here Sunday. She came to see Mrs. I. Arneson, who is very ill at the St. Olaf Hospital.

Otto Vogel became indisposed the first of the week and his friends wished that he be taken to the state hospital for treatment as a paid patient and then he may return at any time. It will be remembered that Mr. Vogel suffered some injuries a couple years ago when he was thrown from a water tank wagon, and it is thought the injury may be the cause of his present ailment.

100 Years Ago-Feb. 24, 1925

Ernest Azel Tvedt, 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Tvedt, passed away at the Buckner Hospital after a gallant fight to save his life from that dreaded disease, lockjaw, at noon Tuesday, February 17. He was a senior at Mount Horeb High School.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Anderson and family will move from our village to their farm south of Mount Horeb, Saturday.

Miss Cora Wallen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Wallen, Mount Horeb and William B. Disch, Dayton, were married at the Methodist parsonage at Freeport, Ill. on Feb. 14.

Lillian Gish in “White Sister” , eleven reels and two reels of comedy at Parkway Theatre on Sunday and Monday. Admission 15 and 35 cents.

While Mr. and Mrs. Olvin Thompson were in Mt. Horeb on Friday afternoon attending the funeral of Mrs. Thompson’s brother, Ernest Tvedt, a robber entered their home on highway 19 and ransacked the house from top to bottom. The marauder took his time and went thoroughly thru the house. He helped himself to a variety of articles, including a suitcase, suit of clothes, string of pearls, rings and a camper, cup doll, sweater, overall jacket and perhaps other articles, amounting to about \$120 in value. It is thought the law breaker opened the door with a skeleton key and that perhaps one of the many tramps infesting this part of the country now days is the guilty party.

80 Years Ago-Feb. 22, 1945

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Field, Mount Horeb, announce the engagement of their daughter, Eunice May, to Marvin L.

Bakken, son of Halvor O. Bakken.

Mrs. Helena Eberhardt, Verona, died Thursday, Feb. 15, at the age of 73 years.

The Daleyville parsonage was the scene of the wedding of Blanche Strassman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Morgan Berg, Perry, and Martin S. Hefty, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hefty, Primrose.

60 Years Ago-Feb. 18, 1965

For Mrs. Melvin (Beulah) Knudtson of Blue Mounds the flame of fame burned brightly for a few hours last Friday. Her name was drawn on Art Linkletter’s “Houseparty” for a chance to guess, “What’s in the House” via a long distance telephone call. Her guess was wrong. Had it been right, she’s have won a 1955 Rambler. Mrs. “K” didn’t end up empty handed though. She’ll receive a dandy wristwatch and had all that fun of being a celebrity for a little while.

Olaus Mickelson, 76, died Sunday (Feb. 14, 1965) after a day’s illness. Mr. Mickelson was a former employee of the Madison Typewriter Co., and was a retired carpenter and thresher.

50 Years Ago-Feb. 20, 1975

Charlene Hamilton, 23, Madison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Hamilton, Mount Horeb, died in a car accident on South Park Street, Madison, Feb. 14.

Evelyn Basthemer of Mount Horeb received the championship trophy for the annual Mount Horeb Jaycees Women’s Singles Bowling Tournament.

Mr. and Mrs. John Amacher, Blue Mounds, were honored at a surprise dinner at the Goble’s Restaurant, Friday Feb. 7 to commemorate their 55th wedding anniversary.

Kristine Goli, 88, was honored at a dinner in Perry Lutheran Church for serving the church as organist for 69 years.

30 Years Ago-Feb. 23, 1995

A son, Daylon Robert, was born to Phyllis Marx and Bob Bowar, Blue Mounds, on Sunday, Feb. 19 at Meriter Hospital, Madison. He joins a brother Ryan, 9.

Walter C. Messerschmidt, age 78, Mount Horeb, died on Monday, Feb. 20, 1995, at his home after a courageous battle with cancer.

The Evangelical Free Church congregation held its first services in their new church building on Sunday.

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Mount Horeb gets more than \$154K in transporation aid

By HEATHER STANEK
Mount Horeb Mail

The State of Wisconsin has finished its first allocation of transportation aid dollars for 2025, and local communities are among the beneficiaries.

These quarterly payments help municipalities not only maintain or repair their own roads but also compensate them for their contributions to state highways. The allocations do not indicate specific projects, as that is determined by each municipality.

For 2025, local governments will receive more than \$540 million in General Transportation Aids.

Recipients are as follows. All amounts are for General Transportation Aids, unless otherwise noted.

--Vernon County: \$207,280.08.

--Richland County: \$161,585.28.

--Monroe County: \$293,329.57.

--Juneau County: \$245,558.25.

--Town of Wonewoc: \$36,833.81.

--Village of Wonewoc: \$6,502.59.

--City of Richland Center: \$93,394.92, plus \$15,981.10 in Connecting Highway Aids.

--Village of Lyndon Station: \$4,456.42.

--Village of Union Center: \$2,009.49.

--City of Mauston: \$106,369.87, plus \$22,859.93 in Connecting Highway Aids.

--Town of Baraboo: \$36,717.62.

--Village of West Baraboo: \$15,600.61.

--City of Baraboo: \$193,866.98, plus \$25,040.61 in Connecting Highway Aids.

--City of Wisconsin Dells: \$197,334.47.

--Village of Lake Delton: \$193,384.76.

--Town of Delton: \$37,496.81.

--Village of North Freedom: \$1,588.43.

--Town of Freedom: \$28,672.82.

--Village of Plain: \$13,863.23.

--Town of Spring Green: \$42,144.61.

--Village of Spring Green: \$45,491.77.

--Town of Prairie du Sac: \$27,271.65.

--Village of Prairie du Sac: \$126,969.54.

--Village of Sauk City: \$68,294.92.

--Town of Dellona: \$34,038.30.

--Town of Washington: \$29,622.89.

--Town of Merrimac: \$20,887.76.

--Village of Merrimac: \$5,364.23.

--Town of Sumpter: \$16,745.75.

--Town of Cross Plains: \$30,846.35.

--Village of Cross Plains: \$69,462.32.

--Town of Mazomanie: \$20,416.14.

--Village of Mazomanie: \$24,131.56.

--Village of Mount Horeb: \$154,577.20.

--Town of Middleton: \$82,225.80.

--City of Middleton: \$368,431.77.

--Town of Black Earth: \$13,478.62.

--Village of Black Earth: continued on page 10

Karakahl

continued from page 1

the region’s most architecturally significant buildings, and it was once a swanky destination for travelers from far and wide, offering the weird and wonderful vibe of a Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired building housing a motel, a pool, and a restaurant enjoyed by locals and out-of-towners alike.

But by any definition, it has seen better days, and its remaining days are numbered.

Following years of decline accentuated by a fire that broke out in 2023 and subsequent water damage, the Village of Mount Horeb issued a raze order on the building last year. The owners of the Karakahl attempted to fight the order in court, but with the sale of the building in the fall, the building’s fate was essentially sealed.

“The lawsuit from the previous property owner for an injunction on the raze order is null now that it is owned by the bank, but the vil-

lage raze order still stands,” said village president Ryan Czyzewski. “The board does not intend to take action on it, though. Since we anticipate a private entity purchasing the property for redevelopment, we can avoid that unnecessary expense to the village.”

While the exact fate of the land isn’t known, village leaders are currently working with potential buyers and developers to encourage a form of redevelopment in line with their goals.

“Since the bank took possession of the property, we have been in contact with a broker they have hired,” said economic development consultant Kristen Fish-Peterson.

“I’ve been asked to start drafting a TIF (Tax Increment Financing) project plan for that property and the vacant land across the street,” she added.

“Administrator Nic Owen and ... [Kristen] have been in communication with the bank and connecting them with potential buyers [and] developers,” said Czyzewski. “Though the village



Mount Horeb firefighters work to contain the blaze at the Karakahl in 2023. Photo by Matthew Jefko.

can’t dictate who the bank sells to, we have given information as to what types of uses the village is interested in and fits in our comprehensive plan.”

He went on to say there are several types of development that could end up on the land.

“Most, if not all, of the developers that have contacted the village about it are interested in a primarily residential component due to its location near so many supporting businesses and

services,” he said. “Some of the things we’ve recommended are senior housing, a group home for individuals with disabilities, mixed-use (commercial and residential mix), and workforce housing that helps with the ‘middle housing’ gap we’ve been discussing at [Community Development Authority, Planning Commission and Village Board].”

Village leaders could consider creating a Tax Incremental District (TID 6) for the property and nearby properties to help pay for the redevelopment.

“That will also help with incentivizing the type of redevelopment [that] is done with the property,” he added.

The official listed name of the new owner of the Karakahl is Wickenden St LLC.

When the Karakahl Motor Hotel first opened its doors in 1964, it was lauded as an

architectural landmark and a boon to the local economy. Designed by architect John Steinmann, who also crafted the Wisconsin Pavilion for the New York World’s Fair, the building featured a dramatic, swooping saw-tooth roofline, a swanky restaurant that looked like it had popped out of a Raymond Chandler novel, a sunken rock garden, a large pool, and walls covered in audacious colors. It was designed “with the Norse culture of the community” in mind, according to an article in the Capital Times that said it would “aid [the] Mt. Horeb economy.” Behind the project was C.S. Gonstead, the famous chiropractor who worked out of the similarly Frank Lloyd-Wright-inspired clinic located just behind the hotel. The newspaper in 1964 said it was the only motel in the area

to offer dining accommodations.

When Gonstead’s widow, Elvira, died in a local house-fire in 1991, her obituary noted that she had been the hostess at the Karakahl Inn, where she opened and managed her own dress shop. Several people claimed the word “Karakahl” was inspired by the Bible and meant, “Leave your cares.” A Kara Kahl is also a variety of Alpine goat.

The hotel that stands today – at least for now - is actually only a portion of the original structure, part of which was torn down and replaced by the Walgreen’s currently located at 1401 Springdale Street.

County records show the land, totally roughly two acres, and building are currently valued at around \$620,000.



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CTE: Empowering Mount Horeb's Female Students

By AUBREE HANKS
MHASD

Career and Technical Education (CTE) is proving to be a powerful tool for empowering female students at Mount Horeb High School, opening doors to diverse career paths and equipping them with valuable skills. While nationally, many young women may lack awareness and encouragement in non-traditional CTE fields, Mount Horeb is bucking the trend. An impressive 74 percent of female students at the high school are enrolled in at least one CTE course, exceeding the state average of 50 percent.

