

Local man facing 10 counts for child pornography

A Mount Horeb man accused of having child pornography was expected to have a plea/sentencing hearing on Wednesday of this week. Bruce L. Frisch is currently facing 10 counts of Possession of Child Pornography, a felony. His court date was previously rescheduled from March 24 to May 6.

Village votes on deal to hire new top staffer this week



Altenbernd

By MATT GEIGER
Mount Horeb Mail

The Mount Horeb Village Board was expected to vote Wednesday evening to hire Gabriel Altenbernd as the municipality's new administrator.

If approved, Alten-

continued on page 8



Auxiliary celebrates

Established in 1914, members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary set out to serve the veterans of this country and its communities "in honor of the sacrifices and commitment of every man and woman who has served in uniform."

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Bergey Jewelry celebrates 75 years

This January, Bergey Jewelry in Mount Horeb celebrated 75 years in the community, and 2026 also marks 20 years for owner Julie Bergey (pictured at right, center.) Read more on page 4.



Local clerk works to get answers after a felon voted in Presidential Election

By MATT GEIGER
Mount Horeb Mail

Public records appear to show that a convicted felon in the Town of Springdale voted in the November 2024 Presidential Election. Ever since then, town administra-

tor and clerk Jackie Arthur has worked to get answers from county and state officials about how it happened and what action, if any, needs to be taken to prevent it from happening again in the future.

Current Wisconsin laws disqualify from voting any person convicted of a felony until the end of their sentence, at which point their voting rights can be restored. Essentially, a person is ineligible to vote until

they are pardoned for the crime or until they complete their sentence including any term of imprisonment, extended supervision, parole, or probation for the crime that led to the disqualification.

But public voting records show the Springdale voter's name was not included on

continued on page 5

Ridglan Farms announced sale of 'substantial majority' of its beagles

By MATT GEIGER
Mount Horeb Mail

Activists rejoiced last week when it was announced that Ridglan Farms, the medical research and dog breeding company located in the Town of Blue Mounds, would sell many of its beagles.

Ridglan Farms released the following statement: "This week, following a series of negotiations, Ridglan

Farms reached an agreement to sell a substantial majority of its dogs to groups that offered to purchase the animals."

"This is the entirety of the information Ridglan Farms wishes to share at this time," the business continued, adding that the statement was "from Ridglan Farms and not an individual person."

"The dogs at Ridglan Farms are happy, healthy

and well cared for," they continued in a second statement. "Publicly available USDA documentation shows this has been the case for many years. As the dogs sold this week leave our veterinary research facility, we hope they will continue to live happy lives in their new adopted homes."

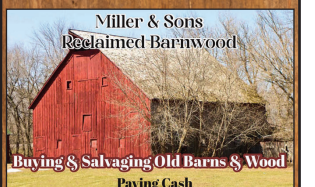
"Moving forward, Ridglan Farms is in the midst of finalizing arrange-

ments for the remaining dogs," they said. "However, because our facility has repeatedly been the site of mass attacks and break-ins by extremists, with the latest occurring less than two weeks ago, we are unable to share updated animal numbers to maintain the safety of our staff and animals."

Lauren Gazzola released the following statement on

continued on page 10

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GEIGER

Counter

by Matt Geiger, Editor

Coyote and me

People kill half a million coyotes every year in the United States.

My daughter and I spotted two on the edge of a field last summer. Freshly shot, their stiff muscles rippled beneath tawny summer coats, long canines flashing in the morning light. Their fur looked like the sand on a drying beach, infinite grades of brown and gold.

I snapped a photo with my phone. In it, my 11-year-old daughter’s shadow, made large by the roving sun, runs through their fur, spilling onto the earth beside them.

Author Dan Flores called the coyote’s howl a half-million-year-old national anthem “sung to the stars and the planets as they swing over an old, old continent.” Their voices have something of the hyena’s laugh in them, cackling at a cosmic joke set loose upon the world when our planet was very young.

Human beings are incredibly good at driving other species extinct. Even before the invention of modern technology, humans across the globe caused a vast menagerie of species to vanish. Today, we use guns, pesticides, subdivisions, business parks, cars and more to kill wild things.

But people have only been able to *increase* the coyote population.

When Europeans first arrived in North America, the continent was full of wolves,

bears, and many other creatures. Most vanished or retreated. Parts of the west and southwest had been home to coyotes and proto-coyotes for more than a million years. Their numbers skyrocketed in recent centuries, and their range is now, literally, everywhere. One could argue they are the most successful animals here. They thrive in every type of place, from Old Testament deserts to snowy green forests, from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific, from Canada to Mexico. They live in cities, suburbs, and the ancient wilderness those places stamp from the face of the Earth. One was spotted riding a subway in Chicago.

If you think this is about to be some kind of preachy anti-hunting screed, prepare for profound disappointment. Hunting coyotes doesn’t get rid of them, and it’s probably one of the reasons they are so successful.

Killing coyotes actually *increases* their numbers. When an adult female is killed, all the young females in her group go into heat and quickly give birth to a little army of tiny predators. One death leads to infinite births. Each female can have between two and 19 pups depending on the carrying capacity of the landscape.

At night, when they howl at the moon, they are actually taking a census that will determine how many more coyotes they will make, laughing at our inability to eliminate them.

In the south, coyotes and Red Wolves interbred freely. In the Northeast, they mated

with Gray Wolves. Wolves died out. Coyotes thrived. They eat berries, birds, rodents, deer, cats, vegetation, hot dogs, Big Macs, ramen and pretty much anything they find.

When I was a child in Massachusetts they would fight with my dog, a big, burly chocolate lab. He was dumber than a bag of hammers but full of power and joy. He’d never been inside a house, and he roamed a thousand acres of fields and forests, eating what he killed, swimming in mucky ponds, preying on woodchucks and racoons. He knew a happiness no house-dog will ever feel.

Sometimes packs of coyotes would lure pets into the woods, where they would attack them. It was a horrific sound, but Boomer always came back beaming, covered in blood, even more alive thanks to his brawl with his ancient cousins.

I was on my bike in a clearing one day when around a corner loped a big coyote. She and my dog stood nose-to-nose. I stopped in my tracks and waited for the fight. It never came. They wagged their tails, bowed their reverential bows, and began playing. Around and around a brush pile they ran, taking turns chasing each other. No hackles raised. No teeth bared. No growls or yips. Just two beasts in the prime of life, thrilled not to know who Michael Dukakis or George Bush were.

In a moment, my dog became wild again. Perhaps we all can.

We eat mostly wild protein in our house. Venison, wild turkey, beaver, rabbit, elk, moose, racoon and more are our favorite foods. Food ethics are complex and personal, like religion, so I don’t know what other people should eat, but I sleep best at night with a belly full of meat from animals that walked the Earth as free beings, sleeping under ancient stars and living by the wits and evolutionary skills handed down to them by millions of years of freedom, joy and danger.

I love hunting. And I have no problem with my friends who hunt and kill coyotes.

It’s comforting to know that there remains one species, at least, that we won’t drive to extinction with our subdivisions, poisons and guns.

I see coyotes all the time when I hunt deer. They cock their heads to the side and listen for rodents, then grab them from the earth and scarf them down. They pee on everything. They lope through fields with an effortless grace.

Sometimes they spot you, and before they dash away, they gaze at you with a yellow green fire in their eyes, as if they know something funny that you and your species have mostly forgotten.

They are, by any metric, better survivors than wolves. Proof that being the biggest and strongest does not always ensure survival. They are tricksters, shapeshifters, predators and prey.

“Our Father, who art in nature, who has given the gift of survival to the coyote,” wrote John Steinbeck in a prayer in “Cannery Row.”

In his book, “Coyote America,” Flores attributes much of their success to something called “fission-fusion.” Unlike virtually every other species, coyotes are equally happy in groups or alone. They can happily roam the wilderness by themselves, snacking on berries, or in large, social packs, getting drunk each night on the moon as they dine on venison.

Packs, when they form, are merely families and extended families.

Just like ours.

Twelve years ago, I sat in this house and wrote a column about the newborn baby sleeping next to me. Hundreds and hundreds of times since then, I sat down to write my column for the week and ended up, once again, telling a story of our adventures together. I wrote about dirty diapers, baby monitors, Easter egg hunts, and those strange first days at school. I wrote

about COVID, and the funny things young people do with language, and the ways small people grow and become more themselves in the endless, relentless fullness of time.

Now, the seat next to me is empty. My daughter is 12, and while we still have some adventures, she is her own person with her own stories to tell, and it would be wrong for me to share the private moments of her life with thousands of newspaper readers.

I often feel the urge to flee from development and seek out wild places. If I spent all my time indoors, or in view of businesses and subdivisions. As the philosopher Nietzsche said: “Never trust a thought that occurs to you indoors.”

When I feel that way, I turn by habit, to ask my daughter if she wants to come with me. But of course, she is not here. She is at school, at dance class, at band, or out with friends, riding their bikes around town and having adventures without me. I hope they sometimes explore in the woods.

When that happens, I take a deep breath, remember that this is healthy and good and normal, which of course does nothing to make me feel any better, and head into the wilderness without her. I take Cowboy, by dog, and we explore the River Valley, wading and swimming to islands and marveling at the wild tracks in the sand, the beach dyed a million shades like the coat of a coyote. Or we bushwack through the tangled woods.

In a swamp we found a secluded place where coyotes enjoy their meals, dining on wild animals that roamed the Earth as free beings, sleeping under ancient stars and living by the wits and evolutionary skills handed down to them by millions of years of freedom, joy and danger. There was a full, skeletonized deer, plus

turkey feathers, and clam and turtle shells. A whole pack, an extended family, had been there, underneath those same celestial bodies at which they howl in the night.

A few days later I emerged from a strip of woods and saw a massive coyote, the biggest I have ever seen, emerge on the other side of the field. It trotted into the grassland, its coat grades of ochre and sandstone, its eyes the greenish yellow in which a primordial fire still burns, undaunted by humans. When it spotted me, this lone creature loped away and vanished into the woods. Perhaps to rejoin some pack, perhaps to continue its journey alone.

Probably one, then the other in an endless cycle of fission and fusion.

I suppose if coyotes can survive being alone for a time, so can I. And if they can survive being poisoned all the time, we can probably survive the planet we have made toxic with our pesticides and industrial waste. If they can live in the backcountry, and in suburbs, and if they can ride the subway in downtown Chicago, so can we.

And perhaps, if despite all this, they cry out in joy each night, if they can laugh in the darkness, and make more of their kind, and continue on their way, so can we.

So can we.

I reached out to Dr. David Drake, who runs the urban canid project in Madison. It’s a study of coyotes and foxes in urban environments. I asked if I could write a story about his work. He said yes and invited me to tag along with their trappers when they sedate and study these survivors. He said members of my pack were welcome to come.

