

SPRING ELECTION

Candidate forum in Blue Mounds

MEET THE CANDIDATES RUNNING FOR THE VILLAGE BOARD IN BLUE MOUNDS MARCH 19

Submit your questions for the upcoming Village of Blue Mounds **Candidate Forum** on **March 19th**. This will be a **listening session only**, meaning the audience will not interrupt the candidates' answers. This is your chance to hear what the candidates have to say about the issues that matter

most to your community.

How to Submit Your Questions: Email your questions to: bluemoundsforum@gmail.com

Submit by: **March 10th**

March 19 -Candidate Forum – Village President forum 4:30 – 5:00 p.m. and Trustee forum 5:15 – 6:15 p.m.

It will be held at the Blue Mounds Village Hall, 11011

Brigham Avenue, Blue Mounds.

Village President Candidates: Paul Baum (I) and Matt Heindl

Village Trustee Candidates: Steve Burbank (I) and Phil Solchenberger (I) and Jeff Lange and David Payne.

A follow up meet and greet will be held at the conclusion of the forum, from 6:15 – 7:00 p.m.

'What keeps you up at night?'

How Morgan's Caring Connection helps answer some of the toughest questions faced by the parents of special needs dependents

By **MATT GEIGER**
Mount Horeb Mail

When Janis Strutt's daughter died unexpectedly, it was the end of something special. A smart, funny, spirited young woman was gone from the world. She had loved Harry Potter, going to church, Taylor Swift, and most of all her family, and now they were left to grieve without her. But in her wake, Morgan, who went to sleep at the age of 25 and never woke up, left behind an enduring legacy of love that will impact countless special needs people and the family members who work tirelessly to give them the support they need.

Morgan's Caring Connection recently celebrated its

first anniversary, and already it is helping people find answers to some of life's most difficult questions.

The non-profit organization exists purely to help families figure out how to best take care of their children, and themselves, both now and in the future. It connects them with vital resources and helps maneuver over and around a litany of barriers. For the families of special needs dependents, Morgan's legacy is one that casts a light of hope in the darkness.

For Strutt and her wife Kelly, who is Morgan's biological mother, and siblings Mackenzie and Mason, the story is both universal and intensely personal.

"We started thinking



Morgan Strutt, who was born with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus, is the inspiration for Morgan's Caring Connection.

about the challenges we faced," explained Janis.

For any parent, life is full of questions. Some are goofy or comical. Others are daunting and dark. But for parents with special needs children, the questions persist, and intensify, rather than going away as the family ages. One of the biggest questions these parents face is: "Who will care for my adult child after I die or when I no longer can?" Estate planning is never as important as when human lives hang in the balance.

It's a simple reality that for parents whose children will not ever be fully able to care for themselves, the story can only end in one of two ways: The first is that

the child dies, leaving their parents to mourn. The other is that the parents die, or reach an age where they can no longer care for their adult children, and the family is let loose from its moorings to drift on a sea of uncertainty. These are not particularly cheerful things to think about, but for people who love their special needs children, they are profoundly important issues.

And it's more than just estate planning. It's hard to find an area in which Morgan's Caring Connection doesn't help families. The organization works to find answers, locate resources, and simplify the constellation of complicated issues many people face. It works

continued on page 10



\$1.4 million line to Tyrol OK'd

By **KEVIN MURPHY**
Mount Horeb Mail

The Public Service Commission last week approved construction of an underground powerline to the Tyrol Basin Ski Resort to replace an aging line that is prone to outages and difficult to maintain.

According to the PSC's Feb. 24 decision:

The Mount Horeb Electric Utility line that extends north from the village crosses hilly terrain, private woodlands, and straddles Elver's Creek several times before dead-ending at the ski/snowboard resort.

The line has experienced 25 outages in the past 10 years, most attributed to acts of nature includ-

ing fallen tree limbs, and that's despite the utility trimming trees along the line every four years at a cost of \$24,000.

The line serves approximately 120 customers, of which Tyrol Basin is the biggest.

The hilly, wooded and wet terrain can make ac-

continued on page 10

Man dies in crash while fleeing from police

The Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) is conducting an officer involved death investigation in the Town of Blue Mounds, that occurred on the evening of Sunday, March 2.

According to the Wisconsin Department of Justice, at approximately 6:21 p.m., a Wisconsin State Patrol Trooper attempted to initiate a traffic stop on U.S. Highway 18/151 near mile marker 52 in Iowa County. The subject failed to stop,

prompting a pursuit.

A deputy with the Iowa County Sheriff's Office joined the pursuit shortly after it began. The pursuit ended when the subject crashed near mile marker 65 in the Town of Blue Mounds. EMS responded, and the subject was pronounced deceased at the scene.

No members of law enforcement or other members of the public were injured during this incident, said the DOJ.

DCI is leading this investigation and is assisted by a DCI Crime Response Specialist, the Dane County Sheriff's Office, and the Mount Horeb Police Department. All involved law enforcement are fully cooperating with DCI during this investigation. DCI said it "is continuing to review evidence and determine the facts of this incident and will turn over the investigative reports to the Dane County District Attorney's office when the investigation concludes."

Mount Horeb High School Honor Roll

Mount Horeb High School Semester 1 Honor Roll 2024 - 2025 School Year

Cum laude - “with honor”;
“with praise” 3.50 – 3.74
Magna cum laude - “with
great honor”; “with great
praise” 3.75 – 3.89
Summa cum laude - “with
highest honor”; “with high-
est praise” 3.90 – 4.00

Summa Cum Laude

Andrew Ahrens
Trinity Alexander
Sydney Almquist
Miles Anderson
Samantha Anderson
Laurel Aquino
Amelia Arrigoni
Elizabeth Baber
Marit Barsness
Adriana Bartow-Holder
Heather Bechner
Madelyn Becker
Gavin Beglinger
Colton Bell
Jordan Betzle
Ava Bilse
Gretta Birkeland
Tate Boatman
Samantha Buechner
Kira Buttner
Eirinn Carr
Claire Casey
Mia Caygill
Alexander Chapman
Patrick Chappell
Kayla Chase
Noelia Cheleri
Django Christian
Clementine Christian
Jake Cimorelli
Saige Covert
Carter Craven
Cole Cunningham
Efram Delahaye
Eli The-Phong Dinh
Josetta Donaldson
Caleb Dorning
Aicha Dowling
Isaiah Drews
Alexandra Felcyn
Makayla Fillner
Macie Finley
Emily Folco
Kyle Frischmann
Ethan Gage
Delilah Gasch
Zoe Gauger
Manon Gilles
Romain Gilles
Nola Gilmore

Evey Gropp
Alexandria Grundahl
Eleanor Guenther
Griffin Hannah
Samantha Hanson
Kaylen Hastings
Grace Hefty
Connor Heiting
Elizabeth Helin
Laurel Helland
Elliana Herritz
Hayden Herritz
Lalaina Hesseling
Micah Hiler
Anna Hofmann
Adrienne Hogseth
Nathan Holt
Raniah Hubbard
Mason Hurda
Calvin Huynh
Elaina Imbus
Quinn Johnston
Emma Jordan
Stella Jungels
Norah Jungels
Kyle Kasubaski
Laszlo Kelley
Dani Kleman
Anabelle Kolb
Isabella Kolb
Barret Kreul
Caroline Kruepke
Natalie Kruepke
Timothy Kruse
Joshua Kuntz
Aspen Laesch
Marek Lambert-Conohan
Geoffrey Lawrence
Lorelei Lawry
Cy Lawry
Evelyn Leszczynski
Tirza Leszczynski
Clara Lindley
Zachary Maguire
Joshua Manchester
Bostynn Ily Marquis
Colin McBain
Molly McCue
Kelsi McCulley
Dylan McKillips
Elysia McKillips
Aled McKinney
Mackenzie Meinholz
Giana Melka
Siobhan Mertz
Elizabeth Mesenberg
Lauren Mester
Avena Meyers
Shayla Morin
Gwen Motl
Addison Motl
Isabel Munoz
Ava Murphy
Leah Nelson

Lily Nelson
Sophia Nelson
Ahnali Nelson
Delaina Nicewander
Madison Niemetscheck
Zea Noltnerwyss
Matthew Oimoen
Cullen Olson
Savannah Olson
Graham Osterholz
Athena Ouradnik
Neela Patterson
Isabel Peralta
Kajsa Peterson
Emma Peterson
Sierra Pitzen
Madelyn Potter
Carlin Ramos
Abigail Rindy
Kamryn Ryan
Jadyn Schellpfeffer
Kynley Schwake
Sylviah Seeliger
Kolbie Severson
Natalie Sheahan
Nathaniel Sherven
Tessa Soppe
Zephyr Stanek
Brinley Steiner
Katherine Straka
Margret Szabo
Andrew Terfruchte
Sydney Thelen
Jocelyn Thesing
Anna Tranel
Kathleen Van Gorden
Evy Vedo
Elle Veech
Charlotte Vermaak
Alexa Vesely
Carter Vesely
Willa Vigliotta
Lillian Wahl
Cecelia Watson
Addison Watson
Anneli Wik
Jack Wilson
Emily Wittenwyler
Landon Wright
Anne Marie Wyse
Samuel Wyse
Julia Zimmer
Eliza Zweifel
Jack Zwettler

Magna Cum Laude

Phoebe Aburomia
Aiden Aeschlimann
Elijah Ahrens
Jackson Alcorn
Kate Alcorn
Micah Ammann
Braeden Ammann
Hayden Anderson
Maggie Anderson
Colin Ankenbauer
Joseph Ballew
Liliana Barcheski
Lizabeth Barrada-Jimenez

Nesta Benzing
Alexander Blake
Everett Boatman
Michael Bogue
Wyatt Bush
Connor Casey
Gabriel Costa
Jeremiah Cothren
Jaina Czyzewski
Reese Downs
Jaxen Finley
Magali Forlines
Aidan Gage
Ella Gaitan
Alyssa Garrity
Hannah Gervasi
Nicolas Gonzalez
Raelynn Gough
Kait Green
Aferdita Hashani
Tyrus Hastings
Elise Hazlewood
Isaac Hefty
Harper Hendrickson
Finn Herman
Jaiden Hesseling
Claire Hurda
Samuel Israngkun Na Ayu-
thia
Carlene Jensen
Aria Johnson
Jenna Jones
Averi Kalscheur
Danee Karls
Khaya Kasubaski
Liam Kelman
Chase Kleman
Carter Kolb
Noah Koltz
Finn La Fleur
Colin Larson
Jerome Larson
Ellie Larson
Orion Lipska
Keaton Littel
Jackson Loger
Tristin Markin
Jacob McWilliams
Mary Meyer
Adara Millar
Avery Monroe
Courtney Monroe
Youssoupha Ndiaye
Maya Newman
Carmen Oglesby
Autumn Okeson
Emma Olsen
Emmanuel Onate Ramirez
Bjorn Opegard
Shannon Ovadal
Mara Parks
Scott Paterson
Nina Paterson
Anneka Polman
Laila Rasmussen
Brayden Richards
Emma Ringgenberg
Lea Roemer
Theodore Rogers

Lola Roske
Josephine Sailor
Jackson Schultek
Maxwell Seibel
Paige Stenner
Hunter Stevens
Julia Straka
Emma Strother
Gabrielle Taft
Olivia Turk
Daemion Velez
Amelie Wagner
Erin Wagner-Leek
Liam Ward
Cora Wetzels
Mason Williams
Gabe Wilson
Hattie Wood
James Zwettler

Cum Laude

RaeLynn Adrian
Owen Aeschlimann
Alayna Alexander
Henry Arrigoni
Andrew Bennin
Camille Benson Bright
McKallan Berry
Joseph Bluhm
Bannon Bradley
Tate Braverman
Preston Braverman
Kayla Bredeson
Ryan Bredeson
Benjamin Brohn
Zachary Brummund
Eden Burns
Denali Campi
Nora Carroll
William Cox
Isabella Cross
Elizabeth Cunningham
Ruby Dahlk
Jack Davis
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Noah High
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Mount Horeb Mail Letters to the Editor policy

We welcome letters to the editor and want to publish your thoughts and opinions. We are happy to publish your letters about politics, and your endorsements of political candidates. Please submit all letters to the editor via email. You can email your letters to mgeiger@fingerpub.com

All letters must include the author's name, address and phone number. We won't publish your address and number, but we need to be able to verify who you are. Anonymous letters and letters written under pseudonyms will not be considered.

