



Oh my Josh!

Manchester passes 1,000 point mark

Mount Horeb sophomore standout Josh Manchester eclipsed 1,000 career points during the Vikings' 76-48 win over Portage on Feb. 16. Manchester reached 1,000 points faster than anyone in school history and already ranks fifth on Mount Horeb's career scoring list. For more on Manchester's milestone night, please see sports on page 11. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld.

Tornado sirens will now be tested year-round

By MATT GEIGER
Mount Horeb Mail

Following a pair of nearby winter tornadoes, Dane County executive Joe Parisi is calling for changes in how the Department of Emergency Management administers its outdoor warning siren network. In a letter to Dane County continued on page 10

More than just food and clothing *NHN helps with rent, transportation and more*

While Neighbors Helping Neighbors (NHN) is best known for providing food and clothing to those in need, the organization also connects families with other, equally-vital relief services.

NHN's aptly named "Other Relief Services Programming" focuses mainly on eviction prevention and utility assistance. The goal is to assist local families by helping them stay in their homes despite financial

hardship. Methods include security deposit assistance, emergency housing, storage assistance, moving assistance, vehicle repair assistance, fuel cards and even medical assistance.

The program also provides funding to provide Mount Horeb Aquatic Center passes and Wisconsin State Park passes to homeless and at-risk families in the Mount Horeb Area School District.

NHN has \$30,000 budgeted for these "Other" relief programming services in 2024. Once again, they have been awarded \$15,000 of funding from the Mt. Horeb Community Foundation to help finance these efforts. Volunteers at the organization expressed heartfelt gratitude for the community foundation's ongoing support.

"Thank you for your belief in our mission to assist

families in the MHASD," said NHN board member Janna Hansen. "Your investment in our organization will be well stewarded and will make a meaningful difference in the lives of those facing challenges. We are dedicated to utilizing this funding to create a positive impact in our community."

"We continue to see the need for basics food, clothing and housing assistance rise in our local commu-

nity," she continued. "According to the 2023 United Way ALICE report, based on 2021 data, 30 percent of households in the village of Mt. Horeb families are Asset Limited Income Constrained Employed (ALICE), families and seniors. These are households that earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living for the county, putting a strain on their abil-

continued on page 10



Special Report: The Badger Project

See how local agencies are spending boost in revenue

By PETER CAMERON
The Badger Project

More money is always nice. For Mount Horeb, it could mean a safer community.

The village, like every municipality in the state, got a big increase this year in one type of funding from the state. The extra cash will help improve and maintain

emergency services here, the police and fire chiefs say.

For the past two decades, the village of Mount Horeb received about \$150,000 annually from the state from a program called shared revenue. In 2024, that total will more than double to nearly \$360,000.

"It's the biggest increase in state support for local

governments in a generation," said Jerry Deschane, executive director of the League of Wisconsin Municipalities, an organization which lobbies on behalf of local governments. "It's that significant."

The increase in state funds is coming just in time.

Along with the minor revenue from the state, the ma-

jority of local governments' funding comes from their property taxes. In 2011, the Republican-controlled state legislature removed the ability for local governments to raise property taxes on existing buildings without residents first voting their approval. With state funding flat for years, that meant municipalities' only sure

way to increase their tax revenues was through new construction. If a community didn't have enough new construction to keep up with its rising costs, it could fall behind.

Since Mount Horeb is landlocked by other municipalities, the village doesn't have much space for new continued on page 10

A chance to serve in village government

Each Spring, the Mount Horeb Village Board reappoints committee and commission members. If you're interested in serving your community, please complete and return the Citizen Committee Member Interest Form for consideration. Appointed committee members generally serve for a term of one to three years. Please feel free to submit questions to Village President Ryan Czerwinski. Completed forms should be submitted via email to citizennominations@mounthorebwi.info, or dropped off at the Village Office, 138 E. Main Street. Please submit forms by March 15.

PERSPECTIVE

GEIGER Counter



by Matt Geiger, Editor



Valentine's Day Date Colonoscopy

For Valentine's Day this year, my wife drove me to and from a colonoscopy.

I'd made the appointment 10 months earlier. "Our next opening is February 14 of next year," said the scheduler at UW-Hospital. "That's a Wednesday."

It sounded vaguely familiar – *"Is that president's day?"* I wondered – but my mind was on possible death, probable embarrassment and certain medical bills, so I didn't dwell on it and said it sounded fine. I didn't realize it was actually Valentine's Day until a few weeks ago, when my lovely wife of 17 years asked if I thought we should do anything particularly romantic for the holiday this year. "Actually," I said while glancing at my calendar. "Um, I need you to take me to a... thing."

I don't think any medical procedures are particularly romantic, but this particular one is possibly the least ro-

mantic kind of all.

Three days before your appointment you have to stop eating most foods. Then, the day before, you have to stop eating any food at all. Then you have to drink a gallon of toxic lemonade that basically gives you dysentery. The next day, you have to stagger into the clinic, answer 800 questions about your health, have a drug cocktail shot into your veins, and wake up with a fentanyl hangover to hear a doctor telling you what the inside of your intestines looks like, and what that means for you in terms of, you know, dying and the like. The options, of course, are that you are definitely going to die very, very soon, or that you are certainly going to die just a little later.

Luckily, I had prepared for my procedure by eating junk food for my entire life, followed by a week of really, really healthy food that I hoped would reverse all the harm I'd done.

The reason I needed to bring my wife is that you are not allowed to drive after the procedure, due to all the drugs they give you (and

also because it's difficult to see the road through all the weeping you are doing).

I wasn't planning on writing any of this in a column seen (notice I am not using the word "read") by thousands of people, but when I was picking up the prep solution at the pharmacy, I had the following conversation with the person working there.

"How much do I owe you?" I asked.

"Nothing," they said. "No reason to add insult to injury."

"Thanks," I replied.

"So, are we going to read about this in the newspaper?" they asked. I couldn't tell if they were asking because they wanted to read it or because a colonoscopy sounded like the type of thing I usually write about.

One disturbing trend I've noticed as I settle into middle age is that doctors love showing people their insides. It seems like every time I go to the clinic, someone in a white coat is trying to show me a photo or video of some interior part of my body. I wish to state, for the record, that I don't want to see *any* of it. My general advice to doctors is, if you send a scouting party into any part of my body and find things are generally as they should be, please leave them as you found them and get the hell out. If you find anything that's trying to kill

me, please remove it. Either way, I don't need to watch a slideshow from your expedition.

I respect my body's privacy and don't feel some voyeuristic need to check in on my esophagus or lower intestine. These organs have kept me alive for 45 years without ever being seen by me. I have never doubted their existence. It's not like my spleen is some sasquatch or thylacine and I'm going to jump in the air with excitement when I see a picture you took of it.

What I think most doctors are forgetting when they show us these images is that a.) the average person did not go to medical school for eight years and therefore cannot tell the difference between a good organ and a bad one, and b.) most people can live perfectly meaningful lives without ever taking a close, high-resolution look at their colon.

In any case, I can accurately say that I have now been wished a "Happy Valentine's Day" by a 60-year-old doctor who had just finished showing me a series of images of my viscera.

Many people think this holiday, which my wife assures me falls on February 14 *every* year, was founded by a saint who was very romantic and loved gift cards, chocolates and flowers. But actually, the name comes from as many as three Catho-

lic saints, two of whom were beheaded and one who was murdered in some other kind of way. Even before that, Valentine's Day was already taking shape in the form of Lupercalia, an ancient pagan festival held in Rome. Its name comes from the Latin word for wolf, "lupus." (Romans believed their great culture was founded when a she-wolf nursed two human children named Romulus and Remus.)

It was a fertility festival, and each year the Luperci – who were priests – began the festivities by slaughtering some goats and maybe a dog. They then touched the bloody knives to their own heads, and the blood was wiped off using wool that had been dipped in milk. After this, the people would feast together, then the men made thongs (I swear I'm not making this up) out of the skins of the dead animals and ran around touching women with them. Any woman who was touched by the animal's skin was gifted with fertility. It was required that the priests laugh during the ceremony.

Merry Lupercalia, everyone!

You can see the obvious trajectory of this holiday to the one we celebrate today, when people celebrate love, and other people (who are single) claim it's all a scam made up by greeting card companies.

But love is not a scam. Quite the opposite. It's one of the few things that isn't. It's as real as my lower intestine, and I do not need photographic evidence to believe in it.

Love is real, and it is all around us. As you walk out of the pharmacy with your dreaded colonoscopy prep, you see a hundred cards expressing love and gratitude. Happy birthday. Happy Mother's Day. Congratulations on your graduation.

And I know love is real because of what you see when you walk into the waiting room at the doctor's office on the morning of Valentine's Day: a whole building full of couples. Some young, and many old ones. Half of them dehydrated and filled with dread. The other half there to lean on, waiting to give their partner a ride home while they wake up from their fentanyl cocktails. A day that is, just like the other 364, devoted to love, and companionship, and being together through good times and bad. Sure, we celebrate love formally every 14th of February, but I can assure you that waiting room is full of couples every day of the year. We don't slaughter as many goats as we used to, sure, and there are less beheadings these days, too. But we still have our ways of showing each other just how much we care.

Hofmann: Stand up for Constitution of Knowledge

By CHRIS HOFMANN
Guest Column

On February 16th, a spokesperson for the Russian Federal Penitentiary Service announced that Aleksei Navalny, a dissident and long-time critic of Vladimir Putin, had died in a Russian penal colony in the Arctic Circle. On X (fka Twitter) American pundits, partisans, and propagandists immediately began to shape the narrative and capitalize on Navalny's death.

The Lincoln Project, a propaganda outlet of "never-Trump" media activists tweeted "All of Putin's most high-profile critics are now either dead, jailed or in exile. Navalny's poisoning, imprisonment, and death is a preview of coming attraction Americans can look forward to under a Donald Trump presidency."

Dinesh D'Souza, a prolific writer and producer of right-wing propaganda including "The Big Lie: Exposing the

Nazi Roots of the American Left" and "2000 Mules" a conspiracy-laden film about the 2020 election, had a decidedly different spin on Navalny's death, tweeting "Navalny=Trump. The plan of the Biden regime and the Democrats is to ensure their leading political opponent dies in prison. There's no real difference between the two cases."

These two tweets epitomize the crisis at the heart of our unraveling experiment with democracy and the rule of law. It is a crisis of knowledge and truth and how we determine both amid a digital deluge of news, opinion, misinformation, and propaganda. What's more, it is a crisis exacerbated by big tech algorithms attuned to outrage, that have accelerated polarization, creating a bewildered and exhausted citizenry.

The process of distinguishing fact from falsehood in an "open society"

is what journalist Jonathan Rauch has dubbed "The Constitution of Knowledge" in his 2021 book of the same name, (subtitled "A Defense of Truth.")

Rauch explained this concept in 2018 in a widely read essay that became the basis for the book:

"Who can be trusted to resolve questions about objective truth? The best answer turns out to be no one in particular. The greatest of human social networks was born centuries ago, in the wake of the chaos and creedal wars that raged across Europe after the invention of the printing press (the original disruptive information technology). In reaction, experimenters and philosophers began entertaining a radical idea. They removed reality-making from the authoritarian control of priests and princes and placed it in the hands of a decentralized, globe-spanning community of

critical testers who hunt for each other's errors. In other words, they outsourced objectivity to a social network. Gradually, in the scientific revolution and the Enlightenment, the network's norms and institutions assembled themselves into a system of rules for identifying truth: a Constitution of Knowledge."

"Though nowhere encoded in law, the Constitution of Knowledge has its own equivalents of checks and balances (peer review and replication), separation of powers (specialization), governing institutions (scientific societies and professional bodies), voting (citations and confirmations), and civic virtues (submit your beliefs for checking if you want to be taken seriously). The members of the community that supports and upholds the Constitution of Knowledge do not have to agree on facts; the whole point, in-

deed, is to manage their disagreements."

This invisible, ungoverned, Constitution of Knowledge undergirds what we value and too often take for granted in our society, namely peace, prosperity, justice, and freedom. Yet, the digital media revolution and nihilistic actors intent on exploiting human fear and vulnerabilities have brought the Constitution of Knowledge and the civic order it supports to the breaking point.

We are fortunate to live in this great state with a university whose motto preceded Rauch's concept of the Constitution of Knowledge by over 125 years. As you enter historic Bascom Hall on the UW-Madison campus you will see a weathered plaque that has stood as an ever-present reminder to generations of students.

"Whatever may be the limitations which tram-mel inquiry elsewhere,

we believe that the great state University of Wisconsin should ever encourage that continual and fearless sifting and winnowing by which alone the truth can be found."

Rauch believes, as do I, that preserving our civic order, the flourishing of peace, prosperity, and freedom, "relies on the full-hearted embrace and full-throated defense" of these principles by "ordinary members of the reality-based community."

As we enter what many deem our most critical election cycle since 1860, let us keep the Constitution of Knowledge at the forefront of our minds, standing together for truth and fighting for democracy.

Note: a local, in-person book club is forming to read and discuss Rauch's book. If you are interested email driftless4democracy@gmail.com

Here’s why we can’t be governed by religious laws

By **ANDY ANDERSON**
Guest Column

My sister and I walked to and from school each morning and again each afternoon. The school librarian was in league with my mother and sent home the greatest books ever written which my mom read to us at lunch, much like Chapter a Day on Wisconsin Public Radio. Also at lunch, mom would share with my sister and me the discoveries that she and her linguistically talented colleagues were making at the University of Wisconsin.

