Mount Horeb Mail

TRUTH THROUGH JOURNALISM

VOL. 126, NO. 45 | THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2026 | MOUNTHOREBMAIL.COM | $1.75

Community groups give thanks for Miller and Sons' Brats in the Lot support

By Matt Geiger
The Mount Horeb Mail

They are sights, sounds and smells nearly everyone in Mount Horeb has experienced. The sandwich board directing people to the Miller and Sons Supermarket parking lot. The aroma of juicy bratwursts and hot dogs sizzling and spitting on the grill. The laughter and gratitude of people stopping by the tent to buy a quick meal and support a vast array of local causes.

Miller's is one of the village's most frequented destinations, whether for a full grocery shop or a quick missing ingredient. Often, when people pull in, they see a "Brats in the Lot" event. These cook-outs have raised money for myriad causes and clubs. They have funded school trips and helped bolster everyone from scout troops to barrel racers. The premise is simple: people show up and grill and sell brats just outside the front doors of Mount

This summer alone, Brats in the Lot events raised an estimated $16,000 for worthy causes.

So, after years of helping out without asking for

continued on page 8

New version of Grundahl development OK'd by Plan Commission

By Cathy Scott
The Mount Horeb Mail

The Village of Mount Horeb's Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) and Plan Commission (PC) held back-to-back meetings at the Senior Center on Wednesday, October 28 to discuss the revised Langhus on Main project, located at 208, 214, and 220 E. Main. Ultimately, the site plan was approved unanimously by

continued on page 5

Democrats win big in local races

The fall election took place Tuesday, Nov. 3, and it was a clean sweep for local Democrats. Preliminary results show Democrat Jenna Jacobson defeating Republican incumbent Howard Marklein in the 17th State Senate race, Democrat Bill Oemichen beating Republican Jon Aleckson for the 50th State Assembly seat being left by Jacobson, Democrat Ben Gruber defeating Republican incumbent Todd Novak for the 51st State Assembly seat, and Democrat David Crowley defeating Republican Tom Tiffany for Wisconsin governor.



Wild times at the Creepy Crawl

The Mount Horeb Recreation Department hosted the 22nd annual Creepy Crawl haunted hike October 29. The Military Ridge Trail was lit by carved pumpkins and lined with scares of all kinds. After the hike, there were hay wagon rides, animals from Havens Petting Zoo (above), and more. Photo by Grace Larson.

Mount Horeb's newest band teacher explains the many ways music can enhance the lives of local students

Adisyn Hoff joined the Mount Horeb Area School District in the fall of 2026

By Matt Geiger
The Mount Horeb Mail



Hoff

Mount Horeb High School has a new band teacher, and she knows firsthand the essential role music plays in people's lives. With a good musical education comes opportunity, connection, meaning and a whole ne language with which to connect

continued on page 9

Activists who stormed Ridglan Farms head to court on array of charges

Forty-seven people face felony burglary charges; four others face four felonies and could serve up to 31 years in prison for breaking into local facility and taking dogs

By Kevin Murphy
The Mount Horeb Mail

A Dane County judge will hear arguments next week as to whether four individuals charged with taking 22 dogs last March from the since shuttered Ridglan Farms beagle breeding facility can use the "necessity" defense at trial in January.

Circuit Judge John Hyland has refused to dismiss felony burglary, theft and criminal damage to property charges brought against the four animal activists. After a Nov. 9 hearing, Hyland will decide if their attorneys can present evidence to jurors that their clients' actions were legally justified by the alleged animal abuse

continued on page 7

Drug overdose spike alert in Dane County *Know the signs*

Public Health Madison & Dane County is issuing a public health alert due to an increase, or spike, in drug overdoses in our community.

This alert is based on data from EMS providers. On October 26, there were at least five emergency services incidents involving overdoses in less than 24 hours.

Currently, it is unknown what is driving this spike. While several of the calls reported cocaine use, be aware that the overdose symptoms

continued on page 2

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Gleanings

By Barb Johnson
Mount Horeb Mail

140 Years Ago-
Nov. 10, 1886

Our new county court house is now accommodating the circuit court and board of supervisors.

The summits of the Blue Mounds were illuminated on the evening of the 3rd, and the fire was visible for many miles.

Parties in the towns of Vermont and Cross Plains have suffered recently from the operations of a party of rascals who are cutting wire fences and removing corner posts promiscuously.

The time of the year is at hand when it makes it somewhat unpleasant for horses to be standing hitched to a post from morning until night, while their drivers and masters are bumming in a saloon. Would it not be an act of charity for the proper authorities to see after this matter? It has been going on long enough.

The remains of Ole Holverson were laid to rest in the Blue Mounds cemetery, Friday last. The deceased had enjoyed good health up to the time of his death, as announced, was an error. Mr. Holverson has not been well for some time although his ailment was of such a nature that he was not compelled to remain in bed. He had attended the election and it was shortly after his return home that his hour came.

130 Years Ago-
Nov. 12, 1896

Four steam whistles kept up a 15-minute blast here Saturday evening and were heard for miles around. This indicating we presume that better times was at hand.

John Baker is back to Dahle Bros. to help during the fall rush. John is a worker, and an industrious worker is generally well liked.

It takes a man with lots of sand to haul and such days as last Tuesday. Henry Lohff was at it all day.

The creamery at Pine Bluff gets a large supply of milk now.

We hereby offer a reward of ten dollars for the apprehension and conviction of the party or parties who have broken into the District No. 1 schoolhouse in Springdale and damaged the interior of the building. Joe Harmon, H.J. Lohff, Geo. Berge.

Last week Bennett Benson closed the fall term of school in the Martin district. Benson is a well educated and practical teacher who know how to manage a school. Some of the young boys of this district are pretty wild but if the school board gets Mr. Benson to teach a term or two more it will help a lot to quiet them.

Al. Thorson left for LaCrosse where he will attend the Wisconsin Business University.

120 Years Ago-
Nov. 8, 1906

Jas. Gesme is finishing his shed.

Last Sunday the roads were in such condition that automobiles were out speeding.

The weather prevailed mild and cloudy on Election Day. A fair sized vote was polled. 216 Mt. Horeb voters registered their choice for county, assembly, congressmen and State officers.

Thos Ayen's building is taking shape and will be a pride to Main Street. It will rise several feet above adjoining buildings and the front will be ornamented and present an attractive appearance.

The sad news comes that James Quigley, son of Philip Quigley of Pine Bluff, was taken to Mendota asylum last week, his mind becoming deranged from excessive drinking. James is about 30 years of age, and had up to last October been a young man of temperate habits, but commenced to drink excessively and it finally came to this sad state of affairs to the great sorrow of the much respected family and friends.

C.H. Messerschmidt marketed three pigs Monday, which brought $80. Pigs are king now.

Miss Josie Offerdahl and George Thompson were married at the Springdale Lutheran Church Nov. 8.

A.O. Bakken purchased the Corner restaurant from Henry Lee and took possession Monday.

110 Years Ago-
Nov. 10, 1916

Kleven Bros. are building two bungalows on the east side.

Principal Thompson took his civics class to the polling place Tuesday and showed them how to vote when the time comes for them to exercise this privilege.

You will get some practical little gifts for Christmas if you patronize the parcel post and apron bazaar Nov. 15 at the M.E. Church.

The citizens of Blue Mounds gathered in the hall on election night and received the election returns by telephone from here the line being used exclusively for election news.

Representatives of four of the neighboring telephone companies met at Pine Bluff Wednesday of last week to consider the proposition of dividing territory and the turning over their lines by the Pine Bluff telephone Co. to the other three companies.

100 Years Ago-
Nov. 4, 1926

Ap Kahl is now employed in the grocery department at Dahle's Store.

Harold Nygard of Madison is having charge of Wittwer's Market while Mr. and Mrs. Carl Wittwer are ill.

Nels Syvrud is connecting his residence with city water.

100 Years Ago-
Nov. 2, 1926

The barn on the Mrs. Hannah Dolohanty farm burned to the ground Friday afternoon, with a loss of several thousand dollars. They were shredding and blowing the shredded corn stalks in the barn, on top of the hay. The fire started in the shredded corn in the barn.

Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Hrubensky and family of Omro, Wis., arrived last Wednesday and are living in the Mrs. Mamie Hoff house. Mr. Hrubensky has purchased the Evans Pharmacy from C. M. Evans and will take possession November 4.

80 Years Ago-
Nov. 7, 1946

Winston Olson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Orrin Olson, Daleyville, who has been a polio patient at the orthopedic hospital in Madison, returned home on Monday.

Wilfred Heuser was named temporary chairman of a committee to prepare plans for a permanent organization and a Mount Horeb airport at the municipal building last Friday night. Al Glick was chosen as temporary secretary. About 25 persons attended the meeting. A committee, Kevin Lynch, Dale Garfoot and Garth Winkler, were named to check on airport sites and report back at a meeting tonight, Nov. 7.

Rev. George Carver, former pastor in the Methodist church, died Oct. 27, at his home in Hudson, Wis.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Bjelde have moved into their new home, which they have built on Lake Street.

50 years Ago-
Nov. 5, 1976

Some purple-handed pranksters are roaming around Mount Horeb this week as Halloween leftovers. One household, having a hunch their pumpkins may be smashed, painted their pumpkins with permanent purple ink. Sure enough, the pumpkins were smashed. Unless they were wearing gloves, they're hands will be purple for a few days.

Mount Horeb Police Chief George Kahl spent his last day on duty Friday after 26 years with the force. Kahl had mixed emotions as he received many greetings over the radio and in person last week.

A pleasant surprise awaited the village board members after opening bids for the new wastewater treatment plant. The low bid was $218,566 below the engineer's expected cost.

40 Years Ago-
Nov. 6, 1986

A check in the amount of $3,722 was presented to fire victims Wayne and Audrey Yapp by the Lutheran Brotherhood Mounds Branch 8095.

The State Bank of Mt. Horeb will celebrate the grand opening of their new three-lane auto bank. The ribbon will be cut by Richard E. Galecki, commissioner of banking.

Denny Friske of Blue Mounds placed 126th out of 646 in a bass tournament on Bull Shoals Reservoir in Arkansas.

30 Years Ago-
Nov. 7, 1996

A son, Michael Bradley, was born to Brad and Theresa Vasen on Sunday, Nov. 3 at Meriter Hospital.

Pastor George Carlson, Senior Pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mount Horeb, will be installed on Sunday, Nov. 10 at both the 8:30 and 10:45 am worship services.

Sigurd C. Syverud passed away peacefully on Nov. 2, 1996, at the home of his daughter, Mary, in Palm Harbor, Florida, with his family at his side.

Rec Notes

Mark your calendars! Our Winter/Spring Activity Guide will be sent out on November 13th! It will be posted on our website and emailed to those who have signed up for marketing emails in their CivicPlus account. Don't have your CivicPlus account set up yet? Don't delay; it will make your registration much easier if your account is already created. The link to CivicPlus can be found on our website: mounthorebwi.info/193/Recreation-Department .

- Online registration will begin on November 16th at 7:15 AM.
- In-person registration will begin on November 17th at 7:15 AM.

Get involved with hockey in our Learn to Play Hockey program! This program provides children, ages 4 to 8, with the opportunity to learn how to ice skate and exposes them to youth hockey in an exciting, supportive environment. Lessons will focus on fundamentals, teamwork, and fun! Registration includes the rental of a full set of gear. This program runs in partnership with Ice Wolves Hockey and is taught by USA Hockey certified coaches. Classes are on Saturdays from 8:15-9:00 AM. Session 1 is 11/14 - 12/19 and Session 2 is 1/16 - 2/20. The program takes place at the Ley Pavilion in Dodgeville. The single session fee is $50 for residents and $60 for non-residents, or sign up for both sessions and pay only $75.00 total (fee does NOT include required USA Hockey Membership). Register for session 1 by 11/7 and session 2 by 1/11!

Hit the court this winter with 4th-6th Grade Big Ten Rec Basketball! The Big Ten Basketball League is a cooperative league with surrounding communities. Weeknight practice days vary by program, with times TBD. Saturday practices (times TBD) will be held in Mount Horeb until games begin. Games are expected to start the 2nd or 3rd week of January. Each week a different community will host games, so some travel is required. Season begins the week of November 30 and runs for approx. 12 weeks with a final tournament in late February/early March. The fee is $70 for residents and $80 for non-residents. Join by 11/9!

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.

REGISTRATION DEADLINES:

11/09: Learn To Play Hockey Sess. 1

11/09: Recreation Basketball

1/11: Learn To Play Hockey Sess. 2

Winter/Spring Activity Guide coming soon…

OVERDOSE

continued from page 1

use. It is possible that the make-up of street drugs in our community changed, or that they could include a mixture of stimulants, opiates, fentanyl, or other synthetic drugs.

First responders, healthcare providers, and people who use drugs and their families should be aware of the increased risk of overdose in our community. Sign up to get email or text alerts about overdose spikes on Public Health's webpage. If you use drugs or know someone who does take steps for safe drug use:

Know the signs of an overdose:

Pale, sweaty or clammy skin

Lips/fingertips turn blue

Slow or irregular breathing: gasping, gurgling, or snoring

Difficult or unable to wake

Always call 911 if you think someone is overdosing

Don't use street drugs alone; call Never Use Alone at 800-484-3731 or Safe Spot at 800-972-0590

Check in with your friends/family who use drugs

Test all drugs for fentanyl and test opioids for Xylazine before using

Carry Naloxone and be prepared to use multiple doses when needed

Get safer use supplies, like fentanyl test strips and Naloxone, from the Syringe Services Program at Public Health Madison & Dane County: 2705 E. Washington Ave. or 2300 S. Park St. in Madison

Contact the Behavioral Health Resource Center of Dane County for treatment and recovery resources: (608) 267-2244

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Obituary

Frederick "Fred" Frame

June 18, 1944 - October 30, 2026



MOUNT HOREB - Frederick "Fred" Frame, age 82, of Mount Horeb, passed away on Friday, October 30, 2026, in Madison. He was born on June 18, 1944, to Sherman and Lillian (Shields) Frame.

