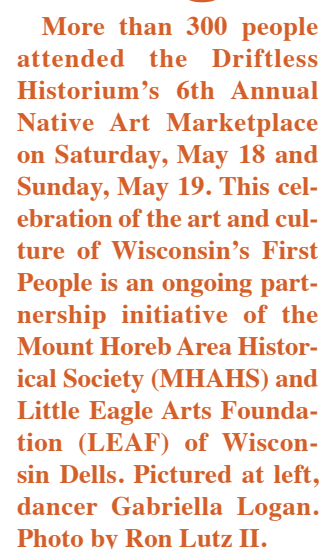
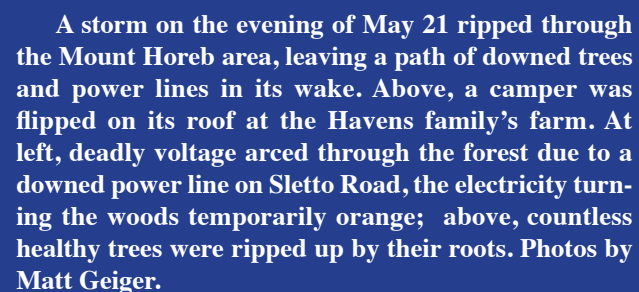




By Aynsley Hoelscher
Mount Horeb Mail

Following the latest batch of negotiations between the Mount Horeb Area School District and the Mount Horeb Education Association (MHEA) teachers union, both sides are mulling the future of the collective bargaining process,

continued on page 13



Frolic strives to give access to everyone

By MATT GEIGER
Mount Horeb Mail

Neighbors Helping Neighbors and the Werndli Charitable Fund are teaming up with the Mount Horeb Summer Frolic again this year to make sure financial limitations don't prevent local families from enjoying the community's most popular summer celebration. From midway rides and games to sticky sweet treats, they are making sure, yet again, that everyone gets to Frolic. We recently spoke with Neighbors Helping Neighbors board member Janna Hansen about the program's launch last year, and how it has evolved in 2024.

"Honestly, we are so very grateful that Pam Lunder, who represents the Werndli Charitable Fund, partners with both NHN and the Mt. Horeb Summer Frolic," said Hansen. "Without the Werndli fund dollars, the opportunity to the families we serve wouldn't be possible. Being a lifelong resident of Mt. Horeb, I remember as a kid, the anticipation and counting the days til the

Frolic, and the excitement of the midway with friends and family, so it makes my heart happy to know all families have the opportunity to experience a few hours on the midway. We are incredibly blessed to live in this community where generosity abounds."

Last year you teamed up with the Werndli Charitable Fund to cover the cost of Frolic midway tickets for lower-income families. What was the response to that like?

Janna Hansen: Yes. It was well received. Families were very grateful and appreciative of the opportunity to frolic last year.

It sounds like you are doing that again this year, right?

Hansen: Yes, most definitely. [The Werndli Charitable Fund's] Pam Lunder reached out to Neighbors Helping Neighbors (NHN) and Amy Mertz, president

of the Mt. Horeb Summer Frolic Board.

How much funding are you getting from the Fund this time around, and how do you plan to use it?

Hansen: The Werndli Foundation will provide up to \$5,000 in funding to provide for families who otherwise wouldn't be able to afford the opportunity to experience the Mt. Horeb Summer Frolic, the ability to get out, have fun, enjoy some delicious food, and make memories.

What changes are you making in 2024? I heard you will cover both midway tickets and food etc. this time, right?

Hansen: Families will receive two ride tickets along with a voucher for food and a non-alcoholic beverage per person, to be redeemed at the food stand outside the beer tent or at the ball diamond shelter. By doing this,



The Frolic offers fun for people of all ages. File photo by Jason McMahon.

not only do NHN families and others get to enjoy the midway, and enjoy a little food, it also puts money back into our community and local civic organizations that staff the stands.

How will they be distributed?

Hansen: Tickets will be distributed through NHN during open hours, beginning May 30 through June 8.

What should people know if they want to help? What should people know if they NEED help?

Hansen: Visit us at NHN during open hours or contact us by phone at 608-437-6114.

Bull by the horns



Pictured above, fourth-grader Maria Van Ooyen ropes a steer's head from the saddle at the Little Wrangler Beginner Rodeo held May 19 at Horseman's Paradise Ranch in Daleyville. Photo by Matt Geiger.

County approves appointment of Jamie Kuhn as Interim Executive

At the Dane County Board of Supervisors meeting tonight, the Board approved the appointment of Jamie Kuhn to serve as Interim County Executive.

Kuhn was appointed by Board Chair Patrick Miles last week while he was serving in the Acting County Executive role due to the resignation of County Executive Parisi, following a process outlined in state statute. Supervisor Chad Kemp (District 32), First Vice Chair served as County Board Chair during this time.

Remarking on the approval of Kuhn, Chair Miles said, "I believe County Executive Kuhn is the ideal person to lead Dane County over the coming months, her experience will be an asset to the residents of the county as well as to the more than 2,000 county employees that provide invaluable services to residents. I also want to take this opportunity to thank Supervisor Kemp for his leadership during this transitional time. I look forward to working with him throughout this Board term."

Kuhn will serve as Interim County Executive until the November 2024 election, when residents of Dane County will elect a County Executive.

Hummingbirds take center stage

On Tuesday, June 4, the Mound View Garden Club meeting program will feature speakers Kathi and Michael Rock presenting on "Hummingbird Gardening." Hummingbirds have been their passion for the past 20 years and as members of the International Hummingbird Society, they love to educate about gardening to attract these flying gems.

The club meets monthly, every first Tuesday, 6:45 p.m., at Wisconsin Surplus, Mt Horeb, 2600 Rte 78 South, in the Violet Room. The building is located at the 2nd exit heading west off 18/15). Refreshments at 6:45, presentation starts at 7:00, and the club business meeting begins at 8:00. Members of the general public are welcome to attend this free event.



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POLICE REPORT

APRIL MONTHLY SUMMARY 2024

911 Disconnect – 7
911 Open Line Count – 3

Accidents – 8
Accident – 5
Private Property - 1
Property Damage – 1
Citizen Report - 1
Adult Arrest – 1

While on routine traffic patrol, an officer observed a car with a tail light that was out. A DOT record check was conducted, and it was found that the registered owner had multiple warrants out for her arrest. Contact was made with the individual at her place of work, where she was taken into custody for the warrants. The subject was transported to the Dane County Jail without incident.

Alarm – 4
Animal Complaint Stray – 4
Assist Citizen – 9
Assist Citizen Vehicle Unlock - 5
Assist DCSO – 16
Assist Fire/Police – 7
Check Person - 16
Check Property – 39
Civil Dispute – 2

An ongoing civil issue between family members was reported to police. Officer advised the parties that setting up a preserve the peace to talk things out would be a good idea. The reporting party was contacting their lawyer to discuss before requesting a preserve the peace.

A citizen called to report that the people he lives with were trying to kick him out of the residence. The officer explained that he has established residency, and he could not be kicked out unless he was formally evicted. The citizen was advised to call back if any issues come up.

Damage Property Complaint – 3

While on routine patrol, an officer was approached by a resident who reported that his house was egged. At the time of this report, the reporting party was not sure if he wanted police involved, as he knew who the juveniles were, and was unsure of what he wanted done.

A business located in the village called to report that upon arrival at the business on a Monday morning, they found one of their windows

on their building was shattered. They were unsure if it was an intentional act as there was no camera footage from that area. The reporting party needed this report for insurance purposes.

A property owner of an apartment complex, called to file a complaint about wood decking being damaged. The property owner stated that he does not know when this damage had occurred, but it appeared to be old damage due to the wood being weathered. There is no evidence to prove how the damage occurred.

Death Investigation – 2

Officers responded to a residence to investigate a death. The family was notified and the medical examiner was requested. This case is considered inactive until the medical examiner completes their investigation.

Police were dispatched to a residence for the report of a death. Family on scene were interviewed, and it appears that the individual died of natural causes.

Disabled Vehicle - 5 Disturbance Call – 2

Officers responded to a residence for the report of disturbance. Contact was made with the reporting party and the suspect in this incident. It was found that the suspect was outside of the reporting parties residence yelling and screaming, and eventually entered the residence without consent. The suspected was cited for Disorderly Conduct and Trespassing.

Officers were dispatched to a report of a disturbance where an individual reported seeing a verbal argument turn physical. Officers arrived on scene and met with the female party who denied that anything physical took place. The female party stated that she felt safe and

officers were not needed.

Drug Incident – 2

A traffic stop was conducted for multiple equipment violation. During contact with the driver, a THC vape pen was observed in plain view. A probable cause search was conducted that yielded multiple paraphernalia items and a Ziploc bag containing marijuana. The driver of the vehicle was issued a written warning for the violations.

During a traffic stop for multiple equipment violations, the officer noted the odor of marijuana emitting from the vehicle. A probable cause search was conducted which yielded multiple containers with marijuana in them. All items were seized and the driver was given written warnings for the equipment violations and the possession of marijuana.

