

Village board has busy meeting

Wastewater superintendent welcomed, outdoor dining amended

By ERIN HERNDON
Mount Horeb Mail

The Village Board held its regular meeting April 3, welcomed the new wastewater superintendent, Michael Brace, heard the library annual report and approved all consent items. They also approved a proclamation in recognition of Mount Horeb Schools and a proclamation marking April 21, 2024, through April 27, 2024, as Arbor Day Week, and amended outdoor dining.

Power line owners appeal injunction

By MATT GEIGER
Mount Horeb Mail

Opponents of a controversial power transmission line that is already constructed along much of its route notched a victory in the form of a recent preliminary injunction. But the fight, which stretches back for years, will go on. ITC Midwest and Dairyland Power Cooperative, continued on page 10



Bidding farewell to winter

Local sheep get a trim just in time for the year's first heat wave

Joe Huber sheered 70 sheep and nine llamas and alpacas on Saturday at Havens Petting Zoo in Blue Mounds. Huber, who resides in Wisconsin Dells, has sheered professionally for 43 years and earned nine state championships over the course of 11 years, as well a National Junior Championship back in 1988. It's a family affair for Huber, whose father will turn 82 in June and worked in the business for 63 years.

"My dad had five sons and Joe is the last one sheering," Joe laughed. "I guess the others got smarter. I always say it takes a strong back and a weak mind."

While it's fun, it's also a serious job that helps fuel one of the world's best and oldest fibers. Sheep average around eight pounds per trim, but some can produce as much as 15 pounds or more. They are not sedated for the procedure, and the shearers use a combination of calming energy and strong legs to keep the animals serene while they work. The temperature topped 70 degrees Saturday, so the sheep at Havens were visibly thankful to shed their heavy winter coats. Photo by Matt Geiger.



County exec Joe Parisi sets retirement date

Longtime executive will leave seat before his term is up

Dane County Executive Joe Parisi announced that his last day in office will be Friday, May 3. Parisi has led a period of "transformational growth for Wisconsin's fastest growing county," said his office. Since first being elected Executive in 2011, Parisi said he "has stabi-

lized and improved county finances, developed partnerships to expand service delivery in areas like mental health, addiction, housing and homelessness, launched bold efforts to improve water quality in lakes and streams, and made Dane County a national leader on renew-

able energy and sustainability."

"I've had the honor of working with a commu-



Parisi

nity that cares a great deal for one another, with big dreams, and a clear vision for who and what it wants to be," Parisi said.

Parisi, who announced his upcoming retirement last October, was first elected Dane County Executive in a special election in April

2011. His office said at that time, county finances were reeling from impacts of a national recession. Since then, Parisi has led county government back to sound fiscal footing and when he retires from office Dane County will have a fund

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PERSPECTIVE

GEIGER Counter



by Matt Geiger, Editor



A goodbye message

People often include quotes at the end of their emails. Something clever that a physicist, author or celebrity said. You finish reading a message about a parent-teacher conference and get a bonus line of text from Mark Twain or Lebron James:

“I’d rather regret the risk that didn’t work out than the chances I didn’t take at all.” - Simon Biles, Olympic Gymnast.

Or:

“Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid.” – Albert Einstein*

It’s good, because when you are emailing back and forth with someone about a plethora of workplace banalities, it’s vital that you also receive out-of-context life advice from someone neither of you has ever met.

I’ve never included a quote, but I’m toying with giving it a go. I’ll include a line from “The Epic of Gilgamesh,” one of the world’s oldest and greatest stories, as my sign-off. My emails will look something like this:

Thank you for the message. I apologize for spelling the name of your pet fish incorrectly in last week’s article and will run a prominently placed correction in the next edition.

Thanks again,
Matt Geiger
Executive Editor

I am going to die! ... Deep sadness penetrates my core, I fear death, and now roam the wilderness. - Gilgamesh (2700 BC)

By doing this I can inject some sunshine into the lives of everyone with whom I interact for work.

People also like to tell you what they are reading at the moment, because they mistakenly think you care what they are reading at the moment, so I might include one of those as an addendum. I feel strongly that you should never read anything just because other people are reading it (just like you should never vote for anyone merely because everyone else is voting for them), but at this point I feel like all correspondence with other adults is merely an explosion of misdirection, a giant, verbal sleight of hand trick, so why not?

I’m just not sure which works to list, because I’m always

making my way through a dozen or more books at any given moment.

I’m currently reading: “The French Chef” by Julia Child

Or:

I’m currently reading “8 Steps to a Pain-Free Back” by Esther Gokhale

Or:

I’m currently reading: “The Best Things to Scream Into” by Orson Spooring

I’m kidding, of course. I’m not reading any of those books. But I’m not convinced the people I email with are reading the books they list, either, so it’s probably fine. What I’m actually reading at the moment is a coffee table book filled with images of Australian blokes (I speak Australian!) and their dogs. Most are in the outback, with everything covered in dust and a whole bogwally* of feral scrub bulls, venomous snakes and umber nothingness, like jolly images of a post-apocalyptic future where you get to wear whatever ridiculous hat you want because if walk around bareheaded you will immediately burst into flames, so the general rules of fashion are loosened to the point where you could wear a giant blueberry flapjack on your head without getting made fun of for it.

All the images show a scorched and brutal landscape. A place actively trying to maim and kill all who venture into it. But most of the people are smiling, most of the dogs (several of whom have only three legs) are wagging their tails, and they represent what we all have the potential to be; full of mirth in a post-apocalyptic world, our spirits buttressed by the fact that nothing really matters, so the ability to feel both great joy and great pain are a cosmic and incomprehensible gift that flies (and laughs) in the face of a cosmos that does not care for us and will ultimately slay us all.

None of this is new. Gilgamesh was (probably) a real person who lived 4,700 years ago. How I wish we could see his emails!

Behead several people and bring me some fig wine in a golden chalice. Raise taxes and build several temples.

Sincerely,
Gilgamesh
King of Uruk

“The only place success comes before work is in the dictionary.” - Vince Lombardi

I’m currently reading: “Eat, Pray, Love” by Elizabeth Gilbert

The best part of this ancient text is that Gilgamesh clearly has a mid-life crisis. Basically, his friend dies, so he realizes he too will inevitably die and he experiences what we in

2024 would probably call a fairly severe mental health incident. He stops bathing. He stops shaving. He doesn’t take care of himself in any way. He lives in terror at the realization he will eventually die. Eventually, Gilgamesh decides life isn’t worth living unless you can live forever, so he goes on a perilous adventure to the mouth of all waters at the end of the world. Again and again in ancient theological texts, gods destroy the world with floods. And so often, from ancient Egypt to the Old Testament, we must cross dangerous waters on our journey to wherever it is we need to be.

People today, especially people who are very emotionally invested in politics rather than things that actually matter, are always talking as if we are so very different than those who walked before us. They say we are more evolved and must use all our advanced ways of thinking to survive our various impending apocalypses. But it’s fascinating to know that people, even rich and powerful people, were just as scared and vulnerable as we are, nearly 5,000 years ago. Gilgamesh spoke a different language than us. He ate a different diet. He worshiped different gods (no offense if you currently bow to Ereshkigal or Utu). But he was just like us. Just as troubled by the reality that we are mere mortals, and all our temporary joy, no matter how profound, is felt in a heart that will soon be dust and never beat again.

Everyone fears the dark, cold waters of mortality. That’s why, whenever people tell me they are not afraid of death, I immediately know two things about them: 1.) They are afraid to die, and 2.) They aren’t being entirely honest with themselves about it.

Around Christmas last year, we were sitting around a dinner feast with close friends, asking each other various questions listed on a set of cards. One was: “What do you fear most?”

Everyone at the table listed things like spiders and sharks and Pauly Shore.

When we got to me, I smiled and said, “Death.”

And then we feasted some more. We drank wine and ate venison. We listened to music and stayed up late, sharing stories and laughing until it hurt.

It’s true. I *am* going to die. So will you and everyone else. So of course, deep sadness penetrates my core, and I fear it and roam the wilderness. Luckily, I’ve never been much of a city guy, anyway. The wilderness is full of deep, cold waters, towering trees, and vast red wastes. There are less subdivisions and more shimmering mountain tops. The wilderness is where the biggest storms are, and where the sun and moon shine their brightest. There are certainly worse places to spend whatever time you are gifted.

**Guess what? No matter how many times people share this pithy observation on Facebook, on Twitter, and at the end of their emails, Einstein didn’t say it. He never said it, and he probably never will because it’s not the type of thing he would say and he has been dead for nearly 70 years.*

** Bogwally is an Australian word meaning “quite a lot.” I’m kidding, I made it up just now by spilling scalding coffee on my keyboard and then trying to wipe it up with my notepad and making many of my important notes illegible. Don’t believe everything you read, and by “everything,” I of course mean “anything.” Except this, obviously.*

TO THE EDITOR

Pfaff thanks community foundation

To the editor,
On behalf of the children, families and staff at Children’s Community School, I want to thank the Mt. Horeb Community Foundation for the recent grant they awarded us. As we celebrate the one year anniversary of our new home, we continue to explore new ways to enhance our experiences for our students. Our focus at this time, is the outdoor nature playground where we are planning for an age appropriate climbing structure to be built. This will offer a wide

range of large muscle play opportunities as well as connecting with the natural environment on a daily basis.

