

‘A masterclass in resilience’

Fear, loss and bravery in Mount Horeb



By MATT GEIGER

Mount Horeb Mail

Melissa Ingold was in her garden when she heard the bang. It was a beautiful, sunny spring day as she tended to her many upcoming flowers in a picturesque yard that overlooks the Mount Horeb Middle School’s back parking lot. In a moment, the entire community descended into

chaos, uncertainty and fear. For most, including Ingold, the day would end in exhausted, bewildered relief as parents were reunited with their children, but that would be many hours later.

The bang was the back doors of the middle school, which burst open as throngs of young students desperately tried to flee the building. The children had been in gym class, learning to rollerblade, and they slipped and slid and fell as they tried to get away from the armed student at the front of the school. As they fled into the parking lot, the students fell to the ground and grappled with their rollerblades. Teachers and other staff members ran out and Ingold heard “pop, pop, pop” as they ran from one student to the next, unhooking their footwear. In their socks, the children ran on, leaving a pile of rollerblades in their wake. The teachers did not leave until every student had escaped.

Ingold, like so many parents in the community, would soon receive the first of dozens and dozens of texts, emails and phone calls. In the coming hours,

continued on page 8



Clockwise from top left: A middle school student’s shadow passes over one of dozens of inspirational messages written outside the school for children to see as they returned to class Monday morning, five days after the shooting; Messages of hope at a gathering at the High School Commons on Thursday last week; Dane County Sheriff’s Office therapy dogs helped calm parents and siblings who waited for students to be released from lockdown last Wednesday. Photos by Matt Geiger and Aubree Hanks.

A message from the superintendent

On May 1, our community was confronted by a tragedy all too familiar across the country: being impacted by a school shooting. We are only just beginning on a road to recovery and understanding. That will take time, and I'm committed to keeping you all informed as we move forward together.



Salerno

This tragic incident has also reminded me of the blessings of being a Viking. I have seen the best of our community represented, despite the difficult circumstances on and since May 1, including:
-Young people who are compassionate to others. Our students' resiliency is something some of us adults even find difficult to muster, at times. Despite being tested too often, our children's compassion and resiliency is evident every day, not just at times of crisis.

-Faculty and staff that measure with the highest performing districts in the nation. Their fortitude and depths of love for our children and colleagues are immeasurable.
-Parents with an exceptional sense for what their children need, penchant for thoughtful advocacy, and unrelenting support for their school's high mission.
-First responders who have for years proactively planned for such events. They are to be commended for the immediacy of their

response.
-A community who understands the vitality of their schools depend on paying forward the K-12 education they once enjoyed.
-Mount Horeb's businesses and Chamber of Commerce. When the need arose on May 1, they fed, sheltered, and cared for our students' and staff's emotional well-being. From service animals to crisis counselors to food, the outpouring of generosity is unfathomable.
-Village and township

leaders who have regularly partnered with their schools. They understand that together we can better serve those we have the privilege to lead.
-Faith leaders who help many Vikings to recenter. If interested in their time and talents, all one needs to do is reach out and you can bet they will be there for you.
Being a Viking means being part of a community. A community where all are welcome at any time. Even those who have lived in

Mount Horeb and moved elsewhere remain a member of our community. As such, if there is anything we can do to marshal support for your family, please contact me – salernosteve@mounthorebschools.org or 608-437-7010.

I have never been prouder to be a Mount Horeb Viking, and I hope you are too.

Dr. Steve Salerno

MARC is on the move in Mount Horeb

By MATT GEIGER
Mount Horeb Mail

For more than half a century, MARC has been a part of Mount Horeb. The center, which has called several locations home over the years, will move again in 2025, upgrading its facility and improving the various ways the organization helps people with developmental disabilities and helping them become more fully immersed in the fabric of the greater community.
Kim Watrud, program director for MARC-Mt. Horeb, recently took the time to answer our questions about the organization and its upcoming move to a new home.

For people who don't know, tell us a little about MARC. What do you do and who do you serve?

Watrud: MARC is an organization that serves adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities in many different aspects of their daily lives. We have many different offerings that we do here Monday through Friday and that includes Facility and Community based day services, Supported and Self Employment, PreVocational, and Project SEARCH. Our facility based services offers assistance at our program helping individuals with their daily needs and activities. Community-based services are offered in the community and those are typically outings like bowling, swimming, shopping, work out programs, and some of our bigger outings to the Brewers and Mallards games. Supported Employment offers assistance to those who have employment in our community by assist them to complete their job tasks. We have 21 different community sites that we support throughout the week. Some clients work only a few hours and some work



MARC, which helps people with developmental disabilities, will move to a new location in 2025.

up to 30 hours per week. Self-employment is owning and operating their own business. We have two individuals who have their own business and MARC works closely with their families to ensure that their business is a success. PreVocational supports helps those individuals looking for jobs to gain employable skills at our program to eventually use in community employment and Project SEARC

is a program that we run out of [the] Kalahari in Wisconsin Dells. This program is a nine month internship that supports individuals wanting to learn skills to become employees in competitive employment.

I've written many stories about the people at MARC over the years, but I don't know how long you've been in Mount Horeb. You have a pretty long history

here, right?

Watrud: Yes, we do. We have been in Mount Horeb for 52 years and overall MARC has been around for 73 years.

You've moved around a bit. (The current location is 225 Blue Mounds Street.) Tell us about your new building and how you decided to pursue this project?

Watrud: This will be our fourth location in Mount Horeb since we started in 1972. Over the years we have grown and had to move. Our current building was built for us in 1987 and during that time the model of supports for individuals with disabilities was more in-house Prevocational work. Over the last 30-plus years that model has changed and more commu-

nity activities (community outings and supported employment) developed along with the request for supports. We are serving individuals with many different abilities and needs. During COVID it became clear that we needed more space. Our current location is roughly 10,000 square feet with roughly 4,000 being our warehouse. Which is not a space that we can use for programing needs. So we roughly had about 6,000 feet to use. In 2022 we were able to rent space at 1210 Springdale to alleviate our congestion at our location on Blue Mounds Street. We also purchased land on Commerce Street around this same time and began our quiet phase of our Capital Campaign.

What advantages will your new location have?

Watrud: Our new location will be 13,500 square feet. It will have seven different programming areas, a cafeteria, offices, two conference room, a store front, and so much more to be able to offer services to our existing clients in the same building but to also get people off our waiting list. We have put many hours of thought into what we need and what works best for supports moving forward for our community.

What's your timeline?

Watrud: We will have a ground breaking on June 7 at 10 a.m. and hope to be into our new building by March 1 of 2025.

Anything else?

Watrud: Right now we have raised 2.9 million and are still actively raising funds for the remaining 2.4 million.

Plan commission backs multi-family ordinance

By ERIN HERNDON
Mount Horeb Mail

The Plan Commission made a motion to recommend an ordinance for a multi-family residence to the Village Board. At their April 24 meeting, the Board also made motions to approve an updated general development plan for a proposed mixed-use building (1881 Springdale Street) as well as conditional use permit resolutions for a Symdon Motors accessory building (2011 Springdale St) and 2024-08 Chapter 17 & Chart 1 accessory building height limitations.

According to a report

from Village Planner Ben Rohr, Rick North, the applicant and proposed developer, is proposing Ordinance 2024-07 R3: a planned development zoning to accommodate 11 townhome units within three different buildings on a 0.65-acre parcel (109 & 113 Valley Dr & 302 Adams St). Previously, the development plan came before the Commission for concept review in March 2024. Rohr said that while there were originally three separate lots, the parcels were combined via Certified Survey Map. This action was completed during the March meeting concurrent

to the approval of a Comprehensive Plan Amendment to the Multi-Family Residential land use category and rezoning to the R-3 Multi-Family Residential Zoning District.

“The three properties were combined via a certified survey map, and we also approved a zoning amendment to R-3. R-3 does allow for townhomes but based on this being an in-filled site and being somewhat constrained, there is a need for flexibility, mainly related to the setbacks associated with the zoning ordinance,” Rohr said. “Before you today is the general development

plan, which is the rezoning part of the plan development process.”

The Plan Commission held a public hearing to consider the zoning change from R-3 Multi-Family to PD- General Plan Development for the three proposed townhouse buildings. While no individuals came before the Commission during the public hearing portion of the meeting, Village Administrator Nic Owen relayed comments he’d received from two citizens regarding the development.

“I did get one phone call from a neighbor of this property who thought the

buildings were too high,” Owen said. “I got an email from another resident who was concerned about the additional traffic. They own some properties in the area and their kids now play in that alleyway.”

Rohr said Rick North anticipates having the Specific Implementation Plan (SIP) or the “site plan” with all the details at a forthcoming meeting. The Commission ultimately moved that the rezoning application be recommended to the Village Board.

During the Village Planner’s report, Rohr further touched on zoning changes,

specifically progress on the rewrite of the Village’s zoning code.

“We will be creating a project page on the Village website for all the materials to live there and available to others not able to make it to a meeting,” Rohr said. “What I plan to do next month is bring an evaluation report and look into the existing ordinance. I’m going to dive into the code in a lot more depth and try to identify issues and come up with some solutions.”

The Commission next meets May 22 at 7 p.m.

Mount Horeb Village Board OK’s zoning changes

By ERIN HERNDON
Mount Horeb Mail

The Mount Horeb Village Board approved a zoning change on a proposed mixed-use building. The Board approved four items including the zoning change, welcomed a representative of Congressman Mark Pocan, discussed sidewalk cafe permits and reviewed committee reports at their May 2 meeting. A closed session was also held regarding the purchase of Lukken Farm for park space and development and the purchase of land for business park development.

A potential development at 1881 Springdale St. was recently reviewed and recommended for approval by the Plan Commission. Village Administrator Nic Owen presented an overview of the project to the Board.

“The building would consist of 23 residential units and two commercial spaces on the first floor,” Owen said. “The biggest controversial issue was how the site fits with the existing neighborhood and the homes that are located to the south.”

Trustee Cathy Scott said

the property would be better utilized as commercial space and that ample housing developments are already underway.

“I’m not in favor of this,” Scott said. “We have 114 apartments and or homes already approved but not yet built, and there are still 29 lots available at Windflower Village. I don’t think we’re in dire need of 23 new apartments. I don’t think the need’s there, and I don’t think the location is the right place.”

A proposed zoning change of the property from PD-1 (planned development) to a

general development plan was ultimately approved by the board with the stipulation that the height of the building would be no greater than 45 feet. The sole dissenting vote came from Scott.

In other news, Morgan Salli, a field representative of 2nd Congressional District of Wisconsin Congressman, Mark Pocan (D-Wis), provided a legislative update on behalf of the Congressman. Salli said she wanted to emphasize the potential impact the Congressman’s office could have for the Village and its constituents.

“The first thing our office can provide here in the District is constituent services where our casework team in the office serves as a liaison between our constituents and a federal agency if they’re ever having any issues,” Salli said. “The second way we can directly impact communities is that Mark can write letters of support for applying for federal grants. Our office can also look into potential grant opportunities for targeted projects. Finally, our team is in frequent contact with the Congressman to ensure any community needs are com-

municated directly to him.”

Lastly, the Board approved a proclamation declaring May 5-11 as Public Service Recognition Week. Motions were also approved renewing the annual review of Village ethics policy and opting out of extended closing hours for licensed alcohol premises during the Republican National Convention (Ordinance 2024-09).

The Board next meets June 5 at 7 p.m.

Union and school board disagree about base wage

By ERIN HERNDON
Mount Horeb Mail

During a special meeting, the Mount Horeb Board of Education voted to impose a District teacher base wage for the 2024-2025 school year. According to the public agenda for the meeting, the Board held a closed session April 22 to discuss the status of collective bargaining with the Mount Horeb Education Association (MHEA). The session specifically regarded the 2024-2025 collective bargaining agreement as well as a potential declaration of impasse and imposition of the Board’s final offer.

