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PERSPECTIVE

Local residents work to foster healthy habitat

It's June 1st and Slow Mow May is winding down. Please remember Slow Mow is a yearlong sustainable yard and garden effort. We want to thank the Mount Horeb households who participate. This is the initiative's 4th year and over that time we have distributed

over 200 signs, although we note that many households without signs are participating. Our primary goal is promoting habitat for native bees and insects whose species are declining in large numbers. The effort is not simply a fad as the USDA Forest Service has clearly

demonstrated how various lawn mowing strategies impact native bee populations. Secondly, through free workshops and demonstrations, we have been encouraging planting sustainably with native plants, and reducing the footprint of turf lawns. Our next event is

"Creating a Meadow in Your Backyard" by Sarah Savage in mid-September. If you'd like to be added to our list-serv, or better yet, become a Mound Vue Garden Club member, please contact us: slowmowmay@gmail.com. The MVGC is responsible for the hanging baskets

and planters on Main Street, and the group maintains 15 gardens around the Village and Grundahl Park that we all enjoy. Assisting in this endeavor is a great way to serve the community. Join us!

Mound Vue Garden Club's

Eco-Gardening Committee:
Brad Brookins
Lorna Brookins
Barb Case
Steve Gauger
Kathy Hanson
Larry Kruckman
Carolyn White

Connecting classrooms to the community

By SARAH STRAKA
Guest Column

The strongest bridge in any community is not made of concrete and steel—it is the connection built between its schools and its local businesses. At the Mount Horeb Area School District, we recognize that our community and our schools share a symbiotic relationship. Our local businesses provide real-world spaces where students connect textbooks to actual careers. In return, our schools prepare the future workforce, leaders, and innovators who will someday step into businesses to sustain a community's growth.

This mutual investment is especially vital when it comes to career exploration and personal financial literacy. While these life lessons take many forms over the course of a student's 4K-12 experience, two recent partnerships exemplify this synergy: Junior Achievement and Businesses in Our Backyard.

Junior Achievement: Bringing Our Community Into Our Schools

Junior Achievement serves as a living bridge between the classroom and the real world. Through this program, community vol-

unteers step into our classrooms to teach real-world lessons in money management, entrepreneurship, and workplace skills. To make volunteer participation enticing and accessible, all volunteers are provided kit materials with ready-made lesson plans and interactive presentation materials. Mount Horeb Area School District classrooms have been fortunate to host many volunteers throughout the years in elementary, middle, and high school classrooms.

Second Graders Explore "Our Community"

This past spring, our second-grade classrooms had a firsthand look at how a community functions, thanks to a dedicated group of professionals from the local banking world.

These volunteers implemented the JA Our Community program, which immerses students in the daily life of their community—the people who work there, the money decisions they make, the flow of the community's economy, and the importance of being active and responsible community members.

We extend our gratitude to the following business partners for investing

their time and expertise in our youngest learners:

- Lake Ridge Bank (Verona): Phyllis Marx
- Mound City Bank (Mount Horeb): Sarah Frisch, Betsy Pierce, Abbi Stram
- Farmers Savings Bank (Mount Horeb): Jon LaVenture

These volunteers didn't just teach financial basics; they showed our students what it looks like to be an active, contributing member of society.

Fourth Grade Needs Business Leaders Next Year!

As we look ahead to the next school year, we are looking to expand our JA initiatives and need the unique expertise of our local business community.

Our upcoming fourth-grade JA program shifts the focus toward entrepreneurship and business management. Students will dive into what it takes to start, run, and sustain a business in today's world. Who better to teach them than the entrepreneurs and leaders who keep our own local economy thriving?

We are calling on local

business owners and managers to consider volunteering for the upcoming 2026/27 school year. If you want to help inspire our fourth graders and share your passion for business, please consider stepping up as a JA volunteer. Your story could be the spark that ignites a student's future entrepreneurial pathway.

Get Involved: To volunteer, please contact MHASD Director of Instruction Sarah Straka at strakasarah@mounthorebschools.org.

Businesses In Our Backyard: Bringing Our Students Into the Community

While our elementary students were getting an early start on understanding the economic world around them through Junior Achievement, our middle schoolers were out exploring the vibrant businesses in our own backyard.

Within the Mount Horeb Area School District, there is one event that all eighth-grade students participate in—Businesses In Our Backyard Tours. This partnership event between the School District and local business owners provides students with an understanding of the businesses and organizations within the community. It also provides early exposure to potential career opportunities. Before students commit years of their lives to a specific career path, they need to experience what those jobs actually

look like.

Based on student career interest surveys, each student is placed in one of five tour options. Students then visit three different business locations while on the tour to learn more about that business and the types of career opportunities at that business. Below outlines the businesses partners from this spring's tours::

- Central Tour:** Mount Horeb Historical Society, Wyser Engineering, and Helwig Auto. Students are exposed to the fields of social sciences, engineering, or the automotive industry.
- Downtown Tour:** Mount Horeb Fire Department, Mount Horeb Police Department, and Sign Art Studios. Students have a front row seat to public safety in Mount Horeb and consider both the creative and management sides of public signage.
- Eastern Tour:** Children's Community School, Lake Ridge Bank, and Up-land Hills Health. Students gained a better understanding of the diverse workforce needs at each of these locations.
- Southern Tour:** Gerber

Leisure Products, Premier Building Solutions, and Sloan Implement. Students are able to learn to apply their love of the sciences and hands-on interests when visiting these businesses.

-**Western Tour:** Bio-Vet Inc and Midwestern BioAg in Blue Mounds and Vortex Optics in Barneveld. Students can see how STEM and manufacturing come together in three unique businesses.

Regardless of the chosen tour option, students and their teachers are able to learn about the intricacies of owning a business, current and future skilled-labor needs, educational pathways for employment, and potential curricular connections.

Forward Movement Together

We are so appreciative of how our community supports our schools—whether coming into our buildings or allowing us into their businesses. It really does take a village to provide vision and opportunities for our youth. Thank you to all listed above, and to all who make opportunities like this possible.

Dirty Happens

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Sarah Straka is Director of Instruction for the Mount Horeb Area School District.

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Gleanings

By **Barb Johnson**
Mount Horeb Mail

**140 Years Ago-
June 16, 1886**

Cheap decorated screen doors at Loyejoy & Richards. Call and examine them, they are daisies.

We are indebted to John Jones for a mess of some of his delicious strawberries.

The front of the doctor's office has received high and flashing colors, by the skill of Andrew Oberg's artistically ability.

Andrew B. Syverud and Arne Huset, in company with their worthy wives, left Saturday for DeForest, to visit friends and relatives.

It is pleasing to notice improvements of the highways leading out from our village. The present overseers deserve credit and are worthy of the honor for years to come.

Henry Paulson, of Barneveld, is undergoing a surgical operation for harelip by Dr. Evans at this place. It required most of one hour to place the patient under the influence of ether. The doctor is assisted by Peter Johnson and H. G. Elliot.

130 Years Ago-

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June 11, 1896

Sheriff Mickelson created some quizzical excitement the other day by giving his jailor, M.C. Green, a "ticket of leave," for good and sufficient reasons, known only to himself and "Mart". The Madison gossips are all wondering what it is all about, but "Gabe" will not satisfy their inquisitive loquaciousness.

L.A. Goebel, of Perry called on his way back from Madison, the Seat of Justice, having been obliged to call upon the law to admonish a couple of neighbors who laid for him on the road from the factory, stopping his team and over-powered him. A plea of guilty was made by the defendants who paid the fine imposed and the case was settled.

The soldiers' reunion at this place will be held Aug. 19 and 20. Preparations are being made for a grand time. Gen. Henry Harden has promised to be present and give his account of the capture of Jeff Davis, wearing his old army coat and exhibiting his old sword and horse pistols.

A Post Office has been established in the German settlement in Perry with the name of Spring P.O. with G. Grundard,

cheesemaker at Spring Valley factory, as P.M. The mail route at present will be from Forward.

James Gesme, of the firm of Gesme & Johnson, has been taking a course in the embalming school at Milwaukee and has received his certificate. This enterprising firm is now prepared to meet any emergency in the line of undertaking.

**110 Years Ago-
June 14, 1906**

Wallace Dahle sports a fine pony and rig.

Many of our readers know Thos. P. Cohn of Madison, many years ago county clerk. He met a sudden death last Saturday in Madison in a runaway accident while in a funeral procession.

H.R. Patterson, representing the Marlin Arms Co., gave some exhibitions of fancy shooting with their new automatic gun.

The carnival and the fun is over and everything passed off as smoothly as could reasonably be expected. Saturday evening the fun reached the climax. Everyone, old and young, little and big, got into the game. Rubber balls with rubber strings and confetti were freely in use and hats came in for rough usage. Many a good hat was converted into fit material for the rag-bag. The stores

were closed, gentlemen from the country and neighboring villages were obliged to call on friends to borrow skull protectors to get home.

The late Erick Helland of Perry left the nice sum of \$412 to be divided between orphanages, deaconess hospitals and missions, Lutheran institutions.

The funeral of Rev. Hegseth last Friday was very well attended. A large number of friends and neighbors were present at the house, where impressive services were held outdoors. When the procession reached the church there were 260 teams, and four churches the size of this would not have roomed the vast concourse of sympathizing friends who had come to show their respect for the one who was to be laid away.

**110 Years Ago-
June 16, 1916**

P.J. Rue was in Madison Friday and bought a wheel scraper for the village.

The young son of Jacob Stolen was injured while at play at the Klevenville school house last Tuesday and for a time was unconscious. Mr. Stolen was summoned by telephone and the boy was brought home in the auto and is up and around as usual.

On Thursday, June 22 the Mt. Horeb Holstein Breeders

Association will have a picnic on the C.O. Ruste farm 4 miles south of Blue Mounds. In case of rainy weather or muddy roads the picnic will be held on the following Saturday. If in doubt call your central who will be informed.

A County Picnic will be held at the County Farm Saturday June 24th. Farmers and City folks are invited to bring their baskets with their lunches. Attendants will show visitors over the farm and through the buildings and see how the several hundred patients are fed, housed and cared for. Remember the date.