I mentioned it to my daughter. She is in middle school now, growing tall and strong under the warmth of the roving sun.

“Do you want to come?” I asked, assuming she would say she was too busy.

She looked at me with a strange, wild light in her eyes, the ember of a cosmic laugh, that little shapeshifter, that little trickster, always surprising me.

“Definitely,” she said. “Of course I’ll come with you.”



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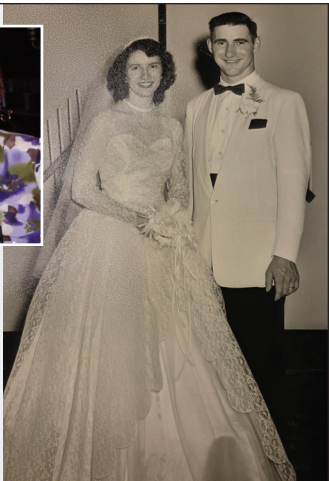
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Local Government

A closer look at village administrator finalists

The Village of Mount Horeb’s search for a new administrator is nearing completion as the board is expected to vote on Gabriel Altenbernd this week.

The four finalists were:

CHAD ABRAM
Prairie du Chien, WI Education: Bachelor of Arts – Sociology/Criminal Justice; University of Minnesota, Minneapolis; 1997 Experience: City Administrator; Prairie du Chien, WI (Pop. 5,472); 2019 – Present Police Chief; Prairie du Chien, WI (Pop. 5,472); 2010 – 2019 Patrol Office/

School Resource Officer/Detective/Sergeant; Prairie du Chien, WI (Pop. 5,472); 2000 – 2010 Deputy Sheriff; Crawford County Sheriff’s Office; 1998 – 2000.

GABRIEL ALTENBERND
Stoughton, WI Education: MPA – City/County Management Fellow – University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS; 2022 Bachelor of Arts – Political Science & History – Drake University, Des Moines, IA; 2020 Experience: Village Administrator; Belleville, WI (Pop. 2,635); 2/2023 – Present Commu-

nications Manager; Village of Cottage Grove, WI (Pop. 8,974); 6/2022 – 1/2023 Communications and Management Intern; Village of Waunakee, WI (Pop. 16,363); 6/2021 – 5/2022 Graduate Intern; Water One, Johnson County, KS; 7/2020 – 6/2021 Strategic Management Intern; City of Kansas City, MO (Pop. 516,032); 5/2019 – 8/2019 Management Intern; City of Lawrence, KS (Pop. 97,271); 6/2018 – 8/2018 Management Intern; City of Prairie Village, KS (Pop. 22,919); 5/2017 – 8/2017.

JERRY GABRIELATOS
Beloit, WI Education: Master of Public Policy and Administration; Northwestern University; 2015 Bachelors in Political Science and History; Tulane University; 2004 Experience: City Manager; Beloit, WI (Pop. 36,633); 2/2023 – 12/2025 City Manager; West Linn, OR (Pop. 26,597); 9/2020 8/2022 Assistant City Manager; Albert Lea, MN (Pop. 18,159); 8/2015 – 9/2020 Senior Advisor – 1 st Ward; Chicago City Council; 8-2012 – 12/2013 Chief of

Staff – 45th Ward; Chicago City Council; 5/2011 – 1/2012 Director of Constituent Services – 1 st Ward; Chicago City Council; 10/2007 – 5/2011

CLARE MASSON
Washington DC (relocating to WI) Education: Master of Social Work – International Development & Human Rights; Washington University, St. Louis Bachelor of Arts – Spanish; Georgetown University Experience: Director Strategic Planning and Operations; USAID, Asia Bureau, Washington, DC; 2025 Acting

Director/Deputy Director, Strategy, Planning and Outreach; USAID, Bureau for Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance, Washington, DC; 2023 – 2024 Director Strategy, Planning and Outreach; USAID, Republic of Georgia Field Office, Tbilisi, Georgia; 2019 – 2023 Senior Advisor for Strategic Initiatives; USAID, Ghana Field Office, Accra, Ghana; 2017 – 2019 Director Strategy, Programs, and Outreach; USAID, Albania Field Office, Tirana, Albania; 2012 - 2017

Gleanings

140 Years Ago- May 12, 1886

A. Hoff represents the butter company, and gathers in produce.

The Chicago strike is about settled and again the railroads receive freight.

H.G. Elliott has returned from his spring visit to Chicago. He reports that city at a fighting heat against all socialists and anarchists.

M.V. Schmidt was before Justice Johnson last week, on a complaint of being drunk and disorderly. Fine and costs, \$2.45.

It is rumored that John Casey, well known in this vicinity, was wounded in the recent struggle in Chicago. We have, however, no real assurance of the veracity of this rumor.

The Law and Order Society in this place had their semi-annual meeting last Tuesday, when the election of new officers took place. A fair number of members were in attendance.

130 Years Ago- May 7, 1896

Mr. And Mrs. Roberts, the vegetable venders from Black Earth, made their first trip to this place Tuesday of this week.

Jake Erby, of Dixie, Iowa, made our office a pleasant call last Saturday. He reported everything lovely out west and all the folks well.

Thorvaldsen Thompson has rented the old town factory building, which will be occupied as a dwelling for Thorvaldsen and family, and also the old folks.

Putting corn land in order is all the go.

Wedding! Wedding! What with one Tuesday night, an-

other one Thursday night. Mt. Horeb takes the lead, but then it is a good thing so push it along.

A free library and reading room will be the next thing for public attraction at Blue Mounds. Arrangements have been made to have it in the rear end of the People’s Store.

Old people who require medicine to regulate the bowels and kidneys will find the true remedy is Electric Bitters. This medicine does not stimulate and contains no whiskey or other intoxicant, but acts as a tonic and alternative. Old people find it is just exactly what they need.

120 Years Ago- May 10, 1906

A.O. Barton has applied for a patent on his open rig carrier’s cabinet, which is a handy contrivance for handling the mail in transit over rural routes.

F.W. Kessler has traded his house and lot in Gordon’s Addition for a stock of furniture at Sullivan.

The Rev. Laur Larson, Christina Norway, will preach at the Union church Friday evening.

Mrs. Henry Finke has been granted a widow’s pension of \$8 per month.

Britton and Sletto are planning trout fishing parties. Anyone wanting trout had better go soon.

Annie McCaughey had a slight attack of appendicitis and left for home Monday.

Lay in a supply of flour. \$1.00 at Hoff’s.

The banner pay day of the mining district was Saturday, May 5th, when the miners walked up to the offices of the various mines at Linden and received ten thousand dollars in envelopes, all mines paying the

same day. This certainly should convince the newcomer where the banner mines are located.

110 Years Ago- May 12, 1916

A grand 17th of May Festival will be given at Madison at Esther Beach. L. Stamheim of Minneapolis, Min. will be the main speaker of the day. The celebration is held under the auspices of the Sons and Daughters of Norway.

Syver Martinson has bought a new auto.

I will sell my driving team at a reasonable price also, my five passenger Overland car, run but 3,000 miles. For price and further particulars call or phone F. Luder, Sr.

Swenson & Dunlap started work on the foundation of the new Catholic church in Perry last Tuesday and will establish a camp for the workmen in the old Lewis Sutter house which is located near the job, Miss Mary Schmidt will have charge of the culinary department of the camp. A telephone will be installed, both the cook and contractors will be in ready communication with the source of supply.

100 Years Ago- May 14, 1926

An account book belonging to Mr. Watts of the Kayser Motor Car Co., whose car was taken by the “Middleton road bandit” Monday night, was found late Wednesday in the road near Mt. Horeb by S. A. Skuldt. The find was reported to the sheriff’s office who made a thorough investigation in this section the county. No further clues were discovered, however.

That the Community Sale is a success was shown yesterday, the opening day. The streets

were lined with cars and the clerks in the stores were kept busy all day. O.G. Gesme, manager of Hoff’s Basement Store, which opened to the public yesterday, reports a large business, and out from Dahle’s, Hoff’s and the Farmer Store people were carrying packages all day.

Ed Benson, who has been employed at the Pennco Filling Station, is now employed driving a tractor for the state in road construction work.

Gilbert Kleven received a wireless massage from his brother, Knut Kleven, who recently left here for Europe. The message reads as follows: “Mid-ocean, aboard Stavangerfjord. Wife and I both well, tell mother.”

Miss Kathryn Ryan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Ryan, passed away in death on May 5, 1926, nearly 19 years of age. She was born in the township of Vermont on May 30, 1907, where she spent all of her life. The past couple of years her health was failing and although everything was done for her, her young life could not be spared.

James Gesme and E.H. Koch went to Picqua, Ohio, on Wednesday to drive home the new Studebaker limousine hearse for the Gesme Funeral Home.

On account of unfinished repair work at the Hauge Church, services will be held on Sunday at the Forward School.

The Oscar Oimoen, Carl Boley, Alvin Helmenstein, and Iverson homes in Springdale are entertaining the measles.

100 Years Ago- May, 14, 1936

The house on the Johns Cook farm, Riley, was completely destroyed by fire of unknown origin yesterday afternoon. This is

the second home in the Riley vicinity to be destroyed by fire in two months, the Theo Tollefson home having burned March 24th. Incidentally, the tenants of either home were absent at the time the fire originated.

Poppies will bloom in Mt. Horeb on Saturday, May 23rd, glowing on the coats of remembering Americans in honor of the World War dead.

Golfing seems to be really coming back as has been shown by the enthusiasm since opening day. Some of the local “pros” have even taken up moonlight golf, as was demonstrated one night last week. The boys’ night scores would be very satisfying to many daytime golfers.

NOTICE: From and after publication of this notice, any dog found running at large without a license tag shall be put to death. By order of the Village Board, Stanley Holum, Clerk.

Last year there was considerable call for garbage collection in the village to which the Board responds by placing a contract for such collection for five months as an experiment. The comments on this service have been very favorable and as a result the village will have the same service this summer commencing on Saturday, May 16, and each Wednesday and Saturday during the summer months.

50 Years Ago- May 6, 1976

The Mount Horeb Area Historical Society celebrated its first birthday with a well attended open house at the Public Library Sunday.

Police Chief George Kahl on Monday submitted his resignation effective Nov. 1 to the Mount Horeb Village Board after 26 years of service. Kahl,

61, said that he had made the decision to retire after much consideration and with mixed emotions.

Mrs. Williams’ fifth grade classes have been presenting short plays and humorous choral readings for their parents. Mrs. Grace Williams will be retiring this year after 17 years in the Mount Horeb School District.

30 Years Ago- May 9, 1996

The owners of The Pound, a non-alcoholic dance club, came before the board Monday night with a request that the village consider a conditional use permit for the club in the former Ryser Cold Storage building at 119 South Second Street.

