



continued on page 10

HOLY WEEK

Worship & Celebrations

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

315 East Main St., Mount Horeb

Join Us For
Worship
This Easter!

Maundy Thursday Worship 11:00 am & 7:00 pm

Good Friday Community Worship at
Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mt. Horeb, 1:00 pm

Easter Sunday Worship 7:00 am & 9:00 am

Worship services are also available online on
Facebook, YouTube, and at www.elcmthoreb.org

NEW HOPE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

COME AND WORSHIP WITH US!

Easter
HE IS RISEN!

Good
FRIDAY

Communion Service
6:00PM

Easter
SUNDAY

Breakfast - 9:00AM

Egg Hunt - 9:30AM

Worship Service - 10:00AM

639 S. 8th Street, Mt. Horeb | www.newhopeefc.org

Celebrate Easter with GOOD NEWS

- ✝ Good Friday 6:30 p.m.
- ☀ Easter Sunrise Vigil 6:30 a.m.
- 🍷 Free Easter Breakfast 7:30 a.m.
- 🥚 Kids' Egg Hunt 8:15 a.m.
- 🌿 Easter Festival Service 9:00 a.m.

Good News Lutheran Church
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ZWINGLI UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST - PAOLI

A Small Church with a Big and Open Heart

JOIN US FOR

Palm Sunday • 9:30am

March 29th

Maundy Thursday • 6:30pm

April 2nd

Good Friday • 6:30pm

April 3rd

Easter Sunday • 9:30am

April 5th

We're the little church by the "Roundabout" nestled in the
countryside - corner of Hwy 69 & PB south of Paoli.

All are welcome!
paoliucc.com

join us for

Holy Week

Vermont Lutheran
CHURCH

Palm Sunday

March 29 | 9:30am

Maundy Thursday

April 2 | 7:00pm

Easter Sunday

April 5 | 9:30am

WORSHIP + WITNESS + WOODLANDS

9886 Vermont Church Rd | Black Earth | vermontlutheran.org

He is
Risen

"I know that you seek Jesus who
was crucified. He is not here;
for He has risen" (Math. 28:5-6)

Celebrate Easter With Immanuel

PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP
Sunday March 29th at 10am

EASTER EGG HUNT
Sunday March 29th 3-5pm

MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP
Thursday April 2nd at 7pm

GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP
Friday April 3rd 7pm

EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP
Sunday April 5th at 10am

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
310 W Main St, Mt. Horeb

MIDLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

10235 CR-KP, Mazomanie

GOOD FRIDAY • APRIL 3^R • 6PM

EASTER SUNDAY • APRIL 5TH

Breakfast | 8:00-9:30 AM

Sunrise Service | 7:30-8:15 AM

Worship Service | 9:30-10:30 AM

🖼 Free Easter Portraits

🥚 Easter Egg Hunt & Sunday School

🚗 Transportation Available

🤝 All Are Welcome - Come As You Are!

**FREE
COMMUNITY
BREAKFAST!**

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Mt. Horeb - Hollandale - Barneveld
Perry - Blanchardville - Ridgeway
stfranciswis.org

Holy Redeemer Church - 8:00am
10070 Spring Valley Road - Perry

**Immaculate Conception
Church - 9:00am**
100 Church Street - Barneveld

St. Ignatius Church - 10:3

Medical examiner releases name of man who died in local shooting

The Dane County Medical Examiner’s Office released the name of the man who died following an officer-involved incident on March 15 in the Town of Springdale. The individual was identified as: Eric B. Pottinger, 44, of Madison. Pottinger was pronounced deceased at a local hospital on March 15, 2026.

A forensic autopsy was completed at the Dane County Medical Examiner’s Office on March 16, 2026.

This death remains under investigation by the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) and the Dane County Medical Examiner’s Office.

A New Version of LINKcat Will Go Live on April 17

A new version of LINKcat will become available for South Central Library System users on **Friday, April 17.**

The transition to the new software will begin at 5pm on Sunday, April 12 and continue through Thursday, April 16. **LINKcat and the**

LINKcat mobile app will be unavailable during that time. Library locations will still be able to offer limited services to users—check with your local library for specific details about hours and services available during the transition. During this offline period, due dates on library items will be extended

to ensure minimal impact for users. Additionally, overdue fines will not be incurred during this period.

New features in LINKcat include the ability to manage Overdrive/Libby checkouts and holds from within LINKcat. There will be sev-

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Letters to the Editor

Kelley will protect historic qualities

I was grateful for the efforts Michelle Kelley put into the community awareness campaign as our Village Board reviewed the potential development on Main Street. She will be a fresh voice as a village trustee and one I believe who will look out for our village’s unique historic qualities. She has my vote.

Patty Schlafer

Downing cares

April 7, I will be again voting for Pat Downing for Dane County Board.

Pat Downing has been a hardworking and tireless advocate for this community for decades, representing District 30 on the Dane County Board for 20 years and serving as Town of Perry Chair for over two decades. He has been living here as a contributing member of this community all along, in addition to helping to lead it. He cares about the same things we care about. He has been steadfast, capable and thoughtful in his leadership.

Pat Downing deserves to be re-elected to the Dane County Board on April 7.

Sincerely,

Charlotte-Ann Chenery

Downing has served well

I’m excited to again vote for Pat Downing as our Dane County District 30 Supervisor on April 7. The Dane County Board is an important unit of governance that often gets overlooked be-

tween our larger state and smaller municipal governments. Pat has served us well, proving so through reelection. He communicates well with the western Dane County constituents he represents and with his County Board colleagues, getting things done on our behalf. His experience works to our advantage. Please join me in re-electing Pat Downing to the Dane County Board.

Thanks,

Jennifer Gottwald

Downing supports area seniors

I am supporting Pat Downing for Dane County District 30 Supervisor. I urge all older adults in District 30, Western Dane County to consider voting for Downing. He has been very supportive of older adult programs in Dane County including the ADRC, the Area Agency on Aging and the Dane County Senior Center programs that strive to help Senior stay in their homes as they age. He has promised me that he will continue to support these programs if reelected. Thank you for this opportunity to support Supervisor Downing.

Esther Olson

Senior Advocate

2026 Rotary Club Senior

Services Awardee

Downing supports public safety

District 30 Supervisor Pat Downing has stated that “The most important duty we have is to provide for

the health, safety and general well-being of our constituents.” I believe Pat is the best candidate to fulfill this duty for the residents of District 30. Pat took this duty very seriously as our Town of Perry Chairman for 24 years, and since 2006 has fulfilled this duty as our District 30 Dane County Supervisor. I am supporting Pat in this election because he understands that a large part of fulfilling this duty is not to vilify other Districts or Communities within Dane County, but work with them, and most importantly listen to his District 30 constituents and, not by “Warming his County Board seat, or other Board seats before that” as some have accused him, but by knocking on doors, talking to us, and consistently working hard, on issues that directly impact our wellbeing, such as, promoting the viability of farming, advocating for local Fire Departments and EMS, providing for mental health services, helping to protect local Cultural and Historical values, securing funding for our roads, working to help seniors in Southwest Dane County, and helping to bring us reliable broadband service. I also know by talking with Pat, that he does support funding for more Dane Co. Sheriff Deputies, as we also do here in the Town of Perry, and as does our Dane County Towns Association. My experience working with Pat over the last 30 plus years is that he has the commitment, determination, and work ethic to represent our local voices.

Sincerely,

Mick Klein Kennedy,
Town of Perry
Supervisor 2

Downing listens to constituents

Last week’s *Mt. Horeb Mail* asked important questions of candidates running for District 30 Board of County Supervisors. Pat Downing’s answers made it clear to me that he will be my choice. His years of experience and an understanding of Mount Horeb’s unique character within Dane County were demonstrated. Pat also knows the importance of protecting surrounding farmland and rural beauty while managing county-wide issues. Dane County continues to grow. I trust Pat Downing to listen to local voices and to be responsible for careful planning and responsible use of the county’s resources.

Pence Revington

Downing helps rural areas

It is important in the upcoming County Board election, for District 30, that we recognize proven leadership, governmental experience and dedication, and re-elect Pat Downing. Pat has always been a champion of the more rural areas of District 30, which he has represented for 20+ years, plus his 24 years of experience as Town of Perry chair, all provide the kind of knowledge basis we need at the County Board level. Please join me and vote Pat Downing April 7.

Wayne Hefty – 13 1/2 years (but now retired)

Town of Springdale
Supervisor 1

Barry backs Downing

I writing to offer my support for Pat Dowing, candidate for re-election to the

Dane County Board.

I’ve known Pat for many years. He’s diligent, thoughtful and a good listener. Don’t always agree, but he’s an ethical man who sincerely cares about our community and puts in the work to fairly represent all of us. I’d call him a ‘country liberal’ as he’s a guy who seeks to preserve the quality of our land and water while looking out for the farmers and residents who live here. He is not a big spender and has his priorities about right with solid support for maintaining good roads, public safety and an accountable but compassionate human services system.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Barry

Primrose resident and
former County Executive

Downing has earned re-election

I am Kelly Altschul, a member of Springdale’s Town Board. After reading last week’s question and answer piece showcasing the two candidates for Dane County Board’s District 30 seat I felt compelled to write in to voice my support for Patrick Downing, our incumbent District 30 representative, and to encourage everyone to get out and vote on April 7th.

Please pull out last week’s paper and read the thoughtful responses that Patrick submitted, and compare them to the responses of his opponent. Patrick’s responses demonstrate his knowledge and understanding of the issues and projects that affect our district, as well as a clear understanding of the role that the County plays in our rural district. And please compare those responses to those of his opponent.

His opponent’s focus on Sheriff Department services is valid - as District 30 is reliant on the Sheriff for most

law enforcement services - but his various statements about deputy positions being “slashed” is misleading, if not wholly inaccurate. In reality, the County froze hiring for 20 unfilled Sheriff’s Department positions for one year, rather than cut any positions at all. The Sheriff himself stated that this will mostly affect staffing at the jail. This decision was made for the purpose of controlling the county budget, and similar controls were implemented at every County Department, rather than singling out the Sherriff’s Department. This was a fiscally responsible budget decision that did *not* single out the Sheriff’s Department.

Patrick’s opponent’s responses also include petty, unfounded statements about Patrick that are just as inaccurate as his statement about the County slashing the Sheriff’s deputy positions. He states that “My opponent has ... zero new ideas and apparently zero new energy”. But, in reality, Patrick has sponsored 305 ordinances and resolutions over the years, including 12 in 2025 alone. The majority of these actions directly benefited District 30. Several were grants for District activities, including one directly to the Village of Belleville, and several were budget amendments and contracts to improve District 30 roads and highways. Patrick also sits on 4 County Board Committees, including the Committee on Environment, Agriculture and Natural Resources, and the Land Conservation Committee. Patrick clearly has ideas and has consistently showed up for District 30.

Patrick has lived in rural District 30, outside of New Glarus, his entire life and has donated many years to advocating for his community either on the Town of Perry Board or on the Dane County Board. This kind of dedication is rare and demonstrates the kind of commitment that we should be proud to re-elect. If you’ve ever had the pleasure of meeting him you know that he is honest and hardworking. He represents us well and he absolutely deserves our support and our votes. Please make sure you get to polls on April 7th and join me in supporting him.

Sincerely,

Kelly Altschul

Town of Springdale

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Blue Mounds Village Board OK’s new website

By ABIGAIL KARBUSICKY
Mount Horeb Mail

The Blue Mounds village board voted on a new website, heard from the school and deferred a controversial ordinance, in an action-filled board meeting March 11.

The village will have a new website, after state law required all villages to have an ADA compliant website by 2026 or 2027.

Village President Paul Baum said the village had five vendors come back with bids, and costs ranged from \$5,000 to \$15,000, with implementation time of about two to three months with some exceptions.

Baum told the village board his top two choices were Revise, at \$8,000 over

four years. He said Revise’s cost did not include the text and email updates for village residents, but did have a modern calendar function. The other contender, Municipal Impact, cost \$5,000 over four years, with the text and email alerts included, but a slightly less modern calendar function.

The board supported Municipal Impact, noting the value of automatic alerts to village news, and voted to pursue a contract for a new website.

Baum also shared a reminder of the code of conduct for public comment during meetings, and some change in policy. He said villages are not required to offer public comment, but

Blue Mounds does.

“Unfortunately some people have abused this privilege, bringing up old grievances, even some personal attacks,” Baum said. “Common courtesy has sometimes been lacking, so I want to say publicly that disruptive behavior will not be tolerated, however we will continue to have public forum time on our agendas”

Baum said the village would keep allowing public comments during public comment time, but going forward would not allow the public to interject during the rest of the meeting. Most municipalities do not allow citizens to comment after the public input session has closed.

The village board also

heard a presentation from the Mount Horeb School District on student learning and success.

School board president Adam Mertz said the village has been very supportive of the school through passing referendums, and he wanted to share with the board the “return on investment” with students coming out of the school district.

Mertz said the school district consulted the community, and came up with qualities and skills that parents, students and the school want students who graduate to have. These qualities included students who are persistent learners, critical thinkers, effective communicators, responsible deci-

sion makers and respectful contributors.

Superintendent Steve Salerno said the school district wanted to show the board the strength of the students coming out of the district.

“You’ve invested so generously in our schools, we feel like we owe you these deliverables by the time the student leaves our K-12 program,” Salerno said.

Also at the meeting, the village board deferred a decision on setting a grease and oils inspection ordinance due to public concerns on the subject.

Baum said the village needs this ordinance in effect to basically codify the village’s right to inspect a

new building.

Resident Audra Anderson said during public comment she was concerned the village board didn’t hold a public hearing on the ordinance change so the public could share more thoughts.

Board member Steve Burbank agreed with Baum the proposed ordinance was pretty straightforward, but thought the village should table the decision due to the scrutiny from residents.