EMS Assist – 64
Fingerprints - 1
Foot Patrol/Check Property - 3
Found Property – 5
Fraud – 1

A resident called to report a fraudulent withdrawal from his checking account over the weekend. The reporting party authorized a transfer from his checking account to a 529 Investment Account. There was a second electronic withdrawal

labeled ACH for the same amount that was not authorized. The bank has been contacted and the reporting party is already working with bank to get the money back.

Harassment – 1

An officer took a report of harassment of a juvenile at their workplace. The juvenile reported that she was followed to work, and the individual made inappropriate comments to her. At the time of this report, contact with the suspect has not yet been made.

Information – 11 Juvenile Complaint – 1

A resident called to report that two juveniles were on her property and bullying her son. Contact was made with the juveniles who stated that they went to see a friend. Both sets of parents stated that they did not want continued problems. All information is being sent on to the school resource officer in case an issue would arise at school.

Local Ordinance Violation – 1
Lost Property - 2
On Street Parking Complaint – 1
Parking Tickets – 23
Phone Call – 8
Preserve the Peace – 1
Officers responded to a business to help diffuse ten-

sion and conflict within a family. While officers were on scene, there were no issues or conflicts between the family members.

Private Property Parking Complaint – 1 Safety Hazard – 3 School Related Incidents - 8

Assist Citizen - 1
Damage to Property - 1
Drug Offense - 1
Juvenile Complaint – 2
Special Events -1
School Related Tour MHPD - 1

Truancy – 1. Sexual Assault 1-2-3-4 / Rape – 1

This incident is being actively investigated.

Suspicious Person - 1 Suspicious Vehicle – 5 Threats Complaint – 1

A resident called to report that he found a rabbit with its head cut off, and placed on his steps. The reporting party believes this to be from a family member who is upset regarding an estate. The report was made for documentation purposes in the event something more were to happen.

Traffic Arrests – 17 Traffic Incident –11 Traffic Warning – 80



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To contact Mount Horeb Mail staff:

Matt Geiger, Editor mhmail@fingerpub.com

Lisa Kueter-Anderson, Advertising Sales
.....Call 608-225-3738 or email: adsales12@fingerpub.com

Rob Reischel, Sports..... robreischel@gmail.com

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The Great Sauk State Trail Expansion

Set to transform regional connectivity with new Wisconsin River bridge, multi-use trail and bridge project aims for completion by 2027



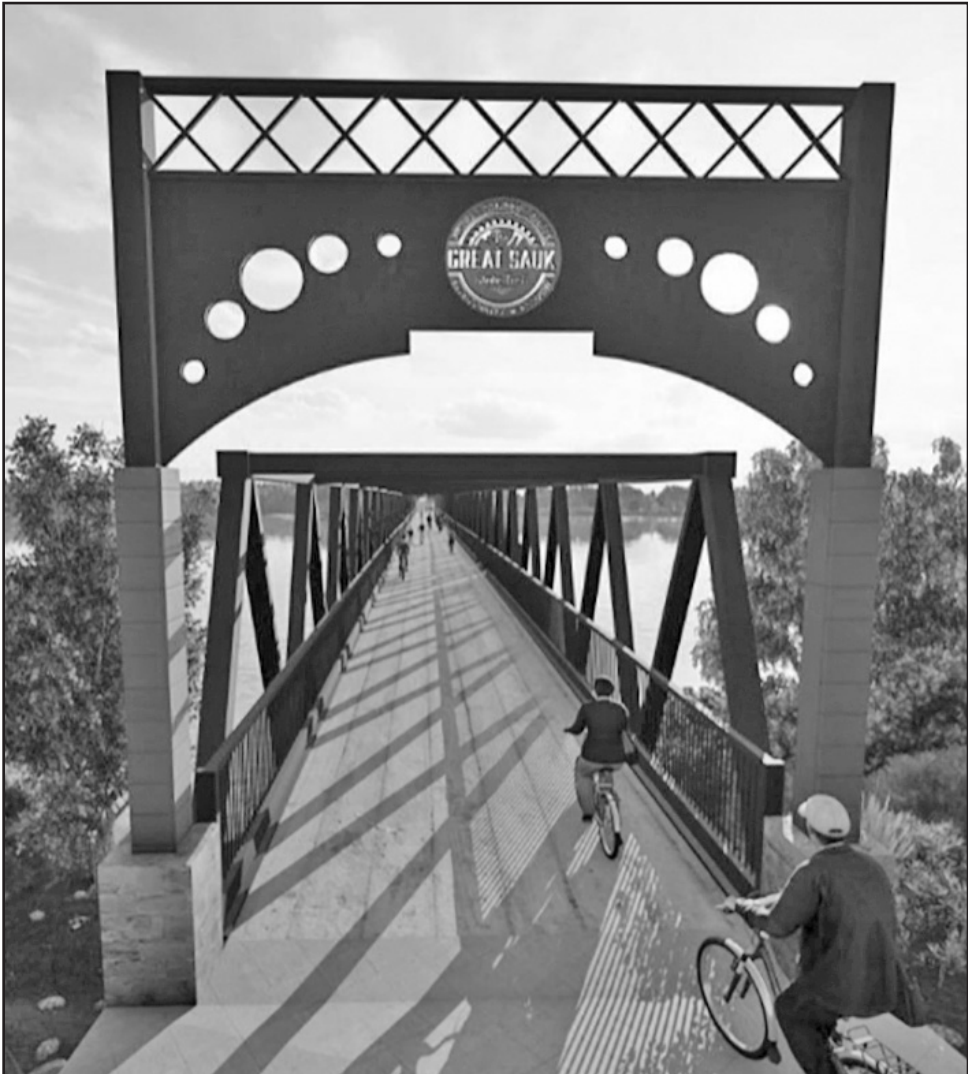
The future Wisconsin River recreation bridge, a three-span concrete and steel structure, wil feature viewing platforms and fishing spots, providing scenic views for trail users.

By Joe Block
Finger Publishing

The Great Sauk State Trail is a planned multi-use corridor potentially stretching from Middleton to the 400 Trail in Reedsburg. Currently, the Sauk Prairie segment through both villages has been built, as well as section from the villages through Sauk Prairie Recreation Area, to the edge of Devil Lake. Recent developments include the slated construction of a bridge over the Wisconsin River, and a rails-to-trails conversion from that bridge into Dane County and the town of Mazomanie.

A remaining planned section includes one through the former Badger Army Ammunition property—the so-called “Badger Unit”—which would connect Devil’s Lake to the Sauk Prairie segment. The Village of Black Earth and its neighbors are hoping and laying the groundwork for a trail not only in their village, but one that stretches from the Walking Iron Trail in Mazomanie east through the Black Earth Creek valley and connects to the Great Sauk State Trail south of the Wisconsin River Bridge on Highway 78. This grand vision imagines a network of trails stretching from the

trail-hub that is Middleton to greater Sauk County. The existing segments roam through bucolic prairie, in the Sauk Prairie Recreation Area, and then travel through the bustling villages of Sauk City and Prairie du Sac along an old railroad bed. From the southern terminus of the trail at the future location of the recreation to bridge north to where the trail ends just south of the former Badger Army Ammunition Plant property its 10.5 miles, one way. The paved multi-use trail features sculpture, murals, and historical objects, among other things in its urban section,



The bridge will offer a vital crossing for snowmobilers and other trail users, linking Sauk Prairie Recreation Area to Mazomanie through the picturesque Black Earth Creek Valley.

while the northern segment through the recreation area offers up nature at its finest. The first formal study of what has now come to be called the Wisconsin River Recreation Bridge, a feasibility study examining both bridge construction as well as the southern extension into Dane County along railroad tracks to a parking lot on Highway 78, was conducted in 2019. The parking lot is the goal as a terminus for the hoped-for Black Earth Creek Valley trail which would connect to the Walking Iron trail in Mazomanie. Completion of the bridge would significantly fill out the Great Sauk State Trail, offering the much sought after Dane County to Sauk County connection.

continued on next page

The Dragon Arts Group & Village of DeForest Present

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A detailed illustration of a dragon's head and upper body, rendered in a stylized, almost cartoonish manner. The dragon has large, expressive eyes and a friendly-looking snout. It is surrounded by other smaller dragon-like creatures and foliage.

A small, square icon representing the Instagram social media platform.

A small, square icon representing the Facebook social media platform.

www.dragonartsgroup.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

THURSDAY, MAY 30

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 31

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

BINGO, Mt. Horeb Senior Center, 12:30pm, sponsored by The Bargain Nook

SATURDAY, JUNE 1

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

TUESDAY, JUNE 4

"Wise Moves", free seminar for Seniors, Mt. Horeb Public Library meeting room. Sponsored by Karen Tetzlaff. RSVP to 608-575-1298.

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

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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5

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

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

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

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

LAW ENFORCEMENT



Special Olympics Torch Run Returns

Wisconsin's Special Olympics Torch Run will once again come through Mount Horeb, this year on June 5 around 2 p.m. Local police officers will carry the Flame of Hope through the community. The relay will start in Platteville at 8 a.m., then head to Belmont, Mineral Point, Dodgeville, Mount Horeb and Oregon. File photo.

