

COMMUNITY

Historical Society Celebrates Brian Bigler and His 51 Years of Service



Guests were asked to wear plaid as a special nod to the guest of honor’s signature style. Bigler is in the front row, sixth in from the right.

As part of its year-long 50th anniversary festivities, the Mount Horeb Area Historical Society hosted its final Legacy Volunteer Reception in honor of co-founder Brian Bigler. On Thursday, May 7th, nearly

one hundred community members gathered at the Society’s downtown Driftless Historium in tribute to Brian’s impressive fifty-one year (and counting!) tenure. Starting when he was just nineteen years old, Brian has

spent decades shaping and strengthening the Society by serving as President, Board member, exhibit designer, event planner, curator and tour guide. Undoubtedly, his most enduring legacy is MHAHS’s diverse and

comprehensive collection. Because of his outreach efforts—and countless hours spent at estate and garage sales, nearly every aspect of Southwestern Dane County history is represented. In recognition of his dedica-

tion, the Folk & Outsider Art Collection has been named in his honor. Founded in 1975, the Mount Horeb Area Historical Society collects, preserves, and shares the stories of southwestern

Dane County. For more information about MHAHS and how to join its volunteer team, call 608-437-3486 or email mthorebahs@gmail.com.

Town of Perry to Receive High-Speed Internet Service from TDS Telecom

TDS Telecommunications Inc. has announced it will bring high-speed internet service to residents of the Town of Perry. In a January 10, 2024, letter to State Senator Dianne Hesselbein and Representative Mike Bare, TDS committed to upgrading Perry’s existing low-speed copper wire network by building a new broadband fiber optic network in the town. The new network will offer speeds exceeding 100/20 megabits per second (Mbps). The average speed in Perry is 13/4 Mbps. The project represents a significant multimillion-dollar investment by TDS, supported by federal funding to improve broadband connectivity in rural communities, including the Town of Perry. The multi-year effort will affect approximately 700 addresses in the town and a total of 1,480 addresses, including those around the town. Under FCC rules, the project must be completed by 2028.

On June 2, 2026, a Groundbreaking Ceremony was held at the old Perry Town Hall, which had historically served as a schoolhouse. The Town Hall was built in 1854, twenty-two years before Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone in 1876, famously calling his assistant, saying, “Mr. Watson, come here, I want to see you.”



Pictured holding groundbreaking shovels, from left to right are: Jaron McCallum, Dane County Broadband Coordinator, Dane County Planning and Development Department; Angie Dickison, Senior Manager, State Government Affairs, TDS Telecom Inc.; Kit Beyer, Director of External Affairs and Communications, TDS Telecom Inc.; WI Senator Howard Marklein; Roger Kittleson, Chairman, Town of Perry; WI Representative Jenna Jacobson; Stephanie Zwettler, Town Clerk and Treasurer, Town of Perry; Mark Eastman, Patrolman, Town of Perry; and Mick Klein Kennedy, Supervisor Two, Town of Perry. Not pictured are: Ken Hefty, Supervisor One, Town of Perry; and Doug King, CEO of The Madison Group LLC, the pro-bono consulting practice which lead the five-year year campaign to successfully secure the federal, state, regional, county and corporate support needed for the project from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC); National Telecommunications and Information Administration; Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program; U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin; U.S. Representative Mark Pocan; WI Senator Jon Erpenbach; WI Senator Dianne Hesselbein; WI Representative Sindy Pope; WI Representative Mike Bare; WI Senator Howard Marklein; Wisconsin Public Service Commission; Governor Tony Evers Task Force on Broadband Access; Dane County Broadband Task Force; Dane County Supervisor Pat Downing; Dane County Department of Planning and Development; Mount Horeb Telephone Co.; Madison Region Economic Partnership; Wisconsin State Journal; Madison Capital Times; TDS Telecom Board of Directors and Executive Management for State Government Affairs, Investor Relations, and Corporate Relations.

Excessive force lawsuit dismissed to avoid interfering with criminal case

By Kevin Murphy
Mount Horeb Mail

MADISON – An excessive force lawsuit filed against Dane County officials and Ridglan Farms in the wake of an April “rescue” event has been dismissed to avoid interfering with an ongoing criminal case, according to court documents.

Two Utah women, Joanna Baird and Linda Dee Gregersen, filed suit alleging that after crossing a manure-

filled trench at the dog-breeding facility, they were pepper sprayed by security personnel without provocation and without given a chance to retreat.

The spray peeled skin off Baird’s face and temporarily blinded her. The spray also halted Gregersen’s breathing for a short interval, they said.

Twenty other protesters were being treated at a medic area where Baird and Gregersen sought help dur-

ing the April 18 event which was intended to “save” the nearly 2,000 beagles at Ridglan from alleged abusive treatment.

The suit was filed in federal court within days of the incident but voluntarily withdrawn on June 15 by the women’s attorney, Susan Chana Lask, of New York.

Lask wrote the court that pursuing the women’s civil suit, filed before criminal charges were brought against four persons arrested

at Ridglan, presents Fifth Amendment concerns for the defendants.

After more than 100 hours of investigation and research, Lask determined that there was an overlap in “witnesses, evidence and issues,” between the civil and criminal proceedings that could compromise the defendants’ right, Lask wrote.

The defendants also couldn’t join the civil suit while the criminal case remained pending, she wrote.

Lask also didn’t want the suit to delay the continued release of Ridglan’s beagles to adopting parties.

“Allowing the criminal proceedings and the dogs’ release to proceed without collateral interference best serves the interests of justice and the animals whose welfare prompted this action,” Lask wrote.

Lask dismissed the suit without prejudice meaning it can be refiled later.

Four animal rights ac-

tivists were charged in the March 14 break-in at Ridglan Farms. Wayne Hsiung of New York City, Michelle Lunskey, 33, of Mesa, Ariz.; Dean Wyrzykowski, 29, of San Francisco, and Aditya V. Aswani, of Brooklyn, N.Y. Their trial on burglary, theft and criminal damage charges is set for Sept. 28 in Dane County Circuit Court.

Officer Dix named K9 handler as department works to get police dog

By Matt Geiger
Mount Horeb Mail

Mount Horeb Police Officer Kyle Dix recently reported that efforts to resurrect the village’s K9 program have made “significant progress” since starting last summer. Dix and others in the department have been busy working to raise funds and awareness that, if successful, will make enhance public safety in an array of ways.

In the past year, the effort has secured placement with a kennel for the future

K9 partner and received our new squad vehicle that will be dedicated to the K9 unit. In addition, they have received commitments from nonprofit organizations that will assist with “essential equipment” the unit will need as the K9 reaches maturity.

“These milestones are a direct result of strong community support and shared investment in public safety,” said Dix in a letter send to supporters on May 31. “I am honored to share that, following a selection process hosted within the depart-

ment and outside agencies, I have been chosen as the department’s next K9 handler.”

“This is a responsibility I take seriously, not only as an officer, but as a member of this community,” Dix continued. “I am committed to building a program that reflects the values, expectations, and trust of the community we serve. As part of our commitment to transparency, I want to share that we are approximately \$20,000 short of our overall fund-raising goal. We continue to actively pursue additional

funds through grants, community outreach and fund-raising. We hope additional donations can be secured though the public, so the department budget remains intact, and we do not take funds from other resources the community needs. This program is about more than funding, it’s about connection.”

Any dog owner knows that canines aren’t cheap, and police dogs come with their own unique, and significant, costs. Previous funds raised have already been earmarked for the squad

(\$46,000), outfitting the squad (\$40,000), the canine partner \$10,000, training the dog and handler \$5,000, and a K9 protection vest for \$2,500.

There will be several additional costs beyond that, however, ranging from veterinary care to food and gear.

“We are committed to maintaining open communication, providing updates, and creating opportunities for the community to engage with and take pride in this K9 unit as it develops. If you have ideas for fundrais-

ing, connections to potential supporters, or would like to remain involved as the program moves forward, we will truly value your input,” he concluded. “Please don’t hesitate to reach out at any time with questions or if you would like additional updates. Thank you again for your generosity, your trust, and your partnership in helping strengthen the safety and connection within our community.”

WISPOLITICS-STATE AFFAIRS: Data center moratoriums on the rise

By WisPolitics-State Affairs

Data center moratoriums are on the rise in Wisconsin.

Two of the latest moves are happening in two of the biggest counties - Dane and Brown.

The Dane County Board of Supervisors were poised in early June to OK a moratorium on hyperscale data centers.

The county’s zoning and land regulation committee unanimously passed the

18-month moratorium in a May 26 vote, with the full board set to consider the proposal June 4.

Dane County Board Chair Patrick Miles said the moratorium would give an advisory committee set up in the fall time to complete research into the benefits and pitfalls of authorizing

the developments for the more than two dozen communities under the county’s zoning authority.

And a Green Bay lawmaker is urging locals to back a proposed moratorium on data centers in Brown County, though a lack of county-wide zoning could undercut the proposal’s impact.

Rep. Amaad Rivera-Wagner, D-Green Bay, on June 1 issued a statement encouraging county residents to “attend, testify, and make their voices heard” in support of the proposal from Supv. Christopher Welch.

Rivera-Wagner argued

“we can welcome economic development while still protecting the people” of Wisconsin, noting the proposal will only succeed if residents speak up.

“The question is not whether data centers should exist,” he said. “The question is whether they should operate without meaningful safeguards. The cost of reasonable regulation is small. The cost of getting this wrong could mean higher utility bills, greater strain on our resources, increased pressure on local infrastructure, and fewer protections for workers and communities.”

He’s calling for a vote

on a “temporary pause” on data centers, barring data centers from purchasing land and permits in the county until “proper regulations, monitoring, DNR enforcement, energy infrastructure drain can be properly enforced and enacted” by the state Legislature.

