



Two steps from state

Alex Chapman and Mount Horeb's boys basketball team won a WIAA Division 2 regional championship on Saturday and are now two wins away from state. The Vikings now face McFarland in a sectional semifinal Thursday at 7 p.m. at Evansville High School.

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Village okays new zoning code

By CATHY SCOTT
Mount Horeb Mail

The March 4 Mount Horeb Village Board meeting ended with the zoning code rewrite and the approval of Ordinance 2026-01. Trustees Marc Schellpfeffer motioned,

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MEET THE CANDIDATES

There will be a
**MOUNT HOREB
VILLAGE BOARD
TRUSTEE
CANDIDATE FORUM**
on Saturday, March 14
from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in
the Cafeteria Commons at
Mount Horeb High School.

The event is being sponsored by Mount Horeb Rotary, The Mount Horeb Mail, and Cathy Scott, and coordinated with the League of Women Voters. Check back soon for more information.



Wurk to be special guest at the Vīking Band Show



“The Greatest Band Show” takes place April 9-11 at 7:30 p.m. in the Mount Horeb High School Auditorium and will feature the special guest, Wurk (above). Photo by Shatter Imagery.

Mount Horeb High School band members are excitedly preparing for the 2026 Viking Band Show. This year's show will have the same fun atmosphere as past concerts and will feature the variety of musical acts and guest performances that audiences have come to expect from the annual event. The show is very student-driven, with students helping with every element and student leaders help plan the overall shape of the event and select the acts featured in the show. The event is also a chance for students to design and execute lighting and sound

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Understanding Iran



Yoshiko Herrera

The political situation in Iran and the Middle East is evolving at a rapid pace. A special panel discussion exploring recent developments in the region will be held at the Mt. Horeb Public Library Monday, March 23 at 6:30 p.m.

Featuring experts from UW-Madison's political science department, this evening will delve into the area's history and complex

dynamics and afford plenty
of time for your questions.

The panel features:

Andrew Kydd, Professor of Political Science: Kydd's research and expertise addresses international security issues including nuclear weapons, terrorism, and preventive war.

Nadav Shelef, Harvey M. Meyerhoff Professor of Israel Studies and Professor of Political Science: Shelef has

an extensive background in studying and teaching Israeli and Middle East politics and society.

Jon Pevehouse, Professor of International Relations: Pevehouse's work focuses on American foreign policy, international trade, politics, and international diplomacy.

Capt. Scott Mobely (US Navy, retired), Professor and Warship Captain: Mo-

bely examines international security, civil-military relations and military operation.

The evening will be chaired by Yoshiko Herrera, Professor of Political Science/International Relations.

No registration is needed. For more information about the library, its programs and services, visit mhpl.org or call 608-437-5021.

A promotional banner for Ayers Furniture. The left side has a dark blue background with the Ayers Furniture logo in a white-bordered box. Below the logo, the contact information for Ridgeway and Portage locations is listed. The right side features a photograph of a family (mother, daughter, father, and son) sitting on a light-colored sofa in a modern living room. Overlaid on the photo is the text 'Friends & Family Sale' in a large, yellow, stylized font, followed by 'THE ENTIRE MONTH OF MARCH!' in a large, white, bold font with a black outline, and 'EVERYTHING ON SALE! ALL BRANDS, IN-STOCK & CUSTOM ORDER' in a smaller, white, bold font with a black outline at the bottom.

Cleanings

By Barb Johnson
Mount Horeb Mail

140 Years Ago- March 17, 1886

A big and healthy boy is a guest at the house of Lewis Gjesme, who arrived last Friday to stay.

The nailing of a coat-tail to the seat on which his owner was residing created no small amount of amusement to the young rascles who partook of this rascality at Lindstrom’s sale.

An error occurred in our last issue, changing the name of Mr. Thosten Thompson to Thosten Peterson. We acknowledge the great mistake in giving a man credit for something he is not entitled to, as in this case.

The tobacco warehouse at this place opened up for business this (Tuesday) morning with a half dozen men, who are engaged in sorting. Mr. I. O. Brickson, of Deerfield, has rented the warehouse and as far as reliability is concerned it is of question but he is O.K.

The following is the program for The Literary and Debating Society, “The Ocean and its Currents,” by H.G. Elliott. Teachers and others interested in the phenomena of our earth are invited to be present.

130 Years Ago- March 12, 1896

Bergh Bros. persist in being leaders in fruits. Lemons 8¢ per doz., oranges 10 cts. per doz., and all other fruits proportionately cheap for cash.

Who would now prefer the reestablishment of the

credit system in the general stores at Mount Horeb, let him speak who would now presumably have had a store bill of about fifty or sixty dollars under the old rule.

The Epworth League of the Union church has inaugurated a new plan as to their regular meetings. Every other Sunday evening will occur a regular meeting to which all are invited and on the intervening Saturday evening there will be a meeting for members only. This will occur the first of the Saturday evening meetings, there being no meeting Sunday evening.

No preparation ever put on the market has given such universal satisfaction. It is not only a hair renewer and invigoration, but cleanses the scalp of all dandruff, leaving the hair soft, glossy and luxuriant. Sold by N.C. Evans.

120 Years Ago- March 15, 1906

K.A. Huset left for Dav- enport where he will be em- ployed in a button factory.

August Bierd’s ‘phone is 133. His ‘phone was in- stalled Saturday. Ring him up when you want painting or paperhanging done.

Carl Messersmith with his gasoline sawing outfit cut- ting twenty cords of wood (two cuts) in four hours one day last week at the Kelly Hill cheese factory. Carl has a good rig and understands how to operate same and is having a good run cutting wood for the neighbors.

Ole Thompson died at the county farm Wednesday of last week, March 7th after a week’s sickness from pneu-

monia.

The barbershop at the Na- tional has remained closed up to this time owing to the fact that the barber who was engaged failed to show up. A man from Chicago is ex- pected this week.

110 Years. Ago- March 17, 1916

We called on the business people of Blue Mounds last Saturday and found them all good-natured and busy.

K.K. Kjorlie of Barneveld made us his annual visit Monday while in our village and gave us some of the pre- cious metal that makes the paper circulate.

Herman Helland has moved to Mt. Horeb tak- ing his elegant new home bought from Erik Hagen, his telephone number is 247. He rented his farm to Joe John- son.

Hillary McCaughey of Riley has had a hard time with an ulcerated throat.

Save money by bring- ing your rags and rubbers to Jacob Levy, Mt. Horeb, Wis. Will pay for rags \$2.50 and \$4.00 for rubber per hundred.

P.G. Dunlap had one of the new Edison Diamond Disk Phonographs placed in his home this week pur- chased of Hook Bros. Piano Co. D.F. Kelliher making the sale. This makes the eighth of those Thos. A. Edison master inventions sold by Mr. Kelliher since Jan. 1st.

100 Years Ago- March 12, 1926

A Chicago corporation bought the 700 acres on the Blue Mounds summit last

week of the Converse Estate for \$35,000. It is very likely that this ideal and beautiful place will be used as a sana- torium in the near future, several of the new owners being doctors.

The County Nurses have been examining the school children this week.

Miss Clara Miller is sew- ing for Mrs. John Newman this week.

The Daleyville bus has not been operating for some time on account of the un- certainty of the going.

There is some talk going on about organiz- ing a golf club in Mount Horeb. We hope some of our golf friends get behind this movement and push it along to completion. Al- most all the towns around us have their clubs and Mount Horeb with its sports lovers certainly should get behind this effort.

Most factories will com- ply with the state law and have their whey heated or boiled.

Miss Helga Moe, who is employed in Madison, came home Sunday because of the illness of her mother.

Over 30 members of the Modern Woodmen Camp of this village went to Dod- geville last night and at- tended a special meeting of the Woodmen there.

90 Years Ago- March 12, 1936

The Kroger Foundation, operators of the Kroger Stores, has rented the former Post Office site in the State Bank Building to be used as one of its Kroger Stores.

Miss Dorothy Grinde, daughter of A.J. Grinde,

Mount Horeb, and Selmer Melland, Primrose, were married at Rockford, Ill. Feb. 24.

Carl Paulson bought the Henry Steyer residence on Main Street, which he has been renting.

Seventeen Mt. Horeb stu- dents have enrolled in the University of Wisconsin this year, a recent survey of the geographic distribution of students revealed. The survey shows that 85 per- cent of of the 9,065 enrolled in the State University this year come from Wisconsin homes.

The Band Mothers will hold a food sale and lunch on Saturday, March 14th, in the basement of Hoff’s Store. The purchase of new uniforms makes it impera- tive to raise a large sum of money in a short period of time, and it is hoped that all Band Mothers will donate as generously as conditions permit.

80 Years Ago- March 14, 1946

An 11-pound daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Helgeson, town of Blue Mounds, at a Madison hospital Saturday morning after a race with the stork over snowbound roads. Eight neighbor farmers suc- ceeded in clearing a path to U.S. Highway 18 and Mrs. Helgeson was brought to the highway in a bob sled and was picked up by Po- lice Officer James Lunde and driven to Dr. A. R. Kjer- vick’s office and he took her to the hospital.

Esther Mae Campbell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Claire Campbell, and Wil-

liam Hiltbrand, son of Mr. and Ms. Leo Hiltbrand, were married at the Barneveld Lutheran Church Sunday, March 3, by the Rev. E.R. Anderson.

50 years Ago- March 11, 1976

The community is show- ing signs of recovering from an ice storm, the worst natu- ral disaster in its history, which swept into the area last week. By Thursday af- ternoon, March 5, much of the electrical power was gone in the area and the telephone lines also went down. It was the start of a disaster that left every home dark and many farms with- out utilities for over a week in some cases.

The State Bank of Mount Horeb will celebrate its 75th anniversary with an open house on Sunday, March 14, 1-5 pm.

A son, Joel Lawrence, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Law- rence Hefty, Mount Horeb, on Friday, March 5, at Madi- son General Hospital, Madi- son.

20 Years Ago- March 16, 2006

Mount Horeb was recog- nized for its nine years as a Tree City USA and it has received a Growth Award in three of those nine years.

Mildred R. Thousand, 91, of Mount Horeb died on Thursday, March 9, 2006, at the Ingleside Nursing Home. Nancy Hodgson Sievers Vogel, 74, passed away on March 14, 2006.

Mark your calendars! **Our Summer Activity Guide will be sent out on March 20th!** It will be posted on our website and emailed to those who have signed up for marketing emails in their CivicPlus account. Don’t have your CivicPlus account

set up yet? Don’t delay; it will make your registration much easier if your account is already created. The link to CivicPlus can be found on our website: mounthorebwi. info/193/Recreation-Depart- ment .

- **Online registration**

will begin on March 23rd at 7:15 AM.

- **In-person registration will begin on March 24th at 7:15 AM.**

Help your child explore their creativity in **Little Folk Art Classes!** These parent and child classes focus on process art, an approach that focuses on the creative ex- perience rather than the final product. Classes include art play and sensory-based creativity stations! Classes take place Saturdays, April 4 - April 18, in the Rec Dept Multipurpose Room. 1.5 to 3 year olds create from 9:30 to 10:15 am and 3 to 5 year olds create from 10:45 to 11:30 am. The class fee is \$120 for residents and \$130 for non-residents, and the registration deadline is March 30.

Learn babysitting 101! Our **Babysitting Class** will provide youth ages 10 to 15, who are planning to baby- sit, with the knowledge and skills necessary to safely and responsibly give care for infants and children. This training will help par- ticipants to develop lead- ership skills, learn how to develop a babysitting busi- ness, keep themselves and others safe, and help chil- dren behave. Class is April 11th from 9 am to 3 pm (30-minute lunch break). The cost is \$95 for residents and \$105 for non-residents. Register by April 6th!