“You’ve heard that Bible verse,” she said to us one day (we both had near-perfect attendance at Bethel Lutheran Sunday School), “...it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” “Well, it was part of an old saying that the Bible translators got wrong. We just ran into that same wording in an ancient Aramaic text which used ‘walk gate’ instead of ‘eye of a needle’. The expression was, ‘...it is easier for a camel to go through the walk gate than etc. etc.’ It was the word for a small gate in a city wall that was just big enough for a person to pass through. The main gates, used for caravans and camel traffic, were closed at night for security reasons, and there was no way a camel could ever get through a walk gate.

Like ancient Hebrew, Aramaic is one of those Semitic languages written backward and without vowels. That’s one reason that Bible translation errors are so common. To illustrate how confusing the absence of vowels can be, write the English word “bold” backwards and without vowels. It looks like “dlb”; however, so does: blade, bloody, bleed, bled, baldy, bailed, build, baled, blood, bald, abled and probably other words.

Mom was raised a good protestant girl; however, as a child, she played with black kids, Jewish kids and Catholic kids, and they were all welcome in her home. It was a time when discrimination was practiced openly. Some of her German Catholic friends weren’t even allowed to play with her Irish Catholic friends. All that diversity served her well. Twenty years later she found herself teaching ancient Hebrew at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and working with a team of linguists from all over the world. They were led by Prof. Menaham Mansoor, head of the Department of Hebrew & Semitic Studies. Each of them knew at least two or three Semitic languages, and together they knew modern Hebrew and Arabic and ancient Aramaic, Phoenician, Hebrew, Ugaritic, Samaritan, Syriac, Akkadian and Ethiopic. The team was translating

ancient scrolls, tablets and inscriptions from all over the Middle East.¹

Mom liked to point out how often numbers were mistranslated in the Old Testament. The Greeks and Romans used the base-10 numbering system that we are all familiar with today: tens, hundreds, thousands, myriads, etc. The ancient Hebrews were an agrarian people and basically uninvolved with science and mathematics. Once their numbers got beyond 10 they started to become less and less precise. My mom would say that their numbering system was: “ten, a bunch, a whole lot, a huge amount.” The same sequence of words used in a military context meant something like: “a platoon, a company, a battalion.” The word for “a whole lot” and “a battalion” also meant “a family group”. When translating into Greek, the Bible translators tended to be methodical and just stuck with the stuff they knew: hundreds and thousands.

One of the most numerically tangled stories from the Old Testament is the Exodus of Israelites from Egypt. Added to the fact that their language was incapable of precise numbers, they only counted men of fighting age in a population. The next most significant number was cattle and livestock. They didn’t bother to count women and children. So, the

Israelites didn’t live in Egypt 430 years and didn’t flee with 600,000 people, and they probably didn’t wander in the desert 40 years. My mom nailed down those numbers with all possible precision... “They lived in Egypt for generations, fled with a huge number of family groups and wandered in the desert for decades.”

The virgin birth is foretold by the Old Testament prophet Isaiah 7:14 (and I quote from the Bible of my 4th great grandfather, Almond Munson, who signed it in 1792)... “Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign, behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”

The idea that Jesus was born to virgin is certainly one of the most interesting elements of Christianity. The New Testament, written years after the death of Jesus by persons who almost certainly never met him, took that passage from Isaiah and ran with it, creating the dogma that became fundamental to the Christian religion.

In the New Testament, Matthew 1:22-23, they wrote... “All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ‘Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel.’”

Here’s the kicker... It is impossible that the prophet Isaiah, who lived 800 years

before Jesus, predicted that the future King of the Jews would be born to a virgin because there was no such word in the languages he spoke. Remember that the ancient Hebrews were agrarian. In modern English, for example, a female pig that has never had a litter is called a gilt; a female sheep that has not had a lamb is called a theave; female cattle that have never had calves are called heifers. Farm people know these words. We don’t have a word for female farm animals that have not had sex. The ancient Hebrews did not have a word for a young woman who had not had sex; however, they did have a word for a young woman who had not had a child.

Modern translations of Isaiah got it right. Quoting from my 1989 copy of the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, “Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.” But this more accurate translation came way too late. The whole ‘virgin’ thing was already stamped on the Christian psyche.

The Bible is a fascinating and wonderful book; however, in the

United States you can’t present the Bible or the Koran as evidence that our children will be endangered by a person teaching evolu-

tion in public schools, or by a woman whose hair is uncovered in public, or by a discussion of homosexuality, or by a woman nursing her baby at the airport and then demand that government act to defend your beliefs. These are religious “sins.” They are violations of religious rules, and citizens in this country are protected from religious rules by our constitution. Feel free to quote Thomas Jefferson who was famously a Deist, rejected Christian dogma and was fervently in favor of keeping government and religion separate. One of his greatest fears was that our government would be controlled by the wealthy elite teamed with a class of extreme religious influencers. Until our revolution we were colonized by such a society.

¹ ...and notably, several little gold plaques discovered in July 1964 in Italy upon which was written the same message in both Punic and Etruscan. Punic is an extinct Canaanite Semitic language that was familiar to the team; but Etruscan, a pre-Roman language, had never really been decoded at that point.

Andy Anderson served in the Marine Corps in Vietnam, raised hogs until being hit by the Barneveld tornado, and I retired after 28 years as an Industrial Engineer and Project Manager.

Gleanings

By **BARB JOHNSON**
Mount Horeb Mail

**120 Years Ago-
Feb. 25, 1904**
This week we add another Thousand to our subscription list. It was August this time.

Among the many who have been in the grip of grim grippie the past week we can mention Marion Riley.

We have just learned that Marion Nees has enlisted in the U.S. Navy and is now steaming towards the Far East on one of the Uncle Sam’s big battleships.

Mrs. Mary Greenwald has been quite sick with rheumatism of late, and is unable to leave her room. The lady finds much comfort in the telephone instrument by

which she is able to converse with her friends and relatives.

Thos. Johnson of Riley has the exclusive sale of the celebrated Atlas bread, each loaf wrapped, insuring retention of freshness and cleanliness.

Dahle Brothers’ Store is advertising 100 pounds of sugar for \$4.95.

Carl Paulson, Daleyville, had a stone hauling bee Saturday for the foundation of a barn.

Erich Olson Skindrud, 83, passed away February 19 on the Old Homestead in the town of Springdale. He was one of the founders of the Norwegian Lutheran Church congregation in Springdale, having personally staked out the foundation for the

church.

Albert Field has finished his course at the Whitewater Normal School and is at present principal of schools at Mcfarland.

**110 Years Ago-
Feb. 20, 1914**

The ice harvest has been in full force this week and same as last year the ice is of fine quality. The creamery company has filled its icehouse and Mr. Ayen is now at work with no less than seven tons and it will require two more weeks steady to fill his mammoth new concrete icehouse. G.P. Nace is also hauling ice from the lake here, filling his new icehouse on the farm.

Mrs. J. N. Dahlen attended the first regular service in the new Vermont church last Sunday and was highly pleased with the appearance of the new and grand edifice. The new edifice is very near completed and is one of the

most up-to-date in this section of the country. There was a large attendance in spite of the stormy and cold weather. The dedication service will be held in May.

Ice cutting on the lake has begun and skaters are cautioned against the danger of coming near the place where ice is being cut.

W. Wagner had a minor operation performed at the hospital here last week having unflinching faith in their old family physician, Dr. Evans, who was assisted by Dr. Thompson. It was the removal of a growth in the nose, which caused deafness.

A new Swiss church will be built this summer at Mt. Vernon. Material for the construction is now being hauled from here. It will be a brick building of good size. F. Luder Sr. is on the building committee and a heavy contributor.

Just received new shipment of all kinds of feed. Now is the time to buy while sleighing is good and prices are right. C. A. Finke & Son.

**100 Years Ago-
Feb. 19, 1924**

Not only Mt. Horeb alone but the entire countryside for many miles surrounding Mt. Horeb, is in the deepest mourning because of the death of Christian O. Rusty one of the most able leaders of our community, the church, in the development of the dairy industry and in civic affairs.

Miss Elvira Anna Meister, West Dayton Street, Madison and Clarence Seamer Gonstead, Mt. Horeb were married Thursday evening at 8 o’clock at Bethel Lutheran Parsonage by the Rev. O.G.U. Silvan. Mr. and Mrs. Gonstead left on a short trip and will be at home in Mt. Horeb to their many friends after March 1st. They returned to Mt. Horeb the latter part of the week as he could not leave his work as Doctor of Chiropractic for any length of time.

Mt. Horeb holds a hand of three high trumps now that we are located on three state highways, we are the hub of three great highways of travel.

Motor busses must obey

the speed laws applying to trucks and not drive over 20 miles an hour was the opinion of he Attorney General recently. Two reasons are given for this action. 1st, excessive speed endangers human life and, 2nd, speeding busses destroy the surface of the roads.

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Kleven and Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Hoff returned from their southern trip last week. they are telling many interesting stories of the good time they had in the southland while they were vainly trying to keep warm during the zero weather.

Alfred Gempler and his neighbor Edward Zemp had an argument and Deputy Sheriff Holum was called on to escort Mr. Gempler to the county jail to answer to the charge of a threat to kill against Mr. Zemp. Both men live in the town of Vermont. The date for the trial has been set for some time this week.

**70 Years Ago-
Feb. 18, 1954**

Corrine Brunner, senior at Mt Horeb High School and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Brunner, Cross Plains, has been chosen to receive the DAR Good Citizen Award for the school year.

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JJS are you really
a half
century
on February 23rd!



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Local Government

CDA takes a look at the local housing market

By Erin Herndon
Mount Horeb Mail

On February 14, the Community Development Authority held their monthly meeting. The Authority focused primarily on the current housing market and briefly discussed available commercial space in the downtown area.

Village Economic Development Consultant Kristen Fish-Peterson presented a 2021 Housing Task Force report on the current market for Village housing developments. The report included recommendations for residential construction projects to meet current demand, including 155 housing units

and 100 income-qualified workforce rental units priced to target households making 60 to 100 percent of area median income. These residences were expected to be constructed within five years of the report's 2021 publishing date to keep up with future growth.

"By 2026 we should have 155 new houses, according to this report. When we do a housing study, we always say that in the first year or two, build as much as you can and then see how the market feels," Fish-Peterson said. "The builders will know how fast housing is getting absorbed and how fast units are selling. It's kind of a

changing number; the market changes."

Fish-Peterson said that a total of 64 homes were built over the course of 2022 and 2023, with 46 being single-family homes and 18 duplexes. The task force also recommended that the Village conduct additional needs assessments for senior housing units, and work to identify land and developers for both small and large scale developments. Additional recommendations were made for small scale real estate ownership projects like condominiums. Citizen member Karen Tetzlaff clarified the differences between the various types of housing units.

"A condo is basically where you have a development and the people do not need to take care of the outside of the property, and they have to pay a monthly fee every month," Tetzlaff said. "Whereas a townhome is a freestanding [or attached] unit and you take care of your outside. A duplex can be a two-unit, but you can buy the whole thing or half, which is still called a single-family home."

According to the report, it will be difficult for most to achieve even "affordable" single-family homes without incentives or creative financing, given the current cost of new construction. In spite

of this, demand for single-family homes remains high. Fish-Peterson said the median sale price of the eight homes sold thus far in 2024 was \$552,500, and the price range of homes sold in 2023 was between \$325,000 and \$584,000. Mount Horeb has a median household income of approximately \$90,000. Fish-Peterson said those prices wouldn't be considered affordable to 60 to 100 percent of the people making the median household income.

Beyond these existing initiatives, the Authority continues to seek new strategies to make Village housing more affordable, such as tiny homes or pocket neighbor-

hoods with homes on smaller lots that would share communal green space.

"When you think about what the market is currently demanding, I think about when I bought my first house. I had a kitchen that had laminate countertops and a standard appliance package," Village Trustee Marc Schellpfeffer said. "The market is not seeing that as an entry level home. I think there needs to be a little bit of reawakening where you can build a quality product and deliver something for an entry level home."

The Community Development Authority next meets March 13 at 6:00 p.m.

Utility commission gets series of department updates

By Erin Herndon
Mount Horeb Mail

The Utility Commission met for their monthly meeting on February 13, where they reviewed their December 2023 and January 2024 finances, before receiving updates from the Electric Department, Water Department, and Wastewater Department heads.

Electric Superintendent Jordan Schmitz came before the commission and provided information on the

electric service during the Village's transition into the new year. According to the January 2023 report from the electric department, eight power outages have taken place since September.

"We usually average four or five a month, and we're already doing good this year sitting with two," Schmitz said.

The 2023 calendar year saw a decrease in overall outages, with the yearly amount totaling 41 occur-

rences, compared to the 57 outages within the Village in 2022. Additionally, 34 of the 2023 call outs were for residences, compared to 56 call outs in the previous year. According to the Superintendent's report, department staff have consistently had an average on-site response time of 12.55 minutes.

"I think 34 is pretty darn good for 365," Schmitz said. "I think that helps show the guys' hard work with maintaining the system."

Water Superintendent Josh Hyndman presented the December 2023 and January 2024 reports. According to the January report, the year's first water main break occurred on January 29 on South 5th Street. The department excavated almost 40 feet of road to find the source of the water leak. The team ultimately discovered and repaired the break on the underside of the water main.