We prefer letters that are fewer than 600 words and take as their starting point an issue that is important to our community and our readers. To write a guest column of more than 600 words, contact the editor first.

Letters are edited for clarity, fact checked and sometimes trimmed to fit the space available in the newspaper. The opinions expressed are always the writer's own. The editor won't try to make you seem more (or less) intelligent than you really are, but may clean up some grammatical issues according to our style guide. We want your opinions, even when we don't agree with them. But this isn't the Internet, so you can't just say anything you want. Try to base your letters on reason and fact. We will not publish claims that are demonstrably false.

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Police Report - January

911 Disconnect – 15
911 Open Line Count – 1
Accidents – 7
Accident – 2
Hit & Run 1
Private Property - 1
Property Damage – 3
Assist Citizen – 9
Assist Citizen – Vehicle Unlock - 5
Assist DCSO – 11
Assist Fire/Police – 13
Assist Other Agency – 4
Attempt to Locate – 1
Officers attempted to locate an individual who has an active warrant.
Check Person - 13
Check Property – 23
Citizen Fraud – No Loss – 1

A resident came into the police department to report an attempted fraud. The unknown suspect called the resident claiming to be the pastor of her church and was asking for Apple gift cards. The resident did not purchase the gift cards and reported this to police. No money was lost in this attempted fraud.

Damage Property Complaint – 2

While away from their home for the evening, a resident of the village reported getting an alert of someone on their ring camera who was wearing a ski mask and covering the camera. Officer arrived on scene to check the property and found the home covered in toilet paper. All doors and windows were secure at the residence. A canvas of the area was conducted and no suspects were found. Follow up was completed and the home owner stated they did not wish to pursue charges if the suspect was found.

A resident came in to the police department to report that an unknown person scratched his back car window. He stated the car was parked in his driveway when he believed it happened. The reporting party stated that this has also happened in the past. The reporting party wanted this incident documented, and if someone is caught, he wants it to stop. A canvas of the neighborhood was conducted and there are no cameras in the area.

Death Investigation – 2
Officers were dispatched to a residence for the report of an obvious death. It was found that the deceased had recently been diagnosed with a brain tumor and also suffered from seizures. The medical examiner conducted an investigation and determined there was nothing suspicious surrounding the death.

Officers responded to a residence for a death investigation that was reported by hospice workers. The Dane

County Medical Examiner’s Office conducted an investigation and determined the deceased died of natural caused and nothing suspicious was noted.

Disabled Vehicle - 4
Disturbance Call – 3

Police were dispatched to a residence for the report of a disturbance. Contact was made with both individuals involved. There was not a predominate aggressor in this case, and the disturbance was verbal only. Both parties were advised to separate for the night. Alcohol was a factor in this incident.

Officers were dispatched to a disturbance call at a local establishment involving three individuals. Two of the individuals were asked to leave the establishment and the third was given a ride home. After interviewing all parties involved, it was found one of the subjects had an active warrant for his arrest. The subject was located, arrested and transported to the Dane County Jail without incident.

Police were dispatched to a local business for the report of a verbal disturbance between two customers and an employee. Contact was made with the customers who had left the scene, who stated that they were upset regarding the service at the business. Video evidence was obtained that showed the contact, but there was not a disturbance. The two customers are banned from the business.

Domestic/Family Trouble – 1

Police were dispatched to a residence for the report of a disturbance between family members. While in contact, all parties involved were interviewed. The predominate aggressor in the disturbance was arrested for Disorderly Conduct and transported to the Dane County Jail.

Drug Arrest – 1
Officers conducted a traf-

fic stop on a vehicle for a suspended registration. Upon contact with the four occupants of the vehicle, the officers noted suspicious activity and requested back up. Iowa County K9 assisted where the K9 detected drugs. At the time of the incident, one occupant was arrested for Resisting and Obstructing, Battery or Threat to a Police Officer, and additional charges for Possession of THC, Methamphetamine, Heroin, and Drug Paraphernalia were added. The suspect was transported to the Dane County Jail. Charges were referred for the two other individuals for Resisting or Obstructing Police, Harbor or Aid Felons, and Party to a Crime.

EMS Assist – 68
Follow Up - 2
Foot Patrol/Check Property - 1

Found Property – 1
Fraud – 2

A resident of the village reported that she was notified by her bank of two fraudulent checks. A stop payment was able to be put on one of the checks. The other check was reported to be “washed.” The reporting party was already working with her bank on getting the money back from this check. This case is still active.

A resident called to report a fraud. Police made contact at the reporting party’s residence. It was found that someone opened an account with Boost Mobile and ordered multiple Apple iPhones and an Apple watch, which were delivered to the reporting parties home. Officers made contact with Boost Mobile who stated that to open an account, a social security number is needed. The victim in this identity theft and fraud case was given information on contacting the Federal Trade Commission, Social Security Office and Credit

Bureaus.
Harassment – 1

A resident came in to the Police Department to report being harassed by her ex-boyfriend. She reported that he came to her home and was knocking on her windows in the early morning hours. Officers made contact with the suspect, who stated that he did not enter the residence. At this time, no charges or citations will be issued. The suspect was warned that if he should go to the residence again, he could be cited or arrested.

Information – 21
Landlord/Tenant Trouble – 1

A resident of the village called police and stated he spoke with his landlord who informed him he needed to leave the apartment he was renting, based on his contacts with law enforcement. An officer informed the reporting party that he should reference his contract, and if he felt there was a breach of contract, that he should contact the civil courts. The reporting party stated he understood and would inform his landlord he needed a few days to remove his items from the residence.

Lost Property - 1
Parking Tickets – 49
Phone Call – 18
Preserve the Peace – 6

Officers stood by during a preserve the peace while a tenant removed her items from an apartment. No issues were observed.

A preserve the peace was conducted for an attempted child custody exchange. The resident refused to cooperate with the exchange.

Police were called to a preserve the peace at a residence for the report of a juvenile family member needing to go in to the home to retrieve his school computer. The juvenile was allowed to go inside, but was not allowed to get his com-

puter. The requesting party is frustrated that they were not able to retrieve the item and requested the incident number.

A preserve the peace was requested for an attempted child custody exchange. Police knocked on the door, with no answer. The exchange did not take place.

Officers were requested to stand by at a Preserve the Peace. Upon arrival, all involved parties were gone.

A resident requested a Preserve the Peace in order to collect items from his prior residence. The requesting party is in a civil dispute with the landlord. At this time, no property was taken until a court decision has been made.

Safety Hazard – 1
School Related Incidents - 8

Juvenile Complaint – 3
Juvenile Information - 1
Special Events -2
Truancy - 2

Suspicious Person - 1
Suspicious Vehicle – 5
Theft – 3

A citizen reported that while away from home, a package was delivered to her home. Upon arriving back home, she found that the package had been cut opened and multiple clothing items were now missing. Contact was made with neighbors and no video evidence was found of the suspect.

A convenience store located in the Village of Mount Horeb reported a theft of energy drinks. After viewing camera footage, it was found that 16 thefts by this individual had occurred. The suspect was identified by video and his license plate. Officers eventually made a traffic stop of the suspect vehicle due to a suspended driver’s license and expired registration. Contact was made with the suspect who

was uncooperative regarding the traffic stop. Officers then proceeded to question the suspect about the theft at the convenience store, who was again uncooperative but ultimately made a statement of something to the effect of “you obviously have stuff on me”. The suspect was issued a citation for the theft and was also served a copy of a trespassing letter, where he is banned from entering.

Officers were dispatched to a local business for the report of a theft. This case is still active pending camera footage.

Theft from Auto – 1

A resident of the village called to report that she had caught someone going through her car without consent. Contact was made with the suspect who admitted to entering the vehicle and would like to return the item taken. The suspect was also willing to turn himself in to police. Contact was made with the reporting party who stated that if the item taken was returned, she would not press charges. The suspect talked to the reporting party, returned the item and apologized. No charges were pressed.

Threats Complaint – 4

A Speak Up Speak Out tip regarding a Tic Tok post was reported. Officers made contact at the residence and spoke with the potential suspect. All information gathered was passed along and more interviews will be conducted. This case remains active.

The Mount Horeb Police Department received a tip from Speak Up Speak Out regarding a student making threats on Snap Chat. Officers made contact with the suspect and the parents. The suspect eventually stated that he was joking with friends and did not have any

continued on page 10

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James Brinkmann follows family’s firefighting footsteps

By DANIEL LINS
Mount Horeb Mail

The Brinkmann family history runs deep in the Mount Horeb Fire Department. In fact, the family tree within the fire department goes back all the way to 1939, when Howdy Himsel was chief of the department.

Now, over 80 years later, the Brinkmann family tree is still apparent on the squad. They are following in some big footsteps, coming after well-known names like Chuck Himsel.

One of the most recent in the family to serve for the fire department is James Brinkmann, who has served proudly since 2018. And I mean *proudly*.

James is not the only Brinkmann currently working for the department.

His brother, Max has been with the department since 2018, and is currently a part-time employee who works the EMS on the weekends.

The oldest of the three Brinkmann brothers, Thad, is a part-time employee who works a few day shifts a month, while also working at the Dane County Regional Airport as a member of the Truax Fire Department.

James’ father, Eric, has been with the department since 1990, serving as chief for years. James says his father is a big reason why he got interested in the fire department from a very young age.

“At a really young age, I spent a lot of time at the

fire department. I have been around the fire service since I was walking. As I got older, I would always ask my dad to come up with him.”

He says he started getting experience with burning fields when he was in second grade with his prairie burning business.

“I started burning fields in second grade, and it was great to get hands-on experience as early as I did.”

James added how he knew early on that working in the fire department is what he knew he wanted to do.

“The family history definitely helped. Getting really early exposure was big.”

He went on to mention how he is always one to help others, and with the fire department, he gets the chance to do that every day.

“From a young age, I always felt like I wanted to help people. The fire department is kind of like sports. It is a team game, you are there to help one another, you have the same end goals.”

James also discussed how he believes he has always been a team player.

“I love helping people, whether it is an emergency or not. Even if it is something small like a friend needing furniture moved, I am always there to lend a helping hand.”

“I feel like it has always been a part of my personality, and I think that has only grown because of my early exposure in the fire service.”

James says no two days



Max and James Brinkmann. Photo courtesy of the Mount Horeb Fire Department.

are the same, and that is one of his favorite things about the job.

He says the training he had in high school through a program at Mount Horeb High School gave him a lot more experiences and knowledge.

“I could start the program at age 16, and it started off as an entry level fire course. From there, I moved up to the Fire 1 course, and from there, the Fire 2 course, which was the top of the fire classes.”

He added that the courses are all done over a high school length semester, all while still taking other high school courses, so it got challenging at times.

He says he did the fire classes at night due to his age, but believes doing it that way worked out better in the long run.

“Doing the classes at night was unique, as we combined

the entry level course with the Fire 1 course. There was the option to test out of those classes, and if you passed, you moved up to the Fire 2 course.”

He mentioned that, in his senior year of high school, he started what the department calls “Pump-Up”, as well as his internship with the department.

In doing the “Pump-Up”, Brinkmann could drive and pump water from the fire trucks, so it was much more hands on.

Brinkmann’s education did not come to a stop after that. He went on to get his paramedic classes done, which has only added to his long list of certifications he has now.

“Before I got into college, I had my EMT license and was Fire 1 and Fire 2 certified,” he said. “I also ended up having my Pump-Up which has only helped me

more.”

James says his current role with the fire department is a full time staff member, both as a firefighter and paramedic, which he was hired for in May of 2023.

Brinkmann added how the hours of his job are not your typical 9-5.

