

County resolution calls for Blue Mounds dog breeder to be shut down

By **MATT GEIGER**
Mount Horeb Mail

A resolution introduced by members of the Dane County Board would, if approved, call on the Wis-

consin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) to revoke Ridgman Farms' commercial dog breeder license. The resolution, which

was sponsored by Dane County Board supervisors David Boetcher and Dan Blazewicz, both of whom represent districts located near Madison and miles

from the Blue Mounds facility in question, also asks that the dogs living at Ridgman Farms be confiscated and placed "in custodial care during [the] ongoing inves-

tigation."

The county has no legal authority over the state agency that oversees Ridgman Farms, so the resolution is purely advisory and

would have no direct statutory impact on the facility.

2025 RES-119, which was introduced in August and is currently in committee, **continued on page 8**

Citizen group's meeting on downtown development issues draws a crowd

By **CATHY SCOTT**
Mount Horeb Mail

On Tuesday, August 19, the Old District No. 1 School House on N. Second Street was filled with people to hear presentations from a newly formed citizen group, Friends of Downtown Mt. Horeb. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the proposed mixed-

use 66-apartment complex at 214-220 E. Main, other apartment complexes approved and pending, and the present Village Central Business District (Ord. 17.43) and Planned Development District (Ord. 17.49) zoning codes.

Approximately 55 attendees, including standing room only, as well as

an additional thirty people standing outside were welcomed by Michelle Kelley, the group's lead communicator. Kelley stressed the group has no authority with decision making, yet hoped attendees by the end of the meeting would begin to understand the importance of citizen involvement in village matters while they are

happening rather than after the fact. She said none of the members knew one another prior to attending Plan Commission (PC) meetings that included a concept presentation of the Main St. project on the agendas.

Kelley introduced the others involved in planning the meeting, Tammy Clary, Brian LaDow, Sharmon

Moen and Jackie Sale. Enlarged photos of the Main St. concept plan were passed around, one showing a view from street level, heading west to the MHTC building, another from looking directly at the front of the building and a third from showing Sjolinds directly across the street to emphasize the size difference be-

tween the two buildings as well as other buildings in that block of Main Street.

Number of Approved and Pending Apartment Complexes

Sharmon Moen pointed out three already approved mixed-use apartment complexes: 1) a three-story 26- **continued on page 3**

School board okays policy changes

By **AVNSLEY HOELSCHER**
Mount Horeb Mail

The MHASD board of education approved two policy changes and renewal of the school resource officer. They also heard reports on student wellbeing, staff

continued on page 8



Family fun remains even as summer wanes

Alison and Simon Hetue were all smiles Thursday afternoon as they enjoyed the fun and games at Sutter's Ridge Farm in rural Mount Horeb. Photo by Matt Geiger.

Letters to the Editor

Keep voicing concerns over development

Letter to the Editor,

Thank you to Nick Owen, Village Administrator, Ben Rohr, Village Planner, and also the members of our community who volunteered and were elected to your respective position. Your commitment and dedication do not go unnoticed.

I attended the meeting at District #1 School House on Tuesday, August 19th with dozens of other people. It was a helpful meeting to understand the proposed JG Development on Main St. (Mt Horeb, this is NOT a done deal, those of us who oppose this building still have time to voice our concerns.)

A few things stick out to me with this proposed development; lack of green

space, lack of parking for the potential residents and lack of infrastructure for parking/travel.

The village has on file, zoning for 4 blocks of Main Street. Mt Horeb Plan Commission members I encourage you to stick to that zoning plan. Height of a building is 2-1/2 stories for this 4-block area and given the space available at 208 - 220 E Main (for the JG Development), up to 24 units could be built (12 units per parcel of land). Please check out Central Business Code 4 Accessory Use with the village zoning for Main Street. This proposal is lacking the proper parking spaces per bedroom within a commercial apartment. Who knows where the tenants of the commercial stores on the first floor will park. I'm not opposed to development, but please be considerate of existing zoning and the aesthetic quaintness of our downtown. Also, the exist-

ing business' that need parking for staff and customers.

Once zoning is changed to facilitate a developer, you will have opened Pandora's box. (I also believe JG Development owns Main Street land across the street from this proposed development.)

Be Aware:

A study done in 2020 as COVID was upon us, it was suggested that Mt Horeb would need 150 apartment units over the next 10 YEARS.

Currently there are four approved developments on file with the village:

301 W Main St, laundromat & pet wash with one unit above.

120 S 1st St Steve Brown Development (old fire department lot) 63 Units; 28/ Studios, 8/one bedroom and 27/two bedrooms for a total of 63 units.

1800 Springdale St – Lake Ridge Bank area. Approved 2/7/2022 for 36-40 units.

1881 Springdale St –

Miller's grocery store lot, three stories with 26 units. Parking 23 garage, 20 surface and 8 commercial spaces for total of 51 spaces.

This gives the village 126 new units (I went with the 36 units for the 1800 Springdale St location).

PENDING Approval for construction are the following locations:

418 - 426 W Main St/ Orchard St for 21-23 townhome units, three stories.

101 Perimeter Rd (old Karakahl); 89 units, building one, 49 units @ market rates with 47 underground stalls and building two, 40 units senior affordable with 35 underground stalls. Each three stories.

NOT including JG Development proposal, the Orchard and Perimeter developments would give an additional 110 apartment units. This is a total of 236 new living spaces to Mt

Horeb in less than 10 years. Clearly above the recommended 150 units over 10-year span.

Also Pending Approval 208 - 220 E Main & 3rd (JG Development) for 66 units with a combination of studio, 1- and 2-bedrooms units for a total of 83 bedrooms with 69 total parking spaces; 45 inside and 24 behind the building. 4 stories.

Village of Mt Horeb, continue expressing your concerns about this development and keep an eye open for the next community talk and learn session. Attend the Plan Commission meetings, you only get three minutes to speak with no response from the Board, but its important you keep voicing your concerns.

Thank You,
Dianne Hirsch
Mount Horeb

Too much development will put strain on village infrastructure

Dear editor,

Due to all the construction in Mount Horeb, it's time to pause development and conduct a study as to where and how much the village should grow, looking closely at the infrastructure needed to support this growth. This would include traffic, parking, safety, green space, schools, etc. How much do we want this village to grow? Many of us like the small town charm of Mount Horeb and want to be away from the bustle of the city.

There should be a limit on development. Mount Horeb has grown a great deal already, and traffic is very

continued on page 7

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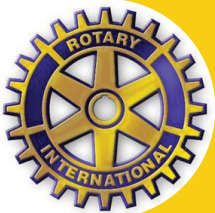
Thanks to all who came and a special thanks to all the businesses and individuals who supported us with cash and prizes.

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Cave of the Mounds
Community Developers Inc.
Driftless Social
Golden Eagle Bar and Grill

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Below are some of the many projects and events supported over the years by the Mount Horeb Rotary Club

Blue Mounds Food Pantry
Six \$1300 Senior Scholarships at MH High School
Academic Decathlon
Badger Boys/Girls State
Chamber Welcome Center
Chinese Language Program for Mt Horeb Students
Countryside Community Center
Volunteers Ambulance Fund
Community Clothes Closet
Mount Horeb Young Life
Mount Horeb Youth Center/YMCA
Mount Horeb Troll Skate Park
Mount Horeb Gators Swim Team
World Affairs Seminar
Mount Horeb Summer Frolic
Mount Horeb Area Historical Society Lecture Series
Middle School Literacy Project
Rotary Youth Leadership Awards
Polio Plus
Mount Horeb Police Department K-9 Program
Mount Horeb Public Library
The MARC Center
Mount Horeb Area Arts Association
Mount Horeb Landmarks Foundation
Mount Horeb Area Farmers' Market
Mount Horeb Dance Team
Mount Horeb Girl Scouts
Mount Horeb Boy Scouts
Mount Horeb School House #1
Mount Horeb Area Giving Tree
Mount Horeb Area Economic Development Corp.
Mount Horeb Remembrance Project
Neighbors Helping Neighbors
Mount Horeb Area Arts Association
4K Program
SW Dane Outreach
Special Olympics
WAGS Service Dogs
Flood, Hurricane, Typhoon & Tsunami Relief
Student Rotarians
Rotary Exchange Students
Handicap Accessible Fishing Pier at Stewart Lake
Mount Horeb Area Food Pantry Service Van
AND MUCH MORE



DEVELOPMENT

continued from page 1

unit apartment with 1712’ commercial at 1881 Springdale St. (next to Miller’s Grocery parking lot). The parking ratio is 1.96 stalls per unit. 2) Steve Brown apartment, 120 S. Second St is a 5-story 63-unit complex. The parking ratio is 1.49 stall per unit. 3) Driftless View, LLC, a 3-story 40-unit apartment unit with 1712’ of commercial space (lot between Lake-Ridge Bank and the strip mall). The parking ratio is 1.96 stalls per unit. The three approved complexes equal 129 new apartments.