The MHEA provided the

Mount Horeb Mail with a comment on the Board’s decision. According to the statement, the MHEA is disappointed with the Board’s (MHASD) choice “to effectively end bargaining with the Association by imposing terms on teachers for a third time.” The MHEA said the manner in which the Board defines the aforementioned “base wage” has led to disagreement between the two entities.

According to the MHEA, MHASD utilizes a calculation where the starting teacher’s 2022 salary is multiplied during their subsequent years of employment by the CPI

(Consumer Price Index). The MHEA said this process creates a narrow definition of the base wage that is lower than current teacher earnings in the District and further varies from other Dane County districts.

According to the MHEA, the Association proposed a 4.12% salary increase, which they said aligned with current inflation rates. The MHEA said this method would aim to keep the salary schedule in line with the inflationary pressures and comparable districts in the area. However, they said the District frames their own method of reaching 4.12% as a salary increase but that the actual increase would only be 2.8% in real dollars

to the current salary schedule.

“While our community’s backing for teachers is evident, we are puzzled by the ongoing disrespect from the Board,” Middle school Spanish teacher and bargaining team member, Steve Austin said.

According to the statement, the Board declined MHEA requests for meetings during bargaining, an action the MHEA said differs from comparable school districts. The MHEA said the lack of meet-and-confer sessions between the two entities has resulted in District teachers being unin-

formed on the salary impact such decisions represent.

Second grade teacher and MHEA bargaining team member, Melissa Olmstead said MHEA created a salary schedule during the Fall 2023 semester that was in line with the Association’s comparables.

“Thanks to the community’s support in the referendum, salaries increased to competitive levels for the first time in more than a decade,” Olmstead said. “However, that progress is at risk when we are the only district that calculates raises on a fictional number rather than people’s actual salaries.

It won’t be long before we are once again one of the lowest-paid districts in our area. This is not how you attract and retain quality staff.”

Concluding their statement to the *Mount Horeb Mail*, the Mount Horeb Education Association said it is crucial for the community to be aware of the issues they have regarding the base wage determination as it affects both District staff and students.

The Board of Education holds its next regular meeting May 20 at 7 p.m.



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Springdale tackles short-term rentals

By STEVE MATYAS
Mount Horeb Mail

The Springdale Plan Commission met on April 22 to discuss a potential town ordinance regulating short term rentals. Chair Amy Jester provided a preliminary draft of an ordinance based on her research of such documents in area communities, which would allow the town to issue licenses regulating the use of properties in this manner. Jester pointed out that property used as transient or tourist lodging are currently required to file for conditional use permits with Dane County in an addition

to meeting requirements concerning public health, occupancy, parking, use of firearms, and advertising, and events. Violations of these regulations are referred to the county for enforcement and possible punitive action. The ordinance being considered would allow the town to revoke licenses on its own without seeking county intervention, giving the town, in commission member Adam Carrico’s opinion, “teeth” to act independently. Town board chair John Rosenbaum called Jester’s draft “confusing” and asked

if it could be re-written to provide clarification on whether requirements in the document applied to either short term rentals, transient and tourist lodging, or both. Jester responded she “didn’t choose the language” of the draft, relying instead on exiting ordinances, but expressed her willingness to re-work it. Commission member Kelly Altschul defended the draft, stating that there has “got to be a reason for the existing language” in the document. Town board members Richard Schwenn and Wayne Hefty both spoke against the proposed ordi-

nance with Schwenn repeating earlier comments about the town already having too many ordinances in place and Hefty referring to the proposal as “tilting at wind-mills.” Jester noted the absence of support for the ordinance and advised the commission to not recommend further action on it. She offered instead to draft a list of common use permit requirements and send letters out to potential renters advising them to file for the permits. In other action, the commission looked into the construction of a 48’x42’x20’6” residential accessory build-

ing on property located at 2182 County Road J. After discussion concerning lighting and possible re-location by 20 feet, the commission recommended to the town board that permission be granted to continue as planned. Lighting questions were resolved by determining that the only external lighting was to be on the North side of the building, would be motion-activated, and would be in compliance with the town’s Dark Sky ordinance by shining downward. Re-location was deemed not possible due to a swale in the ground north of the pro-

posed site and the presence of trees to the east. Color of the building was also discussed, with the owners stating that it would match the color of an existing house and the roof would be painted dark. The commission advised the owners that lack of an access road to the building could result in financial risk if emergency vehicles are required to respond to the property and have difficulty reaching the building.

Upon recommendation by the commission, the town board voted to approve the plan.

Historic preservation commission gets going

By ERIN HERNDON
Mount Horeb Mail

The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) reviewed forms relating to the historic preservation process. The Commission met for their monthly meeting April 24 where they also approved the Historic Preservation Commission role and procedural framework as well as discussed the Racine Historic Preservation Plan. The Commission continued discussion on forms required as part of a submission package for a

district, structure, site, or entity being considered for historical preservation. Village citizens wishing to have a location considered by the HPC are currently required to submit a nomination questionnaire and an application for a certificate of appropriateness for the property in question. Village Trustee Marc Schellpfeffer said he believes the addition of the itemized checklist will aid applicants through the submission process. “That helps me and my comfort level with it,”

Schellpfeffer said. “I think for us to be able to give that type of direction to an applicant who doesn’t do this every day will make our lives easier as well.” The Certificate of Appropriateness currently requires general applicant and property information as well as a brief description of the project and attachments such as exterior photographs or sketches, floor plans and other specifications. The nomination questionnaire is more extensive, with necessary information including

further history and description of the property, such as its historical significance and any physical changes made since its initial construction. Citizen member Maura Overland said she hopes the application checklist will help applicants navigate the process but that a due date may also be worth implementing. “I thought that the checklist was kind of a nice way to make sure you had enough information with your application,” Overland said.

“I don’t know if we want to add any kind of due date at some point, just because if we need to approve it, we need to review the application.” Village Administrator Nic Owen said the current standard for items being considered by the HPC’s sister committee, the Plan Commission, is 30 days. “We went to a standard of 30 days for Plan Commission just because there’s so much that we need to get off to consultants for review,” Owen said. “I don’t know if

we need 30 days for these, but the consistency makes a lot of sense.” The Commission is also considering the implementation of a nominal fee as part of an HPC application. “We use fees to cover Village time if there’s a publication requirement or notice requirement,” Owen said. The HPC did not make a motion on the application due dates nor nominal fee. They will continue the discussion at their next meeting May 22 at 6 p.m.

Blue Mound State Park hosts free concerts

Friends of Blue Mound State Park are hosting an array of free events this summer
Shakespeare in the Park
June 23
1:00 - Free Educational Workshop with the Summit Theatre Players
2:30 - Performance of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*
Blue Mound State Park Outdoor Amphitheater
The event is free with the state park entrance fee
Sponsored by the Friends

of Blue Mound State Park
Details: Summit Theatre Players are back as part of Shakespeare in the State Parks 2024 with a Midsummer Night’s Dream. Join the Players and FBMSPP for this FREE, family-friendly event at the Blue Mound State Park amphitheater. Each Summit Players performance is an accessible 75-minute show preceded by a 45-minute educational workshop offered to kids and “fun adults.” No registration is required for the

workshop or show. Come experience some fun with Shakespeare surrounded by the beauty of Blue Mound State Park!
Find more information at <https://www.friendsof-bluemound.org/shakespeare-in-the-park/>
Music on the Mound
Saturdays in July and August, 6-8 pm
Blue Mound State Park Amphitheater, Friends Shelter will be used in the case of poor weather
The event is free with the state park entrance fee
Sponsored by the Friends

of Blue Mound State Park
Local musicians and groups will perform in the outdoor amphitheater at the top of the park.
July 6 Red Door Duo
Helen Avian and Dave Irwin perform “new acoustic” songs and instrumentals. They are especially known for their award-winning fingerstyle guitar music.
July 13 Teddy Davenport
Teddy delves deep into the rich tapestry of folk, blues, country, and gospel, crafting a sound that is unapologetically honest and deeply

soulful.
July 20 Gaines & Waggoner
Enjoy an eclectic mix of Americana—original and classic tunes ranging from folk to jazz, bluegrass to blues, honky-tonk, and a little singer-songwriter.
July 27 Corey Mathew Hart
An award winning singer/songwriter...his beautiful voice has amazed audiences for years. A mix of americana, folk & more.
August 3 Josh Harty
A little bit country, a lotta bit North Dakota, a little bit blues, and a pretty good size bit Wisco.
August 10 Hoot N Annie
We love to play songs that

are fun to sing in harmony backed by fiddle, banjo, ukulele bass, harmonica, cello and guitar.
August 17 Old Oaks Music
Music ranges from 12-string renditions of classic tunes to melodious folk-jazz originals.
August 24 Norman’s Point
“Expect the Unexpected” Come prepared to hear some blues rock/country covers and originals.
August 31 Common Chord
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GLEANINGS

By **Barb Johnson**
Mount Horeb Mail

130 Years Ago- May 10, 1894

A hard-looking tramp of sickly appearance passed through our streets last Sunday and seemed very unconcerned about the rain that was falling, not making any effort to seek shelter. The couple of scores of small boys also seemed to forget the severity of the weather elements while escorting the footpad way past the Union Church.

Torn clothes are the order of the day on account of the wire fence that was erected near the school grounds.

The sports were out Sunday and one of them returned with 40 trout dangling at his belt.

Advertisers who think that the same advertisement in their local paper all year round is good advertising, should remember there is a big difference between a running water and a stagnant pool.

Eddie Bunberg met us on the street with an unusual smiling countenance and we have since learned all about

it. Eddie, these bachelor halls are not what they were cracked up to be.

Two of our young men, while riding were suddenly spilled out. They returned home none the worse for the accident, but the cart is a thing of the past.

Fashionable wearing apparel can now be secured at very reasonable prices in Klevenville. Mrs. K. Granum will do dressmaking in Granum & Nygard's store, and Inger Kleven will attend to your headgear at George Swensons.

E. H. Domholt is doing considerable business as a horse doctor. Domholt and Syvrud are castrating colts these days.

Carpet weaving is another industry added to the many others in Blue Mounds. Mrs. L. M. Anderson is the weaver.

120 Years Ago- May 12, 1904

Ladies can attend the Boston Bloomer game without any fear of being offended, as nothing will be tolerated that would shock the most fastidious. The Boston

Belles, in Bloomers bright, will bat the ball clear out of sight, at the ball grounds Saturday, May 14.

Thomas Ayen has contracted to lay cement sidewalk from the Mt. Horeb House north to Main Street, thence west to Hoff's Corner and south to the Farmers Store.

Ladies may vote at the next village election on the question of purchasing the Academy building for the high school. Not because it is necessary in carrying the purchasing, but it looks well that the mothers, teachers, and others manifest interest in this matter.

Last week the Italian laborers imported by the railroad company left their work and returned to Chicago, being afraid that they would be dealt with as were their fellow countrymen stationed on sections west of here on the N.W. line, where their cars were burned and the laborers threatened with violence. The railroad company are now bringing a new set of men who, judging by appearance will defend their rights.

In compliance with a

request signed by many property owners the village board has employed a surveyor to establish a street grade, which was the proper capper of choice.

H. B. Dahle has kindly accepted the offer of \$5,000 for the Academy building and site, which certainly is below half value, besides a location equal to this is unobtainable at any price here now. The proposition will be submitted to the people of the village to be voted on, Tuesday, May 24. The result is a foregone conclusion for as a rule people are now slow in accepting a good bargain.

110 Years Ago- May 7, 1914

The big new viaduct on Sixth Street is progressing very fast and will make a great improvement to the village and a long needed safety for crossing the railroad track.

The local telephone com-

pany is at cable construction work, having received another shipment of aerial cable, which will soon be suspended and take the place of the valance of open wire in the village.

Rev. Otto Mostrom enjoyed a ride in a new car, having chartered a fine new Bengal machine. Last Sunday, it was taken into use for the first time with Joe Benson as chauffeur, going over some bad roads to Mill Creek where the Rev. held services in the morning and at West Blue Mounds in the afternoon.