For over 45 years, Children’s Community School has been guiding and nurturing children in the greater Mt. Horeb area with our Montessori philosophy. We are so grateful that the Mt. Horeb Community Foundation supports our non-profit school with their generous donations, so we may continue to make a difference in the lives of local children and their families.

Sincerely,
Martha Pfaff
Director
Children’s Community School

Pickleball party

Please join us on Saturday, May 4 at 10 a.m. to celebrate the grand opening of the newly constructed Viking Park courts.

Come for the ribbon cutting ceremony and stay to play!! Instructors are available for newcomers to the game of pickleball. If you don’t own a paddle, we have extra paddles and balls for anyone to use. A “lobster” is available for the day. This machine shoots out pickleballs at various speeds, spin, and elevation. It is a perfect practice partner. Representatives will answer your questions and provide information on the advantages of becoming a member.

In addition, like our “Mount Horeb Pickleball” Facebook page and check out the bulletin board at Viking Park that gives information on leagues and schedules.

The new courts at Viking Park are a great addition to Troll Town. It is wonderful to see

students, families, and friends enjoying this facility.

Sandy Strommen
“Every game of pickleball is a story.
Play to write an exciting one”
MOHOP member
CAPA member

Bringing my wife home

Fitchburg — November 2023 saw an injection of amazing weather. I took advantage, stayed at the Grandstay; went downtown; a couple of bars and laughs; ran into an angel drinking a beer.

I’m the husband of another angel, my wife Jackie, who is getting strong at Ingleside Skilled Nursing and Physical Rehabilitation — a good place, caring. I’m raw; betrayed; incensed at injustice; vigilant.

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Village CDA delves into market-rate housing

By ERIN HERNDON
Mount Horeb Mail

The Community Development Authority delved into market-rate housing. The Authority held their monthly meeting April 10 and discussed an article on affordable housing, the economic development director’s report and a potential grant for the Village from T-Mobile. They also approved all consent items and two residential exterior improvement program grant applications. Village Economic Development Consultant Kristen Fish-Peterson presented the Economic Development Director’s report, including the results of the Village’s first downtown summit of downtown business and property owners. Fish-Peterson said

she and Village Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Rachel LaCasse-Ford discussed myriad topics with the roughly 30 attendees. The discussion touched on concerns and goals for downtown, including parking issues, the desire for longer business hours and potential new businesses. “There’s a high interest in maintaining the downtown charm. We had a small conversation about zoning and making sure the downtown stays quaint in having that old-world charm,” Fish-Peterson said. “An idea was presented about having more things to do, like a giant checkerboard, more games, and food trucks— things for people to do in addition to shopping and eating out.”

Fish-Peterson also brought forth an article from the *Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis* entitled “How new apartments create opportunities for all.” According to the article, Minneapolis market-rate rental construction has freed up more affordable homes for lower-income households in the area. She said the concept centers on a chain of moves that creates vacancies across a community. “Let’s just say if those Steve Brown apartments get built, and those 63 units get filled. Those people come from somewhere, probably a less expensive place. It opens up an opportunity for someone to move up into that place, and then their

place opens up for someone to move into that place. It’s that chain,” Fish-Peterson said. “Their data based on Minneapolis said that over time, I think it was five years, 100 new market-rate units led to 70 new vacancies in lower income neighborhoods.” According to the *National League of Cities*, market-rate housing refers to non-subsidized properties rented or purchased at market-rates. Market-rate housing, unlike subsidized affordable housing, does not confer special government benefits. “If somebody moves from one house into a more expensive house, that opens up their house for somebody to buy, and so on down the line,” Citizen member Andy

Baber said. “You’ve hit a hard time in that housing development where it’s hard for those people because interest rates and housing prices are up.” Fish-Peterson finally described a grant from T-Mobile she found worth the Authority’s consideration. According to the wireless network operator’s website, T-Mobile is investing \$25 million in 500 rural towns over five years through their “Hometown Grant” program to jumpstart projects and build stronger communities. Such projects mentioned include upgrades to library technology, new hiking trails and revitalized historic buildings. If the Village decides to apply, Fish-Peterson said

that regardless of the grant’s intended area of use, the proposal has to be a robust project that meets a need and has an impact. “They have key submission deadlines in spring, summer, fall and winter,” Fish-Peterson said. “Applications will be opening up again in July-Sept. and Oct.-Dec., so if we’re not quite ready, maybe we wait until we have something that’s a good solid need that we can meet to have a big impact.” Authority members ultimately decided to revisit the grant proposal at a later date.

The Community Development Authority next meets May 8 at 6 p.m.

Utility commission gets updates from dept. heads

By ERIN HERNDON
Mount Horeb Mail

The Utility Commission met for their monthly meeting Apr. 9, where they welcomed new wastewater superintendent Michael Brace, approved their Feb. and Mar. 2024 finances and received updates from the Electric Department, Water Department, and Wastewater Department heads.

Electric Department Report
Village Administrator Nic Owen presented the report on behalf of Electric Superintendent Jordan Schmitz, who was said to

be attending an electrical engineering conference in New Orleans. According to their Feb. 2024 report, zero outages occurred during the month. There were three new underground services, including the conversion of one overhead service to underground and the crew finished up tree trimming and meter testing. According to the March report, March also saw three new underground services, one outage in the DT substation and continued equipment maintenance. Additionally, the Military Ridge Substation is constructed and waiting to be tested.

“His report’s mostly winter-type work, trimming trees and preparing for the busy summer. They’re going to be doing some primary extensions, replacing some old primaries and the last thing we’re waiting on at the substation is for it to get tested, hopefully in early May.”
Water Department Report
Water Superintendent Josh Hyndman presented the Feb. 2024 and March 2024 reports. According to their Feb. report, the water department focused on water meter testing during the month and considered

maintenance on the “Well 5” boosters. They also returned to summer hours March 11, 7 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, and 7 a.m.–11 a.m. Fridays. Additionally, they added a week to system-wide hydrant flushing, which will now occur April 1–26. “The month of February was busy with meter testing, we’ve got about nine homes left,” Hyndman said. “I’ve got two one-inch water meters left to get pulled.” According to the March report, the department continued water meter testing in March as well as work on the department’s curb

box list. The department also completed their annual safety training March 20. “I do have L&R meter testing coming to see us at the end of June,” Hyndman said. “They take care of all of our RPs [Reduced-Pressure Principle Backflow Prevention Assembly], our backflow preventers and large meters that we’re not able to test.”
Wastewater Department Report
Michael Brace is officially the Village’s wastewater superintendent. Brace was hired Feb. 19 to replace retiring Superintendent John Klein following his re-

irement. Brace previously worked for the Village of New Glarus and the City of Brookfield. “I’ve had almost 20 years in the industry now, in varying capacities. I’ve done everything from frontline boots-on-the-ground to administrative roles,” Brace said. “I’m super grateful for the opportunity to serve the citizens of Mount Horeb. I hope to provide the type of services that everyone’s gotten accustomed to under John’s reign.” According to the wastewater department’s Feb. 2024 report, the department **continued on page 5**

LETTERS

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I never saw Mount Horeb coming, like 1970s Fond du Lac beamed 20 minutes from our Fitchburg home. Kwik Trip has become my oasis; daily words of love and reassurance from Rhonda, Tracy, Linda, Mitchell, the whole crew. My guys at McDonald’s from whom I get too much coffee, are always there.

Medical Transport folks who save Jackie’s life three times a week at 5:00 A.M.; no matter how cold, how much snow, or wind, I get nothing but love from these guys. Folk at Ingleside wake up Jackie at 4:30 a.m., offering massive doses of love, helping her get ready for dialysis.

Up or down, feeling it or not, nursing staff is there,

without complaint, just determination. Hardware store, Miller’s, my bank at Old National, is everyone in Mount Horeb planted there to be kind like a Twilight Zone episode? That angel with whom I had a few beers in November? He was ethereal; seemed to know me; understood; instantly aware what was going on; offer-

ing his brand of humor and grit won through tragedy. Dude helped me through a bad time. Wonder he knows. I made it this far. Not on my own. This year will see my Jackie back home.

Hope to see you around too, Mount Horeb.
As we say in Fondy, *Proust*.
- Michael Leon

Michael Leon is a writer living in Fitchburg. He works as a writer, editor, veterans’ advocate, and public relations consultant.

MOUNT HOREB MAIL

PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT
Finger Publishing, Inc.
1126 Mills Street
Black Earth, WI 53515
608-767-3655

PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID
AT MOUNT HOREB, WI 53572
(USPS 365-340)

POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to
Mount Horeb Mail
1126 Mills Street, PO Box 286
Black Earth, WI 53515

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
\$49/1 year; \$98/2 years; out of
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BOARD

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ing rules.

Village President Ryan Czyzewski said the presented “Proclamation in Recognition of Mount Horeb Schools” is appropriate due to the great work going on in Village schools. According to the proclamation’s agenda item report, the proclamation is in line with the Village’s vision statement: *We provide outstanding service, guide sustainable growth, value diversity and inclusion, and enhance the quality of life for all.*

“In 2024, the Mount Horeb school district reinforced its commitment to diversity, establishing a local chapter of *We Are Many-United Against Hate* in order to build unity in the classrooms and community,” Czyzewski said. “The Village of Mount Horeb hereby congratulates the Mount Horeb Area School District as advocating for social justice, diversity and unity in seeking an inclusive society.”