In addition to the proposed JD Development, two other dwelling units are in the hopper for village discussion and consideration: 1) Karakahl Country Inn redevelopment project with two buildings, one market rate, the other affordable senior housing, a three-story, 89-unit project. The property was rezoned at the August 6 Village Board meeting from Planned Business to Planned Development and a Certified Survey Map was approved, allowing the single lot split into two lots, both recommended by the Plan Commission. A potential 3-story townhome/condo project with 21-23 units is in the initial stages for potential development on the corner of West Main and Orchard Street. The total housing units of the pending projects equal 178. If all pending are approved, the total new dwelling units will total 307. Among all the projects, there are studios, one, two, and three-bedroom units.

Attendee Andrew Kidd said “a representative from Gallina [Hoff] apartments [at one of our meetings] said UW Madison did a housing study around the time of COVID and recommended we needed about 150 more apartments within the next ten years. We have hit that mark and are well beyond that.”

Thoughts on Affordable, Density, Rents and Economics

Jenna Hanson asked if any of the apartments in the UW study were allocated to affordable housing. Realtor, developer and prior PC

member, Alex Pfister said “low-income housing really is not low-income housing as they [developer] get subsidies [from HUD or Section 8, etc.]. It still will cost \$1,200 [per month] or whatever.”

Kelley said “at the last PC meeting, one of the members was concerned about the density of the Karakahl Inn redevelopment building. The developer said something to the effect if we lessen the density, then we will not be able to have affordable housing as the financing will be different.”

Pfister said “that has been said at every PC meeting. When I was on board twenty-five years ago, it was always cheaper to build bigger. I own apartments and I can get by with my five-unit buildings and I cannot help but make money on everything I’ve got. This is not an economic question, this is just a matter of how much more he [the developer] can make, in my opinion.”

Nicki Towell, a resident in the 300 block of Oak Street, expressed her concern about the safety of the 43 kids who live in one block alone, wondering how they can bike for fun or to school with the proposed Main Street project. She said her neighborhood is not in favor of the project, yet it is hard for many of them to attend village meetings or even this meeting with family commitments.

Kurt Nowka asked, “is there a reason the board does not listen to us? There has not been one resident that has gone up there [PC] and wants this.”

Kelley said, “Yes, there has. “There have been a couple.”

Nowka said “there have been four [PC members] that do not even care. Who are they representing?”

Brian Bigler said, “I want to warn you that when you go to Plan Commission meetings they sit up there and listen to your three minutes and say nothing, there is not any back and forth.”

Brian LaDow, property owner of 209 E. Main, said “Market rate for commercial retail spaces in Verona are about \$10-\$19 per square foot, meaning a 1000’ space results in a \$10-\$11k monthly rent, unfinished.” He believes few small business owners (or potential) will be able to afford the rent on the proposed Main Street project. Secondly, LaDow

opined with the current traffic count the Police Department on Main Street did for one week in July, to discover 78,000 vehicles traveled the road. The additional proposed 214-220 Main Street complex and the Orchard and Main Street projects will have a large effect on daily traffic through downtown, especially during the morning and evening rush hours.

An Overview of Present Zoning Codes

About 16 ago, Jackie Sale retired from years of service on the Village’s Plan Commission. Today she serves on the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) which separated from the PC in 2024. One area the HPC is tasked with is to review potential developments and redevelopments of buildings in the historic downtown and make recommendations to the PC for consideration.

“About a year ago I joined the HPC which meets an hour before the PC. By accident I happened to start [sitting in at] the PC meetings” Sale said. Continuing, “Eventually the JG Development project came up and I had no idea how it fit with our zoning code. There was not any conversation about its [zoning] in the meeting at all, whatsoever. The first proposal JG Development brought, had Central Business [District} written on it so I assumed that is what they were doing.”

The Central Business District is the smallest District in the Village. Per Ordinance 17.43(1), amended as Ord. No 2007-05, the purpose of the district is to permit large- and small-scale downtown commercial development. To ensure a minimum disruption of residential development, no development within the district shall take direct access to a local residential street or a residential collector street. Ordinance 17.43(3) addresses allowable accessory uses, such as a commercial apartment, a garage, or a shed. Ordinance 17.43(8) reads Accessory land uses are uses which are incidental to the principal activity, such as a commercial apartment. Commercial apartments are located above the ground floor and may share required parking spaces with nonresidential uses. Each bedroom falls under Ordinance 17.132, the minimum requirement for off-street parking. Based

on the proposed project, there will be 82 bedrooms, requiring such number of off-street parking stalls, in the 66-unit complex.

Sale continued “The Village Planner [Ben Rohr, an Associate Planner with Vandewalle & Assoc.] mentioned briefly a Planned Development District.” A Planned Development District (Ord. 17.49 PD-1, amended Ord. No, 2003-7) is not really a district but rather provides regulations that govern the procedures and requirements for review for approval or denial. It provides for relaxation of certain development standards pertaining to the underlying zoning district. Planned developments are intended to provide incentives for development and redevelopment in areas of the community that are experiencing a lack of significant investment. They (PD-1) have more flexibility for land use, density, and parking requirements. In exchange for flexibility, they are subject to a higher level of site design, architectural control, and parking requirements than other developments. Preservation and maintenance of open space requires not less than 15 percent of the total land area shall be designated as open space.

Finishing her talk about zoning codes, Sale said “one interesting thing is that in all zoning districts, except R3, commercial apartments are considered accessory units.” An R-3 district is a dwelling unit, limited to twelve apartments.”

The 214-220 Main Street property is currently zoned Central Business so if it is changed to a Planned Development, the developer must request a rezone of the property and is subject to a public hearing at a PC meeting. Public hearings must be posted in a timely manner and allow for the public to speak, for or against, the rezone request.

Zoning Code Re-Write

Sale said the PC is considering doing away with the CB district and does not know if it will, as the zon-

ing code re-write remains to be in discussion, with the PC and HPC and eventually given to the Village Board for consideration.

Pfister said, “I have attended every meeting for the zoning code re-write because I am a realtor, have a business on Main Street and own properties.” Continuing, “I have taken advantage of the three-minute talking period now and then. I told the village planner [Rohr] I am ok with more density, allowing smaller lots, but am not [in favor of it] on Main Street. I am protecting Main Street. I own a business downtown, I have lived here all my life and that is my reason for saying that.” I also told the PC members that the only time people show up is when they are not happy with something.” Pfister opined because of his occupation and past service on the PC, including the last zoning code re-write decades ago, he understands the [zoning] code well so was trying to add something to the new re-write. Regarding the proposed apartment complex he said,” It is going to require rezoning which is not at all obligatory. We do not have to approve it. He [the developer] can follow the current code [Central Business District] and can follow the parking requirements of that District.

