TRUTH THROUGH JOURNALISM

MOUNT HOREB MAIL

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Santa Claus is coming to town!

Visit the Mount Horeb Public Library on Saturday, December 2 to enjoy Santa Storytime, prize giveaways, craft stations, photo opportunities with Santa, and a mailbox to send your letters to the North Pole. This holiday event is free and open to the public, always. For more information, visit www.mhpl.org or call 608-437-5021. Santa Storytime will begin at 10 a.m., followed by visits with Santa and craft stations, both of which will begin at 10:30 a.m.

School board examines student learning

By Aynsley Hoelscher
Mount Horeb Mail

The board last week approved 4K contracts to local childcare facilities and discussed student performance.

Director of Curriculum and Instruction Sara Straka presented an information and advocacy report on learning and growth. The growth metric was

continued on page 10





Puppet maker Ken Vogel, pictured above in his Madison workshop, is headed to the Driftless Historium in December. Photos by the Mount Horeb Area Historical Society.

Master of Puppets

By Matt Geiger
Mount Horeb Mail

Ken Vogel has made Frida Kahlo, Bob Dylan, Jacob Marley, Frank Lloyd Wright, Donald Trump and Joe Biden. He's made people's siblings and parents and friends. He's working on Taylor Swift right now.

This modern-day Geppetto has been busy in his workshop for much of his life, making puppets.

"It's a phenomenal number," he says. "I used to say 10,000, but that was quite a few years ago so it's far more now.

Vogel, 76, has spent much of his life crafting puppets. Carvings and pouring. Stitching and sewing. Making sure they look and move just right.

"I love puppets and how they resemble human beings and show us a little, or a lot, about ourselves," he muses.

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Students embrace spirit of giving (on Thanksgiving)

Students from Mount Horeb High School helped distribute Neighbors Helping Neighbors Thanksgiving goodies to local families in need. "Volunteers are so very important to our mission to provide food and clothing to area families," explains lead volunteer Diane Jensen. "We really appreciate these students helping out." Interested in volunteering? You can sign up to volunteer on the NHN website (mthorebneighbors.org/get-involved). If you would like more information contact info@mthorebneighbors.org or call 608-437-6114 and leave a message.

Pictured from left to right: (back row) Gwen Motl, Sam Hanson, Lizzy Mesenberg; (front row) Faith Droessler, Delaney Chronister, Alexa Vesley, Veda Kalscheur, Claire Casey and Josie Clifton.





FREELANCE WRITERS WANTED

The **Mount Horeb Mail** is looking for freelance writers to cover local government and events. Interested candidates should send resumé and clippings to **mgeiger@newspubinc.com**



Reinders donates new holiday tree to Mount Horeb





Joel Reinders recently donated a holiday tree valued at more than $10,000 to the community. The aluminum tree was recently set up by village workers on the lawn between MHTC and Olson's Flowers. Reinders said he hopes the decoration will bring joy to the community this holiday season and for many more to come. Pictured above, from left to right: Village Public Services director Jeff Gorman sets up the tree with crew members Jeremy Martin and Brian Schult. At right, Gorman and Martin begin putting up the sides. Photos by Matt Geiger.

Local musicians gear up for wonderful winter concerts

Middle and high school groups are ready to entertain audiences

The Mt. Horeb school musicians are thrilled to present their upcoming winter concerts. For middle school and high school students involved in band, choir, and orchestra, the winter season comes with various musical opportunities, giving students several exciting things to look forward to.

The season kicks off with the seventh grade band, choir, and orchestra concert on Tuesday, December 5 at 7:00 p.m. This is the first formal concert of the year for each of these groups.

The High School and sixth grade orchestra members perform on Thursday, December 7 at 7:30 p.m. The variety of age levels of performers gives the older students a chance to mentor younger students.

"The winter concert allows younger students to try more difficult music than they could on their own because they have older mentors there to help," says senior violinist Lucas Gonzalez.

The following day, the newest members of the Mt. Horeb school music community make their performance debut, with the "Orchestra Debut Concert" taking place on Friday, December 8 at 2 p.m. Parking is always limited for this concert, with street parking being the only available place to park as the lots are still being used during the school day.

"Our debut concert will show how far our students have come in just the first few months of the year. Both the 4th and 5th grade students are so excited to show off their hard work!" says orchestra teacher Aly Evans.

The eighth grade band, choir, and orchestra members put on their annual "Pops Concert" on Tuesday, December 12 in the middle school gymnasium. The gym provides extra space for the performing ensembles to collaborate and perform together in a variety of configurations.

The winter concert season wouldn't be complete without holiday favorites performed by the high school band; you can hear these groups perform Thursday, December 14; the Concert Band will begin at 7:30 p.m. and the Symphonic Band will begin at 8:15 p.m.

And of course, no holiday season would be complete without festive music and carols from the high school choir; you can catch their performance on Monday, December 18.

For Spanish teacher and former music parent Steve Austin, the season still resonates. "The High School's Holiday Choir Concert is one of my favorite winter traditions. The holiday music is always great. The singing is just beautiful."

The school will stream these concerts live via the Mt. Horeb Music Department channel on YouTube. All performances are free and open to the public and take place in the high school auditorium, except the 8th grade concert which takes place in the middle school gym.

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MOUNT HOREB KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 2024-2025 School Year

NOTICE: If you have a child who will be five years old on or before September 1, 2024 and they do not participate in our MHASD 4K program, you will need to register them with the school district. Please go to the district website to register as a new 2024-2025 student at:
mounthorebschools.org/district/district-registration.cfm

Registration is now OPEN!!
Please complete the online registration no later than Friday, December 8, 2023.

You will need to upload your child's birth certificate and proof of residency (driver's license, utility bill, paycheck stub, etc.).

If you need assistance, please contact the District Office at (608)437-7018 or the Early Learning Center at (608)437-7606. You can also email Sierra at buchersierra@mhasd.k12.wi.us.

*Again, this registration ONLY applies to kindergarten age eligible children who do not currently participate in the MHASD 4K Program. If you are unable to find an original copy of your child's birth certificate, please do not let that stop you from registering, you can bring that in at a later date.

Please pass this information along to anyone you know with kindergarten age eligible students. We need to have an accurate count of incoming kindergarten students as we plan for staffing and spacing needs for the 2024-2025 school year.

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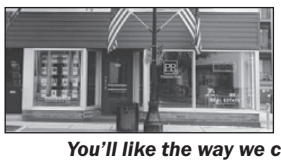


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‘The most eco-friendly food on the planet’

Wisconsin’s nine-day gun deer season wrapped up Sunday, just after sunset. *The Washington Post* has called venison “the most eco-friendly food on the planet,” and the people of Wisconsin, from this area’s earliest human inhabitants to more recent arrivals, have long embraced this wild local food and all it stands for, making the annual “Nine-Day” a special holiday for hundreds of thousands of people. This year saw temperatures drop just in time, as bucks pursued does through the rut and across the beautiful wintry landscape. Pictured above, Samantha Lease hoists a buck at Outdoor Addiction, the local butcher and taxidermist located in Blue Mounds. Photo by Matt Geiger.



MoHo students shine at Sun Prairie music event

The middle school students pictured above took part in Sun Prairie Honors Band November 10. From left to right: (first row) Connor Heiting, Barrett Gragg, Elise Hooks, Haylie Becker; (second row) Henry Healy, Gavin Beglinger, Laszlo Kelley, Emma Peterson, Natalie Sheahan, Jacob Nelson; (third row) Isaac Leverton, Grant Mlsna, Colin McBain, Skylar Schulenberg, Sierra Pitzen, Wyatt Bush and Geoffrey Lawrence. Photo contributed.

Cookie walk is turning 25

The Friends of the Mount Horeb Public Library are excited to invite you to the 25th Annual Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 2nd. The Cookie Walk begins at 9 a.m. at the Mount Horeb Public Library, followed by Santa’s visit at 10 a.m. Come early for the largest selection! The library doors will be open before 9 a.m. for those who wish to line-up in the warmth of the foyer.

Come and select festive holiday goodies from an assortment of homemade cookies, candies and treats. Cookies will be sold for $12 per pound. The success of this event is due to the warm generosity of many area residents who support the Mount Horeb Public Library. All proceeds go to funding the amazing programming the library provides.

Volunteers are needed. Assist with the Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 2 from 7 – 11. Donations of homemade holiday cookies and candies are also appreciated! To sign up, visit the library and look for the Cookie Walk display table. Or email FriendsMHPL@gmail.com.

Community comes together to make sure everyone gets to enjoy Thanksgiving dinner



Local volunteers delivered nearly 100 Thanksgiving meals this year. Photo by Matt Geiger.

By Sarah Elizabeth Ward
Mount Horeb Mail

Nearly a hundred Thanksgiving meals were delivered to seniors and other people who may have had difficulty preparing a meal for themselves in Mount Horeb this Thanksgiving. This generous gift was made possible through the cooperative work and donation of funds, labor and time by the Mount Horeb Senior Center, The Mount Horeb Rotary Club, community group Neighbors Helping Neighbors and local restaurant HiPoint Steakhouse.

Local community group Neighbors Helping Neighbors worked to make the meals possible by shopping for and purchasing all the ingredients that went into preparing the meals which were then prepared by Hi-Point Steakhouse in Ridgeway, WI. Co-owner of Hi-Point, Richard Skaife, along with his staff, worked to prepare the meals that went out. According to Skaife the menu included, “all the traditional dishes of a Thanksgiving meal – turkey, mashed potatoes, dinner rolls, green beans and cranberry jelly.” The Mount Horeb Senior Center and the Rotary Club collected and organized the names of people in need of a meal and often hear back from some of the seniors who receive them each year. Lynn Forshaug of the Senior Center shared, “The people who received it were very happy with the meal. Of course, everyone received a delicious pumpkin pie.”

The Mount Horeb community gives its gratitude for the generosity of these neighbors who pulled together to make sure that everyone had a special meal to sit down to this Thanksgiving.

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23-0102

Local women hike new trails at Vermont Lutheran





A group of about 35 women joined Gaila Olsen recently for a hike on some of the new trails open at Vermont Lutheran Church's property, which are now open to the public. Afterwards, the hikers had a potluck in a newly constructed outbuilding called "The Gathering Place."