All Village trustees said they supported the proclamation, apart from Cathy Scott, who said it went against the Board’s June 2022 meeting: *Policy vs. Politics.*

“This is nothing but politics. I don’t think it belongs as part of the Village,” Scott said. “I think it’s great if the school wants to do this. I’m all for that. I don’t think we as a Village have any obligation to be supporting this.”

Village Administrator Nic Owen introduced a Sidewalk Cafe Amendment to *Chapter 12.09 Ordinance 2024-06.* He said the amendments concern the permits allowing chairs and tables on the sidewalk area in front of Village restaurants.

“We’re making the permits valid April 1 through

November 1, unless a permit is granted. Before, they were basically valid the whole year, and we had some issues with snow this year, and some tables were still out. We had to approach the business owner to get those removed, so we thought putting more firm dates on that was important,” Owen said. “All umbrellas must be closed and secured to the table or removed at the end of the business day. There will also be no glass permitted, including pitchers.”

Brian Ladow, the owner of Skäl Public House, 209 E. Main St. said he ran into an issue when he submitted a business plan to the Village building inspector.

“I submitted my plan, followed the rules to a tee and was informed by the building inspector that Nic decided he had to make some changes to it,” Ladow said. “How can you tell me that I’m breaking the rules if they’re not a part of the rules?”

According to an amendment report by Owen, the program language was previously worded in a way that permitted café furniture to be out over the winter, as permits did not expire until the following year.

“I feel if you’re going to continue with this program, we need to include all of the rules that are relevant to this topic and stick to those rules,” Ladow said. “If we’re going to go forward and do any amendments to this, I think these should be the rules for this year, and if anything comes outside of these that doesn’t fit somebody’s definition, then that’s next year’s amendments.”

The Board ultimately approved the new amendment, creating an end date for the annual sidewalk program.

The Village Board next meets April 15 at 5:30 p.m. at 135 E. Main St.



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First Steps opens at Immanuel Lutheran

On March 16, community members gathered to mark the opening of Immanuel’s First Steps, a new child care center situated within Immanuel Lutheran Church in downtown Mount Horeb. Addressing a critical gap in the area, the center offers up to 39 child care slots, a crucial support for a community grappling with over 120 children currently waitlisted for such services. The space has the potential to accommodate up to 97 children. Recognizing the pressing need, the Mount Horeb Community Coalition, comprising of the Mount Horeb Area Chamber of Commerce, the Village of Mount Horeb, and the Mount Horeb Area School District, undertook a child care needs study. Their findings pinpointed a specific demand for infant care. Immanuel’s First Steps aims to bridge this gap, prioritizing the welfare of the youngest residents and supporting local workforce development initiatives. The church’s steering committee, composed of parishioners and church staff, played a pivotal role in realizing this endeavor.

Immanuel’s First Steps, located at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 310 W Main St, Mount Horeb, is enrolling now. You can learn more by visiting their Facebook page, by calling 608-218-4425 or emailing director@immanuelmh.org.

Kidding around at the Mount Horeb Public Library



“Pop-up Goat Storytime” was a huge hit at the Mount Horeb Library on April 6, drawing an estimated 90 people. “[It] was a super last-minute addition to the calendar ... when one of our regular families told us they’d just had some baby goats born that morning and asked if we’d be interested in doing a program with them within the next week before the babies became too mobile,” said Hannah Klapperich-Mueller, Youth Services Librarian. “This is not our typical timeline for planning a program by any means, but [youth services assistant] Amy [Kalchik] and I had a hunch that the community would really enjoy a chance to pet and hold some snuggly baby goats, so we scheduled a storytime for Saturday morning, April 6 at 10 a.m.”

Kalchik (top left) read “G is for Goat” by Patricia Polacco and the participants made some goat headbands. The goats belong to the Gale family. Kalchik also adopted one of the goats, who needs to be bottled fed and is now named Odette. Photos contirbuted by the Mount Horeb Public Library.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR

Glenn Stensby

Saturday April 27 • 1:00-5:00
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for the sympathy shown by all.

Justin, Stephanie, Lincoln & Martha Pfaff

MOUNT HOREB AREA SCHOOL DIST.

Craig Smith helps develop career pathways

Meet Craig Smith, Mount Horeb Area School District's School to Career and International Baccalaureate Coordinator. To help you get to know him and understand his role at MHASD, Sophie Nelson - Junior at MHASD, Director of Brand Management for Mount Horeb DECA, and future Youth Apprentice, interviewed

By SOPHIE NELSON
Special to the Mail

Smith.

Sophie Nelson: Can you describe your role here at Mount Horeb Area School District?

Craig Smith: I am the School to Career and International Baccalaureate Coordinator. I help students develop career pathways and better understand the options they have both inside and outside of our school. Building a pathway for a student is like building a blueprint for them. It provides a better understanding of the courses they take and purposefully relates courses to their career fields or post secondary interests.

Another aspect of my role is the International Baccalaureate Programme, which is a program that the School District has approved and will offer in the 2026 school year. which is going to help the board I was just going to help bring along some of the skills that go with that school to work School

to Career school to college, type of life and learning opportunities.

SN: Can you provide an overview of your background and experience in education, particularly in relation to the IB program?

CS: I taught and coached at the college level for 15 or so years. I was a career advisor at UW-Oshkosh for seven years and taught classes in business. I also taught at other universities. Prior to coming here, I worked at Sun Prairie Area School District where I helped implement "ACCEL," which is a CAPS program that focuses on hands-on learning inside and outside of the classroom. It enables students to immerse themselves in professional and experiential learning. It has some of the same ideologies as the International Baccalaureate Programme.

SN: What motivated you to pursue a career in education?

CS: My parents were coaches. I was going through college and I was done with my playing career in football. I took a job coaching with a friend of mine at a little school in southwest Wisconsin, "Southwestern High School", and I started getting up at 5:15 a.m. to go open the weight room for the kids to work out that we were coaching. It was the first time in my life I got up that early and I didn't hate it.



Smith

I'm not a morning person by any stretch. But all of a sudden, I was getting up with a purpose. I thought "I should do something like this for a living."

SN: What strategies do you have in mind to support students in completing the IB Programme and achieving their academic goals?

CS: Helping students stay focused on goals. We get too focused on outcome-based goals. Your goal can't be to get an "A." Goals are a series of things that we can touch and reach. I will help students stay focused on why they're doing it, why they're taking courses that are going to be a little more challenging. This has an even bigger effect in the end. The more our students put into this process, the better their outcome is, the better a community becomes, the more outward service learning we will do.

SN: What students are

going to get the opportunity to participate in the IB Programme?

CS: the IB Programme is geared towards 11th- and 12th-grade students. It is a two year process to complete this journey. I'll be an integral part of students' development, working with them directly to support them in their classroom and professional opportunities.

SN: How do you plan to collaborate with teachers, administrators and the community to enhance this program?

CS: We're all stakeholders. This isn't a one-person or one-department idea. This is a holistic approach to education that's going to encompass everybody you just mentioned. I'm very fortunate for this community because I inherited a "train that was already moving," so to speak. It's a matter of continuing to learn to communicate with our stakeholders, figure out more and more of how to develop the program that fits who we are in our community. One of the beauties of this program is that it takes into account where you're starting from, who you're working with, and then we can branch out opportunities from there. We're working directly with our students, staff, community, our Village, and our District administration to curate this program for the

students.

SN: Can you share any successful initiatives or projects that you have led in the past that have positively impacted students' experience?

CS: We had the opportunity to pursue professional learning projects at my previous school district. I am working with Ms. Babor to produce a similar opportunity at Mount Horeb Area School District. This opportunity will cultivate a team that will work on a real-world project for one of our community members. For example, we just had a community member move to be closer to his family, and open a new marketing business. Another community member just opened her own floral shop. To provide either community member with a team of students would be a great asset to their business and provide internship level research or work compared to what they could likely do on their own is such a huge time saver. At my previous school district we really found our footing when the Chamber put us in contact with a staff member from Shelter From The Storm, which is a shelter for women and families. The staff member was trying to coordinate a fundraiser Gala and we ended up being able to give her a student team that marketed it in a way that she hadn't previously; it was their largest gala which achieved the most money

fundraised of any gala they had coordinated before.

SN: What do you like to do when you're not at work?

CS: I'm a homebody. I like to hang out with my kids. I have two boys who are nine and seven. We, even the boys, like to cook. My favorite things to cook are smoked ribs, pork, chicken, anything really. I also love to make a big breakfast, even for brinner!

SN: What is one fun fact about you that few people know?

CS: I have been bungee jumping and skydiving but get petrified on roofs. I thought trying those things, which were super fun, would help. Sadly they did not. We were roofing my sister's barn and I locked up for a good 20 minutes. My nephews still bring it up every chance they get.

SN: Describe the most rewarding moment in your life.

CS: The time I spend with my boys is the most rewarding. I had them later in life in my 30s. It adjusted my sights as to what it's important.

SN: Do you have any pets?

CS: I do. We had two chocolate labs Lucy and Luna. Lucy recently passed away at almost 14 and Luna is still full of puppy power at two years old.