Fred graduated from Barneveld High School in 1962. He married Lois (Gilbertson) Frame on February 18, 1984, at Perry Lutheran Church in Daleyville. Fred worked for the City of Verona in Public Works for 22 years, retiring in 2010.

Fred was a dedicated member of Perry Lutheran Church. He enjoyed participating in card club and bowling league and was an avid Badgers, Packers and Brewers fan. More than anything he enjoyed spending time with his family and friends. He especially enjoyed summer trips up north with family – fishing, spotting loons and eagles, and eating ice cream.

Fred is survived by his wife, Lois Frame, and their daughters, Nicole (Bryan) Schmidt and Kelsey (Greg) Huston; his children, Theresa (Randy) Hefty, Tracey Frame and Tammy (Dennis) Gilson; brother, Robert "Bob" (Doris) Frame; 12 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Sherman and Lillian Frame; brother-in-law, Bob Gilbertson; and in-laws, Jim and Violet Gilbertson.

A visitation will be held at GUNDERSON CAMACHO MOUNT HOREB FUNERAL AND CREMATION CARE, 500 N. Eighth St., Mount Horeb, on Thursday, November 5, 2026, from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. An additional visitation will take place at PERRY LUTHERAN CHURCH, 1057 WI-78 Trunk, Mount Horeb, on Friday, November 6, 2026, from 10 a.m. until the start of the funeral service at 11 a.m. A luncheon will follow at the church.

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

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500 N. Eighth St
(608) 437-5077

Sugar River Euchre

Sugar River Euchre League's October 29 Results

By Stan Hook

Halfway through the first half two teams remain winless while three have just one loss. Eight of the ten teams haven't given up hope though, as there is still time to lock in the first slot in this year's championship match.

The Red Mouse Shufflers stumbled in the first frame and found themselves down 25 points to the Norsk Cowboys. By the fourth frame the Shufflers were up by 1. Losing 12 points in the fifth frame, the Shufflers trailed the Cowboys once again, only to retake the lead in the seventh frame by 3. Three of the Cowboy couples won their last game, to rope in an 8 point win. Even though Cowboys Dean Disch and Roger Olstad dropped 2 points in the eighth frame, they still finished with the high score for the match with 112 points.

Kurniki's Express took an early lead and were up by 55 points midway through the match against the Sportsman's Cheese Eaters. The Cheese Eaters gnawed their way through one of the break lines of the Express to cut the lead to 29 points after 7 miles into the race. With some quick repairs and the 114 lbs. of coal shoveled into the boilers by Steve Thoni and John Nechkash the Express reached the station 52 minutes ahead of the Cheese Eaters. Steve and John's only loss came in the fifth frame from Kohl Wenger and Jeff Buesser.

The Doghouse Pranksters traveled to the Red Mouse in Pine Bluff to take on team Uff-da. With Pranksters Chris Hook and Rodney Latham pulling 114 points from their hat, they knocked the wind out of team Uff-da. Unfortunately for Prankster Jim Borland, he recorded a 76 for the second week in a row. Once again, this week's low score. His partner this week was Laural Grindle. Jim, I am guessing that 76 is not your favorite number. Despite Jim and Laurel's 76, the Pranksters pulled 11 more points from their hats than team Uff-da could inhale.

The Kleeman Hay Shakers had no trouble making hay against Kurniki's Pipe Benders. Al Zimmermann and Jerry Judd made 117 bales, this week's record score. Jeff Judd and Jeff Goebler were just two bales short of Al and Jerry. That, coupled with the fact that not a single Pipe Bender was able to connect one-hundred feet of pipe, left the Pipe Benders 46 feet short of a win.

The high score for the Viking Trolls equaled the low score of the J&M Bar River Rats. With all four River Rat couples surpassing 100 points, the River Rats had no little trouble defeating the Trolls by 65 points. Scott Keys and Jack Gehin gathered 114 lbs. of nourishment for the River Rats, while Paul Gehin and Don Boley stored another 112 lbs. Not to be left out, Gary Bartells and Steve Ace brought in 111 lbs. to complete a well-stocked pantry.

Standings

Kleeman's Hay Shakers 4-1
Kurniki's Express 4-1
Norsk Cowboys 4-1
J&M Bar River Rats 3-2
Kurniki's Pipe Benders 3-2
Red Mouse Uff-Da 3-2
Doghouse Pranksters 2-3
Red Mouse Shufflers 2-3
Sportsman's Cheese Eaters 0-5
Viking Trolls 0-5

Nov 5 Schedule (start times are 7:00 unless noted otherwise)

Kurniki's Pipe Benders at Kurniki's Express
Red Mouse Shufflers at J&M Bar River Rats (7:30)
Sportsman's Bar Cheese Eaters at Viking Trolls
Norsk Cowboys at Doghouse Pranksters
Kleeman's Hay Shakers at Red Mouse Uff-da

Local Government

Reports give insight into utilities in Mount Horeb

By Erin Herndon
The Mount Horeb Mail

The electric department reported to the Mount Horeb Utility Commission on its September activities. The commission met October 13 for its monthly meeting, where it approved September's meeting minutes, reviewed its finances and received updates from the electric department as well as the water department and wastewater department. It also approved an adaptive land management agreement between the Village and Tallard Farms & Land, LLC as well as two $500 grants to "Wednesday Night Live" and the "Mount Horeb Gator Summer team" for costs associated with their 30th anniversary celebration and assorted printing materials, respectively.

Electric Superintendent Jordan Schmitz began the September utility updates portion of the meeting. Schmitz said the electric department completed two underground services and one secondary extension, responded to two outages attributed to a dead tree and a skid steer and worked on repairing street lights on South First Street. He said the department also finished wire replacements in the North Brookwood area and continued to remove and terminate wires on North Road.

"We're getting close with that project," Superintendent Schmitz said. "We have a lot of new stuff right now, but whenever we have free time, we jump out there and keep getting that done. I want to get that job wrapped up before winter."

According to his monthly report, the crew also moved a transformer for a customer, progressed with providing service to Steve Brown Apartments, relocated a pole for Mount Horeb ISD and collaborated with WPPI meter tech on Village infrared testing. Additionally, they corrected a breaker issue at the Wally Road substation and completed testing at all three substations.

"That's a yearly thing, and I'm still waiting for results from that. We have the same guy come in, and he does noise, vibration, visual and infrared tests," Schmitz said. "The biggest thing where he's got stuff for us is oil

continued on page 4

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Badger Conference Reminds Fans of the Importance of Sportsmanship at High School Sports Events

As the high school sports season is in full swing, the Badger Conference would like to remind all fans, parents, and community members of the critical importance of sportsmanship at our athletic events. High school sports are a time for excitement, competition, and creating lasting memories. To ensure a positive experience for everyone involved, we must uphold the highest standards of behavior. We emphasize that any inappropriate comments or actions directed at the appearance, religion, race, ethnicity, or any other personal characteristics of players, coaches, officials, or fellow fans will not be tolerated under any circumstances. In addition, the use of profanity, intimidating remarks, or actions is strictly prohibited. Our Badger Conference schools are committed to fostering an environment where respect, fairness, and integrity prevail. High school sports are more than just games; they are opportunities for our young athletes to develop character, build bonds, and form lifelong memories. Every cheer, every shout of encouragement, and every display of respect contributes to the growth and development of our students. We encourage all attendees to support our athletes positively and constructively. Let us celebrate their hard work, dedication, and achievements with enthusiasm and respect. Your cooperation is essential in making our sports events safe, enjoyable, and inspiring for everyone involved.

Thank you for your understanding and commitment to upholding the values of sportsmanship and respect at all Badger Conference athletic events.

UTILITIES

continued from page 3

sampling of the transformers. That's where we originally found out the gases in the downtown transformer were building up, but now that we got that taken care of, the transformers should run well."

Finally, Schmitz said crew members completed multiple trainings during the month, including a yearly pole top rescue training and GOAB or "Gang-Operated Air Break switch" training. Schmitz explained GOAB is a three-phase overhead switch with blades operating in a manner that creates a visible air gap for safe crew work.

"If we lost power downtown, we could go to that and either close it or open it. That's how we get our customers back on, it's manual," Schmitz said. "A lot of other utilities haven't done that a lot, so it was nice with our guys being there as a refresher."

Water Department

The water department reported to the Mount Horeb Utility Commission on its September activities. The commission met October 13 for its monthly meeting, where it approved September's meeting minutes, reviewed its finances and received updates from the water department as well as the electric department and wastewater department. It also approved an adaptive land management agreement between the Village and Tallard Farms & Land, LLC as well as two $500 grants to "Wednesday Night Live" and the "Mount Horeb Gator Summer team" for costs associated with their 30th anniversary celebration and assorted printing materials, respectively.

Electric Superintendent Jordan Schmitz shared water department updates with the Mount Horeb Utility Commission on behalf of Water Superintendent Brian Schult who was absent from the commission's October meeting. According to Schult's monthly report, the department completed its regular nine bacteriological (Bac-T) and one fluoride split samples and followed up on high water usage reported by WPPI. It also continued changing radio-read boxes to FlexNet.

"So in Brian's report for the month of September, they changed out more radio-read boxes to FlexNet," Superintendent Schmitz said. "I think he said they've got roughly about 400 or 500 left to do yet, but I know they've been getting after it and getting them switched out"

According to the report, Parisian finished the water main installation on the First Street Project and the department flushed water hydrants in September rather than October in an effort to combat the volume of leaves compiling in Village curb lines, storm sewers and retention ponds. Additionally, Schult wrote in his report that the Nesheim water main project remains ongoing as the department awaits further progress from S&L Construction.

"The punch list on the water main project has not been completed yet, and they're waiting on S&L. Knowing Brian was going to be gone, I wanted to go for a ride with him to check stuff out and see what they had done over there. It looked like probably 85% to 90% of the concrete work on the punch list was done," Schmitz said. "The grass seed was taking, and that all looked good. On the water side of things, any curb boxes—none of that was done yet."

Wastewater Department

The wastewater department reported to the Mount Horeb Utility Commission on its September activities. The commission met October 13 for its monthly meeting, where it approved September's meeting minutes, reviewed its finances and received updates from the wastewater department as well as the water department and electric department. It also approved an adaptive land management agreement between the Village and Tallard Farms & Land, LLC as well as two $500 grants to "Wednesday Night Live" and the "Mount Horeb Gator Summer team" for costs associated with their 30th anniversary celebration and assorted printing materials, respectively.

Water Superintendent Michael Brace said the wastewater treatment plant ran well and operated below all permitted limits during September. According to his monthly report, the department also maintained *E. coli* levels well below permitted limits, completed disinfection season and ceased its dosing of ferric chloride for phosphorus reduction on September 13 after department systems indicated that the biological system was improving. Brace said the phosphorus levels have continued to drop as conditions in the facility become increasingly favorable for the microbes. The department also cleaned 4,260 feet of sanitary mains, televised 1,755 feet of pipe, completed 13 manhole inspections and reported no major areas of concern.

"This is something we track yearly. Annually, we have our CMOM, Compliance Maintenance Operation Manual, and that is part of a sort of report card that we file every year," Superintendent Brace said. "There's a section dealing with our collection systems, and we've set a goal of 10% cleaning and inspecting. Through the month of September, we're at about 70% of that goal."

According to Brace's report, the wastewater department's influent sampler malfunctioned during September. Upon consideration of the cost to repair versus the cost to replace, the department determined that a replacement was necessary and has since placed an order. The department also responded to two residential call-outs originating from the same block. The call-outs regarded odors determined to have originated from a nearby manhole, which staff inspected, but found no evidence of a spill or blockage.

"We did notice that there's a manhole in that neighborhood that is in a green space and is vented, because I think one of the lift station force mains drains into it," Brace said. "We put a carbon filter on the vent, thinking that at any given time in a high flow, if there was some odor coming out of that vent, hopefully that would address it. Knock on wood, that was three weeks ago. We haven't had another complaint yet."

The Utility Commission next meets November 10 at 5:30 p.m.

MOUNT HOREB MAIL
PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT
Finger Publishing, Inc.
1126 Mills Street
Black Earth, WI 53515
608-767-3655

PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT MOUNT HOREB, WI 53572 (USPS 365-340)

POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to
Mount Horeb Mail
1126 Mills Street, PO Box 286
Black Earth, WI 53515

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
In Wis: $59/1 yr.; $108/2 yrs.;
out of state: $75/1 yr.; $135/2 yrs.
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Mount Horeb Mail Letters to the Editor policy

We welcome letters to the editor and want to publish your thoughts and opinions. We are happy to publish your letters about politics, and your endorsements of political candidates.

Please submit all letters to the editor via email. You can email your letters to mgeiger@fingerpub.com

All letters must include the author's name, address and phone number. We won't publish your address and number, but we need to be able to verify who you are. Anonymous letters and letters written under pseudonyms will not be considered.

We prefer letters that are fewer than 600 words and take as their starting point an issue that is important to our community and our readers. To write a guest column of more than 600 words, contact the editor first.