Rev. Mulwarf of Leland, Wis., has been visiting friends and relatives here. He came in an auto to Sauk City, 50 miles from here and was met at that place by Frank Heuser, his brother-in-law, in his touring car and they got as far as Pine Bluff when the heavy rain overtook them, and where they found shelter until after the rain, when they continued their journey and made

it home late in the evening. In the auto part were Fred Heuser, August Gerke and Fred Arnold, besides the minister and chauffeur, which made up a good load for the condition of the roads after the rain.

L.J. Bergh is developing into a hustling painter, having several jobs on hand, and is looking for steady weather.

90 Years Ago- May 3, 1934

One hundred and ninety-two members of the CCC will arrive here by train next Monday and will make their camping place in the Lake Park. They are coming here from Sheridan, Ill.

John Wallen of this village died suddenly at his home on Tuesday at the age of 74 years.

Hoff's Meat Market advertised pork loin roast end cuts at 10 cents a lb., and ground meat at 10 cents a lb.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

THURSDAY, MAY 9

Mt. Horeb Seniors shopping trip to Dodgeville. Bus leaves at 9:30am. Call Kris to reserve a seat at 608-444-7930

Mt. Horeb Farmers' Market, 315 E. Main St., lawn of Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3:00-6:30pm. Seasonal vegetables, fruit, meat, prepared foods, baked goods, eggs, honey, etc.
Renew acquaintances, make new friends, meet new and returning vendors.

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

FRIDAY, MAY 10

Mother's Day Tea, Senior Center, 1:00pm, RSVP by May 3

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

SATURDAY, MAY 11

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

SUNDAY, MAY 12

Mother's Day

MONDAY, MAY 13

Friends of Military Ridge meeting at Mt. Horeb Public Library, 5:30 pm (meet & greet), meeting begins at 6:00pm.

TUESDAY, MAY 14

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

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

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 mhclasses@fingerpub.com.
We reserve the right to edit for length.

BLOOD DRIVE

Donating blood is a lifesaving gift most healthy people can give. The community is encouraged to donate blood on May 15 from 11:00 to 4:00 at Dodgeville High School or May 31 from 10:00 to 3:00 at QLF to help those who have been seriously injured and need blood products to help them recover. It's the blood already on the shelves that helps save lives.

Every day, the American Red Cross must collect about 12,000 blood donations to meet the needs of trauma patients and others with serious medical conditions. While all blood types are needed, type O negative donors are

especially important. Because it is the universal blood type and can be transfused to patients of any blood type, type O negative blood is what emergency personnel reach for when there is no time to determine the blood type of patients in the most serious situations.

To make an appointment or to learn more, download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device. Completion of a RapidPass® online health history

questionnaire is encouraged to help speed up the donation process. To get started, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

LIBRARY CORNER

By HANNAH KLAPPERICH-MUELLER
Mount Horeb Library

The library has spent the last couple of years focusing on improving accessibility and supportive services for disabled patrons as an important tenet of fulfilling the library's mission to welcome everyone to explore, grow, and connect. Everyone deserves opportunities to engage in their community and at their library.

Librarians Melissa Roelli and I created social narratives for visiting the library, one for children and one for adults, which are avail-

able to view on the library website (mhpl.org). A social narrative walks a person through what to expect out of a new experience. The Mount Horeb Public Library's social narratives are small booklets or slideshows about what a person will see and hear at the library; what rules a person needs to follow; and what more the library offers to do, use, and experience in addition to books. While a social narrative can help anyone, it is especially meant to help people with autism, ADHD, and/or anxiety feel comfort-

able with new experiences or visits to new places. Social narratives can also be used by people who are new to the community and want to know what the library offers, people visiting Mount Horeb who want to take a virtual tour before visiting, or parents and caregivers who want to prepare their children for a visit to the library.

Thanks to funding from the Friends of the Library, there are now crates of additional supports available in the center of the library and in the children's area. These

crates include weighted lap pads, noise-canceling headphones, fidget toys, sunglasses, and more. Library users can borrow what is useful while in the library and return the items when they are finished; patrons do not need to speak with library staff for permission, the items are available for use whenever the library is open. This is a developing resource; library staff will continue to add support tools and welcome hearing from community members about what is useful to individuals and families.

INDIGENOUS ART

The Driftless Historium (100 S 2nd St, downtown Mount Horeb) will host the 6th Annual Native Art Marketplace, an invitational Native art showcase, on Saturday, May 18 and Sunday, May 19, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. each day. This celebration of the art and culture of Wisconsin's First People is an ongoing partnership initiative of the Mount Horeb Area Historical Society (MHAHS) and Little Eagle Arts Foundation (LEAF) of Wisconsin Dells.

Award-winning Native artists will exhibit and offer their work for sale, as well as demonstrate and share stories associated with their process and their culture. "The annual Native Art Marketplace is a favorite community event; we are excited and proud to again bring together such a diverse and talented group of Native artists and culture bearers," noted MHAHS Director

Destinee Udelhoven.

Featured artwork includes a range of traditional and contemporary artforms, from black ash baskets and beadwork to paintings and jewelry. A slate of complementary programs presented by experienced Native performers and educators will further highlight the traditions and lifeways of Wisconsin's many indigenous tribes. Finally, LEAF is offering a free bead and quill friendship bracelet activity that will provide an opportunity for guests, young and old alike, to create their own memento of this special day of cross-cultural fellowship.

Participating artists include Kimberly Crowley (Ho-Chunk Nation) Scott Hill (Oneida Nation), Karen Ann Hoffman (Oneida Nation), Sayokla Kindness (Oneida Nation), Christopher Sweet (Ho-Chunk Nation), Brian Szabo (Rosebud Sioux), and Leah Winn-

ishiek (Ho-Chunk Nation). New and emerging artists Ava Belisle (Oneida Nation) and Sepatis Menomin (Forest County Potawatomi) will be exhibiting for the first time at the Driftless Historium.

This free event is made possible due to the generosity of LEAF and MHAHS supporters and donors. For more information, Contact the Driftless Historium for more information: (608) 437-6486 or email mthorebahs@gmail.com.

SPECIAL PROGRAM SCHEDULE (ALL FREE & OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC)

Saturday, May 18: Marketplace 10am-4pm
*11:00am Ho-Chunk song and dance performance by Eric Logan and Family
*1:00pm Great

Lakes Lacrosse Stick-making Demo with Sapatis Menomin (Forest County Potawatomi)
*10:00am-4:00pm Little Eagle Arts Foundation Beaded Friendship Bracelet Activity

Sunday, May 19: Marketplace 10am-4pm

*11:00am Ho-Chunk song and dance performance by Elliot and Company
*10:00am-4:00pm Little Eagle Arts Foundation Beaded Friendship Bracelet Activity

10:00am - 4:00pm each day: Little Eagle Arts Foundation Beaded Friendship Bracelet Make-and-Take Table
12:00pm - 2:00pm each day: Food Stand by Lightning New Rider (Ho-Chunk Nation) -Indian Tacos and more, while supplies last!

OBITUARIES

Damian Scott Cadena Haglund



MOUNT HOREB - Damian Scott Cadena Haglund, age 14, of Mount Horeb, passed away on Wednesday, May 1, 2024. He was born on Dec. 22, 2009, in Madison, the son of Alejandro Cadena Garcia and Melissa Haglund.

Damian had an adventurous soul that took him trekking through the Smoky Mountains and Glacier National Park. He enjoyed exploring and camping around the country and doing anything that brought him out in nature. His passion for the great outdoors often guided him to the peaceful serenity of Zoo Beach and Lion’s Den Gorge on Lake Michigan during summer months. He loved his Saturdays with his dad and their hiking trips and visits to Devil’s Lake. Damian had hoped to one day visit his family in Ecuador. His sense of adventure was fortified by his inquisitiveness. He loved to learn and visit museums.

Damian’s passion for exploration was matched by his creativity which led him to build forts around town and making Lego creations. He was a talented photographer and had an eye for taking pictures with his phone and iPad.

Damian had a special place in his heart for animals, especially his family cats and dogs, Dex, Niko, Penny and Levi.

Damian is survived by his parents, Alejandro Cadena Garcia and Melissa Haglund; brother, Cristian Haglund; grandparents, Gary and Cindi Haglund and Rene Cadena; uncle, Dustin Haglund; aunt, Grace Cadena; great-uncle, Alejandro Vinueza; and his kitty son, Dex.

He was preceded in death by grandmother, Olga Garcia.

A funeral service will be held at GUNDERSON CAMACHO MOUNT HOREB FUNERAL AND CREMATION CARE, 500 N. Eighth St., Mount Horeb, at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 11, 2024. Visitation will be held at the funeral home from 11 a.m. until 2

p.m. on Saturday.

Let us shed light on the importance of mental health awareness. Let us reach out to those who may be struggling, and offer compassion, support and understanding. Together, let us break the stigma surrounding mental illness, fostering a community where seeking help is met with empathy, not judgment.

If you or someone you know may be experiencing a mental health crisis, call or text the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at 988 for immediate assistance 24/7. For more information, please visit their website (tinyurl.com/3y4x24z2). The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) is also a great resource for assisting with mental health issues. Call their helpline 800-950-6264, or text “helpline” to 62640. For more information about NAMI, visit their website (nami.org) where you can also chat with a HelpLine specialist.

In lieu of flowers, please plant a tree in Damian’s name to enrich the natural world he loved so much.

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

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Mount Horeb
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500 N. Eighth St.
(608) 437-5077

Beth Ann Wright

Sept. 22, 1960 -
April 30, 2024



BLUE MOUNDS - Beth Ann Wright, age 63, of Blue Mounds, passed away on Tuesday, April 30, 2024, at UW Hospital with her husband at her side. She was born on Sept. 22, 1960, in Madison, the daughter of Glenn and Betsy (Foshe) Thronson.

Beth graduated from Barneveld High School in 1980. She married Edward Wright on April 23, 1994, at Perry Lutheran Church.

Beth worked in the food service industry for more than 30 years, 25 for the Central Wisconsin Center. She was a lifelong member of Perry Lutheran Church.

She was also a member of Barber Circle at Perry.

Beth loved baking and crafting, especially knitting and crocheting. She made many things for the church bazaar. Staying in touch with friends and family brought her much joy. Beth was a very caring person who loved her family very much, cats included. She was proud to be a published poet.

Beth is survived by her husband, Edward, and her children, Salem Wright and Clyde Wright; two sisters, Kate (Jeff) Hook and Kirsten (Scott) Mueller; two brothers, Lowell (Tammie) Thronson and John (Amy) Thronson; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Glenn and Betsy Thronson.

A funeral service was held at PERRY LUTHERAN CHURCH, 1057 WI-78 Trunk, Mount Horeb, at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, with Pastor Kelli Fisher presiding. Burial was held at Perry Lutheran Church Cemetery. Visitation was held at the church from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. on Monday, May 6, 2024, and at the church from 10 a.m. until the time of the service on Tuesday.

Memorials may be made to Perry Lutheran Church. Online condolences may be made at www.gundersonfh.com.

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Ronald Leo Poast



Ronald Leo Poast, born January 29, 1940 to Leo and Mary (LeVake) Poast, moved on to new horizons on Saturday, May 4, 2024. Born with the gift of creative hands and an inquisitive mind, he lived his life always building and searching for simpler solutions. He spent his early years attending rural schools and roaming the hills and valleys of Blue Mounds and Barneveld. He was given the

responsibility of daily farm chores at an early age, which led to his strong work ethic.

Ron graduated from Arena High School in 1957 and started his career in cars in Madison garages working as a foreign car specialist. This led to building and restoring many of his own cars. His thoughts were “If I can’t afford to buy one, I’ll make one.” He obtained his private pilot’s license in 1966, and enjoyed many years flying. Annual Oshkosh EAA fly-ins led to building three of his own homebuilt airplanes. Motorcycles, ATVs, hunting, classic cars, and racing were all a part of his active life.