LIBRARY CORNER

Something wonderful at the Library
Library staff have been carefully cultivating programs and materials for Mount Horeb residents. Below are a few highlights to know about:
Puzzles: Did you know the library now checks out puzzles? This is a relatively new collection. The best way to practice for the next Great Puzzle Race is to get your hands on a wide variety of puzzles and the library has them! (p.s. Keep an eye out for the library's next puzzle competition!)
Radon Detection: The library also carries a digital radon detector that is available for checkout. These detectors can be pricey and are typically only used a few times per

household. Take advantage of the library's radon detector to check radon levels in your home.
Digital Audio Players: Love listening to books on CD, but no longer have a CD player at home or in your car? Try a digital audio player! These small devices can play via headphones or be plugged into your car's audio system. (Headphones and car connection cable not included.)
Watt's up! Energy Meters: Curious about your energy usage? Did your electric bill rise and you aren't sure why? Check out an energy meter and test your appliances. Our meters are kept behind the desk so ask us for one the next time you visit the library!

RECREATION NOTES

Coding for Middle Schoolers helps students learn how to create their own games using an online visual game creator. It is designed for middle school students who may have experience creating games using programs like Scratch or Blockly. The desire to learn is the only thing needed. All supplies will be provided by the instructor. Greg Puente is the instructor this summer, with Session 1 being held Monday through Friday, June 17 to June 21. Session 2 will be a follow up class for those who have taken a prior coding class. This session will be held Monday through Friday, June 24 to June 28. Both sessions will be held from 1:30-2:45 PM in the Rec Department Multipurpose Room and will be for ages 11-14. Resident fee is \$85 and

non-resident fee is \$95. The registration deadline for Session 1 is June 10 and the registration deadline for Session 2 is June 21.
Fencing Camp is back with your favorite instructors returning with more knowledge, refined coaching skills, and your favorite fencing games and arm bands. New and returning students are invited! Safety is our first priority. We supply safety swords, protective masks, chest plates and jackets, in a high-octane, inclusive environment. The program runs from Monday through Thursday, June 10 to June 13. For 7-10 year olds, the times will be 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM. For 11-15 year olds, the times will be 1:00-4:00 PM. The camp will be held in the Intermediate Center Cafeteria. Resident fee is

\$135 and non-resident fee is \$145. The registration deadline is June 3.
HOW TO REGISTER: There are multiple ways to register for programs and activities.
Online (go to <https://anc.apm.active-communities.com/mhrd>)
In-person at 105 N. Grove Street
Place completed form and payment in 24-hour drop box
Email completed form and payment to mhrec@mounthorebwi.info
UPCOMING REGISTRATION DEADLINES
Speedball (6/3)
Vikings Youth Track (6/5)
Yoga – Mind and Body (6/6)

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COMMUNITY

Giant kites return to Hauge Park



The Wisconsin Kiter’s Club loves to fly at the Hauge Historict District Park in Perry.

The Town of Perry’s Hauge Historic District Park is the second highest public park observation point in Dane County. It was voted “Best Place To Watch A Sunset” by Madison Magazine. And that’s why the steady wind in such a panoramic location makes it a great venue for flying giant kites.

Pictured above is Mike Sherman, past president of the Wisconsin Kiter’s Club, flying one of the club’s

giant kites. They come in all sorts of characters including fish (pictured), animals, birds, giant octopi, and even Snoopy. Some of them are over 50 feet long and can be seen for miles. Those require 4,000-pound test lines attached to automotive tow straps with heavy steel anchors sledge-hammered into the ground because they can easily lift a person up into the sky.

The Kiter’s Club tried flying their giant kites in the park in 2022, but they did not return because the park did not have a restroom. It takes a lot of time to set up, launch and enjoy a big kite, so a long afternoon without a restroom was a challenge for the group. But in 2023, the Town of Perry built a brand new handicapped accessible restroom (pictured) and now the kiter’s are back.

The restroom was constructed by the Town in late 2023 thanks to a matching grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Knowles Nelson Stewardship Fund; a successful fundraising effort by the Friends of the Parks of Perry; financial support from purchasers of inscribed pavers in the park’s Heritage Circle, including Mount Horeb’s Buck N’ Honey’s Restaurant; and letters of support to DNR from local businesses, including Gempler’s, and Moonhill Mercantile.

The kiter’s club does not have a flying schedule for the park. Just wait for a nice windy day to take a drive and you might be treated to some amazing sights.

-By Doug King

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
- Immanuel Lutheran- ELCA**
310 W. Main St. Mount Horeb
608-437-8733
10am Sunday Worship
<https://immanuelmh.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
- Immanuel Lutheran Church**
www.immanuelmh.org
Sunday 10:00 service
310 W. Main St. Mount Horeb
- 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
- 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
- Mt Vernon United Church of Christ**
693 Highway 92 in Mt Vernon
608-832-6677
www.mtvernonucc.org
Sunday Worship, in-person and on Facebook Live, 10:15 am
Email: pastormtvernon@gmail.com
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Email: pastormtvernon@gmail.com
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- Mt. Horeb United Methodist**
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Sunday Worship: 9am online and in person
umcmh.org
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- Good News Lutheran Church - WELS**
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Pastor Jonathan Bauer
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Sunday School and Bible Study 10:15 am
608-437-4646 visit GoodNewsLC.org/location for details & directions
- 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

Historic Preservation Commission works toward accepting nominations

By Aynsley Hoelscher
Mount Horeb Mail

The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) is making strides towards accepting property nominations. The Commission met for their monthly meeting May 22 and heard from property owner Mark Johnson, who is interested in having a building he owns considered for a historic designation.

Johnson owns 108 and 110 East Main Street, which he said fall within a state-designated historic property district. Johnson said he spoke to Commission member Destinee Udelhoven regarding its potential historic significance.

“I had been talking to Destinee about getting a federal designation on the property, and she said, since the historic preservation committee is just getting going, why not do the local thing first. I said that’d be great,” Johnson said. “We are very interested in gaining historic accommodation for this piece of property.”

The property is recorded as being called “Evans Creamery” on Driftless Historium’s website and is on a list of “Historic Cheese Factories” in Wisconsin.

According to the website, the building was originally constructed for the Capital Dairy Creamery in 1920 from rock-faced concrete blocks and retains its original multi-paned windows. The building’s moniker, “Evans Creamery” originates from its purchase by Walter Evans, who manufactured butter there from 1927 to 1946.

“Destinee has quite a few of the crocks and some of the butter packs on display in the Historium. I would work with her on putting this together and hopefully be able to give some feedback from the building owner’s perspective,” Johnson said. “I don’t have a lot of expertise in this, but I’m willing to work with the committee to help me through it.”

Udelhoven said there isn’t a guarantee that Johnson’s property would be designated a historic site, but his nomination will assist the Commission as they develop the process of considering local properties for designation.

“Once we have our forms in place, he is interested in a nomination of his property. There’s no guarantee that he’ll get on the registry, but he’s willing to be our first guinea pig,” Udelhoven said.

In other news, the Commission is considering an application for status as a certified local government to be eligible for the 2024 Grant Cycle.

“This would allow us to apply for a grant to redo that large Elizabeth Miller report that was done in the ’90s. It’s been 30 years since we’ve done that, and those can cost up to \$35,000 to do,” Udelhoven said. “They’d pay it completely; no match. If we can get our application in, we can probably get that going next year.”

The Commission next meets June 26 at 6:00 p.m.

GLEANINGS

By **BARR JOHNSON**
Mount Horeb Mail

130 Years Ago- May 31, 1894

Whooping cough is making headway among the urchins of this village.

We can assure the reader of this paper that Mr. Feland is an upright businessman, and what he says can be relied upon.

Thursday, Mount Horeb looked like some Chicago thoroughfare. The streets and alleys were lined with teams from end to end. The Ringling Bros. Show was the cause for the emended gathering.

One of our village blacksmiths was made to believe that his time was worth very little the other day as a man entered the shop, threw a heavy log chain on the floor and demanded how much it would cost to have it fixed. "Five cents" was the reply. "Five cents? Says the man, " I can get it fixed at the other shop in town for nothing." That man ought to be awarded a brass medallion for his brass.

Norman Belgum has been lingering between life and death for a number of days and the doctors have but little hope for his recovery. Later: Death came yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock and Norman is no longer among us.

We now have a fine sidewalk along Main Street widened out to five feet, and the

hitching posts have been moved to Second Street, making it more sightly along our main thoroughfare and a great deal more convenient for our draymen to deliver goods.

Bennie Grinder takes a trip to our burg occasionally. He enjoys it well with a fairy by his side.

Little Walter Evans while attempting to slide down a board on Tuesday afternoon slipped and fell to the ground, breaking his collar bone, but is around the same as ever.

Charles Harker departed this life to go to a better one on Saturday evening, May 26, after a long and painful illness at the home of his daughter, Mathilda Oliver, Belleville.

120 Years Ago- May 26, 1904

The special election to vote on the proposition of raising \$5000 as purchase price of the Academy building was a quiet and one-sided affair. Seventy votes were cast, 69 for and one against. Fourteen ladies voted and their votes were placed in a separate ballot box, all being in favor of the proposition.

Mrs. Gunhus Tollefson arrived home Saturday from her lengthy and very interesting trip to the Holy Land.