More and more local governments across the state are moving to temporarily prohibit construction of the power-guzzling facilities, amid darkening public perception and growing skepticism of their purported benefits.

Madison, the town of

continued on page 5

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SCAN ME

Gleanings

By **BARB JOHNSON**
Mount Horeb Mail

140 Years Ago- June 30, 1886

A son of Fred. Baxter, of Humbird, Wis., is making Walter Curtis a visit.

Another quenching shower of rain Saturday evening gladdened the hearts of the agriculturists.

N. C. Evans, demonstrator of chemistry has organized a class for chemical research in his laboratory.

The Board of Equalization met at the office of the Town clerk on Monday last and as usual the attendance was very meager. Now let's have no grumbling about taxes when you come to pay them.

On the night of July 5th H. G. Elliott & Co. will send up 3 paper balloons from Mt. Horeb, each of which will contain their name. To the party returning to their possession any of the balloons with a description of the place of its landing they will present a pound of their celebrated Tycoon Tea. Look out for the balloons.

This and adjoining town has been pretty thoroughly canvassed by tree agents during the past two weeks, we understand with only moderate success--too dry weather for buying trees.

130 Years Ago- June 25, 1896

The Iowa people who were down to attend the Finke funeral have returned to their homes.

The Erby homestead has been improved by the erection of a neat poultry house.

Old rags are in good demand if you only know where to take them. Bring them in quick before I go out of the business. Tobacco Shed.

Hans Opsal has not yet forgotten how to farm. We can testify to this after feasting on a mess of new potatoes from his raising. They were beauties.

J. W. and A. Webber, of Mt. Vernon, put in a big day at the Mounds Sunday in company with the Misses _____. That's right boys enjoy yourselves.

The contract for building the bicycle factory has been let to Kleven Bros., who are already at work framing. The foundation is ready.

120 Years Ago- June 28, 1906

A.E. Solve's new barn is up and is shingled, just in time for the big hay crop. The structure is 34 by 70 feet.

J.P. Coyle of the town of Cross Plains was arrested this week for unlawfully cutting wires belonging to the Black Earth Telephone Company, and appeared in the municipal court at Madison Monday. The trial will be held July 12.

Sven Spaanem died at the asylum at Verona Friday last at the age of 74 years, having been mentally deranged over 41 years. Prior to this he was one of the industrious young farmers of the town of Springdale.

A \$20,000 fire at Mazo last week is said to have been of incendiary origin.

Martell Johnson was operated on at the hospital last Tuesday

for some ailment. We hope the little sufferer will speedily recover.

110 Years Ago- June 30, 1916

Come and see the fireworks from the ski tower at Lake Park July 4th.

Boys get your ponies ready for the running race at Lake Park July 4th.

At the Lutheran church here the marriage of Miss Celia Geneva Dahlen and Mr. Fred O. Rennebohm was solemnized Wednesday in the presence of the nearest relatives. The groom is the proprietor of a drug store on Winnebago St., Madison; they go to housekeeping in rooms over the drugstore, which have been furnished and ready for occupancy.

A reunion of several of the emigrants who arrived on the same vessel from Norway 55 years ago will be held here next Sunday afternoon. We shall publish next week the names of those present.

We had the pleasure to attend the first annual picnic of the Holstein Breeders Ass'n held at the Rippling Rill Farm.

D.F. Kelleher had the misfortune to break his arm at the Chau-tauqua grounds Wednesday while cranking his auto.

90 Years Ago- June 29, 1926

George Klusendorf, Barneveld, about 20 years of age, was instantly killed Monday afternoon when he was working trimming trees along the 13,200-volt line between Belleville and Monticello.

Nels Peterson, now of Madison, called at our office Tuesday evening. He informed us that he liked Mount Horeb better than Madison in which to live.

A.F. Gramm, 64, died Sunday evening after a long illness. He was a prominent citizen of our village.

Mrs. Mary Smith, was born September 8, 1880 in the town of Cross Plains to parents Henry and Louisa Witte. She passed away Friday June 25th at the age of 46 years. She leaves behind a husband, eight children, four sisters and four brothers.

The Mt. Horeb business men are going on a "get acquainted trip," Thursday, July 8. They will leave here accompanied by the band and make stops in Fennimore, Lancaster, Platteville and Mineral Point. The band will play at each town.

Through our columns we have the privilege of offering Calumet 8-cup Muffin Pans to our housewife readers at a most reasonable figure. Ordinarily a Muffin Pan of such high quality would cost 25 cents. Buy a can of Calumet today, mail the slip found in the can with 10 cents to the Calumet Baking Powder Company and this large, high quality handy Muffin Pan, 7 in. by 14 in., will be sent to you postpaid.

Carpenters are busy dividing the old Mt. Horeb Bank Building into two store rooms, one of which we understand will be occupied by the Gesme Barber Shop.

Lawrence Swiggum has contracted to build the basement for the new Ford garage on West Main Street. The building will be one story and will contain besides a show and sales rooms, offices, a room for storage and Ford parts and an up to date repair shop.

The Olson Restaurant has just had a new soda fountain installed and are now prepared to give better and quicker service than ever.

Our night watchman, "Elmer Disrud has recovered the Bull Dog

"Buster" which was stolen from him bout a year ago. While posting 4th of July celebration villas at Ridgeway he recognized the dog, which greeted his owner joyfully and answered to his name. Needless to say Elmer is glad to have this companion on his nightly rounds again.

90 Years Ago- June 25, 1936

The Rt. Rev. J.M. Green was suddenly taken ill Monday evening at his home here. His condition is reported as critical.

Glenn Hanson received an appointment by wire Monday to the position of file clerk in the U.S. Treasury Department, Washington, D.C. The position is a transfer from assistant village mail carrier here. Glenn leaves the latter part of this week for Washington.

Carl Herbert, year and half-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Pfister, drowned in the water tank at the Pfister farm home near here Saturday evening.

60 Years Ago- June 23, 1966

Many well-known personages have consented to be on the program of the national Vosselaget Convention when it meets here June 24 and 25 at the Mount Horeb High School. A banquet of Norwegian delicacies will wind up the festivities.

Henry Smith, Mount Horeb, grand prizewinner, received \$100 from the Chamber of Commerce when his name was drawn during the close of the Town and Country Dairy Days Festival held here Friday and Saturday.

Mrs. Fred Luhman, 88 passed away Saturday (June 18, 1966) in a Dodgeville hospital after a brief illness.

40 Years Ago- June 26, 1986

After 18 months of meeting and planning. Mount Horeb's Quasqui-centennial Frolic exceeded expectations proving to be an overwhelming artistic and financial success. It featured a fashion show, parade, fireworks, farm tour, cake baking contest, a pageant and a play depicting the history of Mount Horeb.

Mark E. Sutton, Mount Horeb, graduated on Saturday, June 7, from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, with a bachelor's degree in Business and Marketing.

The five-day Quasqui-centennial Celebration kept the local police and ambulance crews busy with the police department logging in a total of 144 calls, not necessarily related to the celebration. The beer tent was the scene of most of the action Saturday night where three fights broke out and one undesirable was removed.

30 Days Ago- June 27, 1996

Dr. Waier ends his superintendency of the Mount Horeb school district this week, paving the way for the new superintendent to begin July 1.

Cassie Lee came up with the winning name – YoYo the Clown – in the library's summer reading program's Name the Clown contest.

Recreation Notes

Does your child want to try a new sport? Join Little Trolls Volleyball Camp! This clinic is intended as an introduction to the game

of volleyball. Our instructor will teach motor learning and skill development through stations and fun activities! Beach balls and/

or Volley-Lite volleyballs will be used. All groups play in the Intermediate Center Gym, Monday through Thursday, July 13 to 16. Ages 7-8 play from 9 to 10:30 am, ages 9-10 play from 11 am to 12:30 pm, and ages 11-13 play from 1 to 2:30 pm. The program fee is \$40 for residents and \$50 for non-residents. Enroll by 7/6!

Get your creativity flowing this summer by joining one of our many youth Pottery Classes! Center

Grounds Studio is offering a wide variety of programs for all experience levels! New to pottery? Try "Introduction to Pottery" on Tuesdays and Thursdays, July 14-30, 9 to 10 am. Learn the hand-building basics in "Exploring Clay" on Tuesdays, 4-5 pm, July 14-August 4. "Build and Bedazzle" teaches hand-building with clay on Monday and Wednesdays, 9 to 10 am, July 13-29. Explore the natural world through clay with "Wild Things" on

Monday and Wednesdays, 10:15-11:15 am, 7/13 to 7/29. The deadlines for all Pottery Classes are 7/6.

Learn to Line Dance! No experience needed, a complete beginner class! Just bring a bottle of water, yourself, and friends for a fun night of country line dancing! Participants will learn the popular classics to the very latest favorites, and discover why people everywhere love line dancing! This program is designed for those 18 years and older. Each Session will teach new dances. Sess. 2: Tues, 7/7 - 7/28, Sess. 3: Tues, 8/4 - 8/25. The program takes place in the Senior Center from 6 to 7 PM; and the session fee is \$36 for residents and \$46 for non-residents. Register for session 2 by 6/30.

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

Online (go to <https://secure.rec1.com/WI/mount-horeb-wi/catalog>).

In-person at 105 N. Grove Street.

Place completed registration form (found on Rec Dept website) and payment in 24-hour drop box.

Email completed registration form (found on Rec Dept website) and payment to mhrec@mounthorebwi.info.