New spring class just an- nounced! **Body Wise Yoga** for ages 55+ beginning March 16! This 6-week yoga-based functional fit- ness program is designed

HOW TO REGISTER: There are multiple ways to register for programs and activities.
Online (go to <https://anc.apm.activecommunities.com/mhrd>)
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

for active older adults or anyone seeking slower, more intentional movement. Each class blends gentle motion, balance practice, functional strength, and mindful breathing to help you feel stronger, more stable, and mobile! Chair sup- port and modifications are always available. Classes are Mondays, 12:30 to 1:30 pm, March 16 - April 27 (no class 3/30), in the Mount Horeb Rec Dept Multipur-

pose room. The class fee is \$60 for residents and \$70 for non-residents. Sign up by March 13!

UPCOMING REGIS- TRATION DEADLINES:
3/10: Water Exercise Spring Session
3/13: Body Wise Yoga
3/30: Little Folk Art Stu- dio
3/31: Fun with Volleyball (4th & 5th grade)
4/6: Babysitting Class

ESTATE SALE

Holy Cross “St. Barnabas Parish”

410 Cramer St. Mazomanie, WI

Thursday	March 19	8am - 6pm
Friday	March 20	8am - 5pm
Saturday	March 21	8am - 12pm

- Large selection of like new furniture, decorative items, lines, kitchenware, wicker, lamps, stereo, records
- Women, men, boys and infant clothing, shoes, boots
- Scrap booking supplies, art office supplies, books, records, toys, puzzles, board games
- Materials for quilting, sewing and crafts, collectibles, antique furniture, canning jars
- Tools: great deals wrenches, hammers, screwdrivers, fishing, camping equipment, garden items

Village leaders make the case for TIF

Hochkammer named interim village administrator as Owen departs

By CATHY SCOTT
Mount Horeb Mail

Other than the primary focus of the zoning code, the March 4 Village Board meeting included nine items on the consent agenda, a presentation on Tax Increment Financing (TIF), and consideration of the TIF Incentive Request for the JT Klein Multi-Family project at 101 Perimeter Road (prior Karakahl Country Inn).

Consent Agenda

Traffic patterns for Academy Street will completely change this July until August 2027 due to construction at the Primary Center. Academy will become a one-way street from S. Second to S. Fourth, with one lane for student drop-off and the other for ongoing traffic. Barriers will be put up as a safety precaution. Prior to the approval of this in the consent agenda, the Village, School, Public Services and Pellitteri Waste agreed with the Plan. Those living in the area will be notified of the change before it is implemented.

A Preliminary Draft Resolution was approved authorizing Special Assessments for 2026 street projects for South First Street from Carver to Front Streets as well as for Henry Street

from Parkway to South First Street. Both streets will get new pavement, curb and gutter, as well as spot repairs of existing sidewalks. New sidewalks will be installed where they do not exist. Homeowners will be charged fifty percent of sidewalk removals and repairs and twenty-five percent for new sidewalk installation. Prior to work beginning, there will be a Public Hearing for all affected homeowners. In addition to the Hearing date and time being published twice in the *Mount Horeb Mail*, a letter will be sent to the homeowners with the information.

The annual Street Use Permit for the Frolic parade route was approved for Sunday, June 14th. Typically, eighty to ninety local units participate in the popular event.

Other than the approval of various meeting minutes, the consent agenda also included approval of the Resolution for a Conditional Use Permit for cultivation of fruit trees in an R-1 zoning district.

Removed from the consent agenda was consideration of a compensation study bid brought forth by the Finance and Personnel Committee. Chair Ben Jones said the item was ta-

bled until later.

Talking TIF

Kristen Fish-Peterson, our Economic Development Consultant, presented a video presentation promoting TIF, saying improvements made to both homes and businesses located in TIF 5 (downtown), the benefits of a TIF, its nuances and the yet approved TIF 6 ask from developer JT Klein.

While some critics say TIF is a way for wealthy land developers to avoid paying their fair share in taxes, and that it is a mechanism through which local government can essentially use public funds to subsidize unwanted development, Fish-Peterson praised its use, providing a list of reasons she believes TIF is good for the village and its economy.

Fish-Peterson said there are a few misconceptions about TIFs, with the two main myths “my taxes are going to go up” followed by “developers are just looking for a handout.” Neither are true, she contended. Fish-Peterson said that taxes will not go up as TIF is a self-funding vehicle as new projects pay for all activity within the Tax Increment District (TID).

Examples of the activities in TIF 5, located in the downtown area TID, because of the TIF incentive given to Duluth Trading are: twenty-one residential improvements in the last three years made through the annual home improvement grant program, twelve commercial properties improved by façade improvements and loans over the last three

years for \$130,000 for project improvements totaling \$595,000, and lastly, completed Front Street reconstruction, including burying utility poles underground.

To qualify for a TIF request, developers must prove that without help from the Village, the project would not occur. This is called the “but for” test. Developers are required to provide proformas, sources and uses to ensure there is a gap in the project budget. The materials provided by the developer are analyzed by Village staff and contracted professionals and then reviewed and approved by the Community Development Authority (CDA).

After thanking Fish-Peterson for her presentation, Ben Jones opined he thinks the Village has made great use of TIF in the past and will probably continue to do so, but he said “I don’t love when people put a strong emphasis on what is a tax credit versus a direct public expenditure...the village is funded by tax on the value of property so it is a rebate to developers when we do pay as you go and it is important and worth noting that this is money that otherwise would be coming to the village if the project had been built.... It is not like magic money; it is money that is going to the developer. It is important to frame it in the right way.”

Marc Schellpfeffer expressed his opinion on TIF, saying, “I see TIF as being more of a long-range look at things, making a long-term range versus what can I get today but what can I get in ten years or fifteen years that

may take a little bit of an incentive and assistance from the Village. It is a great tool, and I hope that we continue to use it judiciously.”

New Multi-Family Development

Consideration of the JT Klein \$7,000,000 tax incentive for TID 6 was approved, meaning demolition of the Karakahl property should begin shortly. Two buildings will be constructed, one with forty-nine units at market rate and the other with forty-one units for income based senior housing.

Farwell to Nic Owen

During President Ryan Czyzewski’s report, he announced Jon Hochkammer, an associate of Public Administration Associates, LLC located in West Bend, WI has been hired as the interim Village Administrator, while his firm begins the recruitment process for a full-time Administrator for Mount Horeb. Hochkammer starts his new assignment here on March 23 and brings a wealth of experience, having served both in administrator roles as well as in elected positions, Czyzewski said. He served as the Verona Mayor from 2006-2018. Advertising for Owen’s job will begin on March 17, with April 9 as the application deadline.

Czyzewski thanked Nic Owen, Village Administrator for all he brought to the Village during his ten years of service, saying, “This is your last meeting, buddy. I was on the hiring committee when he got hired,.....he’s dealt with all the ups and downs, his communication skills with both the Village Board and staff, his professionalism, he is ethical, he has helped prevent legal is-

sues, he is supportive of the board and staff.” Ending his tribute, Czyzewski said, “Your skills and personality are going to be missed...I think you have put a good stamp of the culture of Mount Horeb that is [on] a good path.”

Owen’s last day with Mount Horeb was March 10 as he departed for Green County as its first administrator.

In response to Czyzewski’s recognition, Owen said, “Thank you. I appreciate that. I cannot believe I have been here ten years. That is wild. There are times I feel like I have been here thirty years, and other times not even five years. I really enjoyed my time here; it is a great community. I feel like I found it (Mount Horeb) in good condition and I feel like I am leaving it in better condition than I found it. I have had my chance to hire and promote many of our department heads so I am leaving it in good shape, in good hands so it (the Village) will go off without missing a beat. It is a great opportunity for someone to come in and put their vision in it and put some new eyes on it.”

Voter Turnout February 17

Alyssa Gaffney, Village Clerk, reported the statistics for the Spring Primary election, stating there were 1085 votes cast, of which 256 were absentee voters. This represents 18.4 percent of eligible voters and 20 percent of registered voters. Early voting for the April 7 Spring Election begins weekdays Tuesday, March 24 – April 3, 9-3pm and Saturday, April 4, 10-2pm at Village Hall on the second floor.



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107 N. Grove St.

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By Sunday, March 14

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This meal is sponsored by St. Ignatius Catholic Church.

Thank you Neighbors Helping Neighbors for your partnership and support.

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Freedom Forum

Sunshine Week is March 15-21, and there's an even greater need to get involved

By Gene Policinski
Sunshine Week annually celebrates freedom of information laws in every state. It also salutes efforts by good government advocates and journalists to use and ensure the effectiveness of those laws to get the information we need as self-governing citizens. The name is a play on the commonsense words spoken more than a century ago by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis, that “Sunlight is said to be the best of disinfectants.”

Brandeis’ remark was not made in a court opinion. It was in a 1913 article published in the news magazine *Harper’s Weekly*. Along with its observations on American culture and events, *Harper’s* was part of the “muckraking” news era, with journalists holding business and government accountable for corruption, waste and illegal activity.

As a special treat during each Sunshine Week, we get to see current examples of news reporting on behalf of the public, the type of journalism that the nation’s founders had in mind when they adopted strong First Amendment protection for a free press.

Sunshine Week was started in 2005 by the American Society of News Editors. The Joseph L. Brechner Freedom of Information Project at the University of Florida College of Journalism and Communications is coordinating Sunshine Week for the first time this year.

Each year, we celebrate the thousands of local, state and national print, TV, radio and online reports that tell us what the government or others are doing and how they are doing it; reports that explore and expose otherwise-unseen information we need to know to make good decisions at the ballot box, when petitioning for

change or simply things we should know about our communities.

Just a few examples, from a 2023 *New York Times* report:

In the Hunter Hills neighborhood of Atlanta, idle freight trains blocked a main road, sometimes for more than 30 hours, potentially blocking ambulances and fire trucks.

In Colorado, a libertarian “food freedom” movement has re-energized a long battle over the safety of unpasteurized milk.

A city manager in DuBois, Pennsylvania, gave himself raises and allegedly took hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars.