After considering some street options, the village board decided to approve use of Division Street for the Cruise In car show in September. The car show will close the street every Tuesday in September.

As April 7 election nears, Blue Mounds Village Board candidates answer final questions

Shanna Amble, Curt Winter, Bob Messinger and Jason Dorgan are running for two seats on the Blue Mounds Village Board. There are two trustee seats open for a two-year term beginning the third Tuesday in April. Amble, Winter and Dorgan replied to our final questions. Messinger did not.

What are your top three priorities if elected to the board?

Curt Winter: Improve communication between the Village and its residents. Make monthly meetings more orderly and effective. Continue and enhance the services provided.

Shanna Amble: I want to increase community involvement in the village board. We can increase involvement by making sure the village board is accessible to every resident. This can be done by streaming meetings and committees online, putting supporting information for the agenda, i.e. the board’s ‘packet’ online, and making sure it is easier for residents to communicate with their board.

Dorgan: I plan to reach out to businesses, residents and village staff to understand their concerns and joys of living and working in Blue Mounds. As a new board member I know I will have a steep learning curve, but plan to do a deep dive into the budget, village ordinances and village staff perspectives to understand fully where we are at to help mold my decisions while on the board. I want to assure fairness for all members of our village whether that is with property tax assessments,

bills to the city or access to village resources.

Do you believe Blue Mounds is on the right track in terms of economic development? What benchmarks should the village use to gauge its progress in this area?

Winter: I’m eager to learn about the benchmarks that have already been reached within the current plan. Given today’s global uncertainties, it’s a perfect opportunity to review the existing plan and explore alternative strategies to maximize opportunities for the Village.

Amble: Economic development is part of the village board’s responsibilities. The board can and should be working to make sure storefronts are filled, making sure business owners feel supported, and making sure community members can get services locally.

Dorgan: Generally, yes. As a village we should support our businesses and possibly do an annual survey of what is going well and what could be approved. Such a survey could be extended to our residents and neighbors like the state and county parks. Relative to benchmarks there are many similar sized villages near us and we could reach out to them to better understand their successes and failures.

Are you well versed in open government laws and Robert’s Rules of Order? What other steps would you take to ensure transparency in local government?

Winter: The question seems to imply that local government lacks transparency. I am interested in whether our local government has an abundance or shortage of transparency. From what I’ve observed, every effort is made to maximize openness. As for Robert’s Rules of Order, I’m not as familiar as I’d like to be, but I plan to improve; I believe most meeting attendees would benefit from revisiting these rules, which could help restore decorum and order.

Amble: I have been attending village board meetings as a community member for the last two years. I have an understanding of how the village board runs. I have also been reading resources from The League of Wisconsin Municipalities.

Dorgan: I am versed in the RRoO through my participation on other boards. I understand the concept of open government and know there are important rules to follow as a board trustee. I plan to deepen my knowledge of both if elected. I see this [steps to ensure transparency] as lots of listening and communicating.

What are your thoughts on if and how the village should grow?

Winter: I focus on the prosperity of the Village rather than just growth. The cost of services compared to tax revenue isn’t always profitable. Our infrastructure is aging and facing increasing demands. I believe prosperity will depend on balancing controlled,

planned growth and managing expenses.

Amble: The village needs to grow to maintain services, but we need to be smart about that growth and have an overall plan on how to grow. This starts with community conversations about what residents would like to see in growth for the village.

Dorgan: It is my understanding that our village is limited in the amount of growth possible due to our water tower capacity and to a lesser extent to the availability of developmental land. I would plan to review our options for increasing the water tower capacity in an economical matter as required. I think a good approach is to create a village supported citizen’s committee to brainstorm what type of businesses and growth we want in our community.

What is the village government currently doing right?

Winter: Like many residents, I don’t know exactly what the Village government is doing right. However, our streets are clean and well maintained, roads and public areas are orderly, and the town office manages both daily operations and numerous new or updated procedures from county and state governments. I think the Village government gets more things right than we realize.

Amble: The new website is a great start towards increasing accessibility.

Dorgan: I like the events that come through the vil-

lage whether that is the long standing Horrible Hilly Hundred, the more recent Cruise In car shows, Hooterville Days and Art Show or the new idea of a Dream Maker craft fair at the village park, all are good for the village to support. I like automatic water payments and bills and feel that keeps village expenses as low as possible.

What could it do better?

Winter: There’s always room for improvement. My impression of the Village Clerk and Public Works Department is that they are committed to doing their jobs excellently. I praise their dedication and pride in their work.

Amble: The village board can take the progress of an updated website further by posting board meeting documents like the packet online and provide online viewing of meetings and committee hearings for residents.

Dorgan: I think the month board agenda needs to have more information on it such that a lay person reading it could understand if the topic is important to them. For example, at the March board meeting there was an agenda item simply called “street use permit for car show”. The board packet had more complete information, but a title stating the car show could be on Division street and from May through September would be helpful. Some of this lack of information could be regulatory based and I suspect the new village website will be helpful in sharing information better.

Explain how you would bring different ideas to the table, and even disagree, in a way that is productive, helpful, and does not detract from civil discourse:

Winter: Open-minded individuals who respect each other can discuss various options and reach agreements. Rational people see greater success through compromise rather than stubbornness. It’s essential to present issues in a spirit of reasonable interaction, without exaggeration, insinuation, or drama.

Amble: These are our neighbors and we are all trying to do our best for Blue Mounds. This is what I keep in mind as I have been attending board meetings, listening to residents, and running a business for the past 19 years.

Dorgan: As a non-partisan board I believe we are in a good position to do what is best for the village without the tensions of politics. I would be an outside voice, based on being a relatively new resident and I am not beholden to any previous grudges. As an engineer I like to think I am good at basing my decisions on available facts and input from others. I believe I am a good listener and will be able to bring good sense and perspective to the board.

What is the biggest threat to current residents’ high quality of life?

Winter: We ourselves can greatly impact prosperity, growth, and the quality of life in the Village. How

Grabe lays out her positions on education as she readies to join Mount Horeb school board

Elizabeth Grabe is running unopposed for a seat on the Mount Horeb Area Board of Education in the April 7 election.

What are your top three priorities if elected to the board?

Elizabeth Grabe: Priority one is to observe and learn how the board operates, and to be a representative for accountability, oversight, and transparency.

Are you well versed in open government laws and Robert’s Rules of Order?

Having served on various government and service organizations committees, I have experience with Robert’s Rule of Order. During my tenure as a member of village Sustainability and Natural Resources and Tourism committees, I am keenly aware of public meeting protocols, following policies and procedures in communications such as avoiding walking quorums, and using appropriate interaction and communication between board members.

What steps would you take to ensure – or hopefully even enhance – transparency in local government?

My roles within organizations I am involved with currently focus on project management, communications and outreach. If elected I plan to continue to provide information to the public as I have an educational background in journalism and hold a degree in communications. My hope is to bridge the gap and provide “sunshine” to the public of the work being done with the Board of Education.

While consensus is good and productive, group-think poisons the democratic process. Respectful, robust debate is the bedrock of local governance. How will you balance the need to work together with the need to think (and speak) independently?

During meetings I have taken the position of bringing forth thought-provoking views, and the “what if” perspective outside of the consensus. Even if viewpoints do not align completely with the group or my own feelings. It is important to have an alternate viewpoint brought into the discussion as a litmus test for fairness.

What is the school district currently doing right?

The school system en-

countered great challenges after the school shooting incident and continues to take strides addressing the aftermath. Providing a safe learning environment and mental health services is one facet of resilience I am familiar with having met members of the district staff, including the service canine, Crumble. This is one example of how the district was able to find resources to improve school safety, as well as continuing to provide ongoing care for the students.

I also support the decision to replace one of the district’s outdated school buildings. One of the steps taken to reduce cost was planning and designing the facility in-house as part of the construction process.

Our schools are in a hard place, positioned with inflationary costs, and revenue caps in state funding tied to enrollment. This makes retaining students a priority as well as attracting new open enrollment students by delivering a high quality, and relevant education experience. Providing our students safe, modern, and updated facilities helps move the needle in the right direction.

What could it do better?

Since I am not a parent of school-age children, I no longer have direct day-to-day contact with the district. However as a candidate knocking on doors canvassing, I was able to talk to parents in this and other school districts. I often heard about the challenges facing parents with special needs students. The state does not provide sufficient reimbursement of funding for special education, the amount is around thirty-three cents for each dollar spent, and our schools wind up picking up the tab.

Many teachers are sounding the alarm about troubling trends regarding academic integrity caused by A.I., which makes cheating incredibly easy. Many reliable reports show A.I. is now doing much of the schoolwork for many students. How can local schools ensure that students are actually engaging with the material and learning vital life skills, particularly in an environment where cheating is easy to do and very difficult to detect?

Pew research recently published that 54 percent of students use artificial intelligence for school work.

The new technology is becoming ingrained in to-

day’s workflow and research methods. My concern is that students may not have opportunities to utilize critical and creative thinking skills used in the learning environment of their predecessors. Do our students know how to verify information and understand that it may not be peer reviewed?

Students need to understand the reliability of research using AI isn’t 100 percent accurate. Artificial intelligence is an emerging technology, a tool that is far from perfect. It does not replace human ingenuity. However, it can be a useful tool for brainstorming, research support, or editing as long as excessive dependence is avoided.

Students in our schools can benefit with assignments of project driven work involving skills outside of AI. The goal is to involve critical thinking in the real world, working on projects with oral defenses, and teaching guidelines of ethical use of artificial intelligence. Artificial Intelligence presents a challenge to teachers. It puts teachers in the role of determining if a student’s work is authentic, and not AI derived, adding the task of evaluating work and legitimacy when correcting homework.

With generations of data, it’s now a known fact that social media and screen time addiction are causing immense harm to young people, causing anxiety, depression and even worse. Misinformation (and disinformation) are ubiquitous, and profit-driven algorithms prey on the most vulnerable teens. What role can schools play in helping young people navigate this treacherous media landscape and stay mentally healthy?

As a coach working with executive athletes, studying human performance, mental health and wellness is ongoing for me. Managing anxiety living in a world with social media is one of the greatest challenges of living in the digital age. Smart devices bring into our homes without parental supervision what author and professor Scott Galloway calls, “a rage machine.” Parents need help finding the best practices to protect their kids. Software developers have stacked the game against self determination and empowerment; parents and schools have to bridge that gap.

I don’t have any easy solutions because this problem encompasses more than just our schools. As

parents, there comes a time when peer groups and social media have greater influence on our kids. Navigating challenges due to social media also requires person-to-person connections with each other, within the student body, and staff in our schools. From what I have observed, our district has talented staff who can encourage participation in “real life”, such as touching grass, interacting with one another, and developing critical thinking skills. By having a safe place at our schools we can help young people be prepared, and be engaged with others while developing empathy and understanding of one another.

Student engagement through school activities is the antidote to hours spent scrolling on digital devices. This includes interests outside the classroom like sports, club activities, music, and the arts. I support allowing our schools to provide guardrails allowing access to digital devices. This means doing so in an appropriate manner allowing students emergency contact when needed, without phones becoming a distraction to their learning environment.

The Mount Horeb Area School District passed a \$22,033,584 tax levy in 2025, a 21.3 percent increase from last year’s \$18,167,657. According to the DPI, the Mount Horeb Area School District’s General Aid for 2025-26 was \$14.1 million, down from \$15.5 million last year. Mount Horeb’s revenue 10 years ago was \$24 million, its revenue five years ago was \$28 million, and its revenue in 2024-25 surpassed \$36 million. Obviously, school budgeting is complex and nuanced, but Wisconsin’s school funding formula has been lamented by many people for many years. In essence it places the lion’s share of the burden on local property taxpayers, punishes districts with flat or declining enrollment, and binds the hands of local district unless they repeatedly go to referendum. Local property taxes across southern Wisconsin have skyrocketed in recent years, partially because of the way the state funds schools. Some homeowners are currently paying double what they paid in local taxes just a decade ago. The increases are driven by numerous government entities, but in general, how can local gov-

ernment balance the need to pay its bills and provide vital services with the need to keep our area an affordable place to live? Can local school boards somehow convince the state to fix the way schools are funded?

Tax payers need to be fairly represented by state legislators who ultimately determine school funding through the state budget process. Wisconsin has had a budget surplus for several years, yet capped per student funding despite increasing inflationary costs year over year.

Funding for voucher schools depletes resources for public schools. Voucher schools operate without oversight or accountability of required public school boards. These schools have yet to perform better at academic achievement than public schools. Voucher schools unfairly burden smaller communities to foot the bill for learning opportunities located too far for some students to attend.

Our neighboring communities of Arena, and Ridgeway, were forced to close their elementary schools due to declining enrollment. Elementary students in Arena since 2018 are bused to Spring Green, losing hours each day to commute to school. Imagine having a kindergarten student traveling close to an hour each way to school. Losing local schools negatively impacts the local economy, and desirability as a place to live and raise a family. This is a rapid feedback loop leading to declining enrollment.

My hope is that with the next election cycle, with possible changes to leadership of the state assembly, law makers will prioritize following state statute 118.01 which spells out, “Public education is a fundamental responsibility of the state”. Our legislators need to be accountable and support our schools, rather than burdening property tax payers while the state sits on a budget surplus. The same legislators who vote to withhold funding for schools, are sitting for photo opportunities with students from the very schools they cause hardship to.

Members of the board don’t always see eye-to-eye, but their debates are (usually) respectful and fairly good-natured, at least compared with many other government bodies. Explain how you would bring different ideas to the

table, and even disagree, in a way that is productive, helpful, and does not detract from civil discourse:

Being able to negotiate on both a fiscal and emotional level is part of my work in real estate. Having coaching experience for decades gives me the ability to listen with empathy, and be able to parse out conflicting views while finding common ground. Ethics matter to me greatly as a framework for conflict resolution. Opposing views can provide insight and valuable information.