Letters are edited for clarity, fact checked and sometimes trimmed to fit the space available in the newspaper. The opinions expressed are always the writer's own. The editor won't try to make you seem more (or less) intelligent than you really are, but may clean up some grammatical issues according to our style guide. We want your opinions, even when we don't agree with them. But this isn't the Internet, so you can't just say anything you want. Try to base your letters on reason and fact. We will not publish claims that are demonstrably false.

For additional information, contact mgeiger@fingerpub.com.

CHILI SUPPER
Immanuel Lutheran Church
310 West Main, Mount Horeb
Sunday, November 8, 4-6:30p
DINNER INCLUDES: BEEF OR CHICKEN CHILI
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dine in or *drive* thru
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DISPLAY AD DEADLINE: Thursday noon, week prior to publication
NEWS DEADLINE: Monday noon
PUBLISHERS: Tom Finger
EXECUTIVE EDITOR: Matt Geiger
SPORTS EDITOR: Rob Reischel
PROOFREADER: Christine Swiggum
ADVERTISING SALES: Lisa Kueter-Anderson
SUBSCRIPTIONS: $59/yr.; $108/2 yrs.; Out-of-state: $75/yrs.; $135/2 yrs.

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LANGHUS

continued from page 1

the PC.

Professional consultants representing Mount Horeb were Bryan Kleinmaier, village attorney; Ben Rohr, village planner; Rob Wright, village engineer; and Gabe Altenbernd, village administrator. Developer Jeff Grundahl's professional team included Craig Enzenroth, The Gallina Companies (property manager), Brody Richter, DeWitt, LLC, Steve Shulfer, Sketchworks, and Wade Wyse, Wyser Engineering.

HPC Public Comments, Discussion and Motions

Trustee Marc Schellpfeffer, chair, and members Curtis Johnson, Ted McMillan, Jill Schuettpelz, and Destinee Udelhoven were present.

The purpose of the HPC review was to discuss the project from a historic preservation standpoint in the Downtown Mixed Use (DMU) zoning district and to make recommendations, if any, for the PC meeting for consideration. About 40 residents attended the meeting, with three speaking against the project and two in favor of it during the Public Comment agenda section. Mark Mostrom, in favor, believes the revised design "comes close to replicate what was built years ago." Continuing Mostrom said, "It may not be historical, but you cannot build an old building new. You have to build a new building and make it look compatible with what is around and I think this building does that."

Diane Hills, who was against it, remembers as a student at the University of Wisconsin driving to Mount Horeb and feeling the downtown was "almost driving into a Norman Rockwell painting," opining that the downtown is a tourist destination with the trolls and historic buildings, feeling the project is a "kick to tourism."

The DMU is a new zoning classification approved in May 2026 allowing for both residential and retail development in the Village's downtown area. Commissioner Udelhoven opined the DMU zoning code is inherently conflicting by encouraging density yet not disrupting the existing historic character and believes it is confusing to developers. Reading a prepared comment, Udelhoven said, "The *intent* of the DMU zoning district requires a "development pattern that is consistent with the traditional "Main Street" characteristics of downtown Mount Horeb. The stated *purpose* of the DMU zoning district is "to preserve and enhance the special characteristics of downtown and shall promote the historic and architectural details of the area to preserve its original distinctive character…." She believes both sides of the 200 block of East Main intentionally were built smaller to lead up to the larger buildings in the 100 block of East Main, such as the Opera House and Municipal Building at First and Main. Continuing, she believes the code was written vaguely enough that legally the plan will be approved. She feels the developer was led to believe if the plan meets the numeric parameters in the DMU code, the plan will be approved despite it does not meet the spirit of the code.

Schellpfeffer said "and that is where I personally disagree. I see downtown as a character of small shops, of shops that are adjacent to each other, that are pedestrian friendly, ……you move along in a way that is very much like the front of this building (proposed design). Continuing, Schellpfeffer said if he walked down to Duluth Trading in the 100 block, crossed the street and walked back to the 200 block, he would notice all the buildings tie in with the proportions of retail window sizes to the horizontal width of the buildings which tie into the Langhus on Main project. Schellpfeffer said, "things evolve, things grow, things change but I do think this plan is sympathetic to the character of downtown."

Johnson said, "when I look at this, I'm always making sure that we are within the confines of what we are instructed by the Village Board in deference to our limited scope of our review." Continuing, he opined that he is hesitant to be too definitive on things that are beyond design intent, conformity with the downtown, such as building height, traffic patterns, etc. when he does not think the code gives the Commission that much discretion to do so as that is a discussion for a different board.

Three items were discussed for recommendations to the PC meeting: 1) include peaks in the roofline shown in a previous rendering versus the current flat roof 2) consider a change to the upper two floors on the corner of Third and Main to allow for a better flow of building appearances heading West and 3) take advantage of Mount Horeb's Certified Local Government designation which offers direct and free access to any city, village, etc., that partners with the Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and National Park Service to protect and promote local historic, architectural and archaeological resources.

The members unanimously approved to recommend to the PC to keep the varied roof line and potential design change to the top two corner apartment units on the eastern corner on Main and Third Street. The third recommendation to use the review of the project by SHPO for no cost passed by three for (Johnson, Schuettpelz, Udelhoven) and two against (McMillan, Schellpfeffer). Motion carried. The meeting adjourned via unanimous vote at 7pm.

Three Hours of Public Comments, Discussion, and Motion to Approve

The 7pm PC meeting to discuss the Langhus on Main revised project competed with the fifth, and final, Milwaukee Brewers World Series game. Despite the competition, about 50 residents attended the meeting with half either speaking or registering their opinion during the public comment session. Eight were in favor of the revised site plan and seventeen were opposed.

Sarah Best chaired the meeting, with commissioners Stephanie Gauthier-Phillips, Andrew Kidd, Jill Remmert-Willis, and Peggy Zalucha present. Ryan Cyzewski and Ben Vondra were absent.

Staff Report

Before beginning the developer's report on the project, Altenbernd clarified with the audience that all the village consultants (attorney, engineer, planner., etc.) fees for a non-village initiated project are paid for by the developer, not by the taxpayers. This question was raised in the earlier HPC meeting.

Development Team Synopsis

Grundahl thanked the commissioners, staff, and Rohr for all the time involved in making the revised project meet the zoning code standards for the new DMU zoning district. Shulfer gave an overview of the major revisions, such as reducing the building height to 40 ft, reducing the number of floors to three, and increasing the commercial space on Main Street. There are now 51 interior parking stalls, a second-floor fitness center and an outdoor patio, both of which were recommended previously by the PC.

The Public Speaks

Twenty-five attendees either spoke or completed a blue card stating their opinion on the project. Seven favored the project and seventeen opposed the project. Dawn Hendrickson and Karen Johnson, both employees of The Gallina Companies, spoke in favor of the project saying it will enhance the downtown area as well as provide more opportunities for businesses located in the downtown area.

Michelle Meyer opined she was not in favor or against the project but rather is a concerned citizen. She likes the looks of the building, favoring it more than the initial project. Her main concern is about sustainability, mentioning others say it is good because it increases the vibrancy of the downtown area and wants it (Village) to grow. Meyer said, "I am not so sure that the way to define a successful village is growth, per se, but sustainability. Mount Horeb is a vibrant community right now." Continuing, she said her concern about traffic in the area neighborhoods, with already existing narrow streets and so few ways to get through town.

Tisha Brown mentioned a few reasons she is in favor of the project, such as "the benefits of developing in-fill spaces that will strengthen the tax base and do not require the Village to build additional services, which developing around require us to do. Local businesses need shoppers who live nearby and are walking on the streets….more people will benefit our businesses." Continuing, Brown said "I have a lot of faith for our community to be problem solvers so the issues that may come up with parking and traffic…are not reasons to not move forward on a project….they are a call to action for creativity and to problem solve. I cannot think of a better place to live than in Mount Horeb."

Jackie Sale, who is not in favor of the project, read a prepared statement, "I am here tonight because a critical requirement has been completely overlooked in the materials presented to you. Our newly adopted ordinance explicitly states that any new building *requires that the building corresponds with the existing layout of the District and is compatible with the existing characteristics of the area*. It mandates …… the traditional Main Street façade, architectural features, and the *proportion of the new building to the old buildings* including width and height, to preserve our downtown's original distinctive historical character. These are not my subjective preferences. This is the exact, word-for-word text of the ordinance that this very Commission approved and adopted just a few months ago."

"These compatibility standards are not optional design guidelines; they are legally binding requirements that should be the overriding factor in your decision tonight. They carry just as much weight as basic setback or density numbers. While the proposed building may check off individual technical boxes, it completely fails the mandatory requirement that its mass, height, and width promote the historic qualities of our downtown."

"Our Comprehensive Plan and ordinance ….allow for commercial spaces, apartments, and in-fill development. But it explicitly conditions that growth matches the existing architectural fabric of Main Street. Infill can happen, but it does not need to push the absolute maximum envelope on mass or density."

"Preserving this character is not just about sentiment, there is an economic factor which is also being overlooked. Our historic downtown is not only important to residents for our sense of place; it is vital for bringing in tourism dollars. When visitors come here, they come for the unique, historic charm of our downtown. If we allow massive, out-of-scale developments to destroy that aesthetic, we are actively damaging the economic lifeblood of this community."

Finishing up within the three-minute time limit, Sale continued, "Our downtown has a unique character and a distinct sense of place. The law requires that it be preserved, and it is your job tonight to enforce that law. I urge you to uphold the standards you set just months ago, protect our tourism economy, protect our historic downtown, and reject the proposed project in its present form."

Joe Karls spoke in favor of the project mentioning there were almost fifteen meetings over two years to discuss the Village's zoning code re-write and for those opposing the enactment of the new zoning code, they should have attended and participated in the open comment portion of those meetings. Karls believes Langhe's on Main is right for the downtown.

The Discussion

The next two hours of the meeting included discussions among the commissioners, staff, and the development team concentrating on the roof line, Third Street corner appearance of the top two floors, the impact of the traffic study with about 30 percent less units in the revised plan, and the logistics of parking for the construction vehicles.

Rohr recommended approval of the project with four conditions (waivers) as well as consideration of the three recommendations from the earlier HPC meeting, The waivers included:

1.) the required on-site loading standards due to meeting the standards for the minimum and maximum setback requirements

2.) the required maximum of 0.3 footcandles (lighting) within the property lines since the property line is less than five feet, causing the lighting to cross the property line

3.) the required screening of building mechanicals for the electrical boxes and gas meters on the rear elevation due to lack of space between the alley and the building, recommending bollards be placed for the safety access to the mechanicals

4.) submit to staff an updated lighting plan to include the new standards set forth in the new zoning code

The three recommendations from the HPC meeting:

5.) Consider changing the roof line from the proposed flat to its original roof line that included the enhancement of two peaks, tying in with other Main Street buildings

6.) Consider making an improvement to the top two floor corner units at Third Street and Main to provide a less modern appearance

7.) Consider utilizing the free service of the Village's membership in the Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to evaluate if the proposed project protects and promotes local historic and architectural resources

Wright's recommendation aligns with that of the developer which is to convert the alley north of the project between Third and Second Streets to one way, facing west, allowing for the use of the traffic light on Second Street. Wright's report also confirmed the results of the traffic study advising the traffic impact of the project will not adversely affect traffic movement and now will be better due to less apartment units. With the addition of the residential units, the estimated wait time at the traffic light or the stop sign is an additional seven seconds.

Klein Maier advised the commissioners if they wanted to pursue getting advice from SHPO it would result in not moving forward with the approval process until its opinion was given and, furthermore, the PC members would need to be specific and identify which zoning code(s), such as DMU design theme or building mass, façade articulation, etc. they want staff to pursue with the State.

Zalucha proposed a picture to the development team of a potential decorative ornamental design of rose mauling for each of the two eastern balconies to which they were receptive. Once finalized, Grundahl will present it to staff for final approval.

The Final Action

Gauthier-Phillips motioned, Zalucha seconded to approve the site plan with conditions 1-4 shown above as well as the HPC recommendations 1 & 2 listed above. The motion carried unanimously.

Grundahl will present the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) request for the project to the village board later.

Meeting adjourned at 9:58PM. Simultaneously, the Brewers won the World Series, 4-1.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

High School Celebrates 76 AP Scholar Award Recipients in 2026

A total of 76 Mount Horeb High School students have earned 2026 AP Scholar Awards in recognition of their exceptional academic achievement on Advanced Placement (AP) Examinations! Granted annually by the College Board, these academic distinctions recognize students who demonstrate college-level mastery across rigorous coursework and serve as notable credentials for college applications and résumés.

The College Board offers three primary levels of AP Scholar recognition based on students' AP Exam performance. The AP Scholar designation is granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams. The AP Scholar with Honor designation is awarded to students who earn an average score of at least 3.25 across all AP Exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on four or more exams. The AP Scholar with Distinction designation recognizes students who achieve an average score of at least 3.5 across all AP Exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on five or more exams.

At Mount Horeb High School, 28 students earned the AP Scholar award: Jackson Alcorn, Trinity Alexander, Heather Bechner, Colton Bell, Andrew Bennin, Benjamin Brohn, Claire Casey, Aaron Fendrick, Delilah Gasch, Hannah Gervasi, Romy Ginther, Adrienne Hogseth, Brandon Horne, Aria Johnson, Andrew Jones, Khaya Kasubaski, Desmond Kelley, Noah Koltz, Aspen Laesch, Freja Lutz, Giana Melka, Logan Monahan, Carlin Ramos, Laila Rasmussen, Annaliese Schiffner, Gabrielle Taft, Erin Wagner, and Samuel Wyse.