Guest chef brings sustainable food to high school





Chef Justin Johnson recently brought his locally-sourced Mongolian Beef Bowl to the Mount Horeb High School cafeteria. Johnson, of Sustainable Kitchens, worked in collaboration with Michelle Denk, Food Service Director for the Mount Horeb Area School District, to serve locally sourced, nutritious meals for MHASD students. Denk applied for and was awarded U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service's Healthy Meals Incentives grant from Action for Healthy Kids (AFHK) to help fund the project. Above left, Food Service Support Dan Schettler, Food Service director Michelle Denk, and chef Justin Johnson. Above right, Johnson serves up a meal.

FFA members awarded National American degree



Here are a couple articles and a picture regarding FFA. The American FFA Degree winners in the picture are (left to right) Evan Rhiner, Trinity Dyreson, Courtney Shelstad, and Sydney Schlicht. Not pictured: Jordan Freitag

INDIANAPOLIS – Each year, the National FFA Organization honors FFA members who show the utmost dedication to the organization through their desire to develop their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education.

The American FFA Degree is bestowed upon a select group of students in recognition of their years of academic and professional excellence. This year over 4,400 American Degrees were awarded.

Evan Rhiner, Trinity Dyreson, Courtney Shelstad, Sydney Schlicht, and Jordan Freitag, members of the Mt. Horeb FFA chapter, were awarded the American FFA Degree at the 96th National FFA Convention & Expo on November 4, 2023.

Sponsored by Cargill, Case IH, Elanco Animal Health, and Syngenta, the award recognizes demonstrated ability and outstanding achievements in agricultural business, production, processing, or service programs.

To be eligible, FFA members must have earned at least $10,000 or earned at least $2,000 and worked at least 2,250 hrs outside of class time through a supervised agricultural experience (SAE) program in which they own their own business, hold a professional position as an employee, or conduct research. Recipients must also complete 50 hours of community service and demonstrate outstanding leadership abilities and civic involvement through completion of a long list of FFA and community activities. Less than one percent of FFA members achieve the American FFA Degree.

Each recipient of the American FFA Degree receives a gold American FFA Degree key and certificate after being recognized at the national convention.

The FFA mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. For more, visit the National FFA Organization online at FFA.org and on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter.

The National FFA Foundation builds partnerships with industry, education, government, other foundations, and individuals to secure financial resources that recognize FFA member achievements, develop student leaders and support the future of agricultural education.

A separately registered nonprofit organization, the foundation is governed by a board of trustees that includes the national FFA president, educators, business leaders and individual donors.

For more, visit FFA.org/Give.

The National FFA Organization is a school-based national youth leadership development organization of more than 945,000 student members as part of 9,163 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Gleanings

By Barb Johnson
Mount Horeb Mail

130 Years Ago- Nov. 30, 1893

Mrs. Sletto, of Klevenville, has been on the sick list the past two weeks. Her son, who is attending the Academy, has been obliged to stay away from school on that account.

There is a move to get a $15,000 flour mill and we may get it, Mount Horeb is subject to enterprises.

A lively affair took place on Main Street last Tuesday. A horse attached to a cutter and hitched to a post became frightened at the fur robe which was used as a blanket, and slid off. A half dozen men gathered around, but the horse wanted things his own way, and had it until the cutter got upon the frightened animal's neck. Then the straps snapped and the fills cracked and the crowd scattered. Fortunately no one was hurt but the cutter and harness was pretty badly used up. The horse was captured shortly after liberating himself.

Get your cutters out boys, as we are going to have good sleighing, and make someone happy by giving her a ride.

The missionary meetings at the St. James church in Vermont have been postponed for one week on account of a needed rest for the missionaries.

If you have sudden darting pains in the joints or muscles, and it recurs every time you get cold, and appears in new places without leaving any of the old ones, the best thing to do is to send to the Drummond Medicine Co. for a bottle of Drummond's Lightning Remedy for Rheumatism.

Teacher Wanted A teacher is wanted in the Martin district, either male or female. Apply at once to the district clerk.

120 Years Ago- Nov. 26, 1903

Brown and Weltzin sold George Britton's house on Main Street to Mrs. Jensvold for $1150.

The Hauge's church people got together Saturday and put in a number of hitching posts and were much needed around the church.

Ed Mithus is now wielding the pedagogical wand in the Ruste district, it being his first school.

Our stock market was active last Monday. Six carloads were taken in. Prices paid were 4 to 4-1/2 for hogs, and from 1-1/4 to 3¢ for cattle.

The State Bank is remodeling the interior of the corner room, recently vacated by S. Swiggum.

Mrs. O. M. Eidsmore is enjoying a couple of weeks visit with friends in Chicago, and in the meantime Bro. Eidsmore is experimenting in culinary art work.

J.P. Moe returned last Tuesday from his deer hunting trip and brought back one of the fleet footed animals. Mr. Moe spent most of the time in Juneau county and had intended to visit the northern wilds, but when he reached Grand Rapids and saw the outfit of dudes and their supply of whisky going for the deer hunt, and learning of the numerous fatalities, he concluded to cut his trip short and return home, where life is more secure.

110 Years Ago- Nov. 21, 1913

A village basketball team is being organized and opera house secured for games and practice. Former high school players will form the team.

James Hoff and Miss Carolyn Born were married at Sycamore, IL. Nov. 11 at the Congregational church.

Henry Bilsie brought five hogs to market Monday that weighed 2820 pounds and netted him a little over $40 a head.

Bessie Breum is working in the telephone office in Milwaukee.

K.B. Skuldt and A. T. Jacobson are building a union garage on their lot line, which has a very neighborly appearance. The structure will be frame with tin roof. Mr. Skuldt has razed the barn on his lot, which will make a more roomy yard.

Marcus Hefte lost a valuable heifer on the right-of-way Tuesday by the train.

For all fresh cuts or wounds, either on the human subject or on animals, Ballard's Snow liniment is excellent; while for corn husker's sprained wrists, barbed wire cuts and sores on working horses, it cannot be too highly recommended. Price 25 and 50 cents. N.C. Evans.

100 Years Ago- Nov. 23, 1923

Work has started on a new street starting at South Third and running west past two of the new houses built by Gilbert Kleven this year and to extend as far as Mrs. Belle Luder's residence.

Forest Opsal had a tonsillectomy Monday at a Madison hospital.

Matt Statz, former employee of the Mail is now employed at the Times office.

Otto Dahle received word Tuesday night from Darlington that authorities there had taken into custody the men who had robbed stores at Dodgeville, Gratiot and Mt. Horeb. The men in this robbery were interviewed by Mr. Dahle and the District Attorney. One proved to be a young man who was usually a hard working, reliable fellow with a good reputation who told the story of bad companions and moonshine and so Mr. Dahle decided that no good would come from prosecuting the boy and so decided to accept payment for the stolen goods and if the young fellow lived honestly in the future to let him go free.

90 Years Ago- Nov. 23, 1933

Mrs. Inger Swenson of Klevenville had the pleasure of seeing her cousin Pete Leira and his wife from Fagernes, Valders, Norway, act on the screen in the film called "Christine Valdersdatter" Saturday night at the Strand Theatre, Mount Horeb. Mr. Leira took the part of the parson in this film and his wife took the part of the wife of an ugly farmer.

Miss Myrtle Cohohan took command at the local post office last Monday following her appointment as acting postmaster to replace Martin Holum, who resigned after having accepted the appointment as acting postmaster July 15.

Miss Esther Olaug Nygaard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sigvat Nygaard, became the bride of Irvin Hartvik Bakken, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Bakken, Springdale, Friday, Nov. 17 at the Gunderson parsonage.

80 Years Ago- Nov. 25, 1943

Throng Alaskson, 90, passed away in death at 3 o'clock Wednesday morning, Nov. 24, at the home of his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Charley Newcomb after a long ailment.

A deal was made Tuesday whereby the firm of Kahl & Nygard became the owners of the two story part of the former Dahle Bros. Building.

50 Years Ago- Nov. 22, 1973

Kay Louise Zurbuchen and Anthony Truman were married in a ceremony on Nov. 3 at the Mt. Horeb Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Fran and Russell Greve, owners of the Homestead, their new gift shop, have totally restored their 70-year-old farmhouse south of Stewart Park on JG, and created a charming setting on which shoppers may browse. It will open Nov. 24 at 10 am.

It was made known on Monday that local service stations will cooperate with President Nixon's request and close on Saturday nights and Sundays, but will also take additional steps to save fuel. At Bert Rolstad's station, he is limiting all customers to a maximum of a $3 purchase. Thousand's Arco said he might begin limiting strangers to 5 to 10 gallons and filling-up for customers. Hagen's Texaco is remaining open nights, but closing weekends. Others closing nights and Sundays are Bob's Sunoco, Kellogg's Service, Spaanem's Standard and Baumeister's Mobil.

Mount Horeb Volunteer firemen answered a call to the Vernon Peterson residence on Barton Road, Rt. 2, Mount Horeb Sunday morning when a furnace exploded destroying the motor and causing minor smoke damage.

Laura Endres and Paul Mieden were married Saturday, Nov. 17 in St. Ignatius Catholic Church.

30 Years Ago- Dec. 2, 1993

Ann Fenley will begin her duties as Intermediate Center principal on Dec. 6 during the three-weekend move that begins this Friday when grades 6, 7, and 8 move to the new middle school. Grade 5 students will remain in the old Middle School, and students in grades 3 and 4 will join them in the newly renamed Intermediate Center.

The first child of Fred and Lynn Bryant, Verona is a daughter, Karli Elizabeth, born on Wednesday, Nov. 17, at Meriter Hospital, Madison.

Community Calendar

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Mt. Horeb Seniors shopping trip to Dodgeville, 9:30am.

UW Extension "Seniors Eating Well", 1;00-2:30pm. RSVP to 608-437-6902 - Mt. Horeb Senior Center

Trollway Diabetes, Inc. 1:00-3:00pm, Mt. Horeb Senior Center

Neighbors Helping Neighbors - Food Closet open 6:00-7:30pm

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food Closet open 9:00 to 10:30am (Seniors); Others 3:00-4;30pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food and Clothes Closet open 10:00-11:30am

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

Mt. Horeb Seniors trip to see Holiday Lights, 4:30pm, RSVP 608-437-6902

PFLAG Mt. Horeb - Meeting 6:00-8:00pm, Mt. Horeb Public Library (not a library sponsored event). Speaker: Annette Langlois Grunseth.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5

Tai Chi, 1:00pm, Mt. Horeb Senior Center

Ageless Grace, 2:00pm, Mt.. Horeb Senior Center

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

Last Appointment day for Medicare Open Enrollment - Mt. Horeb Senior Center

Lunch for Mt. Horeb Seniors at Fink's Cafe, 11:00am-1:00pm.