The Group’s Plan of Action

Kelley said attendees make good points during the meeting. “What can be done? We need to voice them to our elected officials.” She urged people to attend the PC meetings, and everybody can voice their opinion at the beginning of the meetings. Three minutes are allowed to talk. I strongly recommend everyone do that. If you are not comfortable doing that, you can email them, our Village Administrator, Nic Owen, or our Village President Ryan [Czyzewski]. They need to hear our voices. You can write Matt Geiger, the Editor of the Mount Horeb Mail. You can write a Letter to the Editor.”

Pfister said, “If I can point the direction of this meeting” it is not going to be effective if people just show up and say they do not want it built.” The more pertinent questions should be, “why should we let them get away with parking that is less than what is required.” “Why should it allow entering/exiting on a residential street” [Third Street]. These are against the zoning code. We need to hone in on these points.” Continuing, Pfister believed that talking about how many kids are in the area is not going to cause them to turn their heads; It should, but it will not. The developer is going to request a PD-1 which allows for more flexibility. The PD is the culprit because it allows flexibility. “They (PC) is considering putting the PD-1 in the code. “I asked why would you consider putting the PD-1 in the single-family code? No one could answer that. They could come with no reason except flexibility.” Let me explain what flexibility means. It means they do not have to follow the code and do whatever they want. That is what it means and even historically, that is what it means. They rarely use it (flexibility) for less density, less parking, or smaller buildings because of that. It is always more density, less parking and it is just more economics for the developer.”

Pfister continued, “I have sat on the other side of the table. We [developers] always want to get as much as we can. That is just how the game is played. When playing that game, they will usually say they will back off if get pressed.”

Pfister’s final words of advice were to email all the members, call each of them as part of the human touch. “All the members serving the Village are doing the best then can. They do not know how they feel either as they are caught in the middle. The mindset of the board is pro-development.

Kelley wrapped up the meeting by telling all attendees to email her if they would like to receive the materials presented at the meeting, such as the discussed Village Ordinances and pictures of developments as well as Main Street as it now exists. She also wants opinions if an additional meeting(s) should be held to keep residents informed and appealed to the group to attend the PC, HPC and Village Board meetings when applicable to developments and zoning codes.

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With Gratitude

We would like to thank Miller & Sons for providing the food for the luncheon, all the workers at the luncheon, and Gunderson Funeral Home for their excellent service.

The family is also very appreciative of the Agrace Hospice Care Team and Ingleside Communities/Assisted Living Staff for their compassionate care of our mother.

Lorraine Schlingens Families

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Mountaineers have great showing at county fair



Dress a Critter Contest at the Dane County Fair. The Mounds View Mountaineers decorated Ellie’s Jersey heifer, Harley, as a campfire. The members (L-R front) Edith Schlimgen, Wyatt Schlimgen. (Back) Aleigah Buening, Isabell Schlimgen, Ellie Makos. The Mountaineers placed 3rd in the creative fun event. The contest was generously sponsored by Compeer Financial.



The Mountaineers participated in the Dane County Fair Ag Olympics which was held in Pavilion 2 Showring A. Each species group (dairy, beef, swine, sheep, etc) consisted of 5 youth exhibitors working as a team in a relay race. The relay events included; racing with a stick horse, lasso a person in a chair, carrying three bales of pine shavings individually stacked and finally a gunny sack run to the finish line. Each team was timed. The top three teams won gift cards to Farm and Fleet. The Ag Olympics was a huge success! The bleachers were full of cheering spectators and the participating exhibitors had lots of fun!



Heidi Sheahan with her many fair projects receiving Blue and Red Ribbons. She also received Grand Champion, Reserved Grand Champion, Special Consideration and a Merit Award.



Ellie Sheahan shown with her many fair projects receiving lots of Ribbons and a Special Consideration Ribbon for her freezer jam.



Natalie Sheahan shown with her Blue Ribbon freezer jam and stir fry and her Red Ribbon baking powder biscuits.



Edith Schlimgen with her Grand Champion Display about tornados.



Colin Schulenberg showing his farm display to the Cloverbud Evaluator at the Dane County Fair. He received a Cloverbud Participation Ribbon.



Hannah Schulenberg with her Blue Ribbon



Ellie Makos with her New Zealand, Californian and Polish breed rabbits. She received many Blue Ribbons, Reserve Champion and Champion Ribbons for her rabbits. Ellie also received the Overall Champion of Best Commercial Breeds trophy.

Members of the Mounds View Mountaineers 4-H Club showed their projects at the Dane County Fair July 17-20, 2025. Many of our 4-Hers volunteered extra time to watch over exhibits in the Exhibition Hall and the Small Animal Area. Members also volunteered in the 4-H Potato and Ice Cream Stand. The Beef exhibitors received a Blue Ribbon for Herdsmanship. The Dairy exhibitors received a Blue Ribbon for Clean Barn with 6-plus members. The members’ projects were placed into one of the four groupings; 1st place – Blue, 2nd place – Red, 3rd place – White and 4th place – Pink. Members in kindergarten thru 2nd grade receive Cloverbud Participation Ribbons. The Mountaineers individual project results are as follows;

Mason Albrent:

Dairy Showmanship Grades 12+ - White
Grade Holstein Winter Yearling Heifer - Blue

Liam Brunker:
Lego Vehicle - Red
Photography Grades 3-5 - 8X10 Color - Blue
Photography Grades 3-5 - 3 Best color photos - Blue

Aleigah Buening:
Dairy Showmanship Grades 4-5 - Red
Registered Brown Swiss Spring Yearling Heifer - Blue & Junior Champion Award
Registered Brown Swiss Fall Heifer Calf - Blue & Honorable Mention Junior Champion

Levi Buening:
Display Favorite Hobby Farm - Cloverbud Participation Ribbon

Taylor Ferguson:

Dairy Showmanship Grades 10-11 - Blue
Dairy Herd of 3 Registered Heifers - Blue
Registered Holstein Spring Yearling Heifer - Red
Registered Holstein Fall Heifer Calf Grades 6+ - Red
Registered Holstein Winter Yearling Heifer - Blue
Registered Holstein Cow 2 years, under 3 - Blue & Senior Champion & Grand Champion & Mystic Valley Supreme Senior Champion Award
Hay Silage Grades 9+ - Red
Grass Hay 2nd Crop Grades 9+ - Red
Welding Art - Blue

Mila Hefty:
Beef Showmanship Grades 3-5 - Blue & Champion Award- Purple & Pauli Family & Hoffman Farms Showmanship Award

Simmental Beef Junior Yearling Heifer - Blue & Champion Award - Purple & Overall Champion Female Heifer
Plant in Recycled Container - Blue

Olivia Hefty:
Beef Showmanship Grades 6-8 - Blue & Champion Award- Purple & Pauli Family & Hoffman Farms Showmanship Award
Black Angus Junior Yearling Heifer - Blue & Reserved Champion Award
Patio Planter - Blue

Charlotte Johnson:
Lego Display Grades 3-7 - Blue
Photography 3-5 Best Color Photos Grades 6-8 - Red
Photography 3 Best Color Photos Grades 6-8 - Red
Photography Grades 6-8 Enlargement 8x10 Animals Color - Red

Circular Arrangement of Purchased Flowers Grades 6-8 - Blue & Grand Champion Award
Perennial or Annual Circular Flower Arrangement Grades 6-8 - Blue

Kendyl Judd:
Dairy Showmanship Grades 4-5 - Blue - Junior Champion - Champion Award presented from Compeer Financial
Registered Holstein Fall Heifer Calf Grades 3-5 - Blue
Succulent Flower - Blue
Hay Silage Grades 3-5 - Red
Grass Hay 1st Crop Grades 3-5 - Blue
Grass Hay 2nd Crop Grades 3-5 - Blue
Macrame - Blue
String Art - Blue
Legos Display of Taj Mahal - Blue & Champion Award

Nate Keller:
Dairy Showmanship Grade 4-5 - Blue
Registered Spring Heifer Calf Grades 3-5 - Red
Fleece Tie Blanket - Blue

Ellie Makos:
Dairy Showmanship Grades 4-5 - Blue & Reserve Champion Award
Registered Jersey Spring Heifer Calf - Blue
Rabbit Showmanship - Blue & Grand Champion Award
Rabbit Californian Junior Buck Meat Breed- Blue & Grand Champion Award & Best of Show
Rabbit Californian Junior Doe Meat Breed - Blue & Reserved Champion
Rabbit Market Fryer - Blue & Grand Champion Award
Rabbit Market Roaster -

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Charlotte Johnson with her Blue Ribbon Grand Champion circular arrangement of flowers.