This high enrollment rate is a testament to the CTE Department's commitment to providing clear career pathways and relevant coursework. By offering a structured roadmap, and connecting high school classes to post-secondary education and career interests, Mount Horeb Academic and Career Planning (ACP) helps students explore their passions, develop in-demand skills, and make informed decisions about their futures. This approach is particularly beneficial for female students who might

otherwise overlook certain career opportunities due to outdated societal norms or limited exposure. The district believes this proactive approach contributes to increased graduation rates and better prepares all students for both the workforce and college.

Mount Horeb High School is actively working to connect students with real-world experiences. Recently, Accounting I & II students participated in a networking event with local professionals from the finance and accounting industries. This initiative aligns with research highlighting the importance of mentorship and visible role models for young women pursuing workplace success. "It really was great, very beneficial," commented student Emma Ringgenberg, who will be studying finance at UW Whitewater. "I really enjoyed the chance to hear from women who have been through the process and are working in the industry," said fellow student Abby Brummer, who will be studying business at Edgewood, echoing Ringgenberg's sentiments.

CTE is also proving invaluable for students navi-



Pictured from the back: Abbey Brummer, Sammi Buechner (Left), Olivia Collins - of Summit Credit Union (Left), Kim Guenther - Partner at Meicher CPA's (Center), Amy Czyzewski - Partner at Thousand CPA (Right), Emma Ringgenberg (Right), Katherine Straka (Right).

gating their post-secondary plans. Senior Ellie Larson initially planned to study engineering at UW Milwaukee. However, through her Advanced Engineering and Design class at Mount Horeb, she discovered that while she possessed the skills, she lacked the passion for the application. "I really did want to be an engineer," Larson stated, "but after going through a couple of classes I just knew it wasn't

a fit for me." Now, Larson will be attending UW La Crosse as a business major in the fall of 2025, demonstrating the power of CTE to help students refine their academic and career goals.

Beyond specific career outcomes, CTE cultivates essential life skills through project-based learning. Senior Ruby Dahlk was accepted to UW La Crosse as a biochemistry major with aspirations to become a doc-

tor and enrolled in electronics. While initially unsure of the class's relevance to her future, Dahlk, despite being the only female student in the course, embraced the challenge. She readily admits she wouldn't attempt to rewire her own dimmer switch, "Oh no, I'm not burning my house down." When asked how she would reply to somebody telling her they would charge her \$250 to rewire a dimmer

switch, she was knowledgeable of the work needed to be done, "No, that's way too much, it's just completing a circuit." This shows that she came away with valuable knowledge that will serve her in the future.

CTE at Mount Horeb also supports students pursuing careers in traditionally male-dominated fields like agriculture. Senior Zeva Melka, who is working as a youth apprentice in agriculture and will study animal science at UW River Falls, credits her hands-on experiences in vet science and agriculture courses for solidifying her career path. "It helped drive me to a path," Melka explained, "because I was very unsure what I wanted to do. Hands-on is how I learn, and these classes allowed that for me." In the United States, women make up 36 percent of the country's producers, and 41 percent of beginning farmers are women.

From finance to engineering, electronics to agriculture, CTE at Mount Horeb High School is empowering female students to explore their interests, develop valuable skills, and confidently pursue their dreams, preparing them not just for careers, but for life.

Sugar River Euchre

By STAN HOOK
Sugar River Euchre

The match between the Viking Trolls and Sportsman's Bar Cheese Eaters was very tight throughout with each of the teams taking four of the 8 frames. The Trolls were ahead by 5 points going into the eighth and final round, but the Sportsman's Bar pulled out the big rods and caught themselves 13 more points than the Trolls did to win the match by 7 points.

The Norsk Pranksters had the Norsk Cowboys right where they wanted them through the first seven frames as they led by as many as 29 points. But we all know what Cowboys are famous for, riding off into the sunset high in the

saddle, as they did here with a 16 point win. Taking the lead towards the setting sun was Cowboys Diane Erb and Harold Schlingen with 110 rounds of ammo in their holsters. Their only loss came in the second frame at the hands of Dave Hook and Tom Schulenberg. Pranksters Randy Cushman and Corey O'Hearn had this week's low score with a 78.

The Kleeman Hay Shakers continued to put up hay, even in this cold weather. Barb and Jeff Judd only missed stacking the maximum amount in two of the eight frames to end with 115 feet of hay. Teammates Roger Truttmann and Don Williams didn't want to

be left out but also missed stacking the max amount of hay in two frames. Don and Roger couldn't stack theirs as high as Barb and Jeff and ended with 108 feet of hay. The Red Mouse Uff-das just didn't have the wind power in them to blow the hay around and ended losing the match by 56 points.

The Red Mouse Shufflers, down three of their starters, had a rough time finding any traction against the J&M Bar River Rats. It was up and down throughout the match with the Shufflers ahead by 24 half-way through. Losing just their first and last games, Rats Dan Palmer and Mark Raders had the right footwear on and scored

117 points, this week's high score to secure a 12 point win for the Rats.

I think we all want to know where the Kurniki's Express buys their fuel, as they always seem to have plenty to make it up the grade, no matter how steep. This week appears to be more of the same. Kurniki's Pipe Benders laid out their plan and Jerome Krantz and Mark Losenegger started joining 112 sections of pipe. Engineers John Scheidegger and Tracy Haag quickly countered by shoveling 114 scoops of coal. Halfway through the match things

were going together nicely for the Pipe Benders and they found themselves up by 17. However, someone dropped a coupler or two and the Pipe Benders were tied with the Express after six frames. Once the Pipe Benders dropped a coupler, Engineers Opie Taylor and Karen Miller shoveled 110 scoops of coal for the Express and things quickly fell apart for the Pipe Benders and the Express took advantage and rolled full steam ahead to win by 26.

Standings:
Express 6-0
Cowboys 5-1

Hay Shakers 5-1
Cheese Eaters 3-3
River Rats 3-3
Uff-Da 3-3
Pipe Benders 2-4
Pranksters 2-4
Shufflers 1-5
Trolls 0-6

Schedule for Feb. 20
Cowboys at Shufflers (7:00)
Uff-da at Pranksters (7:00)
Cheese Eaters at Express (7:00)
Pipe Benders at Hay Shakers (7:30)
River Rats at Trolls (7:00)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Learn about frontier life

Discover life on the Midwestern frontier at the Mt. Horeb Public Library, Monday, February 24 at 1pm. Author Mary Elise Antoine shares a rare collection of stories from fur trading days gathered by chronicler Albert Coryer. Having studied and selected the stories for her book Frenchtown Chronicles of Prairie du Chien, Antoine enjoys sharing the colorful tales. Croyer, the grandson of a fur trade voyageur-turned-farmer, collected history in the 1800s and early 1990s. He soaked up all the tales of bygone times from his parents, grandparents, and neighbors—old fur trade families, Native Americans, French Canadian farmers and descendants. In his journals, Coryer recorded their local oral traditions, narratives about early residents and landmarks, stories of interesting and funny events, details of ethnic customs, and folklore. Spend the afternoon enjoying some of this history.

Mary Elise Antoine, author of Enslaved, Indentured, Free: Five Black Women on the Upper Mississippi, 1800-1850 and The War of 1812 in Wisconsin: The Battle for Prairie du Chien and co-author of Frenchtown Chronicles of Prairie du Chien: History and Folklore from Wisconsin's Frontier, is president of the Prairie du Chien Historical Society and former curator of Villa Louis. Her research focuses on the material culture and mix and confrontation of cultures on the upper Mississippi prior to Wisconsin statehood.

For more information about the library, its events and services, visit mhpl.org or call 608-437-5021.

Beware of phone scams

The Dane County Sheriff's Office is alerting citizens to a recent increase in SIM Swap cases reported in Dane County. A SIM Swap, or SIMjacking, is when a person's cell phone number is transferred to the scammer's phone, allowing them to access bank accounts, payment apps, and other personal information. Armed with your information, which they

may have taken from social media accounts or purchased on the dark web, the scammer contacts your cell phone provider to get control of your phone number.

In a recent case investigated by Dane County Sheriff's detectives, a man realized he couldn't make or receive calls. He reached out to his son for assistance. When his son began to examine the phone, he discovered his father's number had been stolen. Even though the scammers only had access to the phone briefly, they had already begun to access payment apps.

The Sheriff's Office suggests protecting yourself from this type of fraud.

AT&T allows you to create a password in your online account's "manage extra security" portion.

T-Mobile lets you turn on the "Account Takeover Protection" feature.

Verizon has a "Number Lock" feature you can enable.

For other carriers, contact them to find out what security measures they offer. If you become a victim of a SIM Swap, call your local authorities.

Gangster lore (new date)

Was rescheduled due to snow. New Date: Tuesday, February 25, 1pm.

Are you ready to (safely) follow in the footsteps of America's infamous gangsters as they turned Wisconsin into the land of crime during the Prohibition days? Join renowned lecturer Chad Lewis at the Mt. Horeb Public Library Tuesday, February 25, at 1pm for a fascinating Midwestern history program. Lewis shares tales of deadly bank robberies, explosive shootouts and daring kidnappings. This is your chance to discover the secret locations where gangster history will never die. Chad Lewis is a researcher, author, and lecturer on topics of the strange and unusual. His background is in the field of Psychology (he did both his Bachelor and Master degree work in the field), but for nearly 30 years

he has traveled the globe in search of unique and bizarre stories and history. This event is free and no registration is required. For more information about the library, visit www.mhpl.org or call 608-437-5021.

Underwood nominated for Song of the Year



Mount Horeb's Chris Underwood is in the running for Song of the Year. Find out more at www.songoftheyear.com/index.html

Recreation Notes

Toddlers (ages 1.5-2) and Kiddies (ages 3-5) are invited to join Ms. Kacey's Little Folk Art Studio for an investigative journey through the colors of the rainbow! The Little Folk Art – Color Study classes include open-ended art invitations and sensory play. There will be 4 classes in these programs each with a specific focus - Class 1: Red & Orange, Class 2: Yellow & Green, Class 3: Blue & Purple, and Class 4: "I Built A Rainbow". Color Study will be held at the Rec Department Multipurpose room on Saturdays, April 5th-26th. Toddler class is 9:00-10:00am, and Kid-die class is 10:30-11:30am.

Resident Fee is \$120 and non-resident fee is \$130. Registration deadline is March 28th.