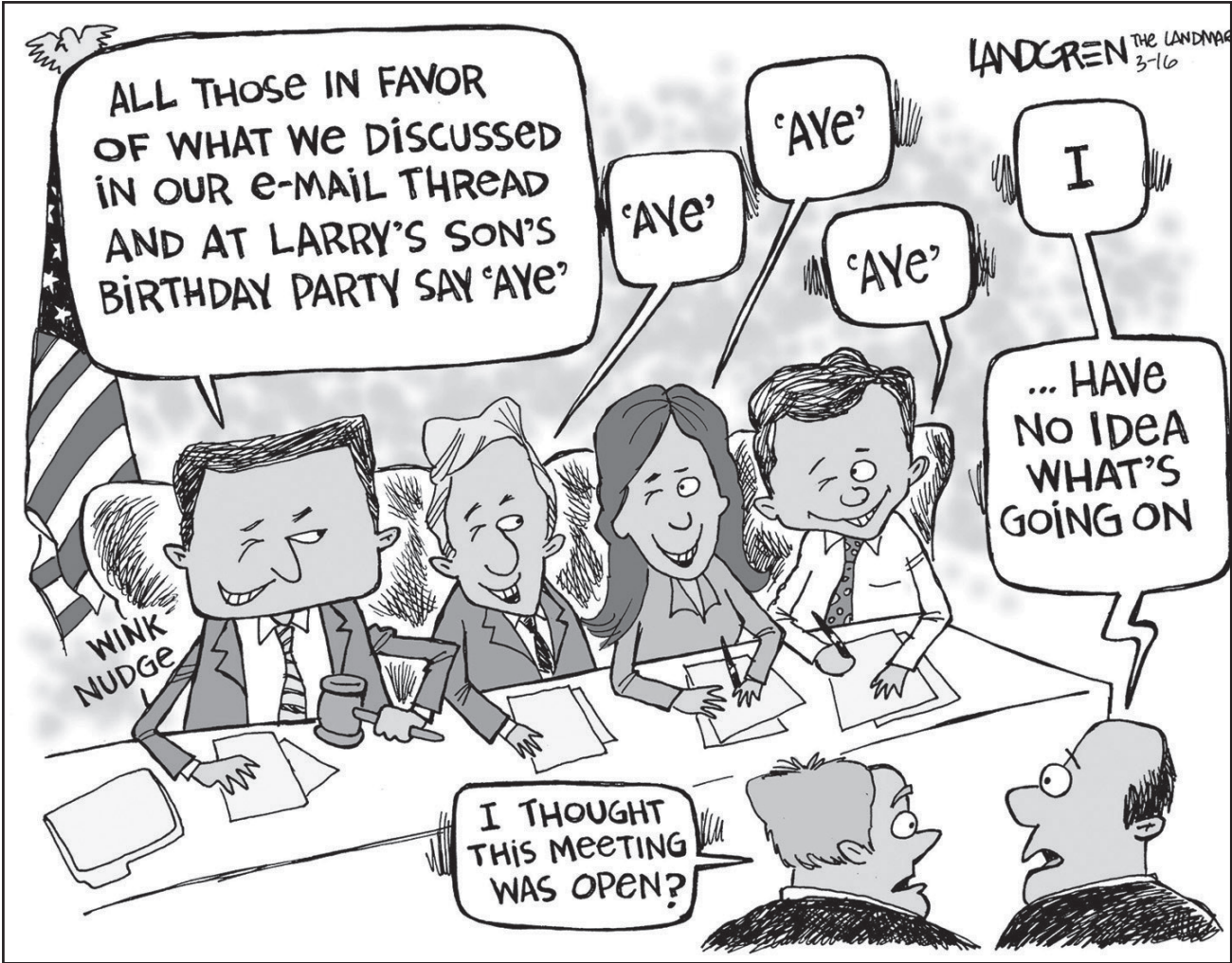
After bus issues caused school closures in Jefferson County, Kentucky, two reporters followed one school bus trying to complete an impossible route.

An investigative report of wage theft in New York State uncovered rampant abuse in the horse racing industry, with repeat offenders owing workers more than \$4.4 million.

But this year as we celebrate that work being done on behalf of democracy, there is an increasingly needed partner in that work: You and your support for local journalists.

The number of journalists continues to plummet, from more than 75,000 newsroom jobs in 2005 to 31,860 in 2022, according to the Medill Local News Initiative. Far too many of us now live in “news deserts,” areas across the nation where not a single news outlet exists.

Medill reported that in 2023, that out of 3,143 counties nationwide, 204 counties had no newspapers, local digital sites, public radio newsrooms or ethnic publications, and another 228 counties were at substantial risk of losing all local news media.



Even where there are established news media outlets, economic pressures have resulted in staff cuts that mean there is less coverage of local government institutions like the city council, school board and local courts.

We need to face the fact that there just aren’t enough journalists to do the job of monitoring and reporting on government, business and others.

To be sure, journalists and free press advocates are working to cut those losses and to buttress the flow of information to the public. There are new projects to fund local reporting or produce statewide or local reports, including the American Journalism Project; the Indiana Local News Initiative; Signal, a nonprofit organization in Ohio; and Houston Landing, a recently launched Texas publication.

Among notable national efforts: Freedom Forum funds two reporters, in Tennessee and Florida, in partnership with Journalism Funding Partners, who are dedicated to the First Amendment beat. The Lenfest Institute for Journalism provides tools and resources for local journalism leaders. The Knight Foundation has been a longtime advocate and supporter of efforts to energize local news outlets and nonprofit journalism operations.

Student-operated news media at several universities are reporting on their communities as well as their campuses. Student journalists are sometimes providing the only full-time reporting in some communities. Innovative nonprofit statewide news operations such as Wisconsin Watch, South Dakota News Watch and The Maine Monitor report,

investigate and examine issues in their states.

But even with all those long-term and new initiatives, more help is needed. Let’s turn again to Brandeis, who according to an article by the Sunlight Foundation in 2009, said in that *Harper’s* article, “The individual citizen must in some way collect and spread the information” through civic groups and the press, which he believed would lead to “remedial action.”

This does not necessarily mean filing a Freedom of Information request. There are ways to help hold government accountable beyond this direct action.

Whether you are red or blue, progressive or conservative, Democrat, Republican or independent, you need to support those who do that investigative work on a daily basis.

Get behind and get en-

gaged with those who use Freedom of Information laws and shoe-leather journalism to bring you the facts required for real self-governance. Take that that information and make up your own minds about the concerns of the day where you live – and perhaps give the national pundit class a rest.

Open your eyes, your minds – and, yes, perhaps your wallets too – and bring a little sunlight into your life. Celebrate Sunshine Week. Justice Brandeis would be pleased, and you and your fellow citizens will be better off for the effort.

Gene Policinski is a veteran multimedia journalist and First Amendment advocate. This is an updated version of a 2024 column written by Policinski, who is one of the founding editors of USA TODAY and senior fellow for the First Amendment at Freedom Forum.

Church stand-off ends peacefully

A tense situation at a local church ended without anyone being harmed last week. It began when an armed individual – who witnesses said was in a mental health crisis - entered Springdale Lutheran Church on Friday. Someone there called law enforcement out of concern for his wellbeing, said Elise Schaffer, the Dane County Sheriff’s Office’s Public Information Officer.

“It ended up being a situation where he was kind of held up inside the church for several hours while our deputies talked to him, and eventually, he came out,” she explained. The individual was transported to an area hospital for evaluation, but no one was injured in the event.

First Lady Abigail Adams Visits Library 3/19, Part One of American Time Travelers Series

As America celebrates its 250th birthday, have you ever wished you could step back in time –and meet the characters who populate our history books? The Mount Horeb Public Library and Driftless Historium are partnering to make it possible!

“Visions and Voices of Early America” is a two-part, first-person program where your entire family can chat and shake hands with Abigail Adams, wife and business partner of second President John Adams, and Mark Tully as a British soldier who travelled Wisconsin’s waterways during the Revolutionary War.

On Thursday, March 19 at 1:00 p.m., Mount Horeb Public Library (105 Perimeter Road) will host noted historical interpreter Jessica Michna as Abigail Adams.

Abigail will look back the now-famous and much-studied era of revolution and uncertainty—through the lens of a young woman, just married. She reminisces about friendships forged in France and England as a diplomat’s wife, the divisive election of 1880, her capable management of the family farm, and the early days of Washington, D.C., as seen from the windows of an unfinished White House.

Jessica Michna is a former UW lecturer and researcher with a degree in theater arts. Her company, “First Impressions,” has brought seventeen historic figures to venues across America for over 25 years. In 2016, she was awarded the Presidential Service Center’s Distinguished Service Award for her riveting portrayals of First

Ladies—including Abigail Adams!

Looking ahead: on Thursday, April 9 at 6:00 p.m., historian and longtime reenactor Mark Tully will visit the Driftless Historium (100 S 2nd St, Mount Horeb) in costume and character, and present “Redcoats in Wisconsin.” Mark will bring history to life and regale the audience with the true story of the British military’s Revolutionary era forays into the Wisconsin frontier and how it shaped the region’s development.

“Visions and Voices” sessions are free and family-friendly. Reservations are not required. For more information call 608-437-6486 or email mthorebahs@gmail.com.

A Bird in the Driftless Bush

Can fishing save the world?

By **WILLIAM ROBICHAUD**
A Bird in the Bush

On a recent Friday afternoon, just before missiles and bombs of fear and anger started flailing, yet again, across the Middle East, I drove to the Driftless Area of Iowa, for some fishing. God bless the Big Rock Candy Mountains of Iowa, where the season to woo trout in the solace of its streams never closes.

I drove a quiet back road, following one of my favorite waters, along an unfamiliar stretch I'd not fished before, reconnoitering. The day was mild and fine, made even finer by the prospect of soon standing in flowing water and searching for the spotted Grails we call trout. I eventually came to an old steel truss bridge, such beauties still being found in this part of Iowa, and pulled over to take the measure of the stream. As I stood at the bridge's railing and peered into the water below, I was somewhat startled to realize there was a young woman, a girl of perhaps fourteen, fishing from the bank near the foot of the bridge, just a few dozen feet away. We exchanged pleasantries and notes on the state of trout fishing that afternoon, and I left her in peace and drove

on.

Although our interaction lasted less than a minute, I felt an afterglow the rest of the day. It made for a most memorable day of fishing, on what, it turned out, was a somewhat marginal day for fish. I don't know this girl's story, and I don't know why she wasn't in school on this winter early afternoon. But here she was, not at home on Facebook or Tik-Tok or gaming online. From somewhere she walked (or maybe biked) to the stream to trout fish, alone. And I thought, here's a special person I'll wager.

As I pondered the impression that the encounter made on me, I realized that few things I've seen of late gave me so much hope for the future as briefly meeting this fisher girl, with her clear love of being in the world, the true world. At least for one afternoon, she chose to come to a place where Mark Zuckerberg or Jeff Bezos or, who knows, perhaps bullies online or at school, couldn't touch her. And in doing so, she touched me.

You can follow Bill ("Bird") Robichaud along on Substack at "A Bird in the Driftless Bush."



Legion Auxiliary takes part in Color Guard

On Friday March 6 the Mount Horeb American Legion Auxiliary assisted the Mount Horeb American Legion Color Guard at the Mount Horeb Highschool Boys Basketball game. This may be the 1st known Color Guard appearance the Mount Horeb American Legion Auxiliary has ever participated in. Front row is Connie York, Legion Auxiliary, Dave York, Wade Kubina, Paul Hodgson and Jerry Hook all Legion members.

Learn how to get started in geneology

Do you want to explore your family's history but don't know where to start? Learn how to launch your genealogy project at the Mt. Horeb Public Library Saturday, March 21 at 10am. Join Rebecca Hopman from the Wisconsin Historical Society as she demonstrates how to build a solid foundation for a successful family history project, from setting goals to gathering and analyzing records to sharing the results of your hard work. You'll also discover how to leverage the Wisconsin Historical Society's extensive collections and services in the course of your research. Rebecca Hopman is the Genealogy Services Librarian at the Wisconsin Historical Society, where she helps people discover their family stories. She lectures on a variety of topics, including genealogy, oral history, and historical research. No registration needed. Free. For more information about the library, its programs and services, visit mhpl.org or call 608-437-5021.

MOUNT HOREB UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PLANTING ONSITE POLLINATOR GARDEN

Church Invites Individuals to Donate Plants Through Plant Dane Native Plant Program

Mount Horeb United Methodist Church is planting a native pollinator garden this spring on its property along State Highway 78 and is inviting individuals to donate plants through the Plant Dane Native Plant Program.

Pollinators are essential to the environment. According to Extension Dane County, UW- Madison, an estimated 87 percent of flowering plants globally rely on pollinators that visit flowering plants and transfer pollen from flower to flower, thus aiding plant reproduction. Pollinators include bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and other insects. Unfortunately, these populations have declined due to habitat loss, nutritional deficiency, pests, pathogens, insecticides and extreme weather events.

Native wildflowers onsite will offer food and shelter for pollinator species, which will benefit the church's nearby Community Produce Gardens that grow tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, and squash for area food pantries and others in the community.