**100 Years Ago-
June 11, 1926**

One of our friends informs us that he murdered 1847 Maybugs the other night. He placed the tub of water mixed with a little kerosene under an electric light all night. Next morning there was a host of bugs in the tub and as he was interested in knowing how many he caught, he counted them all and found the above number given. If every farmer would do likewise (a lantern will do in place of an electric light) the Maybug pest would be eventually stopped.

Tag day for the benefit of the school band netted \$80 last Saturday, of this amount John Peterson collected \$21.20.

The former R.E. Beat resi-

dence, corner of Main Street and Park Drive, is being razed to make room for a new Ford show room for the Mount Horeb Auto Co.

Andrew P. Lee, is now our next door neighbor having rented the Docken store building where he is selling Dunlop tires.

John Fosshage, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Fosshage, and Miss Irene Lingard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Lingard, greatly surprised their friends this week by letting it be known that they were married, May 9, in Rockford, Ill.

**60 Years Ago-
June 9, 1966**

Five students from Mt. Horeb were among the 3,600 candidates for degrees at the University of Wisconsin's commencement at Madison this year. They are Earl G. Melby, Douglas E. Thomson, Michael J. Byron, Dean Austin and Judith Keller.

Mrs. John Newman, 86, lifelong Mt. Horeb resident, died Sunday (June 5, 1966) in a Madison hospital after a long illness. The former Elizabeth Heuser was born in Blue Mounds township.

**50 years Ago-
June 10, 1976**

Mount Horeb firemen responded to a series of nine grass fires along County Highway A from Forward to the Iowa County line last week that were apparently caused by someone towing a machine that was producing sparks.

Mrs. Ron Wirth and Julia Krohn of the Majestic View Toastmistress Club of Mount Horeb, attended the Council meeting for toastmistresses held Saturday at the Holiday Inn in Beloit.

George and Iva Nell Kahl, parade marshals, were warmly received on the parade route of the 7th Annual Summer Frolic.

**40 Years Ago-
June 12, 1986**

Officer Bill Tyler, while pursuing a traffic violator, lost control of the squad car in the Town of Vermont on Hwy 78 North of Mineral Point Rd.

Jerry and Tanja Ryan, Mount Horeb are the parents of a son, Travis Gerald, born on Sunday, June 8, at St. Mary's Hospital, Madison.

Clarence Schwenn, age 99, native of Mount Horeb died on Thursday, June 5, 1986 at Ingleside Nursing Home. Mr. Schwenn was a painter and decorator in the Mount Horeb area for more than 60 years.

**30 Years Ago-
June 13, 1996**

Maurice and Carol Connery will celebrate their 49th wedding anniversary June 30 with an open house from 1-5 p.m. at their home in Blue Mounds.

Dane Cannon, Brittany Cannon, Tyler Kleppe and Jef Wanderski are speedy Razzle Dazzle Readers who read 15 books and completed their reading records in the first week of the summer reading program.



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Alaynah Hingtgen
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Trenton Paulson
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Josie Kruser
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Gracie Leeser
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Madelyn Knutson
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Obituaries

Dorothy Mae Bliskey



Dorothy Mae Bliskey, 80, passed away peacefully on June 1, 2026, surrounded by family.

Dorothy was born on May 20, 1946, in Madison, Wisconsin, to the late Walter and Benunie Schwarz of Mt. Horeb. She graduated from Mt. Horeb High School in 1964.

In 1966, Dorothy married Lennis Rindy, and together they raised three sons, Troy, Chad, and Ryan, who remained the pride and joy of her life. During the 1970s and 1980s, she immersed herself in her sons’ activities and in the Rosendale community. She helped revive the local Cub Scout Pack, becoming one of the first female Cubmasters in the area, if not the state. Through the Rosendale 4-H Club, Dorothy enthusiastically served as a project leader in gardening, photography, and numerous other activities. Having been an active 4-H member herself while growing up in Dane County, she was passionate about helping young people learn and grow. Between Scouts, 4-H, and countless athletic events, Dorothy rarely missed an opportunity to support her boys.

As her sons headed off to college, Dorothy decided to pursue her own educational dreams. While Troy, Chad, and Ryan worked toward their degrees, Dorothy enrolled at the University of Wisconsin–Oshkosh, where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism in 1994. During her college years, she worked two part-time jobs: as newsletter editor for the Rosendale-Brandon School District and as a correspondent and feature writer for The Reporter in Fond du Lac, beginning in 1991.

Following graduation, Dorothy worked in advertising at Kohl’s Corporate Headquarters in Menomonee Falls before becoming Marketing Director for the Fond du Lac Convention & Visitors Bureau, a position she held for ten years. Throughout her professional career and nearly until the time of her passing, Dorothy remained devoted to freelance writing and photography. Her work appeared in numerous news-

papers, magazines, and business publications throughout the region, including The Reporter, Action Advertiser, Scene Newspaper, and Inspire Magazine. In 2004, she established Bliskey Writing Services, combining her lifelong passions for storytelling, photography, and quality journalism.

In 1997, Dorothy married Brian S. Bliskey, the love of her life. Together they shared nearly three decades of marriage, friendship, travel, and family. Dorothy cherished time spent with family and friends, attending community events, exploring local history, gardening, photographing special moments, and telling the stories of people and places throughout Wisconsin.

In addition to her love of family, writing, and photography, Dorothy found joy in the simple wonders of everyday life. For several spring seasons, she eagerly anticipated the return of a mallard duck that chose a flower bed just outside her front door as a nesting place. Dorothy delighted in watching the duck raise her brood before leading her ducklings down the creek behind the house, sharing the annual adventure with family and friends. It was one of the many small stories that brought her great joy.

Dorothy will be remembered for her curiosity, creativity, kindness, determination, and unwavering devotion to her family. She had a gift for making people feel seen and valued, whether through her writing, her photography, or simply through conversation. She rarely met a stranger and possessed a reporter’s instinct for asking questions, listening carefully, and finding the story worth telling. Friends and family knew that a quick conversation with Dorothy often turned into a memorable discussion, a new friendship, or perhaps an article in a local publication.

Over the years, she was entrusted with writing the stories and obituaries of countless friends, neighbors, and family members. She believed that every life had a story worth preserving and that ordinary people often lived extraordinary lives. In true Dorothy fashion, she began writing her own obituary more than a decade ago, ensuring that her final story would be told, at least in part, in her own words.

While Dorothy spent much of her life telling the stories of others, those who loved her now have the privilege of telling hers. Her story lives on through her family, her friends, the countless articles and pho-

tographs she leaves behind, and the many lives she touched along the way.

She is survived by her beloved husband, Brian S. Bliskey; her sons, Troy Rindy, Chad Rindy, and Ryan Rindy; her stepson, Kent Bliskey; her grandchildren, Joshua (Stephanie) Rindy, Christopher Rindy, Nicole Rindy, Zachary Rindy, Jensen Rindy, Grace Rindy, Ella Rindy, Jameson Rindy, and Brooklynn Butler; her great-grandson, Rowan Rindy; and another great-grandchild expected later this year. She is further survived by her brother, Russell (Barb) Schwarz, former husband Lennis Rindy, along with many nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family members, and dear friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Walter and Benunie Schwarz; her brother, Donald (Carol) Schwarz; her sister, Rosann (Hubert) Jorns; her grandson, Luke Rindy; her daughter-in-law, Karen Rindy; her stepdaughter, Kelli Bliskey; and many other beloved family members and friends.

Dorothy’s family invites friends and relatives to a time of visitation on Sunday, June 7, 2026 at Zacherl Funeral Home in Fond du Lac from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM. A Liturgy of the Word will take place following the visitation at 3:00 PM. Dorothy will be laid to rest at Calvary Mausoleum in Fond du Lac on Monday, June 8th, 2026 at 9:00 AM.

The family extends their heartfelt gratitude to the caregivers, medical professionals, family members, and friends who provided Dorothy with support, comfort, and companionship throughout her final journey.

Visit www.zacherlfuneralhome.com to send condolences.

Lois Carol (Lapacinski) Schmidt

September 3, 1951 - June 4, 2026



MOUNT HOREB – Lois Schmidt (74) died peacefully on June 4, 2026, after battling uterine cancer for the past 18 months. She was surrounded by family, in her home in Mount Horeb, Wis.

Born on September 3, 1951, in Rice Lake, Wis., to Ruth (Jindrich) and Bernard “Ben” Lapacinski, Lois attended Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School in Dobie, Wis. She grew up on her family’s Big Buck Potatoes

farm along with five siblings. Her problem-solving and resourceful mom instilled in her all the skills necessary for her creative, adaptive, welcoming and family-orientated disposition. She graduated from Rice Lake High School in 1969 and cultivated a lifelong love of textiles as she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in fashion merchandising from University of Wisconsin-Stout in 1973. Lois remained in touch with her college roommates, “the Gambles Girls,” who provided loving support until the end.

Lois met the love of her life, David Schmidt, while working a summer job at Birchwood Lumber and Veneer. Dave and Lois were married in 1975 at Our Lady of Lourdes. After marriage, Lois and Dave lived in Kansas City, Mo., where she worked as a buyer for Harzfeld’s department store. Due to Dave’s work for the railroad, Lois moved throughout the Midwest every few years, making a new home and new friends along the way. Their daughters, Suzanne and Alice, rounded out the family.

Lois had a knack for creating and contributing to their community through church involvement and volunteering in her daughters’ schools and with other organizations. She had a way of always making people feel at ease and welcome. Lois volunteered as a tour guide at Girls and Boys Town, in the gift shop at The Mount Horeb Driftless Historium, and she repaired and laundered donations for the Bargain Nook and Neighbors Helping Neighbors. Lois and Dave joyously celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on a trip to Montreal, Canada, with their two daughters in 2025.

Becoming a grandma gave Lois another generation of opportunities for sewing Halloween costumes, matching outfits and tailored pajamas. She could make almost anything and taught her daughters to sew, garden, bake, craft and appreciate a good bargain hunt. Lois had an endless reservoir of optimism and saw the potential in literally every little thing. She loved to adopt an unfinished project and bring it to completion. Lois created beauty in every space she entered. She loved reading, going on road trips, playing board games, writing and receiving letters, sending care packages, cheering her children and grandchildren on at sporting events, staying in her pajamas until noon, enjoying a good donut, lighting a prayer candle and collecting quilts, Barbies and antiques. She couldn’t pass up shopping a juicy garage sale, hanging sheets from the clothesline, rescuing a sapling from the

lawnmower, and having long chats with her siblings and friends. She was a treasured wife, mother, grandmother and aunt who will be greatly missed.