Calling aspiring live sound engineers in grades 5th-12th! We'll go over the basics: different types of gear such as microphones, cables, & amps, what you'll need for different events & venues, and how to set up a complete system. At the end participants will have the knowledge they need to create beautiful amplified live sound for a variety of applications. Live Sound 101 will be held at the Rec Dept Multipurpose Room on Sunday, March 9th from Noon-4:00pm. Resident Fee is \$75 and non-resident fee is

HOW TO REGISTER: There are multiple ways to register for programs and activities.

Online (go to <https://anc.apm.activecommunities.com/mhrd>)

In-person at 105 N. Grove Street

Place completed form and payment in 24-hour drop box

Email completed form and payment to mhrec@mounthorebwi.info

UPCOMING REGISTRATION DEADLINES

Fit for Life Sess. 2 (Ages 18+) | ¾

Toddler Yoga (parent/child) Sess. 4 (ages 1-3) | 3/5

Preschool Yoga Sess. 4 (ages 4-6) | 3/5

\$85. Registration deadline is April 3rd.

Summer Guide Update: The Rec Dept is working hard on getting our Summer Activity Guide ready! It will

be available in mid-March. Watch your email (if you are signed up for marketing emails from us), our website (mounthorebwi.info) for updates!

COMMUNITY
CALENDAR

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Mt. Horeb Seniors lunch outing to "My Sister's Restaurant", Mazomanie. Bus leaves 10:30am. RSVP 437-6902

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Mt. Horeb High School Students Art Show, Driftless Historium, Friday to Tuesday, 10:00am-4:00pm thru March 3. Free and open to all.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors, food closet open 9:00-10:30am (Seniors only); and all shoppers - 3:00-6:00pm, 102 E. Lincoln St.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Indoor Farmers Market, at Evangelical Lutheran Church, 9am - noon

Neighbors Helping Neighbors, food and clothes closet open 10:00-11:30am, 102 E. Lincoln St.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Mount Horeb Chorale - 7:00-9:00pm. Welcome and rehearsal, Choral Music Room, Mount Horeb High School, Door #9

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Mt. Horeb Seniors, Euchre, 12:30pm, Senior Center

Little Free Pantries available at: New Hope Evangelical Free Church, 639 S. 8th St., Mt. Horeb; Immanuel Lutheran Church, 310 W. Main St., Mt. Horeb; Zwingli UCC, Hwy. 92, Mt. Vernon. Nonperishable food and other necessities available 24 hrs.a day."Take what you need, share what you can."

Information for the Community Calendar must be emailed by noon on the Monday of the week of publication.
Information should be emailed to mhclasses@fingerpub.com.
We reserve the right to edit for length.

Staff
Inservice
Day

by Jessica Gretzinger

Library staff receive two inservice trainings annually. The first training was held Friday, February 7 and we were privileged to host Meghan Hufton as our key-

note speaker. Meghan is the Education and Training Specialist with the Autism Society of South Central Wisconsin. She provided an overview on the topic of neurodiversity followed by practical applications for library staff to provide a welcoming and safe environment for all.

In the last few years, we have made strides to be more welcoming including creating social narratives for our website. If you're ever feeling anxious about a visit to the library, you can find our social narratives on our website to find out what to expect. We also offer fidgets and supports, which are

available in crates around the library so that you don't have to ask to use them. Please let us know what other steps we can take to make you feel supported here.
For feedback and suggestions, please email me at jessica.gretzinger@mounthorebwi.info.

Library Corner

COMMUNITY

American Legion shows its generosity with local donations



The American Legion donated \$1,000 to ZIRO - pictured are the Mount Horeb American Legion 2nd Sergeant At Arms - Marshall Ruegger, Zach McGuire, Sophie Nelson, Griffin Hannah, and Legion Member Dennis Preimesberger.



They made a donation of \$1,000 to the Mount Horeb Area Historical Society Driftless Historium. Pictured are Mount Horeb American Legion Finance Officer Al Breunig, Historium Executive Director Destinee Udelhoven, and the Mount Horeb American Legion Commander, Jeff Anderson.



The second donation to Neighbors Helping Neighbors was for \$1,342. Pictured are Mount Horeb American Legion Executive Committee Member Laura Mason, Neighbors Helping Neighbors Volunteers, Diane Jensen, Ann Szalkowski and Leo Munoz, and Mount Horeb American Legion Executive Committee Member and Past Post Commander, current Dane County Council Commander Scott Klassy.



They made a donation of \$2,000 to the Madison Area Rehabilitation Center in Mount Horeb. Pictured are Mount Horeb American Legion Finance Officer Al Breunig, Kim Watrud, and the Mount Horeb American Legion Commander, Jeff Anderson.

Legion gives to an array of community organizations



They donated \$1,000 to Neighbors Helping Neighbors pictured are Finance Officer Al Breunig, Traci Jones, and the Mount Horeb American Legion Commander, Jeff Anderson.

CHURCH NOTES

Good News Lutheran Church - WELS

NEW LOCATION:
9975 Pepper Dr
Pastor Jonathan Bauer
Sunday Worship: 9:00 am
(in person and online)
Sunday School and Bible
Study 10:15 am
608-437-4646 visit
GoodNewsLC.org/location
for details & directions

Immanuel Lutheran- ELCA

310 W. Main St. Mount Horeb
608-437-8733
10am Sunday Worship
www.immanuelmh.org/
1st Steps Childcare
608-218-4425

Mt. Horeb Evangelical Lutheran Church – ELC

315 E. Main St. 608-437-5012
www.elcmthoreb.org
5 pm Saturday Worship
9 am Sunday Worship

Mt. Horeb United Methodist

Corner of Hwy. S & Hwy. 78
Sunday Worship: 9am online
and in person
umcmh.org
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New Hope Evangelical Free Church

639 S. Eighth St., Mt. Horeb
Phone: 608-437-3273
www.newhopeefc.org
Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Perry Lutheran Church ELCA

1057 Hwy 78 S, Mt. Horeb
608-437-5294
Sunday Worship 9:00 am
www.perrylutheranchurchelca.org

Mt Vernon United Church of Christ

1693 Washington St. Verona
608-832-6677
www.mtvernonucc.org
Sunday Worship, in-person and
on Facebook Live, 10:15 am
Bible Study 9am-10am
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Congregation

Springdale Lutheran Church

2752 Town Hall Rd. 608-437-3493
Vicar: James Ranney
Worship: 1st, 3rd & 5th
Sundays of the month at 10am
twosteeple.org

St. Michael The Archangel Parish

Rev. Robert Butz- Parish Administrator
St. Ignatius Catholic Church
109 S. Sixth St., Mount Horeb
608-437-5348
Mass: Sunday 10:30 am
Tuesday thru Friday - 8:00 am
Sat. 5:00 pm
Holy Redeemer Catholic Church
10070 Spring Valley Dr., Mount Horeb
Mass: Sunday 8:00 am

Vermont Lutheran Church- ELCA

9886 Vermont Church Road
Black Earth, WI 53515
www.vermontlutheran.org
608-767-3312 (office)
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

West Blue Mounds Lutheran Church

2962 Church St., Blue Mounds
608-437-3493
Vicar: James Ranney
Worship: Every 2nd & 4th
Sunday of the month, 10:00 am

Nothing Bland About It!



Black Rice and Chicken with Coconut Milk: A Nutritious & Flavorful Delight

By HUMA SIDDIQUI-SEITZ
WhiteJasmine.com

If you're looking for a meal that combines rich flavors, vibrant colors, and impressive health benefits, black rice and chicken with coconut milk is the perfect dish. This hearty and wholesome recipe brings together the nutty taste of black rice, tender chicken, and the creamy sweetness of coconut milk, making it a favorite for those who love both nutrition and taste.

Why Choose Black Rice? Black rice, often called "forbidden rice," is packed with antioxidants, fiber, and essential nutrients. It has a slightly chewy texture and a rich, nutty flavor, making it an excellent alternative to white or brown rice. When paired with protein-rich chicken and nutrient-dense coconut milk, it creates a balanced and fulfilling meal.

Black Rice and Coconut Chicken

Prepare the Black Rice:

- ½ cup black rice
- 2 cups water
- Rinse the black rice under cold water.
- In a pot, bring 2 cups of water to a boil and add the rice.
- Lower the heat, cover, and simmer for about 30-40 minutes or until the rice is tender and the water is absorbed.

Fluff the rice with a fork and set aside.

Prepare the Coconut Chicken:

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 teaspoon whole cumin
- 2 whole green cardamoms
- 2 whole cloves
- 1 cup red onions, chopped
- 1 tablespoon garlic, chopped
- 2 pounds boneless, skinless chicken breast, thinly sliced
- 2 teaspoons White Jasmine Tandoori Masala
- ½ teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 can coconut milk
- 2 fresno chilies, thinly sliced
- ½ cup fresh cilantro, chopped

Heat olive oil in a wok/saucepan. Add whole spices and let them sizzle for a minute or so.

Add red onions and garlic. Let the onions saute until the onions are translucent. Add chicken. Add Tandoori Masala and salt.

Mix everything together. Add coconut oil and fresno chilies. Top it with cilantro.

Let everything cook for 15-20 minutes on low heat until the chicken is cooked.

Place the cooked chicken in a serving dish and place the cooked black rice on the top.

Serve warm!

Hutchison, Hutchison and Meister win library puzzle competition



The Mt. Horeb Public Library held their second Annual Great Puzzle Race Saturday, February 15. Nine teams competed to be the first to complete their 500-piece puzzle first. Pictured left to right are first place winners Barb Hutchison, Erin Hutchison and Staci Meister, who finished in 47 minutes, 16 seconds. They also won last year.

K-5 PTO plans a fancy pants dance



Citizens can join the MH K-5 PTO for the Fancy Pants Dance & Silent Auction on April 11 at the Intermediate Center. This is the group's biggest fundraising event of the year. The theme for the silent auction is "Experience Your Community" and they are currently seeking donations from local businesses and surrounding areas through April 9. If a business doesn't offer experiences or goods but would still like to contribute, the PTO welcomes donations to support school programs, including the snack program. For more information, please reach out to them at mhk5pto@gmail.com.

The MH K-5 PTO is made up of 10 members. They meet on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Intermediate Center during the school year and are always looking for volunteers.

Among other things, they: Provide snacks to classrooms through the "Snack Attack" program; Purchase playground equipment; Support teachers with meals during conferences; Create cozy spaces for students.

Pictured above, PTO members working at one of their fundraisers.



Winter Farmers Market

Saturday 9am - 12noon | February 22
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Lake Ridge Bank completes dementia training

The Mount Horeb Chamber of Commerce applauds Lake Ridge Bank for completing dementia training, a significant step toward fostering a more inclusive and supportive business community. With all Lake Ridge Bank offices participating in the Alzheimer’s Association Wisconsin Chapter training, employees gained valuable insights into recognizing and responding to dementia-related behaviors, improving customer interactions, and creating a welcoming environment for individuals living with dementia.