An additional 15 students received the AP Scholar with Honor distinction: Laurel Aquino, Madelyn Becker, Ava Bilse, Gabriel Costa, Caroline Kruepke, Jerry Larson, Lorelai Lawry, Maxwell Meyer, Avena Meyers, Emmanuel Onate Ramirez, Paige Owens, Sophia Sadler, Kolbie Severson, Jack Wilson, and Landon Wright.

Rounding out the achievements, 33 students earned the prestigious AP Scholar with Distinction award: Colin Ankenbauer, Eirinn Carr, Clementine Christian, Micah Davis, Efram Delahaye, Eli Dinh, Faith E. Droessler, Kyle Frischmann, Ethan Gage, Kait Green, Eleanor Guenther, Madeline Haack, Samantha Hanson, Micah Hiler, Anna Hofmann, Emma Jordan, Dani Kleman, Barret Kreul, Timothy Kruse, Molly McCue, Elizabeth Mesenberg, Shayla Morin, Lily Nelson, Matthew Oimoen, Kajsa Peterson, Brayden Richards, Jackson Schultek, Sylviah Seeliger, Marc Stoddard, Anna Tranel, Maxfield Udelhoven, Lillian Wahl, and Aidan Ward.

Jonah Johnson Performs with Reba McEntire in National Dolly Parton Tribute

Jonah Johnson of Mount Horeb was among a select group of 25 students from Belmont University's College of Music & Performing Arts chosen to perform alongside country music superstar Reba McEntire during «CMA Presents I Will Always Love You: A Celebration of Dolly Parton.»

Hosted Oct. 21 at Belmont's Fisher Center for the Performing Arts, the star-studded event honored the life, music and legacy of Dolly Parton and featured performances from some of music›s most celebrated artists.

As part of the nationally televised production, Johnson joined McEntire on stage before an audience of more than 4.7 million viewers across ABC and Disney+. The special is currently streaming on Disney+ and Hulu.

Additionally, eight of the students from the choir also appeared the next morning on Good Morning America, extending the celebration to a national morning television audience.

The opportunity reflects Belmont's commitment to providing students with real-world experiences alongside leading artists and industry professionals while preparing for careers in music and the performing arts.

ATC says it expects to bill $136 million related to large-load data center projects

ATC recently posted its projected 2027 transmission revenue requirement, which reflects a network rate decrease of approximately six percent from the 2026 rate if the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approves pending filings related to serving large new electric loads. If approved, ATC expects to bill $136 million related to large-load data center projects in 2026.

ATC's proposal would have large electricity users pay transmission charges based on how much capacity they request and the service they receive. It also would help protect other customers from paying those costs if the expected new electricity demand does not materialize. Without the large-load cost assignment mechanisms, the network rate would be 16 percent higher than it would otherwise be in 2027.

"Growing electricity demand presents another opportunity to deliver sustained value to our customers and communities," said Teresa Mogensen, ATC chair, president and chief executive officer. "By aligning transmission charges with the capacity and transmission service required to meet that demand, we can support economic growth, help keep downward pressure on transmission costs and continue investing responsibly in a safe, reliable and resilient grid."

ATC said its pending filings include two complementary mechanisms designed to address different phases of large-load development.

First, during construction, the Construction Work in Progress, or CWIP charge, which consists of the financing costs and associated taxes for transmission facilities needed to serve qualifying large-load projects, would ultimately be assigned to the large customer.

Second, after facilities are placed into service, a Minimum Transmission Charge, or MTC, would ensure that the new large load customers pay 100 percent of the costs incurred to build facilities needed to serve them. The MTC would apply only when regular payments for network service do not reflect the full capacity requested.

ATC said its proposal also recognizes that serving a large new electric load depends both on facilities constructed for that load and utilization of the broader transmission network." ATC said its federally regulated rates cover the costs of both new and existing transmission facilities and ATC's local distribution company customers are charged based on their use of the transmission system. More customers sharing the cost of the broader transmission grid means lower costs for existing customers.

The proposed mechanisms apply to qualifying projects involving a new or expanded load of at least 100 megawatts or requiring $100 million or more in transmission facilities. They are designed to address cost-shifting risks during construction and after facilities enter service, including if a project is canceled or substantially modified or if the anticipated load does not fully materialize.

In addition, ATC's 2027 network transmission rate is also lowered by over $100 million of costs that will be shared across the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) region for Multi-Value Projects that ATC builds and owns, such as the Grid Forward Project.

National Honor students support Ronald McDonald House

National Honor Society students at Mount Horeb High School are holding a food drive to support the Ronald McDonald House food drive. Food donations will be collected at Miller and Sons Supermarket on November 7 and 8, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and at Walgreen's on November from 8 a.m. to noon. Needed items include granola bars, individually wrapped snacks, small chips bags, bottled water and juice. Every donation helps aid families with children in need of care and support, said organizer Averi Kalscheur.

When things go right, and when they go wrong in the garden

On Tuesday, November 10, the Mound Vue Garden Club Members will present a program on Gardening Successes and Failures. Members will tell stories, provide tips and respond to questions about gardening to help build the knowledge of others. Come join us and learn about what works and what might not work well when it comes to local gardening.

The club meets monthly, every first Tuesday, 6:45PM, at Wisconsin Surplus, Mount Horeb, 2600 Rte 78 South, in the Violet Room. The building is located on the west side of the village of Mt Horeb (at the 2nd exit heading west off 18/151). Refreshments at 6:45, presentation starts at 7:00, and the club business meeting begins at 8:00.

Members of the general public are welcome to attend the program free of charge. The program will be followed by a business meeting of the Mound Vue Garden Club. If you are interested in gardening and local community service and outreach, contact Gloria Davies at jrdgrdquilt@mhtc.net about club membership.

In concert with the Shauncey Ali Quartet

Come experience the melody-driven, arrangement-focused, beautiful soundscapes, and musical storytelling of the Shauncey Ali Quartet on Saturday, November 7 at 10 a.m. This free concert is great for all ages and features music influenced by bluegrass, Celtic, and Nordic fiddle styles. The quartet features Nicholas Vanhaute (mandolin), Hans Holzen (acoustic and electric guitar), David Havas (upright bass), and Shauncey Ali himself playing the fiddle.

Shauncey Ali has won the RockyGrass fiddle competition, performed with Peter Gabriel, composed and recorded theme music for an Ambie-nominated podcast and created MadFiddle, a reimagined model for youth music education.

For more information visit www.mhpl.org or call 608-437-5021.

Vortex Optics invotes area veterans to special event

This Veterans Day, they are opening their doors at Vortex® to say thank you. From 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. on November 11, veterans and active-duty service members are invited to stop by their headquarters showroom for coffee and conversation, as a show of our appreciation. Here's what they have planned: Coffee on us – Show your military ID and grab a cup and some treats in the showroom; Challenge coin – Pick up a Spirit of Service coin in the showroom; Meet the team – Members of Vortex®, including CEO Joe Hamilton, will be around to say thanks; Showroom photo booth – Snap a keepsake before you go.

They said it's a simple way for them to recognize the people in the community who have served. If you're a veteran, they hope you'll join them. If you know a veteran, help spread the word about this event.



COMMUNITY

Iconic 'Music Man' show is almost here

The Mt. Horeb High school students and staff are busy preparing for their annual musical production. This year's show is The Music Man, which is based on a book, music, and lyrics by Meredith Willson, based on a story by Willson and Franklin Lacey.

In this musical, con man Harold Hill poses as a band organizer and leader. He sells band instruments and uniforms to naïve Midwestern townsfolk, promising to train the members of the new band. Harold is no musician, however, and plans to skip town without giving any music lessons. Prim librarian and piano teacher Marian sees through him, but when Harold helps her younger brother overcome his lisp and social awkwardness, Marian begins to fall in love with him. He risks being caught to win her heart.

The Music Man premiered on Broadway in 1957, running for 1,375 performances and won five Tony Awards in its initial run and became the first to win a Grammy Award for Best Musical Theater Album.

Mount Horeb High School presents The Music Man on November 12, 13 and 14 in the high school auditorium. Show times are 7:30 p.m. each evening, with an additional matinee show on November 15 at 1:00 pm. You can purchase tickets now, and find more information, at *www.sites.google.com/mhasd.k12.wi.us/mthoreb-music/home.*

Cast of Characters (in order of appearance):

Traveling Salesman 1: Tate Braverman
Traveling Salesman 2: Gabe Wisner
Traveling Salesman 3: Blake Losenegger
Traveling Salesman 4: Lazlo Kelley
Traveling Salesman 5: Julien Moreira
Traveling Salesman 6: Nolan Chancellor
Traveling Salesman 7: Mason Veech
Newspaper Reader 1: Austin Druid
Charlie Cowell: Carlin Ramos
Conductor: Andrew Ahrens
Harold Hill: Jake Lawrence
Mayor Shinn: Ro Gilles
Eward Dunlop: Jack Alcorn
Oliver Hix: Chase Whisler
Jacey Squires: Colin McBain
Olin Britt: Geoffrey Lawrence
Marcellus Washburn: Gabe Wilson
Tommy Djilas: Quintin Klassy
Marian Paroo: Adrienne Hogseth
Mrs. Paroo: Lorelei Lawrey
Amaryllis Parker: Woolard
Winthrop Paroo: Asher Alcorn
Eulalie Mackecknie Shinn: Abby Schwoerer
Zaneeta Shinn: Ellie McKillips
Gracie Shinn: Jayden Smith
Alma Hix: Norah Jungels
Maud Dunlop: Natalie Hufton
Ethel Toffelmier: Gabi Taft
Mrs. Squires: McKenzie Holmes
Constable: Locke Sam Martin
Boy Mason: Veech
Man Nolan: Chancellor
Farmer Liam: Crolla
Farmer's Wife: Caroline Kruepke



Mount Horeb High School presents The Music Man on November 12, 13 and 14 in the high school auditorium.

River City Townsfolk & Kids
Andrew Ahrens
Aubree Aschliman
Avalyn Buckingham
Charlotte Carroll
Liam Crolla
Ella Gage
McKenna Gilbertson
Sophie Green
Dorothy Krantz
Amelia Haack
Avi Laeser
Savannah Olson
Sierra Pitzen
Hailey Schauf
Tessa Seibel
Rowan Soltis
Zoey Stack
Lily Steager
Paetyn Stoll
Elsie Sutter
Charlie Vermaak
Evelyn Vierck
Morgan Wright
Sarah Zelle

Pick a Little Talk a Little Ladies
Emma Peterson
Lea Roemer
Bella McGuire

Mount Horeb's Class of 1966 celebrates 60th reunion

MHHS Class of 1966 60th reunion took place October 8 at Martinson Hall. Pictured at right: Row 1, l-r. Rick Schweitzer, Pat Doeseckle Rhyner, Deanna Hendrickson Opsal, Nancy Schlub, Andrea Kjervik Johannsen, Judy Kleppe Weichmann, and Donna Fredrickson Laufenberg. Row 2, l-r. Diane Aavang Woodbury, Susan Thompson Brink, Bonita Loeffel, Charlene Kahl Smith, Helen Knudtson Kahl, Dennis Kahl, Sherry Ryan Gilman, Keith Baumgartner, John Huettl, and Alexa Pfister. Row 3, l-r. Leroy Rhyner, Royle Bieri, Jeff Sale, Steve Brink, Ed Magnuson, Phil Harms, Dale Ringgenberg, Bob Kellesvig, Steve Rockstad, Steve Durtschi and Ernie Wittwer. Photo contributed.



RIDGLAN

continued from page 1

that they say had been ongoing for decades at Ridglan where dogs were bred for scientific and medical research.

On March 15, animal rights activists broke into Ridglan Farms, in the town of Blue Mounds, and took 22 beagles in what they called a "rescue" mission.

Veterinary examinations later indicated that the dogs had serious health concerns including parasites and at least one dog had a life-threatening condition, alleged a statement released by the Animal Activist Legal Defense Project at the University of Denver.

Jurors could find that a defendant was "justified" in committing an offense such as trespass or theft if it was necessary to prevent more serious harm such as injury to an animal, according to the Legal Information Institute Cornell University Law School.

Four defendants, all out-of-state residents, face theft, burglary and criminal damage charges and, if convicted, maximum penalties of 31 years in prison.

Hyland has set the trial for the four defendants for nine days beginning Jan. 25, 2027

Forty-seven other activists have also been charged with felony burglary and face maximum penalties of 12.5 years in prison, if convicted. Their arraignment is set for Dec. 16.

Lauren Gazzola, a spokesperson for AALDP, said in an email that she expects these defendants to also seek to use the necessity defense. No trial date for these cases had been set as of last Friday.

Activists stormed the business again in April. The event involved hundreds of individuals trying to break into the facility. Video shows one person smashing through a gate with a vehicle and another taking a police officer's baton. Ultimately the activists were repulsed by law enforcement deploying pepper spray and rubber bullets.

Motions filed with the court alleged that some dogs were kept in cages stacked three high in unsanitary conditions and lacked socialization opportunities. Inspectors said they experienced throat and nasal irritation after leaving the facility.

Prior to the break-ins, activists urged the Dane County District Attorney to investigate and prosecute Ridglan Farms, however, the district attorney declined citing a lack of jurisdiction over a federally licensed facility.

After a request from Dane4Dogs, Alliance for Animals and other parties in 2024, Circuit Judge Rhonda Langford appointed the La Crosse County District Attorney as special prosecutor to investigate the business.

In exchange for not prosecuting Ridglan for alleged animal cruelty violations, Ridglan agreed in July 2025, to close its beagle breeding operation within a year but retained about 2,000 dogs for medical research under a federal license.

According to AALDF's statements, activists stormed the facility and took the dogs because they believed the animals might be killed if they did not.