UTILITY

continued from page 3

was awarded the DNR's 2023 Facility of the Year Award, continued preparation for a PLC (program-

mable logic controller) replacement in several lift stations, installed a new flush valve and repaired the volute on WPCF influent "Pump 2."

"It's like the brain of the station. Your transducer and

everything put information into it, and it goes from there," Klein said, referring to the PLCs. "This new style, going from a MicroLogix to a CompactLogix, it all has to be reprogrammed, and that's just the way of the technol-

ogy. It definitely needs to be done. We're very outdated with a lot of ours."

According to the March 2024 report, the department mixed and sent samples for testing from their biosolids tanks, gave two facility tours

to the public, completed a WPCF (Water Pollution Control Facility) server and software project, pulled "Pump 1" at Oak Tree Lift Station and held safety train-

ing for its employees.

The next Utility Commission meeting occurs May 14 at 7 p.m.



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COMMUNITY
CALENDAR

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

Mt. Horeb Seniors lunch outing to Bob’s Barbecue, Dodgeville. Bus leaves at 10:00am. Call 608-437-6902 to reserve seat.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors - Food Closet Hours: 6:00-7:30pm. Clothing Closet Hours: 6:00-7:30pm, 102 E. Lincoln Street

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food Closet hours 9:00am-10:30am (Seniors Preferred) ; All shoppers - 3:00pm-4:30pm, 102 E. Lincoln Street

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food and Clothes Closet open 10:00am-11:30am, 102 E. Lincoln Street

MONDAY, APRIL 22

Trivia Games, 12:30pm, Mt. Horeb Senior Center

TUESDAY, APRIL 23

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

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

Foot Clinic, 8:30-3:30pm. Call 437-6902 for appt., Mt. Horeb Senior Center

Fink’s Cafe, serving senior meals, 11:00am-1:00pm

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

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

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

Free mariachi concert at the library



Immerse yourself in the magic of mariachi music Monday, April 22 at 6:30pm at the Mt. Horeb Public Library. A vibrant concert featuring Mariachi Sol de Madison, an eight-piece band, shares the fascinating history and cultural relevance of this unique genre. This free event is a wonderful opportunity for all ages. The evening will be conducted primarily in Spanish, with the support of an English interpreter to ensure everyone’s participation. Sponsored by Beyond the Page, National Endowment for Humanities and the Madison Community Foundation. For more information about the library, visit www.mhpl.org or call 608-437-5021.

Learn how to be a severe weather spotter in free library class

Class was rescheduled from earlier date due to (get this) severe weather

Learn how to be a Weather Spotter at the Mt. Horeb Public Library Tuesday, April 23 at 1pm. (This class was originally April 2, but was canceled due to weather.) Provided by the National Weather Service and Dane County Emergency Management, the Storm Spotter program teaches how to see severe weather clues and how to use this information to keep you and your neighbors safe. This afternoon event covers safety aspects for spotters and the general public, as well as the essentials of what you need to know to report severe weather to the National Weather Service. This class is open to all - you do not have to be or commit to being an official Spotter. No registration necessary. For more information about the library, its programs and services, visit www.mhpl.org or call 608-437-5021.

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.

For additional information, contact mgeiger@fingerpub.com.

Talent show May 11!

Mount Horeb’s Got Talent 2024 will take place May 11 from 1-3:30 p.m., (participants arrive at 12:30) in the Mount Horeb High School auditorium. Dress rehearsal is after school on May 10. All Mount Horeb youth in first through eighth grade are invited to perform. The event is brought to you by the Mount Horeb Optimist Club. Showcase your talent in an act that is three minutes or less. It is free to participate and to attend the show. Three winning acts will be determined by an applause meter. Cash prizes will awarded. The deadline to register is Wednesday, May 8. A digital application is available by visiting the Mt Horeb Optimist Club’s Facebook page. Paper copies can be picked up at the PC, IC, MS or American Family Insurance, Walton Agency 402 E. Main St, Mt Horeb. Call Ellen Walton at 608-334-5432 for more.

Grabe announces Assembly bid

Mount Horeb resident Elizabeth Grabe announced on Tuesday that she is a candidate for the new 51st Assembly District, created after Gov. Tony Evers signed new legislative maps into law in February. The new 51st district includes the Dane County villages of Mount Horeb and Blue Mounds, as well as the towns of Blue Mounds and Vermont, all of Iowa and Lafayette counties, and six towns in Grant County, including the villages of Monfort and Livingston. Grabe is a member of the Mount Horeb Village Sustainability and Natural Resources Committee, and in her second term as a board member for Mount Horeb Rotary. She is a Realtor for First Weber, a hemp farmer and owner of Ivanwood LLC, and farm manager of Wencel Farm LLC, where she is involved in conservation and forestry practices. Grabe and her husband, James, are the parents of four grown children. She is a graduate of Mount Horeb High School and the University of Miami-Coral Gables.

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GLEANINGS

By **BARB JOHNSON**
Mount Horeb Mail

130 Years Ago- April 26, 1894

The creamery is taking in milk Sundays, not later than 9 o'clock.

A very sad accident occurred Sunday to Mrs. Keisa Pederson, by falling into the cellar through an open trapdoor in the floor. Mrs. Pederson is quite old and a very fleshy lady, and the fall resulted in a broken leg. She had a little child on her arm, which went with her to the bottom of the basement, but the infant was not hurt in the least. It took some time to get the old lady upstairs as a larger opening in the floor had to be made and eight strong men had a hard job to carry the sufferer up to her room. Drs. Evans and Gill set the broken limb. Mrs. Pederson is 69 years old and came up to this country four years ago. It is doubtful that she will recuperate.

It looks metropolis-like when Brattrud's meat wagon makes its rounds and Mickelson's milk wagon is supplying our villagers in the morning.

120 Years Ago- April 21, 1904

The new telephone directory is now printed and ready for distribution. The present directory is in the form of a folder and contains 260 names.

Matt Domini left Sunday for Chicago, to take the general agency for the match lighting gasoline lamp.

Quite a number of friends of Mr. and Mrs. Hans Grinder, Daleyville, got to-

gether last Wednesday and surprised the old couple on their 40th wedding anniversary.

Hans Opsal, 76, died at his home Saturday, thus answering his last roll call here.

The old landmark and about the first house built within the incorporated limits of Mt. Horeb, the old Boeck residence, now owned by A. S. Grind, is now being razed to make room for a more modern structure.

Miss Dolly Allen will give a leap year party at Allen's Hall, Mt. Vernon, Friday evening, April 29, 1904. An invitation is extended to all the ladies. All the ladies are expected to bring cake.

Tuesday, George Rockstad received by express, a fine specimen of a porker. George believes in good stock.

The "Damenverein" meets with Mrs. Wm. Bilse, Wednesday of next week, and a cordial invitation is extended to all.

Elling Opsal arrived here last Sunday with the intention to see his brother, as he had learned that amputation was to be done. Being greatly attached to his brother, he boarded the first train and came through, but too late to find him alive.

110 Years Ago- April 16, 1914

A finger ring was found and brought to this office to be given to owner.

Miss Zella Heisig spent Easter under the parental roof. She is at present taking postgraduate work at the 4C college at Madison.

Vermont voted at the last

town election to do road grading the coming year in place of macadamizing. Now watch the Beaty hill get the proper trimming.

A lot of sand is being hauled from Lake Park. This newly discovered wonderland is yielding many things for man's benefit.

A rare treat is in store for all who like to see the lively spring dance, and hear the thrilling "Halling" on the eight string violin, at the opera house on Tuesday, April 21. Don't miss it.

Mrs. Simley the good and venerable lady has answered the last summons and gone to her reward. The funeral was held Wednesday of last week with internment at the Vermont cemetery. Truly it can be said the world is better for her having lived.

The new Swenson store at Klevenville is a more stylish building than the old one.

100 Years Ago- April 15, 1924

The sudden death of Nils Gerhard Jenson came as a great shock to a sorely tried family as well as to the entire community. He was taken sick with acute appendicitis on April 5, while at Carl Kvamme's where he had been working recently. He was taken to his parents home. On Thursday he was taken to Dodgeville where he at once underwent an operation. But he seemed to have very little recuperative power, which was due in part to the fact that he had not fully recovered from the effects on an attack of "grippe."

The Lewis Peterson house has been moving steadily toward its destination all week and as you get this paper the house has nearly reached its destination. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are living in the house as it is being moved.

90 Years Ago- April 19, 1934

One of the largest deals transacted in this village in recent years took place last week when Ben R. Mavis and C.A. Link purchased the Mount Horeb Lumber Yards from the Collins Bros. Lumber Co. of Madison, who have been the owners the past 19 years.

Lawrence Eugene, two-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Frame, Blue Mounds, died at Wisconsin General Hospital, Madison, Monday, April 16, after a brief illness.

Morris Rude has bought the M.A. Holum residence on North Third Street and will have some improvements made before he and is family move in.

80 Years Ago- April 13, 1944

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Fosshage and family have moved to La Crosse to make their future home.

Lt. Donald Jacobson, son of Stanley Jacobson, is credited with shooting down two German planes. Jacobson flies a fighter plane and the action took place in a fight over Germany.

We hear that this years bathing suits are barely big enough to keep the girl from being tanned where she ought not be.

At the Strand: Roy Rogers, king of the cowboys and Trigger, smartest horse in the movies, star in "Hands Across the Border."