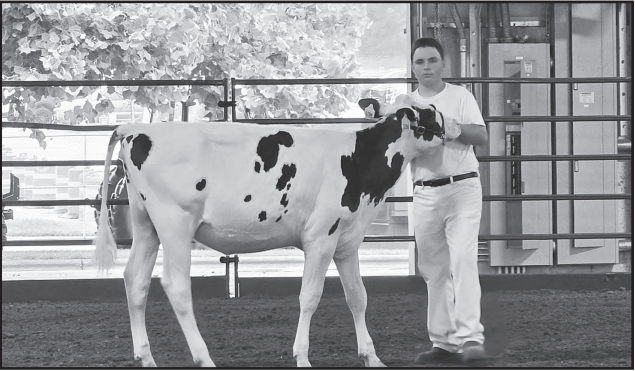
Skylar Schulenberg showing her Beef Crossbred Junior Yearling Heifer, Thunder. She received a Blue Ribbon and a Grand Champion Award in the class. She received a Red Ribbon in the Beef Showmanship Grades 9-10 class.



Aleigah Buening with her Registered Brown Swiss Spring Yearling Heifer. She received a Blue Ribbon & a Junior Champion Ribbon.



Olivia Hefty with her Black Angus Junior Yearling Heifer, LuLu. She received a Blue Ribbon & Reserved Champion Award in the class. In the Beef Showmanship Grades 6-8 class she received a Blue Ribbon, Champion Award & the Pauli Family & Hoffman Farms Showmanship Award.



Rodney Syvrud with his Registered Holstein Winter Yearling, Bailey, received a Red Ribbon in the class and a Blue Ribbon in Dairy Showmanship Grades 4-5 class.



Wyatt Schlimgen shown with his Registered Holstein Spring Heifer Calf, Astro. They received a Blue Ribbon in Dairy Showmanship Grade 3 and in the Spring Heifer class.



Mila Hefty with her Simmental Junior Yearling Heifer, Venus. She received a Blue Ribbon, Champion Award & the Pauli Family & Hoffman Farms Showmanship Award in the Beef Showmanship Grades 3-5 class. In the Simmental Beef Junior Yearling Heifer class she received a Blue Ribbon, a Champion Award and the Overall Champion Female Heifer. (Olivia Hefty holding all the awards)



Natalie Schulenberg with her Grade Holstein Spring Calf, Kiss, was shown in the Spring Heifer Grades 3-5 class and received a Red Ribbon. She received a White Ribbon for Dairy Showmanship Grades 4-5 class.



Isabell Schlimgen with her Registered Holstein Spring Heifer Calf, Ally, and Registered Holstein Fall Heifer calf, Airball. They received a Red Ribbon in each class and received a Red Ribbon in the Dairy Showmanship Grades 6-7 class.

FAIR

continued from page 4

- Blue
- Rabbit Market Meat Pen - Blue
- Rabbit Polish Broken Senior Buck - Blue
- Rabbit Polish Broken Senior Doe - Blue
- Rabbit Polish Broken Junior Buck - Blue
- Rabbit Polish Black Junior Doe - Blue
- Rabbit New Zealand White Commercial Meat Breed Junior Buck - Blue
- Rabbit New Zealand White Commercial Meat Breed Junior Doe - Blue & Champion Award
- Crochet Hat - Red
- Crochet Purse - Blue
- Crochet Stuffed Object - Blue
- Crochet Potholder - Blue
- Painting - Blue

Edith Schlimgen:

- Dairy Showmanship - Red
- Color Pencil Drawing - Red
- Tie Dying - Blue
- Ceramic Article - Blue
- Scrapbook Cardmaking - Red
- Painting Kit - Blue
- Sculpturing - Blue

- Environment Display About Tornadoes - Blue & Grand Champion Award
- Wildlife Art for Home - Red
- Geology Exhibit - Blue
- Fair Garden Grades 3-5 - Red
- Desert Garden Grades 3-5 - Red
- Vegetable Box Grades 3-5 - Pink
- Vegetable Crop Display Grades 3-5 - White
- Grass Hay 1st Crop Grades 3-5 - Red
- Alfalfa Hay 1st Crop Grades 3-5 - Red
- Alfalfa Hay 2nd Crop Grades 3-5 - Red
- Field Corn Grades 3-5 - Red
- Corn Silage Grades 3-5 - Pink
- Soybeans Grades 3-5 - Pink
- Marigold Med. Flower Grades 3-5 - Blue
- Zinnias Medium Flower Grades 3-5 - blue
- Tree ID Collection - Blue
- Hydrangeas 1 Stem Grades 3-5 - Blue
- Foods Shaped Cookies Grades 3-4 - Red

Isabell Schlimgen:

- Dairy Showmanship Ex-

- hibitor Grades 6-7 - Red
- Registered Holstein Spring Calf Grades 6+ - Red
- Registered Holstein Fall Calf Grades 6+ - Red
- Photography 3 Pattern - Red
- Photography 8X10 Black and White Animal Photo - White
- String Art - Blue

Wyatt Schlimgen:

- Dairy Showmanship Grade 3 - Blue
- Registered Holstein Spring Calf Grade 3-5 - Blue
- Woodworking Pinball Game Grades 3-4 - Blue
- Legos Vehicle Grades 3-7 - Blue
- Photography 8x10 Color Photo - Blue

Colin Schulenberg:

- Farm Display - Cloverbud Participation Ribbon

Hannah Schulenberg:

- Color Pencil Drawing - Blue
- Wisconsin State Fair Ribbon & Displayed at Wisconsin State Fair
- Drawing Graphite Pencil - Blue
- Painting Watercolor - Blue
- Painting Acrylics - Blue

- Merit Award
- Miniature Arrangement Grades 6-8 - Blue
- Biggest Weed - Red
- Dahlia up to 5 inches Grades 6-8 - Red
- Bouquet of Mixed Flowers Grades 6-8 - Blue
- Vertical Flower Arrangement Grades 6-8 - Blue

Natalie Schulenberg:

- Dairy Showmanship Grades 4-5 - White
- Grade Holstein Spring Heifer Calf Grades 3-5 - Red
- Miniature Flower Arrangement Grades 3-5 - Blue
- Bouquet of Mixed Flowers Grades 3-5 - Blue
- Foods Grades 3-4 Shaped Cookies - Blue
- Foods Grades 3-4 Cupcakes - Blue

Skylar Schulenberg:

- Beef Showmanship Grades 9-10 - Red
- Beef Crossbred Junior Yearling Heifer - Blue & Grand Champion Award
- Crocheted Highlander Cow - Blue & Grand Champion Award
- Crocheted Sweater - Blue
- Flowers Perennial Grades 9+ - Red
- Rose 1 Bloom Grades 9+

- Blue
- Dahlia up to 5 in Grades 9+ - Blue
- Dahlia up to 5+ in any color Grades 9+ - Blue
- Miniature Flower Arrangement Grades 9+ - Blue
- House Plant African Violet Grades 9+ - Blue
- Spider Plant Grades 9+ - White
- Cactus Plant Grades 9+ - White
- Tiger Lily Grades 9+ - White
- Foliage Same Year Grades 9+ - Blue
- Foliage Previous Year Grades 9+ - Red

Ellie Sheahan:

- Animal Health Display - Blue
- Canned Pickles Grades 3-6 - Blue
- Candy Coconut Joy Grades 3-6 - Blue
- Freezer Jam Grades 3-6 - Blue & Special Consideration Ribbon
- Fresh Fruit Plate Grades 3-6 - Blue
- Vegetable Crop Display Broccoli Grades 3-5 - Blue
- Vegetable Box Grades 3-5 - Blue
- Herb Garden Grades 3-5 - Blue