“We are on the clock three days a week here, which includes a 13-hour shift, a 10-hour shift, and a 24-hour shift,” he said. “These shifts rotate based on what the department needs on a day to day basis.”

He went on to say how the 24-hour shift is working the ambulance, but if there is a certain part of the department that is not staffed, such as an EMT, he fills in to work that.

Brinkmann also said other responsibilities of full-time staff include doing things like training, both fire and EMS, as well as fire inspections around the community.

When James is not at the fire station, he enjoys doing pretty much anything he can outside, from hunting to playing sports to hanging out with friends and family.

Speaking of sports, James loves to use his athleticism to play sports with friends, including myself. When my

schedule aligns with his, we try to get together for Culver’s and play basketball, doing my part in helping him stay in shape for the job.

When we play basketball, this usually starts as us just shooting around and almost always ends in a back-and-forth battle of one-on-one. This typically results in plenty of banter from both of us, but we know it is in good fun.

Brinkmann also mentioned how he loves to travel, no matter where it is.

“I absolutely love to travel, even if it is to our family cabin or a day trip up to the Dells. Anything to get me out and about is a blast.”

He added what he plans on for the future.

“Down the road, I would really like to get into teaching. It would be great to help out teaching EMS classes, as well as fire classes,” he said.

“I wouldn’t want to do it full time though,” he said with a smile. “Just a part time gig.”

James concluded the interview with what serving on the fire department means to him.

“For me, serving on the fire department is a way for me to make my own mark on the community. So many of my family members have served that it is important for me to uphold the tradition, while also fulfilling my purpose of being a servant and advocate for the community in my own unique way.”

He adds how, with Mount Horeb changing as rapidly as it is, it is important for him to stay true to what he learned early on.

“The village of Mount Horeb has shifted in its values, demographics, and traditions throughout my family’s years of service, and it is important that I use what I have learned from my family and apply that to the new generation of community servants and members of the community.”

“Basically, I want to carry the family name with pride while also using my own unique values and beliefs to better serve the community.”

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Gleanings

By **Barb Johnson**
Mount Horeb Mail

140 Years Ago-
Mar. 6, 1885

S. Thompson and H. Eggers are manufacturing a road tricycle, which we will notice in the future.

The junior of this periodical, in company with Doc. Evans, is exploring the wonders and curiosities of Chicago.

A camel will work seven days without drink. In this he differs somewhat from some men, who drink seven days without working.

Mr. and Mrs. Urban McNaul entertained a number of friends Sunday, in their agreeable manner in which they carry out such affairs.

J.P. Moe returned to Black Earth Monday morning. At noon a note was sent him, announcing a boy added to his family. Such are the uncertainties of this world.

130 Years Ago-
Mar. 7, 1895

A.K. Grinde had a lively runaway last Saturday morning.

The Misses Hazelberg, who have been visiting with relatives and friends at this place returned to their home by way of Deerfield, on Tuesday.

Miss Jennie Halferdahl returned to this place Tuesday, to take her former place as milliner at Dahle Bros. Store.

John Gordon, of Garner, Iowa, is here visiting his parents. John bought a farm near Garner some two years ago at \$11 per acre, he sold it recently and tripled his money. He has just made another land purchase.

Miss Mary Gallagher, of Vermont boarded the noon passenger here last Friday, for Stockton, California, where she was summoned by telegram to nurse her brother, Pat, who is danger-



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ously ill at that place.

LATER-Pat died before his sister got to him.

J.P. Moe will now be found in the tonsorial parlors recently vacated by S. Gesme, with a full line of musical instruments and everything belonging to a music store.

The ladies of this place surprised Mr. and Mrs. Tollefson yesterday afternoon with an elegant chamber tea. It was a grand surprise, and Mrs. T is not over the surprise yet.

A hook and ladder company has been organized. Now it is for a hose company to organize and not to hesitate another moment either.

A. Hoff spent last week in Chicago laying in his soaring and summer stock of general merchandise.

It has been decided to rebuild the Norwegian Lutheran church at Springdale and bids will be received from contractors up to March 9th.

100 Years Ago-
Mar. 10, 1925

No matter how carefully secrets are guarded, they will sometime be found out, so our enterprising young furniture dealer, Wallace Fosshage found out when his friends discovered that he and Miss Mildred Hanley had been married for two weeks, the ceremony being performed by Rev. Bannon,

at the Rockford, Ill. Lutheran church, on Monday Feb. 23, 1925 and so Monday of this week, Wallace bought the cigars and admitted that he was the happiest man on earth.

Elmer Jacobson of the Tepee poultry farm knows that it pays to advertise as he has been flooded with orders since putting on a small advertising campaign, penned and executed with the assistance of this publication.

Roy Finke, who has acted as assistant village marshal here for the past two years, has resigned that position, taking effect today. Roy will carry mail on Mr. Dysland's route as soon as Dysland takes the job as postmaster.

Eli Witte has sold his residence on Main Street and will move into the house vacated by Mrs. Chris Froh.

A Richland Center man received a circular last week telling him that an organ would be sent to him free in order to introduce it into that locality, and that four dollars would have to be sent to pay transportation charges. He sent the four hard earned dollars and in due time the musical instrument arrived and it proved to be a ten cent mouth organ.

120 Years Ago-
Mar. 9, 1905

Mrs. Halvor Gunstad, 62, died suddenly at her home here Monday. Burial was in Daleyville.

Tore Spaanem is back from his trip to Virginia and reports that he is very much pleased with the country and climate.

Mr. G. A. Thompson and Miss Mary Mickelson were married Wednesday of last week at Rice Lake, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. P.O. Peterson, the later being a sister of the groom. The contracting parties are not strangers here nor strangers to one another, Miss Mickelson being a sister of Mr. Thompson's first wife, who died three years ago, and who has taken so much interest in their welfare since her sister's death.

The money found by Edgar Lohff and advertised in the Times was the property of Clarence Paulson, who was pleased to receive his valuables and will not carry paper money loose in his coat pocket hereafter.

Lost: A cardboard box of laces and embroideries, on the road between Daleyville and Blue Mounds. Finder will please notify M. Hoffman, Blanchardville, and receive a liberal reward.

110 Years Ago-
Mar. 12, 1915

Chas. Rue and female friend left for Freeport, Ill. last Tuesday to visit prospective relatives there and what more may be stated later.

Walter Manning was here several days doing the cable splicing for the local telephone company and left for home Wednesday morning.

The Springdale Lutheran congregation is establishing a cemetery fund and expects to use the interest from this fund with which to keep the lots mowed.

Jacob Levy, proprietor of the California Fruit Store, expects to have his family join him here this summer. They have a long ways to come being located in the northern part of Russia and

must travel 5,000 miles by railroad thence to Norway and from there across the Atlantic and expects to be here in the month of June, his family consists of wife and three children.

Tramps are quite numerous at this time, they are very frequent guests at Hotel de Rue.

90 Years Ago-
Mar. 7, 1935

An odd occurrence here last Saturday was the saw rig flywheel freak accident. As most locals know, a section broke from a flywheel on a saw rig being operated at the A.N. Thorhaug home and whirled across the skies for a distance of about five blocks, crashed through a window and door and came to rest on a closet floor of the home of Mrs. Jennie Arneson. Happily, no one was in the room, having left shortly prior to the incident.

Andrew Gesme telephoned us yesterday that he saw a flock of wild geese headed north Tuesday. They landed near the golf course to rest and feed.

The Mount Horeb Bowling Alleys, formerly operated by Mrs. Verne Hermann, has been leased to Bubby Vasen, Cross Plains.

The drilling of the new municipal well was held up three weeks ago when a bit became stuck at a depth of 567 feet. In an effort to free the bit, a 23-foot drilling has been made around it and it will be necessary to drill 20 more feet before setting off a charge of dynamite to loosen the tool.

60 Years Ago-
Mar. 11, 1965

Teacup Topics by Betty Ann: Wind embroidery thread on small plastic home permanent curlers, which can be snapped shut to keep the thread from unwinding.

Merlin Jacobson officially closed the books on the Becky Sime fund drive last week, but monetary contributions have still been flowing in, and Jacobson reported that \$1,222.00 has

been received to date.

A daughter, Kristi Jo, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Luhman Jr., Tuesday, Feb. 9, at Madison General hospital.

The American Legion Auxiliary Essay winners for the essay entitled "America, the Citadel of Freedom," were Cheryl Hiser in Group I, and Rhonda Kobs in Group II.

50 years Ago-
Mar. 6, 1975

Doug Goble will host an open house on Tuesday at his new Nicole's Restaurant, Steak House and Lounge, located in the Opera House Building.

Officers were elected, subcommittees organized and a funding request made at the third meeting of the Mount Horeb Area Bicentennial Committee. Drew Lawrence was chosen to chair the committee with Roy Tvedt as treasurer, Brian Bigler as recording secretary.

Janlin Plastics of Dubuque, Iowa was welcomed to Mount Horeb Monday after the official closing on the company's purchase of the Yoo-Hoo Bottling Plant.

The scholastic leaders of 1975 have been released by Mount Horeb High School. Valedictorian is Barbara Hanson with a 96.23 grade point. The salutatorian is Kelly Frame with a grade point of 96.09.

30 Years Ago-
Mar. 9, 1995

The Mount Horeb High School girls basketball team won the sectional final game against Blair-Taylor and earned their first state tournament appearance. The girls will play Thursday morning against Reedsville in the UW Fieldhouse.

Lori J. Topper, age 32, died on Feb. 20, 1995. Anna Maria is the name chosen by Robert and Rosemarie Fenrich, Blue Mounds, for their daughter born Tuesday, Feb. 28 at Meriter Hospital.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Syrup event at Donald Park

Join the Friends of Donald Park on Sunday, March 16th at 1:00 p.m. for a maple syrup making demonstration. They will gather at the Hitchcock Farmstead at the end of Sutter Drive to learn about tapping and gathering sap from the sugar maple trees.

There will be a brief presentation on the park’s history as well as a cook down of the sap and maple syrup for tasting, hosted by park volunteers.

Visitors will have the opportunity to hike out to the sugar maple grove, so dress appropriately. To get to the farmstead, take Sutter Drive past the “no parking access” signs and park on the right side entering the farmstead. There is a parking lot midway on Sutter Drive if you choose to walk the short distance to the farmstead. For more information, email contact@donaldpark.org.



Seed Swap connects growers

Join in the fun and fellowship of the fourth annual Seed Swap-and get growing!

Drop by the Driftless Historium (100 S 2nd St, downtown Mount Horeb) on Saturday, March 15, 2025 any time between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. to trade seeds and seed stories!

Meet fellow growers and peruse a diverse selection of seed varieties donated by individuals and generous, green thumb-friendly businesses and nonprofits, including nearby A.P. Whaley Seed Company, Back Home Farm and Jada’s Garden and Greenhouse, as well as Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds, Rooted Wisconsin, and Seed Savers Exchange. Attendance is encouraged whether you are a beginning seed saver, first-time gardener or a seasoned expert in both. Bring small, well-marked packets of vegetable, herb, and native seeds -and/or your seed stories! Have you cared for and carried forward a family or heirloom vegetable, fruit, grain, herb or flower? We want to hear all about it. No seeds to contribute to the exchange? No problem! Just bring yourself; there will be plenty of seed to get you started. All leftover seed stock will be deposited into the Driftless Seed Library, a free community resource available at the Driftless Historium museum and accessible year-round during their open hours.

This program is presented by the Driftless Seed Project, an initiative of Mount Horeb Area Historical Society, Back Home Farm (Blue Mounds, WI), Mount Horeb Area Community Garden, and Naturalist/Educator Catherine Young. The Driftless Seed Project seeks to educate about the intersection of sustainable agriculture and cultural heritage, by identifying and sharing locally cultivated seeds and their stories from the Driftless area of Southwest Wisconsin. For more information, contact the Driftless Historium at mthorebahs@gmail.com or call 608-437-6486.

