

So Close

New Glarus, Albany girls get within one game of state before losing. **SPORTS, Page B1**





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Icy roads lead to fatal crash

Newspaper of the Year

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LOCAL JOURNALISM

MATTERS

MONROE – Authorities were investigating a fatal crash that happened early Monday morning, March 7, in the town of Cadiz, involving a passenger car and large semi-truck.

According to officials, the driver, Mark D. Brummel, age 57, of South Wayne, was pronounced deceased at the scene due to injuries sustained during the crash.

Authorities said Brummel was driving his Buick Riviera eastbound on Wis. 11 just after 3:30 a.m. when it collided with a westbound truck, a 1999 Freightliner with a trailer, driven by David M. Schutt, 70, of Darien.

Schutt was uninjured in the wreck, police said. A Rock County-based reconstructionist worked the scene of the crash, near the intersection with Cadiz Springs Road, and Wisconsin State Patrol also responded to help with the investigations, which are ongoing.

So far, however, no citations have been issued, and authorities said weather and road conditions appear to be a factor in the crash. Green County Sheriff's Department wrote in a press release that due to icy road conditions, Schutt's semi trailer crossed the centerline and collided with the eastbound 1997 Buick Riviera operated by Brummel.

See CRASH, Page A6

War hits home for MHS teacher

THE MONROE

IMES

Alla Schwartz, born in Ukraine, prays each night for her family and friend in the midst of war

By Gary Mays gmays@themonroetimes.com

MONROE — With bombs falling near the Ukrainian capital of Kiev, and Russian troops crossing into the country, one Monroe High School teacher was watching and hoping that her father might flee their homeland to Poland, where she could travel to rescue him from the increasingly dangerous conflict zone.

But Alla Schwartz' father, a Wheat farmer, didn't want to go. Like thousands of Ukrainian men, he wanted to stay and fight for his country, even as Russian tanks rolled over the border into Ukraine.

"He should be harvesting his crops, that's what he would normally be doing but for the past 10 days now he has been patrolling the town with a rifle," Alla said of her father, Anatolii, who lives in the Cherkasy region in Ukraine, a couple hours south of the embattled capital of Kyiv. "My uncles, my other family and my friends are all still in Ukraine."

Instead of fleeing with more than a million other war refugees, Anatolii joined what is known as a Teroborona group of citizen soldiers, she said, noting that she still has periodic contact with him and that, thankfully, the fierce fighting seen in other parts of the country has so far spared the



Photos supplied **ABOVE:** Monroe High School German language teacher Alla Schwartz, right, is shown with her sister Inna, left, and their father Anatolii. Alla's family is from Ukraine, though she moved to the United States when she was a child. **LEFT:** Anatolii, a wheat farmer, has stayed in Ukraine instead of fleeing, trying to help his country repel the invading Russian army. He even helped repair an old Soviet-era tank in his hometown to patrol the streets.



'Green County Boost' offers gift cards for vaccinations

Receive a free COVID-19 vaccination and get paid through March 14

GREEN COUNTY — From now through March 14, a collaborative community health team will be offering \$20 gas card incentives to all adults (18-plus) who complete their primary COVID-19 vaccine series or receive a booster dose of the COVID-19 vaccine in Green County.

The goal of this program is to empower local Green County residents to work with trusted messengers of health including public health, health systems, pharmacies, local businesses, schools, and community-based organizations to

See BOOST, Page A4

Cherkasy region.

Still, that's small comfort to Schwartz, who moved to the United States as a child and now calls Brodhead — and Monroe High School home. Her heart will always be in Ukraine with her father and family, she said, and she cries for the country she last visited in 2021.

After ominously building up forces on the borders for months, Russia began a full-scale invasion of Ukraine on Feb. 24, in a massive escalation of a simmering Russo-Ukrainian war that began in 2014 when Russia seized Crimea. The current invasion, experts say, is the largest conventional military attack on a sovereign state in Europe since World War II.

Anatolii, Alla said, fills his days patrolling and digging trenches and rehearsing with the other group members how they may fight the Russians when they come, though they know they are vastly outnumbered and out-gunned.

Because he is 62, Alla said, her dad isn't required to remain in the country like the other younger men. Still, he personally feels it's his duty to fight, and he is committed to it.

"When I talk to him sometimes it's all I can do to keep from crying, but he always calms me down and says it will be OK," she said, of her talks with her father, who also is a mechanic by trade. "He wants to stay and fight for his country, and it's a beautiful country."

The Teroborona group in Ukraine even found an old Soviet-era military vehicle that they have

See UKRAINE, Page A6

ABOVE: Anatolii, the 62-year-old Ukrainian father of Monroe High School German teacher Alla Schwartz, is a wheat farmer in central Ukraine and would normally be harvesting his crops this time of the year, instead, he has joined other Ukrainian civilians to fight the invading

Russian army instead of fleeing. More than 1.5 million Ukrainians have fled the country over the past two weeks.

RIGHT: Alla Schwartz wears a traditional Ukrainian outfit.

BELOW: Anatolii with grandson Denys, Alla Schwartz' son, at the McDonald's in Brodhead where Denys works.





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