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Top: An array of groups have held "Brats in the Lot" fundraisers over the years. (File photos.)

Bottom left: Those at Saturday's event included (not in the order pictured) Connie and Roxanne Nankee (MoHo Gators); Kathy Smith (MoHo Gators); Eric Swiggum (Mount Horeb softball Club); Florence Connors (Springdale 4H); Joan Laundy (Senior Center); J.D. Gragg (Gridiron Club); Quann Utt (Gridiron Club and Frolic); Jodi Riley (Volleyball Boosters); Eric Crowe (Soccer Club); Lori and Jasper Lokken (Springdale 4H); Theresa, Joe and Isaac Drapeau (Optimist Club); Angie Hefty (CCW); Kevin Hefty (KC); Jerry Hook (American Legion Post 113); Dave York (American Legion Post 113); Connie York (American Legion Auxiliary); William Severson (Mount Horeb Lions); Drew Droessler (Scouts BSA Troop 62); Gary Tree (Mount Horeb Rotary); Martha Koller Faust (Gymnastics Club); Kim Treamer (American Legion Auxiliary); Kurt Adler (Frolic). Representing Miller's Supermarket were Carl Miller and Amber Roach.

Bottom right: Randy Hefty, who delivered the grill earlier this summer from the Mount Horeb Lumber/Do It Best store in Mount Horeb. (Photo contributed.)

MILLER'S

continued from page 1

anything in return, the folks at Miller's were surprised when they recently discovered that 22 of the groups who hosted Brats in the Lot there in the past decided to give something back. They pooled their resources to purchase a four-burner gas grill, which Mount Horeb Do-It-Best discounted, plus a tent, two sandwich boards, grill tools and an appreciation plaque. They also decided to buy sandwiches for the entire staff.

The group coordinated with Miller and Sons manager Amber Roach and presented the donation in a special ceremony on Saturday, Oct. 31 at 11 a.m.

Kurt Adler, who helped spearhead the effort, is involved with several local groups, from the Summer Frolic Committee to the Mount Horeb Softball Club and Knights of Columbus.

"The Knights of Columbus, of which I'm a member, was hosting a Brats in the Lot, and while I actually couldn't be there I heard from the group that the grill was in pretty bad shape with a big hole in the bottom."

Adler reached out to other community leaders, including Kim Treamer from the Mount Horeb American Legion Auxiliary, and they came up with an idea.

"How many ways can you say that Miller's deserves to be recognized for how they support our community?" said Treamer. "We are very lucky to have them in Mount Horeb. Kurt was instrumental in contacting organizations and coordinating these efforts."

"We were talking and we were like, 'What can we do about this? Miller's is just constantly giving and giving to everybody,'" he said.

Adler obtained a list of all the local clubs that held Brats in the Lot events this year. He called them one-by-one and many jumped at the opportunity to give back to the store that had supported them.

"Pretty soon we had 22 groups that wanted to contribute and say thanks," said Adler. "The monetary contribution is probably not that significant, but it's just a gesture to make sure they know how much we appreciate all they do for everyone."

"It felt like the right thing to do," he added. "Everything that goes on around here in Mount Horeb, they really don't discriminate, they just give and give and give. It's all kinds of groups, church groups and sports and civic clubs, it's a wide range."

Adler said the simplicity of Brats in the Lot is part of its appeal.

"As far as fundraisers go, it doesn't get much easier," he said. "They provide all the product and the cash box and the tent and let you do your thing."

Roach, who recently arrived as manager in Mount Horeb after 17 years at the Miller's Verona store, said she knows firsthand how amazing brat stands can be.

"When Dana and I began redesigning the trailers, our focus was entirely on supporting our youth and the community. That is why we included the Franklin D. Roosevelt quote on the trailer: 'We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future,'" said Roach.

"We are strongly committed to providing young people with opportunities to succeed in their chosen activities and in the workplace, which is why we focus on creating and sustaining jobs for local youth," Roach continued. "The donation of the grill and other items for the brat stand was incredibly generous and so unexpected. I don't think we have ever had that happen!"

"The grills take a beating year after year, and we try to make them last as long as possible," she said. "Once they are 'retired,' Miller's typically replaces them. We can't have a brat stand without it! So, this donation is truly something special and one that we at Miller's will always remember!"

"A huge thank you to the organizations that helped with this and to Kurt and Kim for organizing it!" Adler concluded. "They say it takes a village, and we are incredibly lucky to be part of this one!"

The following organizations donated:

Agape Christian Preschool
American Legion Auxiliary
American Legion Post 113
Knights of Columbus Council 10559
MH Cross Country Boosters
MH Gymnastics 10.0 Club
MH Lions Club
MH Optimist Club
MH Rotary Club
MH Senior Center
MH Soccer Club
MH Softball Club
MH Summer Frolic
MH United Methodist Church
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HOFF

continued from page 1

with other people.

"I find that music, personally, does many things," said Adisyn Hoff. "It helps me kind of connect to the world in a different way than I would without it."

Music is even able to enhance empathy and connection.

"I found that it helped me have many different lenses to see the world and interpret other people's experiences, and even my own experiences," Hoff continued.

Hoff joined the Mount Horeb Area School District in the fall of 2026. She grew up in Illinois and graduated in 2022 with a bachelor's degree in Instrumental and General Music Education from UW-Platteville, then spent the last three years teaching band in Dodgeville.

She plays saxophone and conducts and plays with various community bands and the UW-Platteville Pioneer Summer Band Camp.

Music, she said, has always played an important role in her life.

"It really has been," she said. "I started band, like a lot of students, in sixth grade, was in it all through high school, and my parents were very musical as well."

Her tastes are eclectic, ranging from indie folk and classic rock to concert band music.

"Of course as many music students do, I grew to appreciate everything," Hoff said.

While Hoff briefly considered chemistry as a career, ultimately she decided to follow her passion for music.

"I think what ended up driving the nail in for me is that my experience doing music gave me so much opportunity, it just added so much to my life" she said. "I thought teaching music would be a great way to … have a job where I could open doors for students."

"My experience at UW Platteville only fully reinforced that idea," she added.

After a stint in Dodgeville, Hoff decided to join the Mount Horeb Area School District. She said she is happy to be here.

"I've just kind of settled down," Hoff said. "I have no plans of moving away. I live with my boyfriend in Madison."

"It's just a beautiful area," she said. "State parks, random hiking trails, it's all awesome around here."

Part of Mount Horeb's allure was the level of involvement and buy-in local students have in musical programs. Hoff said if that continues, she will know she is doing her job effectively.

"I think my first indicator of whether or not things are going well is if the students have an active role in what the program is heading toward, and if they feel satisfied with that," Hoff said. "I would say, if the kids are playing an active role, I would say that is success."

It's not merely about music, either.

"Yes, they should be learning things of course, but if we can help them be good people that's really important too," she said.

The biggest challenge for a young teacher is simply finding the most effective way to channel her energy and resources.

"The hardest part for me at this point is just balance," she said. "I try to keep myself rooted and ready to go. Ready to pivot and make the time for the variety of things going on."

When not at work, Hoff enjoys spending time outdoors, spending time with her partner and cats, and playing games.

Chamber Welcomes Farmers Savings Bank's Transition to Bank CMG



The Mount Horeb Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to welcome Farmers Savings Bank's transition to Bank CMG, a community bank focused on supporting local families, businesses and communities.

Farmers Savings Bank has been a valued part of the Mount Horeb community, known for its strong relationships and commitment to personalized service. As the Mount Horeb location transitions to the Bank CMG name in mid-September, it begins an exciting new chapter built on the strong community connections Farmers Savings Bank has established.

Bank CMG and Farmers Savings Bank share a commitment to community banking, local lending decisions and strong customer relationships. By bringing their resources together, Bank CMG's network has grown to 15 locations, creating new opportunities and expanded access for customers.

The Chamber is excited to welcome Bank CMG and the additional products, services and digital banking options it plans to bring to Mount Horeb's residents and businesses. We look forward to working with the Bank CMG team and supporting its connection to the Mount Horeb community.

Historium Hosts Author of Farmwise Almanac, a Month-by-Month Love Letter to the Driftless

Cheers to the Driftless: the bounty it provides and the fellowship it cultivates!

On Saturday, November 7 at 1 p.m., join author, naturalist and educator Catherine Young at Mount Horeb's downtown Driftless Historium (100 S 2nd St) to celebrate her newest book, *Farmwise Almanac*. Guests will enjoy an afternoon gathering, with selected readings, original song and food, hot cider and coffee, among friends old and new. Got a favorite shareable recipe? Bring a finger food to pass!



Author Catherine Young brings a love of the landscape and an understanding of its seasonal rhythms and bounty to Mount Horeb's downtown Driftless Historium on Saturday, November 7 at 1:00 p.m. Photo contributed by author.

Farmwise Almanac is a month-by-month chronicle of seasonal living in Wisconsin's famously verdant and geologically unique Driftless region. In this uplifting book, Catherine utilizes a combination of stories, poems, songs, four decades of ecological understanding, and 108 recipes to illustrate the profound relationship between where we live, what we eat, and who we are—as both individuals and the communities that we help build and that, in turn, help sustain us.

Young is a former naturalist for the National Park Service, geographer for the Science Museum of Minnesota, and a Wisconsin Poet Laureate Finalist. She is an organic homestead farmer, award-winning writer and podcaster. For over forty years, she has lived and farmed with her family in southwest Wisconsin. She leads writing, foraging and food preparation workshops. To learn more, visit *www.catherineyoungwriter.com*.

This family program is a partner initiative of the Mount Horeb Area Historical Society and Mound Vue Garden Club. MHAHS owns and operates the Driftless Historium history center, and has worked for over fifty-one years to collect, preserve, and share the stories of southwestern Dane County. MVGC provides education and opportunities for its members to promote and share the love of gardening. Members plant and maintain gardens and plantings along Mount Horeb's Main Street "Trollway" and also to various other garden spaces within the Village.

Reservations are not required for this free program; all are welcome. For more information, call 608-437-6486 or email *mthorebahs@gmail.com*.









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SPORTS

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SUPER SEVEN

Mount Horeb's girls cross country team of (from left) Julia Straka, Mia Caygill, Kira Buttner, Willa Vigliotta, Maeve True, Isla Odgers and Marisa Czyzewski raced to a second place finish at the WIAA Division 1 state meet. Photo courtesy of Alexa Richardson

STERLING SILVER

Mount Horeb's girls cross country team bucks the odds, finishes second at Division 1 state meet

by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor

WISCONSIN RAPIDS — For a moment, Alexa Richardson thought she said too much.

Waaaaayyyyyyyy too much.

Then Mount Horeb's cross country coach fondly flashed back to her youth, and Richardson was just fine with everything she'd revealed.

Last season, Richardson told her Vikings that when she competed at La Crosse Central High School, she would toilet paper the house of her coach when the Red Raiders excelled.

So when Richardson woke up Monday morning to a yard full of Angel Soft and Cottonelle, all she could do was smile and laugh.

"It (wasn't) a mistake at all," Richardson said of telling the Vikings about her toilet papering antics. "Toilet paper equals love."

And boy, was there a lot to love with Mount Horeb's program last weekend.

The Vikings — bumped up to the Division 1 state meet due to the WIAA's controversial 'Performance Factor' — showed once again they can run with anybody.

Mount Horeb finished second at state, coming within a whisker of winning the championship at Ridges Golf Course in Wisconsin Rapids.

Neenah won the team title with 96 points, narrowly edging runner-up Mount Horeb, which finished with 98 points. Menomonie (147), Bloomer (149) and Madison West (169) rounded out the top five at the 20-team state meet.

The Vikings were making the 17th trip to state in

continued on page 16



Mount Horeb's Isla Odgers (1914) and Mia Cayhill (1911) had terrific performance at the state meet. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld





Vikings hit the end of the road

Logan runs for 474 yards, ousts MH-B

by ROB REISCHEL
Sports Editor



Clockwise from top, the football season came to an end for Eli Maier, Bret St. Arnauld, Sam Grundahl and the rest of Mount Horeb-Barneveld on Oct. 30. Photos courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

La Crosse Logan ran left.

The Rangers ran right.

And the Logan ran up the gut.

When Mount Horeb-Barneveld couldn't stop the Rangers' dominant ground game, Logan stopped the Vikings' season.

The Rangers ran for a whopping 474 yards, averaged 9.1 yards per carry and downed the Vi-kings, 49-27, in a WIAA Division 3 Level 2 football game on Oct. 30. Host Logan had two players finish with more than 200 rushing yards and the top-seeded Rangers improved to 11-0 on the year.

Fourth-seeded MH-B had its six-game winning streak snapped and ended the season 7-4.

"I knew going into the game that we were going to have our hands full with their quarterback and running back tandem," MH-B head coach Bret St. Arnauld said. "I also wasn't anticipating their 360-pound offensive tackle to start either. He hadn't played all year long, but was a first-team (all-conference) kid last year. So when I saw him run out onto the field I knew we hadn't prepared for that. It was going to require us to make some big plays, such as creating a turnover, but limiting their damage was what we were shooting for.

"Did their rushing attack surprise me? No, but the problem with Logan is if you load up on the run, they will hit you with pass. This quarterback (Thomas Check) is exceptional in that he can run and throw so well that you can't just choose one or the other. He's the best all-around QB we have played in almost a decade of MH-B football. I have seen just as good of throwers … but the combination makes him lethal."

The Vikings knew they'd have to play their best game of the season to knock off a Logan team that had outscored its opponents by an average of 39-15 this season. But MH-B believed it was peaking at the perfect time, winning its final six games by an average of 36.3 points per game.