Lois was preceded in death by her parents, Ben and Ruth Lapacinski. Lois is survived by her husband, David; her daughters, Suzanne (Michael Viola) Schmidt and Alice (James) Kehaya; her four grandchildren, Malaya, Jessamine, Elsie and Mary; her five siblings and their spouses, Judy (Al) Perry, Margaret (Carlton) Nathon, Marilyn (Felix) Fernandes, Bernard (Andrea) Lapacinski, and Robert (Debbie) Lapacinski; as well as 18 nieces and nephews.

Lois’s family would like to thank the doctors and nurses at Carbone Cancer Center, Jess and the Agrace hospice nurses, and Dr. Miner with UW Health for exceptional care during her battle with cancer. Thanks also to everyone who has extended their love through companionship, food, thoughts, letters, prayers, flowers and other meaningful gestures. She truly felt loved and appreciated in the end.

A celebration of Lois’s life will be held at ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH, 109 S. Sixth St., Mount Horeb, Wis., on Friday, June 19, 2026, with visitation starting at 9:30 a.m. and Mass at 11 a.m. A burial will follow at Calvary Cemetery, Mount Horeb, immediately following Mass.

In lieu of flowers, Lois requested that donations be made in her memory to Neighbors Helping Neighbors (Mount Horeb, Wis.); the Mount Horeb Public Library; Carbone Cancer Center (Madison, Wis.); or The Driftless Historium (Mount Horeb, Wis.).

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

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

Harland Paige Erfurth

March 24, 1935 - June 5, 2026



MOUNT VERNON / MOUNT HOREB – Harland Paige Erfurth, age 91, went home to heaven and into the loving arms of his Lord and Savior on Friday, June 5, 2026. He died very peacefully at home, sur-

rounded by his loving family. Harland was born on March 24, 1935, at home in Primrose Township near Mount Vernon, Wis., to Gerald and Frieda (Goeldner) Erfurth. Growing up, he spent much of his time at his grandfather’s farm just outside Mount Vernon, where he learned the value of hard work and made many good memories.

Harland attended school in Mount Vernon through eighth grade, then attended Verona High School, where he was a letter winner in football and basketball all four years. He graduated in the Class of 1953 along with his classmate and valedictorian, Nona Moore. They became high school sweethearts and were married on May 12, 1956, at the Zwingli United Church of Christ in Mount Vernon. They became proud parents to four children, Kate, Jay, Rob and May.

Just prior to their marriage, Harland bought the blacksmith shop in Mount Vernon. It had been out of business for many years, and it was turned into a gas station and an automobile and farm repair shop. In 1959, he purchased the Mount Vernon garage just a few doors down and operated it as a full-service gas station - Erfurth’s Citgo – to go along with the repair business. He ran it for over 50 years before retiring in 2006. In 1970, he was joined by his brother-in-law, Gerald Trainor, and the business became Erfurth-Trainor Citgo for several years. Many great memories were made at the station with numerous people stopping in for free coffee or a bottle of Ting soda pop. Kids were always treated to suckers and candy bars. He really appreciated his customers, and there often would be a transaction on a reduced or no-charge basis. Whether kids or adults, Harland loved them all. In fact, a group of guys who stopped daily decided to call their group the “Liar’s Club,” and many of the world’s problems were solved during their sessions. Harland also purchased Jerry’s Bulk Service after his father’s death and delivered gas and fuel oil products to area customers. He was a school bus driver for the Belleville and Mount Horeb school districts for many years.

Harland was a very community-oriented man and had a heart of gold. He coached Little League, played both fast-pitch and slow-pitch softball, bowled for many years, and was on the Mount Vernon Tug of War team. He was very involved in almost every Mount Vernon community event, as he presided as the “Mayor” of Mount Vernon. He and Nona were honored

continued on page 10

BOARD

continued from page 1
(Lukken Park property).

John Rader, Managing Director of the Public sector of Baker Tilly, presented highlights of the 2025 audit of the Village’s General Fund (GF). It is not a pretty picture. The GF has five categories – Unassigned, Assigned, Committed, Restricted, and Nonspendable. The graph compared the categories for 2024 and 2025. In both years, the GF included only Assigned and Nonspendable funds. Assigned funds are intended for specific purposes yet are not restricted or committed. Nonspendable funds cannot be spent due to legal or contractual obligations requiring them to remain intact, including deficits in TIF 3 and Capital Projects. Ninety-Two percent of the GF is in the Nonspendable category. The total of both funds for 2025 is \$1,530,111, down 31% from the 2024 total. Comparing the 2025 budget to the actual (audited), the Village revenue was off by \$131,237 whereas the expenditures were less than budgeted by \$680,009, leaving a net change in the general fund of -\$475,824.

The Village’s GF policy is to maintain between 20-25% in the Unassigned category. Unassigned means funds have not been classified for any of the other four categories. Looking at the past five years, in 2021 the Unassigned category was 21.5%, 2022 0%, 2023 7.5% and both 2024 and 2024 were 0%. Included in this graph, Rader provided a median of its municipal client data with populations of less than 10,000, showing each year for that group hovering around 30% of unassign funds.

Back to Square One

For the fifth time, Public Art Ordinance 2026-06 appeared as an agenda item, one time at the Historic Preservation Commission, three times at the Plan Commission, and at this Village Board meeting. Although the Plan Commission voted unanimously on May 27 to not recommend it to the Village Board for consideration, staff brought it back to the Board to get final directions for the Village Planner as well as staff. Administrator Hockhammer said our planner had spent many hours and resources on writing and revising the ordinance and he wanted to give the Board a chance to weigh in and give a decision on how to proceed, giving three options: Do not move forward with a specific ordinance, provide shortened, more direct parameters to the Village Planner, or opt to have nothing address any public art in the Village.

Trustee Ben Jones opined he is confused on the necessity of the ordinance. Sarah

Best, who serves on the Plan Commission, said commission members did not understand the design bullet points in the flyer applicants would receive upon requesting a license for a public art project as the points are not applicable to art. Trustee Marc Schellpfeffer said he felt the Ordinance is too wordy and his public art concerns “the scale and location of it, the context, not the content, what and where it is and how it fits in the fabric.” All trustees agreed that public art located on private property should not be included in an ordinance. Public safety, lighting, and nuisances already are covered in existing zoning codes and can be enforced both on public and private property. Village attorney Bryan Kleinmaier reviewed the ordinance and said it was fine if everyone understands the art content is not up for question due to the First Amendment.

After a spirited thirty-minute discussion, Best motioned, Gauger seconded that the Board does not proceed with Public Art Ordinance 2026-06 and continue to have any requests for art on public property (commercial) come before the Plan Commission, using the existing Site Design Review process as it has done in the past. Motion carried unanimously. The board said public art requests are rare and to pass on the responsibilities of approval to the village staff is too burdensome for staff.

Hire a Fundraiser?

Jeff Gorman, Parks and Rec Director, gave a brief introduction as to how having a potential professional fundraiser, Dennis Cooley, came about to assist with the Recreation Complex. Cooley, a prior resident with remaining Mount Horeb connections, lives in Platteville. He is the Executive Director of Advancement at Southwest Tech and serves on Southwest Tech and the SWTC Real Estate Foundations. He also serves as an adjunct instructor in Business and Industry Services and teaches Leadership, including Nonprofit Leadership. Cooley also played a vital role in guiding the direction of the successful Mount Horeb Veterans Memorial fundraising campaign.

Hockhammer said Cooley is excited to have the chance to return to Mount Horeb and work on this important project. The Fundraising Agreement is to secure \$6.5 Million over three years for the \$12.5 Million project which will be done in phases. Cooley’s fee is 5% of the donations, with 1% charged back to the project to cover costs related to identification, cultivation, and stewardship, including funding for donor recognition. Hockhammer said,

“As I have said before, if this project did not have a fundraising piece, was not a public/private partnership, it is not going to happen or, more than likely, won’t happen.”

There were two public commenters: Kurt Adler and Terry Kurth. Adler introduced himself as a member of the Parks and Rec Committee, a board member of the Frolic Committee, and past long-term President of the Mount Horeb Softball Club. Adler said the consideration of hiring Cooley is step three of many to bring the Recreation Complex to fruition. The first step was to purchase the Lukken property and step two was to get a master plan for the park development. Both were approved by the Village Board. He reminded the Board members all meetings about the Complex have been open to the public as well as two well attended community meetings to determine the site layout. Adler strongly feels the Fundraising Agreement approval is an important piece of the development as it is no cost to the Village. He also urges both the Village Board and the Finance & Personnel Committee to determine the funding for the balance of the project.

Terry Kurth said, “As a businessman, I try to look at the key issues.” He opined he sees two key issues in Mount Horeb, saying he wants Mount Horeb to become more like the Madison suburb of Middleton. One issue is a distinct lack of park space, including not having a field house, indoor pool, or sufficient field space. Being a father of four and a grandfather of eleven, he gets around to many other communities, noting their facilities. Continuing, he said there is no question Mount Horeb is behind and have been for many years for many reasons. The second key issue is lack of commercial space, referencing Middleton, saying, “once it jumped the beltline, all of a sudden it took off.”

Continuing, Kurth said, “Controlled growth is important and that is why most of us are living here. Mount Horeb is no longer a quaint Village, but it is a special Village and when that happens (commercial), it will be vibrant.” He believes it is important to have a fundraiser help with securing funds for the Complex, yet he feels there should be an exception to the 5 percent fee for he and others he knows who may no longer live in Mount Horeb but went through the school system. A comparison Kurth used is when a homeowner decides to sell his/her house, if he/she already knows a couple interested buyers, their names are given as exceptions to the real estate agent brokerage fee. Kurth’s

three minutes of public comment were up.

Hockhammer reminded the Board members that Cooley has already given a discounted rate (5 percent) as the typical percentage for professional fundraisers is between 8-10 percent. The Agreement is based on Cooley raising the \$6.5 Million. Moving on, he spoke with Cooley earlier in the day about having a reduced rate (exception), and Cooley said he is flexible in working with the Village and will consider a short window, such as July 1, 2026, if there are already people committed to giving funds, either in full or over a period of three years, have the contribution documented, provide it to the Village by that date.