"We ended up ripping up 40 feet of road where the water came up," Hyndman

said. "We ended up chasing it up the road. It was right underneath a sanitary sewer and water service for a house. Lot of big rocks, and the water main was broken at the bottom side of it."

Plans to visit 350 to 400 homes over the coming months for water meter testing were also discussed. According to the report, this service is being requested by the Public Service Commission to ensure the water department is appropriately charging customers for using their service.

"Along with [water meter testing], we do our cross-connection control program and make sure that our sanitary doesn't cross with our clean drinking water," Hyndman said.

Wastewater Superintendent John Klein gave a report on his department's activities over the December 2023 and January 2024 timeframe. The wastewater department responded to 15 emergency call outs in 2023, with two of these responses involving the sewer main, two laterals, five at lift stations and six at the

water pollution control facility (WPCF). According to their December report, this amount is roughly half of the call outs that occurred a decade ago and reflects positively on the work done by the department in upgrading the WPCF and several lift stations.

"This is a big reflection of the new treatment facility, all the lift station upgrades we've been doing, and the jetting and televising program helps a lot too," Klein said. "I'm feeling pretty happy with that. It's nice to see our money is doing something for us."

Superintendent Klein retires soon, and interviews were held January 25 to find the next Superintendent. Klein said he's working closely with his selected replacement, Mike Brace, as well as current staff to prepare for a smooth transition.

"He's going to work with me on any of the technical

stuff I'm doing, and he's also going to get out in the field with the guys," Klein said. "He seems very qualified. I was impressed by him."

Klein's retirement follows the Wastewater Department's 2023 award for "Outstanding Performance of a Facility" for their department's WPCF by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Department representatives accepted their award at the Government Affairs Seminar, Feb 15.

"It's a great gift, I was pretty happy with that," Klein said. It's nice to be acknowledged and it's something nice for all the guys that work at the plant."

The next Utility Commission meeting occurs March 12 at 7:00 p.m.

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Business News

‘A snoring client means a happy client’ Laura Johnston’s Farmhouse Spa offers rest and self-care

By MATT GEIGER
Mount Horeb Mail

Laura Johnston says she knows she’s doing her job well when customers fall asleep.

“A snoring client means a happy client,” she says. “It means you gave them the gift of much needed rest and self-care.”

Johnston is owner and esthetician at Farmhouse Spa and Wellness, which started in her rural home and recently moved to 508 Springdale Street in downtown Mount Horeb.

“What’s my favorite part of my job? It’s when a client comes in high-strung and stressed out from work, life whatever, and goes from chattering incessantly to suddenly melting onto my table and sleeping!” she explains.

She recently took the time to answer questions about her roots, her business and the myriad reasons she believes health is so important.

Before we talk about your business, tell us a little bit about yourself. Where did you grow up?

Johnston: I grew up on the Mississippi River, in a tiny Wisconsin town called Ferryville. I moved to Madison where I got my degree in cosmetology and esthetics, then went on to earn a BA in English Literature from the University of Wisconsin. I moved to Chicago and lived there for 10 years, working as an esthetician at a few swanky spas around Michigan Ave. From Chicago, I moved back to Wisconsin and eventually opened my own practice inside a 100-plus year old farmhouse on a working dairy farm. That is where Farmhouse spa was born.



Laura Johnston is owner and esthetician at Farmhouse Spa and Wellness, 508 Springdale Street, Mt. Horeb. Photo by Matt Geiger.

What makes you tick?

Johnston: Anything that involves fitness and any outdoor endeavors! I am a firm believer in health and wellness and have a pretty regular yoga practice. Over the years I have participated in many endurance events like cycling, RAGBRAI, Triathlons and full Marathons. I’m currently training for my first 50k. I also started a women’s outdoor group in 2020 that now has over 400 members.

How did you end up in Mount Horeb?

Johnston: For years I have traversed thru Mount Horeb via Military Ridge bike trail, and have always enjoyed the welcoming businesses and vibrant downtown. It’s an exciting place to put down roots and build on the thriving downtown that this community has already established. I have enjoyed being a tourist in the past, and I look forward to welcoming local residents and travelers.

What is Farmhouse Spa?

Johnston: It’s a cozy little haven that not only promotes relaxation, but provides advance skincare therapies and body treatments that will enhance the health and appearance of your skin. My services are available to men, women and teens who want to have clearer, brighter and healthier looking skin. I use medical-grade, science-backed products that are tremendously effective and have studies to prove it. I believe in honest and integrity when it comes to the products I carry. My services include MicroChanneling, Chemical Peels, Dermaplaning and a variety of advanced customized facials that help correct acne, sun damage, skin discoloration and other concerns.

Tell us what makes it unique?

Johnston: It’s the old, farmhouse vibe: my treatment room is adorned with the relics of the 100-year-old farm I lived on for 17 years, and I love the energy that comes through it. There’s something about being amid time-honored barnwood that allows you to relax and feel at home.

Special Alert: Here is what you need to know about fake money

By MATT GEIGER
Mount Horeb Mail

Local authorities have reported some recent instances of fraudulent currency being reported in the Mount Horeb area. We turned to Katie Olday, customer service manager at Farmers Savings Bank, to get some information about counterfeit bills and how to spot them.

How often do financial institutions see fake currency?

Olday: I can’t speak for all financial institutions but thankfully, we don’t see or hear about counterfeit bills often. With being in a smaller community, which means a lower volume of people, counterfeit bills

don’t show up often. Large cities might be different, and they may see more of this kind of activity.

How can you tell what’s real?

Olday: A couple of different ways.

Financial Institutions have counterfeit pens/markers that we can use to check the quality of to make sure it’s not regular printing paper. All bills are printed on a specific style/type of paper so that it’s more difficult for someone to make counterfeit bills. These pens are filled with ink that is designed to identify the correct fibers in the paper on legitimate bills. Everyone can get access to these pens, not just

financial institutions.

Cash counters- Cash counters are built with sensors and digital scanners that are programed to identify certain markers on bills to verify the authenticity of each bill. These are also available for any individual or business to purchase online.

Eye and feel test- Normally, if it looks or feels suspicious, it most likely is (but not always). Every bill should have distinct markers on it to check the authenticity of the bill. These markers were created to deter people from trying to make counterfeit bills.

Here is a website that has more information regarding on what to look for when identifying a counterfeit bill.

What problems do they cause?

Olday: Receiving or using a counterfeit bill can result in a loss for whomever is handling it, but taking steps to identify counterfeit bills at the time of sale can prevent loss. The person or business takes a loss for that counterfeit bill and could take an additional loss for anything else that might have completed the transaction. An additional loss

to consider would be the merchandise or service that had been purchased with the counterfeit.

Who is responsible if someone unknowingly gets/uses one?

Olday: Every situation is different. It’s hard to say who would be responsible or liable for using or receiving a counterfeit bill.

Example: A business takes in a counterfeit bill, then proceeds to go to their financial institution to make a deposit. That institution would be able to test that bill and see that it’s counterfeit. From that point, the

financial institution would not accept the bill, and the deposit would need to be adjusted. A business, person or financial institution will not receive any form of credit for having a counterfeit bill.

Where can people go to learn more about this problem?

Olday: The U.S. Currency Education Program (uscurrency.gov).

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



Dybdahl to talk about time at Indian Reservation

All are welcome to join seminarian Jill Dybdahl as she shares her experience at the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, South Dakota, in January 2024. What is life like today for American Native Indians living on the reservation? Jill will share photographs, stories, and observations from her recent trip as a part of Wartburg Theological Seminary’s cultural immersion program. And Pastor Dan Johnson, Director of the Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center, will join us via Zoom to tell us his story, and talk about his programs and the many challenges he faces serving God’s people in need on the reservation. The event is Sunday the 25th at 7 p.m. Popcorn and light refreshments will be available for your enjoyment. The Gathering Place is adjacent to Vermont Church at 9886 Vermont Church Road, midway between Black Earth and Mount Horeb just west of Highway 78 and is handicapped accessible. Left to right, Wartburg Professor Craig Nesson; Jill Dybdahl, Seminarian; Basil Braveheart, Lakota Spiritual Elder; Linda Ackers, Seminarian; Moritz Weidt, Seminarian from Germany.

COMMUNITY
CALENDAR

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Mt. Horeb Seniors shopping trip to Dodgeville. 9:30am. RSVP to Kris at 608-444-7930

“Should I Downsize?” Free seminar, Mt. Horeb Senior Center, 4:30pm.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food Closet open 9:00 to 10:30am (Seniors Preferred) ; All shoppers - 3:00-6:00pm

BINGO, Mt. Horeb Senior Center, 12:30pm

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

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

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

“Old Time Spiritualism”, 1:00pm, Mt. Horeb Public Library. Speaker: David Desimore, from the WI Historial Society

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Foot Clinic, 9:00-3:30. Call 608-437-6902 for appt. Senior Center

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

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.

Six local artists earn Scholastic honors



Pictured from left to right: Jaylee Karls, Grace Osterholz, Lizzy Helin, Anja Rathje, Sofia Serate Rubio and Kelsie Cothren.

The Mount Horeb High School Art Department is proud to celebrate six of its talented students who have been recognized in this year’s Scholastic Art Awards, the nation’s most esteemed program acknowledging creative teens. Established in 1923, the Scholastic Art Awards have fostered creativity and excellence in the visual arts. Among the honorees, Kelsie Cothren stands out with a Gold Key for her pipestone sculpture titled “Detachment.” Anja Rathje’s ceramics piece, “mine; all mine,” and her jewelry piece, “brand new, but forever,” have been awarded Gold and Silver Keys, respectively. Sofia Serate Rubio has been honored with a Silver Key for her painting “Growth Mindset.” Furthermore, Lizzy Helin has earned two honorable mentions for her paintings, “Educators” and “Window to the Soul.” Jaylee Karls and Grace Osterholz have also received recognition with honorable mentions for their photograph submissions,

“Bless These Hands” and “Sea Glass,” respectively. This year, the Wisconsin region received an impressive 2,300 entries, making the accomplishment of these six students from Mount Horeb High School even more remarkable. Entries undergo a rigorous selection process, with jurors evaluating works based solely on their originality, skill, and the emergence of a personal voice or vision. The Scholastic Art Awards - Wisconsin Exhibition will showcase these works of art alongside those of other talented young artists. The exhibition will run from February 24 to April 7, 2024, at the Milwaukee Art Museum. The awards ceremonies are scheduled for March 2, 2024.

The Mount Horeb High School Art Department extends its heartfelt congratulations to Jeremiah, Anja, Sofia, Lizzy, Jaylee, and Grace for their outstanding achievements in the Scholastic Art Awards.

Oberhauser to speak with Garden Club

On Tuesday, March 5th, at 7 p.m., the Mound Vue Garden Club features Dr. Karen Oberhauser, Past Director of the UW Arboretum, and Director of the Monarch Larva Monitoring Project. She will speak on “Conservation in a Changing World: using data driven science to conserve a flagship insect”. Monarch butterfly populations have been declining over the last 25 years – essentially the entire time we have been monitoring them. She says, it is important to move beyond documenting this decline and toward responding to the challenge posed by monarch conservation and insect conservation in general. Karen will describe the amazing biology of migratory monarchs, how we can use data collected by scientists and public to understand what is driving monarch numbers, and what we can do with that information. Our conservation efforts need to take both basic biology and ongoing change into account, and the take-home message from this talk will be how we can address



species conservation in the face of climate and other human-driven changes.

For almost 40 years, Karen Oberhauser and her students have conducted research on monarch butterfly ecology, using traditional lab and field techniques, as well as contributions of a variety of audiences through participatory science. In 1996, she started the Monarch Larva Monitoring Project (MLMP) which continues to engage hundreds of volunteers throughout North America. As Director of UW-Madison Arboretum, 2017-2023, Karen built up a strong Participatory Science Program that incorporated the MLMP and many other projects to engage the public in meaningful ecological data collection. She has also

worked with K-12 teachers since 1992, using monarchs and the connections people feel for this amazing insect to promote greater understanding of science and conservation. Karen has authored over 100 papers on her research on monarchs, insect conservation and participatory science. She has an undergraduate degree in biology from Harvard University, a degree in science education from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a PhD in Ecology and Behavioral Biology from the University of Minnesota.

Karen is passionate about the conservation of the world’s biodiversity and believes that the connections her projects promote between humans and the natural world yield meaningful conservation action. She is a founding officer of the Monarch Butterfly Fund and has served on several state and national organizations focused on pollinator conservation and participatory science. In 2013, Karen received a White House Champion of

Change award for her work with Participatory Science.

Karen describes her research field, conservation biology, as the science of hope. The challenges we face as we work to preserve biodiversity are steep, but our collective concern for monarchs and, by extension, the thousands of species with which they share habitats can provide a glimmer of hope in a complicated world.

The Mound Vue Garden Club meets monthly, every first Tuesday, 6:45PM, at Wisconsin Surplus, Mt. Horeb, 2600 Rte 78 South, in the Violet Room. The building is located on the west side of the village of Mt Horeb (take 2nd exit heading west off 18/151). Refreshments 6:45, presentation 7:00, business meeting 8:00.

Members of the general public are welcome to attend the program free of charge. If you are interested in gardening and local community service and outreach, contact Gloria Davies at jrdgrdquilt@mhtc.net about club membership.