Irish concert at the public library



Start your weekend with the lively, rhythmic sounds of Ireland at the Mt. Horeb Public Library Saturday, March 15 at 10am. Slippig plays fiery and haunting Celtic tunes on a variety of traditional instruments, and shares the history and tales behind the songs. This free show for all ages will get you in the mood for St Patty’s day - even if you’re not Irish. For more information on the library, its services and programs, visit mhpl.org or call 608-437-5021.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

THURSDAY, MARCH 6

Lecture: Garlic Mustard: Natural History & Management, sponsored by Blue Mounds Area Project; at Mt. Horeb Senior Center, 107 N. Grove Street. 7:00pm. Free and open to all.

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

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

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

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

MONDAY, MARCH 10

“Wise Moves”, Upland Hills presentation for Seniors, 1:00pm, RSVP by March 7. Sponsored by Karen Tetzlaff. Everyone welcome. Senior Center.

Friends of Military Ridge Trail (FMRT) will hold their monthly meeting at 5:30pm at the Friends Shelter at Blue Mound State Park, Blue Mounds. State park pass not required to attend. More details at <https://friendsofmilitaryridgetrail.org>.

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

Men’s Story Telling Group, 12:00-1:00pm, Senior Center

Tai Chi, 1:00pm, Senior Center

Ageless Grace, 2:00pm, Senior Center

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

Blood Pressure Checks, Senior Center, 10:00-11:00am

Euchre, Senior Center, 12:30pm

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.

Letter to the Editor

Keep Musk’s Hands off Wisconsin’s Supreme Court

Elon Musk is seeking to gain influence over our Supreme Court by pouring huge sums of money into Brad Schimel’s campaign. In Schimel, Musk would have a willing ally on the Court to promote the MAGA agenda.

We need to elect Judge Susan Crawford who will protect reproductive freedom, voting rights, and fair maps from laws that violate Wisconsin’s Constitution.

Because Wisconsin is a swing state Trump won, the nation is closely watching this election. While lawsuits over Trump’s usurpation of the constitutional powers of Congress are slowly working their way through the Federal Courts, the Court of Public Opinion in Wisconsin will be issuing its own ruling April 1st. A rejection of Schimel will signal that in Wisconsin, Trump and Musk lack the popular support they claim.

If you do not like what you are watching in the news, now is the time to do something. If nothing else, make sure to Vote for Judge Crawford on April 1. This will be a close election, which can be won or lost by a handful of votes in each of the 1,854 towns, villages and cities in Wisconsin. Make sure yours is one of the handful of votes that will insure a victory for Judge Crawford and social justice.

Allen Pincus
Barneveld,

Obituaries

Herbert Jabs

August 12, 1961 –
January 27, 2025



MOUNT HOREB - Herbert Jabs passed away on January 27, 2025, at the age of 63. The first-born son of Erwin and Käthe Jabs, Herb and his brother, Wally, and sister, Erika, were born and raised in Madison, Wisconsin. After attending Madison East High School, Herb graduated from Madison Area Technical College with an associate’s degree in Electronics. He had been a resident of Mount Horeb, Wisconsin for 25 years.

Herb is leaving behind a legacy of quiet strength and a genuine appreciation for life’s simple pleasures. A lifelong fishing enthusiast, Herb found peace and renewal on calm waters at daybreak, embracing the serene rhythm of nature as a source of comfort and inspiration.

Viewed by some as a gentle giant, Herb’s presence was matched only by his kind heart and soulful nature. His warm smile, thoughtful nature, and meticulous attention to detail made him a beloved figure to those around him. A deeply spiritual man, he found meaning in the world around him, cherishing the profound connections between nature and the human spirit.

Herb always wanted the best for everyone, offering kindness, wisdom, and encouragement to all. He was known for his generosity and always offered a willing hand to those in need, ready to lend support without hesitation. His ability to notice the little things in life,

combined with his reflective and down-to-earth character, allowed him to live each day with quiet passion. In addition to his love for fishing, he held a deep fondness for blues music - a taste that added even more depth to his soulful nature.

In his life, Herb was blessed to find his soulmate, Nancy, who completed him in every way. Together, they shared a deep and enduring love, finding joy and peace in each other’s presence. Her loss to cancer was devastating and left a void in his heart that could never be filled. Yet, Herb carried her memory with him always, and her spirit continued to inspire him as he moved forward, cherishing the time they shared.

Herb is survived by his life partner, Patricia Schmidt; father, Erwin Jabs; brother, Wally (Michele) Jabs along with their children, Cece Jabs and Keeley Jabs; sister, Erika (Keith) Esser; beloved Aunt Hilda Jeschke; niece, Emilie Glotfelty; and nephews, Jeff Gilreath and Davy Gilreath. He was preceded in death by his wife, Nancy Braun; mother, Käthe Jabs; and grandparents, Adolf and Emilie Jabs and Herman and Inge Carstensen.

Herb’s family was always central to his heart, and the bonds he shared with them brought him great joy and a deep sense of fulfillment.

A celebration of life will be held at GUNDERSON CAMACHO MOUNT HOREB FUNERAL AND CREMATION CARE, 500 N. Eighth St., Mount Horeb, on Saturday, March 15, 2025. Visitation will be held from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. with the sharing of stories and memories following. We will honor Herb’s memory and the many cherished moments he shared with loved ones. Everyone is encouraged to share a story and celebrate the impact he had on their lives.

In lieu of flowers, the family welcomes donations to the Dane County Humane Society or a cause close to your heart. Online condolences may be made at

www.gundersonfh.com.

Herbert’s gentle presence and selfless nature will be deeply missed. May he rest in peace.

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Keith Syvrud

February 23, 1935 -
January 25, 2025



BROOKLYN - Keith Syvrud, aged 89, of Brooklyn, Wis., passed away peacefully on Saturday, January 25, 2025. He was born on February 23, 1935, in Madison, Wis., to Arthur and Amelia (Lee) Syvrud. A proud member of a large family, Keith was the youngest of seven brothers: Melford, Donald, Dean, Dennis, Paul, and Lee. He held immense pride in the military service of his older siblings, five of whom served in the Navy, Marine Corps, Army, and Air Force.

Keith graduated from Mount Horeb High School in 1955. In March 1955, he married Rosemarie Mueller, and together they had four children: daughter Kathy and sons Mark, Kevin and Brian. The family settled in Windsor, Wis., where Keith dedicated himself to raising his children until 1976. In 1980, he married his second wife, Patricia (Reichenbach), and lived in Fitchburg, Wis. In 1994, he found love again with Bette Karrmann, and they resided in Brooklyn, Wis., for 30 years until her passing in 2024.

Professionally, Keith had a successful career as a lineman and later an engi-

neer with AT&T, working for over 30 years. He was deeply involved in his community, starting as a long-time member of the United Church of Christ in Windsor, where he served as a deacon, organized Fall Suppers and led the youth group alongside Rosemarie. Keith was a member of the Pioneers group affiliated with AT&T, participating in various charitable activities. He was also a proud participant in the Zor Shrine organization, enjoying parades on motorcycles with his companions, and cherished his charity work with the Masons.

Keith’s entrepreneurial spirit led him to invest in several businesses in Wisconsin, including a ski resort, K&R Kamper and Madison Property Management. He loved spending winter weekends on ski trips with family and took many summer road trips across the United States and Canada in their motorhome, creating lasting memories with his four children. As they grew older, he and Rosemarie enjoyed family vacations in Europe. After marrying Patricia, Keith embraced the role of a stepfather, helping to raise her two children, Jim and Monique (Newcomer) Reichenbach. Following his retirement and after marrying Bette, the couple purchased a second home in Arizona, where they spent winters together, traveling across the country in their motorhome to visit family and friends.

One of Keith’s greatest passions was flying. He acquired the Brooklyn Airport, where he kept his plane and expanded the airfield. He built a beautiful home for Bette overlooking the airport, where he delighted in watching aircraft take off and land, often engaging in lively conversations with fellow pilots about their flying experiences. Music was another source of joy for him, with heartfelt favorites including “Amazing Grace,” “How Great Thou Art,” and the country classic “Make the World Go Away.”

Keith is survived by his children, Kathy (Darryl) Steinhouse, Mark (Kristy), Kevin (Robert) and Brian (Doreen). He leaves behind eight grandchildren, Austin, Sam, Alexandra, Meghan, Tyler, Brent, Brandon and Preston; as well as stepchildren, Jim Reichenbach, Monique Newcomer, Kim Beckmann and Steve Karrmann. He is also survived by great-grandchildren, Leif, Judah, Beckett, Finn, Asher, Cassius and Winnie; and his brother, Lee (Phyllis) Syvrud.

Keith was preceded in death by his parents, Arthur and Amelia; five brothers, Melford, Don, Dean, Dennis and Paul; and his wife, Bette.

Keith Syvrud will be remembered for his involvement to family, community commitment and his adventurous spirit.

He touched the lives of many and will be dearly missed. As Keith’s children, we have taken away valuable lessons on how to be better parents.

A memorial service will be held at GUNDERSON OREGON FUNERAL AND CREMATION CARE, 1150 Park St., Oregon, at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 15, 2025. Visitation will be held at the funeral home from 12 noon until the time of the service on Saturday.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be sent to St. John’s Church in memory of Keith Syvrud.

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

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CHURCH NOTES

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- 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**
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Sunday Worship: 9am online and in person
umcmh.org
Celebrating God's Inclusive Love
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639 S. Eighth St., Mt. Horeb
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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
We are an Open and Affirming 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

DECA: All in the family



Nora and Allison Carroll.



Hayden and Elliana Herritz.



Dylan and Elysia McKillips.



Manon Gilles and Laurel Helland.



Braeden and Micah Amman.



Manon and Romain Gilles.

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By AUBREE HANKS
MHASD

This year, at the Wisconsin DECA State Career Development Conference, Mount Horeb DECA wasn't just about competition, workshops, and networking, it was also about family. As they prepared for the Lake Geneva conference at the end of February, the team embraced a unique dynamic. For the first time, four sets of Viking siblings qualified for State, making family connections a major theme for Mount Horeb DECA's 28-member team. Adding another family connection, DECA Advisor Allison Carroll coached her team while also cheering on her daughter, who attended State for the first time.

Manon & Romain Gilles:
Manon (Senior): Business Law & Ethics Team (1st at Districts) and Integrated Marketing Campaign-Event State Project
Romain (Freshman): Principles of Business Management & Administration (4th at Districts)
Dylan & Elysia McKillips:
Dylan (Senior): Restaurant & Food Service Management (District Finalist)
Elysia (Sophomore): Food Marketing and Hospitality (District Finalist) & Tourism Professional Selling

State Project
Hayden & Elliana Herritz:
Hayden (Senior): Retail Merchandising (2nd at Districts) and Integrated Marketing Campaign-Event State Project
Elliana (Freshman): Principles of Finance (3rd at Districts)
Braeden & Micah Amman:
Braeden (Senior) & Micah (Junior): Financial Services Team Decision Making teammates (District Medalists)
Nora & Allison Carroll:
Nora (freshman): Principles of Entrepreneurship (4th at Districts) and Integrated Marketing Campaign-Product
Allison: DECA advisor for nine years, leading Mount Horeb's chapter since 2019.

Mount Horeb DECA's 28 State qualifiers are a highly competitive group which includes 17 returning State qualifiers, 11 of whom have represented Mount Horeb DECA at the international level in the past, and four who have placed in the top ten in the world. Beyond their talent, this year's team showcased the power of family support and shared ambition. For siblings Manon and Romain Gilles, DECA is more than just competition, it's a family tradition. Romain is the third Gilles sibling to compete, following in the footsteps of Ines, who placed 8th internationally in 2019, and Manon, who finished 2nd in 2022. Before they competed, Manon stated, 'I'm excited to share the energy and challenge of the State Career Development Conference (SCDC) with my brother this year,' said Manon. 'I know he'll have a blast continuing the DECA family tradition that started with our sister.' Braeden Amman was also excited to compete with his teammate and brother Micah for the first time. Ahead of the competition, Braeden remarked, 'I believe overall it'll be a great experience for both of us to continue to work with each other.'