The Alzheimer’s Association Wisconsin Chapter provides education, support services, and care resources across the state, ensuring that businesses and communities have the knowledge they need to be more inclusive. Their work, spanning from Milwaukee to Madison and beyond, plays a crucial role in helping organizations like Lake Ridge Bank create dementia-friendly spaces.

Kudos to Lake Ridge Bank for joining the growing list of dementia-certified businesses in Mount Horeb.

Farmers market will hold indoor event on February 22



The Mt. Horeb Farmers Market will be holding its last indoor market for the winter season this Saturday, February 22, at the Evangelical Lutheran Church, 315 E. Main Street between 9 a.m. and noon. There will be plenty of parking both on Main St. and in the large parking lot behind the church. Enter the building from either the front or the back and follow the signs.

Vendors at the market will be offering a wide range of products including seasonal vegetables, beef, pork, sourdough and other breads, pastries, pies, cookies, jams, pie fillings, and handmade soap.

Contact the market at mthorebfarmersmarket@gmail.com for more. Photo by Matt Geiger.

Countryside News

By JERRY DAVIS
Countryside News

Maple syrup, boiled down from maple tree sap, is so common most believe it is the only tree that gives up sap from the tree’s wood when tapped in spring. There are other trees, too but not common, usually lower in sugar, maybe even a different sugar molecule, and rarely sold or served to breakfast customers. Birch, several species, provides a smoky, burnt flavor to a

sweet, light palate with a hint of raspberry. Beech is more like maple, and walnut (yes, black walnut) has a nutty flavor (no surprise there) and sycamore tastes close to honey, even butterscotch. Wouldn’t you know to some connoisseur decided different syrup flavors should go with (their opinion) particular foods. Birch pairs very nicely with savory foods they may say. Water and sugar make up most of what is in sap. Com-



Squirrels consume maple sap raw by licking tree bark where sap is dipping.

mon table sugar, sucrose, is glucose. Give me, maple; primary in maple syrup, but probably could never afford birch has more fructose and the others.

WISE MOVES

A SEMINAR FOR SENIORS

March 10, 2025 • 1:00 pm • Mt. Horeb Senior Center

Speaker: Lance Maerz
Registered Clinical Exercise Physiologist & Manager of Cardiac, Pulmonary & Cancer Rehab Programs at Upland Hills Health

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Obituary

Nancy Ellen (Kinney) Schaefer

November 25, 1938 - February 10, 2025

MOUNT HOREB - Nancy Ellen (Kinney) Schaefer, age 86, of Mount Horeb, Wis., passed away on February 10, 2025. She was born on November 25, 1938, in Madison, Wis., to Edmond and Pauline Kinney.

Nancy attended Lapham School in Madison for the hearing impaired before



transitioning to regular classes. She was a member of the Junior National Honor Society and a graduate of Central High School in Madison.

On August 8, 1958, she

married Charles R. Schaefer. Together, they built their life in rural Mount Horeb, where they helped on the family farm, built two homes, raised their son, and worked full-time.

Nancy dedicated over 57 years of service to the University of Wisconsin’s Memorial Library, retiring on September 1, 2016, as a Library Services Assistant, Advanced-Emerita. She found immense joy in her work, gaining valuable experience, education and lifelong colleagues.

Her favorite pastimes in-

cluded fishing, gardening, watercolor painting, baby-sitting her beloved grandchildren and spending time with her pets.

Nancy is survived by her son and lifeline, Michael (Lisa) Schaefer, and two cherished grandchildren, Alex (Corissa) and Ashlee. She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Charles, in May 2009.

The family will be holding a private service. A celebration of life for Nancy will be held at a later date at the family farm. All friends and family will be

welcomed. Details will be shared at www.gundersonfh.com once determined.

In honor of Nancy’s wishes, memorial donations may be made to: Agrace HospiceCare in Fitchburg, St. Ignatius Catholic Church in Mount Horeb, St. Dennis Catholic Church in Madison, Deaf Apostolate Rockford Diocese, and Dane County Humane Society in Madison.

The family of Nancy Schaefer would like to take this time to extend their deepest gratitude to Brittany and Jessica from Agrace, her

wonderful granddaughter, Ashlee, and special friend, Loni Starr, for their compassionate care and dedication in making her last few years as comfortable as possible.

An Irish Blessing: May the road rise up to meet you, May the wind be always at your back, May the sun shine warm upon your face, And rains fall softly upon your fields. And until we meet again, May the Good Lord hold you in the hollow of His hand.

Online condolences may be made at www.gundersonfh.com.

Gunderson Camacho Mount Horeb Funeral & Cremation Care
500 N. Eighth St.
(608) 437-5077

AID

continued from page 4

\$15,108.17.
--Dane County: \$2,089,524.91.
--Sauk County: \$445,885.60.
--City of Reedsburg: \$178,801.96, plus \$20,672.28 in Connecting Highway Aids.

--Town of Reedsburg: \$27,374.17.
--Town of La Valle: \$50,613.17.
--Village of La Valle: \$2,897.83.
--Village of Loganville: \$3,403.98.
--Town of Ironton: \$30,661.81.
--Village of Ironton: \$2,282.89.

--Village of Lime Ridge: \$496.04.
--Village of Cazenovia: \$2,404.63.
--Town of Woodland: \$43,826.02.
--Town of Winfield: \$28,324.24.
--Town of Westfield: \$34,817.49.
--Town of Excelsior: \$35,897.42.

“Our local roads are the first and last mile of nearly every trip Wisconsin’s residents, businesses, and visitors make,” said WisDOT Secretary Kristina Boardman. “Whether you’re commuting home from work, delivering a product to a doorstep, or visiting one of our many tourism destina-

tions, a safe and efficient network of local roads is critical to our quality of life and strength of our economy.”

The first payment of the year was issued Jan. 6, and the total was about \$141 million. This included nearly \$137 million for local governments, about \$4.2 million for 116 eligible mu-

nicipalities, and \$255,975 to Milwaukee County for expressway policing.

The January allocation accounts for 25 percent of the total allocation. Two distributions will take place in July, with 50 percent of the total funds going out at that time. The final payment, the remaining 25 percent of the fund, will go out in October.

UTILITY

continued from page 1

Electric Department Report

Electric Superintendent Jordan Schmitz presented his report for Dec. 2024. According to the report, 2024 had four fewer outages than 2023.

“Looking at electric for December, we had three outages. One was equipment failure, one was a squirrel out in the country and we had a cable fault,” Schmitz said. “We also had four new underground services.”

Schmitz also shared in his report that callouts after

hours were down from 34 in 2023 to 33 in 2024. He said the average on-site response time to these callouts stayed consistent through 2023 and 2024 at 13.94 minutes. In addition to many small jobs at the end of the year, Schmitz said his team completed one primary extension and another partial one.

“It was pretty cold out when they did that, but now everything’s put away and we’re done digging,” Schmitz said. “If it gets nice again, we’ll keep tree trimming.”

Water Department Report

The Water Department’s

portion of the meeting saw the introduction of the new water superintendent, Brian Schult.

“I grew up in Mineral Point then moved the family to Barneveld in 1997,” Schult said. “I started in this industry in 2000 in the Village of Blue Mounds and worked there for 10 years. Then I had the opportunity to go to Verona and started in their street department then moved to their water utility in 2012.

Schult said he moved to Mount Horeb in July 2024 and worked in public services until December when he transitioned to his current

role within the Water Department.

“It sounds like you have a wealth of experience, and we’re very fortunate to welcome you,” Commission President Jack Temby said.

Schult summarized the Water Department’s activities during Dec. 2024 including completing inventory and their public service and commercial cross-connection inspections, responding to high water usage concerns, completing two bacteria and one fluoride samplings and replacing a leaking sample tap in tower three.

Wastewater Department

Report

The meeting wrapped up with Wastewater Superintendent Michael Brace sharing details from his Dec. 2024 report.

“The plant is running well, and operating below all permitted limits,” Brace said. “Since our last meeting, we received our WQBEL draft memo which is a packet of information based on the data we submitted for our permit reissuance. It outlines what the next permit will look like and is also our opportunity to question if they misinterpreted the data or if the data was misused. I don’t see anything that

jumps off the pages as concerning.”

According to the wastewater report, the department received no callouts in December, but completed 25 manhole inspections, cleaned and televised 2433 feet of sanitary sewer and replaced a damaged fermenter gate actuator motor.

Additionally, the department fixed an automatic transfer switch at Hwy 92 station, repaired a 4th St. seal failure and completed two lift station repairs.

The next Utility Commission meeting occurs March 11 at 7:00 p.m.

BOARD

continued from page 1

two years to cover projects around the village.

The village is still borrowing less than half of their debt capacity.

The issue will be brought up again next month.

Sienna Hills subdivision

The board approved a certified survey map (CSM) for the Sienna Hills subdivision with certain requirements including finishing the asphalt on the streets and retaining walls.

Village trustee Cathy Scott expressed concern about the developer. She and Tim White voted against approval of the CSM.

“He does not do what he says he’s going to do,” Scott said, “it’s going to take a lot of time for him and it’s going to take a whole lot of money.”

Scott asked how they will

be sure all of the contingencies are met. She cited issues with a retaining wall that was promised and never followed up on.

“His word is pretty worthless,” Scott said.

Village administrator Nic Owen said there are assurances in place for completion of the requirements.

“The good news is this is a certified survey map, it requires a village signature so staff will have ultimate authority to make sure all of this has been done before we provide the signature,” Owen said.

ATV clarification from Sagmoen

Robert Sagmoen of the Badger ATV Club made public comment to clear the air on some claims made at the public safety committee about environmental impact of ATVs and UTVs.

“They’re utilizing ATVs, UTVs that are two-stroke. There has not been a two-

stroke manufactured in the United States since 2006,” Sagmoen said, “so they’re putting out false information.”

Sagmoen also mentioned that the noise pollution data they were using measured the ATVs at half throttle, which would not be reached within the village due to speed limits.

Village trustee Cathy Scott said the ATV issue will be on the March board meeting agenda.

County executive provides report

County executive Melissa Agard gave a lengthy report on the first 90 days of her time in the administration and outlined upcoming projects.

Agard addressed the Abundant Life Christian School shooting and how first responders handled the situation.

“Everyone within the county has been so impres-

sive in how it is that they’ve navigated that,” Agard said.