- Fairy Garden Grades 3-5 - Blue
- Geranium Grades 3-5 - Blue
- Dried Flowers Grades 3-5 - Red
- Drawing Colored Pencils Grades 3-5 - Blue
- Drawing Oil Crayons or Craypas Grades 3-5 - Blue
- Jewelry Bracelet - Blue
- Lego Display Kit Grades 3-7 - White
- Lego Display Original Grades 3-7 - Pink

Heidi Sheahan:

- Animal Health Display - Blue
- Cat Long Hair Alt male - Blue & Champion Award & Best of Show Ribbon
- Cat Showmanship Grades 7-9 - Red
- Canned Pickles Grades 7+ - Blue & Special Consideration Ribbon
- Canned Green Beans Grades 7+ - Red
- Casserole Grades 7+ - Red
- Freezer Jam Grades 7+ - Blue

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Kendyl Judd with her Registered Holstein Winter Heifer Calf, Dover. She received a Blue Ribbon, Grand Champion Ribbon and Junior Grand Champion Award in the Dairy Showmanship Grades 4-5 class.



Taylor Ferguson with her Registered Holstein Cow 2 years and under 3, Takindra. In the Registered Cow class she received a Blue Ribbon, Senior Champion Ribbon and Grand Champion. In the overall Cow class she received Grand Champion and the Mystic Valley Supreme Senior Champion Award.



The Mountaineers Beef exhibitors received a Reserved Grand Champion for the club herd. Members; Skylar Schulenberg, Oliva Hefty, Mila Hefty and Kayman Sutter, along with the club Beef Leader, Chad Hefty.

FAIR

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- Blue & Special Consideration Ribbon

Pumpkin QuickBread

Grades 7+ - Blue

Jewelry Bracelet - Blue

Dried Flowers Grades 6-8 - Blue & Reserve Grand Champion Ribbon

Bouquet of Roses Grade 6-8 - Blue & Merit Award

Vegetable Garden Box Grades 6-8 - Blue

Crop Display Kohlorabi Grades 6-8 - Blue

Natalie Sheahan: Clo-verbud Evaluator

Foods Fruit Nut Bread - Blue & Award Merit

Freezer Jam Grades 7+ - Blue & Special Consideration

Foods Canned Beans

Grades 7+ - Red

Foods Canned Beets

Grades 7+ - Blue

Foods Stirfry - Blue

Foods Baking Powder Biscuits - Red

Cactus Grades 9+ - Blue

Houseplant Grades 9+ - Red

Jewelry Bracelet - Blue

Sheaf Wheat - Red

Vegetable Crop Display Cabbage Grades 9+ - Red

Vegetable Box Grades 9+ - Blue & Reserve Champion Ribbon

Bentley Sutter:

Dairy Showmanship Exhibitor Grades 10-11 – Blue

Registered Brown Swiss Winter Yearling Heifer - Blue

Registered Brown Swiss Cow 3 yrs old under 4 - Blue & Senior Champion and Grand Champion



Bentley Sutter with her Grade Holstein Cow 4 yrs and Older, Saylor. She received a Blue Ribbon and Senior Champion in the grade class. In the overall Cow class she received the Mystic Valley Supreme Senior Reserve Champion Award.



Clifton Syvrud with his Registered Holstein Winter Heifer Calf, Leap. They received a White Ribbon in their class and a Red Ribbon in Dairy Showmanship Grades 8-9 class.



The Mountaineers Dairy members; front row; Clifton Syvrud, Edith Schlimgen, Isabell Schlimgen, Ellie Makos, Aleigah Buening. Back row; Taylor Ferguson, Kayman Sutter, Bentley Sutter, Kendyl Judd, Wyatt Schlimgen, Rodney Syvrud and Mason Albrent. The members received a Blue Ribbon for Clean Barn with 6+ members. They also received a Blue Ribbon for their Club Dairy Herd.

Registered Brown Swiss Cow 5 yrs old and over - Blue & Reserve Senior Champion and Reserve Grand Champion

Registered Brown Swiss Dam and Daughter - Red

Grade Holstein Cow 4 yrs and Older - Blue & Mystic Valley Reserve Supreme-Champion & Senior Champion and Grand Champion

Dairy Herd of 3 Cattle - Blue

Kayman Sutter:

Beef Showmanship Grades 12+ - Red

Dairy Market Steer - Red

Crossbred Junior Yearling Heifer - Blue & Reserved Champion

Dairy Showmanship Grades 12+ – Red

Grade Holstein Fall Heifer Calf Grades 6+ - Blue

Clifton Syvrud:

Dairy Showmanship Grades 8-9 - Red

Registered Holstein Winter Heifer Calf Grades 6+ - White

Registered Holstein Fall Heifer Calf Grades 6+ - White

Rodney Syvrud:

Dairy Showmanship Grades 4-5 - Blue

Registered Holstein Fall Heifer Calf Grades 3-5 - Red

Registered Holstein Winter Heifer Calf Grades 3-5 - Red

Registered Holstein Winter Yearling Heifer - Red

Our club would like to thank Fleet Farm of De-forest, Tractor Supply of Stoughton and Farm and



Mason Albrent showed a Grade Holstein Winter Yearling Heifer and received a Blue Ribbon in the class. He also received a White Ribbon for the Dairy Showmanship Grades 12+ class.



Kayman Sutter with her Grade Holstein Fall Heifer Calf, Holly Ann. They received a Blue Ribbon in the class and a Red Ribbon in Dairy Showmanship Grades 12+ class.



Nate Keller with his Registered Spring Heifer Calf, Petunia. They received a Blue Ribbon in the Dairy Showmanship Grades 3-5 class and a Red Ribbon in the heifer class.

Fleet of Verona and Top Notch Feed for donating the pine shavings for bedding for our beef and dairy cattle at the Dane County Fair.

Thank you to Miller and Sons Supermarket for donating all the trophies and ribbons for the Dane County Fair exhibitors.

MOUNT HOREB MAIL

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Obituary

Mary Christine
Cottine
October 28, 1940 -
August 16, 2025



BRIGGSVILLE /
MOUNT HOREB - Mary Christine Cottine, age 84, of Briggsville, passed away on Saturday, August 16, 2025, at Agrace HospiceCare. She

was born on October 28, 1940, in Dodgeville, Wis., the daughter of Leo Gilbertson and Vivian (Peterson) Gilbertson.

Mary cherished her time growing up in Barneveld and attending a two-room schoolhouse. She graduated from Barneveld High School in 1958. She married Harold Helwig on April 1961. In September 2010 Mary and Craig Cottine were married.

Mary worked in the insurance industry for numerous insurance companies including Dairyland, Viking and Pekin, and Jullie Allord and Associates in various roles from administrative to sales. Mary also was involved in a part-time business with Craig in “The Neon Connection” and another called

“Today’s Secretary.” Mary retired from the business world in 2013. Mom often posted on Facebook about watching the Milwaukee Brewers, often with “coaching advice.”

Mary loved making her home on the farm a warm and welcoming place. She loved baking and spending time with her family and friends and would always put their needs first. She cherished conversations with her loved ones and was always attentive and enthusiastic about what they shared with her. She was also known for her love of music and played piano from a young age. Mary was a proud Norwegian, a fast driver and could find humor in just about any-

thing. During her retirement years she enjoyed canning, music, reading, discussing politics, making dandelion wine and the annual “Salsa Adventure” as she called it. She will be remembered as someone who gave selflessly in the care and concern for others.