The church has a 500-plant donation goal. To donate plants, visit <https://ripple-effects.com/Order/Donate>, select Mount Horeb United Methodist Church and select the number of plants to donate. Plants cost \$3 each and must be ordered in multiples of four. The deadline to donate to the project is March 17.

"One of the social principles of the United Methodist Church is care for God's creation – plants, animals, and people," said Donna Sefton, trustee chair at Mount Horeb UMC. "This initial 20-by-25 foot wildflower plot will also serve as a demonstration and educational site, easily accessible to the public where people can learn about the plants, their benefits, and protecting pollinators."

In 2027, Mount Horeb UMC plans to seed approximately one acre of the church grounds with native prairie wildflowers to further show its commitment to establishing a sustainable, healthy ecosystem on the church property.

"Individuals donating plants will support pollinators and enable the growth of fresh, healthy produce to those in need during this time of food insecurity," Sefton added.

The church is also seeking volunteers to help prepare and plant the site and construct three new raised beds with a grant it received last year from the Mount Horeb Community Foundation. "These would be great projects for scouts to earn their conservation badges, for students to obtain service hours, or for anyone wanting to contribute to the community."

Located at the corner of highways S and 78, Mount Horeb United Methodist Church has been serving Mount Horeb and the surrounding community for more than 170 years. As a Reconciling Congregation, Mount Horeb UMC celebrates the inclusive love of Christ and embraces the image of God in all humanity regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, race, sex, ability, ethnicity, education, faith tradition, family structure, political affiliation, social class, physical or mental health. All are welcome to attend worship in person or online Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Go to www.umcmh.org for more information.

CHURCH NOTES

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

Immanuel Lutheran - ELCA
310 W. Main St. Mount Horeb
608-437-8733
10am Sunday Worship
www.immanuelmh.org/
1st Steps Childcare
608-218-4425

Mt. Horeb Evangelical Lutheran Church - ELCA
315 E. Main St. 608-437-5012
www.elcmthoreb.org
5 pm Saturday Worship
9 am Sunday Worship

Mt. Horeb United Methodist
Corner of Hwy. S & Hwy. 78
Sunday Worship: 9am online and in person
umcmh.org
Celebrating God's Inclusive Love

Mt Vernon United Church of Christ
1693 Washington St. Verona
608-832-6677
Sunday Worship, in-person and on Facebook Live, 10:15 am
Bible Study 9am-10am
We are an Open and Affirming Congregation

New Hope Evangelical Free Church
639 S. Eighth St., Mt. Horeb
Phone: 608-437-3273
www.newhopeefc.org
Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Perry Lutheran Church ELCA
1057 Hwy 78 S, Mt. Horeb
608-437-5294
Sunday Worship 9:00 am
www.perrylutheranchurchelca.org

Springdale Lutheran Church
2752 Town Hall Rd.
608-437-3493
Pastor Jim Ranney
Worship: 1st, 3rd & 5th
Sundays of the month at 10am
twosteeple.org

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,
Thurs-Friday, 8:00 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.

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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EUCHRE

continued from page 3

win their third match of the half. The low score of 71 points for the week was recorded by Kurniki’s Express engineers Tracy Haag and Jim Boland, and Norsk Pranksters Tommy Schulen-

berg and Dave Hook.

Standings:

Kleeman’s Hay Shakers 7-2

Norsk Cowboys 7-2

J&M Bar River Rats 5-4

Kurniki’s Express 5-4

Norsk Pranksters 5-4

Red Mouse Shufflers 5-4

Kurniki’s Pipe Benders

4-5

Viking Trolls 3-6

Red Mouse Uff-Da 2-7

Sportsman’s Cheese Eaters 2-7

Schedule for Mar 12th - Spring Tournament will be held at the Red Mouse. Registration is at 6:30, play at 7.

This will be under the new format of individual play. Each bump will cost a quarter. All current and past players, plus anyone that played as a sub in the past are eligible to enter this tournament.

Other Euchre News: The Verona American Legion,

located at 207 Legion Street in Verona, will hold a fundraiser euchre tournament open to the public on March 21. Doors open at 11:00 am with play starting at noon. This is an individual play format, so there is no need to bring a partner. Cost is \$20 per person, with half

the entry fee going towards prize money. You will also pay a quarter per bump. There will be a 50/50 raffle, a silent auction and food for purchase.

For more information/questions, call Stan at (608) 271-9044.

CODE

continued from page 1

Sarah Best seconded, to approve the Ordinance including amendments. The motion was unanimously approved. Although Trustee Jason Fendrick was not in attendance, Nic Owen, Village Administrator, read his prepared comments throughout the meeting.

After three hours, the elected officials unanimously voted to approve Ordinance 2026-01, including five of the seven amendments as described. To read the zoning code in its entirety, check the Village website, <https://www.mounthorebwi.info/35/Business>, allowing time for the update to be published.

To get to the final vote, first there was an explanation of the fifteen points of potential discussion in the final draft given by Sonja Kruesel, an Associate Planner from Vandewalle, six public commenters, a hearty discussions among the trustees on some of the fifteen items, resulting in seven amendments to the recommendations to the Village Board from the Plan Commission (PC) February 25, 2026 meeting.

reminded the board that Finance & Personnel is working with Baird & Co. to create a financial management plan to get the Village financial house in better condition, saying density helps with taxes (revenue). Thomas feels his age demographic (he is 30) is underrepresented (in planning purposes) and feels it is important to speak on behalf of this group.

the parcel can accommodate.

Per the suggestion of Bryan Kleinmaier, Village Attorney, recommended prior to 1726-01 Ordinance approval or denial, items requesting a change to the those recommend by the PC, be discussed and voted on separately as amendments to the Ordinance. The items were a result of elected officials asking for modifications to a few sections of the code as written.

Following is the list of fifteen discussion items. Unless questioned, the item will appear as recommended by the PC and included in the rewritten Chapter 17 of the Municipal Code of Ordinances, Zoning Code and Official Zoning Map.

Public comments

Stephen Sopcak suggested the DMU includes building setbacks to allow for creativity and reducing the building height to two stories.

Ellen Myers requested a building height of two stories on Main Street and three stories off Main Street.

Jeff Grundahl questioned why his request was denied for the Future Land Use (FLU) map, to change the current zoning of Light Industrial to Multi-Family for 130 S. First Street. If this is a FLU map, why does it include current uses? To allow the change now, it would result in less cost and less time.

Aaron Thomas gave “hats off” to the PC for the off Main Street height recommendation, questioned why some PC members felt there would be no transition zone in the downtown area off Main Street where there are existing multi-family units, and questioned why the zoning code caps itself with height and parking restriction in the DMU. He

Michelle Kelley suggested we promote the downtown as a heritage and tourism district and have a maximum on residential units within the DMU, allowing for larger developments throughout the rest of the Village. She emphasized she is happy with many of the larger developments in town, such as Karakahl, the pocket neighborhoods, etc. but firmly disagrees with lack of density on the downtown when our Vision Statement and Comp Plan promote keeping Mount Horeb’s history.

Cathy Scott questioned the thinking of removing density limits in residential units in the Downtown Mixed Use (DMU).

Before moving to the individual PC recommendations. President Czyzewski gave his analysis on why the PC recommended no density requirements within the DMU. He said there are two standards for building density. One is the general State standard, which is numerical, based on the square footage of the lot and the other is form based. Form based allows for greater flexibility and creativity, where height and parking are not predetermined. The building is capped by what

BAND SHOW

continued from page 1

effects.

This year’s show, themed “The Greatest Band Show,” occurs Thursday-Saturday, April 9-11 at 7:30 p.m. in the Mount Horeb High School Auditorium.

For most Mt. Horeb high school students, the Viking Band Show is their favorite part of their band calendar.

“It’s the most wonderful time of the year,” says senior

saxophonist Noah Koltz.

“I can’t wait to storm onto the stage to open the band show now that I’m a senior this year!” says senior percussionist Anna Tranel.

This year’s guest artist is the funk-fusion group WURK, a group of perform-

ers who perform innovative original songs and ambitious interpretations of popular covers. Described by Isthmus Magazine as “summer-jam-perfect” and two-time recipient of the Madison Area Music Association (MAMA) Artist of the Year Award (2019, 2022), Wurf

fills the gap between complexity and groove, impressing fans and keeping them dancing all night.

Daniel Haschke, WURK saxophonist, has worked with Mt. Horeb High School students many times in the past, and he is excited to work with them in a guest artist capacity for the Viking Band Show.

“I’ve had the privilege to work with some of these talented high schoolers in the pit orchestra for some of the past musicals, get-

ting to help guide them to make their show the best. The Viking Band Show will be a fun flip of the script, allowing me to share a piece of my music world with the students.”

Visit the Mt. Horeb Band Website [<https://sites.google.com/mhasd.k12>].

ADVERTISING PAYS!!
CALL: 608-767-3655

wi.us/band/high-school/viking-band-show] or scan the QR code with this article to find out more.

If you have questions regarding the Viking Band Show, please contact Kellen Dornier at dornerkellen@mounthorebschools.org or (608) 437-7346.



This year’s show, themed “The Greatest Band Show,” occurs Thursday-Saturday, April 9-11 at 7:30 p.m. in the Mount Horeb High School Auditorium.

Village of Mount Horeb Recognized for Energy Leadership

The Village of Mount Horeb received a silver designation from the Energy Ready Program, a national initiative supporting local governments that take proactive steps to support new energy technologies, including solar, electric vehicles, and energy storage.

With energy prices surging across the country and demand for new energy generation growing due to data centers and AI, local governments are taking action to improve local planning and permitting for energy projects and ensure residents have a broader range of options.

“For Mount Horeb, we want to make sure residents that want to install solar on their own home or business, can do so efficiently and that our town regulations weren’t creating any additional barriers to these projects” explained Sustainability and Natural Resources Committee Chair and Village Trustee Tim White

The Energy Ready program, led by the Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC) and the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) provided free technical assistance to the Village of Mount Horeb helping to review local plans and ordinances, train staff, create educational resources and identify strategies to educate and engage residents.

According to Deb Perry, ICMA’s Clean Energy Program Director, hundreds of communities have turned to the Energy Ready Program to help them take action to stabilize energy costs and give residents more access to clean energy options: “In recent years solar energy has proven to be one of the most cost-effective ways to build new power generation – it can be built quickly compared to sources like natural gas and nuclear, and it generates no emissions. Local governments are making solar more affordable for residents by streamlining permitting and many local governments have been able to stabilize their own electricity costs by installing solar panels on public buildings, schools and properties.”

The future of the Energy Ready Program is uncertain due to funding cuts from the US Department of Energy.

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Talent and hard work on display at Solo & Ensemble Festival

On Saturday, February 28, more than 450 student musicians from grades 6-12 took part in the District Solo & Ensemble Festival at Mt. Horeb High School.

The festival served as the culminating event for this period of year, and most students chose to perform their finished product at the festival. The event was sponsored by the Wisconsin School Music Association (WSMA), which promotes school music statewide. Students participated in various configurations for their performances, from solos to duets and trios to larger ensembles. They performed their pieces for an adjudicator provided by WSMA. The Solo & Ensemble was a chance to learn a lot about music and students enjoyed the freedom to choose what they performed and who they worked with.

The annual event was sponsored by WSMA, a non-profit founded in 1932.



Live Irish music in free St. Patty's Day show

Celebrate Saint Patrick's day with live Irish music! Join Slippjig at the Mount Horeb Public Library Tuesday, March 17 at 6:30pm for an evening of fiery dance tunes, sweet airs and historic ballads from the Celtic nations. These accomplished musicians specialize in tasteful instrumentation and rich harmonies. The trio features Ruthie McQuinn on fiddle and vocals, Scott Pedersen playing button accordion and Michael Duffy on piano and bodhran. Free! Great for all ages. For more information about the library, visit www.mhpl.org.