Trustee Ben Jones asked if Cooley’s contract had been reviewed by the Village attorney and Hockhammer said he did not think it had been. Other thoughts shared by Jones were he supports having a professional fundraiser for the project yet is confused by the compensation as the Agreement states if more than \$6.5 million is raised, the 5% will continue for the additional funds raised. He did not see the purpose of that. Jones also noted the Agreement shows expenses will be reimbursed so is curious if the fundraising is not going well, will the Village be on the hook for them. Lastly, he is in favor of having exceptions for those making a commitment before the start of the Agreement (September 1, 2026) but that must be included in the Agreement.

Trustee Michele Kelley said she is “going to be on the other side of this.” She is not against the project, she realizes the Village is behind, needs more park space, fields, etc., but is concerned about where the other \$6.5 million is going to come from.

Continuing, Kelley said, “Our taxes went up 22 percent last year and we just got a pretty depressing economic outlook on our budget... and it was far from encouraging. It is a great idea to get \$6.5 million in funding but how are we going to handle the other \$6.5 million? I see no answer to that question other than raising taxes at this point. People cannot afford that.” Kelley said she

does not know if it makes sense to hire someone to raise \$6.5 million if we do not know where the other half of required dollars are coming from.

Trustee Tim White said, “it is an incredibly important job, and it is not going to get done unless we have someone do it for us. I think it is important to have someone with a track record that we can look at and know that he is competent.” White also feels that the exception deadline of July 1 should be extended since the Agreement will be coming back to the Board, “plus it would give people enough time to get the information and react to it and think about what their part of it is.”

Czyzewski addressed Kelley’s comment on finding other resources for the second half of the funding by saying, “Some background ...as the Village has discussed and looked at different options obviously there are different ways to finance this...parkland development fees which will be done from Lukken farm, the housing side of it, so the big plan was the housing side of this to help fund this, the parkland development fees if you just go from the flat land with the proposal from Making a Difference is about a million dollars on that there, the potential for TIF to help with the increment there, full increment from that there, grants, other options still have to be addressed, Parks, Rec, and Forestry, CDA with a TIF, Finance and Personnel and Village Board still need to discuss this as well as other items on stuff too so it is part of a complex discussion items with that full Lukken development.”

Trustee Marc Schellpfeffer said, “I fully support this moving forward...I see that this is a step that is needed. To Terry’s (Kurth) comments, we are at a critical spot as a Village for needing to grow. And this is one of those components in a larger look at the Village and how we grow over the years. I am not saying this is happening in five years, ten years, or fifteen years from now, but we need to look at it in that respect. This is one piece of a puzzle that we have been talking about... a business park, additional lands to

develop, there are lands sitting here already that can be developed in town. All that goes to help afford and pay for things like this. If there are people out there that want things like this, they need to stand up and start telling us they are in favor of development to support it.”

Before returning to the Board for consideration at a future meeting, Hockhammer will clarify with Cooley the expense reimbursement portion of the Agreement, including and defining the grace date for exceptions, and revising the language on the end date. Once all the adjustments have been in revising the Agreement, have a legal review by the Village attorney.

Wrapping up the topic, Czyzewski said “this is a good way to go with some tweaks.”

Bike Safety Plan

Scott Roethle, a member of the Sustainability and Natural Resources Committee, has worked over a year with the Committee in creating a safety plan for the Village to enable the Village to apply to be designated as Bike City Friendly. To receive this, the application deadline is June 17, 2026. The Plan outline, showing routes North to South, East to West, as well as estimated future costs are on pages 106-113 of the Board packet for June 3 for those interested in reviewing it. The Board unanimously approved the application of the Plan be submitted.

Other items

Lastly, eighteen alcohol beverage license renewal applications as well as their respective agent applications were approved, Ken Scott was appointed to the Utility Commission, the additional apartment unit for the JT Klein was approved, and a Street Use Permit for the Chamber Art Fair July 17-19 was approved, all under the consent agenda.

July meeting moved

The July 1 Village Board meeting is going to be changed due to a lack of a quorum. The revised date will be posted once determined on the Village website.

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Recreation Notes

Looking to grow your baseball skills? Join Speedball, a fast-paced game of baseball with all the wasted time removed! 3 teams of 4-5 will rotate from hitting to outfield to infield. Players will rotate between all positions, allowing players to get the max number of repetitions and opportunities to learn! Coach Finley will pitch to all players to speed up play. This session of the program runs Monday through Thursday, June 22 to 25. Sess. 2: 9-10 yr olds, 12-12:50 pm at Sunrise Park. Sess. 5: 11-12 yr olds, 11-11:50 am at Sunrise Park. Sess. 8: 13-14 yr olds, 1-1:50 pm at Grundahl Park. The fee is \$78 for residents and \$88 for non-residents per session. Register by 6/15.

Try Gymnastics! Instructors will demonstrate proper safety and instruction on the balance beam, uneven bars, vault, and floor exercise! Level 1 Prerequisites: Forward roll to stand unassisted and at least entering kindergarten fall 2026. Level 2 Prerequisites: Unassisted cartwheel, landing on feet. Level 3 Prerequisites: Unassisted back walkover. Level 4 Prerequisites: Unassisted back handspring on a mat (not trampoline). All levels meet in the High School Auxiliary Gym. Level 1 + 2 run Monday through Thursday, June 22 to 25. Level 1 meets 2:40-3:40 pm and the fee is \$70. Level 2 meets 3:45 to 5 pm and the fee is \$87. Level 3 + 4 meet Monday through Wednesday, June 29 to July 1 and Monday through Thursday, July 6 to 9 with a fee of \$180. The registration deadlines are Levels 1 + 2 = 6/15, Levels 3 + 4 = 6/22.

The Madison Radicals are hosting a week-long Ultimate Frisbee Camp! This camp is open to players ages 8-14 of all skill levels and will be taught by professional players. Don't miss out on this opportunity to improve ultimate frisbee skills and have a blast! All campers will receive a Madison Radicals frisbee. Monday through Friday, June 22 to 26 from 9 am to 12 pm at Liberty Park. The camp fee is \$165 for residents and \$175 for non-residents. Enroll by 6/16.

HOW TO REGISTER: There are multiple ways to register for summer programs and activities.

Online (go to <https://secure.rec1.com/WI/mounthoreb-wi/catalog>).

In-person at 105 N. Grove Street.

Place completed registration form (found on Rec Dept website) and payment in 24-hour drop box.

Email completed registration form (found on Rec Dept website) and payment to mhrec@mounthorebwi.info.

UPCOMING REGISTRATION DEADLINES:

- 6/12: Zumba
- 6/12: Youth Soccer
- 6/15: Speedball Sess. 2, 5, and 8
- 6/15: Gymnastics Level 1 and 2
- 6/16: Gnome Homes: Handbuilding with Clay
- 6/16: Ultimate Frisbee Camp

Climb Up a Family Tree with Super Genealogist Kevin Tvedt at June's Half-Hour History

Got the family history bug, but not sure where to start? Join us at Mount Horeb's downtown Driftless Historium (100 S 2nd St) on Wednesday, June 17, 2026 at 1:00 p.m., as Historian Kevin Tvedt shares his climb up the family tree with his presentation, "Mount Horeb Genealogy: We're All Relatives!"

Tvedt, who began documenting his lineage at just twelve years old, will share insights gained and tactics learned while conducting decades of family research—from the frustrating roadblocks he hit along the way, to the technology he uses to conduct, organize and share his voluminous and still-ongoing work.

Tvedt grew up in nearby Black Earth and went on to receive an Economics degree from the University of California at Berkely. But even today, his deep family roots in this area makes it a home away from his Los Angeles home. His father, Dr. Lyle Tvedt, was born in Mount Horeb; his paternal grandparents, Roy and Ethel (Luhman) Tvedt lived at 308 Lake Street from 1928 until 1990; and his maternal grandfather Orrin Anderson was a Primrose native. He has local relatives via both his parents, and his genealogy investigations have revealed an astounding network of branches on his Dane County family tree—with connections to the Tvedt, Luhman, Witte, Anderson, Kellesvig, Helgeson, and Finke families, among many others. In fact, we're pretty sure YOU are related to Kevin, and you just don't know it yet!

Half-Hour History is a once-a-month midday speaker series featuring engaging presentations on local and regional history. Generously supported by a grant from the Mount Horeb Community Foundation, these FREE programs are open to all and take place at the Driftless Historium at 1:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month.

NEXT UP: *Half-Hour History* will return from a summer break on Wednesday, September 16, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. with a presentation by author Andrea Nolan about her new book, *Lincoln's Counterfeiter's: The Wisconsin Gang that Funded the Union and Started the Chicago Mob*.

Founded in 1975, the Mount Horeb Area Historical Society operates the Driftless Historium and works to collect, preserve, and share the stories of southwestern Dane County.

For more information call 608-437-6486, visit mthorebhistory.org/events or email moverland@mthorebhistory.org.



Steven Rose, Executive Director of the Fisher House-Wisconsin, spoke at a special event at Mount Horeb High School on May 30.

BIRTHDAY

continued from page 1

250th anniversary of the founding of the United States of America on May 30 at the high school. A huge thank you to Marlene Tilsner, who planned and coordinated the event for our community.

We started the evening with the National Anthem, sung beautifully by Abby Schwoerer, while the Joint Color Guard from the Mount Horeb American Legion and the Mount Horeb VFW presented the Colors.

Badger Honor Flight Alumni spoke about their experiences on the Honor Flight. The entire trip is so well organized, planned out right down to the minute. Each of the Memorials is special - Iwo Jima, Korean, World War II, Vietnam, Pentagon. Don Hartman explained how his trip on the Honor Flight had a lasting impact on him as we started designing the Mount Horeb Veterans Memorial, the Pentagon visit inspired Don to start looking at laying everything out for our Memorial in the shape of a Pentagon. Joe Williams and Duane Iverson spoke about Mail Call, and the precision with which everything came together. Roger Bakken spoke about how much the trip meant to him, he had a family member surprise him by meeting them in Washington DC and spent the day travelling with Badger Honor Flight in full Dress Uniform. Everyone mentioned how special the Welcome Home is; our Vietnam Veterans didn't get the Welcome Home they deserved when they came home so it's great that our Country honors and thanks them for their service now.