"If we play well, we have a shot," St. Arnauld said the day before the game.

While the Vikings didn't play poorly, they hurt themselves with turnovers on their first two possessions and were playing catchup all night.

MH-B freshman running back Jake Preimesberger returned the opening kickoff 50 yards to give the Vikings an early jolt. On the Vikings' first play from scrimmage, though, there was a poor exchange between quarterback Preston Myers and running back Eli Maier, MH-B fumbled and Logan recovered.

From there, it took the Rangers just three plays to cover 51 yards and take a 7-0 lead on a 10-yard touchdown run from the dynamic Check. That was just the start of Check's big night, which saw him run for 207 yards on 22 carries (9.4) and rush for four TDs.

MH-B's offense was productive throughout, and the Vikings converted three consecutive third downs on their next possession. On the third one, though, tight end Henry DeRosier picked up nine yards on a third-and-6, but fumbled and Logan recovered at its own 45.

This time, the Rangers needed just seven plays to cover 55 yards and Check again capped that march with a 9-yard TD run that gave Logan a 14-0 lead with 2:40 left in the first quarter.

The Vikings answered back with an impressive march that included a 28-yard completion from Myers to sophomore Brady McCue, who finished the night with 102 receiving yards.

Then on a third-and-3 from Logan's 15, Maier broke a tackle in the backfield and turned the right corner. Maier did a terrific job to stay inbounds, cut back left and scored to pull the Vi-kings within 14-6 with 9:41 left in the first quarter.

"I thought our offense as a whole played really well," St. Arnauld said. "Our offense kept us in the game."

MH-B's attack went silent the rest of the first half, though, and Logan struck for two more scores to push its lead to 28-6 by halftime.

First, Jameson Degenhardt — who had 230 rushing yards on 23 carries (10.0) and three TDs — ripped off a 7-yard TD run with 5 minutes left in the first half. Then Check had a 1-yard touchdown run — his third of the first half — that extended the Rangers' lead to 28-6 with 1:10 left in the half.

The Vikings certainly didn't go quietly and put up

continued on page 13







Lucy Peterson (above), Ava Beglinger (right) and Mount Horeb's girls swimming team finished fifth at the Badger Small Conference meet. Photos courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

Mount Horeb swimmers fifth at conference meet

by **ROB** REISCHEL
Sports Editor

Mount Horeb's girls swimming team finished in fifth place at the nine-team Badger Small Conference meet on Oct. 31.

Madison Edgewood won the championship with 588 points, while McFarland was second at 443.5. Lodi (344.0), Sauk Prairie (208) and Mount Horeb (185) rounded out the top five.

Lucy Peterson won the 100-yard butterfly, while Natalie Sheahan was 14th and Maddie Becker was 15th. Peterson also won the 500-yard freestyle, while Haylie Becker was ninth and Madeline Evans was 14th.

"Lucy Peterson delivered two standout performances," Mount Horeb coach Kaitlin O'Rourke said. "Her victories were major highlights for us as a team."

Mount Horeb's 200-yard medley relay team of Maddie Becker, Maggie Coe, Lucy Peterson and Evy Vedo was ninth.

Mount Horeb's quartet of Peterson, Heidi Sheahan, Haylie Becker and Gasch was ninth in the 400-yard freestyle relay. And the Vikings' foursome of Delilah Gasch, Ava Beglinger, Vedo and Heidi Sheahan was 10th in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Maggie Coe was also eighth in the 100-yard breaststroke, while Ava Beglinger was 14th and Ellie McKillips was 15th. Haylie Becker was also ninth in the 200-yard freestyle and Madeline Evans was 12th.

Maggie Coe was ninth in the 200-yard IM and Ellie McKillips was 14th. And Heidi Sheahan was 13th in the 100-yard freestyle and 15th in the 50-yard freestyle.

• **On deck:** Mount Horeb is at the WIAA Division 2 McFarland Sectional Saturday at 1 p.m.

"We now shift their focus to the WIAA sectional championship," O'Rourke said.





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FOOTBALL

continued from page 11

a spirited effort throughout a highly-competitive second half.

MH-B forced a three-and-out from Logan to begin the second half, the first time all game the Vikings got a defensive stop. Then Myers and McCue connected on a 74-yard TD pass that pulled MH-B within 28-13 just 2 minutes into the third quarter.

Logan had a bust in its coverage and McCue went uncovered down the right sideline. McCue caught a pass at the MH-B 45 — 19 yards downfield — then had to outrun just one Ranger to hit paydirt.

"It was really cool to see Preston Myers stand in there and make some great throws under pressure and deliver the ball to his receivers," St. Arnauld said. "I thought Henry DeRosier had a great game, Brady McCue, and Sam Grundahl. They all came to play and battled for 48 minutes.

"The fight I saw from them was something that I expected, but they chose to continue fighting and never gave up. It almost felt like no matter what the score was, we had a chance, just because of the energy and belief on our sidelines."

Logan answered right back, though, with a 27-yard TD run from Check that pushed its lead to 35-13.

The Vikings quickly drove to the Rangers' 7-yard line, but on fourth down a Myers pass for DeRosier was tipped away in the endzone. Logan then put together an impressive 93-yard drive that Degenhardt capped with a 4-yard TD run midway through the fourth quarter that stretched the Rangers' lead to 42-13.

MH-B still had some fight, though, as Preimesberger returned the ensuing kickoff 84 yards to Logan's 2-yard line. Maier then plowed in for a 2-yard TD on the Vikings' next play, and Jack-son Marthe hauled in a 2-point conversion that pulled MH-B within 42-21 with 5:59 remaining.

"Our return game was propelled by freshman Jake Preimesberger, sophomore Olin Olson, and sophomore Barrett Slaney," St. Arnauld said of the youngsters that shined. "That was awesome to see them have their moments. Coach (Matt) Goff, our special teams coordinator, had a great setup to attack their kickoff, and it put us into some good spots during the night."

MH-B's McCue then recovered the onside kick and the Vikings' offense went right back to work.

Myers hit Sam Grundahl for 29 yards and connected with DeRosier for 11, taking the Vikings to Logan's 9-yard line. On second-and-goal, Maier got one-on-one coverage, beat his man to the left corner and hauled in a perfect pass from Myers for a 9-yard TD with 5:14 remaining.

The point after was blocked, though — the second time the Vikings failed on a PAT — and Logan's lead remained 42-27.

With 5 minutes left, a two-score lead certainly wasn't insurmountable. But the Rangers did what they did all night — ran the ball with authority — to end things.

On Logan's next possession, Degenhardt exploded off the left edge for a 59-yard TD run that extended the Rangers' lead to 49-27 with 4:59 remaining.

And when Myers threw an interception on MH-B's next possession, Logan could finally ex-hale.

While the end was tough for the Vikings, the way they battled back after beginning the year was 1-3 was extremely impressive.

"We faced adversity, we responded, and we overcame," St. Arnauld said. "I heard rumblings after losing three straight that we were 'unwatchable.' I laughed at that, because football is a tough game, and nobody knows our players quite like us coaches do.

"We knew that we had some unfortunate injuries to start the year and we were bouncing back from that, but we also know how these kids practice and grind. We knew that it was only going to be a matter of time before we hit our stride and started playing a lot better. Once we did start to hit our stride, we started to do what we were always capable of doing. There were a lot of young players that stepped up and answered the call.

"I will remember this season as a season we got back to who we are, from a culture standpoint, and how we handle our business on a daily basis. After the Beaver Dam game I knew we had changes to make and our culture was at the forefront. Too much stuff was getting brushed aside that shouldn't be getting brushed aside. Small things that turn into big things."

Now, with a strong nucleus expected back in 2027, St. Arnauld is extremely excited about what the future holds.

"We definitely had a lot of young bucks getting snaps a lot of this year, and they will be impact players for two or three more years for us," he said. "I am always excited about the future, but to look at what you have on paper is one thing. What the boys decide to do in the offseason is what will determine how good they can be. If they attack the weight room, get on some meal plans, build up their speed, and aggressively own their training, well then you just never know.

"I told my wife what (Milwaukee Brewers designated hitter) Christian Yelich said after getting swept in 2025, 'I still believe that one day, that's going to be us out there.' I don't know the time, I don't know the date, and I don't know anything, I just believe one day MH-B will be on top. Until then, I will keep working, and keep improving as a coach to be the best I can be for our kids."

Oct. 30
WIAA Division 3 Level 2
La Crosse Logan 49, Mount Horeb-Barneveld 27
MHB ..... 0 6 7 14 — 27
Logan ..... 14 14 7 14 — 49

LCL — Thomas Check, 10, run (Nathaniel May kick)

LCL — Check, 9, run (May kick)

MHB — Eli Maier, 15, run (conversion failed)

LCL — Jameson Degenhardt, 7, run (May kick)

LCL — Check, 1, run (May kick)

MHB — Brady McCue, 74, pass from Preston Myers (Cullen Olson kick)

LCL — Check, 27, run (May kick)

LCL — Degenhardt, 4, run (May kick)

MHB — Maier, 2, run (Jackson Marthe two-point pass)

MHB — Maier, 9, pass from Myers (PAT blocked)

LCL — Degenhardt, 59, run (May kick)

TEAM STATISTICS

Total yards — LCL 540, MHB 282. **Rushing (Att.-Yds) —** LCL 52-474, MHB 20-56. **Passing yards — L**CL 66, MHB 226. **Passing (Comp.-Att.-Int.) —** LCL 3-4-0, MHB 12-20-1. **Fumbles-lost** — LCL 0-0, MHB 2-2.

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

Rushing (Att.-Yds.) — LCL: Jameson Degenhardt 23-230, Thomas Check 22-207, Sam King 4-24, Haden Brubaker 3-13. **MHB:** Eli Maier 13-55, Connor McCue 3-8, Brady McCue 1-2, Preston Myers 3-(-9).

Passing (Att.-Comp.-Int.-Yds.) — LCL: Thomas Check 3-4-0-66. **MHB:** Preston Myers 11-19-1-201, Cullen Olson 1-1-0-5.

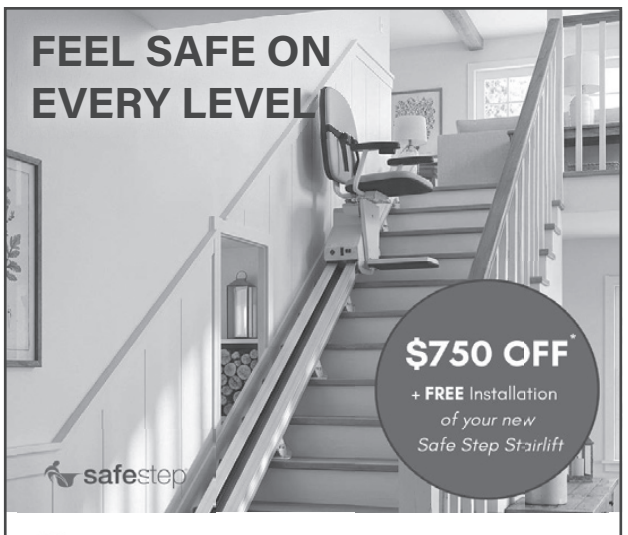
Receiving — LCL: Viktor Kravanja 1-40, Sam King 1-20, Bubba Leaver 106. **MHB:** Brady McCue 2-102, Henry DeRosier 4-52, Sam Grundahl 3-40, Cullen Olson 1-18, Eli Maier 1-9, Preston Myers 1-5.

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CHURCH NOTES

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

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

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

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
twosteeples.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

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

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

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, 10:15 am
We are an Open and Affirming Congregation~ Contact us at pastor@mtvernonucc.org or visit our website
http://mountvernonucc.org

St. Michael The Archangel Parish
~St. Ignatius Catholic Church
109 S. Sixth St., Mount Horeb
608-437-5348
Mass: Sunday 10:30 am
Tuesday, 5:30 pm,
Weds-Friday, 7:30 am;
Sat. 5:00 pm
~Holy Redeemer Catholic Church
10070 Spring Valley Dr., Mount Horeb
Mass: Sunday 8:00 am

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HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED Looking for seasonal help from February 1st, 2027 to April 9th, 2027 at The Tax & Accounting Office in Mount Horeb. 30-40 hours/week with a flexible schedule if needed. Must enjoy working independently to organize tax documents into a polished product. Please email your resume to: tax@123taxes.net

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VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE FOR 2027 PROPOSED BUDGET NOVEMBER 23, 2026

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing on the proposed 2027 budget for the Village of Mount Horeb will be held in-person on Wednesday, November 23, 2026 at 5:30pm in the Board Room of the Municipal Building, 138 E Main Street, Mount Horeb, WI. The proposed 2027 budget is available at https://wimounthoreb.civicplus.com. To observe the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone: https://trollway.tv/CablecastPublicSite/?site=1

Village of Mount Horeb Notice of Public Hearing Proposed 2027 Budget

Notice is herby given that the Village Board of the Village of Mount Horeb will hold a PUBLIC HEARING on Wednesday, November 18, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Municipal Building, 138 E. Main Street, to consider the proposed 2027 Village Budget. The proposed budget is available for public inspection in the Clerk's Office at Municipal Building from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Friday's. The following is a summary of the proposed budget.