DEADLINES:

6/29: YEL - Project Runway

6/30: Line Dancing Sess. 2

7/6: Little Trolls Volleyball Camp

7/6: Swim Lessons Sess. 3

7/6: Pottery Classes

7/6: Fencing

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Village Vignettes

Man on the Moon: My Grandfather and Me

By Laurence Kruckman

The date was July 20, 1969 and U.S. astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin were in the Eagle, the US Lunar Module, readying themselves to be the first humans to walk on the moon. I was watching this unfold at my sister’s house in Mount Horeb, on CBS, with Walter Conkrite in full control. The scene was exciting, but intense. The TV screen would zip and zap on what I recollect a very grainy screen. We didn’t seem to notice, or care, as this was reception from the moon! More amazing, I was watching with my ninety-year-old grandfather, William.

I kept wondering what he was thinking and, from time to time, would steal a glance. Oddly, while seemingly alert and curious, he seemed non-plussed, calmly sitting fully upright, puffing on his pipe. Prince Albert, his preferred poison.

Trying to put this historical occasion in perspective, I remembering thinking:

William, age 90, what a life! By the time he was my age, slightly under 30, he had observed so much change, had been married for 8 years and had two children. AND this was before the common use of automobiles and planes. Items such as penicillin, vitamins, television, refrigerators, air conditioners, toasters, sliced bread, frozen foods, cross word puzzles, tape, traffic signals, military tanks, and the bra had yet to be invented. All these changes, and much more, had paraded before him. And as a long-time hardware store owner, he had observed many technological change first hand, marveling at things like duct tape (invented by a woman as part of the war effort). I remember my grandparents chuckling at such novelties, often voicing, “what next.”

These changes also included fashion: I vividly remember my cousin Jean, visiting from the New York suburbs, and although just a teen she was Avant guard

by Midwest standards, coming to dinner in red shorts. She was quickly shuttled back upstairs to find more suitable attire, much to her puzzlement. It was a fast-changing world, television was a large part of it. Who could keep up?

Armstrong was the first to step from Lunar Module onto the surface of the Moon. 60% percent of the US population was tuned in, approximately one hundred and twenty-five million Americans. It was late Sunday night about 11PM. I think my sister, husband and two kids had gone to bed. The workaday world was calling louder than Apollo 11. But we stayed up, William and I, alert, watching in silence. What was he thinking? A sense of immense pride for his country and our superb technology, a sense of wonder having witnessed a truly historic event?

Buzz Aldrin came down the Lander steps next, and exclaiming “Beautiful, beautiful,” although I was quite

sure what he was describing. Both astronauts aware of their weightlessness were now bouncy around causing puffs of moon dust to scatter, and although it’s been 50 years ago, I remember thinking this was a little dangerous. They soon displayed an American flag, returned to the Eagle and lifted off to the Command Module, Columbia.

I came from a long line of stoics and my Germanic Tribe, for better or worse, played down shows of emotion. I only recall a few times being hugged as a kid by either my grandfather or father. So, I didn’t expect any display of feelings of Apollo by William. And I can’t believe he was making any philosophical or religious interpretations, no “god’s wondrous design” exclamations. We did chat briefly about what we’d witnessed, using words like “amazing,” “interesting,” and soon we were off to bed.

Although stoic, I believe he was very reflective and

this event no doubt stirred some deep thoughts, although very personal. Seeking wisdom from someone his age, I did try and provoke thoughts from him from time to time and pragmatic advice from him did tumble out easily but not often. “Find a place, and make a life,” and, “things turn out well no matter what, so be happy with your decisions.” But too often he deferred saying he was too old to offer advice, just the opposite of what I was feeling or wanting approaching 30.

William lived another four years to contemplate this event. Near the end he was in a nursing home with kidney failure. I did sneak him some Prince Albert against the staff wishes, but unfortunately, we never did speak again of Apollo 11. I missed an opportunity to learn from him at least how the human mind can accept and incorporate major social and technological shifts. Now that I am getting old, I’ve not spent much time reflect-

ing on these changes either. Perhaps with the advent of jet passenger aircraft, television, computers, lap tops and the phone, I’ve seen as much change as William. I have to stop and think to add more things to that list. And, perhaps, these changes have come to me, like him, as small waves on a beach. Some of the more prefund changes such as CRISPR, the revolutionary gene-editing technology, that allows scientists to make precise changes to DNA, are so advanced I can’t fully, understand them, and because their utilization is out of my direct sight, I really don’t reflect on them.

Perhaps someday I’ll be able to sit with my grandson and witness some major threshold and I wonder if that happens will I show any emotion, share any useful wisdom, or just be content with sharing part of life’s changes with someone close. To let the small waves of transformation gently roll over us.

DATA CENTER

continued from page 3

Cassville, Westport in Dane County, Baldwin in St. Croix County and Manitowoc County have all passed moratoriums ranging from one to two years. Oneida and Dodge counties are also considering enacting temporary prohibitions.

Hyperscale data centers are under construction in Mount Pleasant, Port Washington and Beaver Dam.

Miles said Dane County’s advisory committee is “trying to be as agnostic as possible” on the debate over data centers’ value.

“We’re not going into this with any preconceived notions or opinion as to whether this kind of development should be allowed,” Miles said.

Public opinion surrounding data centers has shifted precipitously against them in recent months, as views sour on artificial intelligence and the trillion-dollar tech companies pushing it, and residents question the economic and environmental impacts of the projects.

Some 69 percent of adults in Wisconsin and nationwide say the costs of data centers outweigh the benefits, per Marquette Law School polling released in March and April, respectively.

In Wisconsin, residents have been spooked by a lack

of transparency surrounding massive projects in places like Port Washington and Beaver Dam and the prospective threat the sprawling campuses pose to the farmland and water that have driven Wisconsin’s economy for more than a century.

In the town of Cassville, in western Grant County, residents mobilized this spring to give their town board village leaders more zoning controls, amid concerns they would be left out of the decision-making between county officials and the unidentified developers of a proposed \$1 billion data center campus.

Town leaders ultimately voted unanimously in April to pass an ordinance banning data centers for two years from the 36 square miles bordering the Mississippi.

Mount Hope resident Pete Moris helped organize local opposition as one of the leaders of the “No Data Centers in the Driftless” Facebook page.

“My theory, not gospel by any means, is there were folks who wanted a data center who didn’t think little old Cassville township could do anything to stop it,” Moris said. “It’s kind of that David and Goliath thing.”

Cassville township’s local opponents also had the backing of a broader network of data center opponents who have mobilized in the wake of

the rapid push to build hyperscale data centers in Wisconsin. Among them was comedian and data center critic Charlie Berens, who spoke at a March event in Potosi that drew over 600 people.

Further north, Menomonie resident Blaine Halverson said he’s been working with officials in nearby communities who want to draft their own regulations after activists successfully blocked a \$1.6 billion proposal and pushed the city council to adopt new data center regulations in January.

“This is the summer we organize and get as many moratoriums as possible,” Halverson said.

He said he’s organizing a meeting of organizers and local officials in western Wisconsin in June to educate the public and public officials about how to deal with data centers and Big Tech’s push into the region.

Halverson opposes data centers personally but says he’s focused on giving people the tools to make informed decisions.

He believes it’s up to residents and local officials, not the Legislature, to decide how Wisconsin responds to data centers’ push into the state.

Lawmakers last session introduced several bills regulating data centers and the information developers and local officials could

keep secret but failed to pass any of them.

“A lot of people out there are pushing really heavily for Madison to fix this, and I’m more cynical about that, because from what I see they just literally don’t understand the issue and they’re playing political football with it,” he said.

Tricia Braun of the Wisconsin Data Center Coalition is cognizant of what she called the “fear and the misleading information and misinformation” she’s seen driving local opposition to data centers.

She said the coalition has been working with partners on emphasizing the positive economic impacts on communities and talking with local officials to help them better understand what these projects can do for their communities.

Braun is not a fan of moratoriums but said she understands why communities want to pump the brakes on data center developments.

“Cities that may want to have a data center or may think that it would be a good fit, they simply want to take the time to evaluate ‘how, what type, what size, when, what are the parameters around it?’ And that’s not a terrible thing,” she said.

On the other hand, Wade Goodsell of Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce opposes any kind of effort to slow development.

He argued communities

like Dane County have to decide whether they want to broadcast to businesses whether they’re “red tape or red carpet.”

With a moratorium, “the message that it sends loud and clear is we’re red tape,” Goodsell said. “Unfortunately that’s a trend line we’re seeing far too often in Wisconsin.”

Miles, the Dane County supervisor, takes issue with Goodsell’s position.

“It’s not unreasonable to pause for 18 months to do our due diligence and really understand the pros and cons, and I think the push to rush to decisions on these projects underscores why people in the public have a lack of trust,” Miles said. “If people are being pushed to make a decision rapidly, without really understanding the consequences, both good and bad, it makes people wonder why.”

Braun agrees. She said it’s on data center developers to be transparent about their goals in a community and have “a lot of two-way conversations” to reach a place of collaboration.

On the other hand, she thinks it would be a “very smart move” for local officials to engage with data centers once their moratoriums expire and they’ve laid some ground rules on the kind of developments they want to see.

“I hope that the majority of these are being put into

place so that the community can do a good job of having a plan, having a process to review or determine if a project is right for the community, or to set certain parameters around what kind of scope or what type of data center that they would want in their community,” she said.

Cassville will probably not be having those conversations.

Grant County Economic Development Corp. Director Ron Bribois told WisPolitics in an email that he has not heard from the data center developer “in several weeks,” following a discussion about the lack of tax increment financing availability in the town.

Moris says residents of the Driftless community have seen the warning signs from communities like Beaver Dam and Mount Pleasant, and they believe they’re better served preserving the character of the geographically unique region.

“I don’t know that outside of people who stand to profit that there’s a real appetite for this kind of development in Grant County, no matter what the tax dollars look like. But that’s my opinion,” he said.

For more, go to www.wispolitics.com

Lions Club supports range of local groups



Talisa Corcoran, Associate High School Principal, \$500 for Mount Horeb High School Athletic Department.