Tuesday morning of last week our citizens were aroused by the tapping of the fire bell, giving a burglar

alarm. The safe in the post office had been blown open and contents taken. Entrance had been made through one of the back windows of the room. About \$146 worth of stamps was taken, together with about \$50 in money, but in their hurry to get out of town, \$38 had been dropped near the railroad track. County Sheriff McWatly came out on the morning passenger and looked over the grounds with deputy Scott, sending out inquiries in all directions, but up to this time no clue had been found.

Hans Grinder, Daleyville, who has been confined to his bedroom the past several months, surprised the whole community by being in church Sunday.

A tramp was detained at the lockup Saturday evening by Deputy Sheriff Scott on suspicion, but was released and given his liberty.

Carrier Ness on Route 65 is thankful to Bat Kelliher for a sack of oats contributed to O.A. Bakken for \$1 cash.

The cement sidewalks have been laid on Third Street in front of the residence of John and William Malone and the workmen are now at work on Park Avenue.

The co-operative creamery in this place is now receiving 17,000 pounds of milk daily. This makes buttermaker Olson a busy man.

110 Years Ago- May 28, 1914

A horse belonging to the Paul brothers in Vermont Township dropped dead in the harness Sunday morning hitched to the family rig going to church. The horse took fright from an auto and did not survive the shock.

The dedication of the new and elegant Vermont Lutheran Church last Sunday was a big day. After the dedication ceremony, an offering was taken up which amounted to over \$800, two hundred of which will go to

the mission fund and was a donation by A.B. Thorsrud in memory of his deceased wife, the rest going to the building fund. The Vermont ladies know how to prepare food and plenty of it for the big dinner. The coffee was made by the Mount Horeb ladies and it goes without saying that the coffee was first class.

C. M. Evans returned Monday evening from a few weeks stay at Waukesha taking baths and needed rest.

Never before has growing vegetation looked better at this time of the season than at this writing. The copious rains and warm weather have brought out dame nature in her most luxurious garb.

Both banks at this place will close on Decoration Day.

O.C. Nuubson and wife are now visiting friends and relatives at this place and vicinity. Mr. Nuubson was one of the first business men in Mount Horeb, went to Superior during the high boom of 1889, and is now engaged in the manufacture of Nuubson flat bread that is being extensively introduced throughout the country far and near and the demand is steadily increasing.

90 Years Ago- May 24, 1934

Elef Severson sold his 80-acre farm northwest of Barneveld last week to Fred Klusendorf, Barneveld. This is the former Elef Arneson farm and Mr. Klusendorf paid all in cash.

Adeline Bohle, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Bohle, Mount Horeb and Isadore Buechner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Buechner, Cross Plains, were married Monday, May 14, at Rockford, Ill., by the Rev. H. M. Bannon.

Our fire department was called out Thursday night to the Thorwald Landin farm, Blue Mounds, where a shed was destroyed by fire of unknown origin, and

on Sunday morning to a car on fire on Main Street at the Lutheran Church.

80 Years Ago- May 25, 1944

Two training planes returning to Truax Field early Wednesday morning last week from a flight to La-Crosse were forced down near Mount Horeb due to bad weather, one near Springdale Lutheran Church on Highway 18 and the other on the Northwestern road right-of-way between Blue Mounds and Mount Horeb. None of the four persons in the planes were injured.

Carroll Robertshaw is a patient at Madison General Hospital where he is confined with a fractured kneecap as a result of an automobile accident Monday.

Albert E. Anderson, 78, Mount Horeb died at a Madison hospital Friday, May 19, a week after an accidental fall at his home. He was a quiet industrious man of good moral habits. His support of his church was substantial. His home was hospitable and friendly.

At the Strand: The Marx Bros. in "The Big Store" and Claudette Colbert and Fred MacMurray in "No Time for Love."

70 Years Ago- May 27, 1954

Oliver Lee attended the State Policemen's convention at Racine Monday and Tuesday.

Mrs. Betty Philmore has purchased one of the Oswald Halverson newly built homes on Lake St. and will take possession June 1.

A son, James Ralph, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Buechner, Mount Horeb, Wednesday, May 19, at Madison General Hospital.

Robert Vilman, manual arts instructor in the local high school, resigned last week, and has accepted a similar position in a Janesville High School for the coming year.

60 Years Ago- May 28, 1964

Ellen Brager, Mount Horeb, is the recipient of the Gimbels-Schusters Fashion Forum to the Tobe-Coburn School of Fashion Design in New York.

Lawrence Trainor, son of Mrs. Josephine Trainor will be ordained a priest in the Roman Catholic Church May 30.

Mrs. Arne Digernes (the former Audrey Berge) is scheduled to arrive by plane June 3 from Norway for a three-week visit with her parents, Mr. and Ms. Obert Berge, Blue Mounds. Her brother, Pvt. Karsten Berge, U.S. Army is arranging for a furlough during Mrs. Digernes's visit.

40 Years Ago- May 31, 1984

A son, Nicholas Paul, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Hyatt, Blue Mounds, Friday, May 25, at Madison General Hospital.

Paul Hodgson, Walter Jabs and Jim Kalscheur received Friend of Education Awards at the Awards Night at the Mount Horeb High School,

30 Years Ago- June 2, 1994

Heavy equipment was lifting steel roof beams into place last week at the new Symdon Motors dealership on County ID near the entrance to Highway 18/151. Construction is expected to be completed and the dealership moved by the end of July.

Olga Eggum adopted and planted a Black Hills spruce tree in Lions Park in memory of her late husband, Matthew. He was a Charter member of the Lions Club and a past President.

A son, Spencer Lawrence, was born to Larry and Nancy Schlingen on Monday, May 30 at St. Mary's Hospital, Madison.



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BUSINESS NEWS

Viking Hardware turns 40

By Matt Geiger
Mount Horeb Mail

The world was a very different place 40 years ago. The Soviet Union was still a thing. Smart phones and social were not yet things. Michael Jackson was still young and alive, although badly scalded by a pyrotechnical accident while filming a Pepsi ad. Apple ran a bizarre commercial during the Super Bowl, in which they announced something called a “Macintosh personal computer,” for some inexplicable reason using George Orwell’s dystopian novel “1984” as their theme.

But as strange and distant as that time seems today, everyday people were dealing with most of the exact same problems they deal with today. Pipes leaked. Gardens needed weeding. Drains clogged. People woke up many days to discover they needed a certain type of hammer or saw or other tool, or a specific size screw or bolt or anchor. People needed light bulbs and paint and glue.

Anyone who owned a home or business needed solutions, and therefore they

needed a local hardware store.

Don Neff saw that need and opened one. This year, Viking Hardware celebrates its 40th birthday, and it has helped generations of people fix countless things over the years.

An old general store in the Hoff Mall had recently closed down, the co-op on the other side of town had not yet been built, and there was a hardware store downtown. But Neff believed the community had needs that weren’t being met.

“I figured the best way to get a foot in the door was to be open more hours, to be there seven days a week,” he explained. “That’s basically the way it’s been ever since.”

Located at 1240 Springdale St., Viking Hardware has evolved over the years.

“We started out with Our Own Hardware, out of Minneapolis, a smaller company, and then in 1997 or so, Do It Best bought them out. There was already a Do It Best in town by then, and I didn’t want to be flying the same flag as them, so we switched to True Value. Then, two or



Don Neff opened his hardware store in Mount Horeb four decades ago. While much has changed since then, people still turn to their local hardware store when they need to get something fixed. Photo by Matt Geiger.

three years ago, we changed to Ace.”

Neff said he made the most recent switch because True Value had been sold to a private equity firm.

“I didn’t like the direction it was going, and I didn’t want a wholesaler that was iffy, so we switched, but it’s just personal preference,” he said.

As Viking Hardware continued its success, Neff also opened New Glarus Hardware in 2006. That store is still going strong, as well.

As has been the case for four decades, he says the key to success is simply helping customers solve whatever puzzles they face on that particular day.

“They will come in and say they need a whatchamacallit thing, and I kind of like hands on tinkering stuff too, so it’s fun to help figure it out,” he says.

“These days I do sit in the office more than I used to,” he laments.

All in all, it’s a story of success and longevity.

“It’s been slow growth for me,” he says. “And steady. And I hate to say it, but COVID was the best thing that ever happened to us because people were home and they needed to fix things and they kind of realized they could do that without leaving their town. The government said we were an essential service, and a lot of folks realized they didn’t need to go to Home Depot or Menards. Maybe some of

our things are a little higher, but lots aren’t, and you don’t need to go all the way into Madison to get them.”

“It’s been a good, steady business,” he said. “There’s still a need for a hardware store.”

The final key to success is another simple one: good workers.

“I’ve had a lot of great employees come through that door,” he said. “A lot of them.”

WISE MOVES

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

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

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

For additional information, contact mgeiger@fingerpub.com.

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IC students ride the Peace Train



The Peace Train was performed by Ms. Beier’s Fourth Grade class on Friday, May 10th at 8:30 am and 2:00 pm in the IC cafeteria. Ms. Beier and her students created the show based on the books, lessons and learnings they’ve had so far this year. The program began with the story, *Old Turtle and the Broken Truth* by Douglas Wood. This story explains the broken truth which so many humans believe and how important it is to know the whole truth...”we are loved and so are they.” Vignettes of famous people who knew the whole truth were acted out, sung about and described. People like Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Jr. and Cesar Chavez were included and shown on the peace train. Ms. Beier’s students realized the truth, hopped aboard the peace train and encouraged others to also...by seeing themselves in others, doing good for those standing at their side, and by being kind. The program ended with students singing about the new world they’d like to see where all living things matter. Photos by Michelle Nelson and Tom Howe.