60 Years Ago- April 16, 1964

The new Ford Mustang will arrive Friday at the Mt. Horeb Motor Co. With a manufacturers suggested price of \$2368, some op-

tions available include: power steering, pushbutton radio, backup lights, padded sun visors, outside rearview mirror, and 2-speed electric wipers and washers.

Hulette "Happy" Way, 60, Mt. Vernon, died Sunday, April 12, 1964 in a Madison hospital after a brief illness.

In an 8 p.m. candlelight ceremony April 4, 1964, at the Primrose Lutheran Church, Elaine Norland became the bride of Gary Walter Hankel.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Gudgeon have sold their home at 328 North Eighth Street to Mrs. Ann Klir, who will take possession this week. The transaction was handled by the Witte Realty Service, Mount Horeb.

Mrs. D.A. Kobs sustained burns about her face and arms Monday when the gas stove she was attempting to ignite exploded. She was taken to Madison General Hospital for treatment and is expected to return home in a few days.

50 Years Ago- April 18, 1974

Mrs. Ruth N. Steinhauer has recently returned from a life insurance training school held at Rock Island , Ill.

Kathy Blumer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Blumer is the new spelling champion of the Mt. Horeb Schools.

Harley B. Rue and A. Russell Martin will be recognized May 18 for 50 years of service in the Mount Horeb Masonic Lodge.

Walter Sutter, 69, passed away in a Madison hospital Saturday, April 13, 1974. He

owned and operated the barbershop in Blue Mounds for 40 years.

30 Years Ago- April 21, 1994

Assemblyman Rick Skindrud presented a plaque from the State of Wisconsin recognizing the 75th anniversary of the American Legion and Frank E. Malone Post #113, Mount Horeb, to Post Commander Bob Murray.

Brian J. Brattlie, age 35, of rural Verona, died on Saturday, April 16, 1994 from injuries received while cutting wood.

A girl reported that a boy she dated only a few times took her class ring and put it on and would not give it back to her. Police got the ring back for her.

Richard and Larry Losenegger of Mount Horeb had been recognized by Tri-State Breeders with the Herd Recognition Award.

20 Years Ago- April 15, 2004

Mount Horeb's voters told the village last week by a 450 to 336 vote that when it comes to spending \$1 million or more on municipally-funded projects, they should be directly asked for permission first.

Valhalla Day Spa has opened its doors at 522 Springdale Street. Pam Rosecky and Hermina Van Natta are the massage therapists.

An open house to celebrate Myrtle V. Anderson's 100th birthday on April 23 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm at Inglewood.

CHURCH NOTES

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

Mt. Horeb United Methodist
Corner of Hwy. S & Hwy. 78
Sunday Worship: 9am online and in person
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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
2752 Town Hall Rd. 608-437-3493
Vicar: James Ranney
Worship: 1st, 3rd & 5th
Sundays of the month at 10am
twosteeple.org

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

Mt. Horeb Evangelical Lutheran Church – ELC
315 E. Main St. 608-437-5012
www.elcmthoreb.org
5 pm Saturday Worship
9 am Sunday Worship

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

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

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

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OBITUARY

Gerald Joseph “Jerry” Haglund

*Feb. 12, 1940 -
April 9, 2024*



MOUNT HOREB - Gerald Joseph "Jerry" Haglund, age 84, passed away at UW Hospital on Tuesday, April 9, 2024. He was born in Dodgeville, Wis., on Feb.

12, 1940, the youngest child of the late Martin and Mabel (Owens) Haglund. He grew up in Barneveld and graduated from Mount Horeb High School in 1958.

Jerry was employed as a meat cutter for over 50 years at several area businesses, including Kahl and Nygaard Grocery in Mount Horeb, Kohl's grocery stores in Madison and Sysco Corporation in Baraboo. He enjoyed many years of deer hunting on the old Haglund family farm north of Barneveld with his brothers, nephews and sons. Jerry also loved fishing from the cabin near the Mississippi River. He especially enjoyed playing euchre with many friends at the Mount Horeb Senior Center.

Jerry is survived by his sons, Todd (Lisa) of Mount

Horeb, Trygve (Rebecca) of Oregon, Wis.; daughters, Joan (Casey) Finley of Mineral Point, Wis., and Kristin (Jason) Krueger of Fort Atkinson, Wis.; and the mother of his sons, Ruth Haglund of Mount Horeb. He especially loved his grandchildren, Patric Conner, Anneka Haglund, Carson and Abbey Finley, Kayla and Eli Krueger, Alison and Josalyn Gosda, and Tom and Rob Gosda. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews and their families; and many friends.

Jerry was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers, Marlen (Norma) Haglund, Norman (Barb), Haglund and Leland (Wilma) Haglund; sisters, Eva (Paul) Jones and Esther (Charles) Goke; his wife, Phyllis Fredrickson; long-

time partner, Gertrude Brager.

A visitation was held at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 310 W. Main St., Mount Horeb, from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, and also from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. on Wednesday, April 17, 2024. A funeral service was held at the church at 11 a.m. on Wednesday. Burial followed the service at Northside Cemetery, Highway 78 North, Mount Horeb. A luncheon was served at the church following the burial.

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

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ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Chuck Bauer



Three Heifers, Oil on canvas, 16 x 20 inches, ctbauer.com.



Morning Zinnias, Oil on canvas, 16 x 20 inches, ctbauer.com.

By MATT GEIGER
Mount Horeb Mail

This week, our spotlight turns to Chuck Bauer, an eclectic artist who uses oils, watercolors, acrylics and much more to depict an array of scenes, from cows to homes to trees and people.

What kind of art do you create?

Bauer: I paint in oils, watercolors and acrylics. I also make traditional original fine art prints, such as woodcuts, etchings, etc.

In all my work I tend toward representational subjects, but also like to experiment with abstract and conceptual approaches.

There are so many wonderful observations about art. Picasso said it “washes from the soul the dust of everyday life.” He also said that every child is an artist, but the hard part is staying an artist when you grow up. How have you managed to STAY an artist?

Bauer: I was very lucky

to study art intensely in both undergraduate school and graduate school. Due to gifted instruction, my grounding was simultaneously rigorous and non-dogmatic. I founded my own business at age twenty-five and for the next forty-five years adjusted my schedule so I could continue to make art. Much of my painting in those early years was done in the traditional “en plein air” impressionist manner of landscape painting in oils while standing outside.

What/who are some of

your most important influences?

Bauer: The influence of great teachers cannot be over emphasized. After school I continued to take many adult art classes and also sought out professional level workshops, frequently travelling out of town or overseas.

What brought you to this area, and how has living here influenced your creative process?

Bauer: Soon after gradu-

ate school in Madison my husband and I moved to the country, and lived south of Mt. Horeb. The landscape was inspirational and I started to paint in earnest on a regular basis whenever I was not working. I attribute much of my life long artistic inspiration to the beauty of the Driftless Area.

How can people find out more about your work?

Bauer: My website is filled with work of all kinds and easily viewed anytime at www.ctbauer.com. I am

also represented at Milward Farrell Fine Art on Monroe Street in Madison, Wisconsin.

Anything else?

Bauer: The past few years I have been accepting commissions for house portraits and have painted nearly fifty. I like to exaggerate color and especially light in order to add drama to even the most familiar subjects, and for houses, even the simplest, this approach seems to work well.

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From left to right: Dr. Steve Salerno, Mr. Reynolds, guest of honor Kamryn, Mrs. Reynolds, sibling Gavin, and school board liaison to the Intermediate Center, Jim Myers. Photo contributed.

Kamryn Reynolds honored as trailblazer

The school district is excited to celebrate Kamryn Reynolds, a fifth-grade student, as the April student spotlight. Kamryn is a student in Ms. Jung, Ms. Keenan, and Ms. Witek’s class, and she and her family are trailblazers who pushed the school to develop a co-teaching model and adjust the systems to make them more inclusive.

There are so many things about Kamryn that make her a great person and one of those things is that she has Down Syndrome. Since Kamryn was in 4K, she and her parents advocated for her to be in the general education classroom full-time with her peers. With their encouragement, and other families like the Reynolds, the district changed its classrooms to better support students with disabilities. Starting in kindergarten, Kamryn has been in co-taught classrooms with two teachers to help her grow and meet her needs. As a fifth grader now, Kamryn has developed great friendships and peer connections, and she is a full member of her classroom community just like her classmates.

Not only did Kamryn change school for herself and her friends in fifth grade, she changed the Intermediate Center for other students with disabilities who learn better and grow more when they learn in the classroom and have a team of teachers working together.



Third-grade teachers Ashley Maring and Terra Baumgart as well as special education teacher Brianna Fox’s cotaught class.

School district recognizes IC teachers who make a difference

The school district recently recognized Intermediate Center teachers who have been a part of the “push-in” and “coteaching” model over the past seven years. The inclusion plan started with Tier 3 reading intervention and then grew to special education services.