We had a special presentation from Steven Rose, who is the Executive Director of the Fisher House Wisconsin. He said they should have a ribbon cutting ceremony late this summer with a Grand Opening nine to twelve months later. Steven read a note from a family member who was so grateful to have time with his father at the Fisher House, the family member said it meant so much to him that he would never stop paying it forward.

Fisher House Wisconsin in Milwaukee has been in place for 10 years. In those 10 years they have provided Service Members / Veterans and family members receiving care at the VA 21,000 nights stays. The Veteran / Service Member and the family member stay free, meals are donated.

Thank you so much to everyone who came out to support this event. Thank you to Club Interact for running the concession stand.

We were able to come together, raise money for each of these great organizations and walk a lap and then finish by watching the documentary Honor Flight, which I would highly recommend if you have not seen it. What a way to cap off a great night.

The event raised \$1,200 for Badger Honor Flight and \$1,100 for Fisher House Wisconsin – Madison.

-By Jerry Hook

Illuminating the Overlooked: 2026 Student Spotlight Finds Inspiration in the Ordinary



Above is “Forest is Always Watching” by Delilah Gasch. Above right is “Quick Snack” by Raniah Hubbard.

The Seventh Annual Student Spotlight art show debuts Saturday, June 13, 2026 at Mount Horeb’s downtown Driftless Historium (100 S

2nd St), featuring the work of Mount Horeb High School’s Delilah Gasch and Raniah Hubbard. This partner installation,

entitled “More than Meets the Eye,” will be on display and free to all in the Kalscheur Family Foundation Community Gallery during the museum’s open hours (Friday through Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) through Tuesday, July 21. Meet Delilah and Raniah



at their artist reception on Saturday, June 27 between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served, and select works and prints featured in this show will be available for sale. All profits will stay with the artist.

Visitors to “More than Meets the Eye” are asked to reconsider commonly held conceptions about what is art worthy: consider Raniah’s intricate sculpture of a snacking snake’s graceful coils, or Delilah’s enigmatic rendering of a watchful grove of autumnal trees. Raniah notes that her work



Delilah Gasch



Raniah Hubbard

“celebrates the raw, imperfect beauty of the unloved”; while Delilah strives to “turn the commonplace into something more” and “bring forward the unseen.”

In a world defined by constant distractions and activity, the artists ask viewers to slow down and reflect. Their work is the collective result of finding beauty and inspiration in the ordinary and the unappreciated.

The Student Spotlight emphasis on student-driven planning and promotion is a

fitting exercise for graduating Senior Raniah Hubbard, who will attend Middle Tennessee State University for Music Business. With her final year of high school on the horizon, rising Senior Delilah Gasch recognized the art show as an opportunity to hone her creative expression and build her confidence.

The Driftless Historium’s “Student Spotlight” celebrates the talent of area youth. This mentor-driven initiative provides an opportunity for young artists to gain experience producing and promoting a public art installation in a professional setting. It was developed in partnership with MHHS Art Department educators Anna King and Dana Showers, with funding provided by the Mount Horeb Area Historical Society.

For more information, call MHAHS Director Destinee Udelhoven at 608-437-6486 or email mthorebahs@gmail.com.

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TRACTOR

continued from page 1

shed on a farm that the Martinson family owned near Blue Mounds. In the spring of 1986 Willis' son, Doug Martinson, of the Town of Dane, revived it yet again. The tractor was once again driven in Mt. Horeb's 125th Year Anniversary parade.

After 22 years of repairing, restoring, and showing the tractor, Doug decided it was time to sell. Having known the Keller family for years, Doug knew they

Pictured above, Harold Keller with the 100-year-old John Deere tractor that will return to Mount Horeb for the Summer Frolic. Photo by Mary Langenfeld.

were interested in getting it back, so in 2008, after a little negotiation, Doug sold the tractor to Harold Keller of Waunakee, the son of the late Martin Keller Sr.

After 47 years the tractor finally found its way home to the Keller family. The tractor, showing its age, received a complete restoration, including all new sheet metal, new axles, hubs, the correct magneto, new paint, and decals. The tractor was

once again driven in the Village of Mount Horeb's 150th Birthday parade on June 5 of 2011.

But the story of this 100-year-old tractor isn't over yet. It will be driven in this year's Mount Horeb Summer Frolic Parade, which will take place on Sunday, June 14. It will also be on display at Buck and Honey's following the parade.

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Each dollar spent at the Frolic benefits local parks and recreation projects, as well as nine service and youth sports organizations.

Array of fun events for kids at the library

Dino Disco
Monday, June 15,
10:30 am

Get your groove on our allages dance party. Dress as a dinosaur or rock your best 70s look. On the library lawn, weather permitting. Sugarface Donuts food truck will be onsite with treats for purchase.

Pop-up Pottery with Center Ground Studios
June 16, 1-4 pm

Please note that this is an experience based activity, not product based. Participants will not be leaving with an object after the event.

Join us for a Day of Clay! Center Ground Studios will be offing a fully hands on education experience for people of all ages, bringing the world of ceramics to our local library. We will

have 3 ways to interact with clay:

Participants ages 7+will have the opportunity to pre-register for their own one on one 15 min mini pottery lesson with professional potters from the Madison Potters Guild. They will be guided through making a pot from start to finish.(Registration opens June 8th).

Our hand building table will not require registration and is open to all ages. There will be an all ages work space set up with a variety of self guided age appropriate project prompts to set your little up for success.

Finally, get inspired watching a chunk of clay be transformed into a lovely vase right in front of you in real time. We will be showcasing the talents of local potters on our Demonstration wheel, where they will share how to make many different forms using var-

ied techniques.

Meet in the library outdoor shelter, weather permitting.

Sponsored by The Optimist’s Club of Mount Horeb and the Friends of the Mount Horeb Public Library.

Early Childhood Resource Fair
Saturday, June 20,
10-11:30 am

Explore earlylearning support and learn about local resources for families at the Early Childhood Resource Fair, featuring area childcare providers and community organizations that serve families with young children. Drop in to gather resources & giveaways, ask questions, and discover programs for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers. Kids activities and snacks will be provided.

All Flock cameras will be removed following Big Brother concerns, says Dane County Sheriff

In April of this year, the Dane County Board of Supervisors voted to end the county’s contract with Flock Safety, an automated license plate reader (ALPR) system used by law enforcement as an investigative tool.

With the contract set to expire on May 31st, the Sheriff’s Office informed Flock Safety that all 26 cameras must be removed by that date. When removal did not occur, the Sheriff’s Office took steps to ensure the cameras were not in use and placed covers over them.

“We respect the board’s decision to end our relationship with Flock Safety, and we want the community to know we take their privacy concerns seriously,” said Sheriff Calvin Barrett. “I look forward to moving ahead with a new ALPR company that can provide the public safety technology we need in our rural communities while maintaining control over the data collected.”

School board names new associate principal

The Mount Horeb Area School District Board of Education officially welcomed Shelby Steel as the new Associate Principal of Mount Horeb High School.

According to a statement issued by the school district, Steel was selected following a comprehensive, multi-phase interview process that included staff and leadership input. Throughout the process, she distinguished herself as a deeply student-centered leader who leads with equity, integrity, and insight.

At the Board of Education meeting, High School Principal Cody Lundquist shared that Steel’s experience and



Steel

Steel brings extensive experience in Special Education and collaborative co-serving models, which will support the High School’s commitment to driving high-growth outcomes for all learners, particularly students with disabilities. Her expertise in fostering inclusive educational environments will help strengthen opportunities and supports for every student.

She also has significant experience facilitating collaborative Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). As the High School continues its work around assessment and grading practices, success criteria, and the long-term transition to Evidence-Based

Grading, her leadership will be an asset in supporting staff collaboration and continuous improvement.

In addition, Steel is highly experienced in Restorative Practices. Her background will support the school’s ongoing commitment to building strong relationships, maintaining student accountability, and ensuring students remain connected to a positive and supportive school community.

The district said it is excited to welcome Steel to Mount Horeb High School and looks forward to the leadership, expertise, and student-centered approach she will bring to the role.

Dane County budget listening session June 12

Dane County Executive Melissa Agard will host three public Budget Listening Sessions to hear directly from residents as the county begins crafting its 2027 budget. These events provide an opportunity for community members to share their ideas, concerns, and priorities for the future of Dane County.

“Developing the county budget starts with listening to the people we serve,” said County Executive Agard. “These listening sessions are an opportunity for residents to share

what matters most to them and help shape the priorities that guide our decisions. We are also holding sessions at different times of day to accommodate a variety of work schedules, family commitments, and other responsibilities so as many people as possible can participate.”

The closest session to Mount Horeb will take place Friday, June 12, 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. at he Verona Public Library, 500 Silent St., Verona, WI 53593.

OBITUARIES

continued from page 5

as marshals for the Mount Vernon 175th birthday parade. He was a member of the Mount Vernon Fire Department, the Parent Teacher Association, and the Mount Vernon Park Board. He served as president of the Mount Vernon Cemetery Association until his death. Harland was a member of the Zwingli United Church of Christ in Mount Vernon, where he was a pillar in his church community, and most recently also attended New Hope Church in Mount Horeb. His personal and financial support for many organizations was widespread, with Young Life, Child Evangelism Fellowship, and Village Missions amongst his favorites.

Woodworking was one of Har’s biggest hobbies, and he could make just about anything. Each of his family members has received

homemade gifts from Harland over the years, which will always be treasured. Deer hunting in the Humbird, Wis., area was a tradition he created and enjoyed for many years with his sons and grandsons. There were many laughs and many memories made together. He was an avid euchre player all of his life and followed Wisconsin sports - especially the Packers and Brewers - very closely. Harland and Nona enjoyed snowmobiling in their younger years. They also traveled to Branson, Mo., for over 35 years for Stonecroft Ministry and Christian Women’s Club events. They traveled to Europe twice and went on numerous cruises. They eventually started Har-Non Tours, where they planned many day trips to entertainment venues in Illinois and Wisconsin for their friends and family.

After living in the Mount Vernon area for over 80 years, they sold their house

on the hill, which they had built in 1963, and moved to The Homestead Cooperative in Mount Horeb. Although it was a difficult decision to move, Harland and Nona enjoyed being a part of the wonderful Homestead Cooperative “family.”