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School Board News: Kurths win Friend of Education Award

By AVNSLEY HOELSCHER
Mount Horeb Mail

The Mount Horeb Area School District Board of Education presented their Friend of Education award, adjusted policy, re-upped their participation in food purchases for their meal program and approved 147 open enrollment applications.

Friend of Education

Terry and Kathy Kurth were honored with the Annual Friend of Education Award for their longstanding support and contributions to the school district.

“They recognize giving students the tools and equipment they need in order to do their work is especially important and they’ve done this not only with their time and their treasure but also with their talent and we’re just beyond grateful for their leadership,” said Superintendent Dr. Steve Salerno.

When asked why he and his wife continue to give, Kurth stated, that they, as well as their children and grandchildren, gained a lot from the Mount Horeb School District. He added, “You can’t pay it back, but you can pay it forward.”

Mr. and Mrs. Kurth are



Mount Horeb Area School District honored Terry and Kathy Kurth as this year’s recipients of the Annual Friend of Education Award, during the Board of Education’s May 20 meeting. “We are thrilled to honor Mr. Terry and Mrs. Kathy Kurth with the Friend of Education Award for their outstanding service and dedication to our District,” said Dr. Salerno, Superintendent of Mount Horeb Area School District. “Their tireless efforts have enriched the educational experience of our students and inspired our staff to continue to strive for excellence.”

both proud alumni of Mount Horeb School District.

Policy Review

Clarifications were made to distinguish volunteer roles from paid positions, ensuring compliance with guidelines set by administrators.

The board discussed Salary and Payroll Management. The finance committee recommended removing policy 671 as its contents are already covered in the employee handbook.

Adjustments were proposed to accommodate sales

tax reimbursement in specific situations and to reflect the annual mileage reimbursement rate set during the annual meeting.

Discussion and Voting Items

The board discussed and unanimously approved the

continuation of participation in the Wisconsin School Nutrition Purchasing Cooperative for the 2024-2025 school year, which helps in pooling collective buying power to manage the school meal program effectively.

The board reviewed open

enrollment applications, discussing the reasons for accepting or denying applications based on capacity.

The board unanimously approved 147 applications to enter the district while denying others due to staffing constraints.

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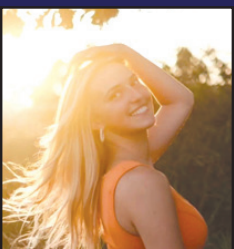
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Quantum Devices Inc.
Ritchie Implement
Sloan Implement
The Golden Eagle
The People’s Community Bank
Vortex
Wisconsin Surplus



Mounds View Mountaineers help clean up at Inglewood

A group of 4-H members from the Mounds View Moutnaineers were busy cleaning up the courtyard in Inglewood Residential Care Apartments in Mt. Horeb. The group worked together pulling weeds, trimming bushes, clipping tree branches and raking up leaves. The residents of Inglewood enjoy sitting and walking through their beautiful lush outdoor courtyard. Pictured left to right: Royce Sutter, Zoey Halma, Charlotte Johnson, Liam Bruncker, Kayman Sutter, Bentley Sutter, Skylar Schulenberg, Colin Schulenberg, Natalie Schulenberg.

BARGAIN

continued from page 1

in particular, two key areas where they have disagreed in recent years.

After last week’s report on the issue, members of the school district responded to several of the union’s claims, laying out the methodology they say is being used to guide each round of negotiations from their side. The district says its definition of base wage and its approach to meet and confer sessions, both of which teachers have criticized, are dictated by state law.

“We’re trying to make sure we’re doing [things] by the book,” said Erin Eslinger, the district’s human resources director.

MHEA countered that there is nothing in their requests that violates the law, as both issues are in a legal gray area with multiple other districts having various interpretations.

“Because the legislature and the courts haven’t defined the base wage, there are multiple interpretations in use across the state,” MHEA representatives said in a statement sent by middle school Spanish teacher Steven Austin.

Board attorney Doug Witte said Act 10, the controversial bill signed by Scott Walker in 2011, had a significant impact on the way negotiations take place, and its impact is still being felt today. He said he believes not all districts are in compliance with the law and he has advised Mount Horeb to be careful not to engage in any prohibited bargaining.

“Act 10 changed what the school district and their

employees could bargain about,” Witte stated.

Act 10 imposes that official collective bargaining can only affect the base wage and its increase up to the current rate of inflation. However, the term base wage is not clearly defined, and it does not specify exactly when other compensation issues can be discussed. These other talks are called “meet and confer.” The ambiguity leads some other districts to conduct both types of meetings on the same day and have meet and confer sessions before normal bargaining is finalized. Others hold meet and confer after bargaining is done. One thing that is clear about the law is that normal bargaining and meet and confer sessions must be held separately.

“The two things that can be bargained are the base wage increase and the distribution of that increase,” continued Witte. “Those are the only two things that can be collectively bargained. Everything else is prohibited.”

MHEA argues that since other districts conduct meet and confer sessions simultaneously, MHASD should also.

“Some other districts will talk about those other issues during negotiations and I’m concerned, as an attorney, that doing so may violate the law,” Witte stated.

Witte said the MHEA’s proposal in the latest round of collective bargaining included multiple items that were well outside the confines of legally-allowed collective bargaining. “The union’s proposal clearly had things that went way beyond

base wage increase and the distribution of it ... and we told them we were not going to bargain about those things,” he said. “Is it bad to talk about those topics? Not necessarily. But we can’t bargain on them.”

Witte said his advice to the Mount Horeb Area School District has been to follow the law closely to avoid getting sued. Part of that, he said, is holding meet and confer sessions after collective bargaining is complete.

“You bargain, then you do meet and confer in order to make sure you don’t blur those lines,” Witte said. “That is the safest way to do it and that is how I’ve advised Mount Horeb to do it. Now, I’m aware that some districts do them at the same time.”

However, MHEA claims Witte still said the way they want to conduct meet and confer is allowed under the law.

“MHEA wants to hold meet and confer while negotiations are ongoing,” MHEA said, “this would reduce conflict. According to the District’s own legal counsel, what MHEA is proposing is fully legally allowable.”

“Absolutely nothing prevents the District from having meet and confer with MHEA while bargaining is ongoing,” said high school art teacher Dana Showers.

Another key area of disagreement between the two sides is that of how base pay is calculated. In simple terms, the union and the district define “base wage” differently, which is hampering the bargaining process. Witte said the Wisconsin

Employment Relations Commission’s (WERC’s) chief legal counsel said the MHEA’s interpretation of base wage calculations is “wholly” inconsistent with the law.

“The statute has not gone away,” said Witte. “We think that from a purely legal standpoint, the base wage increase calculation is the way we define it.”

According to the school district, base wage is an employee’s standard pay rate. The current year’s base wage is calculated as “last year’s base wage” plus “a percentage of the last year’s base wage.” Supplemental pay varies depending on individual advancements as well as co-curricular pay.

Board of Education president Jessica Arrigoni said the district has been told by multiple attorneys that in their opinion, the district’s definition of base wage is the safest from a legal standpoint.

According to the school district’s communications specialist, Aubree Hanks, during a meeting with the district WERC confirmed the district’s definition and said MHEA’s definition was without merit.

But MHEA believes their definition is legally allowable based on their interpretation.

“Superintendent Salerno used MHEA’s proposed base wage definition ... for multiple years when he was the Associate Superintendent for HR in La Crosse and negotiated with teachers there,” Austin said. “Now he says he can’t use the same calculation because it is inconsistent with the law in Mount Horeb? The law hasn’t

Musicians shine at State Solo & Ensemble

Once again, the Mt. Horeb School District had a terrific showing at the State Solo & Ensemble Festival. This past weekend, more than 50 students participated in the festival held at UW-Platteville on Saturday, April 27, 2024.

To qualify for the state-level event, students must first select a Class A piece from a pre-approved music list, then prepare that music at the highest level, often in collaboration with accompanists and other students. From there, students first perform at District Solo & Ensemble.

Musicians who earn the highest possible ratings at the District Solo & Ensemble Festival in February receive an invitation to perform again at State Solo & Ensemble Festival.

Students learn a tremendous amount from the experience. “I gain a lot from hearing other students from other schools perform their pieces at an advanced level,” said sophomore Kaylynn Duckett. Every grade 6-12 student in Mt. Horeb band, choir, and orchestra participates in the Solo & Ensemble unit. During this time, students study a solo or small group piece of music with a high level of detail. Students then perform this piece for a professional musician and apply that feedback to future performances. As students advance, they are encouraged to select music from a more advanced class of compositions. Some students also choose to do multiple events; it is not uncommon for the most advanced students to participate in ten different events at the district level.

“Musically speaking, the Solo & Ensemble unit is the single most important thing we do as a music department that results in the most growth,” said band teacher Kellen Dörner.

This unit also provides students an opportunity to choose their music and musical partners. “It’s kind of a fun celebration of what we’ve been working on for the past few months,” said sophomore Eli Dinh.