Coteachers from years 2017-2024 included Amy Green, Rob Farnsworth, Molly Follmer, Cheri Janssen, Melissa Gervasi, Pam Stencil, Brenna Siebold, Mike Umberger, Shirlanie Heydenrych, Anna Dower, Tina Maurer, Lisa Lawson, Karen Erickson, Elle McAteer, Kim Lee, Kathy Thronson, Channing Liska, Candice Bartlett, Ashley Maring, Annie Beier, Kaci Witek, Jacque Fredrickson, Caitlin Katzman, Rebecca Gustafson, Hayley Jung, Kristin Keenan, Kallee Scheidegger, Jill Richter, Tami Cleary, Heidi Horst, Emalyn Bauer, Jessica Kliebenstein, Julia Pratt, Holly Harris, Christine Parmley, Jen Sadkovich, Brie Fox, and Terra Baumgart.

“All 38 teachers have shown a tremendous commitment to collaboration and adjusting lessons to help students stay in their classroom rather than having to leave to receive the services they need,” said Intermediate Center Principal Katie Hauge.

“I am so thankful for all of the teachers who have contributed to our growth in inclusion over the past seven years,” she added.

PARISI

continued from page 1

balance (rainy day fund) in excess of \$50 million. That positions the county well for future uncertainty, insulating vital services from impactful cuts.

Dane County became the fourth county in the country to generate more renewable energy than it utilizes, mak-

ing its facilities and operations 100 percent renewable. Under Parisi’s leadership, the county has pioneered innovative technologies to use cleaner fuels, limit carbon emissions, and improve the well-being of our lakes. He’s added new trails, parks, and permanently protected thousands of acres for outdoor recreation, investing in quality of life and continued economic growth for the region.

Parisi claimed the county’s future is bright, and he looks forward to continuing to serve the community he grew up in, in new and different ways.

“Dane County has a story to tell,” Parisi said. “Together, we’ve accomplished a great deal and I look forward to remaining part of

such a vibrant community. I’m grateful for the trust placed in me through these years of service and look forward to working however I can to keep this a special place to live, work, and play.”

Voters will decide who replaces Parisi later this year.

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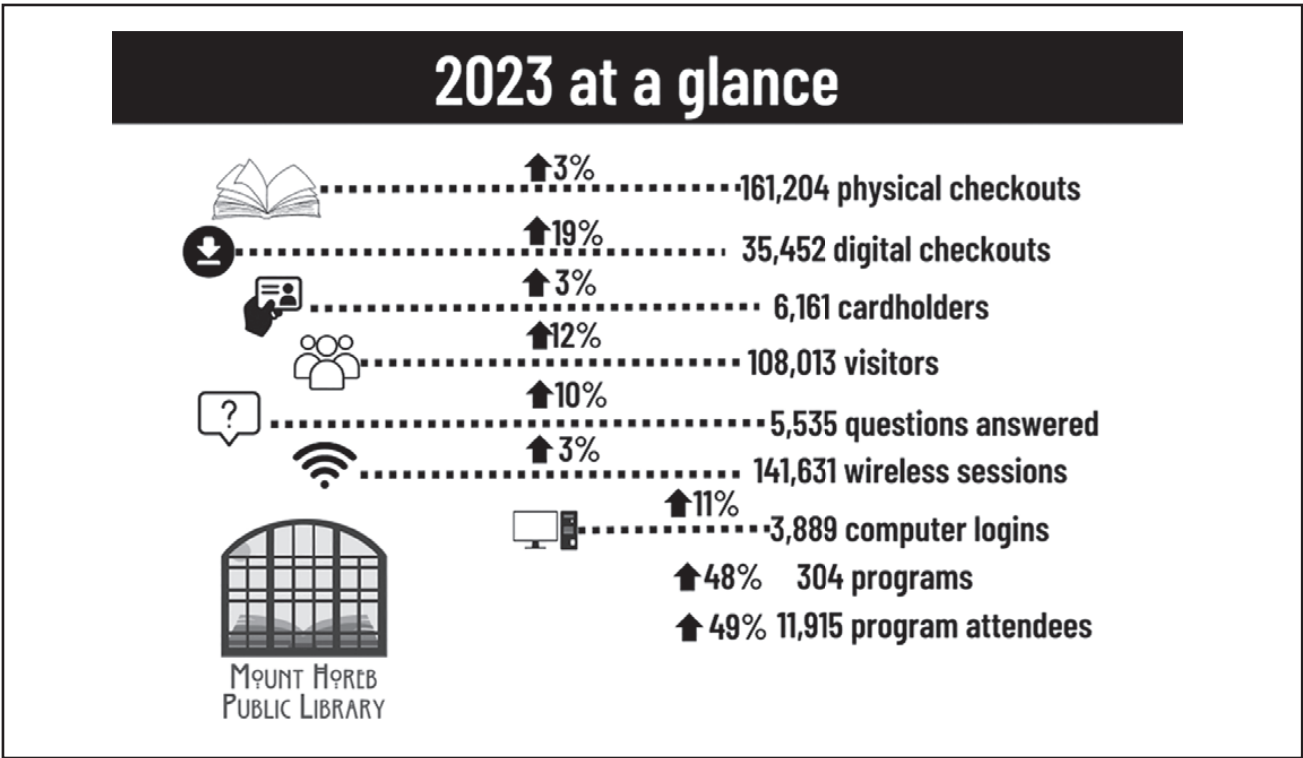
Local library use rose in 2023

By JESSICA GRETZINGER
Library Director

Overall library usage increased in 2023 and we couldn't be more thrilled to serve our community! Pictured immediately above is a brief visual overview, which I will dig into a bit more. In fact, here are a few insights from the annual report regarding library usage that you may not know:

-On average, we are open 61 hours per week, 52 weeks per year. Did you know anyone can visit the library? You do not need a library card to come in and use the space.

-The library owns 53,124 books, 5,184 audio materials, and 6,094 DVDs. Did you know DVD checkouts are on the rise in 2024? With digital content constantly changing per platform, you might consider dusting off your DVD player and checking out the latest movies at your local library!-The library also has access to approximately 247,351 digital materials through our consortium buying power with the South Central Library System (Overdrive/Libby) and Hoopla. Did you know



that being a member of the consortium also allows us to order physical items for you from 54 other libraries if you don't see what you need on the shelves? We get deliveries every morning 5 days a week so you'll have that item in your hands soon!

-Speaking of checkouts, in 2023 the greater Mount Horeb area checked out 161,204 total physical items and 35,452 digital items.

-Library membership increased by 3%!

-Did you know library computer lab usage is also on the rise? In 2023, patrons logged into library computers for a total of 3,889 sessions. One reason for the increase might be that the library has the best deal on printing in town; only .10 for black and white prints and .25 cents for color copies! Did you know we are

also increasing the amount of time you may use the computers? Beginning May 1st patrons may login to library computers for up to 4 hours per day!

-Patrons also accessed the library's wireless for a total of 141,631 sessions.

-A new category that the Department of Public Instruction is tracking this year is "digital literacy." With the number of scam/fraud cases

abounding, the library does offer programs taught by experts such as the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection on avoiding today's challenges. Keep an eye on the *Mount Horeb Mail* or our website to see a list of upcoming programs: www.mhpl.org.

-We are always looking for new ways to get the word out about library offerings. Places you can check for up-

to-date information are the Mount Horeb Mail, library website, and library socials. We also try to place posters around town for many events and we are looking for volunteers to help us with this task. If you'd like to volunteer to put up posters for the library, please reach out to Melissa.

-The library offered a total of 304 programs and approximately 11,915 people attended programs. The children's department broke a record in the number of summer library program participants in that 699 kiddos registered to participate! (Help us break 700 registrants this summer!)

-In addition to the magazines we have in house and the specialized items such as board games, energy meters, and a radon test kit, the library added 3,831 books, 117 audio materials, and 487 DVDs to the collection in 2023.

All-in-all, the library had a great year with Mount Horeb in 2023 and we look forward to continuing to serve our community in 2024 -- and potentially break more records, of course!

POWER

continued from page 1

the two co-owner utilities of the Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project, are appealing to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit (Court of Appeals) to lift the preliminary injunction order issued by the United States District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin that halted a land exchange needed to complete the last 1.1 miles of the project.

The utilities are further requesting the Court of Appeals to stay the preliminary injunction "and expedite the appeal to avoid further unnecessary delays and expenses to this critically im-

portant project."

Construction of the 102-mile, 345,000-volt (345-kV) Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project is nearly complete, with the eastern half of the line placed in service in December 2023. Supporters call it a "backbone project for the Midwest's regional power grid" that is "necessary to improve grid reliability, lower consumer electricity costs, and enable renewable energy to be brought to market, resulting in a significant reduction in carbon emissions."

Opponents say the entire project has been a waste of time and money that will mar the landscape, harm wildlife and reduce property values along the line's route.

Its owners say that as of October 2023, there were 161 renewable generation projects in Wisconsin, Iowa and other Upper Midwestern states representing more than 24.7 gigawatts conditioned upon its completion -- enough to power millions of homes and businesses with clean energy.

"Given the preliminary injunction, the entire project cannot meet the current June 28, 2024, in-service date," they said in a joint statement. "A new in-service date cannot be determined until further developments occur in the pending litigation, including a termination of the injunction, allowing for closing on the land exchange with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

(USFWS). Once this closing occurs and a new construction schedule is developed, a revised in-service date will be issued and the project could be placed in service within four to six months."

ITC Midwest and Dairyland Power Cooperative said that "as the USFWS found after careful review and before approving it, the land exchange will provide significant net benefits to the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge (Refuge) when the project is completed."