What are the school district’s biggest challenges in the coming years?

Keeping enrollment at current levels, continuing with student success, and having resilience for the future. Student achievement in our district already exceeds expectations on the Department of Public Instruction report card. The opportunity ahead is ensuring that all students thrive, including those in the middle of the achievement spectrum who can be overlooked.

Another challenge is to find innovative means of finding resources if our state continues to be out of step with funding, and to focus on sustainability for long-term fiscal responsibility.

What are the greatest opportunities moving forward?

The comprehensive plan drafted by the school district outlines a strategy and plots the course for success. Our district is one of few selected schools in the state offering the International Baccalaureate Career Related programme. With continued support of the community, our schools can innovate, prepare our youth for the work force or continuing education, and provide a safe learning environment.

What’s an important local issue you feel is not talked about enough?

As a member of several grass roots and governmental organizations focusing on sustainability, together we are executing several projects in the village. So have student groups (like the Green Team) and from what I observe, our students are passionate about trying to mitigate damage to our environment and protect our natural resources. My aim is to continue to collaborate on these projects with our students.

Gleanings

By **BARR JOHNSON**
Mount Horeb Mail

140 Years Ago- March 31, 1886

Mud! And snow. Also a little rain mixed in. Whose wagon was in the deepest?

Four young wolves and their mother were taken into Madison Tuesday. John Eggum is the happy possessor, having with the aid of strychnine succeeded in getting his grip on five of the now-a-days so much sought for animals.

S.K. Aksnes died at the residence of Christian Skogen, Tuesday, March 23d, at the age of 30 years. Mr. Aksnes emigrated from Norway three years ago with his wife, arriving first in Iowa, from whence they came here two years ago. Mr. Aksnes has since held the position as teacher of the Norwegian language in this vicinity and gave entire satisfaction. He made many warm friends both among old as well as young. He leaves a widow and a fatherless child to mourn his death.

130 Years Ago- March 26, 1896

Lohff and Hoff are building a slaughterhouse north of town.

The busiest place in town now is at Belgum’s saw mill. So much work has been piled up about the place that the hustling proprietor intends to move the mill out on a more roomy place in the near future.

August Peterson is acting as agent for the Economy Merchant Tailors of Chicago. Samples seen and orders taken at the Mount Horeb House.

The incorporation of Mount Horeb will be discussed by the Mount Horeb Lyceum next Thursday evening, at Thompson’s (the old opera) hall. The question as stated is, Resolved,

that Mount Horeb should incorporate. A chance will be given all opponents to the proposition to express themselves. Come everybody and hear what there is to say on this important question.

You will miss a rare treat if you do not hear Master Claude Abel, the boy soprano, Friday night.

The parties who took the sack of oats, marked A. B., which had dropped from a load and was placed by the wire fence near the old Brokenwagon place will do well in replacing same.

120 Years Ago- March 29, 1906

Contractor Ayen has some of the material on the ground for raising the Lutheran Church and moving the steeple, good solid oak blocks from the old log house of H. Haakeness.

Everyone said the east side school done splendid in their entertainment Saturday evening.

Horse buyers from Madison were out here Sunday inquiring about steeds for sale. Possibly this is the result of Mayor Curtiss closing the saloons tight on the first day of the week. Some people must indulge in one dissipation or another.

Andrew John of Finley arrived here last week and intends to take a summer vacation, having sold out his store interest in Finley, but still retains his land holding near that place, believing someday after the ditches are all dug land there will be worth having.

Remember the mass meeting at Blue Mounds this Thursday evening. There will be something doing we venture to predict.

Ole Qualey shipped a carload of tobacco from Riley Station a short time ago that brought him \$700.

110 Years Ago- March 31, 1916

The telephone booth near the central office has now been equipped with a device, which automatically turns on the electric light as a party enters the booth and in like manner is turned off when the party leaves the booth.

Brown and Weltzin sold Henry Witte the Gill Harry farm in the town of Cross Plains. Fred Luhman is Administrator of the farm and possession is given at once, Mr. Witte will improve the place.

Why would it not be a good investment for the village to own one of those Kerosene Tractors for road work, grading and leveling?

Mrs. John Fosshage was granted a divorce from her husband in circuit court at Madison last week, several witnesses from here were called on the case.

Mrs. Carl Bieri died at her home near Mt. Vernon Friday lost in child birth. The funeral was held Tuesday, mother and child was buried in the same casket. Mr. Bieri is left with three small children and has the sympathy of all.

100 Years Ago- March 31, 1926

Mt. Horeb Times
The high hope of the militant supporters of the “Crimson Tide” were dashed to bits when the valorous sons of our village fell twice before opposing teams at the state tournaments. The tournament ends the most glorious season in our history. A season marked with few defeats and numerous victories, capped with the winning of the Platteville tournament an event with stands alone in Mt. Horeb athletic history.

“The Phantom of the Opera” blazes new trails in

production. It’s important scenes including the elaborate opera production and the masked ball are photographed in full color by a process which has reached absolute perfection . Playing at the Parkway Theatre.

There is a Ray-o-Vac battery for every use in Radio. For sale at the Times office.

Mr. Smesrud, of Smesrud and Martin, stock buyers, informs us that this week’s calf receipts were even larger than the two previous weeks. He had not made a definite count at this time, but says that approximately 550 calves were received.

As I have disposed of my business place in Mt. Horeb known as the Yellow Front, I will close out my entire \$10,000 stock of staple merchandise at tremendous price reductions. D.A. Stoner, Mt. Horeb.

Albert Wieneke, Mt. Horeb and Herman Erfurth, Mt. Vernon are on the jury which will try Rudolph Jester for murder. The case is a very important one, and will probably last a couple of weeks.

100 Years Ago- April 2, 1926

George Lund of Mount Horeb was demonstrating the Maytag washer in Riley last Thursday. It surely can clean the dirtiest overalls clean in a short time. He sold one machine to Olaf Ankaltrud.

The Riley correspondent believes the Jesner trial in Madison will shake Madison like a one-horse tornado.

The Parkway Theatre will admit, free of charge, every couple that is to be married or taken out a license to wed during the week before and during the showing of “Married.” Either marriage certificate or license to be shown

for free admittance.

Arthur Swiggum sold three good milk cows to Mr. Bohn of Vermont Township this week.

Thirty-three horses were sold at the horse auction here last Saturday at the Baker & Walton barn.

90 Years Ago- April 2, 1936

The former Wittwer Meat Market has been rented to Bud Jenkins of Ridgeway, and will be open within a couple weeks.

Hope Fritz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Fritz, Belleville, became the bride of LaVerne Moen, son of Mrs. Lena Moen, Mount Horeb, Sunday, March 29, at Dixon, Ill.

John Engeseth and Otto Gilbertson, both of Mount Horeb, have purchased the Gier Hardware Store and will take possession May 1.

60 Years Ago- March 30, 1966

Keith Way has purchased a lot from Mr. Erfurth and has started construction of a new home on the Googan Hill near Mount Vernon.

Albert J. Daley, Daleyville, announced Monday that he is “still in the running” in election to District 42 of the newly apportioned Dane County Board of Supervisors. He came in third in the primary and will be a write-in candidate.

50 Years Ago- April 1, 1976

“Pete’s Shoe Repair” begins operations this week in the basement of the Keller Trading Company, 132 East Main. Larry (Pete) Keller has purchased Nortie’s Shoe Repair and has been training under Espeseth.

Repairs underway to the 52-miles of rural lines in the Mount Horeb Electric Utility have been allowed \$100,180 by the village Electric, Water and Sewer Commission. The village has hired a crew with two service trucks to repair and upgrade the lines following the massive ice storm.

A daughter, Karla Sue, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Terance Ladwig, Mount Horeb on Saturday, March 27, at St. Mary’s Hospital.

20 Years Ago- March 30, 2006

Doug Welshinger, former military pilot, current pilot for the Northwest Airlines and father of three kids, finalized the purchase of the Grumpy Troll March 16, after seven months of talks, research and paperwork.

Emily Jo Taylor is the name chosen by Donnie and Jessica Taylor of Mount Horeb for their daughter born Sunday, March 26, 2006, at St. Mary’s Hospital, Madison.



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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

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www.newhopeefc.org
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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
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Sunday of the month, 10 am
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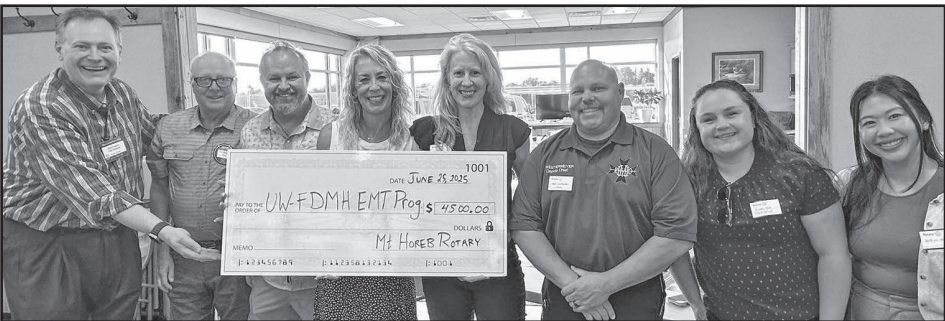
Celebrating volunteerism and non-profits in and around Mount Horeb

By Matt Geiger
Held in April every year, National Volunteer Month provides an opportunity to celebrate and recognize the contributions of volunteers. Volunteerism has a real, local impact of the lives of the people in your community, and people choose countless ways to give – be it their time, their money, their expertise or their love and support – to those around them.

The greater Mount Horeb community is made stronger by an array of non-profit organizations and the many volunteers that are their lifeblood.



Images from the Kid's Zone hosted by the Optimist Club at the Norsk July 3rd Celebration each year. Ellen Waltson had noticed that there wasn't much for the kids to do while waiting for fireworks, so she suggested they start a Kid's Zone that includes games, crafts and face painting. In 2026 they had between 100-200 kids stop by.



Mount Horeb Rotary Club proudly donates to the local Fire and EMS program.

Key groups in the community include (but are not limited to) Neighbors Helping Neighbors, which provides food, clothing, housing assistance and more, as well as service clubs like the Optimists, Lions and Rotary, which have been working to make Mount Horeb a better place for everyone for decades, buttressing public health, boosting spirits, and providing support wherever it is needed.

"I've been involved in the Optimist Club of Mount Horeb for 17 years and I have found that being part of an organization that gives back to the community you live in, helps you feel a certain sense of belonging to your community that you don't otherwise get," explained Ellen Walton, president of the Mount Horeb Optimist Club. "We all take from our community, so I feel that to balance things out we need to also give back. As humans, we are hardwired to give, which is why it usually feels better to give a gift than to receive one. We all have talents and skills that can bring a well-rounded richness to the volunteer organization that you belong to. Also, it's a great way to meet people and make friends."

Neighbors Helping Neighbors (NHN) traces its roots to the Community Clothes Closet that formed in 1997. Recognizing the community's need for a

single, centralized resource hub, Clothes Closet leadership guided efforts to establish NHN in 2019. The organization accelerated and expanded its launch in 2020 to meet the exploding need for food security and financial stability during the pandemic.

"Volunteers are the lifeblood of Neighbors Helping Neighbors—giving their time, their hands, and their compassion to lift our community one act of kindness at a time, while building meaningful relationships with one another and with the neighbors we serve," said Kate Hook and Mike Dillis, volunteer coordinators for NHN.

"Mount Horeb Rotary seeks to build goodwill and better friendships through beneficial projects here in Mount Horeb and across the globe," said Rotary's Susan Smith. "Our club meets at noon



Each year Lions Club volunteers screen about 150 children at our four preschools in the community. The specialized camera takes a picture of the pupils and lets them know if the child passes or should be referred to an optometrist for a thorough exam.

on Wednesday at Culver's and we welcome anyone interested in how our "service above self" motto is lived through our work. We currently support water and environmental projects in Chile and Guatemala and good work here to strengthen our local EMS and library."

Rotary Community Corps sponsors the Mount Horeb Green Team, which brings community members together to plant pollinator gardens, protect our birds and make the village better for bicyclists.



Some of the many volunteers who help Neighbors Helping Neighbors do its job. Photo by Brynn Bruijn.

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Recreation Notes

Our Summer Activity Guide is now available and registration is open! The guide and the link to our CivicPlus registration site can be found on our website: mounthorebwi.info/193/Recreation-Department. Get ready for a season full of sunshine, fun, and community by joining some of our wonderful programs! Some activities include:

- Smiling Trolls Summer Camp!
- Art and pottery classes!
- Rocketry and science classes!
- Coding, animation, and

video game design classes! Youth sports – baseball, soccer, rugby, tennis, kayaking, cheer, and many more!

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

- Online (go to <https://secure.rec1.com/WI/mounthoreb-wi/catalog>).
- In-person at 105 N. Grove Street.
- Place completed registration form (found on Rec Dept website) and payment in 24-hour drop box.
- Email completed registration form (found on Rec

Dept website) and payment to mhrec@mounthorebwi.info.

UPCOMING SPRING REGISTRATION DEADLINES:

- *These programs can be found on our previous ActiveNet registration site*
- 3/30: Little Folk Art Studio
- 3/31: Fun with Volleyball (4th & 5th grade)
- 4/6: Babysitting Class
- 4/7: Fun with Volleyball (6th-8th grade)
- 4/8: Track and Field Decathlon

BM BOARD

continued from page 5

we address challenges by prioritizing and following clear action plans will help remove less pressing concerns and let the Board focus on truly important matters.

Amble: The state legislature is not being a good partner in making sure Blue Mounds has the tools and resources needed. Without those tools and resources, it becomes harder for the board to meet the expectations of residents.

