

DODGE COUNTY PIONEER

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...A Hometown Paper Read By Hometown Folks...

LOMIRA

LHS Graduate Prepping For World Skating Championship

A 2016 graduate of Lomira High School has been accumulating a long list of accomplishments on the ice. Kaytlin Kuczkowski has been skating with The Haydenettes, a synchronized skating team, for several years now and continues to uphold the team's high standard for success. (see page 32)

Lions End Season With Regionals Loss

A fast start from Ripon was too much for the Lomira boys basketball team to overcome during last Friday's matchup in the second round of Regionals. The Lions lost the contest 74-45. (see page 30)

AREA

Rep. Born Conducting Local Office Hours

Rep. Mark Born (R – Beaver Dam) will be hosting office hours in the 39th Assembly District over the next few weeks. These meetings provide constituents with the opportunity to ask questions and speak directly with Born on issues important to them and their communities. (see page 35)

MAYVILLE

Three Candidates To Vie For Mayville Mayor Seat On April 7

(see page 6)

Free Breakfast Offered Saturday At St. Paul Lutheran Church

St. Paul Lutheran Church in Mayville will be hosting a free community breakfast on Saturday, March 14, serving from 8:30-10:30 a.m. (see page 40)

HORICON

5 Purple Oranges Makes Annual Donation To Van Brunt Fourth Graders

Judy Haddad of 5 Purple Oranges stopped by Van Brunt Elementary School to donate a Horicon Marsh boat tour to the school's fourth graders. Haddad makes the donation every year in memory of her son who was killed in a car crash in 2014. (see page 7)

Zoning Board Of Appeals Will Meet To Consider Erection Of 54.5 Square Foot Residential Building Sign

The City of Horicon's Zoning Board of Appeals committee will meet at 4:30 p.m. in City Hall on Monday, March 16 to consider an appeal by Premier Horicon, LLC to erect a 54.5 square-foot sign on the premises at 801-805 Horicon Street and 514 City View Boulevard. A public hearing is included in the agenda (see page 7)



Judy Haddad, founder of the non-profit 5 Purple Oranges, speaks to Van Brunt Elementary School fourth graders last week Thursday, March 5. Haddad, who lost her nine-year-old son Ilan in a car crash in 2014, donates a Horicon Marsh boat tour to the students every year in his memory. Also pictured is City of Beaver Dam Fire Department Chief Alan Mannel. (Mitchell B. Keller | DCP)

An All-Time Man In An Old Time Store, A Conversation With Major John Jensen

MITCHELL BRADLEY KELLER

The first time I met John Jensen, he made a quick impression.

I was returning old photographs he had taken during his time serving this country during the Korean War, which had been lent to me by his family friend.

He was seated, as he is typically, in the window of his downtown Horicon food and supplement shop, The Old

Time Food Store. Jensen does this with such consistency that if you look at a street-view image of the store on Google Maps, he can be seen in that same spot through the window.

Immediately, I noticed a U.S. Army officer's coat hung from the shelves behind him with gold oak leaves affixed to the shoulder. While I am not well versed in all of the insignia bestowed

upon armed service members, I was familiar with this one. Jensen achieved the status of U.S. Army Major. Only six commissioned officer ranks are between a major and the General of the United States Army.

I returned Jensen's belongings and thanked him for allowing me to borrow them. We shook hands.

"You have a low me-

tabolism," he said with a smile best described as playfully mischievous. Those were the first words he said to me.

It was initially an alarming statement to hear. After all, we were perfect strangers meeting for the first time. I might have been offended if I didn't agree with the assessment.

...continued on page 8

2020 Census Invitations To Arrive In Mailboxes March 12-20

KAREN ROUSE

It is time to be counted. The U.S. Census Bureau is counting on each and every person living in the readership area and in the United States to be represented in the 2020 census. Census data will guide how more than \$675 billion in federal funding is distributed to states and communities each year for schools, roads and

other public services.

Plus, the data will be used to help local communities prepare to meet transportation and emergency readiness needs, and to determine the number of seats each state will have in the House of Representatives, as well as political representation at all levels of government.