A furnace explosion April 19 at the Dan and Jean Lyans residence in the town of Perry sent Dennis Powell, who was working on the furnace, and Mrs. Lyans to the hospital with second- and third-degree burns. They were MedFlighted to the University Hospital, Madison.

In a 4-3 vote, the Mount Horeb village board Monday agreed to contribute \$50,000 to the “Dream Gym” community contribution fund to add another full-sized gymnasium when the construction/remodeling project begins later this spring.



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Business News

'I couldn't imagine myself doing anything else'

Bergey Jewelry celebrates 75 years in Mount Horeb



Bergey Jewelry was started by Julie Bergey's grandfather, Orrin Bergey, in 1951, with his wife Helen.

By Abigail Karbusicky
Mount Horeb Mail

This January, Bergey Jewelry in Mount Horeb celebrated 75 years in the community, and owner Julie Bergey said this year marks 20 years for her.

Bergey Jewelry was started by Julie's grandfather, Orrin Bergey, in 1951, with his wife Helen.

According to Julie, Orrin broke his hip helping his dad with a firefighter demonstration, and while he was recovering, met a traveling watchmaker. He was interested and the watchmaker

encouraged him to try it out. Orrin then went to watchmakers college in Illinois.

After he finished college, Orrin went back to Mount Horeb, where a jewelry store was moving out of its building on 109 E Main Street. In 1951, he took over the building and started Bergey Jewelry.

In 1980, Bergey Jewelry moved down the block to its current location at 203 E Main Street. And Helen took over the business after Orrin died.

Julie grew up in jewelry stores, as her parents also

owned one in Oregon where she grew up. While Julie helped a lot in the store as a kid, she went to college for early childhood education.

But in late 2005, Helen was ready to retire and planned to sell the store. So Julie took over before even graduating with her education degree, officially reopening the store at the beginning of 2006.

Julie said it was special for her grandma to show her around the store and teach her everything while she was still alive, and Julie said she now loves running the



Bergey Jewelry has had multiple locations but has always been a key part of downtown Mount Horeb's identity.

store.

"Overall I really enjoy it and couldn't imagine myself doing anything else," Julie said.

For Julie, the highlight is interacting with customers during some of the most exciting moments. Sometimes it's an engagement, or a wedding, or sometimes a birthday or anniversary. Julie said it's "fun to see how excited they are and be a part of that."

Julie also said the Mount Horeb community has been very supportive and she enjoys being there. And this year marks 20 years since Julie took over ownership of Bergey Jewelry.

To celebrate 75 years, Bergey Jewelry will have an anniversary sale this week and a celebration on May 9.

Recreation Notes

Pool passes for the Mount Horeb Family Aquatic Center are now available! Call or visit our website to purchase your family or individual pass. *Purchase a family pass before May 14 and receive \$10 off plus a free one-day guest pass!*

Join Water Exercise! This class is designed to improve flexibility, range of motion, strength, and muscle tone while using the resistance of the water to cushion the feet, knees, and back. Exercises are performed to music and are easy to follow. Classes take place at the GrandStay

Hotel pool from 6:00-6:45 PM. Sess. 1: Mon, 5/18-7/6 (no class 5/25), Sess. 2: Wed, 5/20-7/1, Sess. 3: Mon, 7/13-8/24, Sess. 4: Wed, 7/15-8/26. The fee is \$70R/\$80NR per session. Registration deadlines: sess. 1 & 2 - 5/11; sess. 3 & 4 - 7/6.

Swing, Hit & Ace! is an entry-level tennis program designed for adults of all skill levels. We use modified equipment to promote success and PLAY right from the start! Players will

learn the basics of tennis using slower tennis balls and smaller courts, sparking a lifelong passion for the sport. This is a USTA program. The class runs Tuesdays, May 26 to June 16. From 6:00-7:00 PM at the Viking Park Tennis Courts. The cost is \$52 for residents and \$62 for non-residents. Registration before 5/19.

Get outside this summer with **Introduction to Mountain Biking!** This program is for youth ages

9-13 interested in learning to mountain bike. Riders should have some bike experience, but no mountain biking knowledge is required. Parents are invited to ride along. Instructors will start with fundamental skills and build on them to get riders ready to hit the trails. Classes meet at Grundahl Park to practice skills on the grass before a trail ride on the single-track mountain bike trails at Blue Mound State Park. Riders must have a modern, properly sized, multi-gear mountain bike in 100% working condition, a helmet, closed-toe shoes, and athletic clothing. Classes run from 5:30-7:00 PM. Sess. 1: Monday-Thursday, 6/1-6/4, Sess. 2: Monday-Thursday, 6/15-6/18. The class fee is \$60R/\$70NR per session. The sess. 1 registration deadline is 5/26.

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.

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FELON

continued from page 1

the ineligible felon voter list, which means local election officials had no way of knowing he was prohibited from voting at the time.

According to Arthur the town was contacted “by a concerned citizen regarding a case of potential voter fraud in Springdale.” The person told Arthur that a man had voted in the prior year’s Presidential Election.

On January 7, 2025, Arthur contacted the District Attorney’s office via email to report the alleged violation.

“I was just contacted by a concerned citizen regarding a case of potential voter fraud in Springdale,” Arthur wrote. She provided the voter’s name and case number.

“WisVote confirms that he did indeed vote at the polls in Springdale on November 5, 2024. However, the ineligible felon voter list from the state did not contain his name,” Arthur continued. She provided the ineligible felon list as evidence.

“Can someone provide some clarity on what might have happened here?” Arthur asked. “Was this individual allowed to vote?”

The following day, Arthur received a reply from Peter Hansen, an investigator for the Dane County District Attorney’s Office.

“Here is what I can tell you. [The voter] was convicted of a felony on 08/16/24,” wrote Hansen. “He was given a jail sentence and served jail time from 10/15/24 through 11/6/24. During his sentence he was given jail diversion, which means he was allowed to serve his sentence at his home with a bunch of restrictions on his movement (usually you are allowed to go to work, grocery store, Dr. appointments, etc.). He was able to go to the polls on Nov. 5 because he was probably allowed to travel during the day for work purposes. The voter ineligibility form was probably not updated given the time of his conviction.”

“If you send us his Voter Registration and the poll sheet with his signature on it from Nov. 5th we can look into it further,” Hansen continued.

On March 4 of 2025, Arthur contacted Hansen asking for an update on the investigation.

The same day, Hansen

replied with the following message: “No update yet. I have reached out to [the voter] asking to speak to him about this situation and he has not returned any messages.”

“Thanks Peter,” Arthur replied. “So if he doesn’t respond, the investigation just dies?”

Then, for more than a year, Arthur said she received nothing from the state on the matter.

On March 13 of 2026, she attempted to follow up again.

“It’s been over a year and I never heard back from you,” Arthur wrote. “With elections just around the corner I’m concerned. Please update me on what happened with this individual.”

The DA’s office eventually agreed to a phone meeting with the Springdale clerk but later canceled it.

On April 2 of 2026, Arthur sent the following message to Hansen and Alexandra Grayvold, a paralegal in the Dane County District Attorney’s Office:

“As you know, my previously agreed-upon time for a call at 3:45 today was cancelled last minute, and thus, I have apparently missed the window that the DA will be in the office again until the end of the month,” Arthur wrote. “My questions are timely and important to the integrity of elections, not only here in Dane County, but state-wide.”

Arthur continued: “As a meeting or call is apparently not possible, I would appreciate written responses to the following questions.”

She wrote:

Approximately how long do cases of suspected voter fraud usually take from initial report until resolution in Dane County? This particular case was initially reported to your office on January 7, 2025, with the alleged fraud having occurred November 5, 2024. A previous case of alleged voter fraud in Springdale was reported to you in August of 2024 and resolved fewer than 2 months later.

Peter mentioned a few weeks ago that this is still an active investigation that he and DA Ozanne have touched base on recently, with an expected resolution “soon.” **When can we expect a decision in this case?**

Also in 2024, a case of double voting in Springdale was resolved in favor of the resident, with the

explanation that “there was not sufficient evidence to file a charge of election fraud.” **What sort of evidence is needed to charge an individual with voter fraud in Dane County,** aside from poll book evidence that they voted twice or that they voted while their rights were still suspended? In the case of Satterthwaite, he signed – as all persons convicted of felonies do – a statement that was attested to by his attorney, affirming his understanding that his right to vote was suspended. A victim in this case recalls the court transcript also documenting verbal affirmation of this.

In the past 5 years, how many cases of voter fraud have been reported to the Dane County DA’s office, and how many of those investigations have resulted in felony charges?

“Municipal clerks have a large, and ever-growing list of state and federal mandates to comply with for each election to ensure election integrity,” Arthur concluded. “Certainly, for the past six years, trust in our elections process has eroded and come under intense scrutiny. My own faith in the process has been shaken due to these experiences. I look forward to a substantive and timely update on this case and my questions stated above.”

On April 15, 2026, Hansen replied to a question about the case from the Mail.

“I am unable to talk about the case because it is still open,” he wrote. “The DA has been out of the office but is due to return next week. I am hoping to prioritize this case for him to review upon his return.”

Also, on April 7 an elections specialist with the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) returned a voicemail from Arthur. That official said the Springdale felon’s sentence was atypical and said the WEC would look into the matter.

Under Wisconsin law, when a felon is pardoned or completes their sentence, the right to vote is automatically restored without requiring a separate hearing or procedure.

According to the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), in Wisconsin you can register and vote if: you’re a U.S. citizen; you’ll be 18 or older on Election Day; you will have been a

Wisconsin resident for at least 28 days on Election Day (you may vote in the presidential election after 10 days of residency); a court hasn’t taken away your right to vote because you are incompetent; and you are not currently in jail or prison, or on probation, parole, or extended supervision, for a felony (or for any treason or bribery conviction).

According to a 2019 brief by state attorney Peggy Hurley for the Wisconsin Legislative Council, the right to vote “is a fundamental right, but it is not inviolable.”

“Like the right to liberty, the right to vote may be restricted or denied as a consequence for committing certain acts. Denying a person the right to vote after he or she has been convicted of certain crimes (felony disenfranchisement) is enforced to varying degrees by 48 states,” Hurley wrote.

“The Wisconsin Constitution provides that the Legislature may enact laws excluding a person who has been convicted of a felony from voting until he or she is ‘restored to civil rights,’” Hurley’s brief continued. “This language precludes permanent felony disenfranchisement, but it does not define or describe what constitutes restoration of civil rights. That question is addressed in the statutes, which establish that for the purposes of voting rights, restoration occurs when a person is pardoned for a felony or when he or she completes any period of incarceration, probation, parole, or extended supervision to which he or she was sentenced upon conviction for the felony.”