Mary is survived by her husband, Craig H. Cottine; daughter, Shelly Anders; sons, William Helwig and Steven Helwig; grandchildren, Whitney (Erick) Sperleon, Hannah (Roberto Mora), Dakota Helwig, Hunter Helwig (Kelsey Anderson), Mia Schroeder-Oyler, Chayse Helwig, Vincent (Olivia) Anders, Jake Anders, Leo Helwig and Viviana Helwig; great-grandchildren, Brynlee An-

ders and Olivia E. Mora; sister, Linda (Eugene) Budd; nieces, Betty and Janice Cottini from California; and nephew, Dale Cottine, his two children and multiple grandchildren from Briggsville. She was preceded in death by her parents, Leo and Vivian Gilbertson; brothers, Donald Gilbertson and David Gilbertson; daughter-in-law, Nancy Krahn-Helwig (William Helwig); brother-in-law, Leo Cottine (Helen (Poppie) Cottine); and nieces, Gail Cottine (Underhill) and Nancy Gerike (Mike) from Baraboo.

A funeral service will be held at GUNDERSON CAMACHO MOUNT HOREB FUNERAL AND CREMATION CARE, 500

N. Eighth St., Mount Horeb, at 3 p.m. on Saturday, September 6, 2025. A visitation will be held at the funeral home from 1 p.m. until the time of the service on Saturday. A celebration of life will follow at BUCK & HONEY’S (Martinson Hall), 108 S. Second St., Mount Horeb, from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. on Saturday.

Memorials can be made in her name to Agrace Hospice. Online condolences may be made at www.gundersonfh.com.

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

LETTERS

continued from page 2

congested, especially during rush hours and when parents transport children to and from school. During these times, the traffic going down Main Street is bumper-to-bumper. More growth would exacerbate this situation.

There are also safety concerns and limited parking downtown. A child recently got hit by a car while crossing Main Street. And last week, I saw a second child almost get hit when someone was turning left onto Main Street. Adding another apartment building down-

town would increase traffic, making it even more dangerous to cross this busy street. Main Street can’t handle anymore traffic!! And there is NO alternative.

We also have not yet felt the impact of the recently approved apartment building at 120 South First Street. This additional housing will bring over a hundred more residents to the center of town. We need to pause and see the effect of that. If the proposed apartment complex on Main Street is approved, (which would be a bad idea), over two hundred new residents would be added to the downtown

area. This would create even more traffic and parking problems. Where is the traffic plan?

If the village continues to grow, more affordable single-family houses should be built on the outskirts of town, where there is plenty of green space and fewer traffic and safety concerns.

Developers are swarming around Mount Horeb, which isn’t usually in the best interest of the community. The Village Board should limit growth and stop approving anymore apartment buildings, especially downtown. We need to maintain the small town character and quality of life in Mount Horeb.

Sincerely,
Ellen Myers

Thanks for making Rotary Raffle a success

Dear editor,

The Mount Horeb Firehouse was lit with music, food and the adrenaline of record bidding on the live

auction, amped by the one and only auctioneer extraordinaire Jim Schmidt. Mount Horeb Rotary’s 2025 \$10K Raffle was a great success again this year, thanks to everyone who donated prizes, bought raffle tickets and lent a hand. Raffle winners who split the \$10,000 grand prize were Jen Nau, Wendy Forlines, Lydia Ishmael, and Todd and Karla Gundlach. But the biggest winner is the Mount Horeb community because most of the money raised will be spent locally to support scholarships and good work in our community.

A special thank you is extended to the Mount Horeb Fire Department for hosting our event. The high school football team members and Club Interact helped with set-up, assistance during the event, and take-down at the end.

Thank you to all of these wonderful sponsors and donors: Aqua Shine Car Wash, Badger Hearing, Bill Kalscheur, Buck & Honey’s, Cave of the Mounds, Community Developers Inc., Driftless Social, Gunderson Funeral & Cremation Care, Helwig Auto Clinic, Hi Point Steakhouse, Icki Sticki, Irv and Judy Steinhauer, JG

Development, Jim & Dixie Burns, Jim Schmidt, Kittle-son Landscape, Atty. Mark B. Rooney, Mound City Bank, Mount Horeb Fire Department, Mount Horeb Lumber Do-It Best, Mount Horeb School District, Napa Auto Parts, Norsk Golf Club, Snap On Tools/Jonathan Slaney, Starlight Properties LLC., Steiny’s Auto, The Electrician Inc., The Golden Eagle, and Wisconsin Distributors/Matt Anderson.

Thank you all,
Brent Yauchler
Mount Horeb Rotary
President

Keep MoHo’s ‘charm and character’

My wife Susan and I bought our farm out on North Road in the mid 1990s. We were the third landowners. The original owners were Jig and Olijanna Cunneen. She was the face of the Norwegian culure in Mount Horeb for many years. We have some rosemaling that she did, that we discovered. She

embraced that culture that has given Mount Horeb its uniqueness as a small village.

What Jeff Grundahl is presenting to the residents of this village will further push us away from Olijanna brought to the village. The Song of Norway performed at Little Norway was heartwarming. Those days are gone, but nonetheless, Mount Horeb still has a lot of charm and character.

We were here when DOT proposed to build a bypass around Mount Horeb, people said it would be the death of the town. It was the best thing that helped create the now present vibe of the town. There several apartment plans already in place that will provide over 100 additional units. What J and G Development is trying to do will make Mount Horeb a carbon copy of Verona. Greenspace downtown is and always should be preserved. This development would be like bringing the eighteen wheelers back through town.

Matthew Smith
Blue Mounds

Community Calendar

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

Mt. Horeb Seniors shopping trip to Dodgeville. RSVP 608-444-7930. Bus leaves at 9:30am.

Farmers Market, Church lawn - 300 block East Main Street, 3:00-6:30pm

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

Mt. Horeb Food Pantry and Clothes Closet open 9:00-10:30am and 3:00-4:30pm.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

Mt. Horeb Food Pantry and Clothes Closet open 10:00-11:30am.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 - LABOR DAY

SENIOR CENTER CLOSED!

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

NO EXERCISE CLASSES AT SENIOR CENTER TODAY! New session begins Sept. 9

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Fink’s Cafe serving “My Meal My Way” for seniors from 11:00-1:00pm. No RSVP needed. \$5 suggested minimum donation.

Euchre, Senior Center, 12:30pm

LITTLE FREE PANTRIES available at: New Hope Evangelical Free Church, 639 S. 8th St., Mt. Horeb; Immanuel Lutheran Church, 310 W. Main St., Mt. Horeb; Zwingli UCC, Hwy. 92, Mt. Vernon. Nonperishable food and other necessities available.

SCHOOLS

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development, student understanding and the state of the primary center addition and renovation.

Primary center update

Bray architects have started to generate construction documents and select possible interior materials and colors. Architect Ryan Sands presented the update. “One of our takeaways was a desire for a pallet that was rooted in more natural or neutral tones, and a desire for a more Zen feeling in the building,” Sands said “we’re trying to create a sense of

calm and belonging.” Sands said they are bringing the finishes to primary center subcommittee for feedback, as well as the construction documents. Superintendent Steve Salerno asked the community to fill out a survey published in the board recap on the district website. The survey includes three names to choose from, “Mount Horeb Early Learning Center,” “Mount Horeb Primary Center” and “Mount Horeb Elementary school.” The end date for voting is September 12.

Well-being report

The board heard a report on currently offered initia-

tives and interventions and how they improve levels of academic, social and emotional readiness. The report also outlined enrollment numbers for students with disabilities over the years. It has steadily climbed from 297 in 2020-21 to 349 in 2022-24, however it dropped by almost 20 in 2024-25. In an overview of the how many students were in each disability last school year category, most of the students with a disability status were either under the autism, learning disability, speech and language impairment or other health impairment. These ranged from 62 to 75 students each.

Those students who need accommodations for instruction but not a customized curriculum, covered under section 504, increase in number towards the higher grade levels, with the majority attending the high school and middle school.

Staff development

Another report to the board covered ways the district is furthering staff training, including math recovery, artificial intelligence, equity learning, trauma supports, mentoring and leadership.

What are you learning?

The final report asked students what they were

learning, and assessed if they understood what they were trying to learn that day. Eighty percent of students asked were able to show full understanding of what they were currently learning.