COMMUNITY

Obituary

Daniel James Chancellor

March 13, 1963 – Feb. 16, 2024
BLUE MOUNDS - Daniel James Chancellor, age 60, passed away unexpectedly at home in Blue Mounds, on Feb. 16, 2024. He was born on March 13, 1963, the son of Ed and Frances (Mueller) Chancellor. Dan graduated from Mount Horeb High School in 1981 and lived in the Mount Horeb area for most



of his life. He farmed, drove trucks, and was a longtime patrolman for Springdale

Township. Dan was a jack-of-all trades and spent much of his free time repairing old machines and vehicles, doing building projects, and caring for pets and farm animals. He read widely, loved movies, and enjoyed road trips and fishing – preferably in combination. He was particularly fond of thrift stores and garage sales. Although Dan was often most comfortable alone, he enjoyed helping others. He would stop to help stranded

drivers in any weather, was fastidious about keeping the roads he plowed safe, and worked hard to make things easier for others. Dan is survived by his sons, Dave (Rachel) Chancellor, John (Heather Kaarakka) Chancellor, and Joe Chancellor; four grandchildren, Nolan, Mark, Cal, and Jack Chancellor; his parents, Ed and Frances Chancellor; and his siblings, Rick (Rita) Chancellor, Sandy (Corky) Webster, Kathy Chancellor, and Mary

Chancellor. He was preceded in death by his twin brother, David Chancellor. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Mount Horeb High School FFA program (<https://gofund.me/843d04d0>). A memorial service will be held at GUNDERSON CAMACHO MOUNT HOREB FUNERAL AND CREMATION CARE, 500 N. Eighth Street, Mount Horeb at 2 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 26, 2024, with Vicar Jim Ranney presiding. A

luncheon will follow. A visitation will be held at the funeral home from 12 noon until the time of the service on Monday. A graveside service will be held at Springdale Lutheran Cemetery at a later date. Online condolences may be made at www.gundersonfh.com. Gunderson Camacho Mount Horeb Funeral & Cremation Care 500 N. Eighth St. (608) 437-5077

Recreation Notes

Are you looking for a fun way to burn some energy? Calling all 1st and 4th graders to join a fun Track and Field Decathlon program where players will be introduced to a number of events in track and field including javelin, shot put, discus, long jump, relay races and more! Field equipment that is designed for youth will be used. The focus in this program is on doing better than you did at the last class and having fun! Track and Field will take place at the Grun-dahl Park Soccer Field area, so participants will need to

dress according to weather. It is on Tuesdays from April 9 through May 7th, and you can choose to register for Session 1 at 3:45 PM or Session 2 at 4:55 PM. Resident fee is \$65 and non-resident fee is \$75. Registration deadline is April 2nd. Does your child love video games and storytelling? Join our Coding for Kids class this spring to learn different video games and storytelling design techniques. Using Scratch®, they will code their own story and video games, write their own story and video game code, and be

able to keep their stories and video games online. Spring session of Coding for Kids takes place at the Rec Dept Multipurpose Room from April 2 through May 7 on Tuesdays. Kindergarten through 2nd grade meet from 4:00-5:00 PM and 3rd-5th grade meet 5:10-6:10 PM. Registration fee for residents is \$80 and non-residents is \$90. Registration deadline is March 26th. **HOW TO REGISTER:** There are multiple ways to register for programs and activities.

Online (go to <https://anc.apm.activecommunities.com/mhrd>) In-person at 105 N. Grove Street Place completed form and payment in 24-hour drop box Email completed form and payment to mhrec@mounthorebwi.info **UPCOMING REGISTRATION DEADLINES** Spring Junior Dance (3/6) Spring Chess Camp (3/7) Coding for Middle Schoolers (3/27)

Sugar River Euchre

By Stan Hook
Sugar River Euchre
The Morgan Express had a train wreck when they hit the 113 feet of track destroyed by Cheese Eaters Kohl Wenger and Giff Hoesly. Engineers Shawn Farrell and Pat Collins quickly repaired 111 feet of track to no avail. The Cheese Eaters, with an 80 point win, keeps the door open for six teams that still have a shot at tying the Morgan Express the number of wins in the second half. The Red Mouse Shufflers took an early 29 point lead over the Norsk Cowboys and never looked back. Ed Chancellor and Stan Hook led the way for the Shufflers with 115 points. They lost only their second game of the night to Dean Disch and Steve Dower. No Cowboy was able to reach 100

points, with Steve and Dean scoring this week's low score of a mere 67 points. Thanks to the Cheese Eaters, the Shufflers are in the hunt with a 58 point win over the Cowboys, who are also still in the mix. Norsk Pranksters Larry Losenegger and Tom Schulenberg, losing only in the third frame to Uff-da couple Mary and Leo Humphrey, ended the night with 114 points. One of the more memorable hands was when Uff-da player Curt Herfel picked-up the 9 of diamonds to go with the ace, king, and queen of diamonds in his hand. Prankster Tom Schulenberg led, and Larry Losenegger was able to trump in taking the trick. With both red bowers still in his hand, Larry set Curt and Tom Magnuson. The Norsk Pranksters pulled out

a 31 point win over the Red Mouse Uff-das to join the tie for second place along with team Uff-da. The Kleeman Hay Shakers beat the Morgan Pipe Benders by 19. Chris Booth and John Forbes were held to 1 point in the fourth frame by Jeff and Barb Judd. Kleeman's joins the pack currently tied for second place. Viking Trolls Jeff Grassman and Reed Bollig were perfect going into the eighth frame, but then they ran into Mark Raders and Don Boley who held them to 12. Jeff and Reed ended with this week's high score at 118. This just wasn't enough as the J&M Bar River Rats won by 28 points. Correction – last week Mark Argue was mistakenly listed as scoring 120 points with Jack Gehin, it should have been Mark Raders.

Standings
Express 6-1
Cheese Eaters 4-3
Cowboys 4-3
Pranksters 4-3
Shufflers 4-3
Uff-Da 4-3
Kleeman's 4-3
J&M Bar 3-4
Pipe Benders 2-5
Trolls 0-7

Feb. 22 Schedule
Shufflers @ Cheese Eaters (7:00)
Trolls @ Pranksters (7:30)
River Rats @ Uff-da (7:00)
Express @ Hay Shakers (7:30)
Cowboys @ Pipe Benders (7:00)

CHURCH NOTES

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

Springdale Lutheran Church
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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
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608-767-3312 (office)
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

West Blue Mounds Lutheran Church
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Vicar: James Ranney
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District celebrates CTE month and family and consumer sciences



By AUBREE HANKS
Mount Horeb Area Schools

As we celebrate Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month, we are delighted to shine a spotlight on Sam Schultz, an Family and Consumer Science teacher at Mount Horeb High School. Sam’s dedication and passion for teaching have not only shaped the lives of her students but also inspired them to explore the exciting world of culinary arts.

Throughout her career, Sam Schultz has been instrumental in providing students with invaluable skills and knowledge in the field of family and consumer science. Her commitment to fostering creativity, team-

work, and a love for culinary arts has resulted in remarkable achievements by her students.

Under Sam’s guidance, her students have developed their culinary skills and created a wide array of delicious recipes that celebrate February, the month of love and gratitude. Three of their creations include: Strawberry Rice Krispie Treats, Strawberry Valentine’s Chex Mix, and Chocolate Covered Strawberries.

Join in the fun! Check out this easy recipe for Chocolate Covered Strawberries:

- Ingredients**
- 1 dozen strawberries
 - 1/4 cup semi-sweet choc-



olate chips or Wilton dark cocoa melts

- 1/4 cup Wilton bright white chocolate melts
- 1/4 cup pink chocolate melts-Assorted sprinkles

Instructions

1. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.
2. Rinse and dry your strawberries.
3. Place strawberries in the refrigerator to chill for 30 minutes.
4. In a small microwave-safe bowl, microwave the semi-sweet chocolate chips for 45 seconds. Stir until completely melted and smooth.
5. Dip strawberries into the melted chocolate, covering completely except for the stem. Place on the lined baking sheet.

6. In separate microwave safe bowls, microwave the white and pink chocolate melts for 45 seconds. Stir until completely melted and smooth.

7. Add your white and pink chocolate to separate piping bags and drizzle onto chocolate-covered strawberries.

8. Place the chocolate-coated strawberries in the refrigerator for 30 minutes to allow the chocolate to harden.

9. Store in an airtight container, in a single layer, in the refrigerator for up to 3 days until ready to serve.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month celebrates the critical role that CTE programs play in



Sam Schultz has been instrumental in providing students with invaluable skills and knowledge in the field of family and consumer science.

preparing students for successful careers. Sam Schultz’s dedication to CTE and her students’ achievements exemplify the impact that these programs can have on students’ lives.

“Sam Schultz’s commitment to her students and her passion for culinary arts have made a significant impact on our school community,” said Superintendent Dr. Salerno. “Her tireless efforts have not only inspired her students to pursue their dreams but have also showcased the importance of career and technical education.”

Sam also co-advises SkillUSA with Tim Killinger. This coming weekend Sam

and Tim will be attending the regional competition at the University of Wisconsin-Stout in Menomonie along with seven of their SkillUSA members. Both Tim and Sam are graduates of and current online students at UW-Stout. Students will get to experience a taste of what UW-Stout has to offer through the Skills program.

As we celebrate CTE Month, we applaud Sam Schultz and all the incredible CTE teachers who are shaping the future of our students through career and technical education. Their dedication and commitment are instrumental in equipping students with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in their chosen fields.



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News from the Mount Horeb Area School District

District wants feedback on facilities

By AUBREE HANKS
Mount Horeb Area Schools

The Mount Horeb Area School District wants to hear from you!

The District is gathering diverse perspectives regarding possible solutions to address our schools' most significant facility needs - our kindergarten facilities. The first Facility Needs & Planning Forum was scheduled to take place on Wednesday, February 21 from 6 - 7:30 p.m. at Mount Horeb Early Learning Cen-

ter, 300 Spellman St, Mt Horeb, WI 53572.

The next meeting is Wednesday, March 13 from 6 - 7:30 p.m. at Mount Horeb Primary Center, 207 Academy St, Mt Horeb, WI 53572.

These sessions are the first step in fostering open dialogue and gathering valuable insights from community members regarding the community's preferred solution.

Based on a professional analysis of our facilities,



among our most significant brick and mortar needs is to solve for our aging Early Learning Center (ELC).

Parts of the roof are at the end of their lifespan;

Dated instructional

spaces;

-Ongoing challenges maintaining the original 1968 heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC), including securing the necessary parts for failing systems;

-Asbestos in the classroom flooring;

-Aging fire panel;

-Lack of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act for special needs students and visitors throughout the building;

-Inefficient lighting; and

-Previous flooding.

We encourage all community members, including parents, guardians, educators, and interested citizens to attend and actively participate in this important discussion. During the session, attendees will have the opportunity to engage in meaningful conversations with Bray Architects, district leadership and staff, as well as other community members to explore solutions for kindergarten and the future of the ELC.

The Mount Horeb Area School District is dedicated to providing the best possible education for our students, and we believe that community involvement is crucial in achieving this goal. By attending this Facility Needs & Planning Forum, participants can actively shape the future of our district. Scan the QR code in this article or email hanksaubree@mhasd.k12.wi.us to RSVP for the Facility Needs & Planning Forums.

Cultural potluck and inclusion workshop

By AUBREE HANKS
Mount Horeb Area Schools

We are excited to invite you to an upcoming Cultural Potluck & Inclusion Workshop at Mount Horeb Area School District on March 6 from 6-7:30 p.m. at the High School Cafeteria. Bring your friends and family!

At Mount Horeb, we value diversity and strive to create an inclusive environ-

ment where everyone feels respected and valued. This workshop is an opportunity for us to come together as a community and deepen our understanding of equity and inclusion.

Itinerary:

1. **Cultural Potluck:** Celebrate the rich diversity within our community by



bringing a dish that represents your cultural heritage! Students can enjoy potluck-

themed coloring pages.

2. **Presentations from Esteemed Staff:** Our knowledgeable and experienced staff members will deliver presentations on how they promote equity and inclusion through belonging in school.

3. **District Presentation on the Pupil Non-**

Discrimination Report: Participate in bingo while listening to the District's presentation on the Pupil Non-Discrimination Report. Prizes will be given to the first three participants who get bingo.

Please sign up to bring a dish by scanning the QR code or emailing hanksau-

bree@mhasd.k12.wi.us by February 25 to ensure we can accommodate everyone.

If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact Brian Johnson at johnsonbrian@mhasd.k12.wi.us or Aubree Hanks at hanksaubree@mhasd.k12.wi.us.

GLEANINGS

continued from page 3

Mr. and Mrs. Owen Larson are the parents of a daughter, Mary Ellen, born Wednesday, Feb. 10, at a Madison hospital.

John Topper, Springdale, received head injuries and bruises when his car overturned on Hwy 18, three miles west of Mount Horeb Wednesday morning. He was taken by county ambulance to a Madison hospital.

60 Years Ago-
Feb. 20, 1964

University of Wisconsin Basketball Coach, Arthur Mansfield was the speaker at the Mount Horeb High School Athletic Banquet. About 300 attended.

Construction of the LaFollette Heights consolidated grade school on Highway G southwest of Mt. Vernon will begin this week.