Holly Droessler, Mount Horeb Boy Scout Troop 62, \$200 & \$150 Cub Scout Pack 62.



Kurt Adler, Mount Horeb Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission. \$1000, Grundahl Park Renovation.



Adam Crowson, Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin, \$500.



Cathy Jones, Mount Horeb Landmarks Foundation, \$150.



Mary Klopotic, Mount Horeb Community Foundation, \$500

PERSPECTIVE

GEIGER Counter



by Matt Geiger, Editor



“It is said that dogs think people are God but that cats know better.”
-Islamic proverb

Cat in the rain

There is a Hemingway story called “Old Man at the Bridge.” In it, an old man with steel-rimmed spectacles and dusty clothes waits on a bridge as war approaches. A soldier tells the man he must move on and try to get to safety.

The old man tells him that in his town he took care of an assortment of animals: goats, a cat, and some pigeons. He was forced to leave them behind when the war arrived, and now he won’t go any further.

“I was taking care of the animals,” he said dully, but no longer to me. “I was only taking care of the animals.”

The soldier decides he is hopeless.
“It was Easter Sunday and the fascists were advancing toward the Ebro,” explains the soldier. “It was a gray overcast day with a low ceiling so their planes were not up. That and the fact that cats know how to look after themselves was all the good luck the old man would ever have.”

Hemingway said he admired cats because of their “emotional honesty”

“A cat will show you how it feels about you,” he once told his brother. “People hide their feelings for various reasons, but cats never do.”

Many years ago, I found a blue-gray kitten with a stub tail in an alley near the newspaper office. It had the storm green eyes of a wild animal. I brought it home. I figured we could feed it then find it a new family.

“Daddy!” my toddler exclaimed when I walked in the door with a tiny creature in a cardboard box. “You got me a kitty!”

And so, we suddenly had a cat and he presided over our lives from that day forward.

Through the years, his eyes watched our lives like some

bemused deity from a lofty realm. Green eyes overlooking our green grass and the red swing set in the backyard where our daughter played for hours and hours each summer.

Last week, I told my daughter to say goodbye to Bilbo Baggins, which is the name we gave him, which he certainly never bothered to learn. He was clearly dying. He hadn’t moved for ages, he was weak and frail, and his eyes were dull and dim. The green had vanished, replaced by the faint yellow of old straw or cheap lager.

He had a million adventures over the years, but apparently his adventuring days were over. He did not move, eat or drink for three days and nights.

I said goodbye to him, too, thanking him for protecting our home from rats and mice for all these years, and for reminding us, with every glance, that we are not the center of the universe. He was, as Hemingway pointed out, always honest. A cat simply does not care enough what you think to ever lie to you.

I had gingerly picked him up and placed a fluffy sheepskin beneath him. Late Saturday night this beast - he had cracked many teeth over the years and his body was covered in scars from his legendary fights – dragged himself up the stairs and sat at the door, wanting to go out. We let him out and this strange creature sat outside on our deck as the wildest, most violent storm to ever hit our home approached. Half our birch tree crashed down just feet away. The house and earth trembled. Our silver maples were torn apart and the yard was full of massive, shattered branches in the morning. One young tree was ripped up by its roots. Thousands of pounds of timber had plunged to the earth. Our daughter’s swing set was crushed. Dead birds fell from the trees.

And this old cat sat upright, in the middle of a torrential storm, soaked to the bone by the rain, and watched the cosmic violence all night. It was as if he would not abandon his post in the crow’s nest of some atavistic ship in a violent squall.

I remember seeing a production of King Lear several years ago. In it, the old King and his Fool are caught in a terrible squall.

“Blow winds, and crack your cheeks! Rage, blow!” he says.

“You cataracts and hurricanoes, spout
Till you have drenched our steeples, drowned the cocks.
You sulph’rous and thought-executing fires,
Vaunt-couriers of oak-cleaving thunderbolts,

*Singe my white head. And thou, all-shaking thunder
Strike flat the thick rotundity o’ th’ world.”*

In our house, Bilbo has long been king and I have long been the fool.

Hemingway wrote a very short story called “Cat in the Rain.” In it, a woman in an Italian hotel room looks down from her window and sees a cat.

“Outside right under their window a cat was crouched under one of the dripping green tables. The cat was trying to make herself so compact that she would not be dripped on.”

She goes down to get it.

“With the maid holding the umbrella over her, she walked along the gravel path until she was under their window. The table was there, washed bright green in the rain, but the cat was gone. She was suddenly disappointed. The maid looked up at her.”

The woman returns to her room and laments the fact that we often cannot find the things we want. A moment later, the maid appears at the door with a cat, but it seems like perhaps it is a different cat and not the one she wanted.

Eventually, all storms pass. All winds die. All torrents subside.

In the morning, our morning in Wisconsin, as the sun rose, Bilbo walked into our house, soaking wet, and calmly drank some water. He walked up to me as if nothing had ever happened. His eyes flashed green. I opened a can of tuna. He ate it. Then he went to sleep. Then he got better. He is next to me now, fat and happy, very much alive.

I went outside to survey the damage. While working through the storm’s wreckage the following day with a chainsaw, I discovered that our daughter’s swing set had been destroyed by a massive falling branch.

When I went inside I told her it about it, thinking she would be saddened by its demise. She spent so many hours on that swing set, asking me, periodically, to hang the chains a few links higher as her legs grew and grew.

“That’s okay,” she said. “You don’t need to fix it. I don’t really need it anymore.”

And here I am, like some old man on a bridge, wondering who to take care of, and - perhaps more importantly - who will take care of me.

CHURCH NOTES

Springdale Lutheran Church 2752 Town Hall Rd. 608-437-3493 Pastor Jim Ranney Worship: 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays of the month at 10am twosteeples.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
Mt. Horeb United Methodist Corner of Hwy. S & Hwy. 78 Sunday Worship: 9am online and in person umcmh.org Celebrating God’s Inclusive Love	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
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 twosteeples.org	Immanuel Lutheran- ELCA 310 W. Main St. Mount Horeb 608-437-8733 10am Sunday Worship www.immanuelmh.org/ 1st Steps Childcare 608-218-4425
Perry Lutheran Church ELCA 1057 Hwy 78 S, Mt. Horeb 608-437-5294 Sunday Worship 9:00 am www.perrylutheranchurchelca.org	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.
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, Weds-Friday, 7:30 am; Sat. 5:00 pm ~Holy Redeemer Catholic Church 10070 Spring Valley Dr., Mount Horeb Mass: Sunday 8:00 am	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 Vernon United Church of Christ 1693 Washington St. Verona 608-832-6677 Sunday Worship, in-person and on Facebook Live, 9:30 am We are an Open and Affirming Congregation~ Contact us at pastor@mtvernonucc.org or visit our website http://mountvernonucc.org

On our 250th birthday, let's get back to 'We the People'

Dear Editor,

The current President of the United States was born on June 14th, 1946. He threw himself a party for his 80th birthday. For his entertainment he demanded that a massive octagonal cage be built to serve as an arena for an “Ultimate Fighting Championship” billed as “Freedom 250” on the South Lawn of the White House.

The scripted event allowed fighters and promoters free range of the White House and Lincoln Memorial. The fighters performed dutifully, providing bravado and swagger for the televised melee. One fighter felt a need to utter a disgusting slur against former First Lady Michelle Obama, a claim that Trump failed to correct or criticize. Though he appeared to doze off, while Trump was awake, he reveled in the brutality of the participants.

The event was awash in red, white and blue, as if authoritarian directives and presidential arena battles were somehow patriotic. The President attempted to frame

the spectacle as a celebration of American freedoms, yet it was disconnected from the bipartisan, respectful observances endorsed by Congress for the nation’s 250th anniversary. It was far from honoring a quarter century of American independence. The spectacle was by decree, not unlike the demolition of the East Wing of the White House for a \$600 million ballroom, or the ill-fated painting of the reflecting pool, or a host of other self-centered projects bearing his brand.

The same day as the gladiators performed at Trump’s behest, Mount Horeb held its yearly gala event, the Frolic Parade. By contrast, it was an event which showcased organizations, public servants, small businesses and students. It was a celebration of community, made stronger through inclusion, freedom of expression and a belief that people can come together to celebrate community and each other. Trump is incapable of fostering that kind of celebratory event because it cannot

be orchestrated, manipulated, bullied or exploited.

But things in Trump’s world are not what he’d like us to believe. His popularity is underwater. His approval ratings hover around 37 percent, his disapproval at 59 percent. An ill-conceived war with Iran, rising consumer costs from on-again-off-again tariffs, abominable judgment and transparent gift for his family and the donor class has caused his popularity to plummet.

In 1776 Americans rebelled against a king. The country’s 250th anniversary of throwing off royalty is diminished by a demented President who always puts himself and personal favors above We the People. It is way past time that we reaffirm America’s future promise of a “government of the people, by the people, for the people”

Tim White
Mount Horeb

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There is no delay in service the week of June 29th to July 3rd, since Independence Day is on Saturday.



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Fiscal Facts: K-12 Referenda Add to Revenue Gaps

Voters across Wisconsin approved 46 of 75 school district referenda this spring, a 61.3% approval rate that aligns with a recent downward trend.

A recent Wisconsin Policy Forum analysis also found the state’s overall system for financing K-12 schools, along with recent increases in the number of referenda, has contributed to a widening gap between school districts receiving the most and least funding under state revenue limits. This raises questions about the system’s fairness and equitability.

Across 75 ballot questions from the spring general elections, unofficial election results show that Wisconsin voters approved 46 school district referenda. These ballot initiatives ask voters to raise their own property taxes to pay for day-to-day school district operations – on either a temporary or permanent basis – or to issue debt used to finance building and renovation projects.