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

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









ANNOUNCEMENTS

One Family's Journey of Gender Transition

The PFLAG December 4 membership meeting is from 6-8 p.m. in the Mt. Horeb Public Library meeting room. Speaker, Annette Langlois Grunseth, author of the book, "Becoming Trans-Parent: One Family's Journey of Gender Transition" will tell about her parenting experience as her adult child transitioned. She will also read from her book of poetry about her family's journey, and how her daughter has evolved into a most outgoing and interesting person. Her daughter has been married to the same person for 20 years, transitioning around their tenth anniversary.

Annette uses poetry to educate people and help them feel what it's like to be transgender as well as the experience of being the parent of a transgender adult child. Her book "Becoming Trans-Parent: One Family's Journey of Gender Transition" was published in 2017 and is often used by individuals when they come out, to help their families understand. Her book was nominated for a Pushcart prize, (a Best of the Small Presses honor.). Annette has been writing and publishing poetry in journals and anthologies for 35 years and has published two books. Her second book is her brother's letters from Vietnam along with her prose and poetry. "Combat and Campus: Writing Through War" won a Gold Medal in 2022 with the Military Writers Society of America. Annette was awarded the Hal Gruetzmacher prize for poetry in 2022 (in Door County).

This program is not a library sponsored event. It is made possible by a grant from the Mt. Horeb Community Foundation.

Annette will join via Zoom from 6-7 PM. The remaining time is reserved for sharing and support. There's no need to RSVP if you'd like to join us in person at the library. If you prefer to attend via zoom, RSVP at pflagmoho.org and a link will be sent.

Learning about AI

You've probably heard the terms "AI" and "ChatGPT" in the news and other arenas. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is popping up everywhere these days. Learn more about this innovative technology at the Mt. Horeb Public Library Monday, December 4 at 6:30pm. Professor David Williamson Shafer, UW-Madison, discusses AI's potential to change work, education, and the way we think about what it means to analyze data and even to "know" something at all.

Williamson Shaffer is the Sears Bascom Professor of Learning analytics at the University of Wisconsin in the Department of Educational Psychology and a Data Philosopher at the Wisconsin Center for Education Research.

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

Giving Tree needs gifts

For many, the Christmas season offers feelings of love, hope and peace, but for others it causes stress. Stress about finding time to go shopping, get the food for the holiday meal, and where the money will come from to pay for all the holiday extras. The Mount Horeb Giving Tree strives to ease that holiday stress for low-income families, disabled adults, and senior citizens by providing gifts, winter hats and gloves, and personal hygiene items for them.

The colorful paper tags were distributed throughout the community in early November this year. Many businesses have offered to be a host site with a smaller tree and will continue to have tags through November 29. These businesses include: Vike-Steinich Chiropractor, Mount Horeb Family Pharmacy, The Yoga Space, Lake Ridge Bank (formerly State Bank of Cross Plains), New Beginnings Chiropractic, Hearts and Hands Children's Center, Buck and Honey's, United Methodist Church-Mount Horeb, and Strands Salon. There is also a larger tree with more tags in the front area of Miller and Sons Supermarket (Mount Horeb location only). The tree at Miller's will remain up through Saturday, December 2.

If you don't want to shop for gifts, but would like to help out financially, accept donations in the form of check, written out to Neighbors Helping Neighbors, ATTN: GIVING TREE DONATIONS, PO Box 196, Mount Horeb, WI 53572. You can also visit our website at http://mhgivingtree.weebly.com and click on the "Donations" tab to donate online, through the Neighbors Helping Neighbors portal.

The Mount Horeb Area Giving Tree is an organization solely made up of volunteers. A majority of the donations are used to purchase gifts; a small percentage is used for essentials like stamps and paper.

Make this a happy holiday for others who need your help and see what happens. You may end up getting the best gift in return.

Exploring Israel and Palestine

Explore the dynamics of the current Israel/Palestine conflict during a special program at the Mt. Horeb Public Library Monday, December 11 at 6:30. This evening with Professor Nadav Shelef, UW-Madison, will give greater insight into the history of the region and the current conditions. Nadav Shelef is the Harvey M. Meyerhoff Professor of Israel Studies and Professor of Political Science. He teaches and studies nationalism, religion and politics, Israeli politics and society, and middle east politics. His current projects focus on understanding how homelands change and the conditions under which religious parties moderate their positions.

Chamber unveils new holiday event

Mount Horeb is gearing up for a new event – Mount Horeb Trollidays – a whimsical month-long event celebrating the holidays the way only Mount Horeb can – with trolls! Visitors and locals are encouraged to shop area businesses, stop in for a seasonal treat at a local restaurant, go on a holiday troll stroll and find all 36 trolls, who are getting dressed up for the season! Snap a holiday photo in front of beautiful lighted snowflakes and our new holiday tree towering over Main Street.

All month long, visitors and locals can enjoy painted Trolliday window scenes at businesses throughout the village. Artist Katie Borud of Black Earth, Wisconsin, designed customized scenes for each participating business. An interactive map and scavenger hunt featuring troll treasures hidden in the window scenes, will be available online and at the Mount Horeb Welcome Center. If you turn in your completed scavenger hunt to the Mount Horeb Welcome Center, you will be entered to win prizes.

The Troll's Gift Guide spotlights gift ideas from your favorite local businesses, giving you inspiration to find that perfect gift for that special someone. If you spot Santa Troll hiding at one of our local retail stores, you can enter to win prizes.

They kick things off on December 1 with activities throughout downtown, including the 11th Annual Schoolhouse Holiday Market from 4-8pm. Shops are open until 8:00pm that night so you can get a head start on your holiday shopping. Jorgen the Troll will be handing out candy canes through that evening and again on December 2 during the Fire Truck Parade and Tree Lighting in Mount Horeb's downtown. Plan your visit with Santa, make your own holiday decorations, (guys) get your shopping done on December 14 during Men's Night in Mount Horeb, and don't miss the Light in the Cave event happening all month long at neighboring Cave of the Mounds. This is just a small sample of the many activities to take part in when you stop in for some Trolliday fun! Find all of these details and more at trollway.com/mount-horeb-trollidays.

Winter parking rules start Friday

The Village of Mount Horeb residents are reminded that winter parking regulations go into effect in the village on December 1, 2023, and continue in effect until March 31, 2024.

On even numbered days of the month, vehicles must be legally parked between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. on even building numbered side of the street.

On odd numbered days of the month, vehicles must be legally parked between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. on the odd building numbered side of the street.

D O W N T O W N PARKING PROHIBITED: No person shall park a vehicle in any municipal parking lot or on either side of any of the following public streets in the village between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. during the months of December, January, February or March:

On Main Street between Washington and Fourth Streets;

On Front Street between S. Washington and S. Third Streets;

On S. Washington Street, Perry Street, S. Grove Street, and S. Third Street all between Main and Front Streets;

On First Street and S. Second Street between Main and Lincoln Streets;

On N. Second Street and N. Third Street between E. Main Street and the alley immediately north of Main Street;

On N. Grove Street between W. Main Street and the Senior Center/Youth Center driveway.

There are some exceptions for cul-de-sacs and areas where there is only parking allowed on one side of the street.

Get ready for snow

Wisconsin winters are great for outdoor activities, but the cold and snow can also pose serious dangers to the safety of everyone in the state. To help Wisconsin plan for the months ahead, Gov. Tony Evers recently declared Nov. 13-17 Winter Weather Awareness Week in Wisconsin.

"When the wind blows and the snow starts falling, it's important for all of Wisconsin to know what to do so they can stay safe," said Wisconsin Emergency Management Administrator Greg Engle. "During Winter Weather Awareness Week, everyone is encouraged to take time to update their emergency kits and make sure their vehicle is ready for the ice and snow that often covers the roads."

Staying informed is a critical part of being prepared for winter. Make sure to check in with the National Weather Service and other trusted local sources daily for forecasts. If heavy snow or ice is expected, prepare by stocking up on additional supplies, make sure you have an emergency kit at home and in your vehicle, and have a plan for what to do if you lose power at home.

According to the National Weather Service, Wisconsin experiences an average of three to six winter storms during the season. During the 2022-23 winter season, the highest one-day snowfall total in the state of 19.5 inches was reported on April 17, 2023 in Melrose in Jackson County. Bayfield in Bayfield County recorded 182.9 inches of snow last winter, giving it the highest seasonal snowfall total in the state. The coldest temperature recorded in Wisconsin last winter was -29 degrees Fahrenheit on Jan. 31, 2023 in Barron County near Ridgeland and again on Feb. 4, 2023 in Butternut in Ashland County.

The freezing temperatures of the winter months can be dangerous for many people, leading to cold-related illnesses and injuries such as hypothermia and frostbite. There were 94 cold-related deaths in the state during the winter months of 2022-23, according to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. There were an average of 996 emergency department visits and 387 hospitalizations in the state due to cold-related illnesses during the winters of 2018-2019 through 2021-2022. Prepare for cold temperatures by wearing weather-appropriate clothing and limiting your time outdoors during periods of extreme cold.

Ice and snow on the roads remain a major threat to drivers throughout the state, causing thousands of motor vehicle crashes each year. Preliminary data from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation shows 41 people were killed and 3,573 were injured in the state during 2022 from crashes involving winter road conditions.

While driving in snow or ice, remain distraction-free and adjust your speed for current conditions. Use 511 Wisconsin to check travel conditions before you leave home. This information, along with live traffic cameras and traffic alerts, is accessible through the free 511 Wisconsin mobile app or the mobile-friendly site www.511wi.gov.

At home or in your car, winter emergency kits should include items such as food, water, a flashlight and batteries, and blankets. In your vehicle, include a snow shovel, extra gloves and hats, cell phone charger, and kitty litter or sand to help give your wheels traction on icy roads if your vehicle gets stuck.

Prepare your home by having your furnace serviced regularly. Check doorways and windows for signs they are allowing cold air into your home. Test carbon monoxide detectors.

COMMUNITY

Obituaries

Mary Frances Sutter

Sept. 16, 1929 – Nov. 22, 2023



MOUNT HOREB - Mary Frances Sutter, age 94, of Mount Horeb, passed away on Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2023, at Whispering Pines. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH, 109 S. Sixth St., Mount Horeb, at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2023, with Father Robert Butz presiding. Burial will be held at St. Ignatius Calvary Cemetery in Mount Horeb. Visitation will be held at the church from 10 a.m. until the time of the Mass on Tuesday.