When a person is convicted of a felony, Wisconsin law requires the sentencing judge and the Department of Corrections (DOC) to inform the person that he or she is disqualified from voting and requires the person to acknowledge in writing that he or she may not vote in any election until his or her rights are restored.

Under Wisconsin law, when a felon is pardoned or completes his or her sentence, the right to vote is automatically restored without requiring a separate hearing or procedure. If the person had been incarcerated in a state prison or otherwise under the supervision of the DOC, DOC must inform the person in writing that his or her right to vote is restored;

if the person had been held in county jail, the sheriff is responsible for providing the written notification.

According to Hurley, the Wisconsin Elections Commission maintains a list of all persons who are registered to vote. The DOC is required to transmit, on a continuous basis, a list of the names of each living person who has been convicted of a felony and who is ineligible to vote, the person’s residential address, and the date on which DOC expects his or her right to vote to be restored.

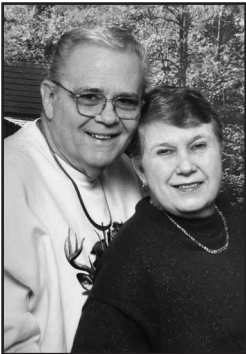
The WEC in turn forwards a list of ineligible felons to municipal clerks; the clerks notify each person in their counties that the clerk will inactivate his or her voting registration until the person becomes eligible to vote again and re-registers.

At the polling place, a person who registers to vote must sign a form indicating whether he or she has been convicted of a felony for which he or she has not been pardoned and, if so, whether he or she is incarcerated or on extended supervision, parole, or probation. Providing false information on a voter registration form is a Class I felony, as is voting in an election when the person is not qualified to vote.

The penalty for a Class I felony is a fine not to exceed \$10,000, imprisonment not longer than three years and six months, or both. Although a felon’s right to vote is automatically restored when the person either completes the sentence for the felony or is pardoned, the person must register again to vote if his or her registration was inactivated before his or her voting rights were restored.

After an election is held, each election clerk creates and forwards to the WEC a list of all persons who voted in the election. The Commission checks that list against the information provided by DOC and the Commission refers any instance of voting by a disenfranchised felon to the district attorney for prosecution in the county where the vote was cast.

Celebration of Life



Celebration of life for Gary Gottfried Urben and Carol Ann Urben

Please join us in celebrating the life of Gary Gottfried Urben, age 79, July 27, 1946-March 15, 2026, and Carol Ann Urben (Swenson), age 79, November 2, 1942-July 9, 2022.

They were both graduates of Mt. Horeb High School. Gary was the only son to Gottfried (Gotti) and Olive (Ollie) Urben and the brother to Shirley, Velma and Bonnie and an uncle to many nieces and nephews. Gary had a close relationship with his nephew James (Jimmy) Gilleece who went to be with the Lord one month prior to Gary. Carol was the daughter of Arthur and Gladys Swenson and the sister to Dean, Vivian, Joyce, Donna, Nancy, Mary and Frank. Carol had three children, Tina, Kevin and Bruce and 7 grandchildren and many great grandchildren. They were both loved endlessly by their family and friends and will be missed greatly.

Service for both will be held on Saturday, May 30, 2026, from 1pm-3pm at Zwingli United Church of Christ 1693 Hwy 92, Mt Vernon, WI and grave side service to follow at the Mt Vernon Cemetery, Mt Vernon WI.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mount Horeb Area School District thanks Joel Craven for service

The Mount Horeb Area School District extends its sincere appreciation to Joel Craven for his dedicated service and meaningful contributions as Treasurer of the Mount Horeb Area School District Board of Education.

The school district issued the following statement last week. Throughout his tenure on the Board, Mr. Craven demonstrated an unwavering commitment to fiscal responsibility, transparency, and thoughtful stewardship of District resources. Serving as Treasurer in two of the past three years, he played a critical role in overseeing the District's financial operations—work that proved especially valuable during complex financial planning efforts, including the successful passage of the District referendum. His leadership helped ensure



Departing school board member Joel Craven (left) with current board member Adam Mertz.

sound budgeting practices, careful staging of financial obligations, and long-term financial stability in support of student learning and District priorities.

A financial consultant by profession, Mr. Craven brought deep expertise to his role on the Board while

balancing the demands of owning and expanding his own financial consulting firm. He consistently made himself available to answer questions from fellow Board members, staff, and community members, helping to demystify financial processes and foster trust

through openness and clear communication.

Mr. Craven's thoughtful approach to financial decision-making, attention to detail, and willingness to ask important questions helped guide the Board through challenging discussions with clarity and purpose. His

collaborative mindset and steady leadership ensured that financial decisions reflected the needs of students, staff, and the broader Mount Horeb community.

Beyond his work as Treasurer, Mr. Craven also helped breathe life into District initiatives that celebrate culture and community, including the Viking Skål Awards, which recognize individuals who exemplify the values, pride, and spirit of Mount Horeb. These efforts reflect his belief that strong schools are built not only on sound finances, but also on meaningful traditions and shared recognition.

Mr. Craven's connection to the District runs deep. He and his family have been active members of the Mount Horeb school community, with one child who has graduated from MHASD

and another who will graduate this year. His wife previously served the District as a middle school Spanish teacher, further strengthening the family's ties to education in Mount Horeb.

"Joel Craven's leadership as Treasurer has been instrumental in maintaining the District's strong financial footing," said Dr. Salerno, Superintendent of the Mount Horeb Area School District. "We are grateful for his dedication, professionalism, and commitment to serving our students and community."

The Mount Horeb Area School District offers its heartfelt thanks to Joel Craven for his service, leadership, and lasting impact. We wish him continued success as he expands his professional work and looks ahead to his next chapter.

Forty years and going strong: Mount Horeb Chorale concert is this Sunday



This picture was taken in 2002 of members of the Mount Horeb Chorale just before departing for Ireland to sing a 10-day concert tour.

Forty years is a long time, particularly if you count those years by the number of new songs you have learned and performed. It's going to be somewhere around

400 songs! There are only three original singers from the original Mount Horeb Quasquicentennial Choir that was assembled in 1986 for the celebration of Mount

Horeb's 125th year of existence, Paula Craft, Julie Garfoot and Greg Dennis. It was Paula Craft and Eleanor Arneson taking a break at a "Song of Norway" rehearsal at the Cave of the Mounds, that thought that the singing was so enjoyable in the Quasquicentennial Choir that a choir should be formed again in the spring of 1987. They rounded up as many people as they could and the group sang it's first year as the Mount Horeb Chorale.

Through the years, Mount Horeb has been blessed with many fine musicians, many of them classically trained, that have chosen to teach here or perform here, or both. They are too numerous to name for fear of missing many. However, the concert program will list the names of 11 different piano

accompanists and the many wind and percussion instrumental players who have assisted the singers through the years. You will also see the names of 80 singers in this years chorale. Through the years, there have been over 500 different people who have sung with the Mount Horeb Chorale.

Their concert this Sunday afternoon at 2:30 in the Mount Horeb High School Auditorium will feature the following music:

Hallelujah from the Mount of Olives by Ludvig Von Beethoven
Home on the Range, arranged by Mark Hayes
Melodica solo: Kristin Willcutt
Alleluia by Ralph Manuel
And So It Goes by Billie Joel, arranged by Audrey Snyder
Solo: Shari Sailing
Witness, Spiritual arranged by

Jack Halloran
Big and Bright - performed by the Verona Area Concert Band Flute Ensemble
Heart Like a Wheel - performed by Katie's Family and others.
Nocturne in E flat Major - Dan McMeen on the piano
Navajo Dream by Rick Kirby
Solo: Theresa Judd
Assisted by the Mount Horeb High School Brass and Timpani Ensemble
Remember Me by Gregory Dennis
Solo: Carlin Ramos
In remembrance of over 60 singers who have passed on.
Soon Ah Will Be Done, Spiritual arranged by William L. Dawson
The Lord Bless You and Keep You, by John Rutter

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COMMUNITY

Norsk Golf Club Launches \$300,000 Capital Campaign

After a decade of steady growth, community support, and ongoing improvements, Norsk Golf Club is looking ahead to its next chapter with the launch of a \$300,000 capital campaign focused on enhancing the visitor experience and preserving the facility for future generations.

The campaign will fund critical infrastructure and facility upgrades, including improvements to the driveway and parking areas, updated signage and entrance enhancements, and renovations to the clubhouse bar and bathrooms.

Since local voters approved the Village’s purchase of the property in 2016, the nonprofit Friends of the Norsk has overseen operations and reinvested in the facility, helping transform it into a thriving, year-round community asset.

Over the past 10 years, participation has grown significantly. Annual rounds of golf have more than doubled, youth programming now serves approximately 200 children each season, and the clubhouse, bowling alley, and events calendar have become a central hub for community gatherings including the extremely well attended July 3rd fireworks event.

Now celebrating the 100th anniversary of Norsk, the campaign is positioned not only as an investment in infrastructure, but as a continuation of a community legacy that began nearly a century ago and was reaffirmed by voters just ten years ago.

“That growth doesn’t happen by accident,” said Friends of the Norsk board member Curt Garrity. “Over the past decade, this community has helped transform Norsk into something really special. This campaign is about building on that momentum and making sure the next generation has the same opportunity to gather, play, and connect here.”

To date, \$65,000 has been secured through pledges from all members of the Friends of the Norsk Board of Directors, previous improvement fundraising efforts, and reserves. The board is fully committed and hopeful that the community—including residents and local businesses—will help bring the remaining \$235,000 within reach over the next 6–12 months.

Campaign leaders emphasize that Norsk’s role extends beyond golf. As a public, nonprofit-operated facility offering golf, bowling, dining, and community events, it serves a wide cross-section of the Mount Horeb area—from families and youth programs to local leagues, businesses, and visitors.

“The improvements we’re planning are about the overall experience—from the moment you arrive to the time you leave,” said General Manager Michael Woodward. “Better access, better facilities, and a better experience for everyone who walks through our doors.”

While the organization has invested more than \$1 million in improvements over the past decade—including upgrades to bowling equipment, facilities, and course conditions—leaders say these next projects are essential to maintaining safety, accessibility, and long-term sustainability.

The campaign will roll out over the coming months with opportunities for community members, local businesses, and supporters to contribute through donations, sponsorships, and events.

Supporters note that one of Norsk’s greatest strengths is its broad appeal—not just to golfers, but to families, residents, and community organizations who value the space as a gathering place and a protected piece of local green space.

For more information about the campaign or to learn how to contribute, visit norskclub.com/100 or contact the Friends of the Norsk.

To donate, please visit Norsk or use the QR Code above.