Dorgan: I don't know of any threat to our quality of life, but resident and business concerns need to be addressed in a timely manner.

What are the village's greatest opportunities

moving forward?

Winter: Our people represent our best asset. Within our community, there is an abundance of wisdom and expertise. We can find solutions to our toughest problems from within ourselves.

Amble: For the past 25 years I have made Blue Mounds my home. I chose to live here, raise my chil-

dren here, and start a business in Blue Mounds. I believe I want other residents to have the same opportunities in Blue Mounds that I have had.

Dorgan: I think the small town is very attractive to people and I know our affordability is important too. The bike trail and local state and county parks are a big draw to our area. We need to optimize this traffic to our village in support of our businesses whether they are services or food/drink.

What is your favorite thing about Blue Mounds?

Winter: Living here is a blessing. It's beautiful, peaceful, and safe. I'm fortunate to have great neighbors, and I believe most residents feel the same way.

Amble: The people! From folks stopping into my business when they have a few minutes, to grabbing a burger down at Hooterville. The residents of Blue Mounds are always friendly and welcoming.

Dorgan: Being close to the outdoors.

BAND SHOW

continued from page 1

Award (2019, 2022), Wurf fills the gap between complexity and groove, impressing fans and keeping them dancing all night.

For the members of WURK, this show is something of a homecoming. Most of the band's members grew up in Mt. Horeb and performed in the Viking Band Show during their high school years.

Frank Laufenberg, WURK guitarist and 2012 Mt. Horeb High School graduate, fell in love with performing due to his work in the Viking Band Show as a student.

"Mount Horeb was and



will forever be the place that I fell in love with performance and the feeling of being on stage. This love was cultivated and honed by the Mount Horeb Music Department. From singing "Everybody Needs Somebody to Love" dressed as the Blues Brothers running through the crowd at my senior year Viking Band Show, to playing guitar solos in jazz band and for solo ensemble, Mt. Horeb High School band helped me find my passion."

While some elements of the Viking Band Show have changed over time, many core traditions have remained for decades. A perennial favorite is the opening video, in which seniors write, produce, and edit a piece that fits the year's theme.

Carl Hipenbecker, WURK trumpeter and 2010 Mt. Horeb High School graduate, still recalls his senior band show video very fondly.

"I love that the seniors always have to come up with something to 'pull them away' or 'make them late' for the band show so that they have a special entrance right after the video plays. This was always so special to me. I actually still have a copy of our senior year band show intro and watch it pretty frequently."

For Max Morkri, WURK drummer and 2010 Mt.

Horeb High School graduate, this year's Viking Band Show represents a full-circle moment.

"My absolute favorite memory was from my senior year show. The Big Payback was the guest artist that year, and on Friday of the show week, I got to jam with a few members of the band on the stage during study hall," said Morkri. "It was a huge moment for me, and inspired me to continue with music as much as I could after high school. Kyle Rightley was one of the members I jammed with, and now I'm in a band with him! I also thought it would be incredible to come back as a guest artist one day, and here we are! I'm super excited to be back and share the stage where I once sat for four years."

This feeling of excitement lives on in the experiences of current band members as well.

"I remember smiling through my whole freshman band show and haven't stopped smiling at the thought of the band show since!" says senior saxophonist Molly McCue.

Mt. High School Band Board President and senior saxophonist Kait Green agrees.

"Seeing all of our hard work throughout the years finally pay off in a dramatic finale is all I can ask for in my last year of high school."

"Music classes at Mount

LIBRARY

continued from page 3

eral changes to the search feature in LINKcat, including the ability to browse authors and subjects. Other changes continue to empower users with increased control over their LINKcat accounts, adding the ability to reset a password via email, as well as updating specific contact information like email address and phone number.

Some things will change when the system becomes available. LINKcat PINs/Passwords were unable to be migrated to the new software system. All pa-

trons will need to login online using their birthday (MMDD) and can then reset their password in their LINKcat account. Detailed instructions will be shared at help.linkcat.info.

LINKcat checkout history will not immediately show up in LINKcat, but will come online at a later date for those patrons who have opted to save their checkout history in LINKcat.

Don't Miss Lists will continue to be available in the updated LINKcat after April 17. At this time the exact start date for the Don't Miss Lists has not been determined. Once live, the current month's list will be

available each month. Other lists will take more time to be added into LINKcat. More updates on the status of Don't Miss Lists will become available post go-live (April 17) at help.linkcat.info.

The "New This Week" list will not be available after the April 17 change. A replacement option may be added at a later date, but a timeline has not been established at this time.

Additional information about the planned downtime April 12-16 and new features coming to LINKcat is available in printed materials at libraries and online at <https://help.linkcat.info>.

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Mount Horeb Optimist Club supports American Legion’s Badger Boys & Girls

The Optimist Club of Mount Horeb is always happy to contribute to the American Legion and their efforts to make the Badger Boys & Girls State experience available for our youth every year! It’s a wonderful, weeklong experience that teaches high school juniors (soon to be seniors) about government, leadership and citizenship. Interested High School juniors should speak with their guidance counselors for more information on the program. Seen here in the photo is Amy Kellesvig with the Optimist Club of Mt. Horeb presenting a check to Jerry Hook with the American Legion of Mt. Horeb.

David Jeglum and Diane Dangerfield featured in special free concert in Daleyville



Perry Lutheran Church in Daleyville is hosting a special Palm Sunday Concert on March 29, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. featuring David Jeglum and Diane Dangerfield of Mount Horeb and Tom Black of Darlington, former members of the popular Old Hickory quartet who will be performing a variety of hymns and Easter music. A preconcert begins at 1:30 p.m. The public is invited. Free will offering.



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PFLAG hosts book talk by Kathy La Plante

The book entitled *The Summons* is a sweeping historical novel set during World War II about resilience, redemption, and the ties that bind us across generations.

Perfect for fans of queer historical fiction, women’s war stories, and emotionally rich family sagas, this novel invites you to journey through time, across borders, and into the heart of what it means to belong. The event will take place Wednesday, March 26 at 6:30 pm at The Garden Wall Bookshop at 101 Main St. in Verona.

ELECTION

continued from page 2

how elections work in Wisconsin.

The 2026 Election Information Hub will continue to be updated with new materials and resources as the election cycle progresses.

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Obituaries

Frances E. Chancellor

February 23, 1936 - March 19, 2026



BLUE MOUNDS - Frances E. Chancellor, of Blue Mounds, passed away on March 19, 2026, at the age of 90. She was born on February 23, 1936, in Baraboo, to Walter and Catherine Mueller. Fran graduated from Prairie du Sac High School in 1954. She met Ed Chancellor of Mount Horeb at the Black Earth roller skating rink and they were married on August 7, 1954, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Prairie du Sac.

Ed and Fran had six children and farmed together outside of Mount Horeb for nearly 40 years. They raised hogs and milked Brown Swiss cows. Off the farm, Fran was active at Springdale Lutheran Church and served as the church's Sunday School director for many years. She was a ceramics instructor, florist, a nursing assistant at Ingleside, and was the editor of a cookbook published by the Wisconsin Porkettes – a part of the Wisconsin Pork Producers Association. Fran enjoyed crafting, helping others, and got along with everyone.

Fran and Ed were the longtime owners and proprietors of the Blue Mounds Grocery and Crafts Store. After her retirement, Fran was active running the Clothes Closet with the Blue Mounds Food Pantry.

Fran is survived by her husband, Ed; her sister, Donna Van Wagenen; her children, Rick (Rita) Chancellor, Sandy (Corky) Webster, Kathy Chancellor and Mary (Joe Philipps) Chancellor; her grandchildren, Cory (Julie) Chancellor, James Chancellor, Adam (Stacy) Chancellor, Kelly Reed, Laura (Gary) Oshel, Dave (Rachel) Chancellor, John (Heather Kaarakka)

Chancellor and Joe Chancellor; 12 great-grandchildren; and many cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents; her in-laws, John and Carol Chancellor; her brother-in-law, Bob Van Wagenen; her brother- and sister-in-law, Bill and Nong Chancellor; and her sons, David and Daniel.

A memorial service will be held at SPRINGDALE LUTHERAN CHURCH, 2752 Town Hall Road, Mount Horeb, at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 4, 2026, with Pastor Jim Ranney presiding. Burial will be held at Springdale Lutheran Cemetery. Visitation will be held at the church from 9 a.m. until the time of the service on Saturday, April 4, 2026.

The family thanks Ed and Fran's neighbor, Galen Steig, the nursing staff at Ingleside, and Agrace HospiceCare for their care.

Memorials may be made to Neighbors helping Neighbors or Springdale Lutheran Church. Online condolences may be made at www.gundersonfh.com.

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

Leo D. Hull

August 31, 1941 - March 4, 2026



MOUNT HOREB – Leo David Hull age 84, passed away at home in Mount Horeb on Wednesday, March 4, 2026, after a battle with cancer. He was born in Onawa, Iowa, on August 31, 1941, the fifth child of Otho and Ida Hull. He grew up on a small farm outside Castana, Iowa. As a young child he would sit with his dad outside the grocery store and recite poetry for the other men and would sometimes get a nickel from

them.

Leo graduated from Castana High School in 1959 and enlisted in the U.S. Air Force. After completing basic training, he was trained in the Russian language and became a Radio Intelligence Operator stationed in Japan. Upon discharge he accepted a job as a business machine technician with Burroughs Corporation (Unisys) in Minneapolis. He was subsequently transferred to the Madison office where he met his future bride, Mary Jane Liegel. Leo retired from Unisys after 50 years.

Leo and Mary Jane were married June 4, 1966, and were blessed with three children, Jane, Daniel and Jason. He was assigned to a service territory in southwest Wisconsin and moved the family to Fennimore in 1967. Due to his job, he was well known around the area, greeting people he knew from work and famous for his wit and jokes. While in the Fennimore area he was active with Boy Scouts as a leader and teaching outdoor skills. He enjoyed watching his kids participate in high school athletics, particularly wrestling. He became involved with Hunter Safety and taught for over 25 years. The family moved to Dodgeville in 1986. He was elected to the Iowa County Board of Supervisors and was on the Board of Directors for the Friends of the Military Ridge Bike Trail. Leo loved the outdoors, hiking, canoeing, hunting, and camping with his family for many years. Always a born fix it man he repaired many things around the house and for others. Leo and Mary moved to Mount Horeb in 2002 to be closer to their grandchildren. He was an avid reader, especially history and crime novels. He volunteered at the Driftless Historium in Mount Horeb for several years. In his later years he was often seen around the neighborhood on his scooter walking his dog.

Leo was preceded in death by his son, Jason; his parents; his three sisters; an infant brother; and numerous in-laws. He is survived by his wife of nearly 60 years, Mary Jane; his daughter, Jane (Billy) Nixon; his son, Daniel (Ayu) Hull; his four grandchildren, Alistair

(Harry) Hart-Alesch, Zachary Alesch, Jayden Hull and Dylan Hull; three sisters-in-law; one brother-in-law; and many nieces and nephews. We will dearly miss his wisdom, wit, advice, and also the quintessential dad jokes.

The family wishes to thank Agrace for their assistance in keeping Leo at home as he wished. A memorial in Leo's name will be established at a later date.

A gathering of remembrance will be held at GUNDERSON CAMACHO MOUNT HOREB FUNERAL AND CREMATION CARE, 500 N. Eighth St., Mount Horeb, from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 7, 2026. A prayer service and military honors will follow at Calvary-St. Ignatius Catholic Cemetery in Mount Horeb.

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

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

Muriel (Babler) Olson

July 30, 1942 – March 17, 2026



Muriel (Babler) Olson passed away at home surrounded by love and prayers on March 17, 2026, at the age of 83. Born on July 30, 1942, Muriel was the younger daughter of Milton and Wilma (Stauffer) Babler. She grew up on the family farm outside of New Glarus, Wis. Full-blooded Swiss, Muriel was proud to be a descendent of one of the original founding settlers of New Glarus.

After graduating from New Glarus High School, she attended college in Platteville, Wis., graduating with a degree in education. She enjoyed teaching kindergarten in the Waukesha school district. Then, one sunny

afternoon in the middle of a cow pasture, she met a florist by the name of William Olson. Her life changed and her career—she went from teacher to “Petal Pusher;” they were married on August 23, 1969, in the Swiss Church in New Glarus.

Together, Bill and Muriel owned Olson's Flowers in Mount Horeb, Wis. Later they opened The Christmas House. Both businesses became fixtures on Main Street. Bill started his flower business in 1954. Later, with Muriel's help, they successfully operated it until 2023 when it changed hands. During that time, they produced thousands of arrangements, supplied the flowers for countless weddings, and gave service to an untold number of families at their time of loss. They were active participants within the Mount Horeb community serving on numerous committees. Muriel was part of the planning committee for all those trolls around Mount Horeb. Bill and Muriel considered their shops their “children” and devoted their lives to them. They put in a lifetime of hard work, side by side. When Bill passed away on November 6, 2020, she continued running the two shops with the help of Heidi Wittwer, a good staff, and Bill's sister, Judy Olson-Sutton. As her health started to decline, she was fortunate to remain at home with the assistance of her caregiver, Arsie Pasayloon, whose care and devotion were exemplary and valued by Muriel and her family. Muriel was also blessed to have the assistance and loyalty of her friend and former employee, Heidi Wittwer, and the help and support of Judy Olson-Sutton. A very sincere thank

you to these individuals. Also, Muriel's family wants to extend a special thank you Dr. Ann Braus (UW Clinic) for her exceptional care and to Erik Larson, Barneveld Congregational Church, for his concern and his visits.

Muriel is survived by her sister, Rhoda Staab; sister-in-law, Judy Olson-Sutton; devoted colleague, Heidi Wittwer; niece, Denise Reynolds; and nephews, Eric Staab and Gary Staab. She was preceded in death by her husband; parents; and brothers-in-law, Don Staab, Robert Sutton and Richard Olson.