This 61.3% approval rate is not a final figure for 2026, since fall elections have yet to take place. If the rate were to hold through the fall elections, it would be a substantial decrease from the 70.1% approval rate in 2024. It would also be the lowest approval rate of any even-numbered year since 2010. Among spring elections only, it is the second-

lowest approval rate in an even-numbered year since 2010’s 55.0%, coming in a tick above 2024’s 60.2%. Approval rates tend to be higher in even-numbered years, when midterm and presidential elections are on the ballot.

In this brief, we find a K-12 funding system in Wisconsin that may no longer be fulfilling some policy goals, as frequent use of referenda contribute to growing disparities in district funding. These referenda take place against a backdrop of gradually increasing disparities in the amount of funding that school districts are allowed to raise per child from their two largest revenue sources:

local property taxes and state general school aid.

State caps on the combined amount of property taxes and state school aids, known as revenue limits, were originally set in 1993 and based on each district’s spending level at the time. In each state budget, lawmakers and the governor determine by how much the revenue limit will change, on a per pupil basis, for all districts. In 2009, lawmakers and Gov. Jim Doyle decoupled per pupil revenue limits from inflation, and since that time, they have not kept pace with inflation.

The Forum measured the gap between the districts with the largest and small-

est per pupil revenue limits, and we found the gap has grown over the last 20 years. In 2005, districts at the 90th percentile had a per pupil revenue limit that was 24.6% (\$1,932) higher than their counterparts at the 10th percentile. By 2025, however, that difference had increased to 37.6% (\$4,402).

Some amount of variation between districts’ revenue limits is expected and appropriate. However, a brief examination suggests neither student need nor cost of living explain all of these differences.

For the 17th straight year, pending the results of the fall election, Wisconsin voters are on track to approve the majority of school district referenda sought. However, the large share of operating referenda on ballots -- coupled with lower approval rates and a widening gap between school districts with higher and lower revenue limits -- suggest that the current system is not always meeting the needs of students, local taxpayers, and school districts.

This information is a service of the Wisconsin Policy Forum, the state’s leading resource for nonpartisan state and local government research and civic education. Learn more at wispoli-cyforum.org.

Helwig Auto Clinic Recognized by the ASE Blue Seal of Excellence Program

Helwig Auto Clinic has earned Blue Seal of Excellence Recognition as prescribed by the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE), a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of vehicle repair and service by means of voluntary testing and certification for automotive repair and service professionals.

To be eligible for this recognition, a company must have 75 percent of its automotive professionals ASE certified. In addition, there must be a certified technician in each area of service offered. To remain in the program, a business must renew each year and confirm their professionals’ certification status.

For nearly 25 years, Helwig Auto Clinic has served Mount Horeb and the surrounding communities with automotive repair and maintenance services.

“As we celebrate this milestone year, our team of 12 employees - including 10 ASE-Certified professionals - continues to deliver expert vehicle care, from routine maintenance and tires to advanced diagnostics and major repairs,” Helwig said in a press release. “While we take pride in keeping our customers safe on the road, what truly makes Helwig unique is our investment in people. Through community sponsorships, partnerships with local schools, apprenticeship programs, and support for skilled trades education, we are committed to helping our community thrive. We believe great businesses do more than serve customers- they create opportunities, build relationships, and make a lasting difference.”

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Mount Horeb Area Chamber of Commerce Welcomes KinderCare to the Community



Alvarado

The Mount Horeb Area Chamber of Commerce is excited to welcome KinderCare Learning Centers to the Mount Horeb business community following the company’s acquisition of the Academy of Little Vikings childcare center.

The center is led by Amber Alvarado, a valued member of the KinderCare team with more than twelve years of experience in childcare. She is looking forward to guiding the center’s growth while supporting local families with quality

early childhood education and care.

KinderCare is one of the nation’s largest early childhood education and childcare providers of early childhood education, serving families in communities across the country with programs for children from six weeks through school age. They focus on nurturing children’s academic, social, and emotional development through a whole-child cur-

riculum designed by early education experts.

The Chamber is pleased to welcome Mount Horeb KinderCare as part of the local business community and looks forward to supporting the center as it continues to serve families and

contribute to the growth of Mount Horeb. Please visit them at 1991 Commerce Dr, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572 and online at KinderCare.com/MountHoreb and welcome them to the Trollway!

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Commission gets update on Historic Property Survey Report

By ERIN HERNDON
Mount Horeb Mail

The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) met May 27 and discussed the ongoing village-wide historic resource survey. They also reviewed governance and professional standards with interim village administrator Jon Hochkammer, welcomed new citizen members Jill Schuettpelz and Ted McMillan to the commission, and approved their April 2026 meeting minutes. Citizen member Destinee

Udelhoven shared progress made thus far towards completion of the Intensive Historic Property Survey Report. She explained that while the Village was originally awarded a grant for the survey “a couple years ago,” due to confusion surrounding federal-level budgetary issues, the Commission held off on using the funds until they could confirm their grant would not be affected. “We were informed that they did in fact get the grant,” Udelhoven said.

“We put out a call for bids last fall, then awarded one at the end of the year.” Udelhoven said the project officially kicked off with a meeting on March 12, 2026, and Village residents remain encouraged to present properties they consider historically significant. At the meeting, Urbana Preservation & Planning, LLC, the chosen contractor for the project, delivered a presentation to the public in which they introduced their goals for the project and explained

the methodology they plan to use to reach them. Udelhoven said the project will continue through 2026 and will conclude no later than February 2027. “They [Urbana] were in town April 29 through May 1 to do the on-the-ground survey, so you may have seen them driving around,” Udelhoven said. “They documented the houses they believe are 40 years or older based on information from the Village and their own expertise. That’s a lot of in-

formation that will be added to the state website, which anybody can look at.” Udelhoven said Mount Horeb Historical Society gave Urbana access to much of their own research, including histories of all the platted neighborhoods and a list of suggested individual properties and districts. “We also gave them access to archival plat maps, original newspapers, and our photo collection to help them document every property they were looking at,”

Udeholven said. “When they’re done, that’ll be a lot of information our commission can use, especially as we start to build our local register.” Udelhoven concluded with saying that a draft of Urbana’s report is expected to be presented to the Commission for review in August or September 2026.

The Historic Preservation Commission next meets June 24, 2026, at 6 p.m.

Save Energy with these Smart Planting and Shading Tips From Madison Gas and Electric

People often see landscaping as a way to add curb appeal, but smart planting can also help you save energy. To achieve maximum impact, planting the proper tree or shrub in the proper place is key. Keep in mind what’s around your planting spot—above, below and how large your plant is will make a difference. Follow these general planting tips for energy efficiency:

- Plant large, leafy trees on the east, west and south sides of your home for maximum summertime shade and lower the surrounding air temperature. Trees should be placed at least 20 feet from the side of your home. A six-foot-tall tree can shade the windows in the first year; in five to ten years, it will shade the roof.
- Trees with lower leaves and branches work well on the west side of your home to provide shade from lower sun angles in the afternoon.
- A little shade for your air-conditioning unit goes along way—plant trees and shrubs nearby to shade air-conditioning units. Equipment that operates in the shade will use less electricity; however, be sure not to block the airflow.
- Plant bushes next to your house to create air space that will provide insulation year-round.
- Prevailing winter winds come from the west and north; use dense windbreaking trees and shrubs to protect from cold winter winds. Keep Safety in Mind When Planting Stay safe and make sure to contact Diggers Hotline at diggershotline.com or call 811 at least three working days before digging in your yard. MGE and other participating utilities will mark the location of underground facilities on your property and indicate safe overhead line clearances. This free service will help you stay safe and avoid costly fines.
- Add External Shading External shading devices are another option to prevent unwanted sunlight from entering your home. Shading devices include awnings, overhangs and trellises. For south-facing windows, base your shading device and placement off your window size. For a window that is 36 inches tall, the shading device should be placed 10.8 inches from the top of the window. It should be 25.2 inches deep, extending out from the house. Look for online calculators to help determine where to install a shading device based on window size. For west-facing windows, the shading device needs a vertical component to block summer sun. Adding hanging vines can help further block the sun. Consider creating a grid-like structure with plastic or rope, then add climbing vines.

Vines that have leaves in spring and summer that fall off in fall or winter will help keep sun out during the summer and during the winter. Get Free Advice From MGE Energy Experts MGE is available to answer your questions and provide tips on landscaping for energy efficiency. Their energy experts are available 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at 608-252-7000, or you can send them an email at askexperts@mge.com.

going through the records, so it’s too early to make a call on whether to dissolve it. During public comment, Audra Anderson asked if Mary Jo Michek, the previous village clerk who retired in April, would come back to the village as an employee. Anderson said she

didn’t need to discuss this until all the members of the district met together. The other item the village board took off the agenda was considering the dissolution of the Blue Mounds Municipal Court. Baum said it rarely meets, but he and the village Clerk/Treasurer Beverly Petrolis are still

had several residents ask her about Michek. Baum said Michek had officially retired, but sometimes came to the office on a volunteer basis to help train Petrolis, or answer questions as needed.

underground services in addition to an overhead line put underground for bridge work and moved two overhead services underground due to recent storms. He said of the five outages occurring in May, two resulted from inclement weather, two were animal-related, and while the cause of the fifth outage was not determined, it was potentially also related to the storm. “I think the unknown was from a storm, too. It was a really long line out in the country, and I’m assuming there was a branch,” Superintendent Schmitz said. “We

VILLAGE
continued from page 1
at its June 10 meeting, but had to schedule a special meeting for one of them for the end of the month because the application wasn’t turned in on time. Village President Paul Baum said they didn’t want