Growing up when music was popular at family gatherings, he learned to play guitar. That interest followed him through the years, and he learned to play many other string instruments. He was a founding member of the Southern Wisconsin Old-Time Fiddlers Association, entertaining for many years. He was also a member of many other local bands, featuring bluegrass, old-time, and country music. He hosted Ron’s Jam, a monthly old-time music gig in Black Earth for over 30 years. Ron’s interest turned to building the instruments he wanted, producing over 400 banjos for a banjo company before opening his own shop, PoastMark String Instruments – ‘Mark of Quality’ – where he continued to hand-craft his own instruments. In tune with his heritage, he specialized in the Norwegian Hardanger fiddle (google: Poast fiddle) working as a luthier over 50 years. He has well over 500 hand-built instruments all over the states and abroad.

As a member of the Hardanger Fiddle Association of America, he shared his talents by teaching fiddle construction at annual workshops. He also traveled with his wife to annual Syttende Mai and other Norwegian festivals to share knowledge of the Hardanger – how it is made and how it differs from a violin.

In 1992 he was nominated by then-Governor Tommy Thompson for the National Living Treasure of the United States Award, which is given to honor American craftsmanship. Also that year, he was inducted into the Wisconsin State Strings Museum Hall of Fame as Master Luthier of the Year.

In 1998 Ron was a featured artist at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival in Washington, D.C. and at the Wisconsin

Folklife Festival in Madison, Wisconsin. In 2000 he was invited to display his fiddles as part of a cultural exchange in Chiba, Japan. In 2003 the Poast family, complete with children and grandchildren, traveled together to Washington, D.C. where Ron received the National Heritage Fellowship Award from the National Endowment for the Arts, presented for artistic excellence and authenticity. This is the highest honor given and is known as a lifetime honor.

Ron also worked as a machinist for Plastic Ingenuity in Cross Plains for many years prior to retirement, sharing his knowledge and skill for keeping all equipment running smoothly.

At the center of Ron’s life was his family. Shortly after high school graduation, he met his future wife, Joyce Danz. They married in 1960 and celebrated 63-plus years together, making their home in Black Earth. That union was enriched by the births of their five children, Brenda, Janeen, Bryan, Greg and Laurie, and later blessed with the arrivals of 10 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Ron is survived by his wife, Joyce; their children, Brenda (Rich) Carlson, Janeen (Tim) Duhr, and Bryan Poast, all of Black Earth, Greg (Holly) Poast of Sauk City, and Laurie Poast of Bergen, Norway.

Grandchildren include Andrew (Kristin) Carlson, Ashley Carlson, Kasey (Austin) Conn, Karissa (Ozgur Calbay) Duhr, Zach Duhr, Logan, Ethan, and Marin Poast, and Leikny and Aurélie Poast. Great-grandchildren are Jack and Cora Carlson, Matthew, Hailey and Aubrey Conn, and Elroy Seffrood-Poast. He is also survived by his sister Avis Caputo, brother-in-law Leland Danz, one niece, and five nephews.

Ron was preceded in death by his parents; a grandchild, Augustin Vivienne Poast, and a nephew, Stephen Caputo.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 11 at Vermont Lutheran Church, 9886 Vermont Church Road, Black Earth. Visitation will be held Friday, May 10 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. at Gunderson Funeral Home, 1710 Center Street, Black Earth, and at the church one hour prior to the service. A luncheon for fellowship and to share memories of Ron will follow the service. Burial will be at Oak Hill Cemetery in Black Earth.

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CHURCH NOTES

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

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

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.

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

Immanuel Lutheran 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
umcmh.org
Celebrating God's Inclusive Love

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

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

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

SCHOOL

continued from page 1

parents would receive a total of 14 text messages from the Mount Horeb Area School District’s emergency alert system. The first contained the words all parents dread: “MHASD: Vikings, at 11:16 [a.m.] this morning the District is on full lockdown. Please do not come onto school campus. We will direct you with further instructions as soon as possible. The safety and security of our staff [and] students is paramount. We are following emergency protocols. We will update you when we have more information to share.”

The basic facts of what happened are simple. On Wednesday, May 1 a teenager appeared at the front of the middle school, brandishing what appeared to be a gun. The weapon was later identified as a Ruger .177 caliber pellet rifle.

“At approximately 11:11 a.m., a citizen called 911 after witnessing a subject moving toward Mount Horeb Middle School with a backpack and what appeared to be a long gun,” stated the Wisconsin Department of Justice Division of Criminal Investigation. “Mount Horeb Police Department officers responded to the school where they located a subject who matched the description in the area of the middle school, east of the main entrance at 900 Garfield Street, Mount Horeb, Wisconsin.”

Authorities said officers directed the teen to drop the weapon, but the subject did not comply. The subject pointed the weapon at the officers, after which law enforcement discharged their firearms, striking the subject. Lifesaving measures were deployed but the subject died on scene. The

responding officers were wearing body cameras.

The distinct blade-slap of a Med-Flight helicopter could soon be heard as it hovered over the village.

One student took off running when she saw the boy, sprinting through a nearby park. She phoned her parents to tell them what was happening, but the call was dropped mid-sentence, leaving her parents with only the information that there was a boy with a gun at the school. Other students, as they scrambled, sent messages that made their parents’ hearts drop. One mother of a middle schooler looked down at her phone and saw, simply: “There’s a shooter.”

Some students said they were eating lunch when they looked up and saw the armed teen banging on the glass outside. They ran to a nearby auto parts store and hid there. On the way, a young girl stopped multiple times to pick up a friend who had fallen. Some children took refuge at the Kwik Trip across the street. Some ended up in the homes of parents, grandparents, neighbors and friends.

Most students in the district ended up being held on a hard lockdown for the next seven or eight hours. All but two of the district’s school buildings are located together on a block that makes up what is essentially a campus, and students from grades three through 12 can all see one another from

their respective buildings.

“At first we weren’t scared because we thought it was a drill,” said one fourth grader. “But then they said it wasn’t and to run. I held hands with [her best friend] while we ran so we wouldn’t lose each other.”

Those particular students ended up running to the Mount Horeb Public Library, where they were surrounded by police officers as they watched “Toy Story,” “Finding Nemo,” “Moana” and “Monsters, Inc.” A student described the day as, “scary at first, and then really, really boring.”

“At first we were crying and struggling, but then I decided I was okay and I made jokes so people could laugh while we waited,” said a student.

IC students were held there until roughly 6:30 p.m., when they were bussed to the Mount Horeb Area School District Transportation Center and finally reunited with parents. As they rode to be reunited with their parents, children sang the song, “Survivor.” Some young students had been on a field trip to a mining museum that day. They, too, were held by the district and later returned to parents and guardians.

While young students were easier to account for, those who attend the middle and high schools had spread quicker and further across the community when the shooting took place. The oldest students were the last to be reunited with their guardians that evening. Some didn’t make it home until around 9 p.m.

In the early stages, parents gathered on lawns and driveways as close to the schools as police would allow. They shared hugs and information, some true, much of it culled from rumors and social media and wildly inaccurate, as they tried to make sense of what was happening. People spread rumors that there were multiple shooters and multiple students had been killed, neither of which was true.

Throughout all of this, authorities worked to do two things; make sure the threat had passed and begin assessing the crime scene. Imposing K-9 units

swept through the school’s hallways. At the district’s instruction, hundreds and hundreds of parents convened at Life Church on the western side of the village. There, volunteers from the church handed out water,

pizza, chips and fruit snacks to parents who had forgotten to eat lunch that day. There, the Dane County Sheriff’s Office released a very different type of police dog; a pair of golden retrievers who circulated through the crowds and nuzzled up to anyone who needed a moment of simple love. In doing so, they lowered heart rates and distracted parents and young siblings who waited for their families to be whole again.

Simultaneously, students being held on lockdown were being fed bananas and granola bars. One student looked out the window of the library and saw a strange scene: a man who was golfing and was not yet aware of the crisis, celebrating, his arms raised over his head in jubilation after sinking a putt. He was like a time traveler from earlier that day, still living in a more carefree time.

A staff member said she was inspired by how well students at the middle school - and across the district - followed the district’s emergency protocols.

“You think these kids never listen, and then something like this happens and they do everything they were taught,” she said.

At the end of the day, every single student in the school district, with the exception of the teen who was shot by police, was safely returned to their families. At the district transportation center, a scene unfolded that seemed unfathomable just a few hours earlier; people smiled and laughed. Young children played on the grass.

Older students embraced and shared their experiences with one another, sad about the tragedy but unable to hide their relief at the simple fact that they and their friends were alive.

While many agencies worked together during the crisis, the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) is the body investigating the entirety of the incident.

“Police officers from Mount Horeb Police Department responded to a report of someone with a weapon outside the middle school,” stated a DCI press release. “Police officers responded to the threat and used deadly force.”

They confirmed that the incident took place outdoors and the armed subject never gained entry to the school buildings during the incident. They also confirmed that he was a student from the Mount Horeb School District.

Neither the Dane County Medical Examiner’s office nor the Wisconsin Department of Justice Division of Criminal Investigation have released the name of the teen.

“While the investigation into the details remains ongoing, other than the subject, no other people were physically injured during this incident,” stated the DCI.

The department also confirmed that no officers were injured during the incident. Involved law enforcement personnel were placed on administrative leave in accordance with agency policy.

DCI is being assisted by the Wisconsin State Crime Lab, Wisconsin State Patrol, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Dane County Sheriff’s Office, Verona Police Department, Cottage Grove Police Department, Madison Police Department, Monona Police Department, Fitchburg Police Department, Iowa County Sheriff’s Office, Green County Sheriff’s Office, Blue Mounds Police Department, Cross Plains Police Department, a DCI Crime Response Specialist, and members of the DCI Digital Evidence Unit.

As of right now, DCI is continuing to review evidence and determine the facts of this incident and will turn over investigative reports to the Dane County

District Attorney when the investigation concludes.

All school district classes were canceled on Thursday and Friday, while both days saw staff open buildings so families could retrieve their things and meet with counselors if needed.

Mount Horeb chief of police Doug Vierck also released a statement the day after the incident.

“I know everyone is still reeling from the events of yesterday,” Vierck said. “I want to thank everyone for their patience the past 24 hours as we worked through the unthinkable. We appreciate your continued patience as we allow the Department of Justice – Division of Criminal Investigation to complete an investigation required by state statutes. Mount Horeb Police Department is cooperating with the investigation.”

He also pleaded with members of the community to verify information before sharing it.

“If you have concerns or questions about your child or how they were impacted by the event, please contact your child’s school directly,” he continued. “We understand there is limited information available and we are working as quickly as we can to move forward so we can come to a closure. Before sharing information ask yourself, ‘Is it true?’ ‘Can I absolutely know that it’s true?’ If either answer is no, please do not share the information.”

“For the sake of everyone involved, please do not spread rumors,” continued the police chief.

Vierck confirmed that “a single individual [was] reported around the school with a weapon. Officers from Mount Horeb Police Department responded to the area. When faced with a deadly threat, they responded with deadly force. No officers, students, or staff were injured other than the armed individual.”

“Due to the number of resources needed to coordinate the response and the number of calls and information, there was a longer delay than anyone probably wanted for reuniting the children back to their families,” Vierck said. “Know that the timeline and decisions made were in the best interest of safety for the children and staff while we confirmed critical details.”

“We want to make sure no one ever feels they are walking alone.”

-Dr. Steve Salerno
Superintendent

“For the sake of everyone involved, please do not spread rumors.”