Whether they are offering advice, cheering each other on, or engaging in a little friendly competition, these family connections add an extra layer of meaning to the DECA experience. With parents, siblings, and teammates rallying behind them, Mount Horeb DECA made an impact at Wisconsin DECA State. Many of our students walked away from the Wisconsin DECA State Career Development Conference with awards and many have earned a seat at the DECA International Career Development Conference (ICDC) in Orlando this April.

POLICE

continued from page 3

ideations of harm. A search of the suspect’s vehicle was conducted, which did not produce any type of weapon. A citation for Disorderly Conduct will be issued and the school will also be taking action.

Another tip came in regarding a vague threat made by a student on Snap Chat. Contact was made with the suspect and parent regarding this incident. The suspect admitted that he probably made the statement, but it

was with his friends while gaming. The suspect will be issued a citation for Disorderly Conduct and will have other repercussions at school.

Police took a threats complaint report from an owner of a storage facility who was receiving, what he believed to be, threatening voice-mails and text messages from someone who had previously rented a storage unit. Phone contact was made with the suspect in this case, who was warned that what he was doing was approaching the threshold of harass-

ment. The suspect agreed to stop and the reporting party obtained a restraining order.

Traffic Arrests – 6
Traffic Complaint - 6
Traffic Incident – 5
Traffic Warning – 47
Trespassing – 1

Police were dispatched to a residence for the report of a trespasser on the property. Upon arrival, the suspects had already left the scene. The reporting party was contacting their attorney to discuss further actions. Extra patrol was conducted in the area.

Unwanted Person – 2

Police were dispatched to a residence for an unwanted person. This incident is related a trespassing incident that had occurred earlier in the day.

Officers were dispatched to a local establishment for the report of an unwanted person. Officers arrived on scene and the individual in question had already left. Officers talked with the reporting party and found that the individual had been previously banned from entering the establishment. Officers made contact at the residence of the individual

where a citation was issued for trespassing.

Violation of Court Order – 2

A resident came to the police department to report a violation of a court order by her ex-boyfriend. The court order is for a domestic abuse injunction. The order states that the respondent shall not have any contact with the petitioner. In this case, the respondent did attempt contact over social media, which is a violation. This information was sent to the Dane County District Attorney’s Office for their review.

A resident reported that her ex-husband was violating a restraining order that is in place. Officers arrived at the residence and obtained a statement from the reporting party, who stated her ex-husband showed up at the same church service that she was attending. Phone contact was made with the ex-husband, who had a different story. Officers checked the area for cameras that may have captured the incident. At the time of this report, no video evidence has been found to determine if a violation did take place.

POWER

continued from page 1

cess to some line segments challenging, increasing the time to complete the repair and lengthening the time of the outage.

While many repairs can be made from a bucket truck, some areas aren’t truck accessible requiring crews to climb poles or even hand carry in poles to some area, according to Forster Electrical Engineering, the project’s manager.

Tyrol Basin has experienced 30 outages/surges in

the past six years, which have damaged equipment and stranded skiers on lift chairs, Nathan McGree, the resort’s owner, wrote the PSC in July.

A December 2023 outage/surge damaged motors that required repairs costing \$74,000. That event also cost the ski hill a night of snowmaking during a winter when snowmaking was feasible on only 22 nights, McGree wrote.

Skiers had to be extracted from the lifts during a March 2023 outage and prompted the resort to make refunds totaling \$2,300. The ski hill

was without power due to an outage on an extremely cold day in January 2021 requiring refunding fees to 60 customers. And a surge blew out the resort’s main server during the summer of 2021 which cost \$4,500 to replace.

“Tyrol has paid an enormous amount of money in peak on demand charges over the years, and it is my understanding that part of what peak on demand charge is for is to facilitate having good infrastructure to supply the demand for power we have. The current infrastructure supplying us

power is antiquated at best and complete junk in some situations,” McGree wrote.

McGree declined to comment Feb. 27 on the PSC’s decision.

In Electric Superintendent Jordan Schmitz’s opinion, Tyrol’s troubles weren’t the main reason he wanted to underground the line that serves the resort. Instead, it was adding the Military Ridge Substation near US 18/151 west of the village last year. By connecting that substation to one downtown, it allowed the village electric distribution grid to be looped. In a dead end

line, power flows from one point, but in a looped system power can be sent from two directions. When a repair needs to be made, less of a looped line needs to be shut-down which inconveniences fewer customers, Schmitz said.

The new underground line tap into a line at CTH ID and North Road, then extend up North Road to where it will split in two. One leg continues to the ski resort, and the other leg connects to a line along CTH JG, looping the line and the village’s distribution system.

The existing line was installed in the 1970s and probably could be prone to increasing outages as the equipment continues to age.

Schmitz anticipates that the estimated \$1.467 million project will be bid in few weeks and digging can begin by late May and construction completed by late summer. Hopefully, long before the snow flies again.

Forster estimated that the cost of the powerline project will add about \$2.30 to monthly electric bills of average residential customers, bumping them from \$94.54 to \$96.84.

CARING

continued from page 1

to connect people with existing services, which can come in the form of anything from money to specialists.

They hold what they call “empowerment sessions” to share information that families need in a relatable, accessible way.

“We try to make it conversational, short, to make it palatable,” said Strutt.

“I always try to ask the question: ‘What keeps you up at night?’” she continued. “A lot of things keep parents up at night, and they don’t know where to turn or who to trust.”

Morgan’s Caring Connection offers a directory of places people can turn for answers about healthcare, guardianship, estate planning, home-related services, education, recreation, independence and much, much more.

Morgan was born with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus. As someone with both physical and cognitive disabilities, she would never be fully independent, which meant the entire family had to find ways to support her and help her grow for the entirety of her life.

“I always wanted her to be as independent as she could possibly be in her life,” Strutt said. “I looked at it as *her* quality of life, and also *our* quality of life.”

Part of their philosophy was to eschew arbitrary barriers.

“My wife and I never had



Janis and Kelly Strutt with their daughter, Morgan. Photo contributed.

any boundaries,” she said. “We were never like: ‘Oh, we can’t do that because Morgan’s in a wheelchair.’”

Instead, they met their challenges head on. But even for them, it was complicated and difficult. They know the struggle as well as any family.

Janis originally met Kelly on the dating app Match.com. They have now been married for 17 years, and their union, and their shared love for Morgan and all their children, are at the heart of

the nonprofit’s mission.

“The biggest thing that really helps me understand what other parents are going through is I understand the struggles of not being able to figure things out,” Strutt explained.

She said Wisconsin has an array of resources for people, but in a “broken” system, where caseworkers come and go and no agency seems to communicate with any other, it can feel impossible to gain access.

“The bottom line is you

don’t know what you don’t know,” said Strutt. “And if you don’t know, how can you advocate? How can you ask the right questions?”

Strutt said the parents of special needs dependents often end up paying for services themselves or don’t get services at all, simply because they can’t figure out how to access funding that exists but seems locked away behind various bureaucratic barriers.

None of this makes caring for a special needs depen-

dent easy. But it does make it *easier*. And that is quite a legacy for someone to give to the world after a brief 25 years.

“She was a good kid,” said Strutt of her daughter. “She was feisty.”

“She was a spitfire,” she added. People always told Morgan’s parents the girl was always kind and perpetually smiling. Strutt appreciates the feedback, and she also laughs the knowing laugh of all parents, pointing out that with her own

family, Morgan was strong-willed and had no problem testing her parents and her siblings over the years.

“Morgan was always a bright light, is what so many tell us when they meet us or see us since she has passed,” said Strutt. “She was an honorary Hufflepuff as she had a very deep love for Harry Potter. She loved her music and going to Sugar River Church on Sundays.”

“You would never see her without her Apple products, whether it was an iPad, laptop, iPhone, Apple Watch or her headphones. She didn’t go anywhere without most of those things,” Strutt continued. “Mostly, she touched our lives and so many more people than we ever imagined. Just last night Kelly was at Toot & Kate’s and when she went to check out the bartender recognized her last name and said, ‘are you Morgan’s mom?’ and she of course answered, ‘yes’.”

She said he went on and on about how much of a bright light Morgan was and how he remembered her from school and how she was missed.

We will NEVER know the impact she really had on this world, but we are constantly reminded of that over time when we least expect it.”

“It is because of her and our mission that we have an overwhelming support of volunteers that stand for our mission,” she said. “We are so very lucky that she was so remarkable because that is in part why we are so successful in so many ways.”

Visit www.morganscc.org for more.

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Follow Rob Reischel
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SPORTS

Vikings' wrestlers shine at state

Leonard, Maier and Soltis all enjoy their trips to state

by DENNIS SEMRAU
Sports Reporter

MADISON — Eli Leonard accomplished a rare feat for the Mount Horeb/Barneveld prep wrestling program last weekend.

The Vikings' 175-pound junior earned a place on the podium for the third consecutive season with a top-six finish at the 82nd annual WIAA Individual State Wrestling championships at the Kohl Center.

But Leonard's dream of earning his first individual state championship and the seventh in the history of the program came up one point shy in an exciting state championship match on Saturday night.

Leonard fell to Kaukauna junior Liam Crook, 8-7, in a thrilling state finals match.

Meanwhile, sophomore Eli Maier made his first appearance on the podium with a third-place finish at 165 pounds.

In the girls state tournament, sophomore Amelia Soltis won a match at 165 pounds in her debut to cap a successful weekend for the Vikings.

Mount Horeb/Barneveld coach Tim Sarbacker said the Vikings can't wait to get started to build on that success for next season.

"I'm super proud of them. They gave everything they had," Sarbacker said of the trio. "We're trying to win high level matches, and we just need to get better at match strategy. I've got to be a better coach. We all must do a little bit more to get those wins."

Oh, so close

Leonard — who made a verbal commitment last fall to wrestle at the University of Wisconsin — brought a perfect 48-0 record into his state final match with Crook, a defending Division 1 state champion.

The two elite wrestlers are familiar foes.

Crook earned a 15-3 major decision over Leonard in the 165-pound state semifinals a year ago. But Leonard gave Crook all he could handle this time.

Crook registered a take-



down in each of the first two periods to grab a 7-1 lead heading into the final 2 minutes. But Leonard rallied with a pair of takedowns of his own to draw within 8-7.

Crook, though, held on to repeat as a state champion.

"We just needed to get that first score, and we have him," Sarbacker said. "Those matches are really, tight. We just came up a little short. We'll get 'em next time."

After Leonard (48-1) finished one win shy of a perfect season, he said there is ample motivation for him to make the final step to the top of the podium next year.

"Last year he got me in the semis. He's a good wrestler in space," Leonard said of Crook (51-1). "He had good inside, outside shots, so I knew I had to close the gap and get some control ties on him. But I couldn't quite get it."

Leonard suffered a heart-breaking 3-2 loss in his third-place match to take fourth a year ago. That followed his fifth-place finish at 132 pounds his freshman year as a member of the Sugar River co-op program.