May Afterschool Workshop Celebrates Mount Horeb’s Scandinavian Roots

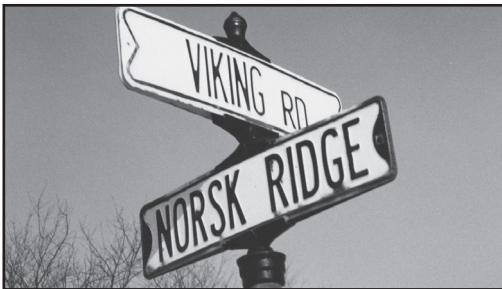
Registration is now open for May’s Hands-on History program at the Driftless Historium (100 S 2nd St, downtown Mount Horeb). “Let’s Celebrate Syttende Mai!” will be held on Tuesday, May 12 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

A mini-parade of flags and Norwegian games will help students learn about Syttende Mai, also known as Norwegian Constitution Day. This significant Scandinavian holiday is still celebrated across America by Norwegians, those with Norwegian ancestors, and people who enjoy festivals and fun! Of course, participants will also be introduced to the folk tradition of rosemaling, or “rose painting,” a floral art form that dots the Mount Horeb landscape.

The workshops are planned and led by museum staff and experienced educators. Participation is absolutely free, due to a generous grant from the Mount Horeb Community Foundation—but capacity is limited to just twenty students per month and registration is required.

For more information related to Hands-on History or to register for the May session, visit mthoreb-history.org and search “Events,” or call 608-437-6486.

Hands-On History will return this fall semester; watch for information about September’s back-to-school session.



This 1998 snapshot from the Mount Horeb Area Historical Society collection shows Scandinavian-inspired street names in the Nordic Hills neighborhood.

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ADMIN

continued from page 1

bernd will replace interim village administrator Jon Hockammer, who has filled the role since longtime administrator Nic Owen left on March 10 to become the new Green County administrator.

Altenbernd currently serves as Belleville’s village administrator, a position he has held since 2023.

Mount Horeb village president Ryan Czyzewski said on Monday of this week that

the village had negotiated an agreement contingent on a background check and village board approval.

Altenbernd has an MPA in City/County Management Fellow from the University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science & History from Drake University.

“Mount Horeb’s need for an adaptable Village Administrator who fosters a collaborative, high performance organization aligns closely with my experience and approach to local government leadership,” wrote Alten-

bernd in his application. “As Village Administrator for the Village of Belleville, I manage a rapidly growing community with complex operations, budgets, and staff recruitment challenges by building strong teams, aligning Board and staff priorities, and delivering high-quality outcomes for residents.”

“Over the next decade, through thoughtful planning and through teamwork, Mount Horeb will be well-positioned to capitalize on opportunities related to workforce recruitment and

retention, community engagement and trust building, and strategic housing and commercial growth, while preserving and promoting the Village’s character and downtown charm,” he continued. “I am well prepared to help implement the Board’s direction and lead staff in meeting these challenges.”

“Mount Horeb’s priorities and expectations match my experience and approach,” Altenbernd added. “I bring a practical, solutions-oriented mindset, strong financial and organizational leader-

ship, and a commitment to effective collaboration. I would welcome the opportunity to support the Village of Mount Horeb’s continued success.”

Prior to his position in Belleville, Altenbernd served as communications manager for the Village of Cottage Grove from June of 2022 to January of 2023. From June of 2021 to May of 2022 he was a communications and management intern in the Village of Waukegan.

Other finalists included Chad Abram, of Prairie du

Chien, Jerry Gabrielatos, of Beloit, and Clare Masson, of Washington, DC.

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Happy MOTHER'S DAY Mom

Another terrific showing for local musicians

Once again, the Mt. Horeb School District had a terrific showing at the State Solo & Ensemble Festival. More than 70 students participated in the festival held at UW-Platteville on Saturday, April 25, 2026.

With more than 80 events entered, Mt. Horeb students performed at a level that places the district among the top programs in the state, with ratings comparable to significantly larger districts such as Verona, Middleton, and Oconomowoc. State-wide, Mt. Horeb has the fourth-most state-qualified events compared to all other participating districts, regardless of size or division. Additionally, Mt. Horeb was the third-largest represented school at the UW-Platteville State Solo & Ensemble site in 2026.

To qualify for the state-level event, students must first select a Class A piece from a preapproved music list, then prepare that music at the highest level, often in collaboration with accompanists and other students. Students first perform at District Solo & Ensemble. Musicians who earn the highest possible ratings at the District Solo & Ensemble Festival in Febru-



This annual event is sponsored by the Wisconsin School Music Association (WSMA), a leader in providing programs and services that challenge youth to achieve excellence through music. Founded in 1932, WSMA is a nonprofit statewide association serving more than 3,500 music teachers and school administrators and more than 100,000 students annually.

ary receive an invitation to perform at the State Solo & Ensemble Festival.

Students learn a tremendous amount from the experience. “I’m thankful for the opportunity to go to State Solo & Ensemble and get feedback from judges to help improve my musical abilities,” said senior Pres-

ton Braverman. Every grade 6–12 student in Mt. Horeb band, choir, and orchestra participates in the Solo & Ensemble unit. During this time, students study a solo or small-group piece of music with a high level of detail. Students then perform the piece for a professional musician and apply

that feedback to future performances. As students advance, they are encouraged to select music from more advanced classes of compositions. Some students also choose to do multiple events; it is not uncommon for advanced students to participate in 10 different events at the district level.

“Musically speaking, the Solo & Ensemble unit is the single most important thing we do as a music department, resulting in the most growth,” said band teacher Kellen Dörner.

This unit also provides students an opportunity to choose their music and musical partners.

“I enjoyed learning music with my friends and using teamwork to create a beautiful piece of music,” Braverman said.

Additionally, WSMA State Solo & Ensemble Festival adjudicators select the most exceptional performances at each festival campus to receive the Exemplary Performance Award, an honor reserved for a small number of stand-out performances at each site. This year, 13 Mt. Horeb nominees performed at the festival. Of that group, four students earned top honors.

The following students received Exemplary Performance nominations:

Henry Dennis: Oboe Solo
Henry Dennis, Mad-die Becker, Josie Sailor, Grant Mlsna, Delilah Gasch: Woodwind Quintet
Kaylynn Duckett and Trinity Alexander: Musical Theater Vocal Duet
Sam Wyse: Alto Saxophone Solo

The following students won Exemplary Performance Awards:

Anika Schaller and Coen Faber: Musical Theater Vocal Duet
Emily Folco and Brinley Steiner: Soprano/Alto Classical Vocal Duet.



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Auxiliary celebrates one-year anniversary



On Thursday, April 16 the Mt. Horeb American Legion Auxiliary celebrated one year. The Auxiliary prepared a taco bar and enjoyed beverages and some cake from Miller and Sons. According to Connie York, there were about 40-45 people in attendance to celebrate the group’s anniversary. Pictured above are York, Kim Treamer and Theresa Hofstetter.



DOGS

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behalf of attorneys from the Animal Activist Legal Defense Project (AALDP) at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law:

“This is a testament to the determination and perseverance of activists in Wisconsin and around the country who never gave up on the dogs. This is their achievement. Every single one of the Ridgland dogs deserves a loving forever home just as much as those we already welcome into our families. Almost a thousand of them will now live out their lives in peace; the remaining dogs deserve nothing less and should also be released immediately. Next, we must

end the abhorrent practice of dog experimentation entirely.”

“The Animal Activist Legal Defense Project has been a central player in the years-long effort to free the Ridgland dogs,” the statement continued. “AALDP represented Dane4Dogs, joined by co-petitioners Alliance for Animals, represented by Kristin Schrank, and animal rescuer Wayne Hsiung of The Simple Heart, in the petition for a special prosecutor that led to the impending closure of Ridgland’s breeding operation.”

AALDP also represented animal rights activist Paul Pickleseimer in his felony criminal prosecution for a 2017 incident in which he allegedly broke into Ridgland

in what activists called an “open rescue,” a case that the Dane County District Attorney eventually dismissed at the urging of Ridgland.

AALDP said it currently represents Wayne Hsiung, who was arrested as part of a recent “open rescue” at Ridgland in March of this year, in which scores of activists broke into the facility and took dogs. Activists broke in again in April.

AALDP said it successfully defended against a SLAPP suit, or Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation, filed by Ridgland against Dane4Dogs.

With the Nonhuman Rights Project, AALDP filed a habeas corpus lawsuit asserting the right of the Ridgland dogs to be free

from cruelty and demanding their protection and release, essentially arguing that non-human animals have the same rights as humans under the law.

On April 30, the Dane County Humane Society announced that it, as well as several other organizations, would be involved with caring for the dogs.

“Dane County Humane Society (DCHS), in partnership with Beagle Freedom Project, the Wisconsin Puppy Mill Project, and Wisconsin Federated Humane Societies, will assist in the care and placement of dogs being released from Ridgland Farms, a breeding facility in Blue Mounds,” said a statement issued by DCHS. “Earlier this week, Ridgland Farms agreed to transfer ownership of 1,500 dogs to the Center for a Humane Economy and Big Dog Ranch Rescue.”

“DCHS and its partners

will work together to place 500 of these dogs,” the statement continued. “The exact number of dogs coming to DCHS is still being determined.”

“In the coming weeks, a coordinated team of trained staff and volunteers will transport these 500 dogs from Ridgland Farms to DCHS’s care to conduct veterinary exams, provide immediate medical care and vaccinations, and facilitate transfer to partner shelters and rescues,” they said. “Veterinary oversight is being led by board-certified shelter medicine specialists, ensuring the highest standards of care during this process.”

“We’re incredibly grateful to see this moment finally come together,” said Amy Good, DCHS’s director of development and marketing. “Individuals and organizations across Wisconsin and beyond have stepped

up to make sure these dogs get the chance they deserve, and now our community has the opportunity to carry that forward. As these beagles begin their next chapter, we’ll need continued support to help them adjust, heal, and thrive.”

At this time, the Ridgland Farms beagles are not available for public viewing, but DCHS created an interest form for potential adopters and fosters, yet this is not a waitlist and DCHS is not maintaining one.

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SPORTS

What a day at the ballpark

Despite loss,
Mount Horeb
has a blast at
Am Fam Field
by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor

MILWAUKEE — Josh Kuntz and Hayden Anderson sat inside American Family Field — home of the Milwaukee Brewers — last Saturday afternoon.

Mount Horeb’s gifted seniors gazed around the stadium that holds 42,000 people, has five retired numbers hanging in the outfield, and cost more than \$400 million to build 25 years ago.

As Kuntz and Anderson took it all in, they had one shared thought.

“This was awesome,” Kuntz said.

“Just a lot of fun,” Anderson added.

That’s for sure.

The Vikings dropped a 6-5 decision to Oregon on a walk-off error in what both teams played as largely an exhibition game. Despite the loss, though, Mount

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HAPPY VIKINGS!
Mount Horeb’s baseball team battled Oregon at Milwaukee’s American Family Field last Saturday afternoon. Photo submitted

Vikings keep
on rolling
Mount Horeb’s softball
team improves to 14-2

by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor

Mount Horeb’s sensational softball season rolled on last week.