A full obituary may be viewed and online condolences made at www.gundersonfh.com.

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

LaVerne Sutter

June 29, 1926- Nov. 24, 2023



MOUNT HOREB - LaVerne Sutter, age 97, of Mount Horeb, passed away on Friday, Nov. 24, 2023, at home surrounded by his family. He was born on June 29, 1926, to Albert and Bertha (Haag) Sutter at home in the Town of Perry.

LaVerne married the love of his life, Agnes Greenheck, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Lone Rock, Wis., on Oct. 11, 1951. They shared over 70 years together as they farmed and raised seven children. They farmed for 40+ years in the Mount Horeb area. They were blessed with 11 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

LaVerne was dedicated to his faith and family above all else. He was a kind man whose eyes lit up in the presence of his wife, Agnes. He and Agnes were a hard-working team, dedicating themselves to their farm and family. He spent every possible moment with his wife, Agnes, until her passing in 2022. Besides his faith and family, LaVerne loved farming and never tired of watching the earth tilled, seeds planted and crops harvested.

He was a devoted member of St. Michael The Archangel Parish, attending Mass at both St. Ignatius Catholic Church in Mount Horeb and Holy Redeemer Church in Perry Township.

LaVerne is survived by his seven children, LaVerne "Rick" (Sue) Sutter, James "Jim" (Donna) Sutter, Michael "Mike" (Joan) Sutter, Patrick "Pat" Sutter (Debra Young), Jane (Bill Wildeman) Sutter, Robert "Bob" Sutter (Tammy Gander) and Francis "Frank" Sutter (Shannon Handley); 11 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; sisters, Antoinette "Toni" (James) Adams, Marlene (Richard) Acker, Rose Mary Miller, Cecilia (William) Walsh, Pauline Tvedt; and sisters-in-law, Louise Sutter, Marjorie Sutter, Rosemary Sutter, Nancy Greenheck and Lynne Sutter.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Albert and Bertha Sutter; parents-in-law, Cornelius and Mary Greenheck; brothers, Sylvester, Joseph, Dennis and Russell; and brothers and sisters-in-law, Ken Miller, Lou Tvedt, Berniece (Norbert) Pulvermacher, Mary Catherine "Kay" (Anthony) Schwarz, Lorraine (Robert) Westphal, Corneal (Ruth) Greenheck, John Greenheck, Albert (Ann) Greenheck, Jerome Greenheck, Robert Greenheck and Pauline (John "Jack") Lins.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH, 109 S. Sixth St., Mount Horeb, at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2023, with Father Robert Butz presiding. Burial will follow at Calvary Cemetery, Mount Horeb. Visitation will be held at GUNDERSON CAMACHO MOUNT HOREB FUNERAL AND CREMATION CARE, 500 N. Eighth St., Mount Horeb, from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 4, 2023, and also at the church from 10 a.m. until the time of the Mass on Tuesday.

The family would like to thank LaVerne's caregivers, Elvera, Lisa, Patty, Lizabeth, Julie, Hannah and Qadar, and friends and family who visited, brought food and helped give comfort to Dad during his final days with us. He appreciated every kindness and so did his family. Also, thank you to the doctors and nurses at Upland Hills Health/Hospice for their care and support of our dad through his aging process.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Michael the Archangel Parish or to a charity of your choice.

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

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

Rita M. Meyer

Oct. 16, 1942 – Nov. 24, 2023



MOUNT HOREB - Rita M. Meyer, age 81, of Mount Horeb, passed away on Friday, Nov. 24, 2023, at home. She was born on Oct. 16, 1942, in Vermont Township, Wis., the daughter of John Joseph Trainor and Josephine Veronica Kelliher. Rita was the 11th of 13 children and the 11th to pass.

Rita married William "Blackie" Meyer on Sept. 22, 1959, and they recently celebrated 64 years together. They raised three children, all of which she was so proud of.

Rita was a lady of passion and grace. She had open arms for many hugs and she listened with understanding. Rita helped those in need and trusted in her faith. Her family meant everything to her.

Rita is survived by her husband, William; two daughters, Brenda (Terry) Meyer and Becky (Perry) Halverson; son, Bill (Carrie) Meyer; three grandsons, Brandon (Morgan) Halverson, Will (Julie) Meyer and Joe Meyer; three granddaughters, Brienna (Lukas) Sailing, Hailey Meyer and Ellinor Meyer; great-grandson, Brooks Halverson; two great-granddaughters, Braelynn and Blayke Halverson; and numerous loving family members.

A celebration of life will be held at BARNEVELD LEGION HALL, 102 Wood St., Barneveld, from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 13, 2024.

The family would like to thank their dad for his endless love and tender care for their mom and Agrace HospiceCare, especially Rita's nurses, De Anne and Jessica, who helped the family take care of her with love and compassion.

"There are no goodbyes for us. Wherever you are, you will always be in our hearts!"

Memorials may be sent to Agrace HospiceCare of Dodgeville, 316 Spring St. Dodgeville, WI 53533.

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

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

Beverly M. Schwierske

Oct. 18, 1934 – Nov. 9, 2023



MOUNT HOREB - Beverly M. Schwierske, age 89, of Mount Horeb, passed away on Thursday, Nov. 9, 2023, after a long struggle with Parkinson's disease. She was born on Oct. 18, 1934, to Melvin and Beulah (Johnson) Knudson on the family farm near Blue Mounds.

Beverly graduated from Mount Horeb High School and Platteville State Teachers College (now UW-Platteville). She began her career as a teacher at the age of 20 at Tyvand School, a one-room rural school in the Town of Perry. She also taught at other rural schools, including Blue Mounds and Ridgeview, where she was also principal, before finishing her career at the Mount Horeb Primary School.

Beverly was married to Frederick H. Schwierske in 1956 and he preceded her in death in 2005. She is survived by her children, Becky (Len) Betley, Frederick C. (Donna) Schwierske, Chuck (Cindy) Schwierske and Bruce Schwierske; grandchildren, Linda (Shawn) Ducat, Jamie Schwierske, Kelly Schwierske, Ella (Scott Smith) Schwierske and Eric Schwierske; and brother, Allen Knudson. She is also survived by her longtime companion, Lee Fassbender, and his family.

Beverly was also preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Melbourne and Dennis Knudson; and special friend, Edner Norland.

A funeral service was held at Evangelical Lutheran Church, 315 E. Main St., Mount Horeb, at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2023, with Pastor John Twiton presiding, followed by a luncheon at the church. Visitation was held at Gunderson Camacho Mount Horeb Funeral and Cremation Care, 500 N. Eighth St., Mount Horeb, from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2023, and also at the church from 10 a.m. until the time of the service on Wednesday. Burial will be held at a later date.

Beverly's family would like to thank the staff at Ingleside Communities and Agrace HospiceCare for their care.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be gifted to Beverly's favorite organizations: the Mount Horeb Landmarks Foundation, Mount Horeb Public Library, Dane County Humane Society or a charity of your choice.

Beverly was a wonderful mom, grandma and friend and will be greatly missed.

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

Gunderson Camacho
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500 N. Eighth St.
(608) 437-5077

CHURCH NOTES

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

Mt Horeb Evangelical Lutheran
315 E. Main St. 608-437-5012
www.elcmthoreb.org
Facebook: evangelical lutheran church of mt. horeb
8am morning devotions M-F
9am in-person Sunday Worship
Pre-Recorded online worship/ also available via telephone call 1-855-514-2017

Mt. Horeb United Methodist
Corner of Hwy. S & Hwy. 78
Sunday Worship: 9am online and in person
umcmh.org
Celebrating God's Inclusive Love

Mt Vernon United Church of Christ
693 Highway 92 in Mt Vernon
608-832-6677
www.mtvernonucc.org
Sunday Worship, in-person and on Facebook Live, 10:15 am
Email: pastormtvernon@gmail.com
We are an Open and Affirming Congregation

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

Immanuel Lutheran Church
www.immanuelmh.org
Sunday 10:00 service
310 W. Main St. Mount Horeb

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

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

Mount Hor

During the month of December, Mount Horeb trolls are getting into the holiday spirit and spreading cheer throughout the village. There are many ways to enjoy Trollidays all month long. Find the official Guide to the Trollidays at **Trollway.com!**

Mount Horeb Trollidays all month long

DECEMBER 1-31



Festive Window Scenes

Online Interactive Map
Scavenger Hunt

Santa Troll Shop Hop

Find Santa Troll at a Local Retailer and Enter to Win Prizes

A Troll's Gift Guide

Find the Perfect Gift for Everyone on Your List While Supporting Local Businesses

Find a Full Calendar of Community Events

trollway.com/mount-horeb-trollidays



Based on Mayor Troll © Michael Feeney

Don't Forget! Shops are open late for holiday shopping! Check with individual retailers for extended holiday hours!

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TheSalonMoHo.com

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The Salon at Mount Horeb Hosts:

Santa Story Time

December 2nd ~ 12n to 4p

- Portraits with Santa
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WEEKEND BRUNCH AT ALL LOCATIONS

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2023
4:00-8:00 PM
AT THE HISTORIC SCHOOLHOUSE
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Your FULL SERVICE Grocery Store
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SUPPORT Local BUSINESSES

VOGEL

continued from page 1

It was when Vogel was a small child in a small town in Manitowoc County, Wisconsin that he first discovered the joys of marionettes.

"I was kind of oriented that way as a kid," he says. "I had a ventriloquist dummy that we probably got for five bucks."

His father was handy, and Vogel grew up in a garage workshop, his nostrils filled with sawdust as they cranked out everything from stilts to go-carts.

"When I was 22, I met someone who was kind of an artistic person, and she said, 'Let's make some puppets and sell them at fairs and make some money.' We were kind of drifting, hippy people."

Vogel, like so many drifting hippies, eventually settled in Madison, in 1968, working with an agency that helped people with disabilities. But all that time, when he had spare moments, he headed to his workshop, where he would make real boys and girls using clay and Papier-mâché and cloth.