She also said there are challenges of a new legislature in the state capitol and Washington DC. Especially when it comes to planning for budgets.

“We do believe this is going to be a pretty tight budget year for the county and we’re already looking into ways we can create some cost savings to soften the blow,” she said.

Agard mentioned the need for a variety of housing types especially with the county expecting to reach a population of 1 million in the next few decades.

Economic development is also one of Asgard’s commitments. She said supporting Main Street businesses and keeping businesses from wanting to leave the county is important.

“I know that I cannot do this job in a vacuum,” Agard said. “It’s vitally important that I’m in the

community with people and hearing from them about their wishes and dreams and the challenges in order to be successful here in Dane county.”

Better defining “affordable” housing?

Economic development consultant Kristen Fish-Peterson gave a presentation on affordable housing.

“Sometimes someone will come into the community and say they want to build affordable housing,” Fish-Peterson said. “If they’re not using section 42 tax credits then what parameter are you using to call it affordable?”

Fish-Peterson clarified that section 42 affordable housing awards tax credits to developers for building housing catering specifically to very low income families. This should not be confused with generally more affordable housing options.

“When we’re not using section 42 tax credits but

we’re trying to build houses that most people can afford we call that workforce housing,” Fish-Peterson said.

A home that is considered affordable to the median household income in Mount Horeb is \$350,000 with a monthly payment that of \$2,500. To a household with 60 percent of the median income, the home price would be \$200,000 and a \$1,530 payment. These houses are hard to find in Mount Horeb.

Fish-Peterson described the “missing middle” housing. These are homes that range from multifamily buildings smaller than mid-rise apartments to duplexes. They occupy a variety of layouts including small-detached dwellings in close proximity to live-work units.

A big barrier to these types of dwellings is zoning restrictions. The planned zoning rework could lead to a more friendly environment to missing middle housing.

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SPORTS

Mount Horeb girls set for postseason

Vikings receive No. 7 seed

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

The postseason path for Mount Horeb’s girls basketball team will be daunting. But there is some good news. First, the Vikings will have at least one home game. Second, Mount Horeb is on the opposite side of the bracket from defending state champion Madison Edgewood. Mount Horeb received the No. 7 seed in its half of the sectional and will host 10th-seeded McFarland in a WIAA Division 2 regional quarterfinal on Feb. 25. The Vikings have defeated the Spartans in both of their meetings this year. If Mount Horeb defeats McFarland again, it would travel to second-seeded Milton (19-3) for a regional semifinal on Feb. 28. The regional finals are March 1, while sectionals are March 6 and 8. “Every coach in our

sectional just didn’t want to play Edgewood right away,” Mount Horeb coach Bart Leibfried said. “McFarland is a very young team that we cannot take lightly and then Milton is a very big veteran team that is right up at the top of the Badger Large Conference. I spoke to our seniors and they are excited with our matchups and ready to get to work.” Mount Horeb is coming off a disappointing 60-47 loss to Stoughton on Senior Night on Feb. 11. Mount Horeb trailed, 25-15, at halftime and couldn’t get over the hump in the second half. Before the game, Mount Horeb honored its two seniors — Hallie Klein and Morgan Monroe — then struggled with Stoughton throughout. “Myself, our entire coaching staff and maybe more importantly the entire team was disappointed

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Julia Straka and Mount Horeb’s girls basketball team will host McFarland in their first playoff game on Feb. 25. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

Perfect timing

Mount Horeb’s gymnasts are peaking when it matters most

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

The postseason is right around the corner. And Mount Horeb’s girls gymnastics team has picked the perfect time to perform at its best. The Vikings went to the Platteville Invite last Saturday and won the eight-team event with a season-high point total of 140.725. The top-12 finishers in each event also earned individual honors. Several Viking gymnasts brought home individual hardware, including all five Mount Horeb’s vault competitors. “We had a wonderful meet today,” Vikings coach Martha Koller Faust said. “And to cap it off with our whole team on the podium after learning we’d placed

first was the best part.” Athena Ouradnik won the all-around competition with a 36.20 score, while Sylvia Seeliger was fifth with a 34.275. Ouradnik was fourth on the vault with an 8.8, while Seeliger was fifth (8.775). Reece Olinger was eighth (8.50) and Macie Finley was ninth (8.475). And while only the top four scores count, Abbey Brummer added an 11th place finish (8.40). On the bars, Ouradnik and Finley tied for third place (8.85), Aver Kalscheur was fifth 8.55 and Olinger added an 8.20. Kalscheur was second on the beam (9.175), Ouradnik was third (9.10), Seeliger was sixth (8.90) and Olinger added an 8.65. And on the floor exercise,

Ouradnik was first (9.45), Finley scored an 8.95, Aver Kalscheur posted an 8.90, and both Abbey Kalscheur and Seeliger had an 8.60. Koller Faust was extremely proud how her team adapted after learning Baraboo and Waunakee/DeForest didn’t make it to the event due to inclement weather. The absence of those two schools led to a change in the Vikings’ rotation. “Gymnastics is a very ‘mental’ sport as well as physical, so learning that we would be competing the first round on bars instead of the third round on floor was a bit of a surprise,” Koller Faust said. “I’m very proud of our girls for their ability to adapt to this last minute change. I’m

continued on page 15



From left, Mount Horeb’s Meredith Cowden, Abbey Brummer, Athena Ouradnik and Reece Olinger were honored on Senior Night. Photo submitted

Six wrestlers advance to sectionals

Mount Horeb fares well at regionals

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

Two first place finishers.
And six wrestlers advancing to sectionals.

It was a solid Saturday for the Mount Horeb/Barneveld boys wrestling team, as they finished in fifth place at the eight-team WIAA Division 1 Verona Regional. The Vikings will now send six wrestlers to the Waunakee Sectional, which will be held Saturday beginning at 10 a.m.

The top four finishers in each weight class advanced through regionals, and MH-B will be well-represented at sectionals.

The Vikings crowned two champions at Verona — Eli Maier at 165 pounds and Eli Leonard at 175. MH-B also got third place finishes from Nic Burreson (132) and Timmy Kruse (138), as well as fourth place showings from Dawson Bell (126) and Levi Maier (190).

Reedsburg won the eight-team regional with 228.0 points, while Waunakee (204.5), Middleton (187.0), Verona (139.5) and Mount Horeb/Barneveld (129.5) rounded out the top five.

Here’s a recap of how the Vikings fared at each weight class.

120 — Drew Droessler (11-17) placed 6th and scored 5.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Dezmen Severson (Baraboo) 35-10 won by fall over Droessler (Fall 1:51)

Cons. Semi - Droessler won by fall over Reed Ferstl (Madison Memorial) 11-15 (Fall 1:01)

5th Place Match - Daniel Hernandez (Verona Area) 22-8 won by major decision over Droessler (MD 14-5)

126 — Dawson Bell (11-17) placed 4th and scored 9.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Bell won by decision over Mouhamed Agodou (Madison Memorial) 13-10 (Dec 14-13)

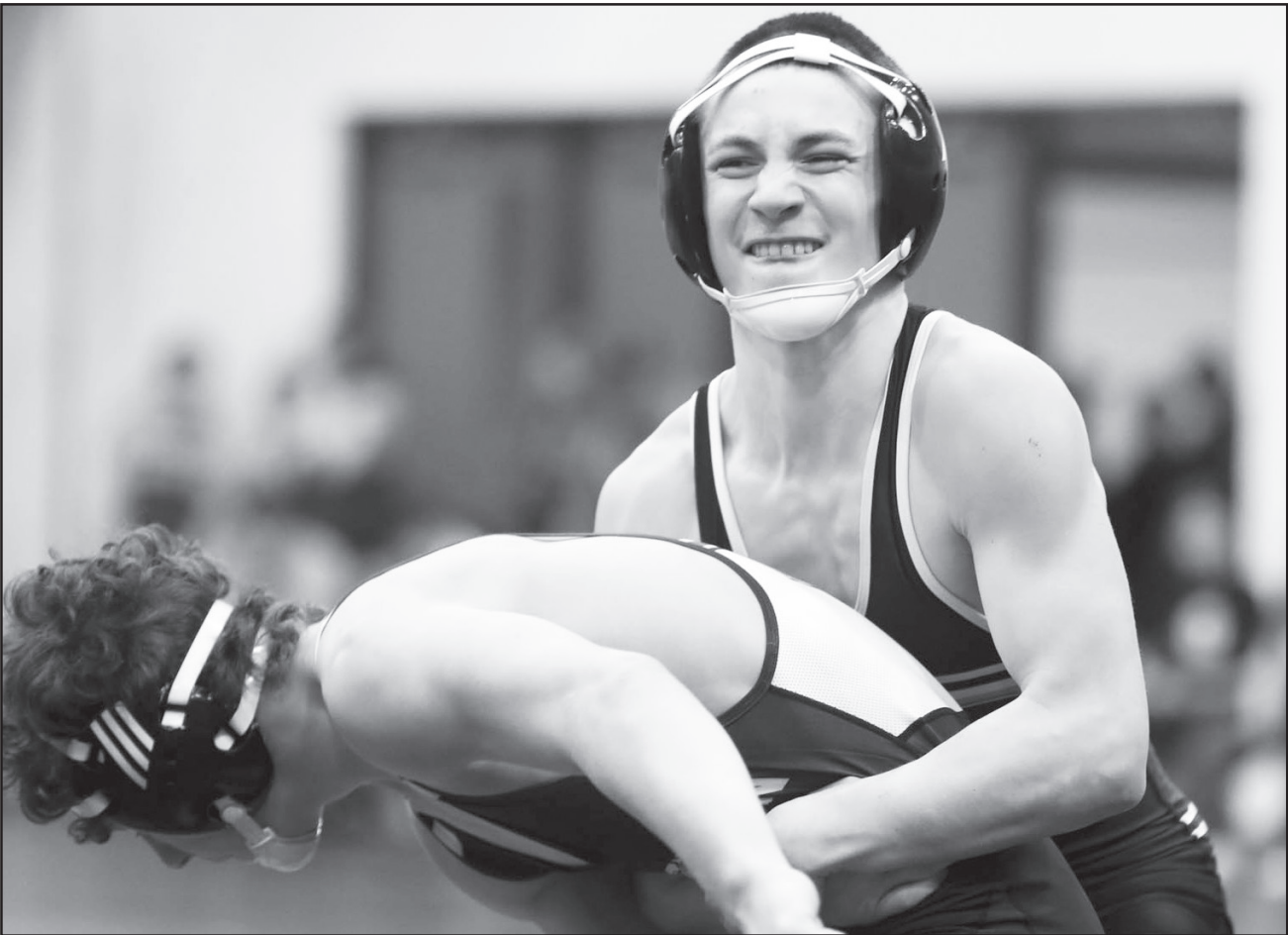
Semifinal - Grady Hargrove (Middleton) 31-12 won by fall over Bell (Fall 0:34)