50 Years Ago-
Feb. 28, 1974

A large bull fell out of a passing truck last Wednesday and roamed the business district until Police Chief George Kahl and his posse ran him carefully, out of town. A picture of the bull was snapped as the visitor was admiring the sparkling collection of glass that graces the windows of Olson's Flowers and Gifts. The animal was finally corralled at the Amos Docken farm and was claimed by a grateful driver of R.

Kramer Livestock who hadn't discovered the lightened load until he reached the eastern outskirts of Verona.

The Chamber President says: the Chamber Finance Committee is chaired by Fred Hanneman, and includes Henry Eckel, Ed Carr, and Merlin Jacobson. Their job is to run a tight ship on the uncertain seas ahead. They can do a much better job with the full sincere cooperation of all of us.

40 Years Ago-
Feb. 23, 1984

Jeff Kaleas, district computer coordinator and High School math teacher, is traveling around the district introducing youngsters to computer operation. By the end of the

school year, he will have visited every classroom in the district.

Goble's facelift is completed. The crowds are jamming into the landmark restaurant to dine in the new decor. Scandia House Draperies performed the refurbishing.

20 Years Ago-
Feb. 19, 2004

John and Lisa Mahoney proudly announce the birth of a son, Michael King, born Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2004 at Meriter Hospital, Madison.

Lowell D. "Scotty" Beat, 85, of Mount Horeb, died on Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2004 at Ingleside Nursing Home.

Emily Collins, a senior at Mount Horeb High School, has been named a Student Rotarian.



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FUNDING

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construction to boost its tax revenues, said Nicholas Owen, the village’s administrator.

And the village of Mount Horeb has grown more than 10 percent since the 2010 Census, from about 7,000 to nearly 7,900 now. More people require more services.

Recent inflation lifting costs added to the existing problem.

Without a change, Mount Horeb would not have been able to keep up with its rising costs, Owen said. He noted the expanding prices of buying and maintaining vehicles as well as staying competitive on the wages of village workers.

“Local government’s only revenue source wasn’t able to keep up with inflation for years, and that just started to reach a critical point,” Deschane said. “And the legislature heard them.”

This year, the Republican-controlled state legislature and Gov. Tony Evers, a Democrat, used the state’s

historic \$7-billion surplus to increase those payments to local governments.

Moving forward, those payments will now be tied to the state’s sales tax, so as long as that pot of money continues to grow, local governments will see their share increase.

Though the increase was large in historical terms, it was modest in budgetary ones, Deschane noted, so the new spending in Mount Horeb and across the state will cover “meat and potatoes” services, like public safety, plowing, potholes, etc.

“Not sexy,” said Deschane, “but critical.”

Additional police officer coming to Mount Horeb covered by increase in state funding

Mount Horeb will see an additional police officer patrolling its streets thanks to the boost in revenue from the state.

The new officer will benefit the village in a variety of ways, Mount Horeb Police Chief Doug Vierck said in an email.

“More staff means we

can be more efficient in our duties, cover more area (especially important as the Village grows), cross train to allow better responses to incidents,” he said. “We also use the extra staff to send more officers to more trainings and bring better services back to the community — car seat installation inspection, community engagement training, impaired driving and traffic safety training to reduce traffic crashes in injuries, etc.

The additional officer will also help alleviate stress and burnout for the police staff by reducing overtime and longer shifts, Vierck said. The village may also see a savings from reduced overtime.

The new officer will start at an annual wage of about \$51,000, Vierck said. With benefits, the additional position will cost the village about \$75,000 per year.

The village actually hired two officers recently, as it had also needed to fill another position as well. Both are attending the police academy and will start field training in May, Vierck said.

One of the new officers, Kyle Dix, spent ten years in the Marines before entering law enforcement. He joined the Mount Horeb Police Department from a correctional facility where he worked as a guard.

The other, Braden Folbrecht, grew up in southwestern Wisconsin and played football for Ripon College. He worked for an insurance agency before starting his career in law enforcement.

With the additions, the Mount Horeb Police Departments will have 16 total officers — the chief, a lieutenant, two sergeants, one detective, one school resource officer, and 10 patrol officers, Vierck said.

With volunteering down, Mount Horeb Fire and EMS aim for ‘faster response times’ with new hires thanks to state revenue increase

Volunteering has decreased considerably, so the village’s emergency response needs to fill shifts with another type of worker.

In the past five years, the Mount Horeb Area Joint

Fire Department and Emergency Medical Service has seen a decline of more than 40 percent in hours picked up by volunteers, Chief Jenny Minter noted in a recent phone interview.

So the news the department would be able to increase its budget nearly 25 percent, from about \$1.2 million to about \$1.5 million, thanks mainly to the increase in funds from the state, called the shared revenue program, was a welcome one.

Much of that increase went to three new hires, Minter said.

The department, which is also responsible for covering Village of Blue Mounds, Town of Blue Mounds, Town of Springdale, Town of Vermont, Town of Primrose, Town of Perry and Town of Cross Plains, will add the following:

A full-time deputy chief to help manage day-to-day operations - \$85,000 starting salary;

One firefighter/advanced EMT to cover shifts left open from declining volunteers - \$52,000 starting salary;

A part-time administrative position to help with clerical work and to increase the hours a person is available to the public at the firehouse, especially when the chief and assistant chief goes out on a call - \$20,000 starting salary.

Each municipality covered by the fire department had to agree to increase its funding to the department, a decision likely made easier by the fact that they all got bumps in their annual shared revenue from the state.

Mount Horeb Fire & EMS will grow to 70 members, including the chief and 62 volunteers.

Brain tissue starts to die after six minutes without oxygen, Minter noted, so the department’s ambulance needs to reach emergencies as soon as possible.

“The goal is to see faster response times,” she said.

This journalism was funded by a grant from the Mount Horeb Community Foundation.

The Badger Project is a nonpartisan, citizen-supported journalism nonprofit in Wisconsin.

NEIGHBORS

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ity to cover basic needs.”

Hansen said these families find themselves living paycheck to paycheck, covering the basic cost of housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, smartphone plan and taxes with no means to save for emergencies, or future goals such as education or retirement.

In 2023, Neighbors Helping Neighbors provided more than \$40,000 in fund-

ing to assist families in the local community. The people they helped either live in poverty or are considered “the working poor.” “This funding was made possible by last year’s Mt. Horeb Community Foundation Grant Funding of \$14,000 along with the generosity of many individuals, faith communities, and businesses in our community,” Hansen explained.

“Neighbors Helping Neighbors has been providing this type of assistance to

families since inception,” she continued. “In previous years we often saw a rise in need in March and April, often for utility assistance. In 2023 we had an average of two to five families reaching out in need of housing assistance, monthly. This year-to-date we have provided assistance to three families, in the form of security deposit assistance, eviction prevention, and vehicle repair.” But for some families, it can be difficult to know where to begin, even

after they realize they need help. NHN’s team works to streamline the process, making it as easy as possible while respecting the privacy and dignity of those who use their services.

“It starts with a phone call, a short intake process, [and] if a family is not already utilizing our Food and Clothing Closet program, we get them connected to those programs,” said Hansen. “It’s important that when we work to assist a family they are utilizing these

other services that provide for their basic need of food and clothing. These services are available weekly, and on average a family of two will leave the Food Closet with \$100 worth of food, that \$100 can be reallocated to cover other essential needs. We then, based on needs, get them connected to the appropriate resources. ... Joining Forces for Families of Dane County, which is on site in Mt. Horeb, is available to meet with families by appointment, or often we

connect them directly to our partners at Porchlight.”

If you are in need of services or would like to learn more about Neighbors Helping Neighbors programs that provide hope and a helping hand, volunteering, or making a donation visit www.mthorebneighbors.org. Donations can also be sent to Neighbors Helping Neighbors, PO BOX 196, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572.

SIRENS

continued from page 1

emergency management director Charles Tubbs last week, Parisi suggested that the county should begin running weekly tests of its warning sirens year-round and re-activating them every 10 minutes during tornado warnings.

The larger of the two tornadoes was on the ground for nearly 25 miles, and Parisi said it did not reach far southeastern Dane County “until long after the initial tornado warning was issued, many minutes after the sirens had stopped sounding.”

The county executive said it is important to “build upon the many changes

we’ve made to adapt to the realities of this ever-changing world.”

“Last week’s severe weather and tornadoes are just the latest reminder that Dane County government needs to always be ready to adapt to the ever-evolving impacts of our changing climate. While much has been made of the oddity of February tornadoes, we know this incident is just the latest example of extreme weather and how impactful it can be. In recent years, our area has experienced devastating flooding followed by extreme drought, and now significant snowstorms followed only a couple of weeks later by tornadoes that caused significant property damage,” wrote Parisi. “One of the tools we use to help keep the public safe and informed is our network of outdoor warning sirens. We have invested a great deal in a state-of-the-art system and just last year Dane County spent \$1.9 million to upgrade the software system that controls the entire network of 141 sirens. This system is one of our public

safety priorities.”

“Let’s face it – last week was an uncomfortably close call. One of the two confirmed tornadoes that did most of their damage in Rock and Green Counties moved through far southeastern Dane County before eventually dissipating near Lake Koshkonong,” Parisi continued. “Had this storm ventured a few more miles north, some of our growing Dane County suburbs could have borne the brunt of this storm and the losses could have been devastating.”

Parisi said the devastating fires that occurred in Hawaii in 2023 brought new attention to the role of outdoor warning sirens, adding: “I think it’s better to adapt as part of improving preparedness versus in response to tragedy.”

“We currently test the sirens monthly, from March through November,” Parisi wrote. “For good reason, we don’t currently test in the months of December, January, and February. The public is used to this first Wednesday of the month test and I think doing it all

12 months of the year is prudent preparedness. While last week’s tornadoes were close to us, a significant tornado outbreak impacted west central Wisconsin – many miles north of here – back in December of 2021. The world is changing, let’s change with it and begin testing year-round to help us stay ready regardless of what the calendar says.”

His proposal continued: “Secondly, about a decade ago we upgraded our warning siren system so that when a tornado warning is issued by the National Weather Service, sirens would automatically sound in the areas forecasters feel are at greatest risk. Automating this activation was an important safety improvement. Right now, when a warning is issued, sirens are sounded for three minutes. Those warnings though are often in place for 20-30 minutes or even longer. Right now, we don’t re-sound our sirens after they initially activate. This could inadvertently create a false sense of security while the actual threat could be many

miles away yet.”

“With a public that’s on the move, commuting to and from work, between kid activities, and other life obligations I think it’s important we re-activate sirens during ongoing tornado warnings,” said Parisi. “We shouldn’t assume everyone sees or hears the first and only warning. While sirens are only one means of getting warnings out, they are a highly recognizable tool at our disposal for alerting the public to potential danger. Given that, moving forward I would like sirens within the area designated by the National Weather Service as being at risk re-sounded every ten minutes during an active tornado warning. This change means in future tornado warnings, sirens will automatically activate for three minutes when a warning is first issued. They will automatically reactivate seven minutes after they stop and continue in this interval as long as the warning is in place.”

The changes went into effect immediately.

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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SPORTS

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Magnificent Manchester hits 1,000

Vikings' star hits 1,000 points before sophomore season ends

by DENNIS SEMRAU
Sports Reporter

Mount Horeb boys basketball sensation Josh Manchester spent his freshman season as the team's sixth man, coming off the bench every game despite leading the team in scoring and minutes played.

Yet, while Manchester has emerged as one of the state's sophomore stars as a first-year starter this season, he was back on the bench to start last Friday night's Badger Small Conference game against visiting Portage.

It didn't matter that Manchester was just 16 points shy of becoming only the fifth boys player in school history to surpass the 1,000-point mark for his career. Manchester was happy to be back in his sixth man role for one more night to honor the Vikings' five seniors, who started as a unit on Senior Night.

"It meant everything," Manchester said.

It took a few extra minutes, but Manchester eventually surpassed the 1,000-point mark.

Manchester made 10-of-12 field goal attempts, including

continued on page 14



Mount Horeb sophomore standout Josh Manchester eclipsed 1,000 career points during the Vikings' win over Portage last Friday. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

Mount Horeb earns No. 2 seed in sectional

by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor

Bring on the postseason.

Mount Horeb's boys basketball team — aiming to reach the WIAA Division 2 state tournament for the first time since 2015 — received the No. 2 seed in its half of the sectional.

The Vikings earned an opening round bye, then will host the winner of seventh-seeded Elkhorn and 10th-seeded Delavan-Darien in a regional quarterfinal on Feb. 27 at 7 p.m. If Mount Horeb wins there and the seeds hold, it would host third-seeded Milton in a regional final on March 2 at 7 p.m.

"I was very happy with the seed," Mount Horeb coach Todd Nesheim said. "I thought we should be the No. 2, so we got seeded where I thought we should've been."

Stoughton is the No. 1 seed in the Vikings' half of the sectional, followed by Mount Horeb, Milton, Monroe, Monona Grove, Jefferson, Elkhorn, Fort Atkinson, McFarland, Delavan-Darien and Whitewater.

Three-time defending WIAA Division 2 state champion Pewaukee is the No. 1 seed on the other half of the sectional. Beaver Dam is the No. 2 seed, while Wauwatosa West, DeForest and Milwaukee Lutheran round out the top five seeds on that half.