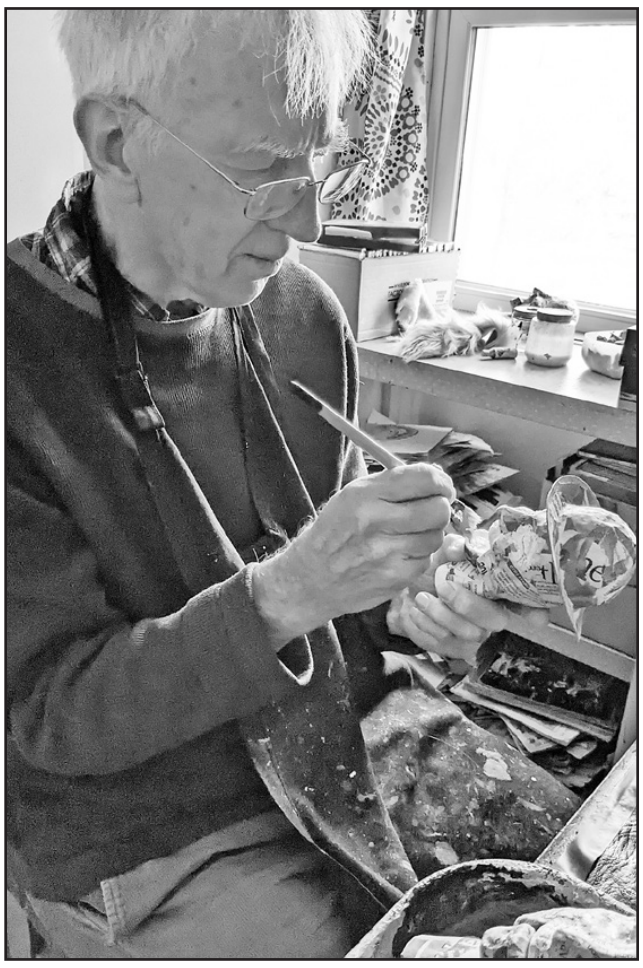
"Now that I'm retired, I can wake up and spend all day in the workshop," he says. "It's pleasurable and you get to please people. It's nice to make things people want, and to find good homes for them."

Most are functional, string-controlled marionettes, which means they can either sit on a shelf for the rest of their days, or work for a living.

"Most [puppets], people get as art or decorations," he says. "But some are working marionette actors."

Vogel loves theater, and he watches more real-life actors than puppets in his down time. But there is something special about those little dolls, which have entertained people for so many centuries.

"It is true that real-life actors can do a lot of things puppets can't do," he admits. "But it's also true that puppets can do some things that real people can't."





Ken Vogel's work will be on display in "Puppets on Holiday," a free exhibition at the Driftless Historium debuting December 2 and running through January 15. Photos by the Mount Horeb Area Historical Society.

Puppets on Holiday, featuring handmade characters from the imagination of Ken Vogel

Forty marionettes and hand puppets crafted by Madison artist Ken Vogel will be on display in "Puppets on Holiday," a free exhibition at the Driftless Historium debuting December 2 and running through January 15, 2024.

Meet Bucky Badger, Robert and Belle LaFollette, Bob Cratchett, Jacob Marley, Tiny Tim, and dozens of other incredible papier-mâché creations.

Vogel has been making puppets for more than 50 years. He began about 1970 when he and his girlfriend learned to make to sell at local craft shows as a unique income stream. What started as a hobby to earn extra cash quickly became a calling that he still undertakes with gusto and innovation. In fact, Vogel estimates that he has crafted an astounding 10,000 puppets over the course of his still-vibrant career.

Inspirations for Vogel's puppets include a rainbow of historical figures, politicians, pop culture and literary characters, artists, musicians, and animals. He conducts research on most of his subjects using the library and notes that he does not create caricatures, but rather tries to make his puppets as realistic as possible. Ken also accepts commissions, crafting custom "portrait puppets" of family members or friends from photographs. Vogel works out of his home where he uses clay molds to help shape the puppets' heads and sews all the costumes himself using a 1940s Singer sewing machine. The puppets can take anywhere from 5 to 10 hours to make depending on the subject and the type of puppet. He continues to offer his works at fairs and craft shows. (Some of you may recall seeing his artistry at Madison's iconic Ella's Deli and Ice Cream Parlor.)

"Puppets on Holiday" will be free and accessible in the Kalscheur Family Foundation Community Gallery during the Driftless Historium's open hours through January 15, 2024. A variety of Vogel's displayed works will be available for sale, with a portion of the proceeds donated by the artist back to the museum.

In celebration of Vogel's exhibit, the Driftless Historium will also be hosting a Paper Bag Puppet Party for the young and young at heart on Friday, December 1 from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. This is a free, drop-in activity with all supplies provided to assemble your own hand puppets. Then test out your new puppet in the museum's official Puppet Theatre. Attendees will be the first to see "Puppets on Holiday"—that officially debuts the next day! This is a family-friendly event for all ages, but please note that children under five must be accompanied by an adult for the duration of the activity. In addition, on Saturday, December 9, all are invited to a Puppet Show & Artist Reception—with cupcakes!! At 1:00 p.m., Puppeteer Pam Corcoran and her needle-felted marionettes will present "Donkey Tales," a double feature of the Bremen Town Musicians and a sweet tale about a cold-eared donkey. Corcoran has brought old and new stories to life with her original hand-made puppets since 1983.

This kid-centered experience will wrap up with an opportunity to try out Pam's puppets under her expert guidance.

Then stick around to meet Puppet Maker Ken Vogel himself and learn about his puppet-making process during an open house from 2 to 4 p.m., with cupcakes and other light refreshments provided for all guests.

One of the world's most beloved stories

Pinocchio has been translated into 240 languages...

-First published in 1881, Adventures of Pinocchio has been translated into more than 240 languages, making it the third most translated book in human history. It has sold more than 35 million copies and spawned everything from Disney movies to video games, plays and TV shows.

As soon as he reached home, Geppetto took his tools and began to cut and shape the wood into a Marionette.

"What shall I call him?" he said to himself. "I think I'll call him PINOCCHIO. This name will make his fortune. I knew a whole family of Pinocchi once—Pinocchio the father, Pinocchia the mother, and Pinocchi the children—and they were all lucky. The richest of them begged for his living."

After choosing the name for his Marionette, Geppetto set seriously to work to make the hair, the forehead, the eyes. Fancy his surprise when he noticed that these eyes moved and then stared fixedly at him. Geppetto, seeing this, felt insulted and said in a grieved tone:

"Ugly wooden eyes, why do you stare so?"

There was no answer.

After the eyes, Geppetto made the nose, which began to stretch as soon as finished. It stretched and stretched and stretched till it became so long, it seemed endless.

Poor Geppetto kept cutting it and cutting it, but the more he cut, the longer grew that impertinent nose. In despair he let it alone.

Next he made the mouth.

No sooner was it finished than it began to laugh and poke fun at him.

"Stop laughing!" said Geppetto angrily; but he might as well have spoken to the wall.

"Stop laughing, I say!" he roared in a voice of thunder.

The mouth stopped laughing, but it stuck out a long tongue.

Not wishing to start an argument, Geppetto made believe he saw nothing and went on with his work. After the mouth, he made the chin, then the neck, the shoulders, the stomach, the arms, and the hands.

As he was about to put the last touches on the finger tips, Geppetto felt his wig being pulled off. He glanced up and what did he see? His yellow wig was in the Marionette's hand. "Pinocchio, give me my wig!"

BOARD

continued from page 1

determined by benchmark scores in the district assessment system and compared to the previous year.

In the report, at least half of students in grades three through eight besides grade six met or exceeded typical growth. Grade six missed the threshold by only one percentage point.

Straka said a big focus has been the elementary math program, which has contributed to a higher percentage of students achieving aggressive growth in grade three.

Compared to students across the state, kindergarten through grade five students met the state average in English language arts and exceeded it in mathematics. Grades six through eight also exceeded state averages in English language arts but fell behind in mathematics.

"That's a piece we're looking at," Straka said, "we're starting conversations with the middle school teachers as to what's happening."

Achievement levels, also referred to as proficiency, help teachers, the district and the state assess students' performance and content level mastery. Achievement is determined by student performance on the Forward exam. Overall, students outpaced the state averages.

The percentage of students considered at least proficient in English language arts and math saw a drop after the 2019-2020 school year, but most have increased since then. However, students who were in grade five in 2019-2020 scored significantly lower since the COVID closure. These students went into the middle school system the year after the closure.

"We have teachers who are amazing teachers," Straka said, "I think it's a resource issue, some standards and some skills aren't being taught at that grade level or they aren't taught enough prior to the Forward test that we have in eighth grade."

4K contracts

The board approved 4K contracts with local child-care providers. 4K allows children four years old by September 1 to participate in half-day instruction in preparation for kindergarten.

The contracts are being offered to Hearts and Hands Children's Center, Children's Community School, Agape Christian Preschool and Academy of Little Vikings.

Registration is not yet open but could start after winter break.

Sports Editor
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SPORTS

Follow Rob Reischel
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Keeping the streak alive

Mount Horeb gymnasts aim for 13th straight state berth

by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor

The Streak!

Every sport seems to have a team or two who's remarkable run of consistency makes you go 'Wow.'

During football season, Hartland Arrowhead and Middleton have qualified for the postseason every year since 1996 — the longest streak in the state in Division 1.

In boys volleyball, Milwaukee Marquette has reached the state tournament 22 consecutive years and won 10 state championships in that time.

In girls gymnastics, the gold standard for reliability and excellence are in Mount Horeb.

The Vikings have reached the WIAA Division 2 state tournament 12 straight years, winning a pair of state titles in that time. Mount Horeb has also qualified for state as a team 36 times — more than any other school in Wisconsin — and captured six team titles in that time.

The Vikings look to keep their remarkable streak alive when they begin their new season at the Sun Prairie West Invitational Saturday.

"Yes, we do have a solid 12-year streak of team state qualification which we are extremely proud of," Mount Horeb coach Martha Koller Faust said. "One of our main goals each year is to qualify as a team, but there's a lot of season leading up to that point. Yes, I do believe we have the potential to keep that streak going, but like with every year, it's going to take a lot of hard work and dedication by all involved."

Mount Horeb finished fourth at the WIAA Division 2 state meet last season and brings back many of the gymnasts that helped it shine.

Seniors Edie Balster was an individual state qualifier on the vault, while senior Tess Angle is a versatile, experienced gymnast.

Junior Athena Ouradnik was an individual state qualifier on bars, beam, floor and all-around last season. Junior Abbey Brummer is also hoping for a big year, while junior Reece Olinger — an individual state qualifier on beam last year — is currently injured and aiming for a mid-

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Athena Ouradnik will be one of the top performers for Mount Horeb's girls gymnastics team this season. File photo

MoHo girls top Baraboo

Monroe's 16 lead Vikings to victory

by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor

The game itself wasn't always pretty.