"We have a responsibility to get the Cardinal-Hickory Creek project in service as soon as possible so it can begin providing significant economic benefits for electricity consumers. The latest litigation and the preliminary injunction only serve to further increase costs for customers," said ITC Midwest President Dusky Terry. "We strongly assert that the

federal agencies that granted the land exchange and issued permits for the project acted within their legal authority under federal law and their environmental review complied with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Just as in prior litigation, we are confident that we will ultimately prevail in this case and move forward with project completion."

"The approved land exchange clearly provides significant net benefits for the Refuge. To complement the benefits of the land exchange, the construction plan includes the removal of the current transmission lines and structures through the Refuge and across the Mississippi River," said Ben Porath, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for Dairyland Power Cooperative. "The net impact of these shifts in infrastructure will reduce the electric transmission

footprint in the Refuge and replace existing structures with low-profile structures using an avian-friendly design."

ITC Midwest LLC is a subsidiary of ITC Holdings Corp., the largest independent electricity transmission company in the U.S. ITC Midwest operates more than 6,600 circuit miles of transmission lines in Iowa, Minnesota, Illinois and Missouri, and holds utility status in Wisconsin. ITC Midwest is headquartered in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and maintains regional operating facilities in Dubuque, Iowa City and Perry, Iowa; and Albert Lea and Lakefield, Minnesota. With headquarters in La Crosse, Wis., Dairyland provides wholesale electricity to 24 member distribution cooperatives and 27 municipal utilities in four states (Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois).

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No slowing the Viking train

Mount Horeb enjoys a perfect week

by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor

The state is abuzz over a Milwaukee Brewers offense that averaged a Major League-best 6.5 runs per game in their first 14 contests.

The Brewers can't hold a candle, though, to how Mount Horeb's baseball team is swinging the bats.

The Vikings averaged 9.9 runs per game in their first seven contests and raced to a 6-1 start.

Mount Horeb won all four of its contests last week and was tied for the lead in the Badger Small Conference with a 3-0 mark.

"Different guys seem to be stepping up each game and helping us win, which is what great teams do," said Mount Horeb manager Ryan Finley.

Here's a recap of the Vikings' terrific week:

- **Mount Horeb 13, Sauk Prairie 10** — The Vikings scored eight runs in the final two innings and rallied past the host Eagles on April 9.

Mount Horeb trailed, continued on page 14



Josh Kuntz (above) and Jaxen Finley (right) helped Mount Horeb's baseball team race to a 6-1 start. Photos courtesy of Mary Langenfeld



Vikings get their kicks

Girls soccer team is off to a terrific start

by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor

Mount Horeb girls soccer coach Mark Newman knew his team would be improved this spring.

But even Newman himself has to be overjoyed with how the Vikings have started the year.

Mount Horeb earned a scoreless tie against host Verona — ranked No. 5 in Division 1 — on April 8. The Vikings then rolled to a 7-0 win at Reedsburg on April 9 and cruised past visiting Platteville/Lancaster, 8-0, on April 13.

Here's a recap to the Vi-

kings' blazing start.

- **Mount Horeb 0, Verona 0** — The Vikings had their first two games of the season snowed out, meaning they faced the daunting task of opening against the highly-regarded Wildcats.

But Mount Horeb held its own and left Verona with a hard-fought tie.

"Given the first game uncertainty, the effort the girls gave, and the level of the opponent, the result on the road was one we can be proud of," Mount Horeb coach Mark Newman said.

The Vikings struggled at times offensively, which was continued on page 16



Addison Motl has starred in goal for Mount Horeb's girls soccer team this season. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

Softball Vikings are heating up

Mount Horeb cruises past Sauk Prairie and McFarland

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

That's more like it.

After Mount Horeb's girls softball team dropped two of its first three games this season, the Vikings erupted for 27 runs in a pair of wins last week.

Mount Horeb rolled past visiting Sauk Prairie, 14-0, on April 9. The Vikings then routed visiting McFarland, 13-2, on April 10.

"The girls are looking very good right now, out-hitting our opponents in every game so far this year," said Mount Horeb manager Jeramie Holman, whose team improved to 3-2 overall. "We are capable of averaging double digit runs in all of our conference games."

In the Vikings' win over Sauk Prairie, Gina Rhiner belted a three-run home run, while JoJo Murray went 2-for-4 with two runs scored and three RBI. Delaina Nicewander had two RBI, while Ruby Dahlk went 2-for-3 with two runs scored and an RBI.

Jayse Holman went 2-for-4 with two runs scored and an RBI, and Hallie Klein went 2-for-4 with a run scored and an RBI. Morgan Monroe scored two runs, had a hit and an RBI, while Maddie Swiggum scored a pair of runs.

Holman threw the first two innings, struck out three and didn't allow a run. Jozie

Clifton threw the final three innings, struck out five and allowed three hits.

"We did like we normally do after a loss and bounce back," Jeramie Holman said. "Seven of the nine girls collected hits and Gina had her first home run of the year."

"Jayse looked good pitching two innings of no-hit ball and Jozie pitched the last three frames."

Mount Horeb followed that with an impressive win over McFarland.

Murray had a huge day at the plate, going 3-for-4 with three RBI and two runs scored, while Jayse Holman went 2-for-3 with a run scored and two RBI. Klein went 2-for-3 with three runs scored, and Rhiner went 2-for-4 with two RBI.

Dahlk had two RBI and scored two runs, while Nicewander scored a pair of runs and had an RBI.

Jayse Holman threw all five innings and picked up the win. Holman allowed three hits, struck out seven walked three and allowed just one earned run.

"Eight of the nine girls had hits," Jeramie Holman said.

- **On deck:** The Vikings were at Madison Edgewood Monday and traveled to Reedsburg Tuesday. Mount Horeb is at Stoughton Thursday at 5 p.m., hosts Baraboo Friday at 5 p.m. and is at Evansville Saturday at 10 a.m.



Mount Horeb's girls softball team had a big week, posting wins over Sauk Prairie and McFarland. On top, Ruby Dahlk slides home with a run, while above, Jayse Holman has shined on the mound. Photos courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

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Mount Horeb golfers making strides

Vikings third at Dodge-Point

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

Improvement.
Development.
Progress.
With three new players in the lineup, this is what Mount Horeb boys golf coach Nolan Krentz is looking for with his young Vikings this spring. And that’s exactly what Mount Horeb delivered last week.

The Vikings finished sixth at the eight-team Badger Small Conference mini-meet on April 9. Mount Horeb then placed 18th out of 24 teams at the Monona Grove Invite on April 11, before wrapping its week with a third place finish at the 16-team Dodge Point Invite last Saturday.

“Our season is just getting going with three meets under our belt, so we now have a better idea of where we are at and what we need to work on,” Krentz said. “Hopefully, we can clean up some things and be a little more competitive moving forward.”

Here’s a recap of the Vikings’ week:

- **Badger Conference mini-meet** — The Vikings finished sixth out of eight teams with a 347 in a meet held at Norsk Golf Club. Stoughton won the meet with a 331-team score.
- Sophomore Jude Young led Mount Horeb with a 77, that tied him for medalist honors with Drew Bindl of Madison Edgewood and

Tyler Poker of Baraboo in the 40-player field. Young recorded birdies at No. 2, 8 and 11 and also made eight pars.

“Jude’s play was the highlight of the day for us as he posted career-low round in only his fourth ever varsity meet,” Krentz said. “He had shown flashes during the first week of practice, so it was nice to see him put in all together in our first meet.”

Senior Jack Vesperman shot an 83 and tied for ninth individually. Vesperman birdied the ninth and 11th holes and finished with five pars.

Sophomore Nick Ibinger shot a 91, senior Riley Schellpfeffer finished with a 96, and junior Cole Cunningham added a 97 to round out the scoring for the Vikings.

“It was nice for our team to finally play a competitive round after having two meets canceled the previous week due to the snow,” Krentz said, “We ended up beginning our season playing a conference meet which was not ideal, but better than not playing at all.”

“It was an up and down day for our team, which was to be expected being the first meet of the year with only having one nine-hole practice in the previous nine days.”

- **Monona Grove Invite** — The Vikings shot a 338 and finished in 18th place at the 24-team invite held



Jude Young tied for medalist honors at the Badger Conference mini-meet on April 9. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

at The Oaks.

DeForest claimed the team title with an even-par 284, followed by Milton with a 296 and Brookfield East with a 299.

Nick Ibinger led Mount Horeb with an 82 in a round that included nine pars. Jack Vesperman finished with an 83, birding No. 3 and 15 and making six pars overall.

Jude Young added an 85, bouncing back from a slow start to record four straight pars from holes No. 3-6, as well as No. 8, 9 and 13. Riley Schellpfeffer added an 88 that included five

pars.

“We played better collectively as a team,” Krentz said. “This can be a challenging course, but it was very playable today with pins in accessible locations and calm winds for much of the round resulting in very low scores for the top teams.”

“Heading into the day we knew it would be tough to match some of these scores, so our goal was to do better than we had done two days before as well as be competitive with the rest of our conference teams competing here.”