FAMILIAR TERRITORY

Mount Horeb's gymnasts continue dominance of Badger Conference

by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor

Mount Horeb's girls gymnastics team has a lengthy list of goals each season — and this year was no different.

Week by week, though, the Vikings seemingly cross one off the list.

Mount Horeb took care of another one last Saturday, rolling to a championship at the Badger Conference Invitational held at Sauk Prairie High

School.

The Vikings posted a team score of 138.950 and edged runner-up Sauk Prairie (136.2250). Baraboo (134.7750), Monona Grove (134.2750) and Waunakee/DeForest (131.3750) rounded out the top five at the eight-team meet.

Mount Horeb captured its fifth straight conference title and its 11th in the last 12 years.

The Vikings' JV team also won the conference

continued on page 15



Mount Horeb's girls gymnastics team won the Badger Conference championship for a fifth straight year and the 11th time in 12 years. Photo submitted

Two wrestlers headed to state

Maier, Leonard win sectionals

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

Eli and Eli.

No, it's not a law firm or a new orthopedic practice down the street.

Instead it's a pair of Mount Horeb/Barneveld wrestlers who continue to have memorable seasons.

Sophomore Eli Leonard and freshman Eli Maier both qualified for the WIAA Division 1 state meet, which will be held Thursday through Saturday at the UW Kohl Center.

Maier finished first at the Milton Sectional at 157 pounds. Leonard had a first place finish at 165 pounds.

Maier and Leonard helped the Vikings finish in seventh place at the 12-team Milton Sectional. Mukwonago won the sectional with 164.5 points, while the Vikings finished with 46.0.

"These two guys just keep getting better every week, which is what we want this time of year," Mount Horeb coach Tim Sarbacker said of Leonard and Maier. "Going in I was expecting these two guys to win their weight class."

Leonard (44-1) received the No. 3 seed at state and will open with Bay Port's



Mount Horeb's Eli Leonard won a sectional title and earned a trip to the state meet, which begins Thursday afternoon. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

Nichola Schomaker (30-12). Maier (35-5) received the No. 5 seed at state and will open with Slinger's Elijah Terrell (34-7) Thursday at 3 p.m.

"They are both a threat to win a state title," Sarbacker said. "I know both of these guys have goals of winning a state title and that's what we are going to try to do."

Here's how all of the Vikings fared at sectionals.

120 — Nick Bureson (4-23) place is unknown and scored 0.0 team points.

- Championship Bracket

- Brian Whipple (Mukwonago) 42-12 won by fall over Bureson (Fall 0:21)
- 138 — Marcus Sevilla (12-18) place is unknown and scored 0.0 team points.**

- Championship Bracket - Tyson Peach (Milton) 36-2 won by fall over Sevilla (Fall 1:00)
- 157 — Eli Maier (35-5) placed 1st and scored 22.5 team points.**
- Championship Bracket - Maier won by forfeit over Seth Krause (Mukwonago) 28-20 (For.)
- Championship Bracket - Maier won by major decision over Bryson Kundinger (Verona Area) 41-8 (MD 13-0)
- 1st Place Match - Maier won by tech fall over Rayhan Lopez (Fort Atkinson) 29-13 (TF-1.5 4:22 (17-1)
- 165 — Eli Leonard (44-1) placed 1st and scored 23.5 team points.**
- Championship Bracket - Leonard won by forfeit over Will Leach (Badger) 8-15 (For.)
- Championship Bracket - Leonard won by tech fall over Tomas Neumann (Oregon) 31-13 (TF-1.5 2:00 (16-0)
- 1st Place Match - Leonard won by fall over Austin Schulist (Mukwonago) 35-12 (Fall 1:43)
- 215 — Levi Maier (26-18) place is unknown and scored 0.0 team points.**
- Championship Bracket - Aeoden Sinclair (Milton) 33-0 won by fall over Maier (Fall 0:18)

Mount Horeb's girls hoping to surprise this postseason

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

Mount Horeb's girls basketball team began postseason play Tuesday.

The ninth-seeded Vikings traveled to eighth-seeded Delavan-Darien for a regional quarterfinal. The winner of that game then heads to top-seeded McFarland for a regional semifinal on Feb. 23.

Before the Vikings got to the playoffs, though, they needed to wrap up the regular season. Mount Horeb dropped a 63-42 decision to New Glarus on Feb. 12, then fell to Reedsburg, 66-46, on Feb. 15.

The Vikings finished the regular season 7-17 overall and 3-7 in the Badger Small Conference. Here's a recap of Mount Horeb's final two regular season games last week.

- **New Glarus 63, Mount Horeb 42** — The Vikings honored seniors Ella Fager, Rowan Johnson, Ava Kolb, Jada Mathews and Katie Smith, along with their parents, before the game.

Despite the loss, it was a memorable night.

"They were talking earlier in the day about how they started in fourth grade with over 20 players and now it was down to just five, which is very common," Mount Horeb coach Bart Leibfried said. "It's hard, takes a lot of time and work during the season and off season, which are valuable skills they will take with them the rest of their lives in their jobs and as parents."

"Few people understand how much time they put in from fourth grade to senior year at practice, in the weight room, two to three hours every day in the summer, watching film. We could go on and on."

As for the game, Johnson and Morgan Monroe led the Vikings with nine points each.

New Glarus (22-2), the No. 1 seed in its sectional, led just 29-23 at halftime. But the Glarner Knights slowly pulled away after intermission.

"We came out with a lot

of energy and played extremely hard and played one of our better first halves of the year, which is a credit to our seniors," Leibfried said. "We had great looks to finish the half that just didn't fall."

"At half we talked about them switching to their 2-3 trapping zone and that's exactly what they did and they turned us over 13 times, which led to scores on the other end for them. New Glarus is a really good team. Physically we just ran out of gas down the stretch and they pulled away."

- **Reedsburg 66, Mount Horeb 46** — Hallie Klein had 12 points and Rowan Johnson added 10 in a loss to the Beavers.

"Hallie Klein had another really solid game," Leibfried said. "She has been playing low to the ground and really making good decisions with the ball."

"Rowan Johnson continues to battle and play hard. The last two games she has knocked down some 3s on inside-out looks, which is

her strength. We will need that as we enter the tournaments with Delavan-Darien, who plays a lot of zone."

Reedsburg's Sydney Cherney, a Grand Valley State recruit with more than 2,500 career points, finished with 32 points and 23 rebounds for Reedsburg.

"In our two games with (Cherney) this year she was 29-of-32 from the line and had 44 rebounds, so you have to tip your hat to her as a great all-around player," Leibfried said. "And as I told our young freshmen guards — learn from her."

Mount Horeb was within 22-19 with 6 minutes left in the first half. Reedsburg closed the half on a 17-2 run, though, and built a 39-21 lead at the break.

The Beavers then kept the Vikings at bay throughout the second half.

"Every time we would make a little run in the second half (Cherney) would hit a deep three or get downhill into the lane and get fouled, where she didn't miss," Leibfried said.



Courtney Monroe (24) and Mount Horeb's girls basketball team began the postseason Tuesday night. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

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Swimmers shine at state

Best, Olson have solid showings

by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor

WAUKESHA — Mount Horeb had just five swimmers on its roster this season, but the undermanned Vikings were still able to make a splash on the state’s biggest stage.

Seniors Angus Best and Charles Olson represented Mount Horeb at the WIAA Division 2 state meet held at Waukesha South High School last Friday. And the Vikings’ dynamic duo fared well enough to help Mount Horeb finish 24th overall in the team standings.

McFarland won the state title with 325 points, while Rhinelander (243), Whitefish Bay (222), Nicolet (158) and Madison Edgewood (154.5) rounded out the top five.

The Vikings finished with 17 points.

“I am very proud of how Angus and Charlie did this past weekend,” Mount Horeb coach Bryce Hoppe said. “Those two worked their butts off all year, having endured many tough practices and swim meets that sometimes did not pro-



Mount Horeb swimmers Angus Best (top) and Charles Olson (above) both had terrific performances at the WIAA Division 2 state meet on Feb. 16. Photos courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

duce their desired times. However, overall their hard work and dedication paid off in the end as both of them ended the season having received lifetime best swims.”

Best was eighth in the 100-yard freestyle, finishing in 48.70 seconds. Nicolet’s Jack Sullivan won the race with a new Division 2 state record time of 44.57 sec-

onds.

Best was also 12th in the 200-yard freestyle, finishing in 1:48.96. Sullivan also set a new state record in that race, finishing in 1:37.80.

Olson was 16th in the 50-yard freestyle, completing the race in 22.93 seconds.

“Angus shaved off a full second from last week’s 200 free at sectionals, which is

amazing,” Hoppe said. “He also went 0.1 seconds faster than his time last year at state in the 100 free.

“Charlie added 0.07 seconds in the 50 free from last weekend, but he still had an amazing swim and I am extremely proud of him for having swam two 50s that start with 22 seconds.”

Co-op hockey team falls in regional final

by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor

Sauk Prairie’s co-op hockey team — which includes skaters from Mount Horeb, River Valley, Wisconsin Heights and Riverdale — upset Sun Prairie, 3-1, in a regional semifinal on Feb. 13.

But the Eagles’ season ended with an 8-1 loss to Madison Edgewood in a regional final on Feb. 16.

Sauk Prairie finished its season with a 15-9 record.

In the Eagles’ win over Sun Prairie, the Cardinals struck first with a goal at the 8:25 mark of the first period. But just 3 ½ minutes later, Gunnar Nachreiner answered with an even strength goal on an assist from Karsyn Banta that evened things, 1-1.

Sauk Prairie grabbed a 2-1 lead with just 45 seconds left in the second period when Josh Mast had a power play goal that Brock Hill assisted on.

Hill then scored at the 6:08 mark in the third period on an assist from Colin Harrington that gave the Eagles a 3-1 advantage.

William Anderson fin-

ished with 28 saves for the Eagles and earned the win in net.

It was a different story three nights later when ninth-seeded Sauk Prairie ran into top-seeded Madison Edgewood.

The Eagles struck first when Connor Grant scored on an assist from Thor Peterson just 3:16 into the game, giving Sauk Prairie a 1-0 lead. But the Crusaders (21-3) ripped off eight straight goals and cruised to the win.

Edgewood scored twice before the first period ended, then added three more goals in the second period and took a 5-1 lead. The Crusaders added three more goals in the third period.

Harrington finished the year as the Eagles’ leader in goals (34), assists (17) and points (51). Landon Froese (10-15-25) and Samson Begalske (7-18-25) tied for second in total points, while Grant (8-12-20) and Banta (7-11-18) were fourth and fifth, respectively.

Anderson finished the season 13-8 in net with two shutouts and an .870 save percentage.

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VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB
PUBLIC HEARING ON AMENDMENT
TO COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Notice is hereby given that the Mount Horeb Village Board and Plan Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at 7 PM at Mount Horeb Village Hall, 138 E. Main Street.** The public hearing will take place at a joint meeting of the Village Board and Plan Commission.

The public hearing will be held to gather public input on a proposed amendment to the “Village of Mount Horeb Comprehensive Plan.” The Comprehensive Plan sets the policy for the growth, development, and preservation of the community. The proposed amendments would affect the Future Land Use Map (Maps 4a and 4b) of the Plan document. On the Future Land Use Map, the proposed amendments involve the following:

1. Change the Future Land Use designation for three parcels at 302 Adams Street, 113 Valley Drive, and 109 Valley Drive West Main Street (parcel numbers: 060612376115, 060612376222, and 060612376339) from “Single-Family Residential (Sewered)” to “Multi-Family Residential.”

The Comprehensive Plan and the proposed amendments are available for review online at <https://www.mounthorebwi.info/>. Written comments on the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan should be submitted before the public hearing date to the Village Clerk (Alyssa.Gaffney@mounthorebwi.info). All written comments will be forwarded to the Village Board and Plan Commission.

Dated this 15th day of February 2024.

Alyssa Gaffney, Village Clerk

Publish: 2/22/24 WMAXLP

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.....	10 am Friday, 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:

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

JOSH

continued from page 11

7-of-8 from 3-point range, on the way to a game-high 31 points to pace Mount Horeb to a convincing 76-48 victory over visiting Portage.

“They work so hard during the regular season. They deserve to start and get all the attention for a night,” Manchester said of seniors Landon (LJ) Ellestad, Austin Leibfried, Colton Martin, Will Ryan and Nick Vorwald, who comprised the starting lineup. “They don’t get a lot of attention in practice, and it was good to see them have their night.”

That included fan-favorite Ryan scoring the Vikings’ final points on a layup.

Manchester said it was important to him to send the seniors — especially Vorwald — off as winners on their special evening.

Mission accomplished. “He means everything to me,” Manchester said of Vorwald, who finished with 17 points, five rebounds and three steals. “He makes life a lot easier for me, for sure. Me and him, the bond has only grown the last few years. I’d say he’s one of my best friends. He’s amazing to be around.”

Portage jumped out to a 5-0 lead before Vorwald sank a turnaround jumper in the lane.

Head coach Todd Nesheim then inserted sophomores Hayden Anderson, and Manchester, and juniors Chris Kiel and Griffin Hannah into the lineup at the 15 minute, 35 second mark and the Vikings promptly took over.

Manchester drained a 3-pointer just 14 seconds later to stake Mount Horeb (18-5, 11-2 Badger Small) to an 8-5 lead, and the rout was on.