3rd Place Match - Gibson Guralski (Waunakee) 22-14 won by fall over Bell (Fall 0:55)

4th Place Match - Bell won by no contest over Mouhamed Agodou (Madison Memorial) 13-10 (NC)

132 — Nic Burreson (13-18) placed 3rd and scored 16.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Burreson won by fall over Connor Cutsinger (Waunakee) 17-18



(Fall 1:45)
Semifinal - Peyton Oberg (Baraboo) 38-4 won by tech fall over Burreson (TF-1.5 1:18 (19-4)

3rd Place Match - Burreson won by fall over Adler Plamann (Middleton) 2-5 (Fall 3:01)

2nd Place Match - Taven Johnson (Reedsburg Area) 9-3 won by tech fall over Burreson (TF-1.5 4:00 (19-3)

138 — Timmy Kruse (19-18) placed 3rd and scored 17.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Kruse won by fall over Amando Carranza Zaldivar (Verona Area) 13-27 (Fall 3:32)

Semifinal - Kruse won by fall over Marshall Howard (Sauk Prairie/Wis. Heights) 9-16 (Fall 2:59)

1st Place Match - Aiden Bell (Middleton) 26-10 won by decision over Kruse (Dec 11-9)

2nd Place Match - Payton Ferguson (Reedsburg Area) 21-21 won by tech fall over Kruse (TF-1.5 3:57 (17-2))

144 — Marcus Sevilla (19-20) placed 5th and scored 8.5 team points.

Quarterfinal - Braydon Barbian (Waunakee) 18-19 won by fall over Sevilla (Fall 5:49)

Cons. Semi — Sevilla received a bye

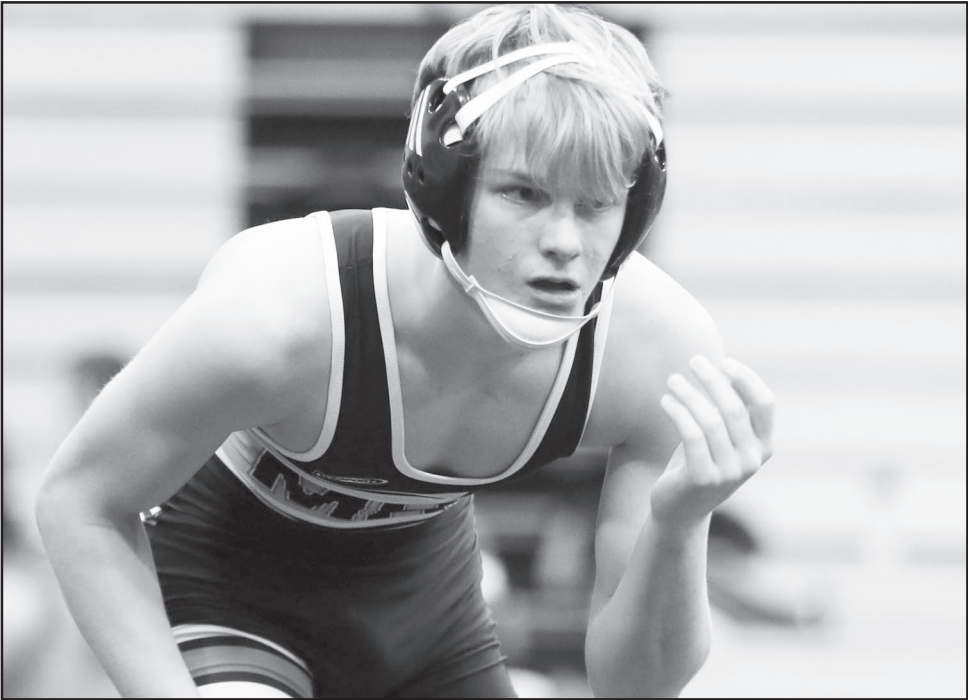
5th Place Match - Sevilla won by tech fall over Dominic Gallo (Baraboo) 0-21 (TF-1.5 1:50 (17-2))

4th Place Match - Braydon Barbian (Waunakee) 18-19 won by no contest over Sevilla (NC)

150 — Landon Kahl (9-11) place is unknown and scored 0.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Carson Bremmer (Verona Area) 40-5 won by tech fall over Kahl (TF-1.5 2:22 (18-1))

Cons. Semi - Skyler Hanke



Mount Horeb’s Nic Burreson (top) finished third at regionals, while Dawson Bell (above) was fourth. Photos courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

(Reedsburg Area) 16-24 won by decision over Kahl (Dec 5-3)

157 — Jackson Hughes (2-17) place is unknown and scored 0.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Nolan Owen (Baraboo) 40-7 won by tech fall over Hughes (TF-1.5 1:25 (15-0))

Cons. Semi - Jawaun Jackson (Verona Area) 26-13 won by tech fall over Hughes (TF-1.5 1:34 (21-6))

165 — Eli Maier (41-1) placed 1st and scored 26.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Maier received a bye

Semifinal - Maier won by fall over Noah Sarbacker (Verona Area) 16-12 (Fall 1:15)

1st Place Match - Maier won by fall over Braxton Walter (Reedsburg Area) 32-8 (Fall 0:54)

175 — Eli Leonard (42-0) placed 1st and scored 25.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Leonard won by fall over C.J. Mulkey

(Madison Memorial) 10-10 (Fall 1:04)

Semifinal - Leonard won by tech fall over Bennett Rhodes (Reedsburg Area) 26-13 (TF-1.5 1:40 (17-2))

1st Place Match - Leonard won by tech fall over Jackson Guenzler-Soda (Verona Area) 43-9 (TF-1.5 5:08 (20-4)

190 — Levi Maier (21-20) placed 4th and scored 11.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Maier won by fall over Will Wallace (Verona Area) 27-14 (Fall 1:45)

Semifinal - Lane Albers (Sauk Prairie/Wis. Heights) 32-11 won by fall over Maier (Fall 2:44)

3rd Place Match - Sawyer Ellis (Waunakee) 23-19 won by fall over Maier (Fall 3:38)

4th Place Match - Maier won by no contest over Will Wallace (Verona Area) 27-14 (NC)

215 — Gavin Reynolds (6-14) placed 5th and scored 9.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - McCoy Smith (Waunakee) 40-4 won

by fall over Reynolds (Fall 0:21)

Cons. Semi - Reynolds won by fall over Cameron Pagel (Madison Memorial) 7-10 (Fall 0:32)

5th Place Match - Reynolds won by fall over Mason Martin (Middleton) 12-16 (Fall 3:35)

4th Place Match - Logan McIntyre (Sauk Prairie/Wis. Heights) 25-16 won by fall over Reynolds (Fall 1:35)

285 — Dilyn Randle (13-21) placed 6th and scored 3.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Landen Knuth (Reedsburg Area) 23-15 won by fall over (Fall 1:07)

Cons. Semi - Randle (Mount Horeb/Barneveld) 13-21 received a bye

5th Place Match - Curtis Hankins (Sauk Prairie/Wis. Heights) 28-13 won by fall over Randle (Fall 0:54).

Sophie Baum was third at 126 and Sofia Serate was fourth at 152.

All three qualified for the Prairie du Chien Sectional, which begins Friday at 5 p.m.

Here’s a recap of how the Vikings fared at each weight class.

120 — Kyla Drake (20-14) placed 5th and scored 13.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Drake received a bye

Quarterfinal - Drake won by fall over Marleigh Ace (Verona Area) 5-10 (Fall 2:46)

Semifinal - Ariana Collins-Miller (Fennimore) 19-6 won by tech fall over Drake (TF-1.5 3:55 (19-3)

3rd Place Match - Amelia Johnsen (Lancaster) 24-14 won by tech fall over Drake (TF-1.5 3:28 (16-0)

4th Place Match - Syllas Matthews (Madison West) 19-11 won by major decision over Drake (MD 16-5)

126 — Sophie Baum (26-15) placed 3rd and scored 19.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Baum received a bye

Quarterfinal - Baum won by fall over Sofia Hammerly Lopez (Verona Area) 20-21 (Fall 1:50)

Semifinal - Dealya Collins (Mineral Point) 27-2 won by fall over Baum (Fall 3:42)

3rd Place Match - Baum won by fall over Brooklyn Hanke (Lancaster) 17-20 (Fall 1:33)

2nd Place Match - Maya Assad Thompson (Madison West) 23-5 won by decision over Baum (Dec 8-1)

152 — Sofia Serate (11-16) placed 4th and scored 15.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Serate received a bye

Quarterfinal - Serate won by fall over Tatum Brudos (Boscobel/Wauzeka-Steuben) 4-14 (Fall 3:39)

Semifinal - Jaycie Davis (Belmont/Platteville) 29-5 won by fall over Serate (Fall 1:03)

3rd Place Match - Liliana Ferris (Verona Area) 22-15 won by fall over Serate (Fall 1:41)

4th Place Match - Serate won by no contest over Tatum Brudos (Boscobel/Wauzeka-Steuben) 4-14 (NC)

165 — Amelia Soltis (34-3) placed 1st and scored 30.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Soltis received a bye

Quarterfinal - Soltis received a bye

Semifinal - Soltis won by fall over Lily Irvin (Verona Area) 25-15 (Fall 0:44)

1st Place Match - Soltis won by fall over Stella Gustafson (Madison West) 21-2 (Fall 3:02).

GIRLS

MH-B’s Amelia Soltis finished first at 165 pounds at the Mineral Point Regional.

Vikings close in on a conference title

Mount Horeb downs Edgewood, could win Badger Small this week

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

It's been six years since Mount Horeb's boys basketball team won a conference title.

And back then, the league was called the Badger North.

The Vikings put themselves in position for a league title, though, when they rolled past Madison Edgewood, 73-51, on Feb. 13.

Mount Horeb improved to 11-0 in the conference and 18-2 overall. The Vikings hosted second place McFarland (9-2, 14-6) Tuesday, and with a win, could clinch the outright league title.

"We now have an opportunity to play for a conference championship at home," Mount Horeb coach Todd Nesheim said after beating Edgewood. "That is something I really wanted to happen for these boys. They have been awesome to coach and now we have a chance to accomplish one of our two goals on the year."