The result was downright gorgeous.

Mount Horeb's girls basketball team edged Baraboo, 56-53, on Nov. 21. The Vikings improved to 2-1 overall and 2-0 in the Badger Small Conference.

Morgan Monroe, who's off to a terrific start this season, led the Vikings with 16 points. Ella Fager added 11 points, while both Rowan Johnson and Hallie Klein scored seven.

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Ava Kolb (4) and Mount Horeb's girls basketball team rolled past Baraboo on Nov. 21. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

Vikings off and running

Mount Horeb rolls to win in opener

by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor

The outlook is sky high.

Expectations are through the roof.

And Mount Horeb's boys basketball team showed exactly why during its season-opener.

The Vikings went to River Valley and routed the Hawks, 74-47, on Nov. 21. Sophomore guard Josh Manchester had a game-high 28 points, while senior guard Nick Vorwald added 19 and junior guard Zach Maguire had 10.

In all, nine different

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BADGER SMALL CONFERENCE BOYS BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Vikings picked for second in Badger

Editors Note: This preview of the Badger Small Conference boys basketball season was compiled by Wissports.net.

The teams are listed in their projected order of finish.

1. Stoughton

Head Coach: Nolan Weber, 8th year

Record at School: 102-57

Overall Varsity Record: 102-57

2022-23 Varsity Record: 19-8

2022-23 JV1 Record: 5-15

2022-23 JV2 Record: 9-10

Assistants: Chris Schultz, Dan McGlynn, Kurt Vale, Reid Gibbs, Max Fernholz, Avery Lyons, Tim Strandlie

Twitter: @Stoughton-Hoop

Affiliation: WIAA Division 2

Enrollment: 868

Starters Lost (1): Mason Marggi (5-10, 4.4 ppg, 2.5 rpg).

Starters Returning (4): Ty Fernholz (6-2, Sr., 20.7 ppg, 4.9 rpg), Sawyer Schipper (6-2, Sr., 14.2 ppg, 3.8 rpg), Jay Johnson (6-3, Jr., 6.8 ppg, 4.9 rpg), Carter Sullivan (6-5, Jr., 6.8 ppg, 4.3 rpg).

Other Returning Players (5): Ben Harman (6-6, Sr., 4.6 ppg, 4.0 rpg), LeShawn Brown (6-3, Jr., 3.1 ppg, 2.2 rpg), Jacob Hibner (6-2, Soph., 6.0 ppg), Mason Richter (6-4, Jr.), Malaki Sutton (6-0, Sr.).

Newcomers (5): Aiden Klawitter (5-10, Jr.), Ethan Strandlie (6-1, Jr.), Grady Postel (6-1, Jr.), Kade Hustad (6-2, Jr.), Ethan Zywicki (6-1, Soph.).

Strengths: Guard play, cohesiveness, balance.

Questions: Consistency, rebounding.

2. Mount Horeb

Head Coach: Todd Nesheim, 16th year

Record at School: 217-135

Overall Varsity Record: 217-135

2022-23 Varsity Record: 16-10

2022-23 JV1 Record: 14-5

Assistants: Jack Prehn, Paul Manchester, Mark Fredrickson, Brad Richardson

Twitter: @MHVIKINGHOOPS

Affiliation: WIAA Division 2

Enrollment: 792

Starters Lost (2): Rocco Richie (6-2, 11.8 ppg, 4.3 rpg), Zach Peter (5-8, 4.8 ppg, 1.9 rpg).

Starters Returning (3): Nick Vorwald (6-2, Sr., 11.2 ppg, 3.9 rpg), Austin Leibfried (6-6, Sr., 6.3 ppg, 4.3 rpg), Zach Maguire (6-3, Jr., 7.7 ppg, 6.6 rpg).

Other Returning Players (7): Josh Manchester (6-3, Soph., 17.9 ppg, 5.5 rpg), Griffin Hannah (6-1, Jr.), Owen Aeschlimann (6-1, Jr.), Kam Nesheim (5-11, Soph.), Hayden Anderson (6-5, Soph.), Colton Martin (6-0, Sr.), Chris Kiel (5-9, Jr.).

Newcomers (2): Cal Odgers (6-1, Soph.), Jack Wilson (6-1, Soph.).

Strengths: Experience, rebounding, guard play, depth.

Questions: Point-guard play.

3. McFarland

Head Coach: Jeff Meinholdt, 18th year

Record at School: 247-144

Overall Varsity Record: 247-144

2022-23 Varsity Record: 24-4

2022-23 JV1 Record: 21-1

2022-23 JV2 Record: 17-4

Assistant Coaches: Tim King, Pete Williquette, Chris McGrath, Patrick Touhey, Alex Walli

Twitter: @McFBasketball

Instagram: McFBoys-Basketball

Affiliation: WIAA Division 2

Enrollment: 774

Starters Lost (4): Dadon Gillen (6-2, 17.7 ppg, 10.5 rpg), Deven Kulp (6-2, 15.8 ppg, 4.0 rpg), Aidan Chislom (6-5, 15.4 ppg, 10.6 rpg), Kyle Kussow (5-11, 8.2 ppg, 2.8 rpg).

Starters Returning (2): Andrew Kelley (6-1, Sr., 8.8 ppg, 2.5 rpg), Kaden Meinholdt (5-7, Sr., 4.2 ppg).

Other Returning Players (3): Braylen Roder (6-2, Sr.), Ben Forbes (6-8, Jr., 2.8 ppg, 2.9 rpg), Brady Ochalla (6-4, Jr.).

Strengths: Up-tempo pace, experience, successful JV1 team.

Questions: Scoring punch, rebounding.



Nick Vorwald and Mount Horeb's boys basketball team were picked to finish in second place in the Badger Small Conference. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

4. Edgewood

Head Coach: Reggie Patterson, 2nd year

Record at School: 18-10

Overall Varsity Record: 18-10

Assistant Coaches: Kevin Schmotzer, Kevin Pachucki, Zach Anderson

Twitter: @hs_edgewood

Affiliation: WIAA Division 3

Enrollment: 569

Starters Lost (5): Al Deang (6-2, 12 ppg, 6 rpg), Lucas Cose (6-3, 14 ppg, 5.8 rpg), Hunter Dobrinsky (6-0, 9 ppg, 2 rpg), Mateo Jimenez (5-10, 6 ppg, 2 rpg), Donovan Nedelcoff (5-9, 3 ppg, 2 rpg).

Starters Returning (1): Rex Lamb (6-2, Sr., 9 ppg, 4 rpg).

Other Returning Players (5): Jasper Allaman (6-4, Sr., 2 ppg, 3 rpg), Henry Apter (5-11, Sr.), Carter Wieseckel (6-4, Sr., 2 ppg, 2 rpg), Jason Thompson (5-8, Sr.), Oliver Boehme (6-3, Sr.).

Newcomers (4): Timmy West Jr. (6-1, Frosh.), Andrew Christensen (6-2, Frosh.), Quincy Mosley (6-1, Soph.), AJ Charles (6-1, Jr.).

Strengths: Transition offense, team defense, senior leadership.

Questions: Experience.

5. Sauk Prairie

Head Coach: Sean McGann, 6th year

Record at School: 59-55

Overall Varsity Record: 59-55

2022-23 Varsity Record: 17-8

2022-23 JV1 Record: 14-8

2022-23 JV2 Record: 8-14

Assistants: Todd Breunig

Twitter: @SaukHoops

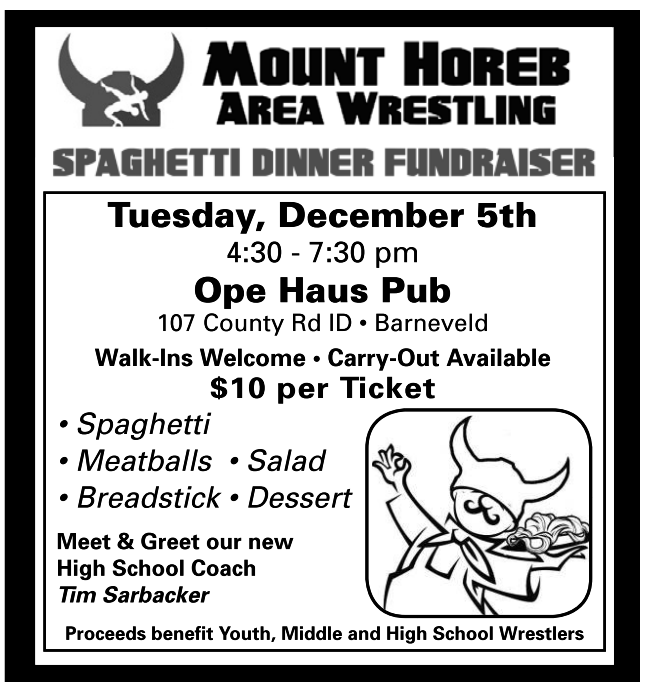
Instagram: @Sauk-Hoops

Affiliation: WIAA Division 2

Enrollment: 858

Starters Lost (3): Devin Kerska (6-1, 12.5 ppg, 7.6 rpg), Carson Brickl (5-10, 12.3 ppg, 4.3 rpg), Corbin Wardrop (6-3, 12.1 ppg,