A funeral service was held at BARNEVELD CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, 104 Jones St., Barneveld, at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, followed by a graveside service at White Church Cemetery, Barneveld. Visitation was held at GUNDERSON CAMACHO MOUNT HOREB FUNERAL AND CREMATION CARE, 500 N. Eighth St., Mount Horeb, from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m. on Monday, March 23, 2026, and also at the church from 10 a.m. until the time of the service on Tuesday.

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

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Spring Yard and Garden Clean Up



Graphic courtesy of Christina Morgan, Xerces Society.

Wait! That’s the advice from the EcoGardening Committee of Mound View Garden Club. They recommend this to help our pollinators and other beneficial insects. As the sketch shows, while dead brown stems may seem unsightly, they are essential habitat for many of our most useful and tiny critters.

As most overwintering insects only emerge when temperatures warm up to a

certain point, what can be done? The stems (like “natural apartment buildings”) can remain intact where they are, or can be trimmed to a height of 8-24 inches, with the trimmings scattered around your garden. While stalks are important in the insect life cycle, leaf litter is also a wonderful resource. Leave some in your garden beds.

Why? Native bees are facing severe decline. Many

tiny solitary bees hibernate within plant stems, while other bee species nest in the ground beneath mulch, leaves, or rotting logs. Fire-fly larvae, and some species of lady beetles and wasps overwinter in leaf litter. We are all aware of the decline in insect abundance. Rather than discarding them along with plant debris, you can play a role in protecting and promoting these beneficial species.

SUNN

continued from page 1

just the right staff, just the right menu,” she explained. “Everything about it, we already loved.”

She said it was exciting to take over a restaurant that was already well established in the community, and they were happy to “jump into a moving ship.”

“For the first several months, the first question from customers was always if we were going to change anything, and it was always in a very clear, protective way,” she continued. “We have not changed our menus, although we do play around a bit with our daily specials.”

Ted runs the kitchen while Becky handles the finances and soups. They want Sunn to remain healthy and wholesome, and affordable and inclusive, for years to come.

“We have a lot of vegan and vegetarian options, and we try to make everything in house and from scratch as much as possible,” she said. “Organic if possible and local if possible.”

That menu includes things like grilled and toasted sandwiches, soups, salads, sides and plenty more.

Sandwiches include the “Thai One On,” featuring a house-made spicy basil peanut butter, Havarti cheese, avocado, greens, red onion and Sriracha-strawberry jam on nine-grain bread, and the “Sunn Slayer,” their classic house-made hummus, Colby cheese, avocado, red onion, pepperoncini, tomatoes, greens and herbed oil on nine-grain bread. There are Sesame Noodles: rice



“Sunn” means “healthy” or “wholesome” in Norwegian. Photo by Matt Geiger.

ramen with scallions, cilantro & sesame seeds in a soy tahini dressing, served on greens with lemon vinaigrette. There is Lime-Cilantro Quinoa with roasted sweet potatoes, black beans and scallions in a lime-cilantro dressing. And there is Avocado Toast featuring cream cheese, microgreens, honey and red pepper flakes on toasted sourdough.

“I have never in my life been around a restaurant where the customers are so loyal that they come and eat every single day, but people do that here,” Becky said.

For her, it’s not only about food. It’s also about fellowship and the broader community.

“One of the biggest bless-

ings for me is to be out in the community,” she said. “To make more connections.”

“We get people with all different ideas and all different beliefs, all different backgrounds and all different things going on,” she said. “There is something really beautiful in that, especially in a time when people are increasingly polarized.”

Before Curtes and Peterson handed the business over, they showed them exactly how to do the things that made it a success for the prior decade.

“I think they really wanted us to make it our own, to make it ours, and they taught us everything they did and it was so clear how much care and attention to detail they had put into it, how much love they had put into it, and then they turned around and said to do things however we wanted,” she stated.

It turns out, making it their own means keeping most things the same. As one set of loving owners departs, another arrives. And this café abides, rising each day to offer nourishment in its various forms to anyone who walks through the door.

“We want the whole vibe of the place to be hopeful,” Becky said. “And happy, and good for you.”

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HIRING

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Mount Horeb’s economy reflects a blend of local entrepreneurship, agriculture, tourism, and regional employment. The community’s historic downtown along Main Stree is famous for its Norwegian-inspired culture and the iconic “trolls” that line the street. This area serves as a hub for restaur-

ants, shops, and small businesses that attract visitors from across the region. The community’s scenic beauty, as well as its small-town quality of life with nearby big-city amenities, make it a tremendous place to live, learn, work, and play!

The Village government’s elected leadership comprises a Village President and six (6) Village Trustees, all elected on a non-partisan basis. The Village Adminis-

trator oversees an annual operating budget of approximately \$33.4M, including municipal utilities and three (3) active Tax Increment Districts (TIDs). The Administrator leads a staff of 57 full-time and more than 80 part-time and seasonal employees. Future opportunities for the next Mount Horeb Village Administrator include the development of a new business park; implementation of the Mount

Horeb Recreation Complex Master Plan; implementation of an updated Village Zoning Code; protection and revitalization of Mount Horeb’s historic downtown; fostering continued housing growth; effective management of the community’s three Tax Increment Finance Districts and continued collaborative strategic planning and partnerships with the Chamber of Commerce and Mount Horeb School

District.

Starting salary range: \$125K-\$145K DOQ, plus excellent benefits.

A strong background in budget development and management, strategic planning, human resources, organizational change and development, capital improvement planning and execution, and community engagement is required. The successful candidate should be a person of high personal

and professional honesty and integrity; a team builder in addressing community issues; a good listener; and able to work with a wide variety of people and perspectives. A collaborative management style in working with Village Staff, Village Board, and community stakeholders is also highly desired. Visit the community website at www.villageof-mounthoreb.info for additional information.

READERS

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The resolution, 2025 RES-403, was referred to the Public Protection & Judiciary Committee and the Personnel & Finance Committee for further review before returning to the full county board for consideration. Whether it will have enough support there to pass is unknown.

The resolution cites concerns raised by residents, state policymakers, and privacy experts about data-sharing and use beyond the system’s original purpose, including violations of constitutional rights and civil liberties. It also reflects broader ongoing statewide discussions about ALPR technology, including reported misuse for personal

surveillance and concerns about oversight, auditing, transparency, and how searches are conducted and reviewed, said a statement issued by the county board.

Jurisdictions across the country have reevaluated or discontinued use of the technology amid similar concerns, including use in federal immigration enforcement, they said, and while Dane County Sheriff’s Office policy prohibits use of the system for immigration enforcement, questions remain about how data shared with outside agencies may be used once it leaves county control.

The sheriff’s office has granted access to Flock data to more than 140 law enforcement agencies across at least eight states, according to the board.

According to publicly available audit data from the Dane County Sheriff’s Office Flock transparency portal, a majority of the recent searches made by deputies on the Flock system were categorized as “attempt to locate” queries, rather than tied to specific alleged crimes.

“Public safety tools must not come at the expense of privacy, data protection, or fundamental human rights,” said Supervisor Chad Kemp (Dist. 32), who is the author of the resolution. “This policy affirms that principle.”

“Ending the Flock contract helps protect the privacy and civil liberties of Dane County residents and visitors,” said Supervisor Heidi Wegleitner (Dist. 2), who is a sponsor of the resolution. “Mass surveil-

lance networks like those supported by automatic license plate reader data do not support public safety; they threaten our rights and freedoms.”

The 2026 Dane County budget includes \$80,000 to fund an annual subscription to the Flock system for the Dane County Sheriff’s Office. The current subscription is set to run through May 31, 2026. If adopted, the resolution would remove that funding and prohibit further expenditures on the system.

Earlier this year, Barrett published a letter in this newspaper laying out his support for the initiative.

“In the rural areas of Dane County, public safety hinges on smart, efficient peacekeeping solutions,” he wrote. “As the Dane County

Sheriff’s Office (DCSO) continues to innovate, license plate readers (LPRs) have emerged as an intelligent resource, enhancing safety while optimizing limited resources.”

“LPRs scan vehicle plates in real-time, alerting deputies to amber alerts, silver alerts or stolen vehicles,” Barrett continued. “This technology maximizes efficiency amid surging demands. In 2025, the DCSO patrol division responded to approximately 40,000 calls for service. By automating initial scans, deputies focus on genuine threats, freeing time for community engagement and proactive service.”

He called the impact “life-saving.”

“In 2025, LPRs have assisted the DCSO solve two homicides, where armed

suspects fled the scene in vehicles, providing crucial leads that brought justice and prevented further harm. In an era where criminals leverage apps, drones, scanners, and encrypted communications, DCSO must evolve with tools like LPRs to stay ahead,” wrote Barrett. “Critics raise privacy concerns, but safeguards such as data retention limits (30 days) and internal audits ensure responsible use. For Dane County, where response times can stretch due to geography, LPRs aren’t just efficient; they’re essential for safer communities. Supporting this technology means investing in the safety of Dane County’s rural communities.”

MH BOARD

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were traditionally thin on contested races.

A total of six candidates – including incumbents Ben Jones and Jason Fendrick as well as Stephen Sopcak, Michelle Kelley, James Brager and Tamiko Clary – filed to run for two seats on the Mount Horeb Village Board this year. Fendrick and Sopcak were eliminated in a February 17 Primary Election. Jones, Kelley, Brager and Clary will now face one another again, with the top two vote-getters on April 7 each earning a three-year term on the village’s most powerful governing body.

All the candidates have already provided extensive and nuanced explanations of their reasons for running and their policy positions. They have appeared in the newspaper repeatedly, and they met on Saturday, March 14 for a live forum at Mount Horeb High School.

As the election approaches, they all, once again, took the time to answer a question from us. This time, it was simple. We asked: “**What do you want Mount Horeb to look like in five years? In 10? In other words, what is your vision for the community?**” They were given no limit on the length of their answers.

“My vision for Mt. Horeb [includes a] sustainable

downtown without losing the charm by adding too many apartments to Main Street with solid buildings from corner to corner,” said Tammy Clary. “Sustainability does need to flow into affordable business rents.”

“Keep property taxes low through conscientious spending and living within our means,” she continued. “Controlled housing growth at a slow steady pace. Engaged Village Residents determine how Mt Horeb grows and where.”

“My hope and expectation is that in five and 10 years Mount Horeb will look like the same community we know today, just even better,” said Ben Jones. “Over the next five years, I expect the Village will continue to grow at a steady pace, maybe a few percent per year. That would be slower than some of our previous high-growth decades and should allow us to absorb new residents while maintaining the strong sense of community that defines Mount Horeb. Based on the zoning framework the Village has established, this growth will largely be of the kind that supports affordable family life and creates a sustainable community. I also hope we will see the Luken Farm property developed into a great new community park with ballfields and amenities that serve families throughout the Village.”

“In ten years, I hope our historic downtown remains

the heart of the community, with local retail and restaurants continuing to dominate Main Street and the surrounding blocks,” said Jones. “Any residential portions of development there should blend naturally into the existing streetscape and traffic patterns. At the same time, I would like to see new areas of the Village attract larger employers that strengthen our local job market and expand the tax base in ways that support municipal services.”

“With some commercial growth and ten years of disciplined budgeting, I think we will see our tax rate improve compared to our peers in Dane County without sacrificing services,” Jones continued. “That progress will not happen without a Board that takes the long view and examines tradeoffs honestly. Our regional partnerships will be stronger, with benefits to commerce and public safety. And of course, I hope we continue to celebrate the things that make Mount Horeb unique, our festivals, our civic organizations, and maybe even a few more trolls.”

“The key is recognizing that Mount Horeb cannot simply freeze itself in time, nor can we ignore the hard choices and tradeoffs we will face,” Jones concluded. “If we try to keep everything exactly as it is today, the community will still change, often in ways we don’t want.

Thoughtful growth, careful planning, and disciplined decision-making are how we preserve what makes Mount Horeb special while ensuring it remains a thriving community for the next generation.”

“My answer to both five years and ten years is the same,” replied Michelle Kelley. “My vision puts education and heritage at the forefront to create economic benefits for all. We will have a strong public school system that is known throughout the state for its excellence. We will be known as a forward-thinking community that is experimenting with new ideas across the fields of education, community building, and commerce. We will have a vibrant historical district that makes us unique along with some of our neighboring communities where we focus on our culture and independent businesses that bring creativity to our community.”

“Mount Horeb is a special and beautiful place; a great place to grow up, raise a family, and grow older,” said James Brager: “As we think about our important choices for this election, it is important to remember this as we think about how our village will look in five years, 10 years, and further into the future. The choices we make now will help dictate how Mt. Horeb looks and feels going forward.”

“As I think about this question, I think about why I choose to live here?” Brager continued. “Why do I choose to raise my family here? It is because I like our way of life here; the culture, the safety, the sense of community, and the amenities offered. I do not want to lose those great things. To be honest, in five and 10 years I would like to see Mt. Horeb remain much as it is right now, a small, safe, and welcoming community for residents and tourists alike,” he added. “If we don’t remain small and less dense in our neighborhoods, we very well may lose some of the things that brought us here, keep us here, and draw visitors here. The current Village Board wants aggressive and lasting growth similar to Fitchburg, Waunakee, Verona, and Sun Prairie. I do not want this, nor do I think it’s what the large majority of villagers want. Those communities have problems that we do not. Those communities have a ‘big box shopping mall’ feel that we do not. Those communities have an ever-expanding local government infrastructure that we do not. This is due to their leaders’ desire for ever increasing physical size, population, and density. Do we really desire to be like these places? No. We are Mt. Horeb, and we should strive to keep it the place we love, regardless of what neighboring communi-

ties do.”