-Doug Vierck,
Police Chief



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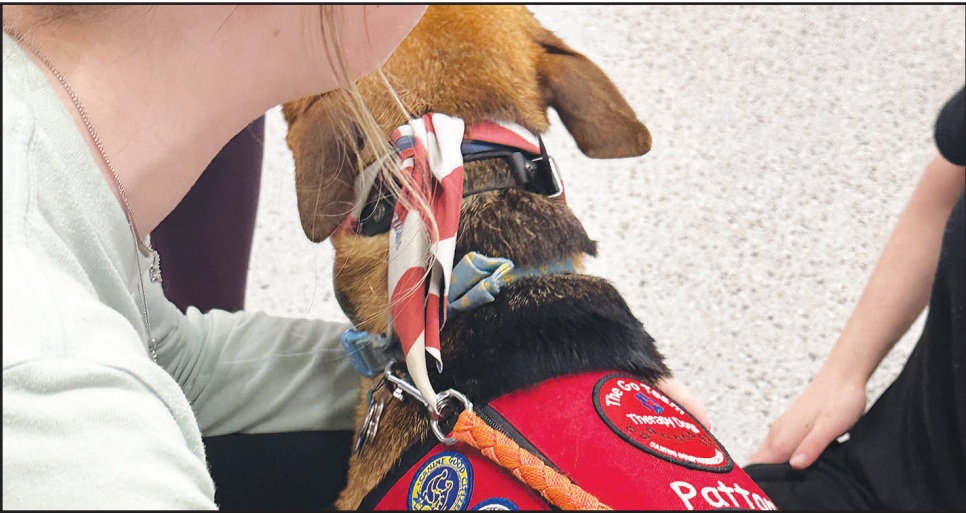
Families gathered at High School Commons Thursday to begin healing following the events of May 1. Photos by Aubree Hanks.

SCHOOL

continued from page 8
Lastly, I want to thank everyone. This community has been nothing short of amazing. I have always loved how welcoming and supporting the community has been since I was appointed chief of police, but the show of support from businesses, other agencies, and the community at large has been beyond humbling. It would take me days to write every name, business, and agency here, but know that we appreciate everything.”
Gov. Tony Evers, who visited the school district earlier this year, said on Wednesday afternoon that he had been briefed on the situation and was closely monitoring it as events unfolded.
“I am praying for the health and safety of our kids, educators, and staff and grateful for the first responders who are working quickly to respond,” he said.
“Every day, our kids, educators, and staff go to school and hope a day like this will never come. Having visited the district two months ago today, my heart breaks for the school, the district, and the entire

Mount Horeb community,” Evers continued. “I’ve been in contact with local school district officials to extend my full support for students, educators, staff, and their families as they grapple with what has undoubtedly been a scary and traumatic day for everyone involved.”
Travis Beck, an associate pastor at Life Church, which was selected by the school district as an emergency gathering point for parents during the incident, said that members of the congregation responded rapidly when they learned of the situation. “Within a few minutes many individuals of Life Church arrived - including current and former law enforcement, military and medical personnel,” said Beck. “Each person took their role and responsibility seriously to protect and nurture the care and wellness of families here and in our community.”
Beck called the church’s response “a direct byproduct” of their faith and worldview, citing Corinthians: “He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us.”

County Board Supervisors Michele Doolan (District 28), and Patrick Downing (District 30) both issued statements on the situation.
“I am deeply saddened that incidents like the one on Wednesday at Mount Horeb Middle School has become the new normal for us in the United States,” said Doolan. “We need to do better because our teachers, children and families deserve better. However, the rapid and effective response of Mount Horeb’s law enforcement, first responders, school faculty, neighbors, and surrounding community is commendable. Their swift action and solidarity in crisis exemplify our community’s resilience and commitment to safety.”
“What happened in Mt. Horeb on Wednesday will have a profound impact on the students, staff, parents, family members, and our community,” added Downing. “While being thankful for the precautions taken by the school district and the extraordinary efforts of community responders, we cannot accept acts like this as common place, and must do more so that our children and those that work tirelessly every day to educate



them do not experience this again.”
Dane County executive Joe Parisi also issued a statement. “May 1, 2024 will be a date not forgotten,” said Parisi. “Moments like this turn lives upside down, cause trauma, sorrow, and a moment of reflection for all of us. To the young people, their families and educators, no words can say enough of how much we as a community are here for you and grieve with you. Dane County is a close-knit community. We are here for you and will continue to be. To our first responders, thank you for once again stepping forward to help in another moment of critical need. Let’s all take a moment today to hug our kids and come together to help Mount Horeb heal.”
Dr. Steve Salerno, the Mount Horeb Area School District’s superintendent, said staff and students put on “a masterclass in resilience.” Speaking on Monday of this week, two hours after students returned to their classroom, Salerno went on to say educators are focused on moving forward together.
“I’ve had the honor of being in every building

today, and I’m pleased to say that learning continues,” he said. “It’s more social-emotional learning right now, but every student is processing this in their own way and we want to be responsive to that.”
He said he hopes no one in the school district or the community ever feels they are “walking alone.”
“We are here for you,” he added.
Asked if the district’s critical incident response protocols worked, Salerno said yes, but staff will also work to shore up any gaps that appeared. “The answer is yes, and also that our team needs to spend some time in a debriefing setting to review [the response] because there are some things we missed,” he stated. “We have really been focused on moving forward, and yes, we absolutely need to debrief and go over our response. But the resounding answer to the question [of whether the response worked] is yes.”
He said the outpouring of gratitude from the community has been inspiring.
“Our lounges are full of flowers and food and messages of hope,” he said.
The Mount Horeb Area School District is home to

well over 2,000 students. While the vast majority of them spent the night of May 1 at home, tucked safely in their beds, waking up the next morning to begin healing with their families, there was one student who did not, and never will again. Salerno said it’s important to remember that teen, as well.
“We can’t lose sight of the fact that we lost a sweet soul on Wednesday,” said Salerno. “He is in our prayers and in our community’s thoughts.” Of that child’s family, he added: “They are grieving the loss of their little boy.”
And so, the rest of the community moves forward, whatever that means for the countless people whose love was both tested and bolstered by a tragic day in a small Wisconsin community.
Editor’s note: All of the information in this article comes directly from students, parents, school officials and law enforcement agencies. None of this information came from social media. The Mail knows the identities of the children quoted, and for obvious reasons published what they said anonymously.

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Gerber Leisure Products celebrates new home

On April 25, community members, along with members of the Mount Horeb Area Chamber of Commerce, staff, friends, family, past and present ownership, and elected officials, gathered to celebrate the grand opening of Gerber Leisure Products' new location in the Mounds View Business Park in the Town of Blue Mounds.

Gerber Leisure Products specializes in providing comprehensive solutions for outdoor recreational areas. Offering services from design to installation, they offer solutions for playgrounds, seating areas, picnic spots, and recreational areas, ensuring that designs align with clients' preferences and budgets. The Gerber team prioritizes safety and inclusion, with federal regulations and guidelines as a starting point in each design. Whether clients prefer professional installation by certified installers or a community-built approach, Gerber Leisure Products provides the necessary expertise and supervision. From initial design to installation, their services ensure safe and enjoyable outdoor spaces for communities and families.

The company was founded in the early 70s by Chuck Gerber, who was later joined by Bob and Ann Szalkowski. Together, they transformed the playground equipment landscape across the state. In 2004, the Szalkowskis purchased the business in its entirety. Hollie Rickey joined their team in 2009 and quickly fell in love with the industry. In 2015, the Szalkowskis sold the business to Rickey, who continues to grow the team and live out the Legacy of Play in the state of Wisconsin.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house were attended by a diverse group of stakeholders, including members of the Mount Horeb Area Chamber of Commerce, staff, community members, friends, family, past and present ownership, and elected officials. The event marked not only the opening of a new location but also a celebration of the company's commitment to providing quality outdoor recreational solutions to communities.

For more information about Gerber Leisure Products and their services, please visit gerberleisure.com or contact Hollie Rickey at (800) 236-7758 or hollie@gerberleisure.com.



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GLEANINGS

continued from page 5

Mrs. Clara Johnson and Mrs. Agnes Jenson are opening the Priscilla Shop at 204 Main Street, Saturday, May 5.

A special at Olson's Restaurant and Bakery this week is: white sugar cookies, 10 cents a dozen.

70 Years Ago- May 6, 1954

Charles Thomas, age 26, Mount Horeb, was fatally injured Thursday evening, April 29, when he lost control of his car near the Wenger Truck Stop on Hwy. 118-151. He died on Friday morning in a Madison hospital.

Lightning struck the steeple of the Baptist Church, Mount Vernon during the storm last Friday night. Mount Horeb and Verona fire departments were at the

scene from 9:30 pm until 12:45 a.m.

Cpl. Wayne Iverson writes his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Iverson, Daleyville, that Gen. Maxwell Taylor and Lt. Bruce Clark came by helicopter to Yongsimal to see the new school project under way. They were so pleased with the new school project that they have ordered another building also to be erected and the old mud and reed buildings be destroyed. Wayne Iverson and another Corporal from Iowa are heading the project.

Fred Wagner depot agent here the past 28 years, retired Friday, April 30, after 50 years of service with the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad.

60 Years Ago- May 7, 1964

A busload of business-

30 Years Ago- May 12, 1994

Mary Jane and Jim Ellis opened The Craft Haus, they say, "to give an outlet to craftspeople in the area." Around 60 local craftspeople's works are showcased in the little Victorian house at 401 East Main Street in

20 Years Ago- May 6, 2004

Justin John is the name chosen by Arthur and Tamra Erthum of Mount Horeb for their son born Saturday, May 1, 2004 at St. Mary's Hospital, Madison.

Barbara Sutter, 90, of Mount Horeb died on Saturday, May 1, 2004 at the Don and Marilyn Anderson Hospice Center in Fitchburg.

Five Star Cellular, Inc. is one of the newest members of the Mount Horeb Area Chamber of Commerce.

30 Years Ago- May 12, 1994

Mary Jane and Jim Ellis opened The Craft Haus, they say, "to give an outlet to craftspeople in the area." Around 60 local craftspeople's works are showcased in the little Victorian house at 401 East Main Street in

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ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Stefanie Anderson



Stefanie Anderson of FreePeople Pottery, along with a large number of other artists, will take part in the Spring Art Tour May 17-19.

By MATT GEIGER
Mount Horeb Mail
This week, we talk to Stefanie Anderson of Free-People Pottery. She creates beautiful pottery that often draws from the region’s rich agrarian themes.

What kind of art do you create?

I make hand-built and wheel thrown functional pottery, often theme based or narrative in design. Farm animals are some of my favorite images to hand paint or apply in various hand-made stamps and textures.

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?

Having worked in the commercial design and art education fields I have an interest in creating. After years of painting, mostly in watercolor and acrylic, I discovered a passion for clay.

It is a technical medium that requires skill in producing functional pieces, but it also is a wonderful canvas to carry imagery, texture and color. It’s a continual joy to investigate new techniques to execute in clay. I love the excitement of making beautiful functional pieces that can be shared with others. I also enjoy teaching others how to make pottery in my New Glarus studio.

What/who are some of your most important influences?

My most significant influ-

ence is nature and especially the farm. As a young girl I visited my grandparent’s farm in Stitzer, WI near Fenimore. There I marveled at corn stalks and cattle, corn cribs and chickens. Having grown up in the suburbs of Chicago, I longed for trips to the farm. There was something honorable and pure about my grandparent’s work and life as farmers and it’s this memory I carry into my art and craft.

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

After years of talking about moving back to Wisconsin, my husband and I, now empty nesters, invested in land just outside New Glarus in hopes of building a home and studio. Our plan led us to rent in Mt Horeb for two years while designing and building took place. We felt welcome and supported by many new friends and excellent contractors, making the transition to Southern Wisconsin smooth and happy. Now settled into the community for a year I have been making pottery and meeting other artists.

It’s been inspiring to live in such a wonderful place filled with endless beauty.

How can people find out more about your work?

I will be on the Spring Art Tour in May, so you are welcome to stop by the studio and gallery May 17th-19th. Check out www.springart-tour.com for details. You can also inquire about pottery lessons at freepeoplepottery@gmail.com. I’m also on Instagram @freepeoplepottery message me!



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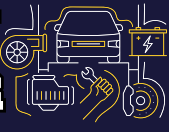
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COUNTRYSIDE NEWS

Morel Season!

By JERRY DAVIS
Countryside News

Why the luxurious allure of Morchella esculenta, the common morel mushroom? The shape and substructure are indeed unique, with beauty resulting in camouflage. They are rare in most locations. While varying in tones most are some hue of ocher russet. Edible and tasty, but with a chance some connoisseurs will find these mycelia completing their journey through a digestive track before dessert is served. Easy to identify, yet difficult decipher from debris. Best not ponder because there is no single, worldly answer for their charisma.