The Vikings won all three of their games and improved to 14-2 overall. Mount Horeb has won seven games in a row and is 8-1 in the Badger Small Conference, one game behind league-leading Stoughton (10-0, 14-1) in the loss column.

The Vikings defeated Reedsburg, 10-0, on April 28 and blanked McFarland, 7-0, on April 30. Mount Horeb then bested Fort Atkinson, 13-3, on May 1.

“I am very pleased with how the girls are playing

right now,” Mount Horeb manager Jeramie Holman said. “We have three phases we go by — hitting, pitching and defense — and they are doing all three right now extremely well.

“We are two innings away from being undefeated. We still have a lot of work ahead of us, and the girls are ready for the challenge.”

Here’s a recap of the Vikings’ week.

- **Mount Horeb 10, Reedsburg 0 (5)** — The host Vikings banged out 11 hits and rolled past the Beavers in a game stopped after five innings due to the mercy rule.

Catcher Sonja Schreiber

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Sonja Schreiber and Mount Horeb’s girls softball team went 3-0 last week and pushed their winning streak to seven games. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

Golfers capture Warrior Invite

Niemetscheck, Ibinger share medalist honors
by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor

Mount Horeb’s boys golf team is in the busiest stretch of its season.

And the Vikings had a highly productive week, highlighted by a first place finish at the Portage Warrior Invite at Portage Golf Club on May 1.

The Vikings posted a season-best team total of 314 to take first in Division 1 by 17 strokes over Sauk Prairie (331). Mount Horeb also claimed the overall team title by 11 strokes over Columbus/Fall River (325).

“Great performance from all of our team one through five at Portage,” Mount Horeb coach Nolan Krentz said. “We have had success at this invite over the years, but it was our first time winning since 2023.”

Mount Horeb senior Nick Ibinger and freshman Nolan Niemetscheck shared medalist honors with matching 2-over-par, 73s.

Ibinger made a birdie at the par-4, seventh hole on his way to an even-par 35 on the front nine. Ibinger then birdied the par-5, 13th hole and the par-4 18th hole on his way to a 2-over, 38 on the back.

Niemetscheck carded a 38 on the front that included a birdie at the par-5, ninth hole. Then he played the back nine in 1-under, 35 that was highlighted by birdies at No. 12, 13 and 18.

Sophomore Jace Stadele carded an 83 that included a birdie at the par-5, ninth hole and eight pars. And sophomore Max Boyle shot an 85 that included a birdie on the par-5, 13th hole and six pars.

Junior Finn La Fleur added an 86, but only the top four scores count towards the team total.

“Both Nick and Nolan were fantastic and Jace, Max, and Finn all had solid days as well,” Krentz said. “Fun to watch everyone play well and build off of that momentum as a team throughout the round.”

Mount Horeb competed in three other tournaments, as well. Here’s how the Vikings fared at those.

NEVADA BOB’S SHOWCASE

The Vikings finished with a team score of 343 and tie for 13th at the elite 18-team field held at University Ridge Golf Course



Nolan Niemetscheck (above) and Nick Ibinger (right) helped Mount Horeb’s boys golf team win the Portage Warrior Invite on May 1. Photos courtesy of Mary Langenfeld



on April 28.

Middleton claimed the team title with a 296 followed by Madison West with a 301. Milton and Waunakee each carded a 303.

Freshman Nolan Niemetscheck led Mount Horeb with an 81 and tied for 35th in the 90-player field. Niemetscheck birdied both No. 2 and 15 and parred five holes during his round.

Senior Nick Ibinger finished with an 84, making birdies at No. 6 and 13 and adding six pars on the day.

Junior Finn La Fleur posted an 86 that included a birdie at the par-3, eighth hole along with six pars. Senior Jacob McWilliams added a 92, while sophomore Jace Stadele had a 94.

“We had a solid day,” Krentz said. “This was our first big event since the Troy Ryan Invite earlier in April, so it was nice to see where we stack up against the best teams in the area.

“We were paired with two of the top three finishers in Madison West and Milton and it was a great opportunity for our players to play with some of the best individuals in the state. For our younger players, it showed just how much time and effort and as a result the

scores that are needed in order to truly be competitive in both our conference and in our regional and sectional.”

HOLMEN INVITE

Mount Horeb tied for 17th out of 20 teams at the Holmen Invite held at The Golf Club at Cedar Creek in Onalaska on April 29.

Waunakee won the team title with a 305, followed by Onalaska (307) and Madison West (314). The Vikings carded a 352.

Stadele and Niemetscheck led Mount Horeb with rounds of 86. Both players finished with seven pars each on the day, highlighted by Stadele’s par on the difficult, 452-yard par-four 15th hole.

La Fleur had an 89 and senior Andrew Bennin chipped in with a 91.

“It was a great day, as always, playing Cedar

Creek,” Krentz said. “Not only is it the best course we play all year, it is by far the most challenging.

“Throw in a difficult setup and winds gusting to 30-plus miles per hour at times and scoring was very difficult for everyone in the field. Our inexperience playing on a course as long and demanding as Cedar Creek was evident, as was our decision-making at times throughout the round, especially playing into the wind. Definitely a learning experience for our players moving forward this season.”

RIVER VALLEY INVITATIONAL

The Vikings finished sixth out of 14 teams at the River Valley Invite held at House of the Rock Resort in Spring Green on May 2.

Conference rival Reedsburg claimed the team title

with a 324, followed by Cuba City/Benton/Southwestern and host River Valley, who both shot 347. Mount Horeb shot a 353.

Ibinger and Stadele led Mount Horeb with rounds of 84, tying for seventh individually in the 73-player field. Ibinger birdied both No. 13 and 15 and finished with four pars, while Stadele birdied No. 3 and added seven pars during his round.

Boyle carded a 92 and Niemetscheck added a 93.

“Night and day performance by our team on Saturday in Spring Green compared to the day before at Portage,” Krentz said. “The old adage, ‘It’s hard to back up a good round’ came into play for us. We struggled keeping the ball

in play, and when we did get into trouble, often times found ourselves trying to pull off the heroic shot instead of the safe shot, costing us several strokes.

“Fatigue definitely played a role in some of our decision-making playing in our fourth event this week, but most of the other teams were in the same boat playing in their third or fourth event, as well.

“We did have a few bright spots as Nick got off to a rough start, but was able to respond, playing his final seven holes in 1-over par, while Jace was consistent from start to finish throughout the day in posting his third consecutive round in the mid-80s.”

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Mount Horeb's boys track team sixth at Paul Frank Invite

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

Mount Horeb's boys finished in sixth place at the 15-team Paul Frank Invite held at Sun Prairie East High School on May 1. The Vikings' girls finished in 11th place.

Verona won the boys meet with 101 points, while Mount Horeb had 54 points. Verona also won the girls event with 101 points, while Mount Horeb had 29 points.

Here were the Vikings' top-10 finishers.

- BOYS**
- 100-meter dash — 5. Devyn Uptegraw, 11.40.

110-meter hurdles — 7. Andrew Jones, 16.51.

3,200-meter relay — 5. Jaxon Hughes, Nate Sher-ven, Gavin Van Gorden, Desmond Kelley (8:57.71).

1,600-meter run — Samuel Wyse, 4:44.08.

800-meter relay — 2. Colton Bell, Kyle Frischmann, Django Chris-tian, Devyn Uptegraw, 1:31.87.

400-meter relay — 9. Kyle Frischmann, Devyn Uptegraw, Ben Rothamer, Colton Bell (44.35).

300-meter hurdles — 3. Andrew Jones, 42.20.

200-meter dash — 2. Kyle Frischmann, 22.75.

Discus — 4. Harrison Walker, 139-10; 5. Jack Wil-son, 139-2.

High jump — 3. Max Grundahl, 6-0.

Long jump — Kyle Frischmann, 20-7 ½.

Triple jump — 5. Django Christian, 41-8 ¾.

- GIRLS**
- 100-meter dash — 3.

- Aicha Dowling, 13.14; 8. Eleanor Guenther, 13.47.

3,200-meter relay — 9. Maeve Treu, Mia Barcheski, Paige Stenner, Kira Buttner (11:07.26).

1,600-meter run — 6. Maeve True, 5:36.92.

800-meter relay — 4. Julie Zimmer, Eleanor Guenther, Emerson Kroll, Aicha Dowling (1:48.75).

400-meter relay — 5. Julia Zimmer, Avena Mey-ers, Emerson Kroll, Eleanor Guenther, 51.50.

200-meter dash — 9. Aicha Dowling, 27.53.

3,200-meter run — 8. Lily Wahl, 12:52.29.

Long jump — 7. Avena Meyers, 6-4 ¾.

Triple jump — 3. Avena Myers, 35-1 ¼.
- BOYS FIRST**
- Andrew Jones in the 110-meter hurdles (16.30).

• Alexander Feltz in the 110-meter hurdles (17.62).

• Django Christian in the triple jump (41-6 ¾).

• Harrison Walker in the discus (140-0).
- SECOND**
- Kyle Frischmann in the 100-meter dash (11.78).

• Noah Koltz in the 3,200-meter run (15:39.36).
- THIRD**
- Gavin Van Gorden in the 800-meter run (2:17.28).

• Max Grundahl in the long jump (18-11).

• Alexander Feltz in the pole vault (11-0).

Gavin Reynolds in the shot put (37-9 ½).

REEDSBURG QUADRANGULAR

Mount Horeb's boys and girls also competed at the Reedsburg Quad on April 28.

Waunakee won the boys' meet with 85 points, fol-lowed by Reedsburg (48), Mount Horeb (36) and Sauk Prairie (14).

Waunakee also won the girls' title with 118 points, followed by Reedsburg (34), Mount Horeb (16) and Sauk Prairie (15).

Here were the Vikings' that earned top-three fin-ishes

- GIRLS FIRST**
- Aicha Dowling in the 100-meter dash (13.25).

• Avena Myers in the long jump (16-4 ¼).
- THIRD**
- Emerson Kroll in the 100-meter dash (13.90).



Desmond Kelley helped Mount Horeb's boys track and field team finish sixth at the Paul Frank Invite on May 1. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld



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Boys lacrosse team wins three of four

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

Verona’s boys lacrosse team, which includes players from Mount Horeb, won three of four games last week.

The Wildcats defeated Sauk Prairie, 13-4, on April 27 and dropped an 8-7 overtime decision to Mukwonago on April 29.

Verona then defeated Kimberly, 9-2, and University School, 6-4, at the Badger Spring Invite at the Woodside Sports Complex in Wisconsin Dells on May 2.

Here’s a recap of the Wildcats’ games.