Harland is survived by the love of his life, Nona; his four children, Kate (Steve Rackow) Compton, Jay (Diana) Erfurth, Rob (Lori) Erfurth and May McKinney. He is also survived by 11 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; his goddaughter, Julie Tyler; his sister, Geraldine Trainor; his brother-in-law, Richard (Karen) Moore; and numerous nieces and nephews, along with his countless friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Gerald and Frieda Erfurth; his mother and father-in-law, Earl and Elsie Moore; his son-in-law, Mitch Compton; and his brothers-in-law, Gerald Trainor and Ron Moore.

A funeral service will be held at NEW HOPE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH, 639 S. Eighth St., Mount Horeb, at 11 a.m. on Friday, June 12, 2026, with Pastor Matt Young presiding, followed by a luncheon at the church. Visitation will be held at GUNDERSON CAMACHO MOUNT HOREB FUNERAL AND CREMATION CARE, 500 N. Eighth St., Mount Horeb, from 4 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 11, 2026. Burial will be held at Mount Vernon Cemetery.

Harland loved his faith, his family, his friends, his customers, and his community, and will be greatly missed by many.

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

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CHURCH NOTES	
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	Mt. Horeb United Methodist Corner of Hwy. S & Hwy. 78 Sunday Worship: 9am online and in person umcmh.org Celebrating God's Inclusive Love
St. Michael The Archangel Parish ~St. Ignatius Catholic Church 109 S. Sixth St., Mount Horeb 608-437-5348 Mass: Sunday 10:30 am Tuesday, 5:30 pm, Weds-Friday, 7:30 am; Sat. 5:00 pm ~Holy Redeemer Catholic Church 10070 Spring Valley Dr., Mount Horeb Mass: Sunday 8:00 am	Vermont Lutheran Church-ELCA 9886 Vermont Church Road Black Earth, WI 53515 www.vermontlutheran.org 608-767-3312 (office) Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Good News Lutheran Church - WELS 9975 Pepper Dr, Mt Horeb Pastor Jonathan Bauer Thursday Worship: 6:30 pm Sunday Worship: 9:00 am Sunday School and Bible Study: 10:15 am 608-437-4646 GoodNewsLC.org	Mt. Horeb Evangelical Lutheran Church – ELCA 315 E. Main St. 608-437-5012 www.elcmthoreb.org 5 pm Saturday Worship 9 am Sunday Worship
Springdale Lutheran Church 2752 Town Hall Rd. 608-437-3493 Pastor Jim 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 Pastor Jim Ranney Worship: Every 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month, 10 am twosteeple.org
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SPORTS

Having the times of their lives

Mount Horeb's girls track team places eighth at state

by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor

The WIAA first added the 3,200-meter relay to its bevy of track and field events back in 1994.

In the 31 years that followed, the fastest time at a Division 2 state meet came in 2025, when a Bloomer quartet finished in 9:18.14.

So when Mount Horeb went to the state meet at UW-La Crosse last weekend and ripped off a blazing time of 9:10.22, it would have meant a state championship any other year.

Not in 2026, though.

Timing is indeed everything and Bloomer posted the fastest time in state history at 9:02.77. That caused the Vikings' quartet of sophomore Mia Caygill, junior Julia Straka, junior Willa Vigliotta and freshman Isla Odgers to settle for second, which was still a remarkable achievement for Mount Horeb's Fab Four.

"Seeing the girls finally bring everything together and execute the plan we'd been talking about and working towards all sea-



Above, Mount Horeb's 3,200-meter relay team finished second at state. Clockwise from top left are Julia Straka, Isla Odgers, Mia Caygill and Willa Vigliotta.

At right, Isla Odgers took second place in the 800-meter run. Photos courtesy of Kevin McGovern



son was so special," Mount Horeb co-coach Alexa Richardson said. "All of the girls had great performances, and although their ultimate goal was gold, we know we left every ounce of heart on that

track and that's all we can control. I'm so proud of what these ladies accomplished."

With good reason.

The Vikings' performance in the 3,200-relay was the

highlight in a weekend that saw Mount Horeb's girls finish eighth overall.

Bloomer won the team title with 56 points, while Kettle Moraine Lutheran (37), Appleton Xavier (36),

Osceloa (35) and New Berlin West (35) rounded out the top five. Mount Horeb nearly cracked the top-five, but was eighth overall at 33.5.

Mount Horeb's boys had

3.0 points and finished 56th overall. Winneconne won the boys' title with 71.5 points.

"It was so rewarding to see so many of our athletes

continued on page 16

Vikings fall one step short of state

Mount Horeb's softball team can't get over the sectional finals hump

by DENNIS SEMRAU
Sports Reporter

PORTAGE — When Mount Horeb's girls softball team won the pregame coin flip before its WIAA Division 2 sectional final against Beloit Turner on June 4, Vikings manager Jeramie Holman opted to be the visiting team.

"My philosophy of 40 years of playing this game, I wanted to take some pressure off and bat first and relax and get into the game," Holman said. "When you take the field right away, there's jitters and an error right away sets the tone."

"Let's have some fun. We couldn't have scored two right away and that would've set the tone."

Unfortunately for Mount Horeb, the Vikings were unable to take advantage of a pair of opening inning base runners. Turner sophomore pitcher Olyvia Piranio went on to toss a three-hit gem and led the Trojans to a 3-0 victory over the Vikings at Kiwanis Park in Portage.

Mount Horeb entered the game with an 11-game winning streak and was 18-1 in its previous 19 games, but couldn't solve Piranio.

"I gave them credit for competing," Holman said of his team. "We could have folded up trailing, 2-, 3 to nothing. But we kept them to three and gave us a shot to win it. That's what you want."

After earning a No. 1 seed

continued on page 14



Ella Baber and Mount Horeb's softball team reached the sectional finals before losing to Beloit Turner. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld



Harper Cassens (6) had the game-winning goal in Mount Horeb’s win over Jefferson in the regional semifinals. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

Soccer Vikings fall in regional finals

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

They battled. They fought. They competed until the final second elapsed. Mount Horeb’s girls soccer team fell short in a WIAA Division 3 regional final, though, against Delavan-Darien last Saturday night. The third-seeded and host Comets scored once in each half and downed the sixth-seeded Vikings, 2-0. Mount Horeb finished the season 9-9-2 under first-year coach Megan Lemire. “They never gave up,” Lemire said of her team. “All season, every game, whether we were winning or not, our girls never stopped playing their game. I’m proud of all of them, and they’ll all hold a lasting, special place in my heart as my first team as head coach.” The Vikings had defeated Jefferson, 2-0, in the regional semifinals. And Mount Horeb believed it could upset Delavan-Darien, a team it dropped a 2-1 decision against on May 8.

But Delavan-Darien (13-8) posted its ninth shutout of the season, and the Comets struck for a goal in each half. “We’re all grateful for our seniors who dedicated so much time and effort to the pro-gram through the years, and who showed leadership and grit,” Lemire said. “Unfortunately, in the last few weeks of our season we had some injuries to key players, but we never gave up.” The Vikings felt good about their upset chances after an impressive win over Jefferson in the re-

gional semifinals. Mount Horeb had 20 shots on goal, while the Eagles managed just five. The game was scoreless until the 57th minute, though, when a ball came loose after a corner kick and Harper Cassens tapped it in. Then in the 67th minute, Kolbie Severson battled through the box after a free kick by Avery Monroe. Severson then scored on a tough angle near the goal. “We controlled most of the game,” Lemire said. “We knew we were the better team, and we never quit

playing, despite some injuries to key players.” Mount Horeb graduates seven seniors, but should bring back a solid nucleus in Lemire’s second season. “I’m looking forward to seeing how our returning players can grow together next year,” she said. “Like always, it should be fun.”

Boys lacrosse season ends

The boys lacrosse season came to an end for the Verona/Mount Horeb co-op team on June 2. The fifth-seeded Wildcats fell to fourth-seeded Hudson, 14-7, in a regional final. Hudson then knocked off top-seeded Waunakee, 13-8, in the sectional semifinals. In V-MH’s loss to Hudson, Wildcats junior Cooper Blodgett led the way with two goals and two assists, while junior Cullen Olson had two goals and one assist. Sophomore Ryder Blodgett had a goal and an assist, and junior Mason Williams of Mount Horeb had a goal. Freshman Braxton Jagla had a goal and junior Gabe Weisensel added an assist. Freshman Riley Stagman won 65% of his faceoffs and had eight ground balls, while freshman Caleb Jabas had 13 saves.

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Road ends for golfers in sectionals

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

It didn’t end the way they hoped.
It rarely does for most teams.

But Mount Horeb’s boys golfers journey into sectionals was one they’ll remember for a long time.
The Vikings finished in eighth place at the eight-team WIAA Division 1 Reedsburg Sectional held June 2 Reedsburg Country Club.

Middleton and Waunakee tied for first place with 298 team scores and both advanced to this week’s state tournament. Mount Horeb struggled through a rough day with a 351, but reaching sectionals for the first time since 2019 was a great achievement.

“The lights were a little too bright and the stage a little too big for us at sectionals,” said Mount Horeb coach Nolan Krentz. “We talked before the round about playing loose and pres-sure-free like we did the week before at regionals, but that was not the case this time around.

“Despite being a little more familiar with the course with Reedsburg being in our conference, we struggled with decision-making and course management and left a lot of shots out there as a team on and around the greens. However, we weren’t expected to get that far this season and (this) performance did not diminish our successes this year.”

Mount Horeb senior Nick Ibinger led the Vikings with a 79, that included a 37 on the back nine. Sophomore Jace Stadele added an 89, senior Andrew Bennin shot a 91 and freshman Nolan Niemetscheck carded a 92.

The Vikings began on the back nine and shot a 169, 21 shots back of leader Middleton.

Ibinger had a terrific first nine with a 37 that included eight straight pars between holes No. 11-18. Stadele posted a 43 on his first nine that included three pars, Bennin shot a 44 and Niemetscheck carded a 45.

“It was a steady first nine holes,” Krentz said. “Starting on the back nine, we had hoped to get off to a good start on holes (No.) 10-13 before we reached the difficult 14th and 15th holes. Unfortunately, we were not quite able to do just that, but overall, still played a solid nine holes of golf as a team before making the turn to the front nine.”

The Vikings’ second nine



Nick Ibinger (above) and Finn La Fleur helped Mount Horeb’s boys golf team enjoy a memorable season. Photos courtesy of Mary Langenfeld



wasn’t as pleasant, though, and they shot 182 as a team.