This event is sponsored by Wisconsin School Music Association (WSMA).

changed. If it was legal when he was using it in La Crosse, why can’t he do the same thing in MoHo?”

Hanks said for much of that time, there was not a certified teachers union in La Crosse.

“It’s kind of ridiculous that we have to address this publicly in the *Mount Horeb Mail*,” said Melissa Olmsted, second grade teacher. “It would be much more productive, and much less contentious if we could sit down and work together.”

Eslinger said it’s important to note that step and lane advancements are additional dollars, as are a variety of benefits. This would prohibit their discussion during the bargaining process. The district pointed out that health insurance premiums for employees have gone down two years in a row, and that District contributions toward health insurance for full-time employees can range from over \$1,600 per month for a family plan to over \$700 per month for a single plan. Many teachers also receive between \$20,000 and \$100,000 in benefits during the three to six years after retirement.

While the two sides still disagree fiercely about the bargaining process, one thing the union and district do agree on is that pay is increasing. A new teacher in 2022-2023 received a wage of \$43,463 (a figure that does not show the cost of their benefits). With approved raises, a new teacher the following year received a wage of \$51,078, an increase of \$7,615, and will receive a wage of \$53,631 for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year, an increase of \$2,553.

The district and the union held three meet and confer sessions, two in April and one in May, before the school board voted to finalize its offer this time around. According to MHEA, co-curricular and coaching wage increases were the only things discussed at those meet and confer sessions. The union said it hopes the board will expand the things it is willing to discuss next time around.

Arrigoni said both the district and MHEA identified supplemental co-curricular wages as a priority. However, MHEA said the district never gave them the opportunity to identify their meet and confer priorities. MHEA said they hoped to discuss criteria for identifying high-demand teaching positions, enhanced compensation for pupil services positions, peer subbing and curriculum pay rates.

Those on the district’s side of negotiations said some give and take is inevitable while they work to set each year’s increase.

“It’s always going to be two sides coming together,” said Eslinger.

The Mount Horeb Area Board of Education is considering codifying some of its bargaining methods at its June 3 meetings, a move some teachers have criticized.

“Now they want to cement things into place with a new policy that are not working in our district,” MHEA said.

According to the district, the next step after that will be for the union to recertify in November.

“[W]e are prepared to negotiate with the MHEA for 2025-2026,” said Hanks.

Sports Editor
Rob Reischel
robreischel@gmail.com

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on Twitter at
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SPORTS

Vikings punch ticket to state

Mount Horeb will be well represented at state meet

by DAN LARSON
Sports Reporter

PRAIRIE DU SAC — Chris Kiel, Owen Preimesberger, Landon Ellestad and Kayden Baumgart didn't need a school-record time in the boys 400-meter relay at the WIAA Division 1 Sauk Prairie Sectional in order to qualify for the state track and field meet.

The Mount Horeb quartet just needed to take third or better.

Turns out they got both.

Mount Horeb's quartet took third and did so in 42.97 seconds, breaking the old record of 43.66 seconds set back in 2011.

So which is better, the record or the state berth?

That depends on who you ask.

"Honestly it's probably setting the record, because a lot of people go to state, but not a lot of people hold a school record," Ellestad said. "It was pure excitement when I found out we did it."



Mount Horeb's 3,200-meter relay team of (from left) Abby Sadler, Katherine Straka, Julia Straka and Emmy Bennin finished first at the Sauk Prairie Sectional on May 23. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

ment when I found out we did it.

"Now that we got the record we're going to run an even better time and break that record. Who knows what we can do next week."

Baumgart, however, took the opposite stance.

"Going to state," he said. "You think about it all season. This is my first year in track so it's pretty surreal for me. You made it. You're the best of the best."

best."

Making it to state and doing so with a record time was sweet redemption for the foursome after fumbling a handoff at the Badger Small Conference meet

and being disqualified.

"But we battled through that adversity and we're going to state now," Preimesberger said. "We all stayed pretty confident. We got our handoffs down."

I definitely think confidence was a key factor. It's good that we got that one dropped handoff out of the way."

Preimesberger took the blame for the bad handoff, but said it was a good reminder of what not to do, prior to regionals and sectionals.

"It was my fault. I left a little early, and that caused Chris to extend too far for me with the baton," Preimesberger said. "But we really learned from that moment."

Preimesberger added that it was a rare miscue between he and Kiel this late in the season.

"One thing me and Chris struggled with early in the season is I didn't really quite trust my mark for when to leave, but throughout the season that's where trust really happens," Preimesberger said. "Me and Chris have some of the best chemistry in our relay."

Because of how much trial and error has taken place in the relay throughout the season and being so close to the school record, Kiel knew the team was

continued on page 19

Vikings win regional title

Mount Horeb routs Wisconsin Dells, advances to sectionals

by DENNIS SEMRAU
Sports Reporter

In the postseason, when a team falls behind early, the pressure mounts because a loss means your season is over.

But despite falling behind, 2-0, in a WIAA Division 2 regional championship game on May 23, Mount Horeb's girls softball team didn't flinch.

What followed was a spectacular offensive showing by the Vikings.

Top-seeded and host Mount Horeb exploded for 11 runs in the bottom of the first inning and tacked on nine more in the second inning to rout fourth-seeded Wisconsin Dells, 20-3, in

a game that was stopped after three innings due to the mercy rule.

"We're going to score more than two runs with our offense, it's as simple as that," Mount Horeb manager Jeramie Holman said, after the Chiefs struck first for two runs in the top of the first inning. "I always tell the girls, when there's a lot of traffic on the bases, just don't let them have a huge inning."

"If we give up a run or two, no big deal because we average nine, 10 runs a game. You just don't want to let them get four or five by overthinking things. We need to minimize the damage."

continued on page 18



Mount Horeb's girls softball team won a fourth straight regional championship last week with a 20-3 rout of Wisconsin Dells. Photo submitted

Mount Horeb wins playoff opener

Vikings cruise past Adams-Friendship

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

One down.
And Mount Horeb’s baseball team is optimistic that there are many more to come.

The Vikings rolled past Adams-Friendship, 11-0, in a WIAA Division 2 regional quarterfinal on May 23. The game was stopped after five innings due to the 10-run mercy rule.

Fourth-seeded Mount Horeb advanced to a regional semifinal against 12th-seeded Richland Center in a game that was played Tuesday. If the Vikings won there, they’d advance to a regional final on May 29 against either top-seeded Reedsburg or eighth-seeded Sauk Prairie.

The sectional semifinals and sectional finals are June 4 in Portage.

“It was a great effort all the way around and good to build some momentum as we advance in the playoffs,” Mount Horeb manager Ryan Finley said.

Mount Horeb sophomore Jaxen Finley hurled a gem and picked up the win.

Jaxen Finley allowed just one hit — that coming with two outs in the fifth — struck out eight and walked only one. Finley also threw strikes on 43 of his 66 pitches (65.2%).

“JJ only walked one batter and the defense behind him was flawless with no errors,” Ryan Finley said of Jaxen. “Defensively it was our best performance of the season. When you only give your opponent one free base, you’re going to win a lot of baseball games.”

Mount Horeb’s offense held up its end of the bargain, as well.

Drew Preimesberger belted a two-run home run,

while Talon Stoenner went 3-for-3 with three RBIs and a run scored. Logan Ford went 2-for-3 with two runs scored and a triple, and Josh Kuntz went 1-for-3 with two runs scored and four stolen bases.

Mount Horeb scored a run in the first when Kuntz stole home, then got some breathing room with a three-run third to take a 4-0 lead. There, Logan Ford’s RBI single plated Ryan Skogen and Stoenner’s two-run single scored both Preimesberger and Ford.

The Vikings then added seven more runs in the fourth and took a commanding 11-0 lead.

Kuntz singled to right, Jaxen Finley walked and Kuntz stole home. Preimesberger then belted a two-run home run to make it 7-0.

Ford then tripled and scored on a wild pitch. Alex Chapman was hit by a pitch, stole second and scored on a single to left by Stoenner that made it 9-0.

Later in the inning, Hayden Anderson had a two-run single that scored both Stoenner and Jake Sroda to make it 11-0.

After Jaxen Finley shut Adams-Friendship down in the top of the fifth, the Vikings were on to the second round of the playoffs.

“Offensively it was a great effort up and down the lineup,” Ryan Finley said. “Our No. 7-9 hitters tallied five hits and five RBIs for us.

“Drew Preimesberger provided the big blast and we were finally able to break through with some big innings offensively. We had a lot of traffic on the bases in the first couple innings, but couldn’t get the big hit to fall in and then we got things going.”



Onward and upward

Logan Ford (left) and Mount Horeb’s baseball team (above) had plenty to celebrate during their win over Adams-Friendship in a regional quarterfinal on May 23. Photos courtesy of Holly Stoenner



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Soccer Vikings set to tackle playoff road

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

*The long and winding road
That leads to your door
Will never disappear
I've seen that road before
It always leads me here
Lead me to your door*

That terrific piece of music was written by Paul McCartney and John Lennon and first sung by the Beatles in 1970.

Mount Horeb's girls soccer team is about to find out where their long and winding road takes them.

The Vikings received the No. 4 seed in their WIAA Division 3 sectional and host 13th-seeded Monroe Thursday at 7 p.m. Mount Horeb defeated the Cheese-makers, 5-0, on May 16.