VORTEX® SPIRIT OF SERVICE™ SEEKS LOCAL VETERAN NOMINATIONS

Vortex® to present winning veteran with a \$5,000 prize

It's time to shine a spotlight on a veteran in our community who's making a real difference. Do you know a veteran whose actions have been a positive force? Is there a dream you'd like to make a reality for your favorite hometown hero? This is the perfect opportunity. In partnership with the Madison-area CBS Channel 3000, Vortex® is inviting the public to nominate a remarkable veteran. Nominations are open until March 22, 2026. Access the 2026 Spirit of Service™ nomination form online and join in celebrating these local heroes. Whether it's a veteran who is widely admired in the community for their character and spirit, or someone who, despite facing personal challenges, remains an inspiring figure, all are eligible. The award seeks to honor any veteran whom you believe deserves recognition for their unique contributions or presence in the community.

The nomination process is easy. Just describe in no more than 1,000 words why your chosen veteran is a pillar of your community. Highlight their service background and how this award could enhance their life.

Starting March 30, 2026 the public will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite finalist. The announcement of the lucky winner will be made on April 15, 2026.

Get involved!

If you're interested in serving your community, please complete and return the Citizen Committee Member Interest Form for consideration (go to mounthorebwi.info).

If you have questions, please feel free to submit email inquiries to Village President, Ryan Czyzewski. Completed forms should be submitted via email to citizennominations@mounthorebwi.info, or dropped off at the Village Office, 138 E. Main Street. Please submit forms by March 15.

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SPORTS

STERLING SILVER

Mount Horeb's girls gymnastics team finishes second at state

by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor

There aren't many gymnastics programs that could lose half of their competitors from a state qualifying team, then improve the following year.

Most programs aren't Mount Horeb, though.

The Vikings graduated a group that accounted for 10 of their 20 varsity spots at the 2025 state meet. That team finished sixth in Division 1.

Mount Horeb doesn't rebuild, though. It reloads.

And the Vikings' revamped 2026 team took it up a notch.

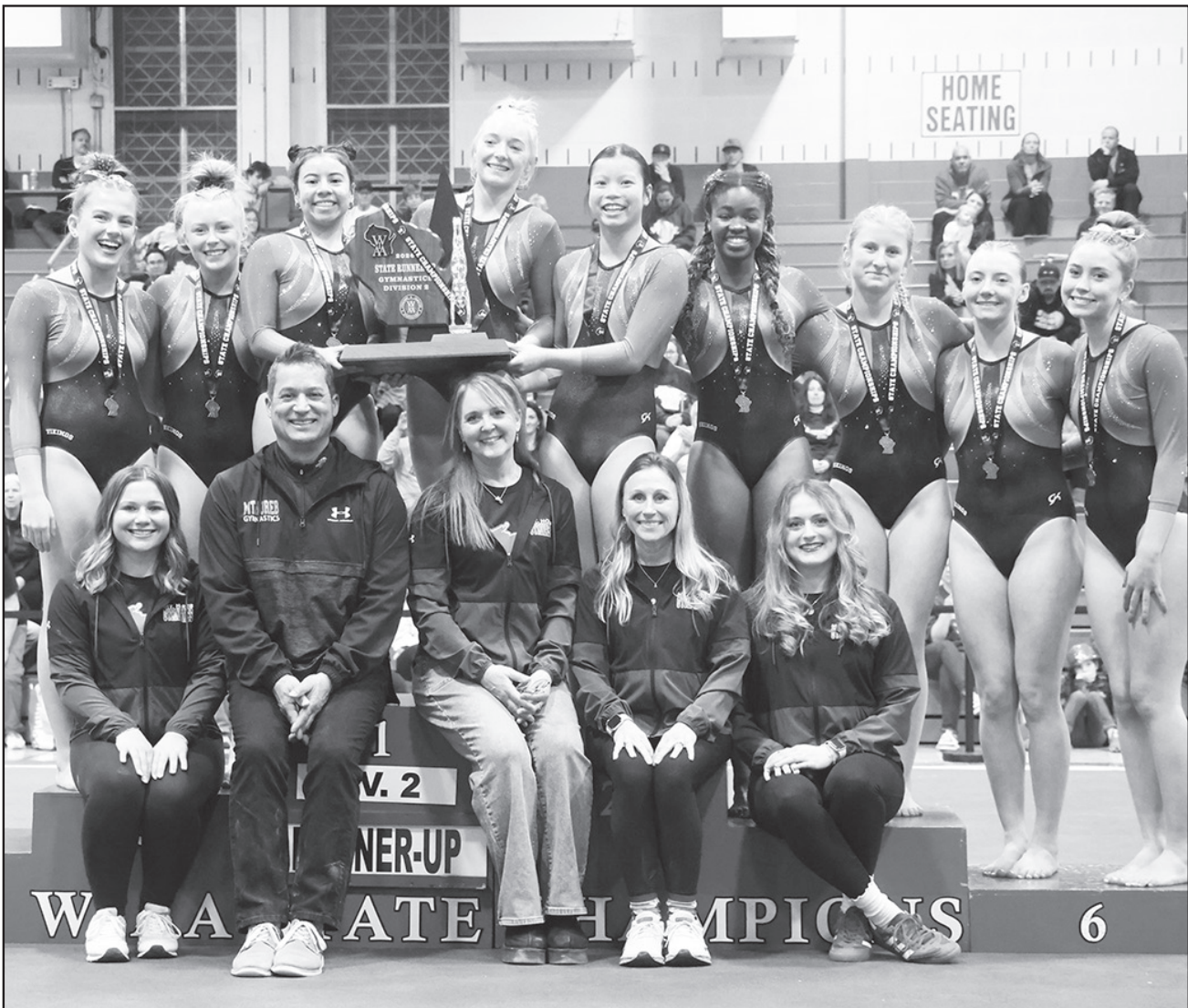
Mount Horeb went to last Friday's WIAA Division 2 state meet at Wisconsin Rapids High School and finished second in the team

standings. The Vikings, who have reached the state team tournament 39 times — more than any other school in Wisconsin — now have 13 runner-up finishes to go with their six state championships.

While the Vikings have been a traditional force at state, this was their first team trophy since 2022.

"I was extremely pleased with the togetherness, toughness, and 'never give up' mentality our team showed at the team competition," Mount Horeb coach Martha Koller Faust said. "Getting the team to state is always our top goal each season and bringing home some hardware along the way is a wonderful bonus.

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Mount Horeb's girls gymnastics team was all smiles after finishing second at the WIAA Division 2 state meet last Friday. Photo courtesy of Jason McMahon

Vikings capture regional crown

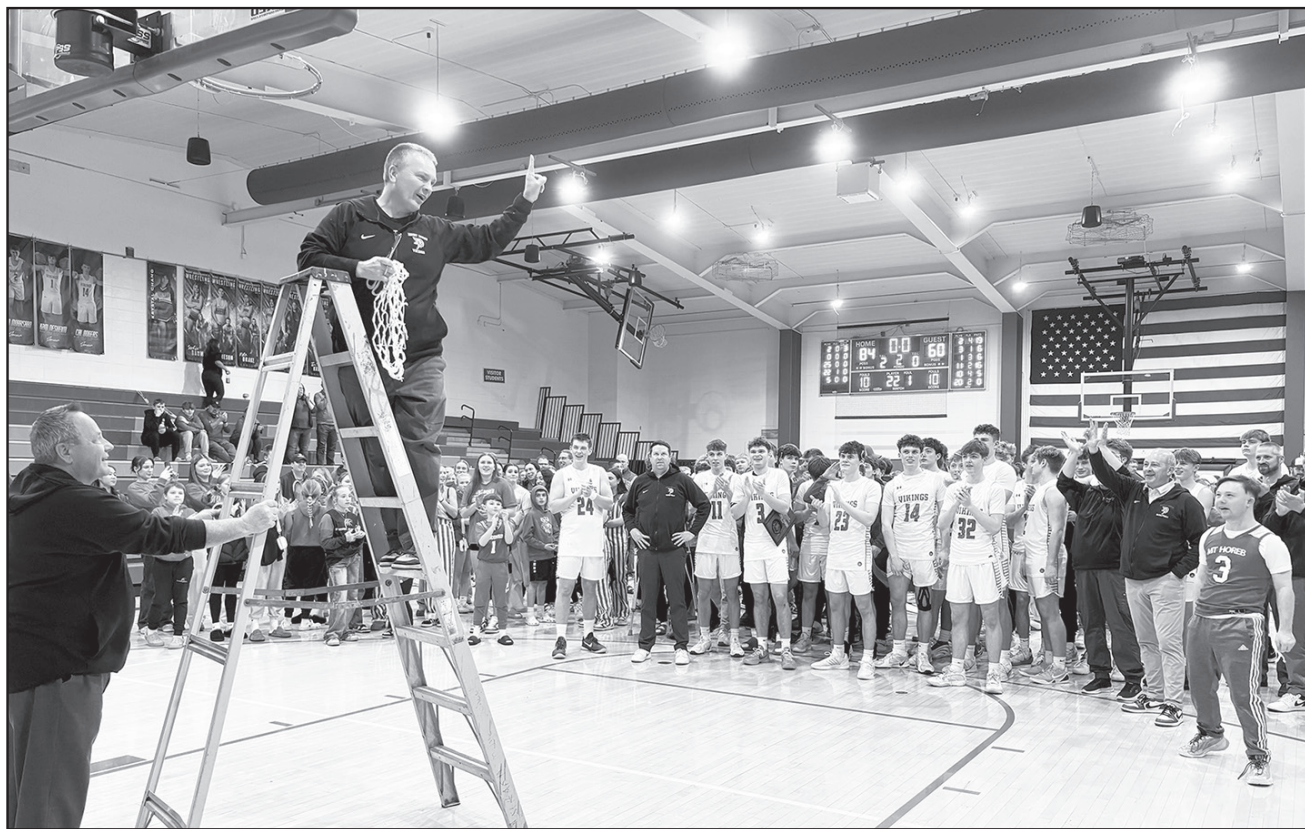
Mount Horeb cruises past Monroe in regional finals

by ADAM MERTZ
Sports Reporter

This felt like a business-as-usual performance by Mount Horeb's boys basketball team — a methodical dismantling of a solid, but unspectacular opponent, with a decisive scoring run in each half propelling the Vikings to an 84-60 victory over visiting Monroe last Saturday in a WIAA Division 2 regional final.

Which is why a little historical perspective is necessary to underscore the magnitude of the moment.

Rewind the clock two decades to 2006, when Mount Horeb was a .500 ballclub in the regular season, but made a stunning run to the sectional finals, coming within a game of the state tournament for the first time since 1950. The young boys watching then became the nucleus of the powerhouse Vikings teams that produced the seminal moment in program history — the 2015



Mount Horeb boys basketball coach Tod Nesheim tells his team they're No. 1 after the Vikings won a WIAA Division 2 regional championship last Saturday and proceeded to cut down the net. Photo courtesy of Adam Mertz

state championship.

In turn, that inspired the ballboys from that team and their classmates to achieve something last week that had never happened in the 115 years of basketball in the village: Win a third straight regional title, cemented by the triumph over the Cheesemakers.

"It's really exciting for this senior class to have that three-peat," first-year starting forward Cal Odgers said. "We pride ourselves on development and being able to rebuild, instead of falling off. And I think we've done a fabulous job of that."