- **Verona 13, Sauk Prairie 4** — Mason Williams of Mount Horeb scored six goals as the Wildcats rolled on April 27.
- Cooper Blodgett added two goals and two assists, while Gabe Weisensel had two goals. Ryder Blodgett had a goal and an assist, while Jackson Bubbers had a goal.
- Brady Bowdish had a goal and forced a turnover, while Cullen Olson of Mount Horeb forced a turnover.
- Riley Stagman won 80% of his faceoffs, while Olin Olson had seven saves and

Caleb Jabas didn’t allow a goal.

- **Mukwonago 8, Verona 7 (2 OTs)** — Gabe Weisensel, Ryden Blodgett and Mason Williams both had two goals for the Wildcats in a loss to the Indians.
- Caleb Jabas added 20 saves for the Wildcats.
- **Verona 9, Kimberly 2** — Cooper Blodgett had four goals in the Wildcats’ win over the Papermakers.
- Ryder Blodgett added two goals and an assist, while Mason Williams had one goal and two assists. Gabe Weisensel had a goal and an assist, and Cullen Olson had a goal and forced two turnovers.
- Simon Williams had an assist and Ayden Jagla forced a turnover. Riley Stagman won 87% of his faceoffs and Caleb Jabas had 10 saves.
- **Verona 6, University School of Milwaukee 4** — Cooper Blodgett had two goals and Verona downed U-School.
- Ryder Blodgett, Gabe Weisensel, Simon Williams and Cullen Olson all had goals, as well. Mason Williams had an assist, Riley Stagman won 86% of his faceoffs and Caleb Jabas had 11 saves.

Girls lacrosse team cruises by Middleton

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

Verona’s girls lacrosse team, which includes players from Mount Horeb, rolled to a 13-1 win over Middleton on May 1.

Rae Olson, a freshman from Mount Horeb, had three goals. Sam Genin, a senior captain, had three goals and two assists.

Junior captain Ava Anderson also had three goals, while Magali Forlines — a junior from Mount Horeb — had one goal and one assist. Junior Emma Frick added a goal and an assist, while junior captain Zoe Engelke had a goal.

Ellie Schultz, a sophomore from Mount Horeb, had a goal, while senior captain Emma Yeager had eight saves.

“This one tested our girls in ways that had nothing to do with the opponent,” Verona coach Brian Feiler said. “The whistle was blowing all night. We picked up four

yellow cards by halftime and lost our best player shortly after the first quarter because of it. So we’re playing down a player for almost the entire second half. That’s tough for any team, let alone a group of high school girls trying to play fast, competitive lacrosse.

“But, they handled it well. They stayed mentally tough, kept their composure, and never stopped competing. The defense didn’t allow a single goal in the second half while being short-handed. That’s elite level play.

“They were disciplined, communicating, and locked in every possession. We forced a ton of turnovers, dominated the draw circle, and the offense scored with ease when we had the ball. I wish the game could have been played differently, but I couldn’t be more proud of how these girls responded. They overcame a lot tonight and got the win they deserved.”



Anneka Polman and Mount Horeb’s girls softball team improved to 14-2 this season after rolling to three wins last week. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

SOFTBALL

continued from page 11

had two hits, a double and drove in two runs, while left fielder Delaina Nicewander had two hits, scored three runs and had an RBI. Third baseman Elaina Imbus had two hits, scored two runs and had an RBI, while center fielder/pitcher Jozie Clifton had two hits, scored two runs and had an RBI.

Ella Baber threw four shutout innings and earned the win. Baber struck out seven walked two and allowed just two hits.

Clifton then worked the seventh, allowed one hit and struck out one.

“The girls continued to hit the ball well and our pitchers are starting to get in a groove and shutting teams down,” Holman said.

- **Mount Horeb 7, McFarland 0** — The visiting Vikings pounded out

14 hits and rolled past the Spartans on April 30.

Ella Baber picked up the win, throwing five scoreless innings and giving up just one hit. Baber struck out nine, walked one and threw strikes on 52 of 78 pitches (66.7%).

Jozie Clifton then threw the final two innings, struck out three and allowed two hits.

Left fielder Delaina Nicewander had a huge day at the plate, with a home run, two hits and five RBIs. Emily Wittenwyler went 3-for-4 with a triple and scored a run, while Clifton went 3-for-3 and scored two runs.

Shortstop Lauren Mester went 2-for-3 and scored two runs, while third baseman Elaina Imbus went 2-for-4 with an RBI.

“McFarland’s pitcher (Ella Schuchardt) gave us fits last year,” Holman said. “Both games were 2-1 and

this year the girls have responded very nicely beating her both times quite easily.”

- **Mount Horeb 13, Fort Atkinson 3 (5)** — The Vikings scored in every inning — highlighted by a six-run fourth — and toppled the visiting Blackhawks on May 1.
- Left fielder Delaina Nicewander continued her sensational season with a pair of home runs and a whopping six RBIs. Nicewander went 3-for-4 and scored three runs.
- Third baseman Elaina Imbus went 4-for-4, scored three runs and had an RBI, while center fielder Jozie Clifton went 3-for-3, scored two runs and had an RBI.
- Shortstop Lauren Mester went 2-for-4, scored two runs and had two RBIs, and pitcher Ella Baber added two RBIs.
- Second baseman Emily Wittenwyler had an RBI

and scored a run, and catcher Sonja Schreiber added a double.

Baber threw four strong innings and picked up the win. Baber allowed just one run, two hits, struck out four and walked one.

“Fort Atkinson’s record seems a little deceiving,” Holman said. “They can hit the ball, but they just give up too many runs and our and girls stayed hot with double digit hits again.

“Delaina hit three home runs in two nights, and we have four to five girls seeing the ball very well right now.”

- **On deck:** Mount Horeb was at Madison Edgewood Monday, then hosted the Crusaders Tuesday. The Vikings host Sauk Prairie Thursday at 5 p.m., then travel to Stoughton on May 12 for what could be a conference championship game.

CHURCH NOTES

Perry Lutheran Church ELCA 1057 Hwy 78 S, Mt. Horeb 608-437-5294 Sunday Worship 9:00 am www.perrylutheranchurchelca.org	Mt. Horeb Evangelical Lutheran Church – ELCA 315 E. Main St. 608-437-5012 www.elcmthoreb.org 5 pm Saturday Worship 9 am Sunday Worship	New Hope Evangelical Free Church 639 S. Eighth St., Mt. Horeb Phone: 608-437-3273 www.newhopeefc.org Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	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
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 Vernon United Church of Christ 1693 Washington St. Verona 608-832-6677 Sunday Worship, in-person and on Facebook Live, 10:15 am Bible Study 9am-10am We are an Open and Affirming Congregation	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	Good News Lutheran Church - WELS 9975 Pepper Dr, Mt Horeb Pastor Jonathan Bauer Thursday Worship: 6:30 pm Sunday Worship: 9:00 am Sunday School and Bible Study: 10:15 am 608-437-4646 GoodNewsLC.org
Mt. Horeb United Methodist Corner of Hwy. S & Hwy. 78 Sunday Worship: 9am online and in person umcmh.org Celebrating God's Inclusive Love	Vermont Lutheran Church- ELCA 9886 Vermont Church Road Black Earth, WI 53515 www.vermontlutheran.org 608-767-3312 (office) Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m.	West Blue Mounds Lutheran Church 2962 Church St., Blue Mounds 608-437-3493 Pastor Jim Ranney Worship: Every 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month, 10 am twosteeple.org	

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VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB PUBLIC HEARING MAY 27, 2026

The Plan Commission of the Village of Mount Horeb will hold a public hearing on the above date at 7:00pm in the Board Room of the Municipal Building, 138 E Main Street, Mount Horeb, WI.
The purpose of the hearing is to consider an application from JT Klein Company, INC for an amendment to the PD-Planned Development General Development Plan to construct two multi-family residential apartment buildings at 101 Perimeter Road further described as parcel 0606-124-0065-1. The proposed amendment includes one additional dwelling unit for a total of 90. The existing General Development Plan allows up to a total of 89 dwelling units.
The Village Board, by its Plan Commission will hear all persons concerning all matters and/or objections written or oral at that time.

Publish: 4/30/26, 5/7/26 **WNAXLP**

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TOWN OF PERRY PUBLIC NOTICE

**Town of Perry Tire Collection Days
Saturday, May 2 and Saturday, May 9, 2026**

Tires will be accepted from 8:00 AM until noon at the Town Recycling Center, 10832 CTH A, Daleyville.

Fees will be charged as follows:

Car Tire	\$ 6.00
Small truck or implement tire	\$ 8.00
Large truck tire	\$ 18.00
Small tractor tire	\$ 29.00
Large tractor tire	\$ 35.00

Residents are encouraged to participate in this semi-annual opportunity to dispose of tires properly and to contribute to the Town of Perry's recycling efforts.

Mary L. Price, Clerk

Publish: 4/30/26, 5/7/26 **WNAXLP**

TOWN OF PERRY TOWN BOARD MEETING AGENDA Tuesday, May 12, 2026

**Perry Town Hall, 10084 County Highway A
Approx. 7:45 PM, following Board of Review 1st session**
Video call link:

<https://meet.google.com/xcc-ohtf-ncd>

1. Call to order. Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Announcements.
3. Road bids and contracts – 2026 Road repairs.
4. Comments by Town residents – non-agenda items.
5. Land Use:
 - a. Jordan Abruzzo, 9738 Overland Rd – accessory building.
 - b. Driftless Area Land Conservancy and BadgerLand Foundation – presentation from organizations' representatives, resolution of support.
 - c. Wind turbines; Solar array siting process.
6. Roads, Equipment, Facilities:
 - a. Protect Local Roads resolution.
 - b. Petition to Vacate Grove Street – Terry Miller.
 - c. Recycling Center.
 - d. Aaron Skogen – ATV/UTV access on Town roads.
 - e. Dane Co. Bridge Aid – Sherven Rd. bridge.
7. Treasurer's Report.
8. Friends of the Parks of Perry report.
9. Parks and Open Space Committee report.
10. Dane Co. Towns Association and Wisconsin Towns Association discussions.
11. Community meeting / correspondence to elected representatives update.
12. Minutes of Previous Meetings – April 14 and April 21, 2026.
13. Pay Bills due.
14. Succession planning. Confirm Clerk/Treasurer at Clerk's retirement.
15. Closed Session. Dane Co. Circuit Court case 15CV0065 DSG; Hauge Historic District Park easement negotiations: convene a closed session under WI § 19.85(1)(g) to confer with legal counsel concerning strategy and WI §19.85(1)(b) and (c) personnel.
16. Adjournment.

Action might be taken on any agenda item shown above. Public comment might be invited on any agenda item presented.