Ibinger led the Vikings with a 42 on his second nine, highlighted by Mount Horeb’s only birdie of the day on the par-four, eighth hole. He also had two pars on his second nine and finished in a tie for 18th place individually.

“Nick had a terrific round to close out his high school career,” Krentz said. “This was his second consecutive year competing at sectionals after qualifying last year as an individual and that experience certainly paid off, coming up only four strokes out of a playoff for an individual berth at state.

“Nick has been an integral part of our team the past four years after making varsity as a freshman. We will definitely miss his presence in our lineup next season.”

Krentz also applauded the performance of Bennin, who worked his way into the Vikings’ lineup late in the year. “Andrew came on strong to end the year,” Krentz said. “He had played in a few varsity events last season and one earlier this year, but worked his way into our lineup late in the season by playing his best golf these last few weeks.

“Andrew joined our program as a junior last season and continued to improve

and grow as a player as he gained experience. We wish him and all of our seniors this year nothing but the best in the future.”

In addition to reaching sectionals for the first time in seven years, Mount Horeb won two invitationals this year — one at Platteville and another at Portage.

“That’s something that would have seemed very unlikely which such a young group at the start of the year,” Krentz said.

Mount Horeb’s young golfers made major strides, though. And while the Vikings will take some hits in graduation, they’ll return a strong nucleus led by Niemetscheck, Stadele and Finn La Fleur and could be poised to take a jump next spring.

“Finn, Jace, and Nolan all were mainstays on varsity this year, and gained valuable experience — especially down the stretch in conference and postseason play — that will benefit them next year,” Krentz said. “While we will miss our seniors, our returning group of players should be motivated to move up in the Badger Small Conference standings as well as reach sectionals again next season.

“We want to make competing for and advancing to sectionals an expecta-

tion in our program again, not something that happens once every few years. In order to do so, it will take a lot of time and effort from all members of our program

in getting out and playing regularly, entering into junior tournaments, and working to improve all facets of their games.

“We took a major step

forward this year and I am confident we will be an improved and even more competitive team next season by pushing each other to be better this offseason.”

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Auction for Greg Hilden Estate
DATE: Saturday, June 20, 2026 **TIME:** 9:30 AM
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Sonja Schreiber (left), Jozie Clifton (above) and Mount Horeb’s girls softball team reached the sectional finals before losing to Beloit Turner. Photos courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

SOFTBALL

continued from page 11

for the sixth year in a row, the Mount Horeb softball program had high expectations entering postseason play in search of its first state tournament appearance.

The Vikings defeated Reedsburg, Evansville and Monroe to reach the sectional finals. But for the fourth time in the last six seasons, the Vikings fell short in sectional championship game.

Holman said the Vikings, who finished 26-4 and set a program record for victories in a season, will be back.

“Our time is coming,” Holman said. “We need to keep coming to the sectional final and knock down that door. Someone will let us in some day.

“The girls know what it takes to win. To get 20 wins a year, you’re going to be in a lot of good positions.”

Holman’s coin flip decision appeared ready to pay dividends when junior center fielder Jozie Clifton was hit by a pitch to begin the game and sophomore shortstop Lauren Mester followed with a bunt single.

Junior third baseman Elaina Imbus then grounded out to second base to advance the runners.

But senior right fielder Delaina Nicewander followed with a ground ball to third baseman Maddyn Sauners, who promptly threw Clifton out at home plate attempting to score.

Junior first baseman Claire Casey then grounded out to second base to end the threat.

“We could’ve scored

two right away and that would’ve set the tone,” Holman said. “We just didn’t get that big hit in the first inning.”

Turner manager Brian Maxwell said keeping the Vikings off the scoreboard in the opening inning set the tone for the Trojans (23-3), who earned their sixth state tournament appearance.

“We knew that’s what he was looking to do,” Maxwell said of Holman’s pre-game decision. “They are a great team. We’ve watched enough video on them. So, okay, they’re going to put some pressure on us.

“Hitting the first batter, that’s the not pressure we were looking for. They got the bunt down, and she beats the throw, now we’ve got a little more pressure.”

Maxwell said that Piranio — the Rock Valley Conference Player of the Year — didn’t flinch.

“Olyvia doesn’t get rattled,” Maxwell said. “She finds herself. Usually in the first inning, sometimes things like that happen, but she wasn’t fazed. She kept them off balance, especially when they were trying to time her fastball, which she was throwing for strikes.”

Turner then used back-to-back, one-out singles from Saunders and catcher Maddy Hoenig and an infield error to grab a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning.

That proved to be all that Piranio would need to send the Trojans to their second state appearance in four years.

Meanwhile, Vikings’ sophomore pitcher Ella Baber allowed just five hits, two earned runs with five

strikeouts and four walks in going the distance.

Despite the setback, Holman said he couldn’t have been prouder of how the Vikings have grown as a team this season.

“This year, I was super proud because all nine girls were new position players,” Holman said. “I lost six seniors from last year, seven starters. I had a sophomore girl in the circle take over the No. 1 spot. Every position was brand new. Those girls set a school record with 26 wins and ended up 26-4.

“They could’ve very well been a 20-2 team. Somebody told me that at the beginning of the season, and I said no way.”

Nicewander said it was business as usual this season for the Vikings.

“We really picked up and did amazing after the loss of all those seniors,” Nicewander said. “I don’t think today showed at all what our potential could have been. We could have done so much better.

“But give us credit. We had energy. We were ready. We didn’t fall apart at the end. We stayed strong the entire time.”

Mount Horeb’s only other scoring threat was in the top of the third inning when Mester reached base on an error with two outs and moved to third base on a single to right field by Imbus. But Piranio induced Nicewander to pop up to second baseman Kennedy Crall to end the inning.

Crall wasn’t finished being a thorn in the Vikings’ side when she delivered a two-run single with the bases loaded in the bottom

of the third inning to push the Trojans lead to 3-0.

Piranio then retired 12 of the final 13 Vikings’ batters, allowing only a two-out single to Clifton in the top of the fifth inning.

Clifton said while the ending of the season was a disappointment, the Vikings had a year the program can build on.

“Like a lot of people, losing all those seniors from last year, we didn’t know how we’d do this year,” Clifton said. “I know we all had new positions and only two seniors, who had to run the team.

“But they were great leaders, and our team bonded very well this year and got along. We had so many fun nights, which was a big part of it.

“We need to keep working. Every practice matters.”

Holman said after scoring 28 runs in three postseason games, getting shut out for the first time this season was frustrating.

“Credit to the pitcher. She was hitting her spots, in and out,” Holman said of Piranio. “We were tipping to our hitters because we could see what they were doing. We didn’t have a ton of strikeouts. We just kept hitting the ball and putting them in play.

“That being said, I told the girls we’re going to be back here next year with most of the girls coming back. We know what they’ve got. We want to play them again.”

Mount Horeb will return all but two players from its sectional finalist team — seniors Nicewander and catcher Sunny Schreiber.

So, the Vikings will once

again be expected to reload and not rebuild.

“We’ll have everybody back but two — the catcher and right fielder,” Holman said. “We have an eighth grader coming up who is a hell of a catcher. She will fill that void. We just have to find someone to fill the other void. We’re going to be a stronger team.”

Schreiber agreed.

“Just keep trying, keep pushing, you’ll get over the hump eventually, whatever it is,” Schreiber said. “If you keep working, I promise you’ll get better and succeed.

“This was my favorite team I’ve been on all four years. This was the most fun I’ve had playing the sport ever, and I’m going to miss it so much and the people on it. I just had such a good time playing with them, and they are amazing people and players.”

Nicewander, who plans to play golf at Madison College next year, said she has high expectations for the returning Vikings’ players next season.

“I thought they did great this year. They will be even better next year,” she said. “They’re going to surpass what we did, and I’m going to be there to watch them.”

• **Mount Horeb 7, Monroe 2** — The Vikings downed the Cheesemakers in a sectional semifinal on June 2.

Sophomore Ella Baber hurled a gem, allowing six hits and two runs in seven innings to pick up the win. Baber struck out seven, walked four and threw strikes on 74 of 122 pitches.

Shortstop Lauren Mester

led Mount Horeb’s offense, going 3-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored, while left fielder Eva Larson went 3-for-3 with a triple, scored two runs and had an RBI.

First baseman Claire Casey went 2-for-3 with two RBIs and third baseman Elaina Imbus went 2-for-4, scored two runs and had an RBI. Right fielder Delaina Nicewander went 2-for-4 and scored a run and second baseman Emily Wittenwyler had an RBI.

Mount Horeb, which finished with 13 hits, scored three runs in the third inning and added another in the fourth to take a 4-0 lead. Monroe scored twice in the top of the fifth, but the Vikings answered with two runs in the bottom of the fifth and another in the sixth to pull away.

June 4
WIAA Division 2 Portage sectional final
Turner 3, Mount Horeb 0
MoHo 000 000 0 — 0 3 3
Turner 102 000 x — 3 5 0
Pitchers (ip-h-r-er-so-bb) —
MH: Ella Baber (L: 6-5-3-2-5-4).
T: Olyvia Piranio (W: 7-3-0-0-6-0).
Leading hitters — T: Maddy Hoenig 2x2.

June 2
WIAA Division 2 sectional semifinal
Mount Horeb 7, Monroe 2
Monroe 000 020 0 — 2 6 1
MoHo 003 121 x — 7 13 11
Pitchers (ip-h-r-er-so-bb) —
MH: Ella Baber (W: 7-6-2-2-7-4).
Mo: Keagann Paulson (L: 6-13-7-6-0-4).
Leading hitters — MH: Lauren Mester 3x4, Eva Larson 3x3, Elaina Imbus 2x4, Delaina Nicewander 2x4, Claire Casey 2x3. Mo — Keagann Paulson 3x4.
HR — Jayde Hawkinson (Mo).
3B — Larson. **2B —** Paulson.

