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The Reisel Family
Living Life to Its Fullest



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Living Life to Its Fullest

BY LAURA USTANOVSKA

The Reisel family's motto is to strive to explore and experience life. "Too often we see people get stuck in the routine of go-to-work, come home, go-to-bed, repeat," says Mike Reisel. Experiences are what make lifetime memories, which is why Mike and his girlfriend Mindy Chmiel focus on getting out and exploring all the amazing places in this world. Instead of buying material items for Hayden (9) and Cole (7), Mike and Mindy incorporate a trip or experience they can do as a family for birthdays and holidays.

"Most people don't remember the toy they received for their 10th birthday," Mike remarks, "but they do remember the fun, adventurous times they had with the ones they love." Favorite pastimes include anything outdoors; hunting and hiking through national parks or up mountains are at the top of the list. Being on the water, boating, fishing and going on ATV rides are always on the to-do list as well.

After graduating from UW-Whitewater, Mike began his career as an eighth-grade science teacher at Watertown Middle School. Two years into his teaching career, he realized his entrepreneurial side had to be satisfied, so he left teaching and began working in the financial world.

Mike has been blessed to build a financial planning career for the past 10 years and has owned his current firm, M4 Financial

Partners, for over five years. "Protecting dreams, lives and legacies is what I want for my family and have found that's universal for my clients as well." He says his favorite part of his career is that all those clients have eventually become friends!

Mike, Mindy and the kids attend Shorepoint City Church in Brookfield. Faith and positivity have always been core values for them, and they feel like they have found a home at Shorepoint.

In addition to being involved with the church, Mike sits on the board for Scherrer





Cares Buddy Bench. "We love being involved with many different charities," notes Mike, "but having been a teacher and seeing the effects of bullying first hand, this particular charity stuck out."

Both Mike and Mindy volunteer a lot of their time with Scherrer Cares Buddy Bench. Some of their volunteer time even included proudly donating a Buddy Bench to Greenland Elementary in Oconomowoc. "Donating this bench was extra special, not just because it's the school our children attend, but because Greenland received the first outdoor Buddy Bench ever made," Mike explains. Learn more about Scherrer Cares Buddy Bench at scherrerconstruction.com/scherrer-cares.

Besides school and helping with volunteer work, Hayden and Cole enjoy playing a variety of sports. Hayden loves soccer and gymnastics and recently made a select soccer team; this year she will be spending a lot of time playing the game she loves. Cole has tried just about every sport but really enjoys basketball and baseball.

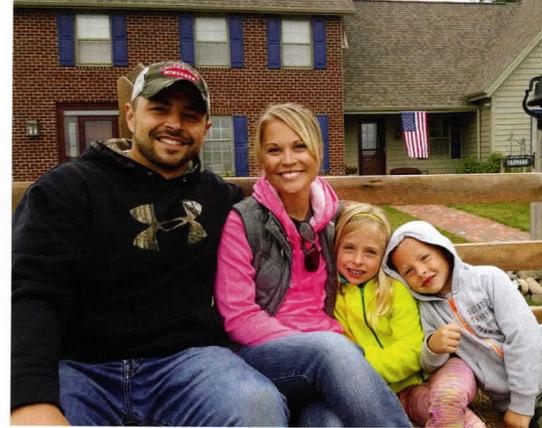
The family also includes Molly (8), a "mostly Border Collie mutt." Mindy has a passion for helping dogs and volunteers

at FetchWI, a local rescue. "I think Molly is a big reason why Mindy got involved with the rescue," Mike reflects. "She got Molly eight years ago, as a puppy from a rescue shelter, and Molly has become a huge part of our family. After giving Molly a loving home, Mindy wanted to help as many other dogs as she could in any way she could.

"The more you give, the more you get" is a notion Mike firmly agrees with. As a child, he dreamed of becoming a professional baseball player, and although he did play competitively and had some great opportunities, he never did become a professional.

However, following suit with his belief, two years ago Mike was asked to represent the organization he devotes so much of his time to, Scherrer Cares Buddy Bench, and was able to live out a little bit of his dream by throwing the first pitch at a Brewers game. "I was hoping for a contract after that one pitch," Mike jokes, "but the Brewers must have decided they had enough talent on their team already!"

Staying true to their family motto, the Reisel family loves to travel. Last year the family of four traveled to Orlando and



enjoyed a week creating memories and relaxing in the sun.

"In May, Mindy and I took a trip with her parents to one of our favorite states, Colorado," says Mike. "A highlight of the trip was donating to a wolf rescue and being able to walk two wolves, Apache (12 weeks old, at the time) and Spirit, through the Garden of the Gods, near Colorado Springs. We truly believe the experiences gained from travel are like none other, and we will always cherish each trip we take."

Mike, Mindy, Hayden, Cole and Molly call Chenequa Club Highlands home. "We've lived here for almost three years. It's a very safe and caring neighborhood to be part of," notes Mike. "Good people are meant to get together and enjoy life with one another. We've been blessed with many great neighbors in our lives and know there are more in our neighborhood we haven't had the joy to meet yet. So, stop by and let's get to know one another!"