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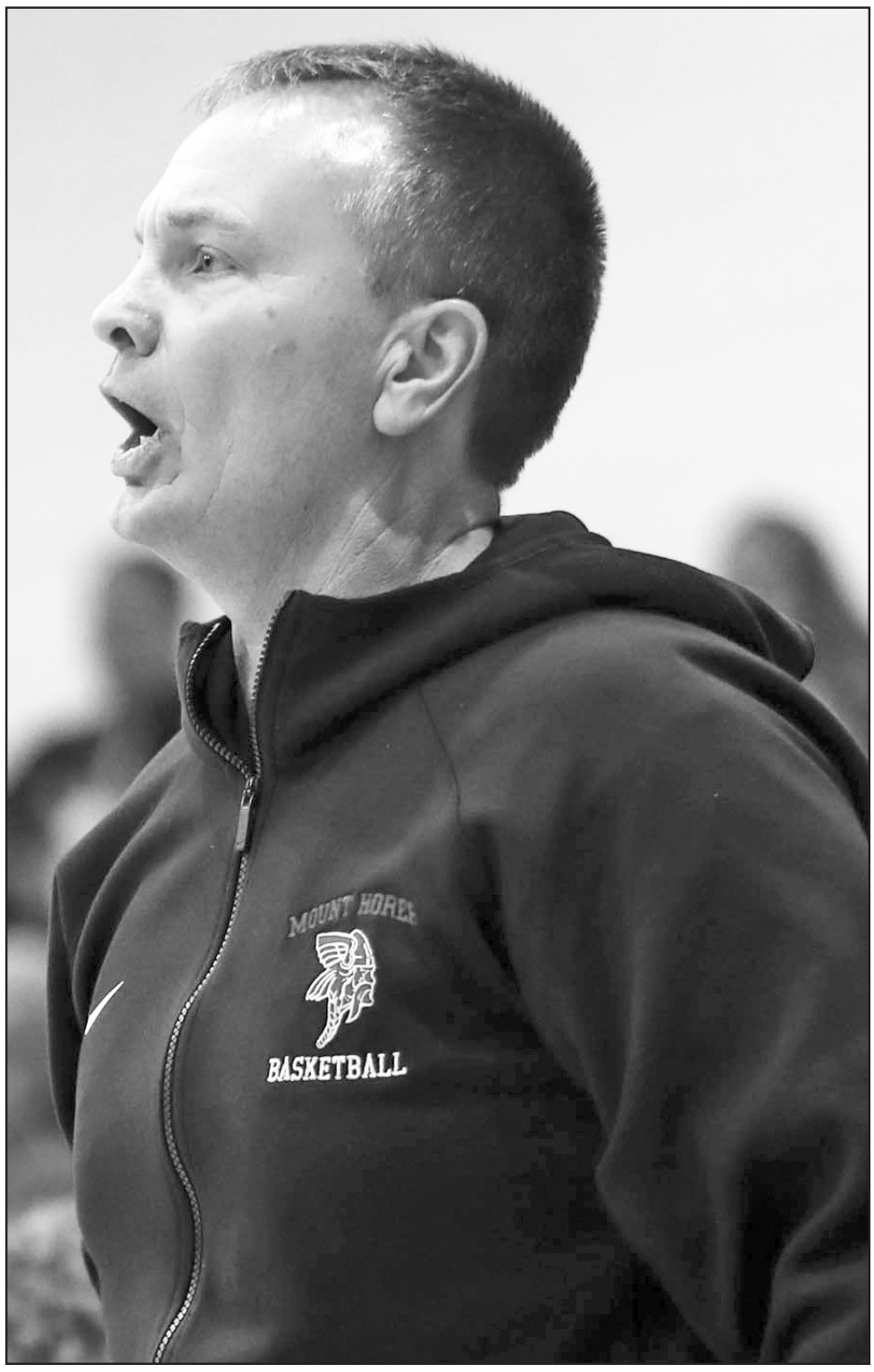






BADGER SMALL CONFERENCE BOYS BASKETBALL PREVIEW





Mount Horeb standout Josh Manchester (above), coach Todd Nesheim (right) and the Vikings have high hopes this season. Photos courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

BOYS BB

continued from page 11

5.2 rpg).

Starters Returning (2): Connor Breunig (6-2, Sr., 9.6 ppg, 4.6 rpg), Nicholas Keyser (6-0, Jr., 6.5 ppg, 3.4 rpg).

Other Returning Players (4): Jackson Breunig (6-5, Sr., 2.9 ppg), Breyton Wardrop (6-2, Sr., 3.7 ppg), Ben Henderson (6-3, Sr., 3.7 ppg, 3.0 rpg), Tristan Kerska (6-0, Sr., 3.2 ppg).

Strengths: Quickness, defensive versatility, a team that loves to compete.

Questions: Size, shooting, experience.

6. Baraboo

Head Coach: Tyler Fish, 5th year

Record at School: 21-73

Overall Varsity Record: 21-73

2022-23 Varsity Record: 9-16

2022-23 JV1 Record: 7-15

2022-23 JV2 Record: 8-13

Assistant Coaches: Damion Beth, Josh Statz, Justus Neuman, Justin Hannagan, Spencer Pfaff, Elijah Hill

Twitter: @BarabooHoops

Affiliation: WIAA Division 2

Enrollment: 919

Starters Lost (2): Drew Mistele (5-11, 10.6 ppg, 4.0 rpg), Derek Gehin (6-7, 5.2 ppg, 8.1 rpg).

Starters Returning (4): Luke Vittengl (6-0, Sr., 4.7 ppg, 1.9 rpg), Toby Lefevre (6-2, Sr., 10.6 ppg, 2.4 rpg), Ross Liegel (6-8, Sr., 14.0 ppg, 9.9 rpg), Alex Hannagan (6-0, Jr., 8.5 ppg, 2.8 rpg).

Other Returning Players (7): Beau Brewster (6-6, Sr., 3.8 ppg, 2.4 rpg), Isaac Pelland (6-3, Sr., 2.7 ppg, 3.2 rpg), Jayson Zittlow (5-11, Sr., 3.8 ppg), Casey Philipp (6-2, Sr.), Spencer Nachtigal (5-11, Sr.), Traiten Hepp (5-11, Sr.), Jack McNevin (5-10, Sr.).

Newcomers (2): Dan Olson (6-3, Jr.), Zach Burgess (6-1, Jr.).

Strengths: Experience, length, rebounding.

Questions: Perimeter shooting.

7. Portage

Head Coach: Darrin Berger, 5th year

Record at School: 31-64

Overall Varsity Record: 55-132

2022-23 Varsity Record: 11-14

2022-23 JV1 Record: 5-15

2022-23 JV2 Record: 14-6

Assistants: Sean Stout, Kody Brost, Dan Mael, Taylor Krocker, Caleb Bohrer

Twitter: @PortageWarriors

Affiliation: WIAA Division 2

Enrollment: 705

Starters Lost (1): Kyan Reichhoff (6-4, 18.6 ppg, 6.5 rpg).

Starters Returning (4): Anton Kilde (6-3, Sr., 13.3 ppg, 8.2 rpg), Keagan Hooker (6-2, Sr., 11.0 ppg, 4.8 rpg), Griffin Garrigan (6-0, Sr., 4.3 ppg, 3.6 rpg), Johnathan Stout (6-1, Sr., 5.7 ppg, 2.5 rpg).

Other Returning Players (2): Elias Vera (6-3, Jr., 4.2 ppg, 3.3 rpg), Griffin Butson (6-3, Sr.).

Newcomers (8): Aidan Warfield (6-4, Jr.), Ricardo Yanez (5-10, Jr.), Max Kreuziger (6-1, Jr.), Trevor Brouette (6-0, Jr.), Michael Nachreiner (6-3, Soph.), Wesley Krueger (6-4, Soph.), Donovan Navone (5-11, Soph.), Ryker Rockhill (5-9, Soph.).

Strengths: Scoring balance, experience.

Questions: Three-point shooting, defense, developing frontline players.

8. Reedsburg

Head Coach: Ty Horkan, 1st year

Record at School: 0-0

Overall Varsity Record: 0-0

2022-23 Varsity Record: 4-22

Assistants: Alex Baker, Hunter Wais, Nic Fry

Affiliation: WIAA Division 2

Enrollment: 897

Starters Lost (2): Jalen Roman (6-0, 12.5 ppg, 3.8 rpg), Eddie Alonso (6-3, 9.9 ppg, 5.0 rpg).

Starters Returning (3): Danny Pickel (6-3, Jr., 9.9 ppg, 3.8 rpg), Evan Thompson (6-6, Sr., 5.8 ppg, 3.5 rpg), Ethan Horkan (6-6, Sr., 3.8 ppg, 4.5 rpg).

Other Returning Players (4): Logan Yanke (6-0, Sr., 2.8 ppg), Bo Bestor (6-0, Jr., 2.6 ppg), Ethan Kroeger (6-5, Sr.), Alek Southworth (6-3, Jr.).

Newcomers (2): Will Mikonowicz (5-10, Soph.), Graeme Pelton (5-10, Jr.).

Strengths: Size, three returning starters.

Questions: New coach, new system, difficult schedule.



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GIRLS BB

continued from page 11

Overall, the Vikings knocked down eight 3-point baskets.

"We knew coming in that they would play a lot of 2-3 zone and practiced on finding the open spots in the zone to get inside touches," Mount Horeb coach Bart Leibfried said. "Once the ball gets in the lane you can do so many things with attacking or getting great perimeter looks with the inside out pass.

"We took advantage of that and made eight 3-pointers. Ella Fager and Rowan Johnson had been struggling to score, but combined to make five (3-pointers). We need them to knock those down for us to be successful."

Monroe, who averaged 16.5 points per game in her first two contests, continued to shine and reached double figures for a third straight game. Monroe, who also leads Mount Horeb in rebounding, helped the Vikings to a 39-28 edge on the boards.

"Morgan Monroe continues to score and rebound for us," Leibfried said. "She is our leading rebounder and we need her to play bigger than she is and she continues to do an outstanding job. Last year Baraboo out rebounded us in both games, but this year we outrebounded them."

Mount Horeb also got great bench minutes from Klein, especially in the second half after Jada Mathews took a shot to the nose and had to leave the game.

"Any time you lose your starting point guard who is playing well and starting to make better decisions you get nervous," Leibfried said. "But (Klein) stepped in and did great."



Mount Horeb led, 26-20, at halftime and was in control late. But the Vikings missed several chances to put the game away due to subpar free throw shooting.

"Once again we had a chance to make free throws and put the game away, but we left them a chance to tie at the buzzer," Leibfried said. "We had fouls to give just like at Stoughton but are still struggling to execute that late game situation. We will continue to teach and correct that in practice."

• **On deck**: Mount Horeb hosted Evansville Tuesday, then is at Sauk Prairie Thursday at 7:15 p.m.





Clockwise from top, Mount Horeb girls basketball coach Bart Leibfried, Jada Matthews and Katie Smith have helped the Vikings win two of their first three games. Photos courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

BOYS BB

continued from page 11

Vikings scored.

"Balanced scoring should be a strength of this team and it was good to see nine different guys score," Mount Horeb coach Todd Nesheim said. "On the other end, a major concern coming in was rebounding. River Valley secured 53% of the rebounds and this will need to be fixed in a hurry."

For the most part, though, there wasn't much for Nesheim to be irked about.

Mount Horeb raced to a 13-2 lead just more than 3 minutes into the game. And by the midway point of the first half, the Vikings had extended that lead to 28-6.