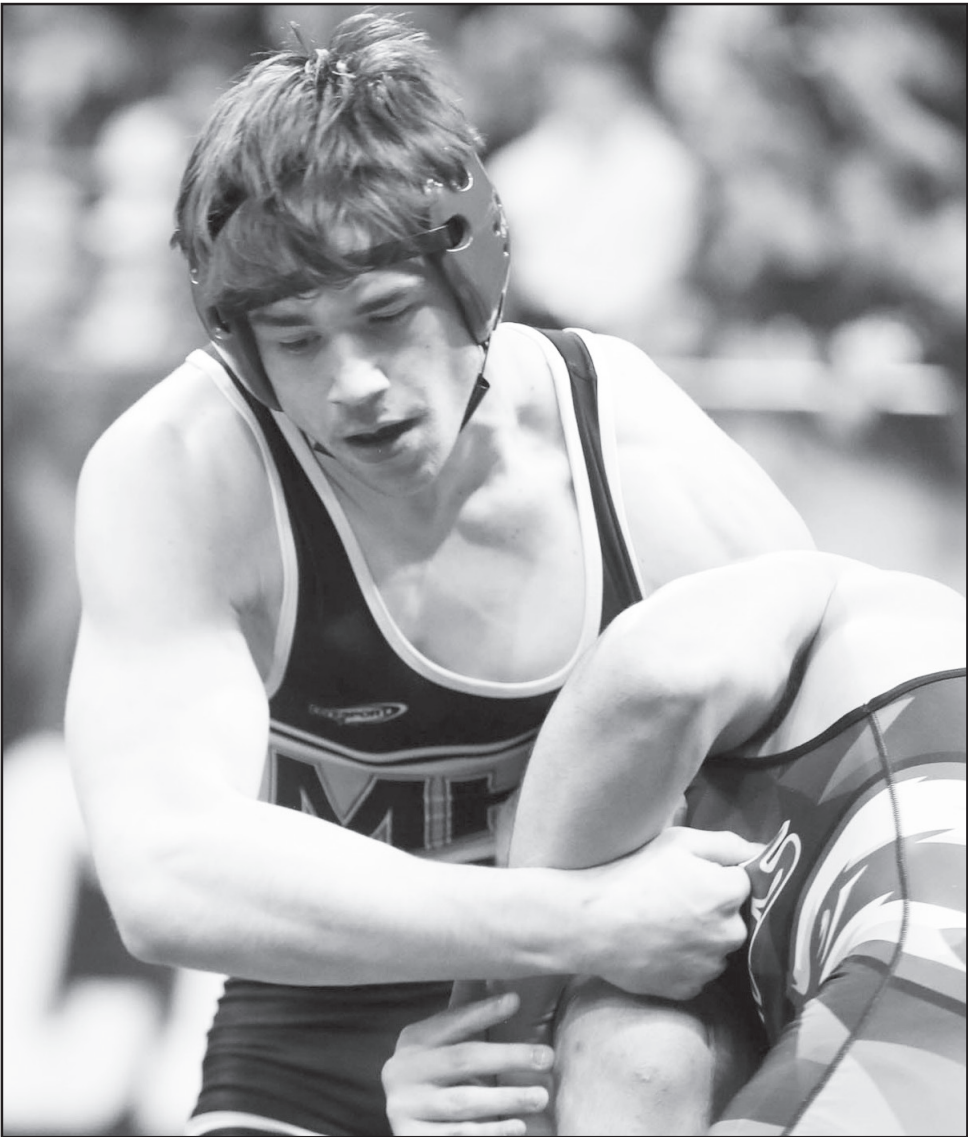
But while it was his third straight trip to state, it was a whole different challenge competing on center stage in a state championship match at a sold-out Kohl Center.

"It's kind hard to gauge where you're at if you've never been (in the state finals)," said Leonard, who has a combined 95-4 record while wrestling for Mount Horeb. "Getting there, I realize I deserve to be there."

"Matter of fact, I deserved to win, as well. Not to take away anything from (Crook). I'm good enough to win there. I can take that away from the tournament. I was looking for that perfect season. I was having a good season, not to say that I didn't have a good tournament. I did some good things in that match, but not enough."

The second-seeded Leonard certainly proved he belonged in the state title match.

He pinned 15th-seeded Greenfield's Gavin St. John in 1 minute, 21 seconds in their preliminary round match. Leonard then earned a tech fall over 10th-seed



Mount Horeb wrestlers Eli Leonard (top) and Eli Maier (above) both had highly successful showings at the WIAA Division 1 state tournament. Photos courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

continued on page 15



Vikings' gymnasts headed back to state

Mount Horeb qualifies in Division 1 for first time ever

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

Mount Horeb's girls gymnastics team has qualified for the WIAA state tournament a remarkable 38 times — more than any other program in Wisconsin history. The Vikings also rank fourth in state history with six team titles.

No matter how things unfold this weekend, though, the Vikings' latest trip to state already is one of their most impressive.

Mount Horeb — a school of just 782 students — was bumped from Division 2 to Division 1 for the first time ever due to the WIAA's new 'competitive balance formula.' So when the Vikings went to the Sun Prairie West Sectional on Feb. 27, most schools were double — and even triple — their size.

"I felt like we were small fish in a big pond," Mount Horeb coach Martha Koller Faust said.

Turns out they were big fish in that giant pond.

Verona/Madison Edgewood won the sectional with a sensational team score of 144.275, while Mount Horeb was second with 138.775. Middleton was third with a 137.525, while Waunakee/DeForest (135.475) and the Sun Prairie co-op (132.425) rounded out the top-five.

The top two teams in each of the five sectionals earned a trip to Friday's state meet, which will be held at Wisconsin Rapids High School beginning at noon. So despite the jump in divisions and competition, the Vikings are headed to state for a 13th consecutive year.

"During our pre-meet

huddle, I told the girls that we are small, but mighty, that we can do this and to keep believing in themselves and in each other," Koller Faust said. "Our sectional meet was a tough one, but our team stuck together, gave it their all, and ultimately earned the sectional runner-up title."

Senior Athena Ouradnik had a sensational meet, finishing third on the balance beam, fifth on the floor and fourth in the all-around competition. The top five finishers on each event qualified for individual team state, which will start Saturday at 10 a.m. at Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln.

Afterwards, Ouradnik was thrilled with her own achievements — but even more impressed with what the team accomplished.

"There is tougher competition in Division 1, so making it to state as a team is such an exciting accomplishment," Ouradnik said. "We're the first Mount Horeb gymnastics team to be D1, let alone make it to D1 state, so knowing we're making history makes it all the better."

"Qualifying to state proved we are capable of being D1 and holding our own amongst some of the toughest competition. We are all very proud of how we supported each other and pushed through tough moments."

The Vikings started on the uneven bars and struggled a bit.

Ouradnik finished sixth individually with an 8.675, Macie Finley was eighth (8.450), Sylvia Seeliger was 15th (7.925) and Reece Olinger was 18th (7.850).

Mount Horeb's team score of 32.90 was third among the eight sectional teams.

"It appeared that nerves were a factor," Koller Faust said.

The Vikings got back on track quickly, though.

Mount Horeb moved to the balance beam, where Ouradnik was third individually with a 9.425. Harper Hendrickson was seventh (9.025), Seeliger was 14th (8.575) and Olinger was 15th (8.550).

Mount Horeb's team score of 35.575 on the beam was second behind Verona/Edgewood (36.825).

The Vikings then headed to the floor exercise and shined. Ouradnik was fifth individually with a 9.225, while Averie Kalscheur, Carmen Oglesby and Seeliger all tied for ninth with 8.90s.

Mount Horeb's 35.925 was again second and just a fraction behind Verona/Edgewood (36.150).

The Vikings finished on the vault and posted a 34.375 score that wasn't their best — but plenty good to hold onto second place. Ouradnik was seventh with an 8.80, Finley was 10th (8.60), Seeliger was 13th (8.50) and Abbey Brummer was 14th (8.475).

"Qualifying as a team to the state meet is a perennial goal of ours from day one of the season," Koller Faust said. "Knowing we'd be competing against schools with much higher enrollments during tournament time, we recognized that achieving this goal would be a new challenge."

"Each of our gymnasts put forth everything they had in earning a trip to Wisconsin Rapids as a team. I couldn't

be more proud of this team. Their effort, unwavering determination and belief in themselves and each other were on full display — qualities that are essential not only in competition, but also in life."

Ouradnik agreed with her head coach.

"Being part of this year's team has been amazing," Ouradnik said. "We've built a strong, supportive team that pushes each other to be our best. Everyone is supportive of people's successes, as well as the success of the team."

Ouradnik will now get to enjoy the state tournament experience for two days.

A year ago, Ouradnik fell just short of individual state in the all-around. This year, she bounced back against stronger competition and finished fourth at sectionals with a 36.125.

So now, she'll have a chance to medal on the balance beam, floor and as an all-arounder.

"I am super excited to qualify to state individually ... after having a disappointing sectional meet last year," Ouradnik said. "After putting in so much work and coming so close, it feels incredibly gratifying to see that effort pay off."

"Qualifying for state in my last year represents all my hard work not just this season, but throughout my gymnastics career. As for my goals for individual state, knowing it will be my last time doing gymnastics, I just hope to perform my best and enjoy everything."

First comes the team state tournament, though. And while it's an immense challenge for tiny Mount Horeb



Mount Horeb's girls gymnastics team (top) qualifield for state as a team, while Athena Ouradnik (above) qualified in three events for individual state. Photos courtesy of Holly Stoenner

to battle the state's elite Division 1 programs, the Vikings are ready for the test.

"While aiming for a high placement at state is always the goal, the main focus is on showing what we've worked so hard for," Ouradnik said. "We hope to hit our routines, trust each other, and simply enjoy the experience."

Feb. 27
WIAA Division 1 Sun Prairie West Sectional

Team scores: 1. Verona/Madison Edgewood 144.275; 2. Mount Horeb 138.775; 3. Middleton 137.525; 4. Waunakee/DeForest 135.475; 5. Sun Prairie co-op 132.425; 6. Madison Memorial 128.650; 7. Madison West 124.325; 8. Madison East

124.050.

Mount Horeb scores

Uneven bars: 6. Athena Ouradnik, 8.675; 8. Macie Finley, 8.450; 15. Sylvia Seeliger, 7.925; 18. Reece Olinger, 7.850.

Balance beam: 3. Athena Ouradnik, 9.425; 7. Harper Hendrickson 9.025; 14. Sylvia Seeliger, 8.575; 15. Reece Olinger, 8.550.

Floor exercise: 5. Athena Ouradnik, 9.225; 9 (tie). Averie Kalscheur, Carmen Oglesby and Sylvia Seeliger, 8.90.
Vault: 7. Athena Ouradnik, 8.80; 10. Macie Finley, 8.60; 13. Sylvia Seeliger 8.50; 14. Abbey Brummer, 8.475.

All-around: 4. Athena Ouradnik, 36.125; 9. Sylvia Seeliger, 33.90.

Vikings battle, but ousted by Milton

Mount Horeb finishes with its most wins since 2019-2020

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

It was a year of tremendous growth.

And it could be the start of even better things.

Mount Horeb’s girls basketball team defeated McFarland, 66-40, in a WIAA Division 2 regional quarterfinal on Feb. 25, before falling to Milton, 61-46, in a regional semifinal last Friday. The Vikings finished the year 12-14, posting their most wins in a season since the 2019-2020 campaign.

“Our theme this year was ‘Just Work’ and (captains) Morgan (Monroe) and Hallie (Klein) really set the tone for that starting last offseason,” Mount Horeb coach Bart Leibfried said. “Phones off and get in the gym or weight room and get it done. We are always disappointed when we lose and want to win more games, but we are headed in the right direction.”

Mount Horeb showed just that during a pair of impressive postseason games.

The Vikings played one of their best halves of the year, racing to a 46-19 half-time lead during their win over visiting McFarland. Mount Horeb knocked down 9-of-19 3-pointers and shot 50.0% overall from the floor.

“We came out against McFarland and played one of our best halves all season offensively,” Leibfried said. “We moved the ball and got a lot of high quality shots.”

The Vikings didn’t let up in the second half, either. Mount Horeb held McFarland to just 34.0% shooting (17-of-50) and forced 28 turnovers that led to 16 points.

“Defensively we had success pressuring them during the season and that was the same again,” Leibfried said.

Monroe led the Vikings with 18 points and six rebounds, while Courtney Monroe added 12 points,

four rebounds and two assists. Maren Johnson and Nalia Craven both had 10 points, while Klein added eight points, three steals and three assists and Maddie Niemetscheck chipped in with six points, four rebounds and two assists.

That sent the seventh-seeded Vikings into the regional finals against second-seeded Milton, and Mount Horeb put quite the scare into the Red Hawks. The Vikings trailed, 24-20, at halftime and hung tough much of the second half, before Milton pulled away late.

“We finished the season really strong,” Leibfried said. “The outcome was disappointing, but I couldn’t be prouder of how our girls battled the whole season. The final score does not truly show how close this game was.”