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SPORTS

Vikings clinch share of title

Mount Horeb's girls softball team clinches share of league

by DENNIS SEMRAU
Sports Reporter

A share of the Badger Small Conference title was on the line when Mount Horeb freshman pitcher Jozie Clifton stepped into the circle for injured junior pitcher Jayse Holman on Monday.

Clifton didn't miss a beat.

Clifton tossed a complete game, two-hit shutout, and junior shortstop Ruby Dahlk homered and made a pair of spectacular defensive plays to help Mount Horeb cruise to a 7-0 victory over visiting Reedsburg in a prep softball game played on a picture-perfect spring afternoon.

The victory clinched a share of the league title for Mount Horeb, which improved to 12-2 overall and 10-0 Badger Small). The Vikings won their last league title in 2021 and had finished as the runner-up the past two seasons.

Mount Horeb also extended its winning streak to 11 games and earned a season sweep of its series with second-place Reedsburg

continued on page 18



Courtney Monroe (right), Mount Horeb manager Jeramie Holman (left) and the Vikings clinched a share of the Badger Small Conference Monday. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

A day to remember

Mount Horeb's baseball team competes at Am Fam Field

by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor

MILWAUKEE — In the grand scheme of things, the final score was irrelevant.

When Mount Horeb traveled to American Family Field — home of the Milwaukee Brewers — on Monday, this experience was about far more than baseball.

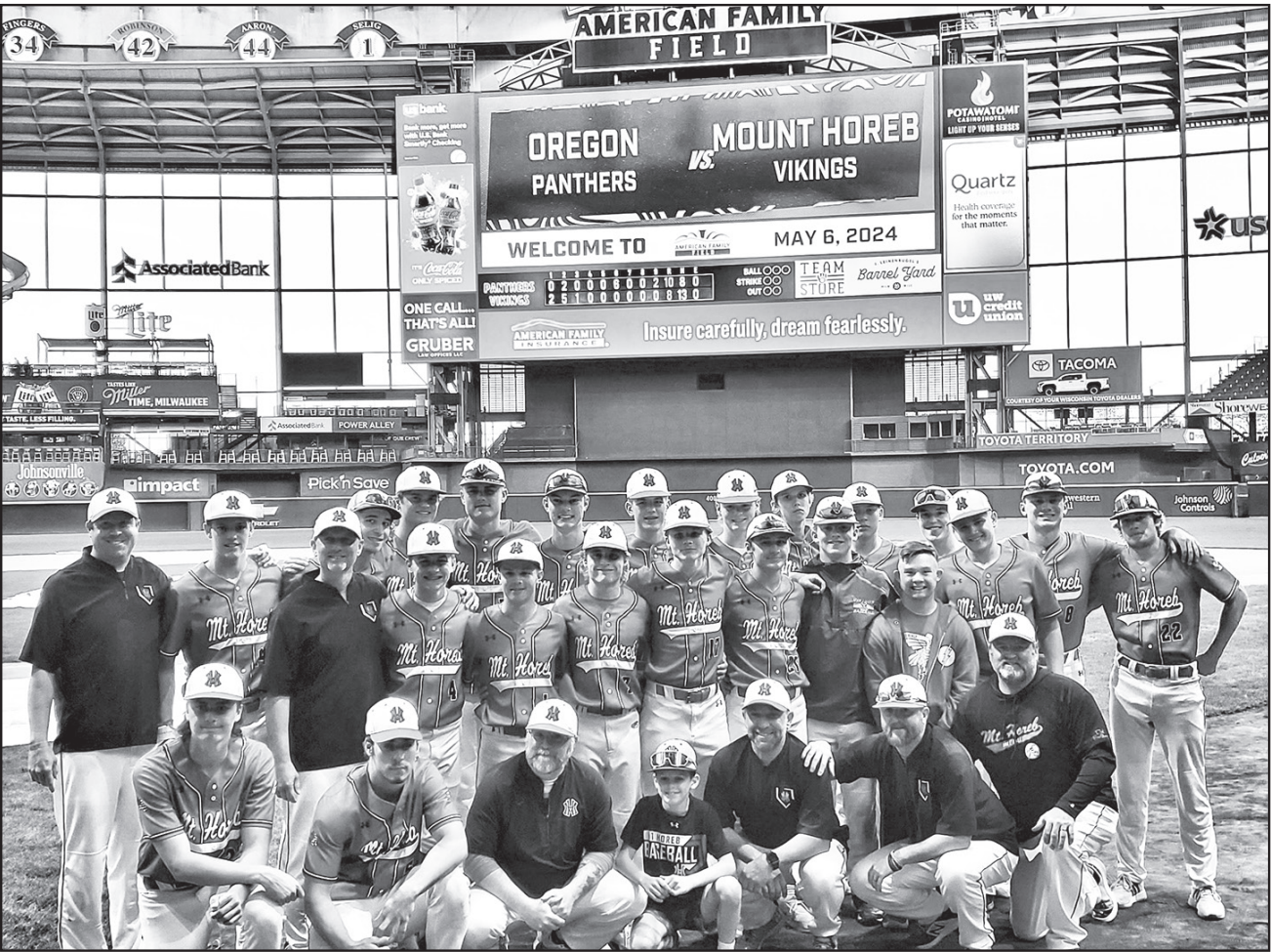
It was about competing on the same field as major leaguers. It was about team bonding and making memories that will last for decades.

And after a tragic week in Mount Horeb in which a student was shot to death after pointing a pellet gun at police officers outside of Mount Horeb Middle School on May 1, a trip to play on a big league field was the perfect escape for these Vikings.

So while the Vikings dropped a 10-8, nine inning decision to Oregon, no one was overly disappointed while heading to the exits.

“After everything that happened last week, this was big for us,” said sopho-

continued on page 15



Mount Horeb's baseball team had a terrific time playing at American Family Field — home of the Milwaukee Brewers — on Monday afternoon. Photo submitted

Golfers third at Portage, River Valley

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

It's a crazy time of year for high school golfers.

There are multiple events each week.

Balancing school with tee times becomes an immense challenge.

And when a tragedy strikes your town, things become even tougher.

But Mount Horeb's boys golfers are more than holding their own.

The Vikings competed in three meets last week, finishing third at both the Portage Invite on May 3 and third at the River Valley Invite last Saturday. Mount Horeb was also 16th at the 16-team Morgan Stanley Invite on April 30.

Here's a rundown of the Vikings' hectic week.

MORGAN STANLEY INVITE

The Vikings struggled at the 16-team, 33rd Annual Morgan Stanley Shootout held at University Ridge Golf Course last Tuesday.

Mount Horeb finished with a team score of 357 and placed 16th in the 16-team field made up of teams from the Madison area.

Waunakee claimed the team title with a score of 299, while Milton (303) and Middleton (304) rounded out the top three.

Senior Jack Vesperman led Mount Horeb with an 81, parring 10 holes during his round to tie for 22nd place



Mount Horeb golfers (from left) Adrian Thoe, Cole Cunningham, Nick Ibinger, Jack Vesperman, and Jude Young finished third at the Portage Invite.

individually in the 80-player field. Sophomore Nick Ibinger had an 82, highlighted by a birdie at the par-five 11th hole to go with eight pars to tie for 28th place individually.

Senior Riley Schellpfeffer and sophomore Jude Young each had rounds of 97, while junior Cole Cunningham had a 98 to round out the scoring for the Vikings.

"University Ridge proved to be quite the challenge for our team," Mount Horeb coach Nolan Krentz said. "We don't play many courses longer than 6,000 yards on our schedule so to play a course in the 6,500 to 6,600 yard range was definitely a change. Both Jack

and Nick had good days and hopefully can build off of their performances moving forward."

PORTAGE INVITE

Mount Horeb finished third at the 12-team invite held at the Portage Golf Club.

The Vikings finished with a 337-team score, just behind first place Sauk Prairie (330) and DeForest's varsity reserve team (335).

Nick Ibinger and Jude Young tied for first place individually in the 70-player field with matching rounds of 78.

Ibinger won the tiebreaker for first place honors and finished with birdies at No.

2 and 18, while also making eight pars. Young birdied the ninth hole and had 10 pars during his round.

Jack Vesperman finished with an 87, including eight pars, and finished 16th individually. Junior Adrian Thoe added a 94 playing in his first varsity event, while Cole Cunningham had a 98, including a birdie on the par-five 13th hole.

"Nick continued his strong play with a career-low round, while Jude was able to bounce back and finish only one stroke off of his personal-low round," Krentz said. "Jack struggled a bit early, but was able to settle down and finish strong, playing his last seven holes

in 1-over par. This was another example of why every stroke matters as we only finished seven shots out of first place and definitely had our chances."

RIVER VALLEY INVITE

The Vikings finished with a team score of 347 and placed third in Division 1 and fourth overall in the 15-team field.

Platteville won the Division 1 title with a 339, followed by Sauk Prairie with a 344. Mineral Point won the overall title with a 326.

Jack Vesperman had a career-low round of 75 to lead the Vikings. Vesperman chipped in for birdie on the

second hole and made another birdie two holes later at No. 4. Vesperman added 11 pars and did not record a score higher than a bogey, finishing in second place in the 75-player field.

"Jack was in the zone on Saturday," Krentz said. "He kept the momentum going from his strong finish on Friday as was able to put an entire 18-hole round together at House on the Rock Resort."

Jude Young had an 89, parring five holes during his round, while Nick Ibinger had a 90, finishing with five pars. Riley Schellpfeffer made five pars on his way to a 93, while senior Will Imbus had a 101 playing in his first varsity meet.

"The House on the Rock Golf Course played tough on Saturday with a lot of higher scores than anticipated," Krentz said. "The greens were slower than most we have played this season and we struggled to adjust."

"We continue to improve and are definitely getting closer to some of the better teams in our conference. We have not had a day yet where all five players were 'on' and when that happens, I think we will surprise some people."

"This certainly was a very tough week for Mount Horeb and we as a program were very appreciative of the opportunity to play and compete Friday and Saturday and represent our tremendous community."

Vikings' girls soccer team wins two of three

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

Mount Horeb's girls soccer team won two of three games last week.

The Vikings defeated Portage/Poynette, 12-0, on April 29. McFarland edged Mount Horeb, 1-0, on April 30 and the Vikings rolled past Fort Atkinson, 7-0, on May 3.

Here's a recap of Mount Horeb's week.

• **Mount Horeb 12, Portage/Poynette 0** — Anya McKay had a hat trick by the fourth minute and finished with five goals to power the Vikings to an easy win. Jadyn Schellpfeffer and Rowan Severson each had a goal and two assists, while Kolbie Severson had two goals.

Mikayla Holler, Olivia Schrank and Jaina Czyzewski each had a goal for Mount Horeb, as well.

"This was a mismatch

from the opening whistle," Mount Horeb coach Mark Newman said. "We had our seventh goal by the 14th minute. We got to play everyone and got a lot of girls on the score sheet. This was a conference match, but Portage/Poynette lost a lot of seniors from last year and is building back toward being competitive."

• **McFarland 1, Mount Horeb 0** — The visiting Spartans scored in the 11th minute and edged the Vikings.

"McFarland is having a strong year with sectional wins over Edgewood and Sugar River," Newman said. "We played well at times, but were unfortunate to allow a deflected goal that left (keeper) Addi Motl stranded and with no chance."

McFarland dominated possession in the first half when it scored the game's only goal. Mount Horeb's

attack intensified in the second half, but it could never get the equalizer.

"We had to do a lot of defending in the first half and McFarland showed a good ability to possess the ball and keep us pinned back," Newman said. "We pushed into the attack much more in the second half and gave their goalkeeper more to do. Our best attacks came later in the match when we pushed Anya McKay into the midfield."

"Our best chances came on crosses, but we could not get on the end of one to turn it into the goal. McFarland did a good job killing off the last few minutes and holding the lead. There were definitely some lessons we will need to learn to step up our level of play to beat the best teams in our section."