Vorwald knocked down three 3-pointers and a pair of free throws in Mount Horeb's first seven possessions. The Vikings also forced four early turnovers as they built a huge lead.

"Nick Vorwald will be one of the better players in the entire Badger Conference and he showed why in this game," Nesheim said. "We also came out in a "soft" diamond press and that gave River Valley all kinds of problems."

The Vikings pulled their press back and went deep into their bench, using 12 different players in the first half. River Valley settled in a bit and the Vikings lead was 42-15 at the break.

"The obvious coach speak at half was the score is zero to zero and let's continue to improve on the little things that will help us against Stoughton next week," Nesheim said. "As it turned out, that backfired big time."

That's because River Valley outscored the Vikings, 19-4, to start the second half and closed within 46-34 with 9 minutes left.

That led to the Vikings calling a timeout that Nesheim described as "heated."

Whatever was said worked like a charm.

Vorwald attacked the rim, scored and was fouled. Manchester then got red hot and drilled four consecutive 3-pointers.

And Maguire had a basket and foul as the Vikings' lead ballooned.

"We came back to life," Nesheim said. "What we saw early and then late is what I expected from this team in this game.

"The spurt to start the third quarter was a bit disheartening but the kids responded after the timeout, so that was good to see."



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TOWN OF SPRINGDALE ANNUAL PLAN AMENDMENT PROCESS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to the Town of Springdale Land Use Plan Section 14, Amending the Plan, a formal annual review period is established. Each year in the month of December, a formal notice shall be posted at the Town Hall and placed in the local paper notifying citizens of the plan review process. Members of the Town of Springdale Plan Commission or any other person owning land in the town may propose an amendment to the Land Use Plan. Proposals to amend the Land Use Plan shall be submitted in writing to the Town of Springdale Plan Commission, 2379 Town Hall Road, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572 on or before December 31.

Post at Town Hall and on Town website: 11/27/2023

Amy Jester
Plan Commission Chair

Publish: 11/30/23 **WNAXLP**

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STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT DANE COUNTY

In The Matter of THE ESTATE OF:
Connie S. Moen
Deceased

Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
Case No. 23PR790

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth February 21, 1965 and date of death July 20, 2023 was domiciled in Dane County, State of Wisconsin with a mailing address of BeeHive Homes of Mount Horeb, 325 N. 8th St., Mt. Horeb, WI 53572.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is February 23, 2024.
5. A claim may be filed at the Dane County Courthouse, 215 S Hammilton St., Madison, 53703, Wisconsin, Room 1005.

/s/ Benjamin Balk
Deputy Probate Registrar
November 10, 2023

Attorney Robb E. Leach
Kittelsen Barry Wellington & Thompson SC
916 17th Avenue PO Box 710
Monroe, WI 53566
(608) 325-2191
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Publish: 11-23-23, 11-30-23, 12-7-23 **WNAXLP**

VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB PUBLIC HEARING DECEMBER 20, 2023

The Plan Commission/Historic Preservation 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 proposed revisions to Chapter 1.31 Historic Preservation Commission and Chapter 17.17 Historic Preservation relating to the establishment of a standalone Commission. A copy of the proposed ordinance is available at the Village Administrator's office.

Be it further notified that the Village Board, by its Plan Commission/Historic Preservation Commission, will hear all persons concerning all matters and/or objections written or oral at that time.

Publish: 11/30/23, 12/7/23 **WNAXLP**

RESOLUTION OF TOWN ELECTORS TO ADOPT THE TOTAL TOWN TAX LEVY AT SPECIAL TOWN MEETING OF TOWN ELECTORS

Town of Primrose, Dane County
Resolution No. 2023-02

Whereas, Wis. Stat. § 60.10(1)(a) authorizes the town electors of a town to adopt the town tax levy at a town meeting of the electors.

Whereas, a special town meeting of the town electors has been called and properly noticed to approve the 2023 total town tax levy (to be collected in 2024), pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 60.10(1)(a);

THEREFORE, the special town meeting of the Town of Primrose, Dane County, Wisconsin, by a majority vote of the eligible electors duly assembled and voting on this 9th day of November, 2023, hereby resolves and orders as follows:

The town electors of the Town of Primrose, Dane County, Wisconsin adopt the total town tax levy for 2023 (to be collected in 2024) in the amount of **$325,793.00**

Adopted this 9th day of November, 2023, at a Special Town Meeting of the Town Electors.

Number of town electors voting aye: 11
Number of town electors voting nay: 0
Number abstaining or not voting (if determined): 0

Signature of Town Meeting Chair: Dale Judd
Attested by Town Clerk: Ruth Hansel

Publish: 11/30/23 **WNAXLP**

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- **RN Med/Surg Unit** – .6 FTE day/evening shift position. **$3,000 Employment Bonus eligible!**
- **RN Hospice Intake/Triage** – 1.0 FTE day shift position.
- **Director of Specialty Clinics** – full-time management position.
- **Human Resources Recruitment Specialist** – full-time day shift position
- **Grant Writing Coordinator** – half time position
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING FOR TOWN OF VERMONT, DANE COUNTY, WI 6:30 PM ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2023

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Sections 60.12(1)(c) and 60.10(1)(a)WI statutes the Vermont Town Board shall hold a public hearing regarding the 2024 operating budget. The hearing will be at Town Hall, located at 4017 County Road JJ, Black Earth, WI. All interested persons are invited to attend and speak to the Board or provide written comments in advance.

The budget in detail may be inspected in person by appointment at Town Hall. Additionally, a copy of the budget is available on the town website. The following is a summary of the proposed 2024 budget:

Town of Vermont Two Year Budget Summary

	2023 Budgeted	2023 to 10/31/23	2023 Projected	% Change to 2024	2024 Budgeted
Revenue					
Total Taxes	510,899.00	514,542.34	514,542.34	2.75%	524,956.00
Special Assessments	3,550.00	3,691.98	3,691.98	0.00%	3,550.00
Intergovernmental Revenues	123,932.87	118,055.88	123,932.87	34.03%	166,105.40
Licenses & Permits	12,970.00	6,660.75	12,970.00	-45.88%	7,020.00
Fines, Forfeitures & Penalties	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Public Charges for Services	518.00	808.00	808.00	0.00%	518.00
Intergovernmental Charges	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Miscellaneous Revenues	2,180.00	20,913.23	20,913.23	1679.82%	38,800.00
Other Financing Sources	116,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total Revenue	**770,049.87**	**664,672.18**	**676,858.42**		**740,949.40**
Debt as of January 1, 2023	49,063.41				
Debt as of January 1, 2024 estimated	37,347.57				

	2023 Budgeted	2023 to 10/31/23	2023 Projected	% Change to 2024	2024 Budgeted
Expenses					
General Government	79,655.82	73,484.63	79,655.82	2.68%	81,793.06
Public Safety	137,020.73	137,020.73	137,020.73	9.65%	150,238.68
Public Works	414,335.39	346,629.16	404,720.70	-21.99%	323,241.97
Health & Human Services	8,732.00	8,707.18	8,732.00	9.67%	9,576.00
Culture, Recreation & Education	2,000.00	1,485.91	1,485.91	0.00%	2,000.00
Conservation & Development	10,762.32	13,634.26	13,634.26	32.68%	14,279.13
Capital Outlay	116,000.00	-	-		-
Debt Service	-	-	-		-
Other Financing Uses	-	-	-		-
Reserve Fund & Contingency Fund	1,543.61	-	-		159,820.56
Minimum Operating Balance	-	-	-		-
Total Expenses	**770,049.87**	**580,961.87**	**645,249.42**	**-9.00%**	**740,949.40**

Publish: 11/23/23, 11/30/23 **WNAXLP**

Mount Horeb Girls Gymnastics Roster

Name	Yr.	Event
Tessa Angle	12	All-Around
Edie Balster	12	All-Around
Marit Barsness	10	Vault, Bars, Beam
Ava Bilse	10	All-Around
Abbey Brummer	11	All-Around
Ava Dyreson	10	Beam
Harper Hendrickson	9	All-Around
Avena Meyers	9	All-Around
Carmen Oglesby	10	All-Around
Reece Olinger	11	All-Around
Athena Ouradnik	11	All-Around
Sylviah Seeliger	10	All-Around
Tessa Soppe	10	All-Around
Kate Van Gorden	9	All-Around
Grace Yerges	9	Vault, Floor

Head Coach: Martha Koller Faust
Assistant Coaches: Pete Faust and Joy Finley
Volunteer Coach: Karina Sabol
Manager: Meredith Cowden

STREAK

continued from page 11

season return.

Sophomore Sylviah Seeliger was an individual state qualifier on bars, while fellow sophomores Carmen Oglesby and Tessa Soppe are poised for big years.

"Balster, Angle, Ouradnik, Brummer, Seeliger, Oglesby and Soppe are training on all four events," Koller Faust said. "They either competed at sectionals and state or were alternates for the postseason last year.

"We look to them for leadership both at practices and competitions, as our team is pretty young. There are big shoes to fill with the graduation of two varsity all-arounds (Annelle Moyer and Izzy Walker)."

Freshmen Harper Hendrickson and Avena Meyers have also impressed early, showing promise on all four events.

"Since it's early in the season, it's difficult to know right now who the top five are on each event," Koller Faust said. "The likelihood of our line-ups changing is high because our gymnasts have a lot of potential and we coaches are trying to put together their best routines and vaults."

Mount Horeb has dominated the Badger Conference in recent years, but the league should be much improved this winter. Sauk Prairie and Monona Grove have a lot of returning talent, while Waunakee/DeForest is a program on the rise.

"The Badger Conference is always very competitive and we will have our work cut out for us," Koller Faust said. "We'd love to add another conference championship to our trophy case — and to achieve that, we need to have wins at all of our dual competitions as well as have a great showing at the conference championships at Sauk in February."

Mount Horeb will also host a sectional that includes traditional powers Elkhorn, Monona Grove, Sauk Prairie and others.

As always, the Vikings will set their sights on improving, and being at their collective best when the postseason arrives.

"I expect that the teams in our sectional will be very, very talented and our goal is to be in the top two to earn us a trip to state," Koller Faust said. "Honestly, there is a sense of pressure I feel because of our history, but with my excellent coaching staff by my side and with the support of our team families and, of course, the strong efforts and dedication of our gymnasts, I do believe we could make another run at qualifying as a team."



Martha Koller Faust (left) has led Mount Horeb's girls gymnastics team to the state tournament 12 straight years. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

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