Stephanie Zwettler, Deputy Town Clerk
www.perry-wi.gov

Posted: May 7, 2026 – Town Hall, Town Garage, Daleyville Signpost, Town website.

Publish: 5/7/26 **WNAXLP**

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VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB PUBLIC HEARING MAY 27, 2026

The Plan Commission of the Village of Mount Horeb will hold a public hearing on the above date at 7:00pm in the Board Room of the Municipal Building, 138 E Main Street, Mount Horeb, WI.

The purpose of the hearing is to consider a Conditional Use Permit Application from TJK Design Build, Inc to allow an exception to the Mount Horeb Zoning code 17.07.02 (3)(a). related to the design requirements for buildings within the Springdale Street corridor being located at or within 30 feet of all abutting street rights-of-way and on-site traffic circulation within the 30-foot area for a proposed Multi-Tenant building at 100 Lillehammer Lane, Lot 4 North Cape Commons, parcel 0607-074-9685-1.

The Village Board, by its Plan Commission will hear all persons concerning all matters and/or objections written or oral at that time.

Publish: 5/7/26, 5/14/26 **WNAXLP**

TOWN OF PERRY INVITATION TO BID FOR ROAD REPAIRS

The Town of Perry will accept bids for sealcoating on the following Town roads in 2026. Contractors interested in bidding should contact Town Patrolman Mark Eastman at 608-513-1359 for more information.

Single Sealcoat:

Clean existing road surface, apply emulsified asphalt with full-width sprayer, cover with 3/8-inch washed pea stone, and roll with pneumatic tire roller.

Overland Rd	1.12 mi
Dead End Rd	0.61 mi
Dead End Ln	0.48 mi
Perry Center Rd from CTH JG to Keller Rd	0.43 mi
Albert Haag Rd	0.19 mi
Town Hall parking lot	approx. 5000 sq ft

Sealed bids are due by Monday, May 11, 2026, at 5:00 PM.

Hand deliver or mail to:

Town Deputy Clerk, Stephanie Zwettler
9730 County Rd A
Mount Horeb, WI 53572

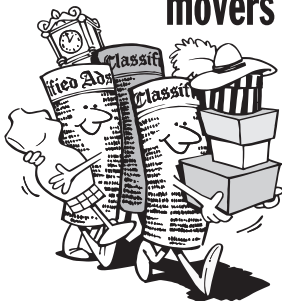
Bids will be opened and awarded at the regular Town Board meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, beginning at 7:30 PM, at the Perry Town Hall, 10084 County Rd A.

The Town of Perry reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any technicality in any bid, and accept any bid deemed most advantageous to the Town of Perry.

Stephanie Zwettler, Deputy Clerk

Publish: 4/30/26, 5/7/26 **WNAXLP**

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BASEBALL

continued from page 11

Horeb was giddy about the chance to play where Brice Turang and William Contreras call home.

“You know, just being able to play here with everybody on the team is a really cool thing,” said Kuntz, a four-year letterwinner who typically plays center field. “I mean, obviously it doesn’t end how you want it to sometimes, but I think what mattered at the end of the day is just having fun with your buddies and making memories out here.”

Anderson agreed.

“I mean, it’s fun to just get these young guys out here and get them some playing time on this field,” said Anderson, another four-year letterwinner who pitches and plays first base. “I think we all just have a lot of fun coming out here. I’d say every time you come and watch a Brewer game, it’s pretty cool to say you’ve played on this field.”

The Brewers offer a program that allows high school baseball teams to play at American Family Field if they sell a certain number of tickets for future games. Oregon manager Jake Soule and Finley are close friends, and the two managers alternate inviting the other.

This year was Mount Horeb’s home game and the Vikings were asked to sell \$12,400 worth of tickets. Mount Horeb wound up selling \$18,500 of tickets for Milwaukee’s June 26 game against the Chicago Cubs.

“It’s a great experience, something they’ll remember the rest of their life coming here with their buds,” said Finley, whose team has met Oregon here three straight seasons. “We still want to win the game. It’s a competitive game, but it’s not the same as a typical game where you’re battling the competitive edge of wanting to win because you want to give people their opportunity. Hopefully we get to keep coming back, but it’s never a guarantee.”

The teams were tied, 5-5,

in the bottom of the seventh when Kuntz — who rarely pitches — walked the bases loaded with two outs. Finley paid a visit to the mound and he and Kuntz set up a play where they tried picking off Calvin Ritter at first.

Instead, Kuntz’s throw was wild, allowing Tony Perkins to race home from third with the winning run. The loss ended Mount Horeb’s three-game losing streak and the Vikings slipped to 7-5 overall.

“We just have a timing play where once I lift my leg, our first baseman breaks,” Kuntz said. “It just didn’t go how we wanted to there.”

Predictably, neither team could gain much momentum in a game where 19 different Vikings got an at-bat and Oregon sent 14 players to the plate. Mount Horeb also used five pitchers, while the Panthers used seven.

“You just want to give people experiences,” Finley said. “You don’t know the game’s going to turn out. It’s just more about getting opportunities for as many kids as you can.”

Oregon scored a pair of unearned runs in the first after two Mount Horeb errors. The Vikings began chipping away, though, and scored two runs in both the third and fourth innings and took a 4-2 lead.

In the third, shortstop Easton Mesenberg and Kuntz drew walks to lead off the inning. Catcher Jackson Myers then walked with one out to load the bases.

Terek Isely followed with a sacrifice fly that scored Mesenberg and pulled the Vikings within 2-1. After Anderson reached on an infield single to reload the bases, Ethan Morrisard reached on an error that scored Kuntz and tied the game, 2-2.

Mount Horeb then struck for two runs in the fourth without a base hit and took a 4-2 lead.

Pinch hitter Connor Casey was hit by a pitch to lead off the inning, then Mesenberg walked. Kuntz reached on an error that

scored Casey, and two batters later, Myers reached on an error that scored Mesenberg to give Mount Horeb a 4-2 lead.

“We both kind of have the same philosophy,” Finley said of himself and Soule, the Oregon manager. “We wanted to make sure it’s a good experience for everybody, so we both use a ton of kids.”

Oregon struck for three runs off reliever Brecken Dudley in the bottom of the fifth to take a 5-4 lead. The highlight for the Panthers came when Ben Borchardt tripled to right to score Easton Wilk with the tying run. When the ball was mis-played by the Mount Horeb right fielder, Borchardt came home to score and give the Panthers a 5-4 lead.

Mount Horeb evened things up in the top of the sixth, despite going deep into its bench.

Evan Preimesberger led off the inning with a walk and moved to second on a one-out single from Carter Vesely. Preimesberger moved to third on a fielder’s choice, then came home on a wild pitch that tied the game, 5-5.

Oregon loaded the bases with one out in the bottom of the sixth, but Morrisard worked out of the jam. First, Morrisard froze Wilk and struck him out looking. Second baseman Ryan Kuntz then made a nifty play on a smash from Borchardt and threw him out at first.

“That was a really good play,” Finley said of Ryan Kuntz. “The big smile on his face coming off the field — that’s kind of what it’s about when you come down here. It’s kind of the middle of the season and we all gather together and have a little fun here at Am Fam.”

While Oregon exited with a win, the Vikings still left feeling good about where their season is headed.

Mount Horeb is in third place in the Badger Small Conference at 4-3. The Vikings had allowed just five runs during their three-game winning streak. And after losing three in a row in late April, Mount Horeb has

seemingly found a groove.

“I think our bats are getting hot right around this time,” Anderson said. “We struggled at the beginning season, but I think overall we’re getting hot at the right time.”

Josh Kuntz agreed.

“I mean, we’ve got a ton of guys that can hit,” Josh Kuntz said. “Our fielding is excellent, our pitching is amazing this year. As long as we just keep relying on each other and believing, we should be OK.”

Added Finley: “We’ve got a good team. We’re building some depth, and we’ve got some guys stepping up. We’ve got a lot of arms, so we’ll be all right.”

• **Mount Horeb 6, McFarland 0** — Hayden Anderson threw a three-hit shutout to lead the Cardinals past the Spartans on April 28.

Anderson struck out five, walked three and threw strikes on 62 of 103 pitches.

Center fielder Josh Kuntz led the Vikings’ offense with a triple, a run scored and two RBIs. Designated hitter Connor Casey had two hits and scored two runs, while Sawyer Diercks had a hit, an RBI and scored a run.

“Outstanding effort all the way around,” Ryan Finley said. “Hayden was dominant on the mound, throwing a lot of strikes and commanding his off-speed pitches really well today.”

“Defensively we were flawless behind him and offensively we made the most of our seven hits. Kuntz is really catching fire right now and drove in a couple of runs in the process. It was great getting back on track in conference play.”

• **Mount Horeb 8, McFarland 5** — Jackson Myers homered and Terek Isley drove in three runs as the Vikings downed the Spartans on April 30.

Myers finished the day going 2-for-2 with two runs scored, two RBIs and his home run, while Isley went 2-for-4 with a double and three RBIs.

Hayden Anderson also had two RBIs, while Josh Kuntz scored three runs.



Josh Kuntz and Mount Horeb’s baseball team enjoyed a solid week that included two wins over McFarland. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

“That was a gutty win by our boys as McFarland played really good baseball,” Ryan Finley said. “We didn’t play as cleanly defensively as we did (April 28) and offensively we struck out more often than we usually do, but guys made plays when it mattered.”

“It was the definition of a team win. We had big hits up and down the line-up and guys making plays defensively when we needed it.”

Jaxen Finley started and earned the win after throwing six solid innings. Finley allowed three earned runs (five total), struck out three and allowed seven hits.

Brecken Dudley then threw a clean seventh and picked up the save.

“Finley didn’t have his best stuff tonight, walking five guys in six innings, but he came up big when we needed him and allowed only three earned in his six innings as he earned the win,” Ryan Finley said of Jaxen. “Dudley did a great job in relief in the seventh inning picking up his first save of the season.”

• **Ford update:** Mount Horeb left fielder Logan

Ford, a second-team all-Badger Small Conference player last season, has been out roughly three weeks with a foot injury.

Finley said Ford will be getting a cast off soon, though, and he’s optimistic his standout will be back before the postseason arrives in late-May.

“We took a little step back emotionally trying to figure things out when he got hurt,” Finley said of Ford. “It took a little bit to replace him because he’s a catalyst for us offensively and defensively.”

“He doesn’t need a lot of practice. So if he gets healthy, he’ll be able to help us for sure.”

• **On deck:** Mount Horeb traveled to Baraboo Monday, then was at Edgewood Tuesday. The Vikings then host Edgewood Friday at 5 p.m. in its “Strike Out Cancer” game.

The game will help support 5-year-old kindergarten Charlotte “Lottie” Sutter in her battle against Wilms Tumor. The game will include concessions, a silent auction and a 50/50 raffle. All proceeds will go to Sutter’s family.

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