“Being the gravitational pull on the court that he is, Josh opens up stuff for me,” Vorwald said. “I thank him for opening opportunities for me to score. He’s made things a lot easier on my part. “At the end of the day, it’s a game, but it’s a family. That respect he showed by coming off the bench goes along way and is appreciated.”

Milestone accomplished

Once Manchester entered the game, he admittedly was on a mission.

“I knew I was 16 points away,” said Manchester, who entered the game with 984 career points. “My approach was the same. I wanted first to honor the seniors and make sure that they had a great night.

“My shot was falling so it was ‘all right, might as well get it’. Once I got to 12 or 13, it was let’s get it done and then go win the game. We had to win the game for the seniors.”

Manchester sank a layup before he drilled his second 3-pointer of the game off an assist from Kiel to push the

Vikings’ lead to 13-5. Following a 3-pointer from Portage senior Johnathan Stout that pulled the Warriors (6-16, 1-12) within 13-8, Manchester scored the Vikings’ next eight points to reach the 1,000-point mark.

Fittingly, it came on a pull-up jumper beyond the arc from the left of the key to push Mount Horeb’s lead to 21-10 with 11:24 to play in the first half.

“Austin (Leibfried) set a great screen in transition,” Manchester said. “Everyone was telling me after the game that when I got the ball, they knew it was going up.”

Manchester said he was still trying to process his accomplishment the next day.

“It meant the world. It was a real, special moment,” he said. “It was an amazing experience, and I’m honored to be included with all those names.

“It was pretty, surreal after the game to see everyone come up and congratulate me. It really showed how much everyone cares for each other in Mount Horeb.”

Manchester joined Steve Tracy (1,193 points – 1992-95), Max Meylor (1,166 – 2013-16), Mark Emerson (1,101 – 1969-72) and Duane Anderson (1,069 – 1949-52) as members of the Mount Horeb 1,000-point club.

Nesheim said the Vikings planned to stop the game to acknowledge the accomplishment. But Portage coach Darrin Berger called a timeout, and Manchester received a standing ovation.

Manchester was honored with a short presentation following the game.

The fastest player in school history to score 1,000 points, Manchester now has the school record in his sights.

“If we make a long tournament run, he’ll have a shot at breaking the school scoring record this year,” Nesheim said. “He needs 179 to get it with a regular season game and at least one tournament game left. We’d have to make a pretty deep run.”

Manchester was expected to make an immediate impact on the Vikings’ program when he earned a varsity spot as a freshman.

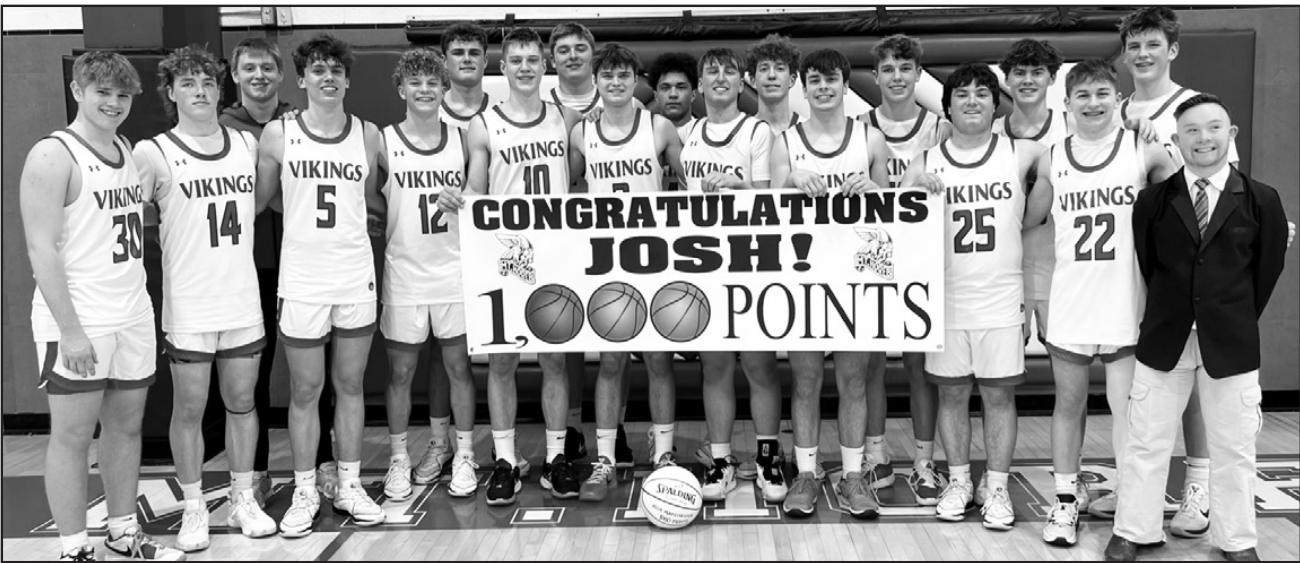
But Manchester scoring 1,000 points so quickly wasn’t on anyone’s radar.

“No way would I have said he would score 1,000 points in two years,” Nesheim said. “Two of the four guys on our 1,000-point club were in the upper 500s for a season. Josh had 466 last year.

“I hadn’t really thought about it. But if you look at what he did last year, and figured he’d be a little better this year, I probably should have figured he’d do it. But I wasn’t thinking about those things.”

Manchester said that wasn’t on his mind either entering high school.

“The first week of practice last year, I never would have thought in a million years I would be here where I am



today,” Manchester said. “But I also can’t lie. The way I work, I would expect to be here as well. I put a lot of work and hard time into it. It certainly is good to see it pay off.”

Good luck charms

Manchester said he “felt a little sad” overshadowing Senior Night with his scoring milestone.

But he said he used the major accomplishment as motivation to make sure he delivered his ‘A’ game on Senior Night.

“When I came in, it was good to give them a spark, and then it went on from there,” he said. “It was ‘let’s get it done and get it out of the way’ for the scoring record and then have a great Senior Night for our seniors.”

Manchester said to help guarantee he would accomplish all his game-day goals, he showed up for Friday night’s game sporting a new pair of Kobe Grinches, orange shoes with lime-colored laces.

“The Kobe Grinches. I had to break them out for the 1,000-point club night,” Manchester said with a laugh. “That was the first time I wore them. That was the plan, all season. I might have to wait until another big game, a sectional game or something like that, to wear them again.”

Manchester said he also made sure to wolf down his favorite pregame meal – French toast.

“I always have French toast on game days,” he said. “My mom makes it. It’s my favorite meal. Some powdered sugar and butter are a good combo.”

Recruiting interest heats up

While Manchester has been scoring points in bunches, averaging 23.9 points per game this season, he is not just a shooter.

He is also the team’s second-leading rebounder, averaging 5.1 boards per game, along with 2.0 assists and 2.1 steals per game.

Manchester, who also has a 3.76 grade-point-average, said he has drawn recruiting interest from several Division I schools.

“I’ve heard from Wisconsin, Marquette, Virginia and Minnesota. They are the four main ones right now,”

he said. “But as a sophomore, I can only take unofficial visits and practices and games.”

Manchester said he took an unofficial visit to Virginia in October and an unofficial visit to Minnesota in September.

“I also went to the Wisconsin game against Marquette and to a practice. I’ve been to a lot of Badger games, but that was probably the best one. The locker room afterwards was pretty, electric.”

Manchester said he has worked hard to develop his overall game.

“My defense has probably been my biggest improvement,” he said. “I feel like I’ve really improved on the defensive end, kind of being a pest on the ball. I’ve still working on my off-ball defense, being in the right position every time.”

Nesheim said Manchester is not a shooter, but a scorer who can take over a game.

“Josh didn’t start a game last year. He was a team guy, who accepted his role. Certainly, we’re dealing with a guy who can take a game over,” Nesheim said. “You know he can get a shot any time he wants it, yet he is trying to be a good teammate and share the ball.

“We have guys good enough to share the ball with, which has been a learning process for him, when to shoot, when not to shoot and when to force something and when not to force something.”

Manchester can fill up a stat sheet, shooting 47% from the floor, including 39% from beyond the arc, and a sizzling 80% at the free throw line.

“It’s his mindset that he is a scorer, and he is a scorer,” Nesheim said. “The biggest surprise I think for people and even for me last year, was his ability to score at all three levels as a freshman in high school and even as a sophomore this year.

“He can get to the rim and score. He has shown the ability to hit pull-up 15-footers with a hand in his face. We all know he can shoot. The three-level scoring has been pretty, impressive.”

What’s next?

Manchester not only made an impression on the hard-court as a freshman, but also



Mount Horeb’s boys basketball team (top) celebrated Josh Manchester reaching 1,000 career points last Friday, then Manchester received a hug from coach Todd Nesheim. Photos submitted

on the baseball diamond as the Vikings’ starting short-stop and leadoff hitter.

While he loves baseball, Manchester had a tough decision to make at the end of last summer.

“I’m not going to play any club baseball in the summer with GRB like I used to,” he said. “I’m still going to go out and have fun with my friends on my high school team this season. Coach (Ryan) Finley understands the situation I’m in so I don’t have to miss much AAU. I’m really looking forward to it.

“I had to sit down and talk with my parents. I decided that basketball is my priority. I knew at the end of the summer, I had to decide which one I wanted to pursue. Everyone was telling me I could go both ways, but I had to choose the one I truly love more and that’s basketball.”

Manchester said he will join the Davis Brothers elite AAU team this spring.

“They are on the Adidas circuit. I may try to play up an age level,” he said.

But that will put an end to his pursuit of baseball in the summer.

“Basketball has always been my love. I think I always knew it,” said Manchester, who served as a ball boy for the Vikings’ 2015 state championship team. “I love the feel of baseball, how relaxed and fun it is with your friends. But I knew I would have to choose between one or the other pretty, quickly.”

• **Mount Horeb 76, McFarland 59** — The Vikings raced to a 46-24 lead and cruised past the Spartans on Feb. 13.

Manchester led the way with 26 points

“I was extremely pleased with this victory,” Nesheim said. “I thought going in this would be a game we would have to earn down the stretch, but we dominated from the get go.”

Feb. 16

Mount Horeb 76, Portage 48
Portage 21 27 — 48
Mount Horeb 39 37 — 76

PORTAGE (fg ft-fa pts) — Vera 1 2-2 4, Garrigan 4 1-2 10, Meierdick 1 0-0 2, Stout 4 0-0 11, Max Kreuziger 0 0-0 0, Luke Kreuziger 0 0-0 0, Warfield 1 0-0 2, Hooker 5 0-0 10, Nachreiner 0 0-0 0, Nadolski 0 1-2 1, Navone 0 0-0 0, Krueger 1 0-0 2, Yanez 2 0-0 6. Totals 19 4-6 48.

MOUNT HOREB — Anderson 1 0-0 2, Nesheim 0 0-0 0, Martin 1 0-0 2, Manchester 10 4-4 31, Rogers 0 0-0 0, Kiel 1 1-2 3, Vorwald 5 4-4 17, Ellestad 0 0-0 0, Aeschlimann 1 0-0 2, Hannah 0 1-2 1, Finley 0 0-0 0, Ibinger 1 0-0 3, Chapman 3 0-0 8, Ryan 1 0-0 2, Morrisard 1 0-0 3, Leibfried 1 0-0 2. Totals 26 10-12 76.

3-point goals: P 6 (Vera 2, Garrigan 2, Yanez 2), MH 14 (Manchester 7, Vorwald 3, Ibinger 1, Chapman 2, Morrisard 1). Total fouls: P 14, MH 11.

Feb. 13

Mount Horeb 76, McFarland 59

McFarland 24 35 — 59
Mount Horeb 46 30 — 76

McFARLAND (pts) — Steinke 3, Westphal 3, Ochalla 4, Meinholdt, Kelley 11, Harrison 9, Krueger 9, Roder 4, Eccles 3, Peil 4 Totals 20 13-18 59.

MOUNT HOREB — Anderson 4, Nesheim 2, Martin 2, Manchester 26, Kiel 2, Vorwald 9, Ellestad 3, Aeschlimann 4, Hannah 7, Maguire 6, Chapman 8, Morrisard 3. Totals 29 10-13 76.

3-point goals: McF 6 (Harrison 2, Eccles 1, Kelley 1, Meinholdt 1, Steinke 1), MH 8 (Chapman 2, Maguire 2, Morrisard 1, Ellestad 1, Aeschlimann, Vorwald).

GYMNASTS

continued from page 11

title.

“We had a great day with both the varsity and JV teams earning the title of Badger Conference champions,” said Vikings coach Martha Koller Faust, the architect of Mount Horeb’s remarkable dynasty. “We had an advantage with our 7-0 dual record, but in order to be outright champions we needed to have a solid day — which we did!”

Mount Horeb’s Athena Ouradnik finished second in the all-around competition with a 35.950, while Sylviah Seeliger was eighth (34.0750).

Ouradnik was fourth on the uneven bars with an 8.80, while Seeliger was 11th (8.5250), Tess Angle was 14th (8.30) and Reece Olinger was 16th (8.250).

Ouradnik was third on the vault (8.70), while Edie Balster was fifth (8.550). The Vikings also counted scores from Harper Hendrickson (8.150) and Abbey Brummer (8.10).

Ouradnik was second on the balance beam (9.350), while Seeliger was fifth (9.050), Hendrickson was 10th (8.750) and Angle was 14th (8.450).