“In five and 10 years, I still want to see Mt. Horeb kids riding their bikes through town, going to the pool, the golf course, and parks, without worrying about the traffic danger that large scale development cause,” Brager said. “I still want the sunshine to hit the streets of downtown Mt. Horeb, without being blocked out by more massive 5 story buildings. I want local businesses to thrive due to the charming nature of our downtown. I do not want Front Street to be turned into ‘another Main Street’, as the Village Board is so fond of saying.”

“Going into the future, I want the Mt. Horeb electorate to be as engaged as they are right now in this moment,” Brager continued. “I know my lack of engagement in the previous few years has helped lead to the point we are now, with a village board that has lost the trust and is out of touch with the people. They are proposing growth and density that a majority of us don’t want in five, 10, 20 years. My lack of engagement from previous years ends now. I want to help moderate this out-of-control growth that has plagued our community for the last few years. If we don’t control it now, it will quickly spiral out of control.”

Sports Editor
Rob Reischel
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SPORTS

Manchester named Player of the Year

Mount Horeb standout wins top honor in Badger Conference

by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor

Mount Horeb’s boys basketball team had another memorable season, winning a share of the Badger Small Conference. The Vikings also captured a regional title for a third straight year for the first time in school history.

Mount Horeb was then justly rewarded when it came to all-conference honors.

Senior guard Josh Manchester was named first-team all-conference and was named the league’s Player of the Year. Junior forward Alex Chapman and senior post Hayden Anderson were both named second-team all-conference.

Manchester was named the league’s Player of the Year for a second straight

season, despite missing four league games with a separated shoulder. Manchester was also a unanimous, first-team all-conference selection for a fourth straight year.

Manchester averaged 30.1 points per game this season and finished his brilliant career in 10th place on the state’s all-time scoring list with 2,532 career points. Manchester made a team-high 60 3-pointers and shot 83.1% from the free throw line.

Manchester also led the Vikings with 3.1 assists and 3.6 steals per game and added 4.2 rebounds per contest.

“I wasn’t sure how the conference coaches would vote with Josh missing four conference games,” Mount Horeb coach Todd

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Mount Horeb’s Josh Manchester was named the Player of the Year in the Badger Small Conference. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

Eleven MH-B wrestlers honored

Nine boys, two girls named all-conference

by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor

The Mount Horeb/Barneveld wrestlers had the best season in program history, sending seven individuals to the WIAA Division 2 state meet and crowning two state champions for the first time in school history.

The Vikings were justly rewarded as nine wrestlers received first- or second-team all-Badger Small Conference honors. MH-B coach Tim Sarbacker was also named the conference’s Coach of the Year.

MH-B senior Eli Leonard, who won a state championship at 190 pounds, was named first-team all-conference at that weight class. Leonard was also named the conference’s co-Wrestler of the Year with Stoughton heavyweight Gatlin Empey.

Vikings senior Hunter Stevens, who won a state title at 150 pounds, was also named first-team all-conference. MH-B’s dynamic duo



Mount Horeb-Barneveld’s Eli Leonard was named the co-Wrestler of the Year in the Badger Small Conference. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

was joined on the first team by freshman Maxton Stevens (132 pounds), freshman Easton Kammerud (165) and junior Eli Maier (175).

MH-B’s second-team all-

conference selections were freshman Bryce Madden (106), sophomore Drew Droessler (120), senior Timmy Kruse (144) and freshman Leland Havens (215).

Leonard enjoyed a magical year and finished a perfect 57-0. Leonard pinned previously unbeaten Sawyer Dailey (48-1) of Plymouth in their 190-pound state championship match.

Leonard also finished first at the Badger Conference meet and led the Vikings to their first-ever conference tournament championship.

Leonard, a University of Wisconsin recruit, was the

top-ranked 190-pound wrestler in Division 2, according to Wisconsin Grappler. He became the first Vikings’ wrestler to win a state championship since Matt Blome earned the 182-pound title in 2016.

“That was my goal last year,” said Leonard, who finished with a career mark of 195-12. “But I knew it was going to happen this year.”

Leonard finished second at state at 175 pounds in 2025, fourth at 165 in 2024 and fifth at 132 in 2023.

“I knew I had the ability to finish it off, but executing is another thing,” Leonard said. “I just tried to keep everything the same. From day one, that’s what the coaches preached. I did that the entire day and got the job done.”

Hunter Stevens also won a state title, defeating Jacob Lootans (49-7) of Regis/Altoona 15-0 to win by technical fall in 2:36 in the 150-pound championship match.

Hunter Stevens, who began his prep career at

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Clockwise from top left, Courtney Monroe, Lauren Mester, Nalia Craven and Magali Forlines were all named all-Badger Small Conference . Photos courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

Four Vikings named all-conference

Mount Horeb’s girls basketball players earn all-league honors

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

Mount Horeb’s girls basketball team had one of its finest seasons in recent memory.

The Vikings finished second in the Badger Small Conference, their highest

league finish in at least a quarter century. And Mount Horeb later advanced to a regional championship for the first time in 28 years.

So it was no surprise the Vikings were highly regarded when it came to all-conference honors.

Junior guard Courtney Monroe and sophomore guard Lauren Mester were both named first-team all-conference.

Junior guard Magali For-

lines and senior forward Nalia Craven were both named honorable mention all-conference. Monroe was also named to the league’s all-defensive team.

Monroe led Mount Horeb in virtually every key statistical category.

Monroe topped the Vikings in scoring at 9.8 points per game. She was also first in rebounding (5.9), assists (2.9), steals (3.1) and deflections (2.6).

“She is one of the best all-around players in our conference and area,” Mount

Horeb coach Bart Leibfried said of Monroe. “Her on ball defense is phenomenal.”

Mester had a sensational sophomore season, finishing second on the Vikings in scoring at 9.1 points per game. Mester was also second in rebounding (3.8), assists (2.6) and steals (2.1).

“She plays much bigger than she actually is and really grew into her leadership role as a sophomore,” Leibfried said of Mester.

Forlines had a big year, as well, before an ankle injury caused her to miss six games. Still, she took a huge jump and should be poised for a big senior year.

“Magali had a great season and was our third leading scorer and rebounder before she hurt her ankle,” Leibfried said. “She’s one of our stronger passers in half-court offense.”

Craven had an impressive final season and led the Vikings in field goal percentage at 40.0%.

“Nalia was an offensive spark all season hitting deep 3’s and rim running for layups,” Leibfried said.

• **Smart Vikings:** Mount Horeb had 11 girls basketball players named Academic All-State by the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association.

Players recognized must be varsity athletes from any grade level and maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5 (on a 4.0 scale).

The Vikings that earned Academic All-State honors were:

All-Badger Conference Girls Basketball

First Team

Name	School	Year
* Anna Miller	Edgewood	Junior
* Beanie Thompson	Edgewood	Junior
* Allison Charbonneau	McFarland	Freshman
Macey Faust	Edgewood	Senior
Lyla Hintz	Fort Atkinson	Sophomore
Courtney Monroe	Mount Horeb	Junior
Lauren Mester	Mount Horeb	Sophomore
Lorelei Williams	Reedsburg	Sophomore
Mallory Hartwig	Sauk Prairie	Senior
Emma Trautsch	Stoughton	Sophomore
* — unanimous		

Player of the Year — Anna Miller, Edgewood
Coach of the Year — Lora Staveness, Edgewood

Honorable Mention

Name	School	Year
Penny Teigen	Edgewood	Sophomore
Siena Rabach	Edgewood	Sophomore
Olivia Knickrehm	Fort Atkinson	Sophomore
Hannah Baldry	Fort Atkinson	Senior
Brooke DeShong	McFarland	Junior
Charlie Lueder	McFarland	Junior
Nalia Craven	Mount Horeb	Senior
Magali Forlines	Mount Horeb	Junior
Julia Chilson	Portage	Junior
Lyla Brown	Portage	Junior
Lily Engel	Reedsburg	Sophomore
Brooklyn Kaufman	Sauk Prairie	Senior
Haylie Bader	Sauk Prairie	Senior
Marlie Burke	Stoughton	Senior

All-Defensive Team

Name	School	Year
Beanie Thompson	Edgewood	Junior
Anna Miller	Edgewood	Junior
Courtney Monroe	Mount Horeb	Junior
Mallory Hartwig	Sauk Prairie	Senior
Brooklyn Kaufman	Sauk Prairie	Senior

- Julia Straka, junior
 - Courtney Monroe, junior
 - Magali Forlines, junior
 - Sammy Johnson, junior
 - Maddie Niemetscheck, junior
 - Avery Monroe, junior
 - Lauren Mester, sopho-
- more
 - Jami Chapman, sophomore
 - Rae Olson, sophomore
 - Emily Wittenwyler, sophomore
 - Isla Odgers, freshman

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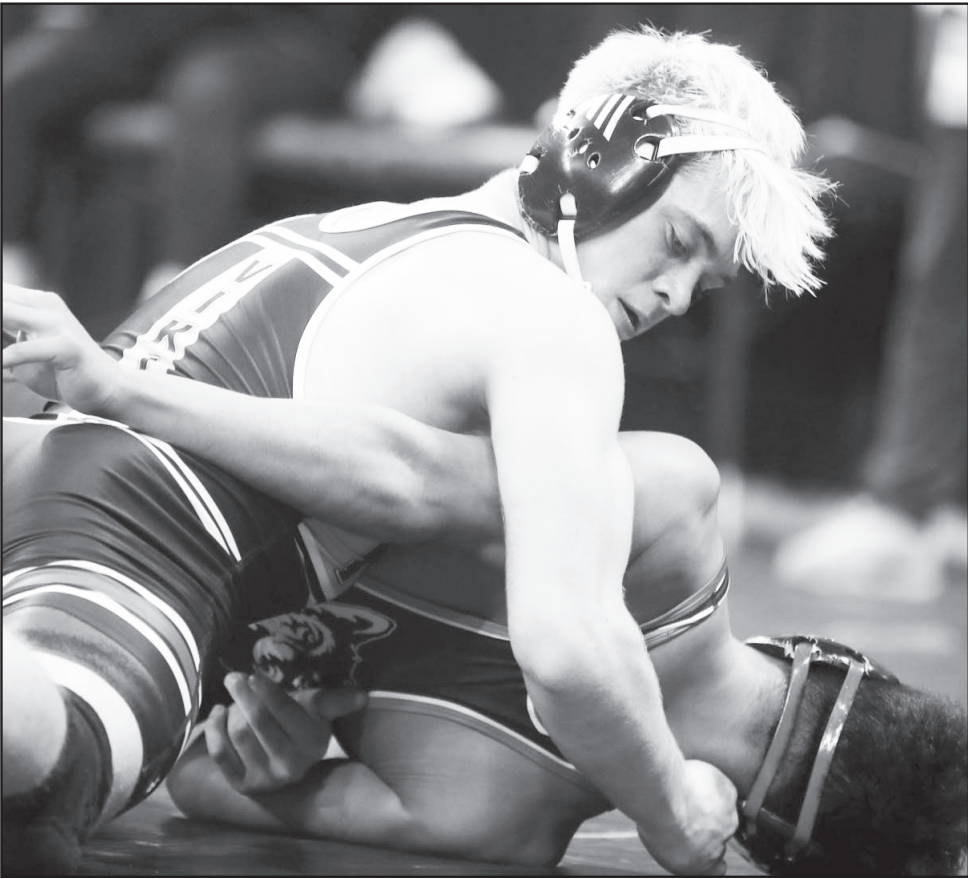
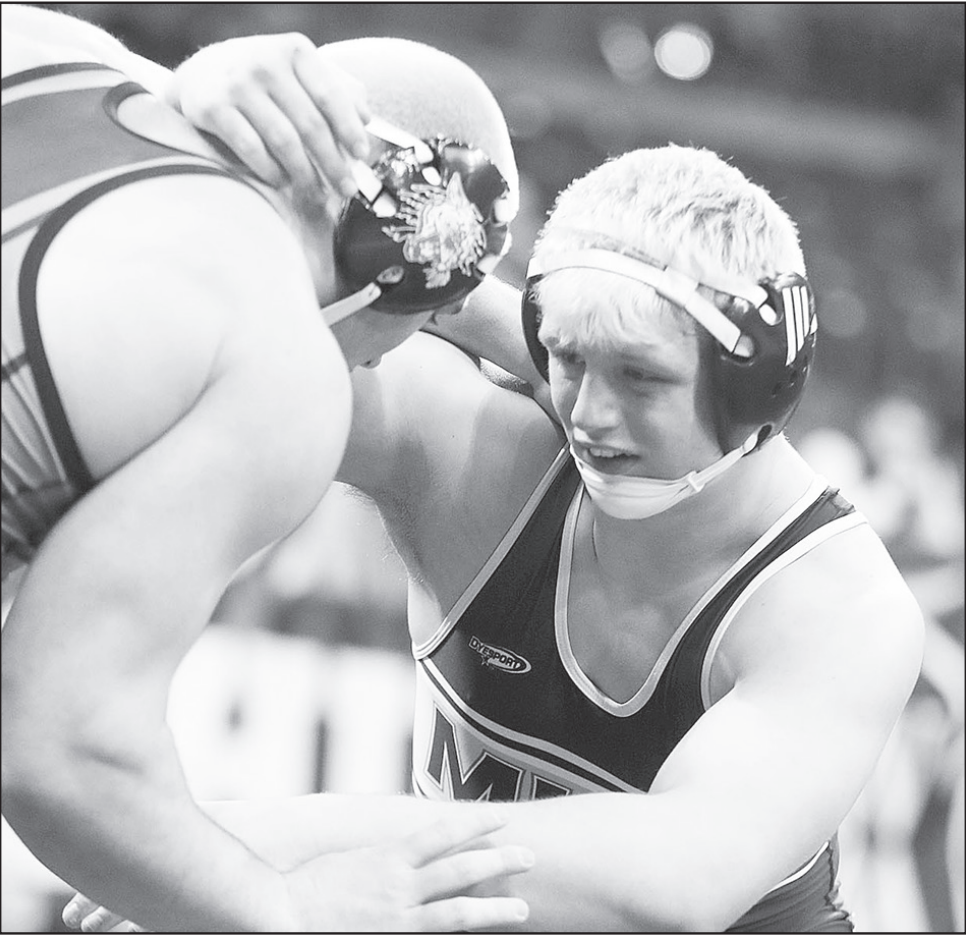
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WRESTLE

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Iowa-Grant where he was a two-time state place winner, had to sit out last year after transferring. He then made his only varsity season for the Vikings — one that included a Badger Conference title — one to remember.