If Mount Horeb wins there, it would host either fifth-seeded Evansville or 12th-seeded Lakeside Lutheran Saturday at 1 p.m. in a regional final.

The sectional semifinals are June 6, and if seeds hold, the Vikings will face top-seeded McFarland. The Spartans edged Mount Horeb, 1-0, on April 30.

The sectional finals are June 8, and if Mount Horeb advanced that far and seeds held, they'd face either second-seeded Edgewood or third-seeded Sugar River.

There's no question this long and winding road will be remarkably challenging.

"Our path in the tournament is difficult, but mainly teams we've played competitive matches with this season," Mount Horeb coach Mark Newman said. "We will need to improve our consistency and avoid defensive breakdowns."

Mount Horeb couldn't turn those chances into goals

during its regular season finale on May 23 and dropped a 4-0 decision to Sauk Prairie.

The win allowed the Eagles to capture the Badger Small Conference championship with a 6-0-1 mark. The Vikings finished the regular season 11-3-3 overall and 3-2-2 in the league.

"To come out on top of this conference speaks volumes to these girls and the work they have put in all season," Eagles coach Drew Kornish said afterwards. "It is great recognition for a team that worked hard to deserve it."

Sauk Prairie struck for a goal in the 16th minute when Marin Alisch scored off an assist from Kenzi Kliest. Both teams had opportunities the rest of the half, but neither could convert and the Eagles led, 1-0, at the break.

"They are a strong, athletic team that we struggled with last year," Newman said. "We did some good things in the first half and managed to create some offense, though not enough to score a goal. We let ourselves down though in allowing a goal when we had several chances to break up the attack and clear the ball. Instead we compounded mistake with mistake."

"Our starting keeper (Addi Motl) was off the field at the time receiving treatment after being plowed over by a Sauk forward. Avery Monroe stepped into the goal, but we didn't protect her well and the shot was well placed in the corner, giving her no chance."

Sauk Prairie pushed its lead to 2-0 in the 54th min-



Jadyn Schellpfeffer and Mount Horeb's girls soccer team begin the postseason Thursday with a home game against Monroe.
Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

ute with a finish by McKenna Breunig on an assist from McKayla Paukner. Alexis Atkinson made it 3-0 in the 57th minute when she poked home a free kick that was played in by Paukner.

Audrey Brickl then had an unassisted goal in the 64th minute.

"We came into this game very prepared and determined to improve upon our recent run of play," Kornish

said. "Overall a great way to head into the tournament."

While it wasn't the way the Vikings hoped to head to the tournament, Newman is optimistic of what awaits.

"We are good enough

to create scoring chances against all of these teams," he said. "But whether we advance will come down to having the composure to turn chances into goals."

TOWN OF PRIMROSE

The Town of Primrose Board of Supervisors meeting for June will be held on Monday, June 3rd, 2024 at 8468 County Road A, Verona, WI beginning at 7:30pm. The agenda for this meeting will be posted at the Town Hall, Mount Vernon Auto, Primrose Church, and on the Town website. A summary of the agenda will be available on the voice message system at 608-832-6660.

Publish: 5/30/24 **WNAXLP**

VILLAGE OF MT. HOREB ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSE APPLICATION

The following application for a new alcohol beverage license will be considered at a Village Board meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 5, 2024:

"Class C" Wine License
Firefly Events Décor & Flowers, LLC
Agent: Heidi Lange
D/B/A: Firefly Events Décor & Flowers
109 N 8th Street
Mount Horeb, WI 53572

Publish: 5/30/24 **WNAXLP**

NOTICE OF OPEN BOOK STATE OF WISCONSIN TOWN OF PRIMROSE, DANE COUNTY

NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN this May 30th, 2024 that Pursuant to s. 70.45, Wis. statutes, the Town of PRIMROSE assessment roll for the year 2024 assessment will be open for examination on the 6th of June, 2024, between 11am and 1pm. To set up an appointment, notify the town clerk at clerk@townofprimrose.com or call 608-576-6821. Instructional material about the assessment, how to file an objection, and board of review procedures under Wisconsin law will be available at Open Book.

Ruth Hansen, Clerk

Publish: 5/30/24 **WNAXLP**

VILLAGE OF MT. HOREB ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS

The following applications for license renewal will be considered at the Village Board meeting on Wednesday, June 5, 2024:

COMBINATION CLASS "A" BEER & LIQUOR

Walgreen Co; Tanya Baron, Agent
Walgreens #11648, 1401 Springdale Street

Longshot Investments LLC; Michael Rogers, Agent
Trollway Liquors, 504 W Main Street

Miller & Sons, Inc.; Carlton Miller, Agent
Miller & Sons, Inc, 1845 Springdale Street

Kwik Trip Inc; Daniel Hying, Agent
Kwik Trip 794, 525 Springdale Street

Premier Cooperative; Joshua Kitelinger, Agent
Premier Cooperative, 501 West Main Street

Kwik Trip Inc; Tracy Alvey, Agent
Kwik Trip 1130, 9255 Ridgeview Road

CLASS "A" LIQUOR

Elegant Bridal LLC; Marah Odgers, Agent
Marah's Elegant Bridal, 101 E Main Street

WiscoBoxes LLC; Mills Botham, Agent
WiscoBoxes LLC; 305 E Main Street

COMBINATION "CLASS B" BEER & LIQUOR

Hospitality Hero; Guy Evans III, Agent
The Viking Bar & Grill, 120 E Main Street

Friends of the Norsk LLC; Michael Woodward, Agent
Norsk Golf Club, 2755 Golf Bowl Road

Mount Horeb Partners, LLC; Robert Hammerly, Agent
GrandStay Hotel & Suites, 175 Lillehammer Lane

Grumpy Troll LLC; Timothy Duerst, Agent
Grumpy Troll Brew Pub, 105 S Second Street

The Dog House Bar & Grill, LLC; Nathan Faust, Agent
Dog House Bar & Grill, 117 S First Street

BS Hospitality, LLC; Nathan Mergen, Agent
Bar Manzo, 209 E Main Street, Suite C

Birky's 3, LLC; Thomas Anderson, Agent
Buck & Honey's Restaurants, 108 S Second Street

COMBINATION CLASS "B" BEER & RESERVE LIQUOR

Tulum LLC; Jose Onate, Agent
Aztlan Mexican Grill, 407 W Main Street

Hoff Bistro 101 LLC; Mark Valaskey, Agent
Hoff Bistro 101, 101 E. Main Street

Into the Driftless, LLC; Matthew Schmock, Agent
Driftless Social, 128 E Main Street

COMBINATION CLASS "B" BEER & "CLASS C" WINE LICENSE

Sunn Café, LLC; Cynthia Curtes, Agent
Sunn Café, 201 E Main Street

Fink's Café, LLC; Pamela Baker, Agent
Fink's Café, 204 W Main Street

Publish: 5/30/24 **WNAXLP**

SOFTBALL

continued from page 14

While the Vikings (19-3) did indeed minimize the damage, they didn't waste any time lighting up the scoreboard.

"I knew they had some good bats," Mount Horeb junior shortstop Ruby Dahlk said of the Chiefs. "I'm not scared of good bats."

"I came into the dugout and said my job is to get on base. I said, 'This game is not done. It's not over.'"

Although Wisconsin Dells (12-5) sophomore pitcher Ella Schmitz retired Dahlk on a pop-up to lead off the bottom of the first inning, what happened next was a starting pitcher's worst nightmare.

Vikings' senior catcher Jojo Murray followed with a single to right field, the first of seven straight Mount Horeb hitters to reach base. After senior left fielder Gina Rhiner singled to center, senior center fielder Maddie Swiggum delivered an RBI single to left field.

Junior first baseman Jayse Holman then singled to load the bases, and Rhiner scored when sophomore designated player Delaina Nicewander reached base on a fielder's choice to tie the score at 2-2.

Junior right fielder Ellie Larson followed with an RBI single, and junior third baseman Morgan Monroe drove in two more runs with a single before Schmitz retired junior second baseman Hallie Klein on a sacrifice fly to center field for a 6-2 lead.

Dahlk then joined the fun when she drove the first pitch from Schmitz over the center field fence for an 8-2 lead.

"I really thought I just hit a fly ball to center field and was sad," said Dahlk, who finished with two hits and four runs batted in. "But I saw it bounce on the other side of the fence and got excited."

The Vikings weren't quite finished adding three more runs after sending 15 batters to the plate in the first inning.

"That was a little crazy," Jeramie Holman said of the Vikings' best inning of the season.

But Holman said that he felt good about his team's offense after watching Schmitz during pre-game warmups.

"Her pitching was about the same that we'd seen in going 14-0 in conference," he said. "There was no changeup or rise balls. I told them, it was basically

what you'd faced all year long."

Murray credited Jeramie Holman, a veteran fast-pitch pitcher, with having the Vikings ready for anything.

"We have a lot of confidence in our lineup from top to bottom," said Murray, who had three hits and was one of six Vikings' players with multiple hits in the 18-hit attack. "Our coach prepares us for any kind of pitching we will face and works hard to help us strengthen our weaknesses. Once it got going, we got on a roll. Hitting is contagious."