That unprecedented achievement, which se-

cured a sectional semifinal rubber match Thursday against fellow Badger Small Conference co-champion McFarland (21-5), wasn't the only piece of history achieved in the Vikings seniors' victorious farewell to their home floor.

With an eye-popping 38 points against the Cheesemakers (18-8), four-year

starting guard Josh Manchester — one of those aforementioned ballboys — moved into the top-10 in all-time state scoring history. Manchester's 2,513 points puts him within shooting distance of prep legend Sam Okey of Cassville (2,539 from 1991-95) as soon as

continued on page 13

Mount Horeb downs Fort in regional semis

by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor

One of the interesting things about the human condition is if you say something enough times, people begin to believe it.

Take the myth that beating a team three times in a season is one of the toughest things to achieve in sports.

Not quite.

Since the NFL-AFL merger in 1970, for example, the team that won the first two games wins the third meeting 64.0% of the time (16-9). The numbers are similar in college basketball.

Truth is, if you were the better team the first two times around, odds are you'll be better in the third matchup, as well.

Mount Horeb proved just that against Fort Atkinson last Friday.

The Blackhawks hung around for much of the night, but Mount Horeb pulled away in the last seven minutes and notched a 61-42 win in their WIAA Division

continued on page 15

Mount Horeb two steps from state

Vikings set for third meeting with McFarland

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

Confident.
Self-assured.
Hungry.
And experienced.

Mount Horeb’s boys basketball team checks all of those boxes, which is why the Vikings can’t wait for their WIAA Division 2 sectional semifinal against Badger Small Conference rival McFarland. That contest will take place Thursday at 7 p.m. at Evansville High School.

“We need to keep playing the way we’ve been playing,” said Vikings senior guard Josh Manchester. “Obviously, that’s a good program and they’ve got some really good players, but I’m pretty confident that we’ll be ready to go.”

Thursday’s winner advances to Saturday’s sectional final against either defending D2 state champion Wauwatosa East or fourth ranked New Berlin West. That game would be at Oconomowoc High School.

Mount Horeb has won eight straight games, including an 84-60 victory over Monroe in the regional finals last Saturday.

“They’re definitely a good team, with some good pieces in there,” Mount Horeb senior forward Cal Odgers said of McFarland. “But I think we can defend them, and if we play like we did (against Monroe), keep the momentum rolling, we’re going to win.”

The teams split their two regular season games, with each winning on the road.

McFarland won the first meeting, 88-45, at Mount Horeb on Jan. 15. Manchester suffered a separated shoulder eight minutes into that game, an injury that sidelined him the next seven games, as well.

McFarland went on a 36-7 run shortly after Manchester left that night and turned a 24-16 lead into a 60-23 rout.



Alex Chapman (24) and Mount Horeb’s boys basketball team won a regional title last weekend and now faces McFarland in a sectional semifinal Thursday at 7 p.m. at Evansville High School. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

“As far as the team goes, obviously a little rattled,” Mount Horeb coach Todd Nesheim said after that game. “They played lights out, so I think it was a little bit of a combination of both of those things. You don’t want to judge anything too hard tonight, but what we did see wasn’t very encouraging.”

“But, you know, we’re going to have to find scoring and we haven’t had it. Josh has, you know, been our scoring, and others haven’t had to score as much. Every game there’s always been one other kid. Now we’re going to need, like, four of them. So as we just talked about, you’re going to have opportunities.”

Many Vikings took advantage of those opportuni-

ties and proved they were capable of pulling more weight when Manchester was sidelined. Mount Horeb went 6-1 without Manchester and has gone 13-1 since that loss to McFarland nearly two months ago.

When Mount Horeb traveled to McFarland for Round 2 on Feb. 20, Manchester was in his fourth game back. And junior standout Alex Chapman was making his return after missing five games with a broken wrist.

That night, Manchester had 26 of his 27 points in the second half, and Chapman poured in 19 as the Vikings rolled to a 74-64 win. That victory helped Mount Horeb eventually claim a share of the Badger Small Conference title with Mc-

Farland and Sauk Prairie.

“We were embarrassed at home, big time,” Chapman said that night. “We took that personally and we made it happen tonight.”

Odgers knows Mount Horeb will need a similar performance if it hopes to advance to the sectional finals for a second straight year.

“We need to bring the intensity we brought for the second game against them,” Odgers said. “If we bring that intensity, we’re going to come out of it OK.”

McFarland is led by 6-foot-9 junior post Eli Krueger, who averages 18.6 points per game and can hurt teams from inside and out. Krueger’s dominance in the first game against Mount Horeb led to

good guard play and shooters.

“But I think we’ll be fine. I think we’re more physical, and I hope we’ll have an edge mentally in terms of ‘been there, done that,’ especially in a neutral environment.”

Mount Horeb, which won a third straight regional title last Saturday for the first time in school history, certainly believes experience will be key in this third meeting with McFarland.

“Sectionals are different,” Manchester said. “We’re hungry and we’ll be ready to go.”

Added Nesheim: “Making 3s in sectionals is not making 3s in January. Hopefully that plays in our favor.”

Most things have gone the Vikings’ way the last two months, as they’ve heated up, won a share of the conference title and captured another regional crown. During the Vikings’ current 13-1 surge, they’re averaging 63.4 points per game and allowing just 46.3 points per contest — a difference of 18.1.

Mount Horeb will fall back on the bedrocks of its program as it attempts to win the rubber match against the Spartans and move within one game of state.

“We always lean at this point in the year on toughness and physicality,” Nesheim said. “That’s what the program is built on, starting with that pack defense. That’s where we will lay our hat.”

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Vikings shine!
Clockwise from above, Harper Hendrickson, Averi Kalscheur, Sylviah Seeliger and Avena Meyers all helped Mount Horeb surge to a second place finish at the WIAA Division 2 state gymnastics meet in Wisconsin Rapids last Friday. Photos courtesy of Jason McMahon



SILVER

continued from page 10

“To say that we coaches are proud is definitely an understatement. Standing atop the podium with the silver gymnast was such an incredible honor.”

Dodgeville won the state meet with a 139.6834 team score, while the Vikings were second at 138.201. Mount Horeb’s score was 0.20 higher than last year’s team.

Marshfield (137.250), River Falls (136.8498) and Homestead (136.7334) rounded out the top five at the 10-team state meet. Mount Horeb had the third-best score at sectionals, so the Vikings were thrilled to jump up a notch and bring home a trophy.

“I am so proud of how much we’ve grown since the beginning of the season,” Mount Horeb junior Harper Hendrickson said. “We knew we had to perform at our absolute best to come home with a trophy, especially competing against a strong team like the Dodgeville co-op. Because of that, we were extremely proud to finish the meet as runners-up.”

Mount Horeb senior Sylviah Seeliger agreed.

“I think that we performed the best that we could and really showed off how hard we have been working all season to get to state,” Seeliger said. “Getting second place didn’t surprise me, as we went into state knowing that we had the third-highest sectional score and that state was just like every other meet. We just had to continue to do what we have been doing all season.”

Mount Horeb opened on



the beam where it posted the second-highest total with a 34.0 team score. Hendrickson led the way with an 8.60, while junior Avena Meyers (8.5833), senior Carmen Oglesby (8.4167) and Seeliger (8.40) also posted solid scores.

“We were the very first team to compete on beam and our girls did an outstanding job tuning out the noise and focusing on the task at hand,” Koller Faust said. “Our beam team set the tone with strong routines and that momentum carried through the next three events. I truly believe our team peaked at just the right time — at the

state meet — and we coaches couldn’t have asked for more from them.”

The Vikings then went to the floor exercise and shined again, posting a team score of 36.20 that was second to only Dodgeville. Hendrickson led the way with a 9.150, while Oglesby (9.083), sophomore Averi Kalscheur (9.0) and Seeliger (8.9667) also had tremendous routines.

“Our team focused on soaking in every moment and enjoying our time together,” Hendrickson said. “All day we cheered each other on, supported one another, and made the most of our last opportunity to compete as a

team.”

Mount Horeb then headed to the vault, where its score of 34.6334 was the third best in the field. Hendrickson posted the Vikings’ top score with an 8.80, while Seeliger (8.750), Oglesby (8.7167) and Meyers (8.3667) all performed well.

Mount Horeb then finished on the uneven bars and posted a team score of 33.3667. Seeliger led the Vikings with an 8.550, while Kalscheur (8.4833), Hendrickson (8.1667) and senior Tessa Soppe (8.1667) all had strong efforts.

“The highlights for me was being able to compete with

this amazing team one last time,” Seeliger said. “The highlights for the team was receiving second place and giving it our all and just having fun.”

Mount Horeb finished before many of the other top challengers and then played the waiting game. Dodgeville didn’t blink and held onto first place, but Marshfield struggled on the beam and couldn’t make a move on Mount Horeb for second place.

Moments later, the Vikings were hoisting a state runner-up trophy and celebrating their remarkable season.

“I’m beyond pleased with how this team grew throughout the season,” Koller Faust said. “They developed not only in their skill levels and abilities, but also into a truly close-knit team.

Hendrickson agreed.

“This season was incredible,” Hendrickson said. “Even though we had our ups and downs, we continued to push through all the way to the end. I couldn’t be happier with this team’s commitment, drive, and dedication, as well as the positivity and friendships that brought us together and made this season so special.”

One day later, Hendrickson, Seeliger and several other Vikings shined at the individual state meet.

Hendrickson was eighth in the all-around competition with a 35.3167 and Seeliger was 12th with a 35.0167.

Hendrickson was fourth on the balance beam with a 9.2333 and Oglesby was 12th with an 8.533. Kalscheur was eighth on the uneven bars (8.633) and Seeliger was 14th (8.4833).

Hendrickson was also 12th on the floor with a 9.0167, and Oglesby was 14th on the vault with an 8.633.

“I am very happy with my performance on Saturday (at individual state),” Hendrickson said. “Since it was my first time competing at the individual state meet, my main goal was simply to have fun. I am especially proud of my beam routine. After falling the day before and scoring much lower than usual, I had to stay positive and confident going into Saturday.”

Seeliger also had an impressive day at individual state.

“I was pretty happy with my performance on Saturday and I was really happy that I was able to stick my second vault,” Seeliger said. “I was happy with each and every performance.”

Overall, the Vikings were thrilled with their weekend, which capped off another banner season.

“Knowing we had numerous varsity positions to fill after the 2024–25 season, we told the girls from the start that our lineups would be fluid and could change from week to week,” Koller Faust said. “I’m so proud of their hard work, their perseverance, their adaptability and their willingness to step up and fill some very big shoes throughout the season.”

March 6
WIAA Division 2 state gymnastics meet

Team scores: 1, Dodgeville Co-op, 139.6834; 2, Mt. Horeb, 138.2001; 3, Marshfield, 137.25; 4, River Falls, 13.8498; 5, Homestead, 136.7334; 6, Galesville Co-op, 132.7; 7, Sparta, 129.9834; 8, Whitefish Bay, 129.9; 9, Wau-pun, 125.4501; 10, Rhinelander 123.0334.

MONROE

continued from page 10

this week, with the winner of Thursday’s game facing off Saturday against either New Berlin West (23-3) or Tosa West (20-6) for a trip to state.

Should the Vikings (21-5) secure just the third state tournament appearance in program history, Manchester would have a chance to surpass another former University of Wisconsin standout, Sam Dekker, who racked up 2,593 points and a state title for Sheboygan Lutheran from 2008-12.

“It’s definitely a big accomplishment, and I’m proud of it,” said Manchester, who last week was named one of five finalists for Wisconsin’s Mr. Basketball award. “At the same time, I had no idea I was in the top-10. That’s just not my main focus. I want to keep this run going as long as we can.”