Mounds is served by the Mount Horeb Volunteer Fire Department, and Baum said the municipalities that are a part of the district plan to renegotiate the costs for each municipality and ensure the allocation is fair. Baum said the meeting was postponed till July so the village of Blue Mounds

didn’t need to discuss this until all the members of the district met together. The other item the village board took off the agenda was considering the dissolution of the Blue Mounds Municipal Court. Baum said it rarely meets, but he and the village Clerk/Treasurer Beverly Petrolis are still

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UTILITY
continued from page 1
updates from the Electric Department, Water Department and Wastewater Department. Additionally, it gained insights into 2025 utilities from an audit report presented by a representative of Baker Tilly US, LLC. **Electrical Department Report** Electric Superintendent Jordan Schmitz began the May utility updates portion of the meeting. In May 2026, the electrical department completed three new

did have a little bit of work from the storms, but nothing crazy.” Schmitz said cleanup efforts around North Road are progressing, and testing of the new OMS (Outage Management System) continues. Additionally, he said the crew recently began replacing old wiring throughout the Village. “It’s just a matter of switching things and getting the old wire out, but as we’re doing the wire upgrades, we’re trying to look long-term,” Schmitz said. “We have the transformers, and we’re keeping them. In a pinch, if we need them somewhere else, we know they still work. They’re old, yes, but still work.” **Water Department**

Report
In his overview of the Water Department’s May activities, Water Superintendent Brian Schult said the department completed its nine bacteriological (Bac-T) and one fluoride split sample, followed up on high-water alerts, installed two new well distribution meters and transitioned additional radio read boxes to the FlexNet system. “In May, we got it knocked down,” Water Superintendent Schult said. “We’re down to 871 meters on the radio system that we’re reading by the truck.” Schult said the department also continued efforts with CTW Corporation toward repairs on Well #5. He said the crew successfully navigated a cave-in with film equipment and aims to quickly install the remaining pipes to bring the well back online. “They did punch through that cave-in. They ordered eight new pieces of pipe, and they’re going to send an old piece of ten-inch casing down there and make sure that’s open at 800 feet,” Schult said. “It was camera’d

at the end of May, and Tom feels confident that it’ll push right through. Once the pipe gets here, they’ll punch that through, set the pump and start setting the well. Hopefully, we’ll have that well back online in the next two to three weeks.” **Wastewater Department Report** Wastewater Superintendent Mike Brace said the wastewater treatment facility ran well and operated below all permitted levels during May 2026. He said the wastewater department responded to one call-out and dealt with a four-hour power outage at their south facility, where the backup generator was utilized until power could be fully restored. Additionally, the department cleaned 525 feet of sanitary mains, televised 3999 feet and inspected 11 manholes during the month. They also received their annual environmental fees invoice from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). “The fees are calculated based on the quality of the effluent, and there are dollar values assigned to each

of the pollutants discharged below the limit. For every pound of [biochemical oxygen demand] BOD or phosphorus, we put out the DNR signs, and there’s a dollar amount based on the masses that we discharge, so that’s where these fees come in,” Superintendent Brace said. “I’m happy to report that we’re down 10% from last year, and I think it’s a testament to the staff and the way that they handle their business.” According to Brace’s May report, the department received top scores across all sections of its completed compliance maintenance annual report. Additionally, Brace said they are still making progress on the planned force main pipeline project. “We’re past 90% planning and still planning to bid [in June]. We have two alternatives: one is a directional drill; one is an open cut,” Brace said. “I think bid documents should be posted and hopefully open by the end of this month.” *The Utility Commission next meets July 14 at 5:30 p.m.*

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Rotary gives \$9,500 in grants to Mount Horeb community

On a beautiful spring evening, Mount Horeb Rotary Club gave out its 2026 grants to support local good works, ranging from supporting Crumble the therapy dog to training EMTs to helping kids afford books at the school book fair.

If you'd like to support Rotary's largest fundraising night, the annual 10K Raffle is coming up on Thursday night July 30 at the fire department. To enjoy a night of fun and entertainment, vie for a chance to win \$10,000 AND help make Mount Horeb a better place, contact a Rotarian to buy a raffle ticket. You can also email Paul Christiansen, christiansenpaul@mounthorebschools.org

Mount Horeb Rotary supported these worthy local projects in 2026:

Scholastic Book Fair fund: \$875. This fund began with the passion of local resident Jeanne Wright, who recalled how much she loved to read as a child. This fund, administered by school social worker Megan Handrick, will make sure every child can afford to buy a book.

Count the Kicks: \$500. This money will help Amanda Braverman-Brohn of Verona launch local outreach efforts to encourage pregnant women to monitor the activity

of their unborn children in order to prevent stillbirth.

Bird City Coordinator: \$750. Mount Horeb was recently named a Bird City based on the work of many Mount Horeb groups to make the area more attractive to birds. This will help the Mount Horeb Chamber coordinate and promote these efforts.

Crumble the Service Dog: \$1,500: Crumble is a specially trained service dog who supports students affected by PTSD, anxiety, and behavioral challenges.

He was donated to the district following the tragic 2024 school shooting. This grant will pay for

Crumble's food, supplies and veterinary care.

Disagree Better: \$500: This program of the Mount Horeb Public Library helps build respectful dialogue around contentious issues.

Morgan's Caring Connection: From left, Rotarians Elizabeth Grabe, Aubree Hanks, Gary Tree and Russ Christian, with Janis Strutt, Chrissy King, and Haakon Anderson of Morgan's Caring Connection, and Rotarians Brent Yaucher and Susan Lampert Smith.

Mount Horeb Softball Club: \$1,000. Kurt Adler said the club will use it for field upgrades, in-

cluding safety padding on the fencelines.

The Fire Department of Mount Horeb and the UW-Madison Office of pre-health advising: \$3,250. This money helps transport UW students to Mount Horeb to fill weekend shifts as Emergency Medical Technicians. The EMT Experience program also provides scholarships for students to become EMT-certified, and offers training both at FDMH and at the UW Department of Emergency Medicine for the students. Currently, 16 UW-Madison students are filling shifts on the FDMH EMT crew.



Scholastic Book Fair fund: From left, Rotarians Dana Droessler-Fager, Peggy Zalucha, Gary Tree, fund founder Jeanne Wright, Rotarian Sarah Straka, school social worker Megan Handrick, and Rotarian Heidi Kopras.



Count the Kicks: From left, Rotarians Peggy Zalucha, Gary Tree, and Heidi Kopras, with Amanda Braverman-Brohn of Count the Kicks, and Rotarians Mark Rooney, Judy Steinhauer, and Elizabeth Grabe.



Bird City Coordinator: From left, Rotarians Steve Salerno and Steve Salinger with Alison Plumer of the Mount Horeb Chamber, and Rotarians Elizabeth Grabe, Russ Christian and Judy Steinhauer.



Crumble the Pup: From left, Rotarians Steve Salerno, Sarah Straka, Gary Tree, Aubree Hanks, Brent Yauchler and Dana Droessler-Fager.



Disagree Better: From left, Rotarians Judy Steinhauer, Heidi Kopras, Peggy Zalucha, Gary Tree, Aubree Hanks with librarian Melissa Roelli and Rotary President Brent Yauchler.



Mount Horeb Softball Club: From left, Rotarians Russ Christian, Sarah Straka, Bill Dunnington, and Heidi Kopras with Kurt Adler of Mt. Horeb Softball Club and Rotarians Laura Armstrong and Mark Rooney.



Morgan's Caring Connection: From left, Rotarians Elizabeth Grabe, Aubree Hanks, Gary Tree and Russ Christian, with Janis Strutt, Kelly Strutt, and Haakon Anderson of Morgan's Caring Connection, and Rotarians Brent Yaucher and Susan Lampert Smith.



FDMH and UW-Madison grant: From left, Rotarians Steve Salinger, Brent Yauchler, and Heidi Kopras, Molly Reinhard of UW-Madison, Kristen Stott, AEMT/EMTEP alumni, Rotarian Laura Armstrong, Rian Engeldinger, student EMT & EMTEP co-leader, and Rotarian Bill Dunnington.

Sports Editor
Rob Reischel
robreischel@gmail.com

SPORTS

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Kuntz headed to all-star game

Mount Horeb star will play in All-Star Classic

by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor

Mount Horeb senior center fielder Josh Kuntz was named to the Wisconsin Baseball Coaches Association All-Star Classic on June 26-27. Kuntz, who will play collegiately at UW-La Crosse, will compete for the South All-Stars.

The games will be held in Oshkosh and the schedule is as follows:

- Friday, June 26**
- 4 p.m. — North vs. South
 - 6:30 p.m. — East vs. West
- Saturday, June 27**
- 10 a.m. — East vs. South
 - 12:30 p.m. — North vs. West
 - 2:30 p.m. — South vs. West
 - 4:30 p.m. — East vs. North

The South all-stars include coaches Dan Bourassa (Lake Mills), Aaron Guil-

bault (Brodhead/Juda) and Bob Wickman (River Valley) and players Manny Abreu (Sun Prairie East), Easton Agnew (Milton), Winston Alonso (Reedsburg), Brayden Banyai (Madison Memorial), Bryce Crubaugh-Lockard (Dodgeville), Jake Cummins (Milton), Brady Dolgner (Pardeeville), Casey Dresen (Fennimore), Landon Glad-den (Oregon), Marty Hanna (Sauk Prairie), Josh Kuntz (Mount Horeb), Hunter Larson (Barneveld), Landon Lassahn (Verona), Quinn Payne (Wisconsin Heights), Peyton Poker (Baraboo), Joseph Tamboli (Sun Prairie East), Luke Verch (Reedsburg) and Cooper Whitehurst (Wisconsin Dells).

“It’s well-deserved for Josh,” Mount Horeb manager Ryan Finley said. “He had another great season and has had an outstanding career for us.”