The Vikings had 10 first half turnovers that led to eight points for Milton. Morgan Monroe and Maren Johnson both had three fouls, as well, and had to sit for much of the half.

But Courtney Monroe — who was ill and questionable to play — was tremendous with 12 points and two assists in the first half. And that helped Mount Horeb stay within 24-20 at the break.

“We felt really good at half, especially with two of our three leading scorers sitting significant minutes on the bench with foul trouble,” Leibfried said. “Courtney Monroe was really good. We weren’t even sure she was going to be able to play as she was really sick Thursday and Friday, but she battled through it and gave us great minutes.”

Mount Horeb struggled to start the second half, though, missing its first five shots as Milton began to gain some separation.

“We couldn’t buy a bucket,” Leibfried said regarding the start of the



Maren Johnson and Mount Horeb’s girls basketball team won their playoff opener last week before falling to Milton in a WIAA Division 2 regional semifinal. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

second half. “We got great looks and shots that we wanted, but they just didn’t fall. I would take those five shots every game and pretty sure we would make four of those five any other night and then we have a whole different game going down the stretch.”

Still, Mount Horeb was within eight with 9 minutes to go in the game. But the Vikings seemed to run out of steam and Milton slowly pulled away.

“We started to get tired and then Milton really hurt us inside on the boards,” Leibfried said. “They had three straight possessions where they got three shots, which resulted in seven points. They have size and experience that we struggle to match up with and that took over down the stretch.”

Courtney Monroe finished with a team-high 12 points, while Morgan Monroe and Maren Johnson both

added 11 points and three rebounds. Lauren Mester chipped in with eight points and five rebounds.

“I couldn’t be prouder of how hard our team battled, which is a testament to our two senior captains, Morgan and Hallie,” Leibfried said. “That was a disappointed and emotional locker room to walk into after the game. There was nothing I could say to thank those two enough for what they have done for this program and me as their coach for four years.

“Outsiders have no idea of the amount of time these kids put into the offseason — strength training and open gyms four days a week, summer league in DeForest, tournaments in Sauk, Reedsburg, Dells, Dubuque, etc. Then comes the season — four months of practice and games, film to watch, continued weight room training along with the

emotions and fatigue of the season.

“There is data that shows that 88% of women in CEO or administrative roles played two sports, or more, during high school where they learned work ethic, perseverance, time management and how to work with others. I have no doubt that a number of these girls will be in those roles in the future.”

Despite the tough ending, Leibfried and the Vikings were extremely excited

about the future of the program.

Mount Horeb will return 65% of its scoring, 79% of its rebounding and 80% of its assists next season. And the Vikings could be poised for their first winning season this decade.

“I never have to question our work ethic and grit,” Leibfried said. “We lose two great seniors, who will be impossible to replace on and off the court, but we do return (a lot) which is a great foundation to build off.”

LEGAL NOTICE DEADLINES

EFFECTIVE ON ALL LEGAL NOTICES PUBLISHED IN THESE PUBLICATIONS

Adams Friendship Times-Reporter.....	Noon Wednesday, the week prior to publication
Post Messenger Recorder.....	11 am Thursday, the week prior to publication
Star News	Noon Thursday, the week prior to publication
Mount Horeb Mail	1 pm Thursday, the week prior to publication
Times-Tribune.....	2 pm Thursday, the week prior to publication
Home News	2 pm Thursday, the week prior to publication
Marquette County Tribune.....	10 am Friday, the week prior to publication
Reedsburg Independent.....	10 am Friday, the week prior to publication

Thank you in advance for getting your notices to us in a timely manner. Please email your notices to:
legals@fingerpub.com

NOTE: Legal notices submitted after deadline will be scheduled for the next available publication date.
EARLY DEADLINES will apply for postal holiday weeks. Watch for updates.

MOUNT HOREB, WI
INSTALLATION UNIT PRICE CONTRACT
MOUNT HOREB UTILITIES
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids for the Mount Horeb Utilities Multiple-Year Underground Electric Facility Installation Unit Price Contract will be received by Mount Horeb Utilities, at Forster Electrical Engineering Office, 550 North Burr Oak Avenue, Oregon, WI. until 1:00 PM local time on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read. The Project consists of a multi-year, underground electric facility installation unit price contract.

Bids will be received for a single Contract. Bids shall be evaluated based on unit pricing, as indicated in the Bid Form.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: Forster Electrical Engineering, Inc. at 550 N Burr Oak Avenue Oregon, WI 53575. Prospective Bidders may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below.

Printed copies of the Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Issuing Office upon payment of a deposit of \$100 for each set or \$40 for an electronic version. The date that the Bidding Documents are transmitted by the Issuing Office will be considered the Bidder's date of receipt of the Bidding Documents. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office.

Bid security shall be furnished in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

Mount Horeb Utilities reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any informalities in the bids received, and to accept any bid it deems most favorable.

Owner: **Mount Horeb Utilities**
By: **Jordan Schmitz**
Title: **Superintendent**
Date: **February 27, 2025**

Publish: 3/6/25, 3/13/25 **WNAXLP**

Vikings looking for postseason magic

Mount Horeb finishes 14-0 in conference

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

The regular season was a remarkable success.

Now, Mount Horeb’s boys basketball team hopes the second season can be just as enjoyable.

The Vikings closed out the regular season with a pair of wins last week.

Mount Horeb defeated Lodi, 81-75, on Feb. 24 and toppled Reedsburg, 59-52, on Feb. 27.

The Vikings finished the regular season 22-2 overall and a perfect 14-0 in the Badger Small Conference. Mount Horeb’s 2024-’25 squad became just the third team in school history to go undefeated in conference games.

Mount Horeb, the No. 1 seed in its half of the WIAA Division 2 Baraboo Sectional, begins the post-season by hosting either eighth-seeded Monroe or ninth-seeded Jefferson in a regional semifinal Friday at 7 p.m.

“I would expect we play Monroe,” Mount Horeb coach Todd Nesheim said. “They’ve beaten Jefferson a couple times very handily. We beat Monroe early in the year by 19, however, they won their league. They are 6-foot-10 and 6-7 inside and have a nice guard.

“They will be a handful to beat for certain. But, we feel good about playing at home and we have been able to handle them lately, so I think we win the mindset battle.”

If the Vikings win there, they’d host either fourth-seeded Stoughton (16-8) or fifth-seeded McFarland (16-8) in a regional final Saturday at 3 p.m. Mount Horeb is 2-0 against both teams this year.

“The Saturday night game between either McFarland or Stoughton would be a battle for sure,” Nesheim said. “Both teams present way different issues.

“McFarland has the size and the high-low game with a nice skilled point guard. Stoughton has two of the top three players in our conference that have the abil-



Zach Maguire (20) and Mount Horeb’s boys basketball team went a perfect 14-0 in the Badger Small Conference. That marked just the third time in school history the Vikings went unbeaten in the conference. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

ity to score from inside and out. Again, I feel good about playing that at home, but it would be a real nice accomplishment to win a regional final.”

Before the second season arrives, though, here’s how the Vikings closed out their terrific regular season.

• **Mount Horeb 81, Lodi 75** — The Vikings trailed, 40-29, at halftime, but rallied back on the road to topple a strong Blue Devils (15-9) team.

Junior guard Josh Manchester poured in 39 points — the fourth-most of his career — to lead the Vikings’ comeback. Senior forward Zach Maguire and sophomore wing Alex Chapman both added 12.

“This game was set up purposely for this time of year,” Nesheim said. “Lodi is good. The conference championship is wrapped up for us. Seeding is done.

“Can we go on the road to a team that has been ranked at times throughout the season in Division 3 and play well? It was a tune up for the playoffs. The coach in me

was worried about a little let down this week.”

Those fears certainly came to fruition during a rough first half for the Vikings.

Manchester picked up his second foul with 5 ½ minutes left in the first half and the Vikings trailing, 27-21. With Manchester sitting, Lodi finished the half on a 13-8 run and took a 40-29 lead at the break.

“I haven’t really challenged the boys super hard too many times this season, but they did get challenged,” Nesheim said. “Our intensity and defensive execution needed to be better in the second half.”

Boy, was it ever.

The Vikings began the second half on an 11-1 run and quickly closed within 41-40. Manchester opened the half with a 3-pointer and a traditional three-point play, Chapman buried a right corner triple and Manchester had a steal and lay-up.

By the midway point

of the second half, Mount Horeb had surged to a 53-49 advantage.

Lodi tied the game on a pair of occasions. With 3 minutes left, though, Maguire drilled a huge 3-pointer off of some flare screening action by Hayden Anderson to give the Vikings a 71-66 lead.

Down the stretch, Manchester assisted on baskets by both Griffin Hannah and Anderson. Then the Vikings made 6-of-8 free throws in the final 1:10 to prevail.

“Great win,” Nesheim said. “It really did have a playoff feel to it in terms of intensity and both teams laying it on the line.”

• **Mount Horeb 59, Reedsburg 52** — Josh Manchester poured in 29 points, while both Alex Chapman and Zach Maguire added 11 as the Vikings downed the host Beavers.

Mount Horeb became just the third team in school history to go undefeated in conference play. The Vikings

ing Reedsburg to close on an 8-0 run and take a 29-26 halftime lead.

“We were making sure that kids understood they couldn’t give up gaps when not guarding the ball,” Nesheim said. “We needed to be better in the gaps and keep them from getting to the lane.

“Plus, we missed offensively which we thought would improve in the second half. It was clear we weren’t going to win this game by 25, so find a way to win by at least one.”

The Vikings did just that.

Mount Horeb opened the second half on an 8-0 run and surged to a 34-29 lead.

“That took a little pressure off us having to be perfect defensively,” Nesheim said.

However, Reedsburg battled back, scored on four of five possessions and reclaimed a 45-44 lead with 8:55 to play.

With 7:58 remaining, though, Maguire knocked down a 3-pointer to give the Vikings a 47-45 lead they wouldn’t relinquish.

Mount Horeb held the Beavers to just two field goals in the final 8 minutes and the Vikings iced the game from the free throw line.

“Give the Reedsburg coaches and players credit,” Nesheim said. “They executed a plan that gave their kids a chance to win the game. They wouldn’t have had a chance playing their normal style.

“However, give our kids credit too. Throughout the course of the season, we took everyone’s best shot. It was their Super Bowl. Our kids rarely wavered.

“The mental toughness this team showed was nothing short of incredible. We couldn’t afford an off night and the kids never had one all year. We had some off stretches in games certainly, but never an off game completely.

“We now turn our attention to the postseason. Everyone is 0-0 and we can get back to the mindset of hopefully delivering the punches instead of taking some punches.”

**VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB
PUBLIC HEARING
MARCH 26, 2025**

The Plan Commission of the Village of Mount Horeb will hold a public hearing on the above date at 7:00pm in the Board Room of the Municipal Building, 138 E Main Street, Mount Horeb, WI. The purpose of the hearing is to consider a Conditional Use Permit Application from Nick Badura from Sketchworks Architects for Indoor Commercial Entertainment at 100 S First St, Mount Horeb, WI. Parcel 0606-123-2116-5.

The Plan Commission will hear all persons concerning all matters and/or objections written or oral pertaining thereto at that time.

Publish: 3/6/25 **WNAXLP**

**VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB
PUBLIC HEARING
MARCH 26, 2025**

The Plan Commission of the Village of Mount Horeb will hold a public hearing on the above date at 7:00pm in the Board Room of the Municipal Building, 138 E Main Street, Mount Horeb, WI. The purpose of the hearing is to consider an application from Norsk Development for a zoning change from A-1 Agriculture to R-1 Single-Family Residential for a proposed 16 lot single-family residential subdivision. Property further described as Parcel Number 157/0606-141-9051-1 Mount Horeb, WI.

The Village Board, by its Plan Commission will hear all persons concerning all matters and/or objections written or oral pertaining thereto at that time.