Sexual harassment policy

A policy covering sexual harassment and sex-based discrimination issues was revised to be in alignment with state federal law. The policy reverts back two versions, and changes the wording of the policy title slightly to include “sex-based” nondiscrimination. The definition of harassment is also required to be severe or pervasive and de-

nies a person the ability to participate in a program or activity. Previously it was required to be both severe and pervasive.

Parent family engagement

The parent and family engagement policy was also received an updated title to include specify parents instead of just families.

Officer renewed

The board continued their partnership with the village on the school resource officer. The program is extended for another three years.

RIDGLAN

continued from page 1

tee, states: “[B]ased on the findings of probable cause of criminal animal cruelty by the Dane County Circuit Court, the Dane County Board of Supervisors calls on DATCP to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of the animals at Ridglan Farms by immediately revoking Ridglan Farms’ commercial dog breeder license and placing the dogs currently located at the facility in the custodial care of the State of Wisconsin while the ongoing investigations of animal cruelty allegations are conducted and completed.”

The resolution also states: “Ridglan Farms, a Wisconsin-based company founded in 1966 and located in Dane County, breeds beagles primarily for scientific research. The facility houses roughly 3,000 dogs and has been subject to scrutiny regarding animal welfare and compliance with state laws governing the treatment of animals.”

“Two animal advocate groups, Dane4Dogs and Alliance for Animals, petitioned the Dane County Circuit Court to appoint a special prosecutor to investigate allegations that Ridglan Farms, Inc. violated Wisconsin’s animal cruelty laws,” the resolution continued. “On January 9, 2025, the Dane County Circuit Court found probable cause that Ridglan Farms committed criminal acts, including the mutilation of dogs’ vocal cords and cherry eye surgeries without anesthesia or veterinary supervision, in violation of Wisconsin Statutes § 951.02 and 19 § 951.14. Dane County Circuit Court Judge Rhonda Lanford ordered the appointment of a special prosecutor to investigate allegations of criminal

animal cruelty offenses and inhumane treatment in violation of Wisconsin’s animal cruelty laws.”

The draft resolution continues: “Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) also has been investigating charges of animal cruelty in violation of Wis. Stats. §951 at Ridglan Farms. Per Wis. Stats. §173.41(5), DATCP may, ‘by written notice, without prior notice or hearing, suspend a license issued under §173.41(5) if, upon inspection of the licensed premises, the department finds any condition that imminently threatens the health, safety, or welfare of any animal on the licensed premises or there is evidence that an act of animal cruelty in violation of Ch. 951 has been committed by the licensee or has occurred on the licensed premises.’”

“To date, DATCP has not taken action to revoke Ridglan Farms’ facility breeding license,” the resolution continues. “However, their inspection reports as late as September 2024 found deficiencies in the care of the animals’ welfare. On March 5, 2025, the DATCP Disciplinary Counsel for Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board petitioned the board to suspend Ridglan Farms’ staff veterinarian’s license. Concerned residents and animal advocates are now calling on the Dane County Board of Supervisors to act to safeguard the welfare of voiceless animals and the approximately 3,000 dogs at Ridglan Farms that are the subject of criminal animal cruelty allegations currently under investigation by both

a special prosecutor and the State of Wisconsin.”

Dane County Board supervisor Patrick Downing, who represents Blue Mounds, plans to put together a presentation on the matter for the Thursday, September 4 Executive Committee and County Board meetings.

The resolution is just the latest chapter in a saga that has unfolded over the course of many years, from a failed voter referendum that animal rights activists put on the ballot in the Village of Mount Horeb, which is not where Ridglan Farms is located, back in 2018, to a recent courtroom drama that is still far from over.

On January 9 of this year, Circuit Judge Rhonda Landford issued an order after listening to testimony from animal rights activists and attorneys at an all-day hearing on Oct. 23 of 2024. The October hearing was held without Ridglan or the District Attorney’s office being allowed to cross examine the six witnesses who testified, and Ridglan’s defense team was not permitted to give its side of the story during the proceedings on that day.

Wisconsin law allows citizens to petition a circuit court to appoint a special prosecutor if they believe local authorities won’t investigate or charge alleged criminality. It’s a rare occurrence, however, and last fall, Eric McLeod, an attorney for Ridglan Farms, called it an “unusual procedure” in which both sides are not given the opportunity to make their cases.

“It allows for a private party to go and ask a judge for a criminal complaint separately from the District Attorney,” McLeod said. “It’s entirely one-sided.”

“Essentially it’s a well-choreographed show they put on to try to convince this judge that a lot of bad stuff is happening, without giving us the opportunity to rebut or make objections,” he continued.

McLeod and Rick Van Domelen, a veterinarian at Ridglan Farms, said earlier

this year that many of the claims made in court last year were hearsay or misinformation.

“Anyone watching that or reading about it should use a high degree of caution to make sure the information is correct,” said McLeod in October. He added that U.S. Department of Agriculture’s regulations for such facilities are extremely stringent and ensure that they are run “ethically and responsibly.”

“This is not some fly-by-night operation,” he said.

After Judge Landford’s decision to appoint a special prosecutor, Ridglan issued the following statement: “Ridglan Farms denies both the factual allegations and legal claims that have been asserted in this matter. These claims were brought by activists whose goal it is to end all lawful use of animals for important medical research. Unfortunately, Ridglan Farms was denied the right to participate in the hearing that gave rise to the Dane County judge’s decision allowing this matter to proceed.”

“Notably, in response to the claims raised by these activists, the Dane County District Attorney has declined to pursue any charges against Ridglan Farms,” Ridglan Farms continued. “Furthermore, Ridglan Farms is subject to extensive State and Federal regulations that govern its operations, and Ridglan Farms takes compliance with those regulations seriously.”

The petition that prompted Landford to move forward with a special prosecutor was brought by Madison-based Alliance for Animals, Dane4Dogs and animal rights attorney Wayne Hsiung, of San Francisco.

Later in the year, Ridglan Farms sued the activists who have led a long-running campaign against the Blue Mounds-based beagle breeder. Their complaint, filed in Dane County Circuit Court in the spring of 2025, alleges that activists have broken multiple laws in their attempts to shut down the facility. Ridglan has

been targeted by groups and individuals opposed to the use of animals in research and want to put Ridglan out of business, the business alleges.

Initially, groups, including defendants Dane4Dogs Ltd., and individuals including, Jamie Hagenow and Scott Gilbertson, both of Verona, and Rebekah Robinson, of Oakland, Calif., engaged in lawful protest. However, in recent years, the protests have become unlawful and have cost the company customers, they allege in their lawsuit.

Dane4Dogs’ stated mission is to end the breeding, sale, and use of dogs and cats for scientific research and shut down Ridglan Farms. Robinson is the current president of Dane4Dogs and is believed to also be known as Rebekah Klemm. Hagenow is also a co-founder of Dane4Dogs. Gilbertson responded to Dane4Dogs’ Facebook request to work for Ridglan. He worked for less than a month to provide an “inside perspective” of the facility.

Back in 2017, Wayne Hsiung and other animal activists unlawfully entered Ridglan’s facility and stole three beagles, documenting their illegal activity in a misleading video, which was posted on social media boasting that it was an “open rescue,” Ridglan alleged.

Hsiung and two others were charged by the Dane County District Attorney with burglary and theft. As Hsiung’s March 2024 trial date neared, Ridglan received death threats and approached the district attorney voicing concern for its employees and the business.

The district attorney dismissed the charges saying that Ridglan no longer wanted the case to go to trial.

After the DA declined to prosecute Ridglan for alleged animal mistreatment, Hsiung, Gilbertson and others testified before Landford last fall in support of

the petition to appoint a special prosecutor.

Lanford found probable cause that Ridglan has violated the state’s animal cruelty, contrary to the position of the Dane County Sheriff’s Office and in January appointed La Crosse District Attorney Tim Gruenke as special prosecutor.

Meanwhile, Dane4Dogs and the other defendants have filed complaints against Ridglan with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, the Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board (VEB) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

In March, the VEB declined to suspend one of Ridglan’s veterinarians.