Mount Horeb’s Josh Kuntz will play in the Wisconsin Baseball Coaches Association All-Star Classic on Friday and Saturday. File photo



Mount Horeb’s Maddie Ryan was named second-team all-Badger Small Conference. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

Three Vikings’ soccer players named all-league

Ryan, Seibel, Severson earn all-Badger Conference honors

by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor

Mount Horeb’s girls soccer team had a solid season, going 9-9-2 overall and winning a playoff game.

The Vikings then had three players named all-Badger Small Conference.

Senior forward Maddie Ryan was named second-team all-conference, while freshman keeper Sara Seibel and junior midfielder Kolbie Severson were named honorable-mention all-league.

Ryan, a four-year varsity player, led Mount Horeb with 10 goals and 22 points. Unfortunately for Ryan and the Vikings, her season was cut short by an ankle injury just before the postseason began.

“Maddie established herself as one of the most

dangerous attacking players in our program,” Mount Horeb first-year coach Megan Lemire said.

“If you’ve ever watched Maddie take off down the left sideline, you know how difficult she is to stop. Her speed allowed her to get behind defenders, create opportunities for herself and her teammates, and put constant pressure on opposing defenses.

“What made Maddie especially effective was her competitive drive. She cares deeply about winning, competes hard every time she steps onto the field, and always wanted to make an impact on the game. Those qualities helped her become our leading scorer this season.”

Ryan will play at Edgewood College next season, and Lemire knows she

continued on page 14



Seven Verona/MH lacrosse players named all-Badger Conference

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

The Verona/Mount Horeb co-op boys lacrosse team had seven players named all-Badger Conference.

Cullen Olson, a long stick midfielder, was named first-team all-conference. Olson also received first-team all-state honors.

Attacker Mason Williams was also named first-team all-conference.

Verona’s second-team all-conference players included goalie Caleb Jabas, attacker Cooper Blodgett, midfielder Gabe Weisensel and defender Ayden Jagla.

Riley Stagman, a faceoff expert, was named honorable mention all-conference.

Kaito Mikkelson of Oregon was the league Player of the Year while Edgewood’s Mike Reiter was named the conference’s Coach of the Year.



Verona/Mount Horeb’s Mason Williams (top) and Cullen Olson (above) were both named first team all-conference. File photos

All-Badger Conference Boys Lacrosse

First Team

ATTACK

Name	School	Year
* Owen Koch	Edgewood	12
* Evan Mazur	Middleton	10
Mason Williams	Verona	11
Alex Mikkelson	Waunakee	12
Taggart McKelvey	Waunakee	12

MIDFIELD

AJ Rhodey	Edgewood	12
Roan Johnson	Middleton	12
* Kaito Mikkelson	Oregon	12
Justin Sawicki	Waunakee	12
Adrian Millin	Waunakee	12

DEFENSE

* Owen Porter	Edgewood	12
* Oliver Wenning	Middleton	12
AJ Klemm	Sauk Prairie	12
* Calvin Behnke	Waunakee	12
Caden Olson	Waunakee	12

LONG STICK MIDFIELDER

Cullen Olsen	Verona	11
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FOS

* Sawyer Punzel	Janesville	12
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GOALIE

Isaac Schultz	Waunakee	12
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PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Kaito Mikkelson, Oregon
COACH OF THE YEAR: Mike Reiter, Edgewood

Second Team

ATTACK

Gus Moore	Edgewood	11
Liam Kennedy	Janesville	11
Patrick Passini	Middleton	12
Cooper Blodgett	Verona	11
Will Dama	Waunakee	10

MIDFIELD

Braxton McGuigan	DeForest	10
Rylan Port	Edgewood	11
Parker Reidl	Oregon	12
Ben Kalberer	Sun Prairie	11
Gabe Weisensel	Verona	11

DEFENSE

Sam Johnson	Janesville	11
Jonathan Schwartz	Middleton	12
Tim Grice	Oregon	12
Riedl Roethering	Oregon	12
Ayden Jagla	Verona	11

LONG STICK MIDFIELDER

Bryson Callaway	DeForest	11
-----------------	----------	----

FOS

Aksel Chelesvig	Middleton	10
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GOALIE

Caleb Jabas	Verona	12
-------------	--------	----

Honorable Mention

DeForest: Kolton Jacobs, Michael Zulkoski
Edgewood: Cole Marcu, Charlie Olsen, Miles Rist, Beckett Ferris, Will Siniscalchi
Janesville: Sawyer Punzel, Grayson Thompson, Porter Maliszewski, Iverson Seidel
Middleton: Espen Achenbach, Anderson See, Jacob Brooks
Oregon: Lex Shtaida, Keaton DiMartino
Sauk Prairie: Kaleb Chetwood, Zander Kellogg, Landon Froese, Lucas Rehlinger
Sun Prairie: Gavin Yacovitch, Maddox Walters, Jaxon Bindley, Brady Krull, Mees Rosol
Verona: Riley Stagman
Waunakee: Travis Jensen, Eli Drangstveit
Wayland Academy: Ilia Babenko, Matthew Nguyen

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SOCCER

continued from page 12

leaves big shoes to fill.

“It was difficult to see such an important player miss that opportunity after everything she had contributed throughout the year,” Lemire said of Ryan’s late-season injury. “Even so, her impact on this team had already been felt.

“We’ll certainly miss her offensive production, but we’ll also miss the energy, determination, and desire to compete that she brought to the team every day. We are grateful for everything she has contributed to Mount Horeb soccer over the past four years, and we’re excited to watch her continue her soccer journey at Edgewood.”

Seibel was asked to split time between varsity and JV when the year began, but Lemire quickly realized that plan wouldn’t last long.

“That lasted one half of one game,” Lemire said.

Seibel played 89.9% of the Vikings’ minutes, posted 147 total saves and had a solid save percentage of .817.

“Goalkeeper is one of the most demanding positions on the field,” Lemire said. “Every mistake feels magnified, and every game brings pressure. Sara embraced that challenge from day one.

“Sara faced a lot of shots this year and was asked to carry a significant responsibility for our team as a freshman. She continued to compete, learn, and improve throughout the season. The experience she gained this year is invaluable, and I am excited to watch her continue to develop. Sara has already established herself as an important part of our



Mount Horeb’s Sara Seibel (top) and Kolbie Severson (24) were both named honorable mention all-conference. Photos courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

program, and I believe her best soccer is still ahead of her.”

Severson finished second on the team with seven goals and 19 points. She also led Mount Horeb with five assists.

“Kolbie was one of our most productive players this season, but those numbers only tell part of the story,” Lemire said. “What makes Kolbie special is her understanding of the game and her ability to influence it in so many different ways.

“She began the season in the midfield, where her vision and technical ability helped us control play and create opportunities. As the season progressed, we moved her up to center forward, and she embraced that role as well.

“We asked her to be a playmaker up top, and she delivered. Whether she was creating chances for

teammates or looking for opportunities to score herself, she consistently found ways to impact games.”

Severson also became one of the Vikings’ most reliable players on set pieces.

“Her free kicks and corner kicks gave us dangerous opportunities every time she stepped over the ball,” Lemire said. “And if there’s one thing everyone knows about Kolbie, it’s that she always wants to score. That competitive mindset made her a constant threat for opposing defenses.

“Beyond her play on the field, Kolbie brought a lot of personality to our team. The question of the day that starts every practice was never boring when Kolbie answered. Her responses were — uniquely Kolbie, and always entertaining. She brought character, energy, and a sense

of fun to the group, and those qualities made her a joy to coach this season. I’m excited to see what she can do in her senior year.”

All-Badger Small Conference Soccer

First Team

Name	School	Year
* Adeline Milner	Edgewood	11
Lauryn Matenaer	Edgewood	11
Allison Smiley	Fort Atkinson	12
* Allison Charbonneau	McFarland	9
Julia Purintun	McFarland	12
Catherine Kelley	McFarland	12
* Lyla Brown	Portage	11
Sydney Olson	Reedsburg	10
Leah Allen	Sauk Prairie	12
GOALIE: * Jaylah Moore, McFarland, 12		
* — Unanimous		

PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Jaylah Moore, McFarland
COACH OF THE YEAR: Julie Grutzner, Sauk Prairie

Second Team

Name	School	Year
Annie Krez	Edgewood	12
Ava Ferree	Edgewood	12
Kate Trausch	Edgewood	12
Angelica Torres	Fort Atkinson	10
Weiya Zhou	McFarland	12
Kennedy Schoenbrodt	McFarland	12
Maddie Ryan	Mount Horeb	12
Brooklyn Kaufman	Sauk Prairie	12
Monika Salazar	Sauk Prairie	11
Meadow Sawicki	Stoughton	12
GOALIE: Lila Shadewald, Sauk Prairie, 11		

Honorable Mention

Edgewood: Caroline Onderak, Summer Milesko
Fort Atkinson: Ava Recob, Emily Hesselbacher
McFarland: Alex Faust, Katheryn Kolterman
Mount Horeb: Sara Seibel, Kolbie Severson
Portage: Hayden Brown, Kennedy Popp
Reedsburg: Gracie Wilke, Maddie Miller
Sauk Prairie: Phoebe Hager, Sophia Hanson
Stoughton: Abigail Ruiz, Madelyn Bakken

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**TOWN OF PERRY
NOTICE
PUBLIC HEARING
Tuesday, July 14, 2026
Perry Town Hall
10084 County Highway A
7:00 PM
PETITION TO
DISCONTINUE PART OF
JOSEPHSON ROAD**

NOTICE is hereby given that the Town Board of the Town of Perry will hold a Public Hearing to consider action on a petition submitted by Ron Josephson to discontinue part of Josephson Road located at 9835 County Rd A. Description: The westerly 450 feet of Josephson Road. The Public Hearing will be held at 7:00 PM, prior to the monthly Town Board meeting, at the Perry Town Hall.
Stephanie Zwettler
Clerk/Treasurer
clerk@tn.perry.wi.gov
Published and Posted: Mt. Horeb Mail, Town Hall, Town Garage, Daleyville signpost, and Town website – June 25, July 2, and July 9, 2026.