• **Mount Horeb 7, Fort Atkinson 0** — Anya McKay had three goals and Jadyn Schellpfeffer added two as



Anya McKay had five goals last week against Portage/Poynette and three more against Fort Atkinson. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

the Vikings rolled past the visiting Blackhawks.

Both Gwen Motl and Maren Johnson added goals, as well.

"We were able to rest

starters and try some players in different positions," Newman said. "Things got a little sloppy at times, but that was understandable. We held the shutout with Syd-

ney Almquist finishing the last 17 minutes, getting her first varsity minutes in goal this year."

BASEBALL

continued from page 13

more pitcher/shortstop Josh Manchester. “Obviously you never think it’s going to happen to you. It was certainly a tragic thing, but it was good to see everyone have smiles on their faces today and just be happy and forget about all the problems back home.”

Senior first baseman Drew Preimesberger agreed with Manchester.

“Today was the first day back (at school),” Preimesberger said. “So just to hang around the guys was great. Everybody seems to be doing pretty well and have recovered. Never in a million years do you think that will happen, especially in a small town like ours. So this was a nice relief.”

The Brewers offer a program that allows high school baseball teams to play at American Family Field if they sell \$12,000 worth of tickets for future games. Finley tries getting his team into this game as often as possible, and this year Oregon invited the Vikings to be its opponent.

“It’s a lot of fun,” said Finley, whose team sold more than \$20,000 worth of tickets. “You want to get the win. Obviously you always want to win. But it was the experience and we wanted to give everybody their opportunity to get out there and enjoy this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.”

Finley did exactly that.

His plan was to have seven pitchers throw one inning each. When the game went to extra innings, Finley was actually able to use eight pitchers.

Mount Horeb went to its bench early and often, as everyone was able to bat and play the field. By the end, lineup cards were nothing more than a myth, as Finley and Oregon skipper Jake Soule agreed to allow players to exit, then re-enter the game whenever they pleased.

Mount Horeb had several early highlights and raced to an 8-2 lead after three innings.

Colin Larson and Terek Isely had RBI singles in the first inning that plated Jaxen Finley and Preimesberger to stake the Vikings to a 2-0 lead. After Oregon answered with a pair of runs

in the second, Mount Horeb erupted with five runs in the bottom of the frame.

Jake Sroda opened the inning with a walk, then Willy Cox singled to left. Josh Kuntz followed with a single to right that loaded the bases, then Jaxen Finley walked to score a run.

Manchester then laced a double to center field that plated Cox and Kuntz as Mount Horeb’s lead grew to 5-2.

Preimesberger then drove a ball to deep left field that looked like it might clear the fence that stands 342-feet from home plate. Instead, the ball landed on the warning track and one-hopped the fence for a ground rule double that scored Finley and Manchester to give the Vikings a 7-2 advantage.

“I thought it was gone,” Preimesberger said. “When I hit it, I thought it was pushing the second deck, but the ball didn’t think so. I was sure it was gone. That would have been sweet.”

Manchester resembled a young Robin Yount in the third inning, when he went deep into the hole between short and third to field a ground ball by Oregon’s Luke Kupcho. In one motion, Manchester twisted his body and threw a bullet to first to get Kupcho by a half-step.

“Yeah, that was pretty fun,” Manchester said. “I was amazed how nice the field is. You certainly don’t get many opportunities like that.”

The Vikings’ lead grew to 8-2 in the third when Jaxen Finley reached on an error that scored Jake Sroda. But the Panthers battled back with six runs in the sixth that tied the game, 8-8, and helped force extra innings.

In the ninth, the Panthers got a two-run triple from Luke Marx and grabbed a 10-8 lead they made stand up.

In the end, though, the Vikings knew it wasn’t the final score they’d remem-



Logan Ford (14) and Mount Horeb’s baseball team battled Oregon at American Family Field in Milwaukee on Monday. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

ber most. It was a day with their buddies, at a place they watch many of their heroes compete every time they turn on their televisions.

“Obviously, you want to win,” Manchester said. “I know every one of these guys will be mad about the loss, but you have to look back on it and it was one of the most fun games we’ll remember moving forward. I had probably the most fun I’ve had all year. It was a lot of fun.”

Preimesberger seconded that emotion.

“It was well worth the trip,” he said. “I had fun and it was a good experience.

“Nobody likes to lose, but it’s more important to get everybody through, get everybody in and make sure everybody has a good time. This is just an amazing group of guys, always fun to be around. So this is

always a great time.”

As Finley headed to the bus and reflected on the tough week the Mount Horeb community endured, he was thrilled that this trip — and this game — served as a mini-break for his team.

“We needed this,” Finley said. “It was a tough morning (on Monday), getting back to school for the first time. But getting back on the bus and getting out here and seeing everybody having fun with smiles on their faces was great.”

• **Reedsburg 6, Mount Horeb 4** — The host Vikings dug themselves an early 4-0 hole and couldn’t recover on April 30.

Colin Larson went 2-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored, while Talon Stoenner had a double and two RBIs and Terek Isely had a double and an RBI.

Ryan Skogen started the game and pitched five solid

innings, allowing seven hits and three earned runs.

Jaxen Finley pitched the final two innings, allowing a single, no runs and striking out one.

“Reedsburg is a complete team,” Ryan Finley said. “They have really good pitching, play great defense and can swing the bats. We were right there with them, but a couple of miscues in the field allowed Reedsburg to have some extra swings that they cashed in on.

“We also needed to play a little better small ball against a good defensive team like that. We had some opportunities, but didn’t quite execute in some key situations.”

• **Reedsburg 6, Mount Horeb 1** — The host Beavers used a four-run fifth to break open a tie game and down the Vikings on May 3.

Terek Isely started the

game for the Mount Horeb and pitched 4 1/3 innings, allowing just four hits and one earned run while striking out five.

Alex Chapman pitched 2/3 in relief and Hayden Anderson pitched an inning to finish things out.

“It was a tough past few days for our team and community, but I’m glad we were able to get outside today and play some baseball,” Ryan Finley said. “I’m really proud of the effort and how well we stuck together. We faced a tough pitcher and haven’t touched a bat in a few days and it showed.

“We just need to get emotionally healthy again and get some practice time together and we’ll be fine. It’s just been a difficult time for all of us, but it was great to see the team together again and start the healing process.”

TOWN OF
CROSS PLAINS

The Board of Review of the Town of Cross Plains will meet on Thursday, May 16, 2024 at 6:45 p.m. at the Community Center, 3734 County Road P, Cross Plains for the purposes of adjournment to a later date.
Posted: April 25, 2024
Publish: 5/9/24 WNAIXLP

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8:00 PM Door Prizes, Auction & Raffle

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Horse Fair Shatters Attendance Record



Draft horses were among the many types on display over the weekend.

The Midwest Horse Fair® is the largest three-day horse fair in the country. Since 1979, in its goal of serving as America’s epicenter for the equine community, the fair strives to provide the ultimate experience for equine enthusiasts and the public through exposition, education and entertainment. It caters to both Western and English riders. The fair has an estimated \$11 million economic impact on the Madison area each year, resulting from spending at local hotels, restaurants, shops, and other businesses. The Midwest Horse Fair® is owned by the Wisconsin Horse Council, a nonprofit organization that promotes the equine industry in the state of Wisconsin. All event proceeds are returned to the Horse Council to be used for grants and scholarships, trail improvement, leadership programs, and communication to help future growth and development of the equine industry. For more information, visit MidwestHorseFair.com.

Largest Horse Fair in the Country

The 43rd annual Midwest Horse Fair® brought equine enthusiasts en masse to its three-day event Friday, April 19–Sunday, April 21 at Alliant Energy Center, breaking the Friday attendance record with nearly 23,000 fairgoers and more than 60,000 throughout the weekend.

“We feel privileged to be a part of an amazing equine community and be able to host an annual event for them to come together

and celebrate our horses,” said fair Executive Director Teri Giannetti. “This year was once again filled with world-class clinicians and performers, daring rodeo competitors and more! We’re awed and inspired by all the equine-centered learning and fun we witnessed throughout the weekend, plus the best shopping ever, and we can’t wait for next year.”

The fair hosted 400
continued on next page



Hats were steamed and shaped at “Heck of a Lope.”



Blacksmithing was a hit with audiences.



Amberley Snyder signs and autograph while chatting with a young cowgirl. Photos by Matt Geiger.



Gypsy Cobbs took center stage on Saturday.

SOFTBALL

continued from page 13

(9-9, 7-4), after the Vikings previously defeated the Beavers 9-5 on April 22.

“I was a little nervous, but I knew I had a good defense behind me,” said Clifton, who also singled and scored in three plate appearances. “I trust them.”

Clifton was making her third straight start — which included a 13-3 victory at Sauk Prairie on April 30 and a 15-3 victory at McFarland on May 3 — in place of Holman, who has been out with an ankle injury.

After allowing a two-out walk in the first inning, Clifton retired the next 11 batters in a row.

Spotting her ‘slingshot’ pitch — which Clifton said Mount Horeb manager Jeramie Holman taught her — she kept the Beavers’ hitters off balance and recorded eight strikeouts.

“The outside corners really worked,” Clifton said. “The umpire liked that, and my defense did really well.”

That included Dahlk’s first ‘web gem’ of the game when she ranged behind second base and threw out junior Gretchen Rockweiler at first base to open the top of the fourth inning.

After Clifton allowed her first hit of the game, a long single to center field to junior Abby Scott, Dahlk flashed some fancy glove-work again.

Dahlk snared a hard-hit ground ball up the middle,

stepped on second base to retire Scott, and then threw out cleanup hitter Grace Gawronski at first base for an inning-ending double play.

“The first one up the middle was hard to get to,” Dahlk said. “I never get to them in practice, so that felt good. We practice a double play like that all the time in practice. (Manager) Jeramie (Holman) makes me do it every day. I’d say it’s routine.”

Mount Horeb senior catcher Jo Jo Murray said she knew Clifton was bound to be nervous, but offered her some sage pregame advice.

“I told her she had to be OK with them hitting the ball and her defense would pick her up,” Murray said of Reedsburg, whose lineup included returning all-state shortstop Kylee Molitor. “(Clifton) has great accuracy, so we knew her skill would back her up.

“We work really, hard in practice on our defense. That’s the one thing I kept telling her is that her defense would pick her up. Don’t be scared if they hit the ball because they will.”

Mount Horeb provided Clifton the only offensive support she would need with a four-run second inning.

Sophomore first baseman Delaina Nicewander led off with an infield single, moved to second on a wild pitch, and advanced to third when Clifton lined a sharp base hit to center field.

Junior third baseman

Morgan Monroe followed with a line drive off Reedsburg pitcher Summer Haag for an infield single, which scored Nicewander for a 1-0 lead.

Two outs later, Dahlk blasted an 0-1 pitch from Haag over the left field fence for a three-run homer and a 4-0 lead.

“I just swung. I was just hoping for the best,” said Dahlk, whose only previous prep home run came during her freshman season. “That definitely made (Jozie) more comfortable.”

After a facing a tough week that included a shooting at Mount Horeb Middle School on May 1 that shook the close-knit community, Jayse Holman said the Vikings regrouped against Reedsburg.

“It affected us all because we have such a strong community,” Jayse Holman said of the shooting, which also forced the Vikings to postpone a scheduled conference game with Stoughton on May 2. “We’re not a big town so when something happens inside the community, it affects all of us somehow in some way.”

Dahlk said last week’s shooting “brought us closer together.”

“We didn’t see each other for two days. We missed each other a lot,” she said. “Going to McFarland (a 15-3 victory over the Spartans last Friday) they gave us a nice card and everything. It brought us closer together.