And on the floor exercise, Ouradnik was fourth (9.10), Brummer was 10th (8.8750), Tessa Soppe was 13th (8.70) and Seeliger was 15th (8.6750).

“Uneven bars was our first event,” Koller Faust said. “We had strong performances with no falls or major errors. Our gymnasts kept that momentum going throughout the day, which resulted in season-best event totals on bars and beam.”

The Badger Conference has improved in recent years, forcing the Vikings to continually up their own game to stay on top. Mount Horeb has answered every challenge, though, including its latest one at the conference meet.

“Our conference is very competitive with strong individuals and teams with great depth,” Koller Faust said. “Numerous Vikings earned individual honors on vault, bars, beam, floor and in the all-around.

“We are extremely proud of our entire team’s efforts. This championship is a great accomplishment for us.”

• **On deck:** The Vikings will host the Mount Horeb Sectional Thursday at 5:30 p.m.

The sectional also includes Baraboo, Elkhorn, Jefferson/Cambridge, Monona Grove, Sauk Prairie, Waterford and White-

water.

Mount Horeb has reached the state tournament 12 straight years and a state record 36 times overall.

“The four top teams from (the conference meet) will be here in addition to Elkhorn, who beat us in December,” Koller Faust said. “Our focus this week will be to have safe, productive practices so that our gymnasts feel prepared both physically and mentally for Thursday night.”

• **JV:** Mount Horeb posted a 128.250 team score and easily outdistanced runner-up Monona Grove (120.750).

Mount Horeb’s Avena Meyers won the all-around with a 30.650.

The Vikings’ Harper Hendrickson was first on the bars (8.20) and the floor (8.50), and Abbey Brummer was first on the beam (8.250).



Abbey Brummer and Mount Horeb’s girls gymnastics team won the Badger Conference championship last Saturday and will now host a sectional Thursday night. Photo submitted

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

PROJECT: **2024 STREET AND UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS**
OWNER: Village of Blue Mounds
11011 Brigham Avenue, P.O. Box 189
Blue Mounds, WI 53517

CONTRACTS AND BID DEADLINE:
Sealed bids for a single contract for water main, storm sewer and sanitary sewer construction, street excavation and base course construction, street asphalt pavement construction, and for curb & gutter and sidewalk construction will be received by the Village of Blue Mounds, 11011 Brigham Avenue, Blue Mounds, Wisconsin until 2:00 PM local time, March 12, 2024, at the office of the Village Clerk. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud immediately thereafter in the Village Board of Trustees meeting room.

The Contract consists of these approximate units:	
8-inch Gravity Sanitary Sewer	1,100 lineal feet
8-inch Water Main	1,200 lineal feet
Street Reconstruction	5,600 square yards
Storm Sewer	200 lineal feet
30-inch Concrete Curb & Gutter	3,200 lineal feet
4-inch and 6-inch Concrete Sidewalk	6,000 square feet
Grass Restoration	3,600 square yards
Hot-Mix Asphalt Pavement	1,100 tons

The quantities and the main sizes are subject to change without notice prior to document distribution.

CONTRACT DOCUMENTS:
The Contract Documents, consisting of Advertisement for Bids, Instructions to Bidders, Bidder’s Proof of Responsibility, Bid Proposal Form, Affidavit of Organization and Authority, Bid Bond (in the amount of 5% of the maximum amount of the bid), Notice of Award Form, Agreement Form, Notice to Proceed Form, Performance/Payment Bond (100%), Certificate of Insurance, General Conditions, Supplementary Conditions, Technical Specifications, Drawings and Addenda (if any) may be examined at the following locations:

Village of Blue Mounds
11011 Brigham Avenue, P.O. Box 189
Blue Mounds, WI 53517

Town & Country Engineering, Inc.
6264 Nesbitt Road
Madison, WI 53719

Copies of the Contract Documents and the Construction Plans may be obtained at the office of Town & Country Engineering, Inc., 6264 Nesbitt Road, Madison, WI 53719 via appointment only. There is a **\$75 non-refundable** copying and distribution charge for these documents. Electronic bidding documents are available on-line at Questcdn.com, Project No. 8982870 for \$42. This fee includes access to submit a bid on-line via Questcdn.

QUALIFICATIONS:
Bidders must be pre-qualified with the Village of Blue Mounds within the last year or must be pre-qualified for this work 5 days prior to the bid deadline in accordance with Section 66.0901 of the Wisconsin Statutes. Each bidder must deposit, with his bid, security in the amount of 5% of the maximum bid amount. Bidders must be experienced in municipal pipeline construction.

SPECIAL CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS:
This project will be funded in part by the Clean Water Fund (CWF) and Safe Drinking Water Loan Program (SDWLP) established under Wisconsin State Statutes, as administered by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Neither the State of Wisconsin nor any of its departments, agencies, or employees is or will be party to this invitation for bids or any resulting contract.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE), including minority business enterprises (MBE) and women business enterprises (WBE) are encouraged to apply and be used to the greatest extent feasible. Qualified DBEs will be included in the Unified Certification Program WisDOT UCP list. Program policy requires all bidders to show good faith efforts to solicit proposals from DBEs. Contractors with a DBE classification are strongly encouraged to bid as the Prime Contractor on this project provided they are qualified to do the work. Award of the contract will be subject to the Federal government’s policy of good faith effort for increased use of DBE businesses. A description of the policy and forms to be used are included in specifications.

Funding under the SDWLP program also requires all iron and steel products used in the construction of the project be produced in the United States (FFY 2014 Appropriations Act and/or Section 608 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (FWPCA)), including lined or unlined pipes and fittings, manhole covers and other municipal castings, hydrants, tanks, flanges, pipe clamps and restraints, valves, structural steel, reinforced precast concrete, and construction materials.

WAGE RATES:
The successful bidder will be required to conform to the wage requirements prescribed by the federal Davis-Bacon and Related Acts which requires that all laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and sub-contractors performing on contracts funded in whole or in part with federal funds in excess of \$2,000 pay their laborers and mechanics not less than the prevailing wage rates and fringe benefits, as determined by the Secretary of Labor, for corresponding classes of laborers and mechanics employed on similar projects in the area, per the U.S. Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division May 29, 2009 Guidance.

RIGHTS RESERVED:
The Village of Blue Mounds reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive informalities in any bid.

Published by the authority of:

Mary Jo Michek, Village Clerk/Treasurer

Publish: 2/22/24, 2/29/24 **WNAXLP**

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

February 15 & 22, 2024
CONTRACT 24-100
2024 STREET IMPROVEMENTS
SUNSET LANE (N EIGHTH ST. TO DEAD END)
FRANCIS CIRCLE (DURTSCHI DR. TO DEAD END)
IDA CIRCLE (DURTSCHI DR. TO DEAD END)
LINDA ROAD (DURTSCHI DR. TO MICHELE ST)
HEATHER COURT (PERIMETER RD. TO DEAD END)
ALASKA AVENUE (N EIGHTH TO NINTH ST.)

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

The Village of Mount Horeb will receive sealed bids for the referenced project until **11:00 A.M., Friday, March 1, 2024**, at the Village Office, 138 East Main Street, Mount Horeb, Wisconsin 53572. At that time, bids will be opened and read aloud.

Bids are to be addressed to the Village of Mount Horeb, ATTN: Village Clerk, Mount Horeb Village Hall, 138 East Main Street, Mount Horeb, Wisconsin 53572, and shall be marked “Sealed Bid – CONTRACT 24-100, 2024 STREET IMPROVEMENTS.”

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

Plans for the work will be available as PDF electronically from SmithGroup on or after February 15, 2024.

Plans for the work are on file for inspection at the Village Office, 138 East Main Street, Mount Horeb on or after February 15, 2024.

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

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

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

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

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

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

ESTIMATE OF PRINCIPAL ITEMS

Excavation	3,500	CY
Concrete Curb & Gutter	3,250	LF
Concrete Driveway	1,300	SF
Base Course (12")	6,700	SY
Bituminous Pavement	6,800	SY
Water Main	1,440	LF
Hydrants	7	EACH
Sanitary Sewer Main (Spot Repair)	150	LF
Sanitary Structures	4	EA
Storm Sewer	175	LF
Storm Structures	4	EA

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

Publish: 2/15/24, 2/22/24 **WNAXLP**

TOWN OF VERMONT PLAN COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday
February 28, 2024
4017 County Hwy JJ,
Black Earth, WI 53515

See townofvermontwi.gov for meeting agenda.

Please note: You can sign up for emailed meeting agendas at www.townofvermontwi.gov

Publish: 2/22/24 **WNAXLP**

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INTERESTED IN REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE? Savanna Institute is hiring two full-time positions at our Spring Green Campus: Farm Administration and Business Development Coordinator & Equipment Operations and Maintenance Specialist. \$48-52k/yr + benefits. Learn more and apply at www.savannainstitute.org/jobs. Deadline: March 18th

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AVAILABLE 4/1 - \$950 UTILITIES INCLUDED
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THE VILLAGE OF MAZOMANIE IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR LIFE-GUARDS Applicants must have Lifeguard Training, including First Aid, Lifeguard Training, CPR and AED Essentials completed by the time the pool opens. Applications may be found on the Village website, villageofmazomaniewi.gov or requested by phone by calling the village office at 795-2100, ext. 4 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 8:00-12:00 on Friday. Applications must be submitted by Friday, March 1, 2024. The Village of Mazomanie is an equal opportunity employer.



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Healthcare Employment Opportunities

- **Occupational & Physical Therapist** – full or part-time positions, **Up to a \$5,000 Employment Bonus, prorated based on FTE!**
- **Athletic Trainer** – full-time position.
- **Dietitian/CDE** – part time to full time day shift position. **Up to a \$5,000 Employment Bonus available!**
- **Vice President of Clinic Operations** – 1.0 FTE position
- **Director of Marketing** – full-time management position
- **Director of Quality Improvement** – .8 FTE management position
- **Clinic CMA/LPN** – .8 FTE position working in our OB/GYN clinics
- **Clinic CMA/LPN** – .8 to 1.0 FTE working in our Family Practice clinics
- **Clinics Referral Coordinator** – 1.0 FTE day shift position
- **Clinic Registration Specialist** – .8 FTE day shift family practice clinic position
- **Patient Benefit Specialist** – 1.0 FTE day shift position
- **RN Informatics Specialist** – .6 FTE day shift position
- **RN Skilled Nursing Care** – .6 FTE p.m. shift position. **3,000 Employment Bonus eligible!**
- **RN Float** – .75 FTE p.m./night shift position. **\$3,750 Employment Bonus eligible!**
- **RN Med/Surg Unit** – .6 FTE day/evening shift position. **\$3,000 Employment Bonus eligible!**
- **MRI Technologist** – .5 to a 1.0 FTE day shift position. **Up to a \$5,000 Employment Bonus, prorated based on FTE!**
- **Imaging Technologist** – day or night shift position in the hospital & day shift in the clinics available. **Up to a \$5,000 Employment Bonus, prorated based on FTE!**
- **Respiratory Therapist** – part-time day or night position & a .6 FTE weekender position
- **Med Tech/MLT or CLS** – .9 FTE p.m. shift position and a .5 or .6 FTE Premium Pay Weekender Day shift position.
- **Certified Nursing Assistants** – part-time positions available in our Nursing & Rehab Center day, evening and night shifts available, **\$3,000 Employment Bonus included!**
- **Environmental Services** – part-time to full-time evening and night shift positions. **\$1,000 Employment Bonus!**
- **Grant Writing Coordinator** – half time position

To find out more detailed information about all open positions and to apply, go to our website at: www.uplandhillshealth.org.

800 Compassion Way, Dodgeville, WI 53533 • 608.930.8000

TREASURER

The Town of Springdale is seeking a part-time Treasurer. Flexible schedule and ability to work from home. Successful candidates will have bachelor's degree and accounting experience. Submit resume and cover letter to info@springdalewi.gov

See springdalewi.gov/employment for more information.



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Resort Operations Manager

The House on the Rock Resort, Spring Green, Wisconsin, has a Resort Operations Manager position available. This position works (hands-on) with the Team and with the public. Coordinates the daily activities of building maintenance, housekeeping/laundry and front desk. The manager maintains records, trouble shoots tech issues, manages inventory/supplies, handles banking responsibilities, works with subcontractors and vendors and hires, schedules and deploys Team Members.

This position ensures that Team Members are meeting guest needs and appropriately responding to any guest concerns. Manages the team which will address property condition, cleanliness and quality of product throughout the Resort. Coordinates activities with other revenue centers to ensure that services are provided in an efficient and timely manner. Ensures financial goals are met by managing labor costs, controlling expenses and maximizing room revenue. Ensures compliance with company policies and with federal, state and local laws and regulations.

Prefer two to 3 years of hotel experience and knowledge of property management software and computer proficiency. Knowledge of housekeeping department helpful. Strong attention to detail and excellent organizations skills. Ability to work effectively in fast-paced setting. Able to handle pressure with poise. Positive attitude.

Please send cover letter including salary history resume to The House on the Rock, Attention HR Director, 5754 Hwy 23, Spring Green, WI 53588. Or email to: information@thehouseontherock.com.

DEPUTY / ELECTIONS CLERK

The Town of Springdale is seeking a part-time Deputy/Elections Clerk. Flexible schedule and ability to work from home. Email cover letter and resume to adminclerk@springdalewi.gov

See springdalewi.gov/employment for more information.

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