“It was well worth the wait,” Stevens said. “I got back on the mat out there for the first session on Thursday. My adrenaline was up. It felt so good to be in this big of an arena and compete in front of all these people and compete against some great wrestlers. I was so grateful to be back.”

Maier and Kammerud both finished second at state.

Maier (53-5) reached the state finals where he fell to Thomas Heiser (50-1) of Evansville in that title match, 11-6. In addition, Maier finished first at the conference meet.

“Eli’s a competitor,” Sarbacker said of Maier. “He’ll

be working really hard to come back. We’ll get him next time. He’ll bounce back. He’ll be the first one in the (wrestling) room tomorrow after a tough loss like that.”

Kammerud also reached the state finals, where he lost to Dodgeville senior Haakon Peterson, who entered the tournament field with a career record of 170-0.

Peterson (50-0 this season) prevailed with a 15-4 major decision over Kammerud (24-5) in the finals.

Prior to that, Kammerud was third at the conference meet.

“Easton’s had a heck of a season,” Sarbacker said. “Easton’s a phenomenal talent, especially at 165 for a freshman. He’s young for his weight class. To be in the finals at that weight as a freshman is impressive.”

Maxton Stevens also reached the state tournament, where he came up one match short of the medal round. Maxton Stevens was also second at the confer-

ence meet.

“He’s had a whale of a season,” Sarbacker said of Maxton Stevens. “He wrestled so many top kids who are on the podium. He’s super close. Only a freshman, he had a hell of a tournament.”

Havens and Madden also reached the state meet after both placed third at the conference meet.

Havens finished fifth at state, defeating Elliot Havlish (53-5) of Osceola in the fifth place match.

“That was my main goal, to get on the podium,” Havens said. “Obviously, it wasn’t what we wanted. We wanted to be in the finals match. My goal was to place, so we got my goal done.”

Madden went 43-14 in a sensational freshman season.

Kruse finished his year 23-15 and finished in fourth place at the conference meet.

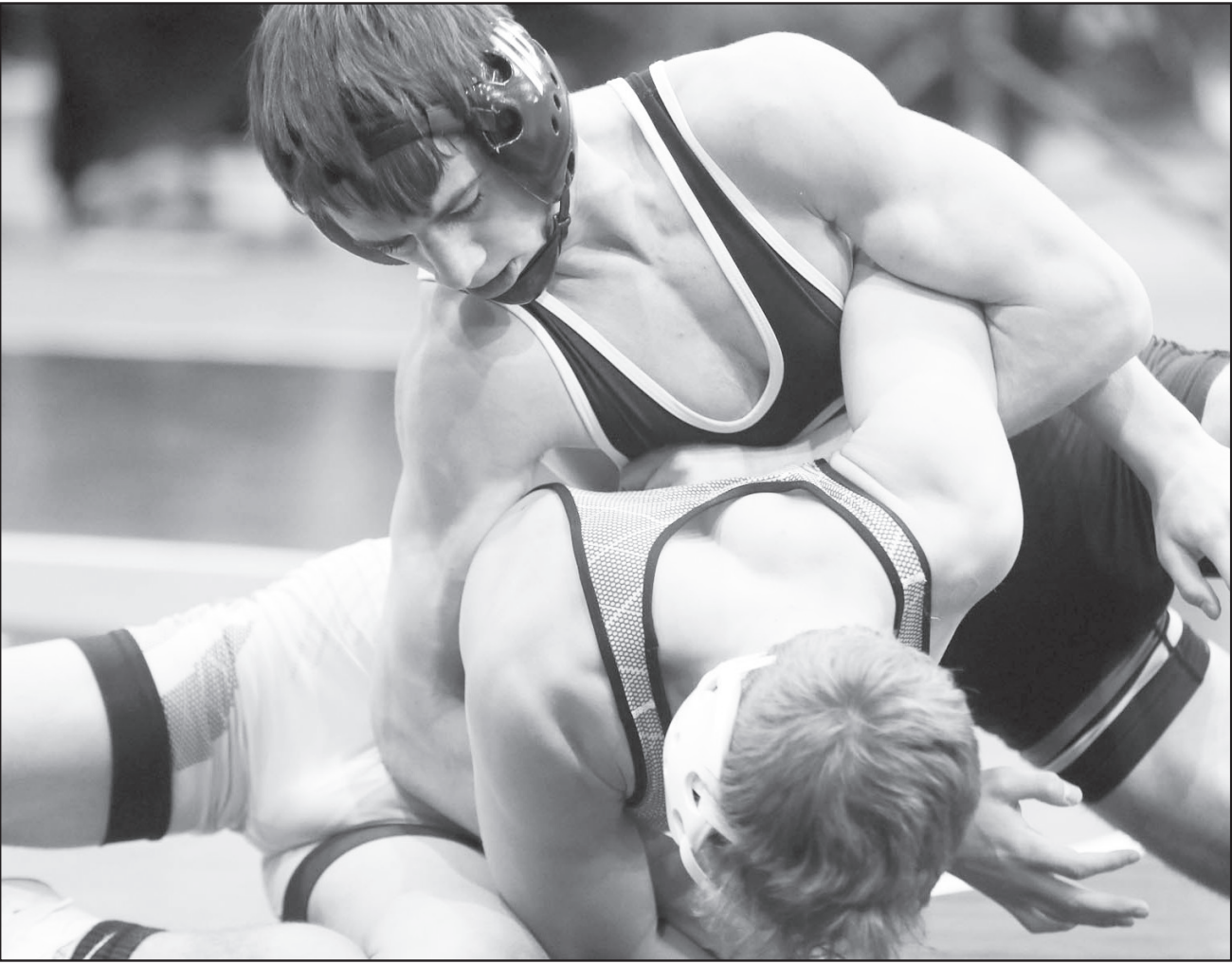
Droessler went 22-20 and placed sixth at conference.

Overall, MH-B had a his-



Clockwise from top left, Mount Horeb-Barneveld wrestlers Hunter Stevens, Eli Maier, Easton Kammerud, Maxton Stevens and Leland Havens were each named to the all-Badger Small Conference team. Photos courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

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WRESTLE

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toric boys season on its way to a memorable performance at state.

“We peaked at the right time,” Sarbacker said. “This was the best time to do it.”

GIRLS

MH-B junior Amelia Soltis made her second straight appearance at state a success with a fifth-place finish at 165 pounds.

After getting pinned in the quarterfinals, Soltis recorded a major decision and a pin in the consolation rounds before pinning Shiocton’s



From top left, Mount Horeb-Barneveld wrestlers Bryce Madden, Timmy Kruse and Drew Droessler were each named to the all-Badger Small Conference team. Photos courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

All-Badger Small
Boys Conference Wrestling

First Team

- 106: Max Schroeder, Sauk Prairie
- 113: Carter Solt, Sauk Prairie
- 120: Jayden Vanderhoof, Reedsburg
- 126: Braiden Hale-Toomey, Reedsburg
- 132: Maxton Stevens, Mount Horeb-Barneveld
- 138: Caleb Horwath, Fort Atkinson
- 144: Harrison Cyvas, Stoughton
- 150: Hunter Stevens, Mount Horeb-Barneveld
- 157: Gunder Nelson, Stoughton
- 165: Easton Kammerud, Mount Horeb-Barneveld
- 175: Eli Maier, Mount Horeb-Barneveld
- 190: Eli Leonard, Mount Horeb-Barneveld
- 215: Kade Splinter, Stoughton
- HWT: Gatlin Empey, Stoughton

WRESTLERS OF THE YEAR: Eli Leonard, Mount Horeb-Barneveld; Gatlin Empey, Stoughton.
COACH OF THE YEAR: Tim Sarbacker, Mount Horeb-Barneveld

Second Team

- 106: Bryce Madden, Mount Horeb-Barneveld
- 113: Blake Delp, Reedsburg
- 120: Drew Droessler, Mount Horeb-Barneveld
- 126: Brayden Breider, Stoughton
- 132: Taven Johnson, Reedsburg
- 138: Liam Angeles, Stoughton
- 144: Timmy Kruse, Mount Horeb-Barneveld
- 150: Hudson Jablonski, Reedsburg
- 157: Michael Kowalski, Portage
- 165: Luke Redner, Reedsburg
- 175: Tristan Brunt, Portage
- 190: Ethan Huelsemann, Baraboo
- 215: Leland Havens, Mount Horeb-Barneveld
- HWT: Curtis Hankins, Sauk Prairie

Honorable Mention

- Sam Fahey, Oregon
- Joe Logan - Watertown
- Nolan Owen, Baraboo

All-Badger Small
Girls Conference Wrestling

First Team

- 100: Dilynn Albrecht, Milton
- 107: Clara Jauch, Milton
- 114: Devlynn Albrecht, Milton
- 120: Morgan Johnson, DeForest
- 126: Madi Peach, Milton
- 132: Kit Alsaker, Waunakee
- 138: Hayli Fletcher, Fort Atkinson
- 145: Brenda Carmona, DeForest
- 152: Kaylee Petersen, Reedsburg
- 165: Amelia Soltis, Mount Horeb-Barneveld
- 185: Ellie Lenzendorf, Waunakee
- 235: Aliviah Walsh, Watertown

WRESTLER OF THE YEAR: Madi Peach, Milton.
COACH OF THE YEAR: Pat Jauch, Milton

Second Team

- 100: Bronte Bethel, Mount Horeb-Barneveld
- 107: Peyton Longley, Oregon
- 114: Chloe Roloff, Reedsburg
- 120: Naomi Bermudo, Sauk Prairie
- 126: Sophia Soumphonphakdy, Oregon
- 132: Jessie Demarasse, Milton
- 138: Abigail Harris, DeForest
- 145: Malia Becker, Stoughton
- 152: Kylee Soderling, Stoughton
- 165: Amanda Mejia, Waunakee
- 185: Miya Tool-Fukuda, Portage
- 235: Emily Karls, Monona Grove/McFarland

Honorable Mention

- Maggie Barrett, Sauk Prairie

WRESTLE

continued from page 17

Shealyn Anday, in 2:03 in their fifth-place match.

“It was the first time (on the podium) for Amelia. She lost in the blood rounds last year,” Sarbacker said of Soltis, who finished the year 45-2. “She’s climbing the ladder and won her medal match. She’s super pumped. She’s going to be a threat to win a title. She’s getting in the mix. I’m really, proud of her.”

MH-B’s 100-pound Bronte Bethel also reached the state tournament, where she went 1-2.

After Bethel was pinned in her opening match, she pinned E’Mariah Watts of Kenosha Bradford in 3:47.

Bethel was then pinned in her final match and finished her terrific year with a 34-14 record.



Mount Horeb-Barneveld’s Amelia Soltis had a terrific year and was named first-team all-Badger Small Conference.



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NOTICE**

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Brian Schult, Water Superintendent

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PUBLIC TEST
OF VOTING EQUIPMENT**

Town Hall
10084 CTH A
Monday, March 30, 2026
10:00 AM

The Town of Perry Chief Election Inspector and the Town Clerk will conduct tests of the ES&S DS200 and the Express Vote voting equipment on Monday, March 30, 2026 at 10:00AM at the Town Hall, 10084 CTH A, in accordance with Wisconsin Statute §5.84(1).

Mary L. Price, Town Clerk
Published and Posted:–
March 26, 2026 - Mt. Horeb Mail, Town Hall, Town Garage, Daleyville sign post, Town website.

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

MT HOREB AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE OF CHANGE IN ADOPTED BUDGET					
Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of Wisconsin Statute 65.90(5)(a), that the School Board of Mt. Horeb Area School District, on March 16, 2026, adopted the following changes to previously approved budgeted 2025-2026 amounts. The following presents only adopted budget line items with changes. Unchanged line items are not presented.					
GENERAL FUND					
LINE ITEM	ACCOUNT CODE	PREVIOUS APPROVED AMOUNT \$	AMENDED APPROVED AMOUNT \$	CHANGE \$	
Anticipated Revenue					
Revenue from Local Sources	Source 200	9,918.00	22,999.00	13,081.00	
Revenue from Interdistrict Sources	Source 300	1,480,000.00	1,520,000.00	40,000.00	
Revenue from State Sources	Source 600	190,000.00	381,359.00	191,359.00	
Revenue from Federal Sources	Source 700	298,411.00	264,517.00	(33,894.00)	
Revenue from Other Sources	Source 800/900	70,000.00	87,800.00	17,800.00	
Total Anticipated Revenue		2,048,329.00	2,276,675.00	228,346.00	
Expenditure Appropriations:					
Instruction	Function 100000	1,855,495.00	1,942,502.00	87,007.00	
Support Services	Function 200000	2,366,957.00	2,528,296.00	161,339.00	
Non-Program Transactions	Function 400000	4,286,941.00	4,266,941.00	(20,000.00)	
Total Expenditure Appropriations		8,509,393.00	8,737,739.00	228,346.00	
Projected Ending Unassigned Fund Balance	939000	7,795,064.16	7,795,064.16	0.00	
SPECIAL EDUCATION FUND					
LINE ITEM	ACCOUNT CODE	PREVIOUS APPROVED AMOUNT \$	AMENDED APPROVED AMOUNT \$	CHANGE \$	
Anticipated Revenue					
Operating Transfer	Source 100	4,286,941.00	4,266,941.00	(20,000.00)	
Total Anticipated Revenue		4,286,941.00	4,266,941.00	(20,000.00)	
Expenditure Appropriations:					
Instruction	Function 100000	482,145.00	462,145.00	(20,000.00)	
Total Expenditure Appropriations		482,145.00	462,145.00	(20,000.00)	
Projected Ending Fund Balance		0.00	0.00	0.00	
PACKAGE AND COOPERATIVE PROGRAM FUND					
LINE ITEM	ACCOUNT CODE	PREVIOUS APPROVED AMOUNT \$	AMENDED APPROVED AMOUNT \$	CHANGE \$	
Anticipated Revenue	Source				
Revenue from Intermediate Sources	500	11,423.00	13,354.00	1,931.00	
Total Anticipated Revenue		11,423.00	13,354.00	1,931.00	
Expenditure Appropriations:					
Instruction	Function 100000	10,623.00	0.00	(10,623.00)	
Support Services	Function 200000	800.00	13,354.00	12,554.00	
Total Expenditure Appropriations		11,423.00	13,354.00	1,931.00	
Projected Ending Fund Balance		0.00	0.00	0.00	
Publish: 3/26/26 WNAXLP					



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VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 7, 2026

The Village Board met in regular session in-person on the above date at the Mount Horeb Senior Center, 107 N Grove Street.