A once-in-a-decade opportunity will arrive in mailboxes sometime between March 12-20 invit-

ing people to complete questionnaires about who is staying at each household as of April 1. Each questionnaire contains a 12-digit census ID to aid in counting individuals just once.

Every household is encouraged to respond. Depending on how likely an area is to respond online, households will receive either an invitation for people to respond online or by phone, or a paper ques-

tionnaire.

And while people living in the U.S. are required by law to participate, the Census Bureau is also required by law to protect the answers it receives. Responses are used only to produce statistics. The Census Bureau does not disclose any personal information.

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5 Purple Oranges Makes Annual Donation To Van Brunt Fourth Graders

MITCHELL BRADLEY KELLER

Out of tragedy can come prosperity, at least that is the mission of Judy Haddad, founder of the non-profit 5 Purple Oranges.

Haddad, an Illinois resident, lost her nine-year-old son Ilan nearly six years ago in a car crash in Dodge County. The pair had spent an August afternoon touring the Horicon Marsh.

The fatal crash, which a semi-truck driver was jailed for, took place just a month before Ilan's 10th birthday.

Haddad's 5 Purple Oranges kept Ilan's memory alive through a charity that supports youth reading and music

programs, nature exploration and fine arts education.

She returns every year, with her distinctive hairstyle and infectious smile, to donate a Horicon Marsh Boat Tour for the Van Brunt Elementary School fourth graders. The group also receives binoculars to assist their spring tour and, this year, Haddad is also donating bird identification books to help the budding birders in the group.

Haddad's presentation also allows the students to discuss their feelings on personal loss, and whether it is a grandparent or family dog, the students are

quick to empathize with their gracious visitor.

"I am so sorry that happened to you," said one student during the March 5 visit.

Joining Haddad were Officer Taylor Nehls from the Dodge County Sheriff's Office and Alan Mannel, City of Beaver Dam fire chief.

"It's a little gift... to have them in my life after such a terrible thing," said Haddad.

Nehls and Mannel helped answer student questions related to the August 2014 crash that took Ilan's life, both as first responders to the incident, and because Haddad's memory of the crash is limited.

In all, the fourth graders responded graciously and enthusiastically in regard to their upcoming field trip, which will happen on a Monday in May.

The group shared their favorite birds and asked Haddad what her

favorite sites of the Horicon Marsh are.

"My favorite thing... There is a tree where an eagle family builds it nest," said Haddad. "When I was there last time, I got to see the juvenile bald eagle."

The students also passed around a photograph of Haddad's son, and she explained some of the symbolism of the non-profits logo, which features a tall wading bird surrounded by tree leaves.

"One of my favorite birds, and one of Ilan's

favorite birds was the heron," said Haddad, adding that "ilan" in Hebrew means tree. "So we incorporated it into the logo."

Students clamored with excitement, in particular, sharing their favorite birds with Haddad.

In closing, Van Brunt Principal Lisa Sawyer thanked Haddad for her generosity and addressed the fourth graders.

"Boys and girls, I want to stress... Every year when Judy comes to do

this for the fourth graders, this is a really special thing she does in memory of her son," said Sawyer. "So, even though something really bad happened, she turned it into a positive thing for other people. I think that's an important thing to remember... When something bad happens, we all come together and help each other."

To learn more about 5 Purple Oranges, go to 5purpleoranges.org.



A Van Brunt fourth grader looks at a picture of Judy Haddad's son Ilan. Ilan was killed in 2014 by a negligent semi-truck driver in Dodge County. (Mitchell B. Keller | DCP)



Van Brunt Principal Lisa Sawyer (left) and the school's fourth graders applaud Judy Haddad (third from left) following her presentation and donation to the class on behalf of her non-profit 5 Purple Oranges. The organization, created in memory of Haddad's son, promotes youth reading and music programs, nature exploration and fine arts education. (Mitchell B. Keller | DCP)

Zoning Board Of Appeals Will Meet To Consider Erection Of 54.5 Square Foot Residential Building Sign

MITCHELL BRADLEY KELLER

The City of Horicon's Zoning Board of Appeals committee will meet at 4:30 p.m. in City Hall on Monday, March 16 to consider an appeal by Premier Horicon, LLC to erect a 54.5 square-foot sign on the premises at 801-805 Horicon Street and 514 City View Boulevard.