Mount Horeb junior guard Josh Manchester led the Vikings with 37 points, while senior forward Griffin Hannah added 13 points and senior forward Zach Maguire had nine.

Edgewood (4-17, 3-8) entered the game near the bottom of the Badger Small, but made things interesting for most of the night.

"Edgewood runs a different offense in a sense that they play five guys above the free throw line," Nesheim said. "They look to beat you baseline with all that space and then off some screening action by

their big man who places himself at the free throw line looking to backscreen guard defenders. They have been getting some post touches for their guards off this action."

Manchester and Maguire led an early Mount Horeb charge as it jumped to a 13-9 lead. The Vikings stretched that advantage to 37-24 by halftime behind Manchester's continued excellence and eight straight points in one stretch from Hannah.

"Manchester was getting to the rim in his typical fashion," Nesheim said. "A few steals or deflections on the defensive end and then his ability to get by defenders on the offensive end. Griffin Hannah (also) had a nice stretch. His ability to back cut defenders had him on the receiving end of some passes, which led to a few of those conversions."

At halftime, Nesheim felt his team was on the brink of breaking things open.

"I felt if we could win the first three minutes of the second half, this game might get to the point where there was no hope for Edgewood," he said. "We dominated the boards in the first half, as well as attacked the basket well. Edgewood was willing to run long possessions looking to break us down, but for the most part, we handled those pretty well."

The problem is Edgewood was having none of it.

The Crusaders embarked



Griffin Hannah and Mount Horeb's boys basketball team hope to clinch the Badger Small Conference title this week. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

on a 10-0 run and quickly trimmed Mount Horeb's lead to 42-36. The Vikings missed seven straight shots in that time and had three turnovers.

"Things started OK, but fell apart quickly," Nesheim said of the second half.

Mount Horeb quickly answered with a 10-2 run of its own, though, and stretched its lead back to 52-38. Sophomore Alex Chapman buried a big

3-pointer to start the burst, Manchester had a steal and basket, and Kam Nesheim drilled a right corner triple pushing the lead back to 14.

The Vikings didn't downshift, either, quickly going on a 12-4 spurt that extended their lead to 64-42 and ended things.

Now, Mount Horeb is just one win from its first conference title since this group was all in middle school.

• **On deck:** After hosting McFarland Tuesday, the Vikings are at Portage Friday at 7 p.m. Mount Horeb then finishes the regular season by visiting Lodi on Feb. 24 at 7:30 p.m. and with a trip to Reedsburg Feb. 27 at 7:15 p.m.

Postseason seeds will also be revealed Sunday at 11 a.m.

Mount Horeb is the likely No. 1 seed in its half of the sectional that includes

Delavan-Darien, Edgewood, Elkhorn, Fort Atkinson, Jefferson, McFarland, Milton, Monona Grove, Monroe and Stoughton.

The other half of the sectional is led by Greater Metro Conference powers Brookfield Central and Wauwatosa West.

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Hockey co-op ready for the postseason

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

Sauk Prairie’s co-op hockey team finished the regular season with a 4-1 loss to Waunakee on Feb. 10.

The Eagles finished the regular season 11-13 overall and 6-6 in the Badger in the Badger Conference.

In Sauk Prairie’s loss to the Warriors, they fell behind, 4-0, and couldn’t recover.

Quinn Payne had the Eagles’ lone goal on assists from Ryan Rickard and Connor Grant.

Corbin Domka finished with 37 saves for the Sauk Prairie.

The Eagles now head to

the postseason, where they hosted Aquinas Tuesday in a regional semifinal. If Sauk Prairie won there, it will travel to top-seeded Madison Edgewood for a regional final on Feb. 20 at the Verona Ice Arena.

The sectional semifinals are Feb. 25 and the sectional finals are Feb. 28 or March 1.

Madison Edgewood was the top seed in the sectional, followed by Verona, Waunakee, Middleton, Sun Prairie, Madison West, Madison Memorial, Sauk Prairie, Aquinas co-op, Onalaska/La Crosse co-op, Reedsburg/Mauston/Wisconsin Dells, DeForest and Baraboo/Portage.



Greyden Schomber and Sauk Prairie’s co-op hockey team began the postseason Tuesday night. Photo courtesy of Aaron Jacobus



Maddie Niemetscheck and Mount Horeb’s girls basketball team received a No. 7 seed in their sectional. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

GIRLS BB

continued from page 11

how we played against Stoughton,” Leibfried said. “I know that our underclassmen who play 75% of our minutes were disappointed how they played for them and themselves.”

Maren Johnson led Mount Horeb with 16 points, while Morgan

Monroe had 15 and Courtney Monroe added 10.

Mount Horeb shot just 13% in the first half, and was fortunate to trail by just 10 points. Mount Horeb improved its shooting to 31% in the second half, but it wasn’t enough.

“You’re not going to beat good teams when you miss wide open looks, layups and take shots after

one or two passes,” Leibfried said. “It’s hard to win when shots don’t go down.

“Defensively we let them get to the lane and beat us middle all game long, which is not what we want to do. We want to force to the corner/baseline where our help is.

“They know they can play better and had a great practice on (Feb. 13),

where they were mentally dialed in.”

• **On deck:** Mount Horeb was at Reedsburg (10-12, 6-6) Tuesday, then hosts Baraboo (3-20, 2-11) Friday at 7:15 p.m.

“Two winnable games coming up this week,” Leibfried said. “We need to play and execute like we do in practice. No excuses anymore.”

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
TOWN OF PERRY
Tuesday, March 11, 2025
Perry Town Hall, 10084 CTH A.
7:00 PM

Teleconference - 425-585-6272 Access - 394-722-206 #

Discontinuance of Part of Moen Road

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, beginning at 7:00 PM at the Perry Town Hall, prior to the monthly Town Board meeting, the Town Board will hold a Public Hearing on the proposed discontinuance of part of Moen Road as petitioned by James Gibson and Susan Medaris.

Description: Moen Road – approximately .11 miles adjoining parcels 050631385009 and 050631390002 – at western road boundary, postal address 123 Drammen Valley Road.

Mary L. Price, Clerk
mlprice@mhtc.net

Publish: 2/20/25, 2/27/25, 3/6/25 **WNAXLP**

VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
February 13 & February 20, 2025
CONTRACT 25-100
NESHEIM WATER MAIN REHABILITATION
NESHEIM TRAIL (W MAIN ST TO DEAD END)
ORCHARD LANE (NESHEIM TRL TO W MAIN ST)
OAK TREE DRIVE (NESHEIM TRL TO MOUNT VIEW CIR)
MOUND VIEW CIRCLE (OAK TREE DR TO SHADY CT)
SHADY COURT (MOUND VIEW CIR TO RAVINE RD)
RAVINE ROAD (SHADY CT TO NESHEIM TRL)
OAK TREE COURT (SHADY CT TO DEAD END)
LONG VIEW AVENUE (NESHEIM TRL TO HICKORY RD)
VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB
138 East Main Street
Mount Horeb, WI 53572

The Village of Mount Horeb will receive sealed bids for the referenced project until **11:00 A.M., Friday, February 28, 2025**, at the Village Office, 138 East Main Street, Mount Horeb, Wisconsin 53572. At that time, bids will be opened and read aloud.

Bids are to be addressed to the Village of Mount Horeb, ATTN: Village Clerk, Mount Horeb Village Hall, 138 East Main Street, Mount Horeb, Wisconsin 53572, and shall be marked “Sealed Bid – CONTRACT 25-100, NESHEIM WATER MAIN REHABILITATION.”

A complete set of the PDF Electronic Contract Documents may be obtained by contacting Josh Bilau of SmithGroup at Josh.Bilau@smithgroup.com. Drawings may not be picked up at the SmithGroup office as the Contract Documents (Drawings and Specifications) are **NOT** pre-printed.)

Drawings for the work will be available as PDF electronically from SmithGroup on or after February 13, 2025.

Drawings for the work are on file for inspection at the Village Office, 138 East Main Street, Mount Horeb on or after February 13, 2025.

Plan Holders are required to provide an e-mail address to receive addenda and other information electronically. Plan Holders are required to designate whether they are a prime contractor, subcontractor, or supplier, which will be posted on the project Plan Holders List.

All bidders must include a Statement of Bidder’s Qualifications with sealed Bids.

Bidders who submit a bid must be a Plan Holder of record at the issuing office. Bids from Bidders not on the Plan Holders List may be returned as being not responsive.

Each bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond equal to at least 10% of the maximum bid as a guarantee that if the bid is accepted, the Contractor will, within 10 days of receipt of the Notice of Award, furnish the Owner with a Performance and Payment Bond equal to the Contract price.

The project engineer contact is Heather Brose at SmithGroup, 44 East Mifflin, Suite 500, Madison, Wisconsin 53703, (608)327-4443 or Heather.Brose@smithgroup.com.

The Village of Mount Horeb reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any technicality, and to accept any bid that it deems advantageous. All bids shall remain subject to acceptance for forty-five (45) days after the time set for bid opening. The Contract award shall be made based on the lowest responsive and responsible Bidder.

Project is to be funded by the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program. The successful bidder will be required to **conform to the wage requirements prescribed by the federal Davis-Bacon and Related Acts** which requires that all laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and sub-contractors performing on contracts funded in whole or in part with federal funds in excess of \$2,000 pay their laborers and mechanics not less than the prevailing wage rates and fringe benefits, as determined by the Secretary of Labor, for corresponding classes of laborers and mechanics employed on similar projects in the area. Additionally, the successful bidder will be required to **conform to the American Iron and Steel Requirements**. DBEs, including MBEs and WBEs, are encouraged to submit bid proposals.

ESTIMATE OF PRINCIPAL ITEMS

Water Main	5,100 LF
Hydrants	10 EA
Water Service Connections	61 EA
Concrete Curb & Gutter	1,500 LF
Bituminous Pavement	7,600 SY
Sanitary Sewer	550 LF
Sanitary Structures	2 EA

Published by the authority of the
Village of Mount Horeb, Wisconsin,
Alyssa Gaffney, Village Clerk

Publish: 2/13/25, 2/20/25 **WNAXLP**



Mount Horeb’s girls gymnastics team won the Platteville Invite last Saturday. Photo submitted

GYMNASTS

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also very proud of our entire team for a fantastic day overall.”

Mount Horeb also downed Baraboo, 139.2-130.3, in a dual meet on Feb. 11.

Ouradnik won the all-around competition with a 35.825.

Ouradnik won the vault (8.825), uneven bars (8.90) and floor exercise (9.350), while Seeliger won the balance beam (8.975).