Murray said that despite allowing two early runs, freshman starting pitcher Jozie Clifton kept her poise.

"I kept telling her that a lot of people aren't ready to face the lineup we have," Murray said. "You really, just have to be OK with letting runs score."

"In high school, people are going to score runs against you and that's OK. We have the bats to bring it back and score runs and get it back."

Clifton promptly retired the Chiefs in order — all on ground balls — on five pitches in the top of the second inning before the Vikings' bats came alive again.

Mount Horeb batted around for the second straight inning, sending 13 batters to the plate against Schmitz.

Larson opened the inning with a booming double to center field and the Vikings' next eight batters all reached base.

Klein, Mount Horeb's No. 9 hitter, who had two hits and drove in two runs, said the Vikings' outburst wasn't unexpected.

"We have a pretty strong hitting team. When we get on a roll, it just keeps going," she said. "Scoring runs in bunches, that's the attitude for every game."

"We always try to win the first inning. If not, we try our best to come back."

Rhiner had a perfect day at the plate, going 3-fo-3 with three runs scored and three RBIs. Jayse Holman was 3-for-3 with two runs and three RBIs. Swiggum added two hits with three runs and two RBIs.

Jeramie Holman said the strength of the team's lineup from top to bottom is what makes the Vikings a formidable foe,

"Our last two years, our No. 9 hitter has hit .450," Jeramie Holman said. "Hallie (Klein) is a great No. 9 hitter because she gets on all the time. She is an amazing (No.) nine hit-



Mount Horeb freshman Jozie Clifton was the winning pitcher in both of the Vikings' playoff victories last week. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

ter."

Clifton and Jayse Holman combined to limit Wisconsin Dells to just three runs on five hits in helping Mount Horeb extend its winning streak to six games.

"Jozie has come on so strong, and I'm so proud of her," Dahlk said. "She just does her job. She is just so smooth and emotionally stable. She doesn't falter. She doesn't get upset with any calls. She is very stable always. I feel very comfortable."

"The same with Jayse. I love playing behind her. Jayse does an amazing job. Not a lot of girls can hit her. That makes it smooth sailing for the defense. She is fiery and in there all the time."

The Vikings, who won the Badger Small Conference championship with a perfect 14-0 record, have won 18 of their last 19 games following a 1-2 start.

But after winning their first league title since 2021, Mount Horeb is on a mission.

The Vikings, who have never advanced to the state tournament, lost in the sectional semifinals a year ago at West Salem. They also lost to Jefferson in the sectional finals in both 2021 and 2022.

Next up, though, Mount Horeb will host No. 3 seeded West Salem (14-4), the Coulee Conference champion, in a sectional semifinal on May 28 with some revenge on their minds.

Jayse Holman said the Vikings are up for the challenge.

"We've only made it so far, but want to go farther," Jayse Holman said. "My freshman year, we made it to sectional finals and lost. Last year, we really wanted it, but just couldn't get there. We have a great team so we're hoping this is our year."

• **Mount Horeb 10, Sauk Prairie 0 (5 innings)** — Gina Rhiner hit a home run and Ruby Dahlk, Jojo Murray and Courtney Monroe each had two hits as the host Vikings blanked the Eagles in a WIAA Division 2 regional semifinal on May 22 that ended after five innings due to the mercy rule.

Jozie Clifton tossed a complete-game five-hitter with three strikeouts and no walks to earn the victory in the circle for Mount Horeb.

May 22
Mount Horeb 10, Sauk Prairie 0 (5 innings)
Sauk 000 00x x — 0 5 3
MoHo 103 33x x — 10 10 0
Pitchers (ip-h-r-er-so-bb) — SP: Riley Kerl (L: 4.1-10-10-6-2-5). MH: Jozie Clifton (W: 5-5-1-0-3-0).
Leading hitters — SP: Lexi Cegielski 2x3. MH: Ruby Dahlk 2x4; Jojo Murray 2x3 (2B); Monroe 2x3; Gina Rhiner (HR).

May 23
Mount Horeb 20, Wisconsin Dells 3 (3 innings)
Dells 201 xxx x — 3 5 2
MoHo .. (11)9x xxx x — 20 18 1
Pitchers (ip-h-r-er-so-bb) — WD: Ella Schmidt (L: 2-18-20-18-0-2). MH: Jozie Clifton (W: 2-2-2-2-1-0), Jayse Holman (1-2-1-0-1-0).
Leading hitters — WD: Jessica Weber 2x2, Maya Michalsky (2B), Paisley Lindner (2B). MH: Ruby Dahlk 2x4 (HR), Jojo Murray 3x3, Gina Rhiner 3x3, (2B); Maddie Swiggum 2x3, Jayse Holman 3x3, Hallie Klein 2x2, Ellie Larson (2B).

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

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



Owen Preimesberger (above) and Katherine Straka (right) are two of the athletes that will represent Mount Horeb’s track teams at the state meet. Photos courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

TRACK

continued from page 14

plenty capable of erasing the 2013 team’s mark from the wall.

“We had been hitting 43s with bad handoffs, so we knew we could run in the 42s and we know we have more time to cut off of it,” Kiel said.

Perhaps that mistake a week and a half earlier was just what the doctor ordered to push the team over the hump toward that school record.

“They were (ticked) off and ready to go,” Mount Horeb coach Dave Chancellor said. “I don’t think they doubted themselves

at all. I think it was more, ‘Just give us the baton and we’re going to do it.’”

Preimesberger is also moving on in the 100-meter dash, having won that by a nose (:11.20) over La Crosse Central’s Cade Larson (:11.21) and Holmen’s Jewel Jackson (:11.22).

“I knew I had a really good start off the blocks. I felt like I was in first the whole way,” he said. “I honestly thought I came in third right at the end, but I

was pretty sure I made it. My hands were driving really the whole entire way. But once I heard that time and number, I realized, ‘Wow, I’m going to state.’ It didn’t really feel real.”

Preimesberger added that it wasn’t his best time and in fact he wasn’t really pleased with the time at all.

“But first place is first place,” he said. “Sub-11 is for sure the goal (at state).”

On the girls side, senior Abigail Sadler is headed back to state to try and

defend her title in the 800 after winning that event in 2:12.18.

“The goal was just to qualify and get a qualifying time for the fast heat at state,” Sadler said. “It’s kind of guesswork to figure out what time will qualify for that.

“We were thinking it would be safe with a 2:15 and I ended up with a 2:12 low. So that was pretty cool. I honestly did not know I was running that fast until I saw the timer

with 20 meters left. I started pushing it because I realized I was on track for a PR. I didn’t quite get it, but it still was a season

best.”

Sadler admitted that there was a little bit of pressure to repeat as state

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TRACK

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champion, but said she thinks she’s handled it pretty well.

And her coach thinks she’s the clear-cut favorite in La Crosse.

“She’s aerobically stronger than anyone in the field right now,” Chancellor said. “I know that I’m biased, but she’s been healthy for a long time, she’s been running really well and has a ton of mileage.

“She’s just super strong and is able to do these hard efforts without them taking a toll on her. She has room to grow.”

Sadler, who also took third in the 1,600 at state last season, qualified for that event once again, finishing first in 5:02.35.

And she’ll be competing in a third event in La Crosse as the Vikings’ 3,200 relay team finished first in 9:33.42.

Joining Sadler on that relay team were junior Katherine Straka, freshman Julia Straka and senior Emmy Bennin.

They were happy with their time.

Kind of.

“We have a lot more in the tank,” Sadler said.

“We’ve got a little something special saved up. Stay tuned.”

She might be referring to the fact the girls are chasing the school record of 9:29.32 set back in 1995.

“Confidence is key. We know we can do it,” Julia Straka said.

“We have more to give,” added Katherine Straka. “I don’t think we were going for the best time possible for our group (at sectionals). Beating the competition was definitely our goal.”

Three of the four didn’t have personal record splits, either, which bodes well for the fact that maybe, just maybe, they can put it all together one last time and beat that record.

The only one who did have a PR split at sectionals was Bennin.

“I wasn’t really paying attention to pacing,” Bennin said. “I was just trying to stick with the people in front of me as best as I could. I didn’t really think much, I just tried to stick with them.”

The state meet — which takes place Friday and Saturday in La Crosse — could be special for the foursome.

And if it doesn’t end up

being record-breaking special, it certainly won’t be for lack of trying.

“A last hoorah,” Bennin said. “We’ll put all our eggs in that race.”

Vikings junior Isabel Munoz also qualified for state in the 300 hurdles. Munoz was seeded third, but took second in :47.58 — a new PR, eclipsing her old mark of :48.17.

“I used that to sort of push me, like, ‘This is where I’m at, this is where I should finish,’ ” she said of wanting to hold her No. 3 seed and keep her season going one more week.

It was a terrific night overall for the Vikings.

“In these last couple weeks they’ve leveled up,” Chancellor said. “If anything, I think we sort of outperformed where anybody would have guessed that we were maybe two weeks ago. We’re going to have a good group going up to state.

“We’re the smallest school here today and for us to be able to compete with schools that are quite a bit bigger than us and do it fairly well — we left with a handful of sectional champs today — is pretty neat.”



Mount Horeb senior Abigail Sadler is the defending state champion in the 800-meter run. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

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