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

**TOWN OF BLUE MOUNDS
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**

Notice is hereby given by the Town of Blue Mounds, Dane County, Wisconsin that they will receive bids for local road improvements until 1:00 pm on Monday, March 24, 2025. Bids will be opened and awarded at the Blue Mounds Town Hall on Tuesday, March 25, 2025, at 6:00p.m. at a Special Gathering of the Board. The following roads need to be crack sealed, and chip sealed, **Andrews Ln, Blue Rock Rd, Blue Valley Rd, Fertile Ridge Rd, and North Rd.**

Please email the Townhall with questions at townofblue-mounds@gmail.com.

The Town of Blue Mounds reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or accept the bid most advantageous to the town. Thank you!

Amanda Burghy, Clerk

Publish: 3/6/25 **WNAXLP**

WRESTLING

continued from page 11

edWest DePere’s Braylon Stegall, 16-0, in 2:24 in the quarterfinals.

That set the stage for Leonard’s dramatic 4-1 sudden victory decision over third-seeded Marshfield’s Caleb Dennee in the semifinals.

“I knew it wasn’t going to be pretty. It wasn’t pretty the whole match,” Leonard said. “At this point of the season, at this point of the tournament, it’s just heart and grit. I knew I had to get to his legs and finish.”

Dennee, though, was poised to record a takedown in the waning seconds of the third period. But Leonard fought him off to force overtime.

“This is what I work for,” Leonard said. “I knew I had to fight everything. I couldn’t give it up.”

Maier gets revenge

It was one-and-done for Maier a year ago when he lost his preliminary match at state and didn’t earn a consolation round match. Maier came out looking for some payback, though, and found it on opening night with a pair of victories.

The third-seeded Maier pinned 14th-seeded Whitefish Bay’s Cyrus Butler in 1:41 at 165 pounds. Maier then recorded a 12-0 major decision over 11th-seeded Fort Atkinson’s Rayhan Lopez in the quarterfinals.

Maier’s bid for a state title ended, though, when second-seeded Kenosha Indian Trail’s Sullivan Ramos prevailed 9-5 in the semifinals.

“That hurt, but it just helped to know there is another level I can get to,” Maier said. “I just have to keep climbing.”

Sarbacker said he knew Maier would be locked in for his final match.

“We don’t lay down. We come back and regroup and look at what we did the night before,” Sarbacker said. “He wrestled a good match in the semifinals. He woke up, bounced up and got back out there and really put together a heck of a match against a tough kid. I’m really, proud of him for how he came back.”

Maier (47-2) pulled out a 6-5 victory over fifth-seeded Burlington’s Kade Boyd to secure third place. Maier escaped a bid for a late takedown by Boyd to end his season with a hard-fought victory.

“There are not many kids who can do that. That’s college wrestling right there,” Sarbacker said. “Two kids who are pretty high level. Like in college, you get in that deep, you’re a long ways from scoring.

“He’s just got tremendous hips. His hips are like iron

for a high school kid. That’s what got him out of that. It was getting real close, and he walked his hips out. That’s Eli. He’s got crazy hips.”

Maier said his third-place victory was a huge confidence booster.

“I had to put everything out there and see what could happen,” Maier said. “We knew it was going to be a good one. It felt really good to win a close match, too. It’s going to help a lot for next year.”

Soltis notches win

Soltis didn’t waste any time getting down to business in her state tournament debut.

She pinned Waunakee’s Ellie Lenzendorf in 1:23 at 165 pounds in the preliminary round.

“I wrestled her a couple of times. I knew how she wrestled, and she knew how I wrestled,” Soltis said of Lenzendorf. “I just had to try something else. I had to wrestle the way I knew how.”

However, Soltis lost her quarterfinal match to Nicolet’s Victoria Jewel by a tech fall, 17-2, in 4:35.

Soltis (38-5) then ended her stay at state when Delavan-Darien’s Natalia Jesberger rallied for a 19-12 decision in the quarterfinals.

“I was on top and in control most of the match,” Soltis said. “But I held onto her too long in the second period and got a stall call. Then I was up in the last 30 seconds of the match and the ref called me for a stall on a hold, so I had to go. I had to move, so I attempted a throw I should not have done.

“But at least I learned from it. I would have given anything to be in this position last year. So, as much as I could be upset because I didn’t perform the way I wanted to, I still would have given absolutely anything to be here.”

Sarbacker said he was proud of her effort.

“I thought she had a really good tournament,” Sarbacker said of Soltis. “That last match was a winnable match for her. She had a stalling call late to tie it. Then she tried to throw at the end for four and got thrown for seven. That’s one move. But it was a very winnable match.

“Amelia capped a breakout season, winning regional and sectional titles. She won Badger State and was fifth at Bi-State. So, she’s in the conversation. She’s got to figure out how to run with those top six girls. She’s definitely knocking at the door.”

Sarbacker said he expects Soltis to join Leonard and Maier as state place-winners next season.

“This is the pinnacle.



Mount Horeb’s Amelia Soltis won her opening match at 165 pounds at the WIAA Division 1 state tournament. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

The bar raises at this level, and you’ve got to learn to wrestle this level of competition,” Sarbacker said. “But you can’t make many mistakes. Everybody’s good. She learned tons and was in every match. She had a good tournament. I know it wasn’t the results we wanted.

“But she’ll be back here. She already told me ‘I’ll be back here next year and win it.’ She loves wrestling, so she’ll be back strong.”

What’s next?

With the return of Leonard, Maier and Soltis next year, Sarbacker said the future looks bright for Mount Horeb/Barneveld’s boys and girls programs.

Matt Blome, wrestling at 182 pounds, was the program’s last state champion, competing in Division 2 in 2016.

So, who will be next?

Maier and Leonard already have their sights set on earning a state championship next year.

“We’re practice partners all the time,” Maier said

of Leonard. “He gets me maybe 60-30. He is a huge confidence booster. Since I know he is so much better than me, I can always ask him for help on moves and stuff, and he is at another level I can get to.

“Our goal is back-to-back titles. I’ll probably be at 175, and he’ll be at 190. Hopefully, we’ll win titles back-to-back. That’s a possibility. It’s definitely a goal. It was the goal this year. But that’s alright, but next year, yeah.”

Mount Horeb/Barneveld individual results BOYS

165: Eli Maier (47-2) placed third and scored 16.0 team points. Preliminaries – pinned Cyrus Butler, Whitefish Bay, 1:41; won by major dec. over Rayhan Lopez, Fort Atkinson, 13-0; Semifinal – lost by dec. to Sullivan Ramos, Kenosha Indian Trail, 9-5; Third Place Match -- won by decision over Kade Boyd, Burlington, 6-5.

175: Eli Leonard (48-1) placed second and scored 21.0 team points. Preliminaries -- won by tech fall over Gavin St John, Greenfield, 2:31 (15-0); Quarterfinal -- won by tech fall over Braylon Stegall, West De Pere, 2:24 (16-0); Semifinal -- won in sudden victory- 1 over Caleb Dennee, Marshfield, SV-1, 4-1; First Place Match – lost by dec. to Liam Crook, Kaukauna, 8-7.

GIRLS

165: Amelia Soltis (38-5) didn’t place and scored 4.0 team points. Preliminaries – pinned Ellie Lenzendorf,

Waunakee, 1:23; Quarterfinal – lost by tech fall to Victoria Jewell, Nicolet, 4:35 (17-2); Consolation Round 2 – lost by dec. to Natalia Jesberger, Delavan-Darien, 19-12.

**TOWN OF VERMONT
BOARD MEETING**
March 10, 2025
Vermont Town Hall
4017 County Rd JJ,
Black Earth WI 53515
7:00 P.M.
See townofvermontwi.gov
for meeting agenda
To Join the meeting by
phone: +1 347-896-0991
PIN: 481 262 925#

Publish: 3/6/25 **WNAXLP**

**TOWN OF PERRY
TOWN BOARD MEETING AGENDA**
Tuesday, March 11, 2025
Perry Town Hall, 10084 County Highway A
Teleconference - 425-585-6272 access - 394-722-206 #
approx. 7:30PM,
following public hearing to discontinue part of Moen Road.

1. Call to order. Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Announcements.
3. Comments by Town residents – non-agenda items.
4. Land Use:
 a. Diane Erb, 1514 Sutter Rd. – revised CSM to rezone 2 lots to RR-4 (from FP-35), residence site plans, driveway plans.
 b. Wayne and Millicent Brattrud, 1187 CTH JG – rezone existing residence to RM-16 (from FP-35).
5. Roads, Equipment, Facilities –
 a. Truck & Snowplow delivery.
 b. Petition for Discontinuance of Part of a Public Way – Moen Road.
 c. 2025-2026 Salt contract – WI DOT.
6. Recycling Center.
7. Treasurer’s Report.
8. Wisconsin Deferred Compensation Program resolution.
9. Insurance contracts – insurer/agent report.
10. Assessor report – Intermarket update, contract.
11. Friends of the Parks of Perry report.
12. Parks and Open Space Committee – report and recommendations
13. Dane Co. Towns Association and Wisconsin Towns Association discussions,
14. Minutes of Previous Meetings – February 11, 2025
15. Pay Bills due.
16. Closed Session. Dane Co. Circuit Court case 15CV0065 DSG; convene a closed session under WI § 19.85(1)(g) to confer with legal counsel concerning strategy and WI §19.85(1)(b) and (c) personnel.
17. Adjournment.
Action might be taken on any agenda item shown above. Public comment might be invited on any agenda item presented.
Mary L. Price, Town Clerk
www.perry-wi.gov

Publish: 3/6/25 **WNAXLP**

**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**

Several state tournaments staying on UW campus

The Wisconsin Inter-scholastic Athletic Association and the University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Athletics agreed to an eight-year contract extension that grants the WIAA availability of facilities to host high school state championships in boys basketball, football, boys and girls golf, individual and team wrestling, and softball through the spring of 2033.

In 2023-24, the State Tournaments at UW facilities drew a paid attendance of more than 196,000 with thousands of additional participants, coaches and school administrators.

A recent study conducted in conjunction with data shared by Destination Madison indicated the economic impact of WIAA state tournaments held in the Madison area is estimated at \$22.2 million.

“It is a thrill for UW Athletics, our campus and our city to play host to the state’s top high school student-athletes, coaches and staff members each year,” UW Director of Athletics Chris McIntosh said. “I am very pleased that we will be welcoming teams and their fans to Madison for years to come.”

The agreement recognizes the mutual commitment to work together in providing memorable experiences for participating student-athletes and spectators attending WIAA state tournament events. In addition to recognizing the best high school student-athletes and teams in the state, the tournaments showcase a number of the state’s finest facilities, the UW campus and the City of Madison.

“Chris McIntosh and his entire staff have conveyed

the importance of showcasing the WIAA Championships on their campus, and we look forward to continuing this partnership in serving the member schools and their student-athletes,” WIAA Executive Director Stephanie Hauser said.

The Kohl Center has been the site of the state boys basketball tournament and the state individual wrestling tournament since 1998 when the facility was opened. With the exception of 1936

and then 2020-2021 during the pandemic, the boys basketball tournament has been played in Madison since 1920, and the wrestling championships have been conducted there since 1949. The UW Field House has been the site of the state team wrestling championship tournament since 2005 with the 2020-2021 exceptions.

In addition, Camp Randall Stadium has been home to the WIAA state football fi-

nals since 1982 except 2021, and University Ridge has served as host of the girls and boys state golf championships a combined 54 times since 1994. Goodman Diamond has been the site of the state softball championship tournament since it moved to Madison in 2002, except 2020-2021.

The WIAA state girls and boys team and individual tennis tournaments are also held on the UW campus, but are not associated with this agreement. Those event and venue agreements are with UW Recreation Sports.



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BLUE MOUND STATE PARK IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR SUMMER EMPLOYMENT FOR SEVERAL POSITIONS, INCLUDING POSITIONS ON THE MILITARY RIDGE STATE TRAIL AND BADGER STATE TRAILS. POSITIONS RANGE FROM VISITOR SERVICES, PARK TECHNICIAN, PARK RANGERS AND NATURALIST.

ALL POSITIONS START AT \$15.00/HR.

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