Call to Order/Roll Call: Village President Ryan Czyzewski called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Present were Trustees Jones, White, Fendrick, Schellpfeffer, Gauger, and Best. Also present were Administrator Nic Owen, Village Clerk Alyssa Gaffney, and Youth-In-Government students Aaron Fendrick and Jenna Jones.

Public Comments: Village resident voiced his concerns about property taxes. Village resident Tim Scott voiced his concerns about community engagement.

Consent Agenda: Gauger moved, White seconded to approve the following consent agenda items: December 3, 2025 meeting minutes; Resolution 2026-01 Recognition of World Migratory Bird Day; Approval of Appointed Election Officials for the 2026-2027 election cycle; Alcohol Beverage license application for Rokit, LLC, DBA Sunn Café, 201 E Main Street; and Alcohol Beverage Appointment of Agent for Taddeus Rokitowski, Rokit LLC, DBA Sunn Café, 201 E Main Street. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Swearing in of new Police Officer, Samuel Erickson: Chief Vierck introduced officer Erickson, and Clerk Gaffney swore him in. He was then given the Oath of Honor by Chief Vierck.

Langhus on Main Mixed-Use Building, 208-220 E Main Street: Czyzewski explained the process of this agenda item. Owen explained the background of the proposed project. Jeff Grundahl of JG Development spoke about the proposal and changes that have been made to the project. Mount Horeb Economic Development Consultant Kristen Fish-Peterson spoke about the project. The following individuals spoke in opposition of the project: Salem Joseph, Karen Erickson, Brian Ladow, Dianne Hirsch, Tammy Clary, Tim Scott, Stephen Sopcak, Sharman Moen, Steve Penne, Davina Penne, Michelle Kelley, Philip Leavenworth, Beth Bacher-Gresock, and Kristen Clary. The following individuals spoke in support of the project: Vicki Funseth, Gus Schultz, Joe Gallina, Brad Murphy, Amy Mertz, and Joe Karls. The following individuals registered in opposition of the project: Tracie Ace, Dolores Ace, Michael Larson, John Erb, Julie Malliet-Nowak, Joy Martinson, Christy Nesja, Paul Nesja, Jerry Shumate, Tina Shumate, Erin Larson, Brad Brookins, Lorna Brookins, Kayla Meister, Pat, FitzGerald, Jennifer Gottwald, Patty Baumeister, Cindy Jensen, Maura Overland, Timothy Santoirre, Lisa Santoirre, Charlotte-Ann Chenery, Jim DeSonia, and Amanda DeSonia. The following individuals registered in support of the project: Jaclyn Gullick, Brody Richter, Dawn Hendrickson, and Karen Johnson. Architect Steve Schulfer of JG Development and Village Planner Ben Rohr spoke and addressed concerns. JG Development, Rohr, Owen, and Fish-Peterson fielded questions from the board. The board discussed and each member gave their input.

Consideration of General Development Plan, Planned Development Rezone Application, Jeff Grundahl, Langhus on Main, 208-220 E Main Street: Jones moved, Gauger seconded to deny the proposal for failure to meet the criteria for approval in regards to the Municipal Zoning Code, Section 17.49 PD-1 Planned Development (6)(a)1, 2, and 4 and (6)(b) and (6)(d). Motion carried by a 4-3 roll call vote. Best, Gauger, Jones, and White voted aye. Czyzewski, Fendrick, and Schellpfeffer voted nay.

Consideration of Certified Survey Map to combine Lots 208, 214, and 220 E Main Street: Czyzewski moved, Jones seconded to approve the Certified Survey Map. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Consideration of Specific Implementation Plan, Jeff Grundahl, Langhus on Main, 208-220 E Main Street: Schellpfeffer moved, Gauger seconded to deny the Specific Implementation Plan due to the General Development Plan being denied. Motion carried by a 6-1 roll call vote. Gauger, Jones, Schellpfeffer, White, Best, and Czyzewski voted aye. Fendrick voted nay.

Committee reports: All committee reports were given, with no action taken.

Village President’s report: Czyzewski wished everyone a happy new year. He also thanked the board for their time and hard work.

Village Administrator’s report: Owen spoke about the Lukken property and Business Park.

Village Clerk’s report: Gaffney spoke about the Spring Primary election and details on absentee voting times. The closed session item was not needed.

Adjournment: With no further business before the board, Fendrick moved, White seconded to adjourn @ 11:15pm. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Minutes by
Alyssa Gaffney, Village Clerk

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

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**TOWN OF PRIMROSE
NOTICE**

The Town of Primrose will
hold a public test of the elec-
tion equipment beginning at
10:00 am on Tuesday, March
31st, 2026 at the Primrose
Town Hall, 8468 County Road
A, Verona, WI 53593.

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

**VILLAGE OF
MOUNT HOREB
PUBLIC TESTING
OF VOTING EQUIPMENT**

Testing of the electronic vot-
ing equipment for the APRIL
7th, 2026 SPRING ELECTION
will be held on Wednesday,
April 1st, 2026. The test will
take place at 4:00pm at the
Municipal Building in the 2nd
Floor Conference Room.
This test is open to the public.
Alyssa Gaffney
Village Clerk
Posted: March 17th, 2026
Publish: 3/26/26 **WNAXLP**



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**VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

The Village Board met in regular session in-person on the above date
in the 2nd Floor Board Room of the Municipal Building, 138 E Main
Street.

Call to Order/Roll Call: Village President Ryan Czyzewski called the
meeting to order at 7:00pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
Present were Trustees White, Fendrick, Schellpfeffer, Gauger, and
Best. Trustee Jones was absent. Also present were Administrator Nic
Owen, Village Clerk Alyssa Gaffney, and Youth-In-Government stu-
dents Aaron Fendrick and Jenna Jones.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items: None

Consent Agenda: Fendrick moved, Gauger seconded to approve
the following consent agenda items: January 7, 2026 meeting minutes;
Final Energy Plan; and Resolution 2026-02 Green Tier Legacy
Community Program. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**Consideration of Specific Implementation Plan for JT Klein
Senior Affordable and Market Rate Multi-Family Housing, 101
Perimeter Rd:** Owen explained this item. JT Klein representatives
were present and spoke about the project. The board discussed.
Gauger moved, Schellpfeffer seconded to approve the Specific
Implementation Plan, with staff notes included. Motion carried by
unanimous voice vote.

**Consideration of General Development Plan rezoning from A-1
Agricultural to R-3 Multifamily to PD-Planned Development and
Certified Survey Map to convert Outlot into Standard lot for cot-
tages at Brookstone Hills Pocket Neighborhood:** Owen and
Czyzewski explained this item. The board discussed. Schellpfeffer
moved, Fendrick seconded to approve the rezone. Motion carried by
unanimous voice vote. Best moved, Gauger seconded to approve the
Certified Survey Map. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**Discussion/Consideration of Nomination for Register of Historic
Places for Structures, Sites or Entities: 108 & 110 E Main Street,
Vestibule Investments, LLC:** Property owner Mark Johnson spoke
about the building and its history. White moved, Best seconded to
approve the nomination. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Committee reports: All committee reports were given, with no action
taken.

Village President's report: Czyzewski spoke about the Energy Plan,
Veteran's Memorial signage, Citizen Nomination forms, and the Front
Street Station. He also thanked those who attended the joint meeting.

Village Administrator's report: Owen spoke about meeting with
Chamber staff, online parking maps, the ribbon cutting for Sugar Troll,
and the Lukken Farm RFP.

Village Clerk's report: Gaffney spoke about the Spring Primary
election and details on absentee voting times and public testing.

Adjournment: With no further business before the board, Schellpfeffer
moved, Best seconded to adjourn @ 8:15pm. Motion carried by unan-
imous voice vote.

Minutes by
Alyssa Gaffney, Village Clerk

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

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M o u n t
Horeb’s Hayden
Anderson (top)
and Alex Chap-
man (left) were
named second-
team all-Badger
Small Confer-
ence.

BOYS BB

continued from page 14

Nesheim said. “In my opinion, he deserved the Player of the Year award and the conference coaches agreed with me.

“We will certainly miss a player of that caliber going forward. His ability to score in multiple ways at all three levels was incredible. He was probably not known for his defense, but yet made a ton of plays with his ability to steal the ball and was a good rebounder.”

Nesheim noted that as

good as Manchester was on the court, he was just as impactful off of it.

“We will also miss his off-season leadership and dedication,” Nesheim said. “Josh was always doing something to improve athletically and skillfully, and had an incredible dedication to his craft. Josh has left a lasting impact on our program, school, and community and I have no doubt we can say we witnessed the best player in Mount Horeb history.”

Chapman had a big junior season and will be the Vikings’ leader next sea-

son.

Chapman averaged 13.4 points and a team-high 7.1 rebounds per game. Chapman added 2.5 assists and 1.4 assists per game, and overcame a broken wrist that cost him five games in the middle of the season.

“Alex continues to make strides,” Nesheim said. “He really took off when Josh was injured and we needed a “guy.” Unfortunately, he suffered a setback with the wrist injury just as he was peaking and our team was playing great. Fortunately, when Alex returned, there was no drop off.

“He is a guy we liked to post up, but also could score from the 3-point line. He is good in transition. Defensively, he can guard multiple spots. We will need Alex to become a more consistent 3-point shooter for us next year, and that’s his major goal of improvement this off season. He has an incredible work ethic and I look for him to be dominant next season.”

Anderson, a St. Thomas (Minn.) football recruit, had a sensational senior season, averaging 10.1 points and finishing sec-

ond on the team with 6.4 rebounds per contest. Anderson also averaged 1.3 assists, 1.0 steals and shot 54.9% from the floor.

“Hayden had maybe the most impressive year of all three of these guys only because you weren’t sure how good he would be,” Nesheim said. “We expected big things, but weren’t sure what that would look like. Was it going to be offense? Defense? Rebounding?”

“Turns out, he was really good at all three of these things. He showed the ability to score around the rim and when we needed it,

from the arc. He was usually guarding the best post player, but occasionally guarded smaller. He was a rebounding force and was especially good at offensive rebounding.

“The one thing we will miss about Hayden is his personality and his ability to lead with it. He could play the leadership role of intimidator, friend, humor, or fun locker room guy, and also the emotional rah-rah guy. He did what he needed to for us to have success. We look forward to watching his football career.”

All-Badger Conference
Boys Basketball

First Team

Name	School	Year
* Josh Manchester	Mount Horeb	Senior
* Graeson Geiger	Fort Atkinson	Junior
* Eli Krueger	McFarland	Junior
* Garrett Crull	McFarland	Junior
* Jacob Hibner	Stoughton	Senior
* — unanimous		

Player of the Year: Josh Manchester, Mount Horeb
Coach of the Year: Sean McGann, Sauk Prairie

Second Team

Name	School	Year
Drew Christensen	Edgewood	Junior
Alex Chapman	Mount Horeb	Junior
Hayden Anderson	Mount Horeb	Senior
Boden Breunig	Sauk Prairie	Senior
Otis Andres	Sauk Prairie	Senior

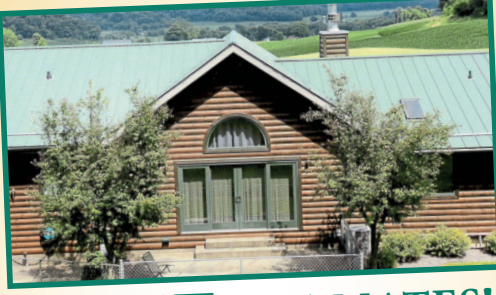
Honorable Mention

Name	School	Year
Ben Morey	Edgewood	Junior
Carter Klopke	Fort Atkinson	Sophomore
Oliver Evans	Fort Atkinson	Junior
Kam Meinholdt	McFarland	Junior
Braydon Fischer	McFarland	Sophomore
Michael Nachreiner	Portage	Senior
Brody Kayratz	Portage	Senior
Lincoln Benish	Reedsburg	Sophomore
Jonah Williams	Reedsburg	Senior
Lincoln Ganser	Sauk Prairie	Junior
Jaren Vale	Stoughton	Junior
Devin Rogers	Stoughton	Junior

All-Defensive Team

Name	School	Year
Oliver Evans	Fort Atkinson	Junior
Eli Krueger	McFarland	Junior
Cal Odgers	Mount Horeb	Senior
Sam Patterson	Sauk Prairie	Sophomore
Jacob Hibner	Stoughton	Senior

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