The addresses are the location of Premier Horicon's 12-unit apartment buildings, Falcon Point Apartments, which opened for renters in late 2019.

The appeal is asking for a variance of two zoning code specifications, one limiting the size of any sign to 50 square feet in area and another limiting, on residential parcels such as the aforementioned location, to four square feet in area.

Section 13-1-104 and Section 13-1-109 of the city's zoning code state that "on-premises exterior signs are limited to (2) signs for each individual business premises which advertise the business name, services offered, or products sold. Total display area for all on-premises exterior signs shall not be greater than fifty (50) square feet per side" and "no sign shall be erected in any residential district except... one unlighted professional or... nameplate only and not over four (4) square foot in area."

A Wisconsin Uniform Building Permit Application, dated July 25, 2019, to install the 54.5 square foot sign was denied.

In a letter dated Sept. 3, 2019, John M. Maas of JMM Consulting, LLC, on behalf of Chris Slater, the designated representative of Premier Horicon, listed five reasons why the variance was being requested.

"In order to effectively display the name of the proposed development, the sign has to be able to be read," the letter reads. "For multi-family [housing] where the structures are much larger, the signs have to be larger to match the larger scale of the buildings."

The list also stated that the sign would add "curb appeal" to the location. The letter also states "the sign will not affect site distances or impact the neighborhood negatively in any way."

The city, in 2018, had approved a 40 square foot sign pad.

Per the Zoning Board of Appeals agenda, a public hearing regarding the proposed variance will be held at the onset of the meeting.



The corner of City View Boulevard and Horicon Street on the west side of Horicon. The city's Zoning Board of Appeals will meet next week to consider the erection of a 54.5 square foot sign for the newly constructed Falcon Crest Apartments. The proposal to install the sign was originally rejected by the city's building inspector. (Mitchell B. Keller | DCP)

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HORICON PUBLIC LIBRARY

ALEX HARVANCIK
Library Director

Coronavirus And The Library

You're likely aware of the outbreak of the coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, which is a respiratory illness currently being spread from person to person in many countries and across the United States.

The library continues to operate normally, serving your library needs. To maintain the safety and health of our staff and public the library is following best hygiene practices for workplaces – including regularly cleaning and disinfecting surfaces and equipment, providing sanitary wipes for computer keyboards and hand sanitizer for the staff and public, and urge frequent handwashing.

We encourage patrons, especially those in high-risk populations, to stay home if they are feeling ill or are concerned about potential exposure.

The library has many free digital services available, including e-books and e-audiobooks, streaming TV, and magazines and our staff is ready to help you get connected to these services.

Bestsellers At Horicon Public Library

The following is a list of bestsellers according to *Combined Print & E-Book*. They may be checked out at Horicon Public Library by placing a hold online or calling 485-3535 to find out more information.

Fiction

1. *Blindside* by James Patterson and James O. Born
2. *The Warsaw Protocol* by Steve Berry
3. *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins
4. *Where The Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens
5. *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng

Non-fiction

1. *The Splendid And The Vile* by Erik Larson
2. *The Mamba Mentality* by Kobe Bryant
3. *Unknown Valor* by Martha MacCallum
4. *The Hope Of Glory* by Jon Meacham
5. *Open Book* by Jessica Simpson with Kevin Carr O'Leary

Horicon School District Calendar

Weight room open to the public from 5:30-7:30 a.m. and 5:30-7:30 p.m. Monday through Friday except holidays.



Horicon High School Thursday, March 12

Varsity Boys Basketball Sectional, @ West Allis, 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 14

Varsity Boys Basketball Sectional, @ Brown Deer High School, 7 p.m.

Van Brunt School Sunday, March 15

Volleyball Position Training, Van Brunt Gym, 12:30-3 p.m.

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