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TOWN OF SPRINGDALE LEGAL NOTICE

~~The Town Board will act on the request for liquor license renewals at its regular meeting on Tuesday, June 16, 2026, at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall, 2379 Town Hall Rd., Mt. Horeb, WI. Combination CLASS B Liquor Licenses:~~

- *Mount Vernon Tap/Corrich LLC, John Corey (Owner), 8646 Davis St., Mt. Horeb, WI 53572
- *Riley Tavern LLC, Juliet Armenta & Maribel Perez-Trejo (Members), 8205 Klevenville-Riley Rd., Verona, WI 53593

Jackie Arthur, Town Clerk
Publish: 6/11/26 **WNAXLP**

GRAPHIC DESIGNER WANTED



IN-HOUSE & REMOTE POSITION

Seeking a **FULL-TIME GRAPHIC DESIGNER** for our print publications. Some hours would be required in-house at our office in Black Earth, and some could be done remotely. Job includes ad design, newspaper and shopper layout, plus pre-press work. Must have Adobe InDesign and Photoshop experience. Training would be mandatory in-house. Potential for remote work after training is fully completed. Looking for self-starters that can adhere to strict deadlines.

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TOWN OF PRIMROSE REQUEST FOR BIDS FOR GARAGE FURNACE REPLACEMENT

The Town of Primrose is requesting sealed bids for the replacement of the furnace in the Town garage located at 8468 County Road A, Verona, WI 53593. Interested contractors may contact the Town Clerk at clerk@townofprimrose.com for additional information or to schedule a site visit.

Sealed bids must be submitted by mail to: Town of Primrose, 8468 County Road A, Verona, WI 53593, and must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 10.

Bids will be opened at the regular Town Board meeting at 7:30pm on Monday, July 13, and the accepted bid may be awarded at that time.

The Town of Primrose reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids, as deemed to be most advantageous to the Town.

Publish: 6/4/26, 6/11/26, 6/18/26 **WNAXLP**

TOWN OF SPRINGDALE REQUEST FOR BIDS

The Town of Springdale, 2379 Town Hall Rd., Mt. Horeb WI, is seeking bids for: total reconstruction, repaving, striping, and concrete pad/sidewalk for the Town Hall parking lot; and 190 tons of hot mix wedging on various town roads.

For project specifications and deadlines, contact Town Patrolman, Devin Dahlk, at (608) 444- 5707. All bids must be received no later than 5:00 PM, June 15th and include proof of insurance. Mark envelope with the type of work being bid. Bids will be opened at the 7:00 PM Town Board meeting on Tuesday, June 16. The Town reserves the right to accept or reject any bids, and to award bids to the lowest responsible bidder (Wis. Stat. 60.47(1)(b)).

Jackie Arthur, Administrator/Clerk
Post: 5/26 Town Hall and springdalewi.gov
Publish: 6/4/26, 6/11/26 **WNAXLP**



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TRACK

continued from page 11

make the podium at state,” Mount Horeb co-coach Kevin McGivern said. “I see first-hand all the hard work and sacrifice they make in order to get to this point.”

That was best evident in the 3,200 relay, where Caygill, Straka, Vigliotta and Odgers posted the second fastest time in state history.

While the Vikings would have undoubtedly loved gold, this was one silver medal that’s as sterling as they come.

“This is still one incredible achievement,” McGivern said of the Vikings finishing second.

There were plenty of other highlights in Mount Horeb’s impressive trip to state.

Odgers had a tremendous race in the 800-meter run and finished second in 2:12.99, just behind champion Abbie Hoage of Altoona (2:12.92).

“We had talked in depth about all possible scenarios and how to execute a perfect race plan — knowing no matter what that she was going to throw down a great time,” Richardson said of Odgers. “Being out-leaned is never fun, but it was a learning experience.

“Honestly, Isla, being a freshman, races beyond her years already. She PR’d in both the relay and the open 800 by multiple seconds again, and that’s golden in itself.”

Caygill was fourth in the 1,600-meter run in 4:58.02. Clara Hartman of Bloomer was first in 4:55.09.

“Mia hasn’t had competition in the mile since (West Allis) Hale (on May 1), so we’re thrilled to come away with a medal and another

PR,” Richardson said of Caygill.

Vigliotta was fourth in the 3,200-meter run in 11:00.16. Bloomer’s Aliya Hartman was first in 10:33.94.

“Willa threw down a gritty last lap in her 3,200, and also walked away with a medal and new PR — after already PR’ing in her leg of the relay earlier that morning,” Richardson said of Vigliotta.

Freshman Aliyah Chovanec was fifth in the high jump with a personal-best leap of 5 feet, 4 inches. Lancaster’s Lexie Olmstead was first in 5 feet, 8 inches.

Chovanec missed the 5’4” mark on her first two jumps, then cleared that impressive height on her final attempt.

“A freshman competing at state is always a rare sight,” McGivern said of Chovanec. “She handled the pressure of the large grandstand and atmosphere better than some more experienced athletes.

“With Aliyah being injured most of the season, to do what she did is truly remarkable. I am very excited to continue to watch Aliyah grow as a jumper and hopefully next year be able to demonstrate her sprinting abilities, as well.”

Junior Avena Myers was fifth in the triple jump with a mark of 36 feet, 5.25 inches. Berlin’s Selci Sirrell was first at 38-8.

Interestingly, Myers was jumping from the wrong board early on and posting lower scores than she had all season. Before her final jump, though, Myers and coach Gabi Mella noticed the mistake, changed boards and watched as Myers posted her fifth-place jump.

“Avena was able to qualify for three total events, which speaks to her amazing athletic ability,” McGivern

said. “Avena’s only solo event was triple jump, and it was the one she ended up receiving a state medal for. Avena has such a bright future ahead of her, not just in triple jump, but as a sprinter as well.”

The Vikings’ 400-meter relay team of senior Julia Zimmer, Meyers, junior Emerson Kroll and sophomore Aicha Dowling broke the school record and finished ninth in 49.39 seconds. Milwaukee Pius won the race in 47.76 seconds.

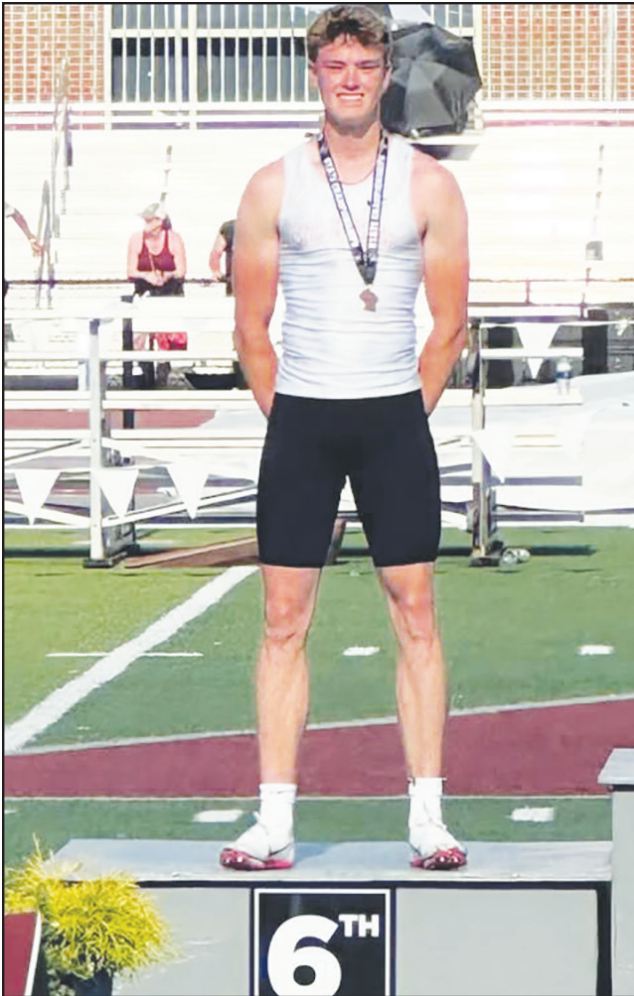
“There were some very fast times coming in,” McGivern said. “These ladies executed their handoffs and ran flawlessly, but ultimately just lost out to faster competition. These ladies can hold their heads high knowing they are leaving this season as school record holders.”

Mount Horeb’s 800-meter relay team of Zimmer, Dowling, Kroll and senior Eleanor Guenther were 13th in the preliminaries and weren’t able to qualify for the finals.

“The ladies entered a stacked field in the 4x200 relay,” McGivern said. “They knew the odds were against them before they started, however they were determined to qualify for championship Saturday. Unfortunately, they weren’t quite fast enough to beat some really good relay teams and ended up finishing 13th out of 17 teams.”

Dowling was also 14th in the 100-meter dash in 13.03 seconds and did not qualify for the finals.

“Aicha was in a competitive field,” McGivern said. “Aicha was one of two of our athletes to qualify in three events. Although the results (in the 100) were not what she was hoping for she still proved that her



Clockwise from top left, Mount Horeb’s Mia Caygill, Willa Vigliotta, Avena Myers, Aliyah Chovanec and Devyn Uptegraw all reached the podium at the WIAA Division 2 state track and field meet last weekend. Photos courtesy of Kevin McGivern

future is bright and she thoroughly deserved her trip to La Crosse. I know Aicha will use this as motivation to come back next year even stronger. She has the work ethic and determination to make that happen.”

In all, the Vikings’ coaches were thrilled how the girls fared.

“I’m so proud of all of these girls and what they accomplished this season, and am so ready for the next chapters with them,” Richardson said.

Added McGivern: “As a girls team we are only losing two senior girls on our sprint relay teams. So we will have plenty of experience and talent coming back from this team. Almost all

of these ladies work in the offseason to improve and it shows. The sky’s the limit for this group.”

On the boys side, senior Devyn Uptegraw was sixth in the 200-meter dash with a time 22.20 seconds and earned three points for the Vikings. Marinette’s Mason Hofherr was first in 21.65 seconds.

“Devyn was prepared all weekend and it showed,” McGivern said of Uptegraw, who will compete at UW-Platteville beginning next year. “He set his sights before the sea-son started on getting a medal at state and I couldn’t be more proud of him. His work ethic and determination were a great example for our younger

athletes and he will be greatly missed.”

Senior Jack Wilson closed out his stellar Mount Horeb career by finishing 16th in the discus with a throw of 125-7.

“Although he didn’t ultimately throw as well as he would have liked he was able to compete at the state meet,” McGivern said of Wilson, who will play football at North Dakota State. “Jack was someone who worked very hard to be able to reach this level and I was really proud of him for hitting this goal he had. He is going to leave behind a big hole in our team and he will be greatly missed.”