The Vikings finished a perfect 7-0 in the Badger Conference at both the varsity and junior varsity levels.

It was also the last home meet for seniors Abbey Brummer, Meredith Cowden, Reece Olinger and Athena Ouradnik. That foursome was honored with flowers, gifts and speeches by their teammates.

“What a great night it was for our seniors as they competed in their home gym for the last time as a Viking gymnast,” Koller Faust said. “Senior Night is always a difficult yet touching night with many emotions felt.

“Special thanks to our seniors’ parents, our 10.0 Club parent Heather Bilse

and spirit squad coach Donna Skogen for the wonderful decorations. Also, many thanks to our four younger gymnasts, Tessa, Tori, Kate and Macie who spoke heart-felt words about Abbey, Mer, Reece and Athena.”

• **On deck:** Mount Horeb is at the Badger Conference Invitational at Watertown Saturday at 10 a.m. The meet is a varsity and a junior varsity competition and will include the following teams: Baraboo, Milton/Edgerton, Monona Grove, Mount Horeb, Reedsburg, Sauk Prairie, Watertown and Waunakee/DeForest.

“If our girls compete like they’ve been doing all season, there’s a very strong chance that we can come home with the outright title of conference champions,” Koller Faust said.

Mount Horeb then heads to the WIAA Division 1 Sun Prairie West Sectional on Feb. 27, where competition begins at 5 p.m.

The following teams will be competing for a trip to the state meet: Madison East/Madison LaFollette, Madison Memorial, Madison West, Middleton, Mount Horeb, Sun Prairie West/Sun Prairie East, Verona/Edgewood and Waunakee/DeForest.



Mount Horeb’s Athena Ouradnik won the all-around competition at the Platteville Invite. Photo courtesy of Mary Lan-genfeld

VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB
PUBLIC HEARING
FEBRUARY 24, 2025

The Public Works Committee of the Village of Mount Horeb will hold a public hearing on the above date at 6:00pm in the Board Room of the Municipal Building, 138 E Main Street, Mount Horeb, WI. The purpose of the hearing is to consider the Village Engineer’s Final Special Assessment Report for the 2025 Street Projects. The Public Works Committee will hear all persons concerning all matters and/or objections written or verbal at that time. The engineer’s final report and additional information will be mailed to affected property owners. A copy of the report will be available at the Village Administrator’s Office, 138 E Main Street, by February 14, 2025.

Publish: 2/20/25 WNAJLP

TOWN OF SPRINGDALE

- Applicant: **Maribel Perez and Juliet Armenta, Riley Tavern 12 Georgetown Ct. Madison, WI 53719**
- Type of License Applied for: **Combination Class B Beer and Liquor**
- Premises: **8205 Klevenville Riley Rd. Verona, WI 53593**

Publish: 2/20/25 WNAJLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A
WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE
ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES)
PERMIT NO.WI-0020281-09-0

Permittee: VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB, 138 East Main Street, Mount Horeb, WI, 53572

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Mount Horeb Wastewater Treatment Facility, 2450 SAND ROCK ROAD, MOUNT HOREB, WISCONSIN

Receiving Water And Location: West Branch of the Sugar River (West Branch Sugar River/Mt. Vernon Creek Watershed, SP16 – Sugar Pecatonica River Basin) in Dane county

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: Mount Horeb Wastewater Treatment Facility is an advanced secondary wastewater treatment facility that completed a major upgrade in May 2020. The plant now consists of screening, grit removal, two oxidation ditches with selector basins for biological phosphorus removal and sized for extended aeration activated sludge, chemical phosphorus removal, two final clarifiers, UV disinfection, and post aeration. As part of the facility upgrade the annual average design flow increased from 0.609 MGD to 0.790 MGD. Sludge removed during primary treatment and waste activated sludge is stabilized in an aerobic digestion process, mechanically thickened, and then land applied on department approved sites.

A notice of noncompliance (NON) was issued 2/15/2019 for a sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) 1/17/2019 to 1/21/2019 caused by force main break. A NON was issued 9/4/2020 for total suspended solids, total phosphorus and nitrogen, ammonia effluent limitation violations throughout 2019 and into May of 2020. A NON was issued 9/10/2020 for an SSO on 8/11/2019 due to a force main break. The facility has completed all previously required actions as part of the enforcement process.

After a desk top review of all discharge monitoring reports, CMARs, land application reports, compliance schedule items, and a site visit on July 12, 2023, this facility has been found to be in substantial compliance with their current permit.

Monitoring effluent flow rate is included in the permit. An effluent flow meter was installed in 2018. The sample frequencies for dissolved oxygen, pH, ammonia, and temperature have changed. Fecal coliform monitoring and limits have been replaced with Escherichia coli (E. coli) monitoring and limits. The permit includes an Adaptive Management interim phosphorus limit of 0.6 mg/l expressed as a 6-month average. Chloride limitations have been updated based on chloride effluent data submitted during the previous permit term. An alternative wet weather mass limit has been included in the permit. Annual total nitrogen monitoring is required in specific quarters as outlined in the permit. The permit includes a monthly average Chronic WET limit. The instream waste concentration (IWC) has been updated to 74%. Annual chronic WET tests in rotating quarters are scheduled during the permit term. Downstream and Upstream surface water monitoring was not required during the previous permit term. Monitoring is included as part of the approved Adaptive Management Plan requirements. PFAS sludge monitoring is required annually pursuant to s. NR 204.06(2)(b)9, Wis. Adm. Code.

Permit Drafter’s Name, Address, Phone and Email: BetsyJo Howe, 3911 Fish Hatchery Rd, Fitchburg, WI, 53711, (608) 419-4155, Betsyjo.Howe@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer’s Name, Address, Phone and Email: Kenzie Ostien, 3911 Fish Hatchery Road, Fitchburg, WI 53711, (608) 516-6487, kenzie.ostien@wisconsin.gov

The Department has tentatively decided that the above-specified WPDES permit should be reissued.

Limitations and conditions which the Department believes adequately protect the receiving water are included in the proposed permit. Land application of waste shall be done in accordance with permit conditions and applicable codes. All land application sites shall be approved prior to their use. To receive a list of approved sites, or to be notified of potential approvals, contact the above-named basin engineer.

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action, or to request a public hearing, may write to the Department of Natural Resources at the above-named permit drafter’s address. All comments or suggestions received no later than 30 days after the publication date of this public notice will be considered along with other information on file in making a final decision regarding the permit. Anyone providing comments in response to this public notice will receive a notification of the Department’s final decision when the permit is issued. Where designated as a reviewable surface water discharge permit, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is allowed up to 90 days to submit comments or objections regarding this permit determination. If no comments are received on the proposed permit from anyone, including U.S. EPA, the permit will be issued as proposed.

The Department may schedule a public informational hearing if requested by any person and shall schedule a public informational hearing if a petition requesting a hearing is received from 5 or more persons or if response to this notice indicates significant public interest pursuant to s. 283.49, Wis. Stats. Requests for a public informational hearing shall state the following: the name and address of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the interest in the proposed permit of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the reasons for the request; and the issues proposed to be considered at the hearing.

Information on file for this permit action, including the draft permit, fact sheet and permit application, may be inspected and copied at either the above-named permit drafter’s office or the above named basin engineer’s office, Monday through Friday (except holidays), between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please call the permit drafter or basin engineer for directions to their office location, if necessary. Information on this permit action may also be obtained by calling the permit drafter at (608) 419-4155 or by writing to the Department. Reasonable costs (15 cents per page for copies and 7 cents per page for scanning) will be charged for information in the file other than the public notice, permit and fact sheet. Permit information is also available on the internet at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/PublicNotices.html>. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be made to qualified individuals upon request.

Publish: 2/20/25 WNAJLP

Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

End of the road

The season came to an end for Mount Horeb’s boys swimming team Saturday. The Vikings, who had just three swimmers, battled valiantly at the WIAA Division 2 Sauk Prairie Sectional. Mount Horeb wasn’t able to advance any swimmers to this Friday’s state meet, though.

Senior Carter Craven (right) was sixth in the 100-yard breaststroke, finishing the race in 1 minute, 6.36 seconds. Craven was also 12th in the 100-yard freestyle (52.94).

Freshman Gavin Beglinger was ninth in the 500-yard freestyle (6:20.46) and 13th in the 200-yard freestyle (2:17.97).

Senior Kolbin Bussey was 27th in the 50-yard freestyle (28.81) and 39th in the 100-yard freestyle (1:09.32).

McFarland won the meet with 399 points, while Sauk Prairie/Wisconsin Heights (331) and Baraboo (261) rounded out the top three. Mount Horeb finished with 31 points.



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NOTICES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on February 28th 2025 at 10am a public sale will be held to satisfy a landlord's lien on the following storage units; Michelle Derke, Phil Gold and Elizabeth Booth at www.storageauctions.com under Mount Horeb Self Storage. Units have household items. All sales as is. 608-636-9449

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Attraction Operations Manager

The House on the Rock is seeking an additional Operations Manager to assist the Director of Operations and other Operation Managers. This is an entry level supervisory position for a candidate willing to learn the business from the inside out. This position will help with managing the day-to-day functions of the House on the Rock Admission, Gift, Tour and Maintenance Departments. The position requires a hands-on managerial style and complete willingness to work alongside front-line Team Members of all ages. This is not an office position. The Operation Manager will work a schedule that includes weekends and holidays and needs to be able to work in and enjoy our fast paced peak season as well as our slower paced off season. This position is expected to lead by example and assist personally with Guest volume, staffing issues and being prepared for the day. This position is year-round.

Please send a cover letter, resume and salary history to
The House on the Rock, Attention Human Resources Director
5754 State Road 23, Spring Green, WI 53588



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PUBLIC SERVICES CREWPERSON

The **Village of Mount Horeb** is hiring a **Public Services Parks Maintenance Crewperson** to help maintain our beautiful parks and public spaces! This full-time position offers \$28.00 / hour and includes a comprehensive benefits package. The key responsibilities are to maintain village parks, recreational areas, and public buildings to ensure a safe, clean and visually appealing environment. Assist with tree maintenance, Operate and maintain equipment, support the aquatic center operations, perform snow removal and respond to emergency weather conditions as needed.



Possession of a valid Wisconsin CDL or the ability to obtain one within six months. Experience in parks maintenance, forestry or public works is a plus! Ability to work outdoors in various weather conditions and perform physical tasks. Candidate should have availability to work overtime.

Full Job descriptions and Applications for position can be submitted online at www.mounthorebwi.info
Application Deadline is February 26, 2025