General Fund	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Budget	YTD 6/30/2026	Projected 2026 Budget	2027 Budget	Budget % Change
Revenues								
Tax Equivalents	$ 5,990,766	$ 6,164,025	$ 6,316,913	$ 7,541,245	$7,150,106	$ 7,541,245	$ 7,831,743	12%
Intergovernmental Revenue	879,841	1 ,138,144	1 ,178,331	1 ,100,400	748,338	1 ,100,400	1,216,184	10.52%
Licenses & Permits	127,907	126,139	164,194	149,857	303,659	325,102	197,492	32%
Fines & Forfeitures	30,698	26,435	30,112	30,500	34,596	35,218	37,500	23%
Public Charges for Service	803,124	882,169	840,716	893,972	713,842	948,531	1,390,145	56%
Miscellaneous Revenues	257,961	149,115	267,762	190,041	201,321	244,038	221,691	17%
Other Financing Sources	7 ,507	3,879	2,113	28,800	-	28,800	28,800	0%
Total Revenue	**8,097,804**	**8 ,489,906**	**8 ,800,140**	**9 ,934,815**	**9 ,151,863**	**10,223,334**	**10,923,555**	**10%**
Expenditures								
General Government	$ 1,009,237	$ 973,978	$ 1,034,514	$ 1,082,234	$ 640,660	$ 1,081,464	$ 1,029,299	-5%
Public Safety	2,826,159	3,273,894	3 ,415,665	3 ,487,711	2 ,054,109	3 ,718,711	3,729,645	7%
Public Works	1,268,751	1 ,474,935	1 ,414,837	1 ,433,628	690,700	1 ,433,628	1,316,738	-8%
Culture, Recreation & Education	550,286	540,389	523,876	598,309	453,608	534,430	680,237	52%
Conservation & Development	176,387	180,795	225,618	124,565	73,232	124,565	275,670	154%
	2,524,627	2 ,636,211	2 ,634,015	3 ,978,316	3 ,609,391	3 ,978,316	3,891,965	-2%
Total Expenditures	**8,355,448**	**9 ,080,201**	**9 ,248,525**	**10,704,763**	**7 ,521,701**	**10,871,114**	**10,923,555**	**2%**
Change in Fund Balance	**(257,644)**	**(590,296)**	**(448,385)**	**(769,948)**	**1 ,630,162**	**(647,780)**	**-**	
Beginning Fund Balance	2,334,989	2 ,072,745	1 ,508,574	1 ,054,009	1 ,054,009	1 ,054,00	9 406,507	
Transfer from/(to) other funds	(2,524,627)	(2,636,211)	(2,634,015)	(3,978,316)	(3,609,391)	(3,978,316)	(3,891,965)	
Less: Surplus Applied	(257,644)	(590,296)	(448,385)	(769,948)	1 ,630,162	(647,780)	-	
Ending Fund Balance	**2,072,745**	**1,508,574**	**1 ,054,009**	**284,061**	**2 ,684,171**	**406,507**	**406,507**	

Village of Mount Horeb Summary of Revenues, Expenses & Fund Equity Proposed 2027 Budget

Funds	General Fund	Debt Service Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Library Funds	Outreach Nutrition Funds	Swimming Pool Fund	Employee Retire Ins Fund
Total Revenues	10,923,555	4,324,438	9 ,012,202	894,999	307,243	218,413	41,250
Total Expenditures	10,923,555	4,324,438	6 ,268,027	893,413	273,448	218,413	41,250
Change in Equity	$ -	$ -	$ 2,744,175	$ 1,586	$ 33,796	$ -	$ 0
Beginning Fund Balance	1,054,287	841,429	811,111	433,652	354,285	(87,550)	364,972
Add: Surplus of Funds	-	-	2 ,744,175	1,586	33,796	-	0
Less: Use of Fund Balance	-	-	-	6,689	-	-	0
Ending Fund Balance	$ 1,054,287	$ 841,429	$ 3,555,286	$ 428,549	$ 3 88,081	$ (87,550)	$ 364,972

Funds	TIF District Funds	Other Special Rev Funds	TOTAL VILLAGE FUNDS	Proprietary Utility Funds: Electric Fund	Water Fund	Wastewater Fund	TOTAL ALL FUNDS
Total Revenues	1,668,098	643,692	28,033,890	8 ,777,254	3 ,691,385	4 ,413,572	44,916,100
Total Expenditures	1,399,070	606,015	24,947,628	8 ,528,541	3 ,691,385	4 ,413,572	41,581,127
Change in Equity	$ 269,028	$ 37,677	$ 3,086,262	248,713	(0)	(0)	3,334,974
Beginning Fund Balance	2,262,535	1 ,457,571	7 ,492,292	14,242,524	9 ,396,034	16,051,506	47,182,356
Add: Surplus of Funds	269,028	37,677	3 ,086,262	248,713	(0)	(0)	3,334,974
Less: Use of Fund Balance	-	316,012	322,701	-	2 ,073,901	1 ,476,300	3,872,902
Ending Fund Balance	$ 2,531,563	$ 1,179,236	$ 10,255,852	$ 14,491,236	$ 7,322,132	$ 14,575,206	46,644,427

Property Tax Summary by Fund

Funds	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Budget	2027 Budget		Change
General Fund	2,995,706	3 ,022,228	3 ,121,843	3 ,050,896	3 ,416,766	365,870	12%
Swimming Pool Fund	29,999	30,700	42,000	42,000	110,927	68,927	164%
Outreach/Nutrition Fund	47,343	48,953	50,568	52,237	53,96	1 1,724	3%
Library Fund	506,477	512,132	530,057	535,358	552,639	17,281	3%
Employee Retirement Ins. Fund	40,000	40,000	40,000	30,000	-	(30,000)	-100%
Revolving Loan Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Capital Projects Fund	250,000	249,999	213,999	300,000	-	(300,000)	-100%
General Debt Service Fund	1,601,120	1 ,700,000	1 ,701,771	2 ,957,458	3 ,174,439	216,981	7%
TID Debt Service Fund	54,342	54,427	55,620	54,540	-	(54,540)	-100%
Total General Levy	**5,524,987**	**5 ,658,439**	**5 ,755,858**	**7 ,022,489**	**7 ,308,731**	**286,243**	**4%**
TID Increment	1,487,811	1 ,562,418	1 ,578,597	1 ,586,132	1 ,602,634		
Total Property Tax Contribution	**7,012,798**	**7 ,220,857**	**7 ,334,455**	**8 ,608,621**	**8 ,911,365**		
Municipal Property (FMV) Tax	5.9421	5.2112	4.9580	5.7261	5.6759	-0.9%	-based on Fair Market Value (FMV)
Municipal Property (Assessed) Tax	4.6719	4.7453	4.8328	5.8443	6.0347	3.3%	-based on Assessed Value

Publish: 11/5/26 **WNAXLP**

TOWN OF PRIMROSE NOTICE

The Town of Primrose Board of Supervisors meeting for November 2026 will be held on Monday, November 9th, 2026, at 8468 County Road A, Verona, WI beginning at 7:30pm. The agenda for this meeting will be posted at the Town Hall, Mount Vernon Auto, Primrose Church, and on the Town website. A summary of the agenda will be available on the voice message system at 608-832-6660.

Publish: 11/5/26 **WNAXLP**

TOWN OF PRIMROSE DANE COUNTY NOTICE
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING OF ELECTORS

Notice is hereby given that a Special Town Meeting of the Electors of the Town of Primrose, Dane County, Wisconsin, will be held at the Primrose Town Hall, located at 8468 County Road A, Verona, Wisconsin, on Thursday, November 12, 2026, at 7:00 p.m., for the following purpose:

1. To approve the 2026 total town tax levy, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 60.10(1)(a).

Dated this 22nd day of October, 2026.

Matthew Waite, Town Clerk,
Town of Primrose

Publish: 10/29/26, 11/5/26 **WNAXLP**

TOWN OF PERRY
TIRE COLLECTION DAYS

The Town of Perry will hold two tire collection days: **Saturday, November 7** and **Saturday, November 14, 2026**.

Tires will be accepted from 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM at the Perry Town Recycling Center, 10832 CTH A, Daleyville.

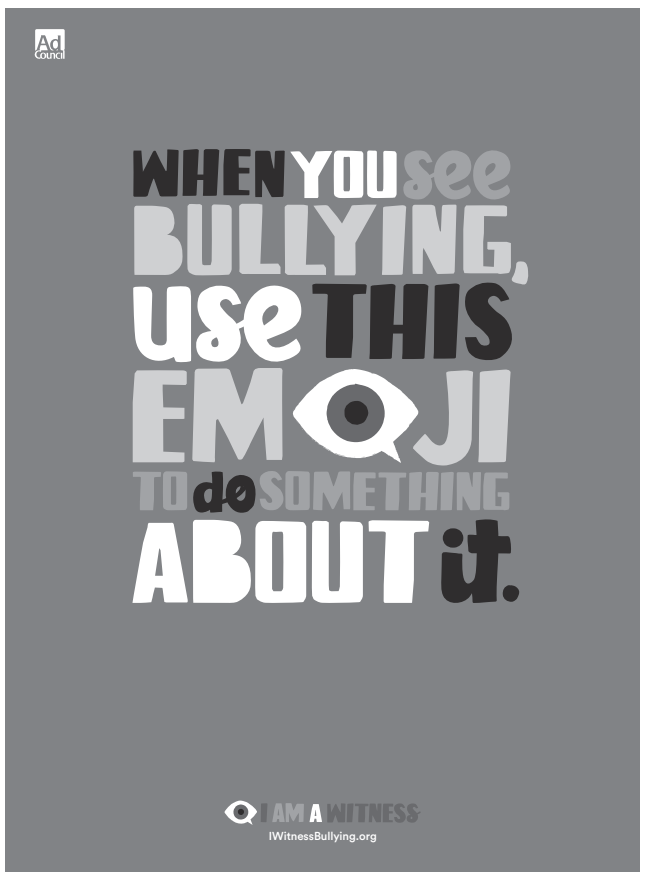
Fees will be charged as follows:

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.

Stephanie Zwettler
Clerk/Treasurer

Publish: 11/5/26 **WNAXLP**



TOWN OF PRIMROSE, DANE COUNTY, WISCONSIN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING
Thursday, November 12, 2026

Notice is hereby given that on Thursday, November 12th, 2026, at 7:00 pm the Town of Primrose will hold a Public Hearing on the proposed 2026 budget at the Town Hall, 8468 County Road A, Verona, Wisconsin. A Special Town Elector Meeting will be held at this time to approve the 2026 total town tax levy to be collected in 2027. The proposed budget, in detail, is available for inspection at the Clerk's office by appointment, or on-line at www.townof-primrose.com. The following is a summary of the 2027 Proposed Budget:

Revenue	2026 Approved	2027 Proposed	Change
Municipal Taxes	$ 348,868	$ 369,534	5.92%
Lottery Credits, Dog Licenses	$ 11,363	$ 11,463	0.01%
Intergovernmental Revenue	$ 207,291	$ 195,338	(5.8%)
Licenses & Permits	$ 9,600	$ 10,100	5.2%
Public Charges for services	$ 0	$ 0	0.0%
Miscellaneous Revenues	$ 10,250	$ 12,250	19.5%
Total Revenues	**$ 585,572**	**$ 596,685**	**1.9%**
Expenditures			
General Government	$ 126,075	$1 23,791	(1.8%)
Public Safety	$ 93,420	$ 117,979	26.3%
Public Works	$ 330,149	$ 303,426	(8.1%)
Health & Human Services	$ 5,795	$ 5,982	3.2%
Capital Outlay	$ 0	$ 0	0.0%
Debt Service	$ 49,471	$ 64,484	30.3%
Total Expenditures	**$ 604,910**	**$ 615,662**	**1.8%**

Note: The proposed expenditures exceed projected revenues by $18,977, which will be funded from the town's existing fund balance carried over from the prior year.

Dated this 22nd day of October, 2026

Matthew Waite, Town Clerk
Town of Primrose

Publish: 10/29/26, 11/5/26 **WNAXLP**

TOWN OF PERRY
TOWN BOARD MEETING AGENDA
Tuesday, November 10, 2026, 7:30 PM
Perry Town Hall, 10084 County Highway A
Teleconference - 425-585-6272 access - 394-722-206 #
Agenda

1. Call to order. Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Announcements.
3. Comments by Town residents – non-agenda items.
4. Land Use:
   a. Ron Josephson, 9835 County Rd A – zoning changes to adjust the sizes of four existing parcels and create a 2-acre residential lot.
   b. Town Comprehensive Plan – revision updates.
5. Roads, Equipment, Facilities:
   a. Town of Perry Driveway at Hauge Historic District Park – update.
   b. Sale of Oshkosh truck.
   c. Recycling Center – updates.
   d. TDS Telecom fiber optic project – right-of-way work submittal drawings.
6. Treasurer's Report.
7. Friends of the Parks of Perry report.
8. Dane Co. Towns Association and Wisconsin Towns Association discussions.
9. 2027 Budget.
10. Minutes of Previous Meetings October 13 and October 21, 2026.
11. Pay Bills due.
12. Succession planning.
13. 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.
14. Adjournment.

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

Stephanie Zwettler, Clerk/Treasurer

Posted and published: Nov. 5, 2026 – Town Hall, Town Garage, Daleyville Signpost, Town website.