- **Dodge Point Invite** — The Vikings finished third in the 16-team event with a team score of 339.
- Mineral Point was first with a 309, while Cuba City/Benton/Southwestern was second with a 329.
- Jack Vesperman led Mount Horeb with a 78 and tied for sixth individually at the 78-player field. Vesperman’s round was highlighted by 11 pars.
- Cole Cunningham had eight pars, posted a career-low round of 84 and tied for 14th place individually.
- Nick Ibinger added an 87, parring six holes during

his round. And Jude Young shot a 90 that included five pars.

“As was the case for much of the week, Saturday was definitely an uneven performance for our team,” Krentz said. “We certainly had our good holes, but unfortunately we left a lot of strokes out there on and around the greens.”

“Jack had a really solid round, only recording one score higher than a five all day, while Cole had a great performance and looked much more comfortable today than he did earlier in the week.”

Girls track team fourth at Badger Challenge

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

Mount Horeb’s girls track and field team finished in fourth place at the 13-team Badger Challenge on April 9.

The Vikings’ boys were ninth.

Waunakee won the girls’ meet with 121 points. DeForest (94), Sauk Prairie (68.5), Mount Horeb (66) and Baraboo (66) rounded out the top five.

Mount Horeb’s top finishes on the girls’ side included:

- Senior Abigail Sadler won the 800- and 1,600-meter run. Vikings’ junior Julia Straka was also fifth in the 1,600-meter run.
- Mount Horeb’s 1,600-

meter relay team of Emmy Bennin, Julia Straka, Sami Anderson and Katherine Straka was second.

- Freshman Willa Vigiotta was second in the 3,200-meter run.
- Junior Isabel Munoz was second in the 300-meter hurdles and sixth in the high jump.
- Senior Violet Statz was third in the long jump.
- Mount Horeb’s 800-meter relay team of Emerson Kroll, Julia Zimmer, Avena Myers and Lexi Tollefson was sixth.
- The Vikings’ 3,200-meter relay team of Siobhan Mertz, Ava Newman, Paige Stenner and Kajsa Peterson was seventh.
- Senior Alese Heim was seventh in the discus and

eighth in the shot put.

- Senior Emmy Bennin was eighth in the 400-meter run.
- On the boys’ side, Waunakee finished first with 104 points. Reedsburg (98.5), DeForest (92.5), Monona Grove (88) and Stoughton (58) rounded out the top five.
- Mount Horeb finished 10th with 38 points.
- The Vikings’ top finishes on the boys side included:
- Mount Horeb’s 800-meter relay team of Nick Vorwald, Kayden Baumgart, Owen Aeschlimann and Kyle Frischmann was second.
- Sophomore Max Grundahl was third in the high jump, while sophomore Colin Haag was ninth.

- Sophomore Kyle Frischmann was fourth in the 200-meter dash.
- Senior Beckham Retzlaff was fourth in the 110-meter hurdles, while sophomore Andrew Jones was ninth. Retzlaff was also sixth in the 300-meter hurdles.
- The Vikings’ 1,600-meter relay team of Max Vrstal, Caden Thelen, Desmond Kelley and Owen Aeschlimann was sixth.
- Junior Tyrus Hastings was sixth in the 100-meter dash, while junior Owen Preimesberger was 10th.
- Sophomore Kyle Frischmann was sixth in the long jump.
- Senior Marc Pipp was sixth in the 800-meter run.



Lexi Tollefson and Mount Horeb’s girls track team finished in fourth place at the Badger Challenge on April 9. Photo submitted

Co-op lacrosse team posts first win of year

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

The Verona-Mount Horeb co-op boys lacrosse team dropped their first two games of the season, before rallying for a win last Saturday.

Sun Prairie United defeated the Wildcats, 9-8, on April 5, and Homestead toppled the co-op team, 12-6, on April 9.

But the Wildcats rolled past Sussex Hamilton, 17-7, last Saturday.

Here's a recap of the Wildcats' first two games:

- **Sun Prairie United 9, Verona co-op 8** — Andrew Lalik led the Wildcats with three goals and an assist in a losing effort. Jacob Frick and Gil Weisensel both added two goals, while Jackson Connor added an

assist.

On defense, Calvin Patton led the Wildcats with three ground balls. Owen Lang turned in a strong performance at the faceoff X, winning 67% of faceoffs, while goalie Caleb Jabas had a .438 save percentage.

- **Homestead 12, Verona co-op 6** — Gil Weisensel scored three goals, but the Wildcats fell to the Highlanders. Jacob Frick added a pair of goals, while Adam Zak had a goal, as well.

Caleb Jabas had a .500 save percentage in goal for the Wildcats, while Owen Lang went 9-of-21 on faceoffs.

"Despite the loss, this game really helped us find our identity as a team," Verona coach Alex Kramer said. "Being only two games into the season, we

left with a newfound confidence and excitement for the rest of the season.

"Each week is constant improvement, and this is just another opportunity to build on that. I'm really proud of the way guys stepped up.

"Midfielder Gil Weisensel with three goals, defenseman Tyler Hrabina with lockdown defense, not to mention all of the freshman contributing more than they realize. Everything is starting to click from the top down."

- **Verona co-op 17, Sussex Hamilton 7** — Junior Andrew Lalik had four goals and three assists to lead the Wildcats to a win in a game played at Woodside Sports Complex in Wisconsin Dells.

Cooper Blodgett and Mason Williams both added three goals, while Owen Lang and Adam Zak each had two goals. Jackson Connor Ramsay Klein and Gil Weisensel rounded out scoring with one goal each.

Owen Lang won 80% of his faceoffs, while goalie Caleb Jabas had eight saves in three quarters of play.

Tyler Hrabina, Calvin Patton, Michon Dina, Asher Grady, Ayden Jagla and Cullen Olson led a strong defensive effort.

"After Hamilton came out with a 3-0 lead early in the game, we made some adjustments to slow the momentum," Wildcats' coach Alex Kramer said. "We couldn't be more proud with the way these young men answered to adversity."



Mount Horeb freshman Cullen Olson clears the ball upfield during a recent game. Photo submitted

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- **Culinary Aide** – 20 hour per week position with full benefits.
- **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.

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SOCCER

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somewhat expected with their limited early-season practice time. But Mount Horeb’s defense was in midseason form.

Freshman keeper Addi Motl was sensational in goal, finishing with 12 saves. Mount Horeb started three other freshmen, as well, and they all had a hand in the Vikings earning a draw.

“We were pretty disjointed offensively, which was to be expected given our limited practice time outside,” Newman said. “Defensively, the girls worked really hard and

maintained our organization well.

“Addi Motl, in her first game in goal, had a lot to do maintaining the shutout. She really helped us with her ability to be a part of our possession. Anya McKay played a strong part in organizing our defense and in cutting off numerous Verona attacks.”

• **Mount Horeb 7, Reedsburg 0** — Anya McKay had four goals to power the Vikings past the host Beavers on April 9. Jadyn Schellpfeffer, Maren Johnson and Rowan Severson also added goals for Mount Horeb.

“We played at Reedsburg the day after the Verona match,” Newman said. “It took us a little while to get going.

“Reedsburg played a high defensive line and compressed the space for us to play in. We

started playing more balls in behind the Reedsburg defense and they struggled with our speed, particularly with Anya McKay.”

McKay broke through with a goal in the 20th minute on an assist from Rowan Severson. McKay then struck again in the 24th minute on an assist from Kolbie Severson to make it 2-0.

Schellpfeffer scored in the 27th minute on an assist from Kolbie Severson to give Mount Horeb a 3-0 halftime lead.

McKay struck just 20 seconds into the second half on an assist from Schellpfeffer to make it 4-0. Then in the 46th minute, McKay scored again on a Schellpfeffer assist to make it 5-0.

Rowan Severson scored in the 52nd minute on an assist from Maddie Ryan, and Johnson scored in the 76th minute to account for the final score.

“We came out sharper in the second half and scored three goals in the first 12 minutes,” Newman said. “We were able to manage the game from that point, with Maren Johnson adding a late goal. Overall, we were able to control the game and earn a comfortable win.”

• **Mount Horeb 8, Platteville/Lancaster 0** — Anya McKay continued her brilliant start to the season with three goals as the Vikings rolled past Platteville/Lancaster in a game stopped due to the mercy rule.



Katie Smith and Mount Horeb’s soccer team are off to a terrific start. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

Rowan Severson added two goals and three assists, while Gwen Motl, Mikayla Holler and Maddie Ryan all added goals, as well.

Platteville finished the game with no shots on goal.

“The game was played almost entirely in our attacking half of the field,” Newman said. “We created a lot of shots, but it took a little while for us to start putting them on target.”

McKay scored on an assist from Rowan Severson in the 11th minute, then Rowan Severson scored in the 13th minute on an assist from Jadyn Schellpfeffer to make it 2-0. McKay struck again in the 36th minute and Motl scored in the 38th minute, as Rowan Severson assisted on both goals.

McKay completed her hat trick with a goal in the 44th minute on an assist from Shayla Morin, then Holler scored just one minute later on an assist from McKay. Rowan Severson scored in the 46th minute on an assist by Schellpfeffer, then Ryan scored in the 71st minute to end the game due to the eight-goal mercy rule.

“We came out strong in the second half with three goals in less than eight minutes,” Newman said.

• **On deck:** Mount Horeb was at Madison East Monday, then hosted Portage/Poynette Tuesday. The Vikings travel to Beaver Dam Thursday at 5 p.m., then host Milton Friday at 7 p.m.

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