Jo Jo Murray and Mount Horeb’s girls softball team pushed their winning streak to 11 games Monday. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

**TOWN OF SPRINGDALE
NOTICE OF HEARING**

On May 21, 2024 at 7:00 PM at 2379 Town Hall Rd., Mt Horeb, WI, the Town Board of the Town of Springdale will hold a public hearing and act on the vacation of a portion of the following Rights-of-Way: Ben Franklin and E. 3rd St. and a portion of Avenue “B” in the Town of Springdale, Dane County. The Board will consider passage of Resolution 2024-3-1, a Resolution to vacate and discontinue a portion of the Ben Franklin and E. 3rd St. and a portion of Avenue “B” in the Town of Springdale, Dane County, Wisconsin.
Written objections may be filed with the clerk, Wis Stat. 66.1003(4)(c).

By: Administrator/Clerk, Jackie Arthur

Abutter notices served by mail on 4/16/24.

Publish: 4/25/24, 5/2/24, 5/9/24 **WNAXLP**

**NOTICE TO
THE PUBLIC
VILLAGE OF
BLUE MOUNDS**

Please take notice that the Village of Blue Mounds will enter into a contract with Fahrner Asphalt Sealers for more than \$5,000.00 but not more than \$25,000.00 for the chip sealing of Diamond Circle within the village.

Mary Jo Michek
Village Clerk/Treasurer

Publish: 5/9/24 **WNAXLP**

TOWN OF PRIMROSE

The Town of Primrose will hold a Special Meeting on Monday, May 13th, 2024 beginning at 7:30pm to review the final draft of the 2024 Primrose Land Use Plan and to set the date for the public hearing. Notice of this meeting will be posted at the Town Hall, Mount Vernon Auto, Primrose Church, on the Town website and on the voice message system at 608-832-6660.

Publish: 5/9/24 **WNAXLP**

NOTICE TO CONTROL NOXIOUS WEEDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to each person who owns, occupies or controls land in:

**VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB
VILLAGE OF BLUE MOUNDS
TOWN OF SPRINGDALE
TOWN OF PERRY
TOWN OF PRIMROSE
TOWN OF BLUE MOUNDS**

To destroy all noxious weeds on such property before plants bloom. The noxious weeds are: Canada Thistle, Leafy Spurge, Field Bindweed (commonly known as Creeping Jenny) and any other weed the governing body of the municipality has declared to be noxious.
Noxious weeds shall be controlled at such time and in such manner as will effectively prevent them from maturing to the bloom or flower stage as required by Section 66.0407 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

Alyssa Gaffney, Clerk
Village of Mount Horeb

Mary Jo Michek, Clerk
Village of Blue Mounds

Jackie Arthur, Clerk
Town of Springdale

Mary Price, Clerk
Town of Perry

Ruth Hansen, Clerk
Town of Primrose

Amanda Burghy, Clerk
Town of Blue Mounds

Publish: 5/2/24, 5/9/24 **WNAXLP**

**TOWN OF CROSS PLAINS
LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION RENEWAL**

Notice is hereby given of the application of the following for renewal of Class B Liquor Licenses and Class B Fermented Malt Beverages in the TOWN OF CROSS PLAINS, Dane County, Wisconsin.
4MACFAM, LLC, Agent Steve McKenzie, 4173 County Road P, Section 15, SW¼, NW¼, for Hilltop Inn.

Morgan’s of Cross Plains, Inc., Agent Nicole Charles, 8640 Mineral Point Road, Section 22, SE¼, SE¼, for Morgan’s.

The Red Mouse LLC, Agent Kym Kalscheur, 3738 County Road P, Section 27, NE¼ NW¼ for The Red Mouse.

Appleberry Farm, LLC, Agent Christopher Hendrickson, 8079 Maurer Road, Farm store, cooler for Appleberry Farm.

The Town Board will act on these applications at their regular meeting Thursday, May 16, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center, 3734 County Road P, Cross Plains.

Nancy Meinholz, Clerk
Posted: April 25, 2024

Publish: 5/9/24 **WNAXLP**

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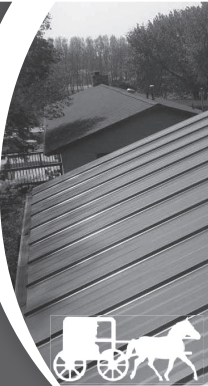


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**VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB
PUBLIC HEARING
MAY 22, 2024**

The Plan Commission/Historic Preservation Commission of the Village of Mount Horeb will hold a public hearing on the above date at 7:00pm in the Board Room of the Municipal Building, 138 E Main Street, Mount Horeb, WI.
The purpose of the hearing is to consider a Conditional Use Permit Application from Erica & Paul BORMANN to allow a proposed Tourist Rooming House (Airbnb/VRBO) in the residential house at 1833 Danny Drive, Parcel 0607-073-6747-1.
Be it further notified that the Village Board, by its Plan Commission/Historic Preservation Commission, will hear all persons concerning all matters and/or objections written or oral at that time.

Publish: 5/2/24, 5/9/24 **WNAXLP**

SOFTBALL

continued from page 18

“Then Reedsburg also gave us a card as a reminder of something we all went through together.”

Dahlk said the Vikings were touched by the response of the McFarland and Reedsburg softball teams, which both signed a card that they presented to their conference rivals.

“All the players signed the cards, that was super sweet,” Dahlk said. “Sportsmanship in softball, it is alive.”

Reedsburg managed just three baserunners in the game, including a walk, but never advanced a baserunner past second base.

Mount Horeb’s defense turned its second double play of the game in the fifth inning after Beavers’ senior designated player Megan Raupp reached first base on a one-out infield single and moved to second base, on a throwing error on the play.

But when Grace Roloff lifted a fly ball to center fielder Maddie Swiggum for the second out, Raupp took off early and was doubled off second base.

“Those were big,” Mount Horeb manager Jeramie Holman said of the two double plays. “It kept the momentum on our side and didn’t let them get anything started.

“You didn’t want anybody on base when Molitor’s up to bat. I think that was her first 0-for this year. That was big, to keep her off the basepaths. She’s usually on there, running around all day long.”

Mount Horeb capped the scoring with a three-run fourth inning.

Junior right fielder Ellie Larson led off and reached second base on an outfield error. Junior second baseman Hallie Klein moved Larson to third with a bunt single and advanced to second on Dahlk’s sacrifice.

Murray then followed with a two-run double to center field and later scored on Swiggum’s single to center field.

The Vikings’ balanced offensive attack finished with 11 hits with eight different batters recording at least one hit and seven different players each scoring a run.

That drew a smile from Jeramie Holman.

“We’re probably averaging about 14 hits per game,” he said. “We’ve had three

or four games where everybody’s had a hit. You can go up and down the lineup, we had a game where our lead-off, cleanup and fifth hitter were all 0-4. That’s 0-12 right there.

“But my sixth through ninth hitters had nine or 10 hits. That was huge. My big hitters didn’t get any hits, but my other hitters had two or three. It made life easy that night.”

Dahlk said earning a share of the conference title moved the Vikings closer to one of their preseason goals.

“It feels good. I saw my sister do it. It is real exciting,” Dahlk said. “The chance to win it outright is right there for us. Then, there may be better things to come.”

• **Mount Horeb 13, Sauk Prairie 3 (6)** — Ellie Larson went 3-for-4 with a double and three RBI to power the host Vikings past the visiting Eagles on April 30. The game was stopped after six innings due to the mercy rule.

Morgan Monroe added a double and drove in three runs, while Gina Rhiner went 2-for-3 with two RBIs and a run scored. Jo Jo Murray added two hits and drove in a pair, while Ruby Dahlk walked twice and scored three runs, and Hallie Klein went 2-for-3, had a triple and scored two runs.

Jozie Clifton pitched all six innings and earned the win. Clifton allowed four hits, just one earned run, struck out two and walked one. Clifton also helped herself at the plate by going 3-for-3 with a double, an RBI and two runs scored.

“In the Sauk game three of our top hitters did not record a hit and the sixth through nine hitters collected nine hits,” Jeramie Holman said. “That was very big for the bottom of the order to pick us up throughout the night.”

• **Mount Horeb 15, McFarland 3 (6)** — The Vikings pounded out 18 hits and routed the host Spartans on May 3 in a game stopped after six innings due to the mercy rule.

Both Ellie Larson and Maddie Swiggum homered for the Vikings, who finished the night with four extra base hits.

Larson went 3-for-3 with two RBI and three runs scored, while Swiggum drove in three runs and scored two runs.

Gina Rhiner also had a

huge day going 2-for-5 with four RBI, while Ruby Dahlk went 2-for-4 with two RBI and two runs scored. Jo Jo Murray was 3-for-5 with an RBI, while Delaina Nicewander went 3-for-4 with two doubles and two runs scored.

Morgan Monroe added two RBI and Jozie Clifton had two hits.

Clifton threw five innings and picked up the win. She allowed two earned runs, two hits, struck out four and didn’t walk a batter.

Mount Horeb broke open a 2-2 tie with an eight-run fourth inning. The Vikings then tacked on five more in the sixth to end things.

“We didn’t score any runs the first two innings and then we exploded for 15 runs the next four innings with Ellie Larson and Maddie Swiggum hitting bombs to energize us,” Holman said. “The last two games we got down after the first inning, and the girls have responded quite nicely.”

• **On deck:** After hosting Stoughton on Tuesday, Mount Horeb plays a Badger Small Conference game at Portage on Thursday at 5 p.m.

May 6
Mount Horeb 7, Reedsburg 0
Reedsburg .. 000 000 0 — 0 2 1
MoHo 040 300 7 — 7 11 1
Pitchers (ip-h-r-er-so-bb) — R: (L: 6-11-7-5-0-0). MH: Jozie Clifton (W: 7-2-0-0-8-1).
Leading hitters — MH: Gina Rhiner 2x4, (2B); Maddie Swiggum 2x3; JoJo Murray 2x4, (2B); Ruby Dahlk (HR).



Jozie Clifton and Mount Horeb’s girls softball team clinched a share of the Badger Small Conference title on Monday. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

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:

➔ **NEW EMAIL ADDRESS: legals@fingerpub.com**

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

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Rough road

Co-op lacrosse team drops two of three after entering the top-10

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

The Verona co-op boys lacrosse team entered the top-10 for the first time this season, climbing to No. 10 last week. The Wildcats then faced a daunting schedule and dropped two of three games — falling to a pair of top-10 teams.

“Within a week’s span we had a total of three different games, two of which involved top-10 teams in Mukwonago and Waunakee,” Verona coach Alex Kramer said. “Each team presented its own challenges, and despite the losses, we were able to draw many positives out of them.”

Here’s a recap of the Wildcats’ week.

• **Mukwonago 9, Verona 6** — The Wildcats dropped a home game to the seventh-

ranked Indians on April 29. Junior Andrew Lalik led Verona with three goals and an assist, while senior Jacob Frick added two goals. Freshman Mason Williams added a goal, junior Jackson Connor had two assists and both junior Michon Dina and freshman Cooper Blodgett had one assist.

Sophomore goalie Caleb Jabas had nine saves and face-off specialist Owen Lang won 52.9% of his faceoffs.

• **Verona 21, Watertown 5** — Jacob Frick scored six goals and had an assist to power the Wildcats to a win over the Goslings on April 30.

Andrew Lalik added four goals and two assists, while Mason Williams had three goals and an assist. Adam Zak had two goals and two assists, while Gil Weisensel and Cooper Blodgett both had



Mount Horeb freshman Owen Schultz dodges towards the goal. Photo submitted

two goals.

Owen Lang added a goal and an assist, Caleb Rost had two assists, Gage Weisensel had a goal and Asher Grady added an assist.

Goalie Jack Corcoran had a 50% save percentage, while

Owen Lang and Asher Grady combined to win 86% of their faceoffs.

Defensively, seniors Calvin Patton and Jacob Frick, sophomore Ramsay Klein, freshmen Cullen Olson and Asher Grady all shined, help-

ing to hold the Goslings to five goals.

• **Waunakee 12, Verona 6** — The top-ranked Warriors upended the host Wildcats on May 2.

Verona held an early 4-3 lead, but Waunakee answered

with five straight goals.

Andrew Lalik led the Wildcats with two goals and two assists, while Jacob Frick and Mason Williams both had one goal and an assist. Gil Weisensel and Owen Lang both added a goal.

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