Publish: 11/5/26 **WNAXLP**

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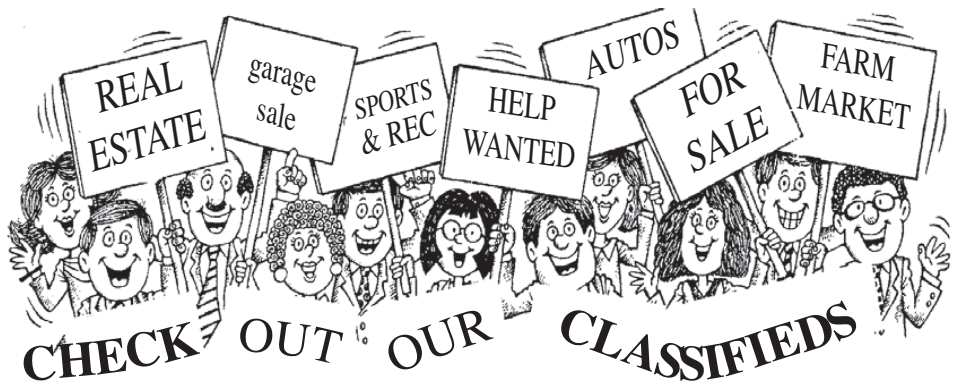
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MT. HOREB AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTICE OF CHANGE IN ADOPTED BUDGET

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 October 26, 2026, adopted the following changes to previously approved budgeted 2026-2027 amounts.

The following presents only adopted budget line items with changes. Unchanged line items are not presented.

GENERAL FUND

LINE ITEM	ACCOUNT CODE	PREVIOUS APPROVED AMOUNT $	AMENDED APPROVED AMOUNT $	CHANGE $
Anticipated Revenue				
Revenue from Local Sources	Source 200	18,286,555.00	18,511,885.00	225,330.00
Revenue from Intermediate Sources	Source 500	30,305.00	35,530.00	5,225.00
Revenue from State Sources	Source 600	13,976,400.00	13,975,790.00	(610.00)
Revenue from Federal Sources	Source 700	96,855.00	104,283.00	7,428.00
Revenue from Other Sources	Source 800/900	0.00	7,560.00	7,560.00
Total Anticipated Revenue		**32,390,115.00**	**32,635,048.00**	**244,933.00**
Expenditure Appropriations:				
Instruction	Function 100000	926,673.00	988,207.00	61,534.00
Support Services	Function 200000	2,198,652.00	2,475,815.00	277,163.00
Non-Program Transactions	Function 400000	5,474,966.00	5,381,202.00	(93,764.00)
Total Expenditure Appropriations		**8,600,291.00**	**8,845,224.00**	**244,933.00**
Projected Ending Unassigned Fund Balance	**939000**	**8,633,265.70**	**8,633,265.70**	**0.00**

SPECIAL EDUCATION FUND

LINE ITEM	ACCOUNT CODE	PREVIOUS APPROVED AMOUNT $	AMENDED APPROVED AMOUNT $	CHANGE $
Anticipated Revenue				
Operating Transfer	Source 100	3,818,707.00	3,744,437.00	(74,270.00)
Total Anticipated Revenue		**3,818,707.00**	**3,744,437.00**	**(74,270.00)**
Expenditure Appropriations:				
Instruction	Function 100000	2,512,105.00	2,403,535.00	(108,570.00)
Support Services	Function 200000	315,925.00	350,225.00	34,300.00
Total Expenditure Appropriations		**2,828,030.00**	**2,753,760.00**	**(74,270.00)**
Projected Ending Fund Balance		**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**

Publish: 11/5/26 **WNAXLP**

VILLAGE OF BLUE MOUNDS
2027 PROPOSED BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that a PUBLIC HEARING on the PROPOSED 2027 Budget for the Village of Blue Mounds will held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, November 23, 2026 at the Village Hall located at 11011 Brigham Avenue. Detailed copies of the proposed budget are available for review at the Village Office during regular office hours. The following is a summary of the proposed 2027 budget:

General	2025 Actual	2026 BUDGET	ACTUAL THRU 9/30/2026	2026 ESTIMATED	2027 BUDGET	% Change
REVENUES:						
Property Taxes	$ 270,000	$ 3 60,845	$ -	$ 360,845	$ 357,656	-0.88%
Other Taxes	22,718	21,700	22,748	22,748	26,312	21.25%
Special Assessments	39,019	16,977	-	23,602	23,602	39.02%
Intergovernmental Revenues	237,076	2 48,148	43,257	171,529	241,753	-2.58%
Licenses & Permits	22,625	19,637	20,066	20,280	21,497	9.47%
Fines and Forfeitures	723	1,080	220	2 94	5 50	-49.07%
Public Charges for Services	65,029	61,600	49,401	65,685	65,962	7.08%
Interest	65,140	41,250	42,147	56,197	56,000	35.76%
Miscellaneous Revenues	3,608	3,704	2,204	2,583	2 ,100	-43.30%
Other Financing Sources	61,752	45,325	30,156	45,325	46,821	3.30%
TOTAL REVENUES	$ 787,690	$ 8 20,266	$ 210,199	$ 769,088	$ 842,253	2.68%
EXPENDITURES						
General Government	193,104	1 84,159	129,387	172,393	190,241	3.30%
Public Safety	273,346	3 81,788	228,805	274,501	392,970	2.93%
Public works	199,818	2 08,175	122,383	163,178	215,046	3.30%
Health and Human Services	7,376	7,842	7,416	7,475	8 ,101	3.30%
Culture & Recreation	17,393	24,290	14,541	19,388	25,092	3.30%
Conservation & Development	-	-	13,093	13,093	-	#DIV/0!
Capital Outlay	-	-	20,338	20,338	-	#DIV/0!
Debt Service:	-	-	-	-	-	#DIV/0!
Transfers out	-	10,458	-	10,458	10,803	3.30%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	$ 691,037	$ 8 16,712	$ 535,963	$ 680,824	$ 842,253	3.13%
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues and Other Sources over Expenditures and Other Uses	$ 96,653	3,554	(325,764)	88,264	-	
Fund Balance - January 1	870,138	9 66,791	966,791	966,791	1,055,055	
Fund Balance - December 31	$ 966,791	$ 9 70,345	$ 641,027	$ 1,055,055	$ 1,055,055	

2027 BUDGET	GENERAL	DEBT SERVICE	CAPITAL FUND	WATER	SEWER
General property taxes	$ 357,656	$ 1 61,551	$ 3,316	$ 433,000	215,000
Other Revenues	484,597	1,000	1,675		
Expenditures	842,253	1 62,551	86,561	327,000	308,000
Revenues over Expenditures	$ -	$ -	$ (83,245)	$ 106,000	$ (93,000)
Fund Balance/ Net Position - January 1, 2027	$ 1,055,055	$ 1 70,811	$ 314,942	$ 2,250,000	2,230,000
Fund Balance/Net Position - December 31	$ 1,055,055	$ 1 70,811	$ 231,697	$ 2,356,000	$ 2,137,000

Taxes	2026 ADOPTED	2027 Proposed
General Fund	$ 360,845	$ 357,656
Debt Service Fund	$ 152,857	$ 161,551
Capital Projects Fund	84,909	3,316
TOTAL	$ 598,611	$ 522,523
Assessed value	$ 119,142,900	$ 119,692,600
Tax rate	$ 5.02	$ 4.37

Publish: 11/5/26 **WNAXLP**

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continued from page 10

school history, and had won five championships and finished second four times in Division 2. This marked the first time Mount Horeb ever competed in Division 1, though, and it more than held its own.

"Getting back on the podium as a D1 school showed how strong of a program we are and it showed that all of our hard work paid off," Mount Horeb senior Willa Vigliotta said. "This was a really special season for all of us because we were able to do something that had never been done before."

Mount Horeb sophomore Isla Odgers agreed.

"Moving up to Division 1 made this accomplishment mean even more to us," Odgers said. "We knew we were capable of doing big things, but we also knew we would have to work hard to prove ourselves.

"Finishing second in the state showed not only how much talent this team has, but also how much work everyone has put in. It was really special to be able to compete at that level and prove that we belonged there."

The WIAA's tournament performance factor is a three-year cumulative total exercised in each division. Programs that have accumulated at least six tournament performance factor points are promoted to the division with the next highest enrollments from the previous year.

Mount Horeb was fifth at state in 2023, third in 2024 and first in 2025, leading to a jump to Division 1.

"Finishing runner-up as a team at the state meet this season meant everything to us," junior Mia Caygill said. "It was so special to go out on such a high note and run the race we did one last time with our seniors."

Richardson had crunched the numbers for days leading into the race. And even though Mount Horeb was ranked fourth or fifth most of the year in Division 1, Richardson was quite confident her team could crack the top-two at state.

Turns out, they almost brought home gold.

"I went over many scenarios before the meet, and in my head, I came to my own conclusion that we would place second," Richardson said. "I knew how much of a powerhouse Neenah was, and assumed they would take the title.

"I also knew, however, the exact training I had my girls do all season, and how little tapering I allowed between races. After watching every workout, every time, every split, and every lift, I just knew second place was ours. However, I did not want to put that pressure on the girls … so going into the race, I explained that I wanted everyone to focus on what they can control and not what they cannot, and run for the moment and for their teammates."



The Vikings certainly seemed to do that.

Sophomore Isla Odgers ended her magnificent season in style, finishing seventh among runners representing teams with a time of 18 minutes, 9.0 seconds. Odgers was 11th after the first mile, climbed to ninth by the two-mile mark and finished seventh.

"State is the most competitive race of the year so I knew that I had to get out quick," Odgers said. "My coach and I have decided that I was going to go out within the top-20 and pick girls off as the race went on."

A year ago, Odgers collapsed during the homestretch of the state meet and couldn't finish the race. So rebounding with a memorable performance was thrilling for both the Vikings and Odgers.

"After what happened last year at the state cross country meet, the main thought circling my head during the race this year was finishing the race," Odgers said. "I didn't only want it for myself, but I knew the team was counting on me.

"I think that is what makes our team so strong. We do it for each other."

Caygill also had a big race, finishing 12th among runners who were at state with their teams in 18:34.4. That was a new personal-best time for Caygill and her P.R. at state by 25 seconds.

Caygill was in 23rd place after the first mile, then moved up consistently the rest of the race.

"My race strategy was to go through the mile mark in about 25th place and then pass as many girls as possible the rest of the race," Caygill said. "I didn't wear my watch during this race and I avoided focusing on my splits at the mile marks because my time wasn't important to me. I emphasized place and just caught as many girls as possible, instead of focusing on the clock.



Mount Horeb's girls cross country team (top) finished second at the WIAA Division 1 state meet on Oct. 30, then some of the Vikings celebrated by toilet papering head coach Alexa Richardson's house (above). Photos courtesy of Alexa Richardson

"I was pretty satisfied with how the race went. I was in the exact position I wanted to be through the first mile and was able to hunt girls down throughout the rest of the race. After the challenging season I've had, I was so happy to finally run a PR."

Vigliotta had a tremendous race of her own, finishing in 18th place among runners representing teams in 19:08.5.

"Going into the race I knew everyone would have a lot of adrenaline and excitement, which would cause them to go out too fast and slow down towards the end," Vigliotta said. "I wanted to avoid that and save some energy. I was really proud of how everyone on my team performed."

With good reason.

Mount Horeb senior Julia Straka was 30th in 19:25.8 and senior Maeve True was 31st in 19:26.1.

And while only the top five scores counted towards the final team standings, the Vikings also got solid performances from junior Kira Buttner (94th place, 20:48.7) and freshman Marissa Czyzewski (99th, 20:54.3).

While the Vikings comfortably cruised to second place, they nearly caught Neenah atop the leaderboard.

"I knew it would be close with Neenah, but I had no idea that we were only two points behind them," Vigliotta said. "After the race it was difficult knowing that if we had just been a few places ahead we would have been on top of the podium, but I was extremely proud of everyone for how we handled this season, especially since we had been competing with the D1 schools."

Richardson was just as proud, satisfied and fulfilled — even if it now meant picking toilet paper out of her trees and bushes for the foreseeable future.

"We talked a lot about 'fight or flight and actually went into the 'psychiatrics of it,'" Richardson said. "The girls understood that when their brain told them to stop, they would recognize this, and 'fight' instead of 'flight.'

"Being the school's only Division 1 trophy is such a special and honorable achievement. I am so blessed to have been a coach for these incredible ladies all season."

WIAA DIVISION 1 STATE CROSS COUNTRY MEET

Team scores: 1, Neenah, 96; **2, Mount Horeb, 98;** 3, Menomonie, 147; 4, Bloomer, 149; 5, Madison West, 169; 6, Slinger, 207; 7, University School of Milwaukee, 229; 8, Wauwatosa East, 239; 9, Homestead, 242; 10, Appleton North, 263; 11, Muskego, 283; 12, Hamilton, 288; 13, Germantown 289; 14, Stevens Point, 323; 15, Marshfield, 326; 16, Green Bay Preble, 389; 17, Milwaukee Ronald Reagan 396; 18, Arrowhead, 401; 19, Westosha Central, 503; 20, Elkhorn, 530.

Mount Horeb results (top five finishers count toward team score): 7, Isla Odgers, 18:09.0; 12, Mia Caygill, 18:34.4; 18, Willa Vigliotta, 19:08.5; 30, Julia Straka, 19:25.8; 31, Maeve True, 19:26.1; 94, Kira Buttner, 20:48.7; 99, Marissa Czyzewski, 20:54.3.

Wyse shines at state meet

Mount Horeb senior Samuel Wyse capped his cross country career in style on Oct. 30.

Wyse finished in 61st place at the WIAA Division 2 individual state meet, held at Ridges Golf Course in Wisconsin Rapids.

Wyse earned a trip to the state meet by claiming an individual spot at the Monroe Sectional on Oct. 24.

Wyse finished the 5,000-meter course in 17 minutes, 19.4 seconds. Wyse was in 79th place after the first mile, jumped to 60th place after two miles and settled in to finish 61st.

Garrett Pickering of Campbellsport won the individual title in 15:31.1 seconds.

— by Rob Reischel

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