Personal success and program success are, of course, inextricably intertwined. Just ask Todd Nesheim, a 1988 Mount Horeb graduate who played for his father Doug, won the title with his oldest son Terek as starting center and his wife Kolleen as athletic director, and now coaches his younger son Kam, the other former ball-boy from that championship team.

Todd was lead assistant in 2006, moved into the head coaching role in 2008 and has racked up a 284-147 overall record since while steadily growing the program into a perennial conference title contender capable of making deep playoff runs.

“Just really proud of all that’s gone into it — the amount of people and time it’s taken to build a program like this,” Nesheim said, pointing to a loyal longtime staff that includes Jack Prehn, Mark Fredrickson, Paul Manchester, Brad Richardson and Cain Mueller. “It’s a lot of work, and the results have certainly made it worth it. It starts with your people at home, and the support they give you for the time commitment.”

And now we snap back from this historical assessment to resume our



Mount Horeb’s Nick Ibinger drives through traffic during the Vikings’ win over Fort Atkinson in a WIAA Division 2 regional semifinal last Friday. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

regularly scheduled programming — the future, which is where the Vikings have placed their absolute focus.

After surviving stretches without each of their top two standouts — seven games without Manchester (separated shoulder) and five without junior forward Alex Chapman (broken left wrist) — Mount Horeb found its stride in a thrilling win at McFarland on Feb. 22 and has been rolling ever since.

After grinding to a 61-42 win over Fort Atkinson in the playoff opener Friday, the Vikings were in flow from the opening tip against Monroe and never looked stressed in earning their ninth straight home victory over the Cheesemakers, who haven’t won in Mount Horeb since 2011.

The Vikings shot 53% overall and from 3-point range, produced 18 assists on their 28 baskets, went 19-of-24 from the free-throw line, carried a 34-24 edge in rebounding, a 32-14 advantage on points in the paint and had just nine turnovers.

Chapman amassed 20

points on 4-of-6 shooting from 3-point range and grabbed 10 rebounds, junior guard Mason Williams provided a big spark off the bench with 11 points and Mount Horeb put together a statistically impressive night in almost every category.

“We’re playing our best basketball,” said Manchester, who had eight assists, five rebounds and five steals in his second-best scoring output of the season.

Mount Horeb took control early in the first half with a 15-2 run that featured baskets on five straight possessions for a 24-10 lead. Williams produced the first three scores, including a jumper and 3-pointer on assists from Manchester before finishing on his own inside.

“He was great,” Manchester said. “Mason Williams is always guarding me in practice and I’m guarding him. I know what we can do, and it was nice that everyone got to see what he brings to the court.”

Manchester followed with two baskets that started with steals on the defensive

end, including a dagger of a pull-up 3-pointer in transition from 23 feet at the top of the key with most players from both teams still making their way downcourt.

“When you’re on a run, a 3 like that is high-risk, high-reward,” Manchester said. “If it goes in, I don’t want to say you’re not coming back from that, but it’s definitely detrimental to the other team.”

Williams made his mark again later in the half, getting lost behind the Monroe defense for a layup on a back-cut thanks to a nifty assist from Evan Leibfried for a 31-21 edge.

“That atmosphere was intense. I’ve never been in a game like that before,” Williams said. “I’m obviously not out there to score a lot

of points. I’m out there to play good defense and make a few back-cuts and knock down shots when they come to me. Just do my job.”

Monroe made another surge in the closing minutes of the first half, pulling within 35-27 on a Marcus Ott 3-pointer, but Chapman answered with his third trey of the half and Leibfried put back his own miss with 1.4 seconds left for a 40-29 Vikings lead at the break.

Manchester got rolling early in the second half, amassing 10 of Mount Horeb’s first 12 points — including a conventional three-point play inside, a 3-pointer from the left wing when he was somehow left wide open, and a pull-up jumper at the elbow as the Vikings took control, 52-36.

“It’s nice to have a player like that in your back pocket,” Nesheim said. “You need a hoop, just give it to him and get out of the way.”

Another streak of five straight scoring possessions midway through the half made the outcome a foregone conclusion. This time, Chapman was the catalyst, feeding Odgers for a basket, scoring in transition off a pass from Odgers, assisting Manchester and then draining a 3-pointer before Manchester capped the sequence with a driving score for a 63-40 advantage with 9 minutes left.

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**TOWN OF PRIMROSE
NOTICE**

The Town of Primrose Planning Commission meeting for March 2026 will take place at 8468 County Road A, Verona WI, on Monday, March 16th, 2026, beginning at 7:30pm. The agenda for this meeting will be posted at the Town Hall, Mount Vernon Auto, Primrose Church, and on the Town website. A summary of the agenda will be available on the voice message system at 608-832-6660.
Publish: 3/12/26 **WNAXLP**

**TOWN OF SPRINGDALE
COMMERCIAL HVAC REQUEST FOR BIDS**

The Town of Springdale in Dane County is requesting bids for a new commercial ventilation system for its Town shop/garage. Interested contractors may contact Chair John Rosenbaum at chair@springdalewi.gov for technical plans. Contact Devin Dahlk at 608-444-5707 to view the building. Bids are due no later than 5 pm on April 17. Bids will be opened at the April 21st town board meeting. The Town reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Submit bids to: Town of Springdale, 2379 Town Hall Road, Mount Horeb, WI 52572 or adminclerk@springdalewi.gov
Publish: 3/5/26, 3/12/26 **WNAXLP**



Mason Williams (above), Hayden Anderson (right) and Mount Horeb’s boys basketball team won a WIAA Division 2 regional championship last weekend. Photos courtesy of Mary Langenfeld



MONROE

continued from page 13

The Vikings held Monroe without a field goal for more than 7 minutes during that stretch. Then, they closed things out at the free-throw line, scoring their final 14 points there before reserve Ethan Morrisard’s 3-pointer in the closing seconds.

There was a different feel to this year’s regional title celebration, thanks in no

small part to Manchester’s relative health. A year ago, he separated his shoulder in the same round of the tournament. The Vikings managed to hold off McFarland without him, then beat Monona Grove in the sectional semifinals before losing to Wauwatosa West in the sectional finals. This year, Manchester joined his teammates in cutting down the nets without having to celebrate in a sling. And Mount Horeb

is feeling confident in its chances with its top gun and momentum on its side. “It’s too early to talk about the historical importance of what he’s done for this program — not only scoring, but probably a couple other categories,” Nesheim said. “He’s the best player I’ve ever coached and I’d say probably the best player to come through here. So it’s nice for him to be able to cut nets down at the end here and end it on the right foot.”

March 7
WIAA Division 2 regional final
Mount Horeb 84, Monroe 60
Monroe 29 31 — 60
Mount Horeb 40 44 — 84
MONROE — (fgm-fga ftn-fts pts) — Drew Monroe 0-0 0-0 0, Graysan Barthoff 2-3 0-0 6, Mekhi Brown 5-13 7-7 19, Kamrin Gerber-Reamer 2-7 2-2 6, Lukas Gerber 0-0 0-0 0, Ryan Roelli 0-0 0-0 0, Logan Taylor 1-10 2-6 5, Marcus Ott 5-10, 2-4 16, Miles Versnik 2-3 0-3 5, Xavier Hirsch 0-0 0-0 0, Max Hayden 0-1 0-0 0, Lucas Bartels 0-0 0-2 0, Asher Cook 1-1 0-0 3, Chase Huschitt 0-1 0-0 0. Totals: 18-49 13-24 60.

MOUNT HOREB — (fgm-fga ftn-fts pts) — Owen Schultz 0-0 0-0 0, Kam Nesheim 0-1 0-0 0, Ethan Morrisard 1-1 0-0 3, Josh Manchester 11-25 14-17 38, Connor McCue 0-1 0-0 0, Hayden Anderson 0-1 1-2 1, Max Grundahl 0-0 0-0 0, Jack White 0-0 0-0 0, Cal Odgers 2-3 0-0 4, Mason Williams 4-5 2-2 11, Evan Leibfried 3-5 0-0 7, Henry Jennings 0-0 0-0 0, Nick Ibinger 0-0 0-0 0, Alex Chapman 7-11 2-3 20, Everett Boatman 0-0 0-0 0, Earl Strauss 0-0 0-0 0, Sam Grundahl 0-0 0-0 0. Totals: 26-53 19-24 84.

TEAM STATS
Three-pointers: Monroe 11-34

(Ott 4-9, Barthoff 2-3, Brown 2-6, Cook 1-1, Versnik 1-2, Taylor 1-7, Hayden 0-1, Huschitt 0-1, Gerber-Reamer 0-4), Mount Horeb 9-17 (Chapman 4-6, Manchester 2-7, Morrisard 1-1, Leibfried 1-1, Williams 1-1, Odgers 0-1).
Turnovers: Monroe 12, Mount Horeb 9. **Rebounds:** Monroe 24 (Taylor 8), Mount Horeb 34 (Chapman 10). **Assists:** Monroe 11 (Taylor 4), Mount Horeb 18 (Manchester 8). **Steals:** Monroe 4 (Gerber-Reamer, Taylor, Ott, Herbst), Mount Horeb 8 (Manchester 5). **Blocks:** Monroe 0, Mount Horeb 3 (Manchester, Odgers, Leibfried). **Personal fouls:** Monroe 19, Mount Horeb 19.

VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB
NOTICE

Notice to All Mount Horeb Water Utility Customers
The Mount Horeb Water Utility will begin its spring Hydrant Flushing, beginning March 30th through April 30th. Should your water become discolored, let your tap run for approximately 5 to 10 minutes and it should clear up. Try to do your laundry in the evening hours if possible. Please be sure to keep your garbage and recycling carts on the terrace area or the apron of your driveway, off the gutter/street. Rushing water could wash your carts away or damage them, and the water utility is not responsible for collecting the carts. The water utility thanks you for your cooperation in this matter.

Brian Schult, Water Superintendent

Publish: 3/12/26, 3/19/26, 3/26/26 **WNAXLP**

VILLAGE OF MT. HOREB
NOTICE OF ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Mt. Horeb, Dane County, Wisconsin adopted the following ordinance amendment at the Village Board meeting on March 4, 2026.
Ordinance 2026-03 “AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE SECTION 1.10(3) ZONING ADMINISTRATOR”.
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that a copy of the ordinance is on file and open for public inspection in the office of the Village Clerk. It is also available on the village website at www.mounthorebwi.info.

Alyssa Gaffney, Village Clerk

Publish: 3/12/26 **WNAXLP**

VILLAGE OF MT. HOREB
NOTICE OF ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Mt. Horeb, Dane County, Wisconsin adopted the following ordinance amendment at the Village Board meeting on March 4, 2026.
Ordinance 2026-02 “AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL AND RE-ENACT THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB, WISCONSIN”.
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that a copy of the ordinance is on file and open for public inspection in the office of the Village Clerk. It is also available on the village website at www.mounthorebwi.info.

Alyssa Gaffney, Village Clerk

Publish: 3/12/26 **WNAXLP**

VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB
PUBLIC HEARING
MARCH 23, 2026

The Public Works Committee of the Village of Mount Horeb will hold a public hearing on the above date at 6:00pm in the Board Room of the Municipal Building, 138 E Main Street, Mount Horeb, WI. The purpose of the hearing is to consider the Village Engineer’s Preliminary Special Assessment Report for the 2026 Street Project for the following public work and improvements.
SOUTH FIRST STREET FROM CARVER STREET TO FRONT STREET:
Street Rehabilitation consisting of the removal and replacement of all existing base course, bituminous pavement, concrete curb and gutter, and spot repair of existing sidewalks and driveways in kind where necessary.
Sidewalk Improvement consisting of installation of new sidewalks where they do not exist.
HENRY STREET FROM PARKWAY DRIVE TO SOUTH FIRST STREET:
Street Rehabilitation consisting of the removal and replacement of all existing base course, bituminous pavement, concrete curb and gutter, and spot repair of existing sidewalks and driveways in kind where necessary.
Sidewalk Improvement consisting of installation of new sidewalks where they do not exist.
A copy of the preliminary report will be available at the Village Administrator’s Office, 138 E Main Street, on **March 13, 2026**. This information will be mailed to affected property owners. The Public Works Committee will hear all persons, agents, or attorneys concerning all matters and/or objections written or oral at that time.