Publish: 6/25/26, 7/2/26, 7/9/26 **WNAXLP**

**TOWN OF PERRY
LAND USE COMMITTEE
MEETING NOTICE
WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2026
PERRY TOWN HALL, 10084
COUNTY HIGHWAY A
7:00 PM
Video call link:
<https://meet.google.com/gdx-auhq-gqy>
Agenda**

1. Call to Order.
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting – June 3, 2026.
3. Terry & Monica Miller, 10783 Clay Hill Rd – driveway permit. *
4. Permit Application Form – form revisions.
5. Town Comprehensive Plan – review and edit Element 8, “Land Use.”
6. Pending applications – review and discussion.
7. Schedule meetings.
8. Adjourn.

Stephanie Zwettler
Clerk/Treasurer
www.perry-wi.gov
A quorum of the Town Board may be present at this meeting.
* A site view will be conducted at the Miller site on Saturday, June 27, 2026, beginning at 8:30 AM.
Posted: Town Hall, Town Garage, Daleyville signpost, Town website – June 25, 2026.

Publish: 6/25/26 **WNAXLP**

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TOWN OF PERRY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2026

**PERRY TOWN HALL, 10084 COUNTY HIGHWAY A , 7:00 PM
PETITION TO DISCONTINUE UNPAVED ALLEY**

NOTICE is hereby given that the Town Board of the Town of Perry will hold a Public Hearing to consider action on a petition submitted by Terry Miller to discontinue an unpaved alley described as follows:
Grove St, approx. 50 ft wide by 68.7 ft long, lying north of Clay Hill Rd.
Grove St, lying north of Sunset Ave and south of Clay Hill Rd, along the west side of Block 2 of Goli Addition.
Alley between Lot 11 and Lot 1, approx. 16.4 ft wide by 73 ft long, lying north of Sunset Ave.
The Public Hearing will be held at 7:00 PM, prior to the monthly Town Board meeting, at the Perry Town Hall.
Stephanie Zwettler, Clerk/Treasurer
clerk@tn.perry.wi.gov
Published and Posted: Mt. Horeb Mail, Town Hall, Town Garage, Daleyville signpost, and Town website – June 25, July 2, and July 9, 2026.

Publish: 6/25/26, 7/2/26, 7/9/26 **WNAXLP**

ADVERTISEMENT TO BID VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB MOUNT HOREB, WISCONSIN STEWART PARK FORCE MAIN REPLACEMENT CONTRACT 1-2026

The Village of Mount Horeb (OWNER) is requesting Bids for the construction of the following Project:
Stewart Park Force Main Replacement
Contract 1-2026

Electronic Bids for the construction of the Project will be received by OWNER until July 9, 2026, at 11 A.M., local time. At that time the Bids received will be publicly downloaded and read aloud via teleconference. The login information for the teleconference is as follows: (309) 205-3325, Conference ID 925 0621 6689.

The Project includes the following Work: Installing a new 6-IN sanitary sewer force main to replace the existing 4-IN force main that connects the Stewart Park east and west lift stations. The project includes two alternatives: one for horizontal directional drilling and one for open cut installation of approximately 1,700 LF of force main. Other work included in the project is rock removal, asphalt paving, gravel path restoration, bypass pumping and erosion control.

Complete digital Project Bidding Documents are available at www.strand.com or at www.questcdn.com. Download the digital Bidding Documents for \$75 by inputting Quest project number 10250429 on the website's project search page. Please contact QuestCDN.com at (952) 233 1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance with free membership registration, downloading, and working with this digital Project information.

For this Project, Bids will **ONLY** be received and accepted via the online electronic Bid service through QuestCDN.com. To access the electronic Bid Form, download the Project Documents and click the Online Bidding button.

The Issuing Office is Strand Associates, Inc.®, 910 West Wingra Drive, Madison, WI 53715.

All Bidders submitting a sealed Bid shall obtain the Bidding Documents from QuestCDN.com.

Bidders who submit a Bid must be a Plan Holder of record at the Issuing Office. Bids from Bidders who are not on the Plan Holders List may be returned as not being responsive.

The Bid must be accompanied by Bid security made payable to OWNER in an amount of 10% of the Bidder's maximum Bid price. The Village of Mount Horeb reserves the right to reject any or all Bids, to waive any technicality, and to accept any Bid which it deems advantageous. All Bids shall remain subject to acceptance for 85 days after the time set for receiving Bids.

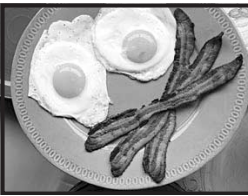
Contract award shall be made based on the lowest responsive and responsible Bidder.

The Strand Associates, Inc.® project manager is Cody L. Esposito, P.E. and can be contacted at Strand Associates, Inc.®, 910 West Wingra Drive, Madison, WI 53715, (608) 251 4843, regarding the Project.

For further requirements regarding Bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and Contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents.

Published by the authority of the
Village of Mount Horeb
Alyssa Gaffney, Village Clerk
Dated at the Village of Mount Horeb, Wisconsin

Publish: 6/25/26, 7/2/26 **WNAXLP**



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VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB PUBLIC HEARING JULY 22, 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 Community Developers Inc, for the creation of a 26-lot single-family subdivision. The application includes a zoning change from A-1 Agriculture to SF-2 Single-Family Residential described as parcel 0606-121-3205-1.
The Village Board, by its Plan Commission will hear all persons concerning all matters and/or objections written or oral at that time.

Publish: 6/25/26, 7/2/26 **WNAXLP**

MT HOREB AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE OF CHANGE IN ADOPTED BUDGET

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of Wisconsin Statute 65.90(5)(a), that the School Board of Mt. Horeb Area School District, on June 15, 2026, adopted the following changes to previously approved budgeted 2025-2026 amounts. The following presents only adopted budget line items with changes. Unchanged line items are not presented.

GENERAL FUND				
LINE ITEM	ACCOUNT CODE	PREVIOUS APPROVED AMOUNT \$	AMENDED APPROVED AMOUNT \$	CHANGE \$
Anticipated Revenue				
Revenue from Interdistrict Sources	Source 300	1,520,000.00	1,556,050.00	36,050.00
Revenue from Federal Sources	Source 700	0.00	48,464.00	48,464.00
Total Anticipated Revenue		1,520,000.00	1,604,514.00	84,514.00

Expenditure Appropriations:				
Support Services	Function 200000	1,483,908.00	1,410,532.00	(73,376.00)
Non-Program Transactions	Function 400000	850,000.00	817,890.00	(32,110.00)
Total Expenditure Appropriations		2,333,908.00	2,228,422.00	(105,486.00)

Projected Ending Assigned Fund Balance	938000	0.00	190,000.00	190,000.00
Projected Ending Unassigned Fund Balance	939000	7,795,064.16	7,795,064.16	0.00

SPECIAL EDUCATION FUND				
LINE ITEM	ACCOUNT CODE	PREVIOUS APPROVED AMOUNT \$	AMENDED APPROVED AMOUNT \$	CHANGE \$
Anticipated Revenue				
Revenue from State Sources	Source 600	1,880,000.00	2,049,016.00	169,016.00
Total Anticipated Revenue		1,880,000.00	2,049,016.00	169,016.00

Expenditure Appropriations:				
Instruction	Function 100000	0.00	26,000.00	26,000.00
Support Services	Function 200000	90,500.00	133,516.00	43,016.00
Non-Program Transactions	Function 400000	400,000.00	500,000.00	100,000.00
Total Expenditure Appropriations		490,500.00	659,516.00	169,016.00

Projected Ending Fund Balance	0.00	0.00	0.00
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DEBT SERVICE FUND				
LINE ITEM	ACCOUNT CODE	PREVIOUS APPROVED AMOUNT \$	AMENDED APPROVED AMOUNT \$	CHANGE \$
Anticipated Revenue				
Revenue from Other Sources	Sources 800/900	0.00	10,619,687.00	10,619,687.00
Total Anticipated Revenue		0.00	10,619,687.00	10,619,687.00

Expenditure Appropriations:				
Support Services	Function 200000	2,084,467.00	12,286,728.00	10,202,261.00
Total Expenditure Appropriations		2,084,467.00	12,286,728.00	10,202,261.00

Projected Ending Fund Balance	1,603,122.29	2,020,548.29	417,426.00
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REFERENDUM FUND				
LINE ITEM	ACCOUNT CODE	PREVIOUS APPROVED AMOUNT \$	AMENDED APPROVED AMOUNT \$	CHANGE \$
Anticipated Revenue				
Revenue from Local Sources	Source 200	200,000.00	340,000.00	140,000.00
Revenue from Other Sources	Sources 800/900	0.00	9,000,000.00	9,000,000.00
Total Anticipated Revenue		200,000.00	9,340,000.00	9,140,000.00

Expenditure Appropriations:				
Support Services	Function 200000	5,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	(3,000,000.00)
Total Expenditure Appropriations		5,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	(3,000,000.00)

Projected Ending Fund Balance	19,616,413.91	31,756,413.91	12,140,000.00
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Publish: 6/25/26 **WNAXLP**

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WHAT A SPRING!

Mount Horeb enjoyed a highly successful spring sports season. Clockwise from top:

- The Vikings softball team set a school record with 26 wins and reached the sectional finals before losing to Beloit Turner.
- Willa Vigliotta and Mount Horeb’s girls track and field team finished in eighth place at state.
- Mount Horeb’s boys golf team qualified for sectionals for the first time since 2019.
- Ethan Morrisard and Mount Horeb’s baseball team had a lot to holler about, going 16-9 overall.

Photos courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