Publish: 3/12/26 **WNAXLP**

VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB
PUBLIC HEARING
MARCH 23, 2026

The Public Works Committee of the Village of Mount Horeb will hold a public hearing on the above date at 6:00pm in the Board Room of the Municipal Building, 138 E Main Street, Mount Horeb, WI. The purpose of the hearing is to consider the Village Engineer’s **Final Special Assessment Report for the 2025 Street Project** for the following public work and improvements.
BLUE MOUNDS STREET FROM W MAIN STREET TO JUSTIN DRIVE:
Street Rehabilitation consisting of the removal and replacement of all existing base course and bituminous pavement, spot repair of existing sidewalks, spot repair of concrete curb and gutter, and driveways in kind where necessary.
Sidewalk Improvement consisting of installation of new sidewalks where they do not exist.
W GARFIELD STREET FROM WEST VILLAGE LIMITS TO BLUE MOUNDS STREET:
Street Rehabilitation consisting of mill and overlay of existing bituminous pavement, spot repair of concrete curb and gutter, and replacement of driveways in kind where necessary.
Sidewalk Improvement consisting of installation of new sidewalks where they do not exist.
A copy of the final report will be available at the Village Administrator’s Office, 138 E Main Street, on March 13, 2026. This information will be mailed to affected property owners. The Public Works Committee will hear all persons, agents, or attorneys concerning all matters and/or objections written or oral at that time.

Publish: 3/12/26 **WNAXLP**

VILLAGE OF MT. HOREB
NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF NEW ZONING CODE

PURSUANT TO WIS. STAT. § 61.50(3)(b), please take notice that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Mt. Horeb, Dane County, Wisconsin adopted the following ordinance at the Village Board meeting on March 4, 2026.
Ordinance 2026-01 “AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND RE-ENACTING CHAPTER 17 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE, WHICH IS THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB, WISCONSIN”.
Ordinance 2026-01 repeals and recreates a new Zoning Code for the Village of Mount Horeb. Ordinance 2026-01 addresses, among other items, permitted uses in the Village of Mount Horeb based on the zoning district applicable to properties, and also identifies other zoning related requirements such as planned unit development districts, setbacks, and height restrictions. Ordinance 2026-01 creates a new comprehensive Zoning Code for the Village. Ordinance 2026-01 will become effective upon publication of this Notice.
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that a copy of Ordinance 2026-01 is on file and open for public inspection in the office of the Village Clerk. Please contact the Village Clerk at 608-437-9404 or at 138 E Main Street, Mount Horeb, WI 53572. Ordinance 2026-01 is also available on the village website at www.mounthorebwi.info.

Alyssa Gaffney, Village Clerk

Publish: 3/12/26 **WNAXLP**

FORT

continued from page 10

2 regional semifinal. The Vikings, seeded second in their half of the sectional, won their seventh straight game and improved to 20-5. The seventh-seeded Blackhawks finished the year 13-13.

“I was really pleased,” Mount Horeb coach Todd Nesheim said. “I was very concerned about this game. They know us. We know them. That’s always tough.”

Mount Horeb defeated Fort, 66-51, on Jan. 20. The Vikings then upended the Blackhawks, 66-58, on Feb. 26, to win a share of the Badger Small Conference.

When they met again eight days later, Fort tried to slow the game down, limit possessions and hang around as long as possible. The Blackhawks did that, trailing just 39-35 with 7:06 left, before Mount Horeb finished the game on a 22-7

run.

Senior guard Josh Manchester led the Vikings with 35 points, while junior wing Alex Chapman added 11.

“We’re figuring out ways to win games,” Nesheim said. “If it’s 70 points, 80 points, this one looked like it’d be a game in the 40s. Whatever it takes. How do you win those games, and we’re figuring it out.”

This one took some time to figure out as Fort played at a snail’s pace in the first half and hung tight. Manchester had 16 first half points, but the Vikings struggled to get any separation.

“They ran longer possessions,” Nesheim said of the Blackhawks. “But at half-time, our guys said, ‘We know their offense better than they do.’ That was a nice compliment to how we prepared. We truly did know their stuff really well, so I felt pretty good about that.”

Still, it took a while to put

the Blackhawks away. And when Fort converted a traditional three-point play with just more than 7 minutes left, the Blackhawks were within 39-35.

The Vikings worked themselves into the bonus, though, and over the last 5:46, they went 12-of-14 from the line. Manchester was a perfect 6-of-6, Chapman made both of his foul shots and junior post Evan Leibfried went 3-of-4.

Overall, Mount Horeb shot 17-of-21 at the line on the night.

“We just manned up,” Nesheim said. “The pressure didn’t bother them.”

There were several things the Vikings did well in this game.

Mount Horeb forced 17 turnovers and had just six itself. The Vikings gathered 57% of the rebounds. And Mount Horeb held Fort to 11-of-31 shooting (35.5%).

It all added up to a third

straight win over Fort this season — as the Vikings did their part to dispel an old wives’ tale.

“Fort played really, really well in the first half and had confidence,” Nesheim said. “But I think we kind of wore them down. Our guys did a great job, especially in the second half.”

March 6
Mount Horeb 61,
Fort Atkinson 42
Fort Atkinson 19 23 — 42
Mount Horeb 23 38 — 61
Fort Atkinson — Ryley Kloster 0 0-0 0, Graeson Geiger 6 4-6 17, Nolan Quamme 3 0-0 9, Carter Kloplic 1 0-0 3, Oliver Evans 2 2-4 6, Dontae Samuels 2 2-2 7 6. Totals: 13 8-12 42.

Mount Horeb — Kam Nesheim 1 0-0 2, Josh Manchester 11 8-9 35, Hayden Anderson 1 0-0 2, Cal Odgers 1 0-0 2, Alex Chapman 3 5-6 11, Evan Leibfried 2 3-4 8, Nick Ibinger 0 1-2 1. Totals: 19 17-21 61.

Three-pointers: MH 6 (Manchester 5, Leibfried 1); FA 6 (Quamme 2, Kloplic 1, Geiger 1, Samuels 1). Fouls: FA 19, MH 16.

Fouled out: Geiger



Evan Leibfried and Mount Horeb’s boys basketball team put together a terrific second half and pulled away from Fort Atkinson last Friday. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

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Applications are due by noon Friday, March 27.

**VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB**

EOE

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Location: Mazomanie, Wisconsin

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- Perform equipment maintenance.
- Accurately record data, and maintenance activity in logs and computer systems.
- Stay current with industry advancements, best practices, and regulatory changes related to wastewater treatment.
- Learn to operate the sludge removal process and learn laboratory practices.

Required Qualifications:

- High school diploma or equivalent.
- Strong work ethic and willingness to learn.
- Ability to work effectively in a team environment.
- Basic mechanical aptitude.
- Valid driver's license and reliable transportation.
- Reside within 30 minutes of the facility for on-call emergencies.

Ideal Qualifications:

- Basic or advanced wastewater operator's license in the State of Wisconsin with any of the following subgrades: A1, B, C, P, D, L, and SS.
- Experience in wastewater treatment plant operations.
- Wastewater lab experience.

Compensation: Competitive wage with excellent benefits, Wisconsin Retirement System, paid vacation, sick leave and clothing allowance.

Application Process: To apply for this position, please submit your resumé, cover letter, and any relevant certifications or licenses to Jeff Moyer, Wastewater Superintendent, at daneiwawwtf@gmail.com. Interviews will be scheduled beginning the week of March 16.

EOE

Manchester a finalist for Mr. Basketball

Mount Horeb star one of five players in the running for prestigious award

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

Mount Horeb senior standout Josh Manchester has been named a finalist for Wisconsin’s prestigious Mr. Basketball award. The award is given by the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association.

Only seniors are eligible for the Mr. Basketball Award.

Manchester is averaging 29.6 points per game for a Mount Horeb team that is 21-5, tied for the Badger Small Conference title and won a WIAA Division 2 regional championship last week. Manchester, who missed seven games mid-way through the season with a separated shoulder, is also averaging 4.3 rebounds per game.

“It’s definitely a big honor,” Manchester said. “I think about all the work that I’ve put in, and everyone who has supported me along the way.

“My family has always been there for me and always has my back. I’ve got to give them a lot of the credit.”

The five finalists include (alphabetically):

- **Yusef Gray Jr., West**

JOSH MANCHESTER

ALL-TIME TOP 10 IN STATE SCORING



WISCONSIN BOYS BASKETBALL CAREER POINTS LEADERS

1 • Anthony Pieper	3,391
Wausau (1989-1993)	
2 • Drew Daoust	3,096
Southern Door (2021-2025)	
3 • Xzavion Mitchell	2,824
Oshkosh North (2021-2025)	
4 • Mickey Crowe	2,724
St. Nazianz JFK Prep (1971-1975)	
5 • Chris Davis Jr.	2,688
Sun Prairie East/West/Madison East (2021-2025)	
6 • Mike Koehler	2,685
Elkhart Lake (1989-1993)	
7 • Cody Schmitz	2,654
Gale-Etrick-Trempelau (2020-2024)	
8 • Sam Dekker	2,593
Shaboyan Lutheran (2008-2012)	
9 • Sam Okey	2,539
Cassville (1991-1995)	
10 • Josh Manchester	2,513*
Mt. Horeb (2022-2026)	

SOURCE: WISCONSIN BASKETBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION PHOTO BY JACOB RUMBACH

Allis Central — Averages 24.5 points, 6.9 rebounds and 4.0 assists per game. Gray, an Iowa State recruit, suffered a season-ending labrum injury on Feb. 12.

• **Amare Hereford, Beloit Memorial** — The standout guard is averaging 36.4 points, 9.0 rebounds and 5.4 assists per game for a Purple Knights team that went 22-2 in the regular season.

• **Andrew Jensen, Kaukauna** — The DePaul recruit is averaging 17.9 points and 13.2 rebounds per game.

• **Josh Manchester, Mount Horeb** — Now ranks 10th in state history in scoring with 2,513 career points. Manchester could pass former Cassville standout Sam Okey at No. 9 (2,539) with a big game in

the sectional semifinals.

• **Zavier Zens, Wisconsin Lutheran** — Northern Iowa recruit has helped lead the Vikings to a 26-0 record as they gun for a third straight WIAA Division 1 state title. Zens is averaging 24.1 points, 5.3 rebounds and 4.4 assists per game. He’s also shooting 63% from the field and 42% from three-point range.

Since 1982 the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association has awarded the most outstanding senior basketball player in the state the honor of Mr. Basketball. Nominees are determined by a committee of current WBCA Executive Board members. Voting for the honor is handled by a panel of WBCA Hall of Fame Coaches.



Mount Horeb’s Josh Manchester (3) is one of five finalists for the prestigious ‘Mr. Basketball’ award handed out by the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

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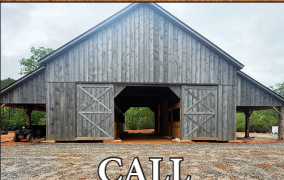
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