The USDA made an unannounced inspection at Ridglan in January and found that it operated in compliance with the federal Animal Welfare Act.

Dane4Dogs obtained Ridglan’s customer list and in February threatened to publish the customer list unless it dropped Ridglan as a dog supplier by March 1, the company alleges. After receiving Dane4Dogs’ letter, many customers contacted Ridglan and said they will quit doing business with Ridglan, causing the company a substantial loss of revenue. The letter amounted to extortion, Ridglan’s suit alleges, as the customers could only avoid public shaming by no longer buying Ridglan’s dogs. Ridglan’s suit seeks unspecified damages against the defendants “consistent with the allegations.”

That suit has been assigned to Circuit Judge Jacob Frost.

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Gleanings

By **BARR JOHNSON**
Mount Horeb Mail

140 Years Ago- Aug. 26, 1885

Eggers and wife visited Middleton Sunday.

Dan Kelleher threshed a part of his crop of grain on Friday of last week, which is the first threshing of the year in this vicinity, so far as we have heard.

John Kelleny of Cross Plains had a horse killed, August Erve lost a colt and James Cook of Cross Plains had some sheds and contents destroyed-all by the lightning of last Thursday night. All were insured in the Town Insurance Co.

One of those celebrated horses of Martin Skuggen's fell into the hands of what he supposed to be horse-thieves. A warrant was immediately sworn out by Mr. S. and served by the authorities of the town of Cross Plains, where the deed was committed. The parties were captured and the property restored to its rightful owner. Upon the payment of the fine and costs the prisoner was tendered his liberty.

130 Years Ago- Aug. 29, 1895

Another name has been added to the fast growing list of pioneer dead in that of Ole Barton, Sr., who last Saturday was laid to rest at the

Blue Mounds Church cemetery. Ole Barton was born at Bergh Valdres, Norway, Sept. 16, 1816. He came in a brig direct from Bergen, landing in New York City after eight weeks. The party steamed up the Hudson river to Albany, thence crossed on the Erie canal to Buffalo and reached Milwaukee via the Great Lakes, from there a wagon trip to a Norwegian settlement at Koshkonong, where they learned that land could be obtained in western Dane county.

Go to Bergh Bros. for cheap peaches, pears and grapes this week.

Our enterprising fruit dealer, H. J. Paskey, went to Chicago last Tuesday evening and is expected back this morning with 500 baskets of choice peaches.

Mrs. P.P. Moe had a narrow escape one day last week going home from town. The horse became frightened going down the Murphy hill, run over the embankment tipping the buggy, and how a serious accident was evaded is a miracle, but fortunately things turned out with only a slightly broken up buggy and some spilled groceries.

120 Years Ago- Aug. 24, 1905

The Pine Bluff Telephone Company has just issued a new directory and is fast in-

creasing their exchange.

George Fjelstad is in North Dakota looking for the big grain crop on his 340-acre farm.

A number of patrons on rural routes are having their mail delivery at the Post Office after the ninth of this month on account of not having approved boxes.

A number of families had a basket picnic in the grove of Lewis Mennes last Sunday and enjoyed a pleasant social time.

Otto Dahle is investing in well-bred poultry. One day this week he received by express a crate of fancy Rhode Island Reds.

Jos. Harmon is helping his brother-in-law, John McKinney, stacking. Some of his friends think this is only an excuse for getting away from home, being a little lonesome during the absence of his better half.

Miss Alma Belgunm, the very efficient telephone operator, is having a short vacation and a much needed rest and recreation. Miss Florence Ward is filling her place answering the innumerable calls showered upon the hello girl.

110 Years Ago- Aug. 27, 1915

Bratrud sisters will open a new millinery establishment in the Murphy building opposite Dahle Bros.

Henry Brophy has purchased the delivery business from Ralph Krohn.

Prof. E. G. Engeseth and George Grinde left Saturday for Lake Waubesa, where they will spend some time camping.

Silas Johnson is employed at Robertshaw's Drug Store.

Mrs. O.B. Pickert and Hattie and Mrs. Gertrude

Bowers were delegates to the Dane county W.C.T.U. conference at Winsor, Aug. 18 and 19.

FURNISHED ROOMS: Lady roomers wanted. Mrs. Kably, Main Street, near hospital.

The carpenters are doing rapid work on John Cuneen's new house on the corner of Third and Verkin streets.

Silas Johnson is employed at Robertshaw's drug store and intends to work his way into the druggist trade after finishing high school.

Our job department has been taxed to its fullest capacity this week, but our electric power makes press-work both pleasant and speedy.

Dalleyville has had a corn stalk contest, the champion, William Grimstad, took the prize with a stalk 12 feet 5 inches in height. Who says this is not a corn year?

D. F. Kelliher had a close call in an auto accident Tuesday, In company with some Madison friends going to Belleville in an auto, they overtook a threshing rig a few miles south of Mt. Vernon, and in passing the machine ran into a ditch, upsetting the auto, pinned the chauffeur under the wheel and the other occupants of the ill-fated carryall were soon on their feet and liberated the man. A telephone call soon brought the auto livery from here to carry the party to their destination.

100 Years Ago- Aug. 25, 1925

Henry Kahl and his road crew just finished a fine piece of road grading on the road running due north from highway 19 past the farms of Melvin Thorsrud, Ray

Cunneen, Henry Opal and Dahle & Brager. The first of the week these farms got together with town board and raised \$500. They have employed Mr. Kahl and his crew to cut down the big hill just after you leave number 19. This will complete the road and should entitle the four farmers served by this road to rural mail service. The previous excuse given by the post office department, of impassable road, has now been eliminated and carrier would find a much better than average road.

The persons who entered my Ford touring car a week ago on Saturday night, August 15th, 1925, which was parked ahead of Brannan's Hotel and took a suit coat are hereby notified to called settle and save trouble. John E. Johnson.

There will be a meeting in the village hall at Mt. Horeb, Saturday afternoon, August 29th for the purpose of reorganizing the Cheesemakers Verein. The new origination will be strictly local and will not be affiliated directly with any other organization of a like nature.

Dr. O. Sporleader has added a new electrical device to his already extensive equipment. The new device is to be used for the treatment of all painful conditions, such as sprains, neuritis, and many other diseases. Doctors Gable and Remington, experts in the use of this new equipment will be in Mt. Horeb Sunday to help Dr. Sporleder to become accustomed to using the device and also to demonstrate its value.

90 Years Ago- Aug. 29, 1935

Ruth Swiggum, Willis Martinson and Grace Mae Brattlie had their tonsils removed Friday at the Buchner Hospital.

In Hoff's Store Main Street window this week, a rare bird is on display. Rare because of it's freakish plumage. The body is evidently of a hen pheasant,

but the head and tail is that of a male pheasant. This is not a trick of a taxidermist as the pheasant was shot by George Decker, Sioux Falls, SD, son-in-law of Olaf Hanson. Mr. Hanson donated this interesting specimen feeling it would be an added attraction for the Fall Frolic.

Special at Olson's Restaurant and Bakery on Saturday will be cinnamon rolls at 15 cents a dozen.

Our fire department was called to the Lester Olson home on West Main Street this morning where a kerosene stove was ablaze.

50 Years Ago- Aug. 28, 1975

Construction is expected to begin in the near future on the new National Savings and Loan Association office at the corner of East Main and Third Street.

A \$1000 donation to the Mount Horeb Ambulance fund was approved by the Mount Horeb Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors at the luncheon meeting Monday. The donation will be given through the Chamber's community service fund established in 1961.

The Mount Horeb Area Jaycettes announce the selection of Janis Bernhardt as the recipient of the club's fourth annual Outstanding Young Woman Award.

20 Years Ago- Sept. 1, 2005

DuWayne "Butch" Statz, age 73, of Pine Bluff, died Thursday, Aug. 25, 2005 at Heartland Country Village in Black Earth.

Suzie Garfoot of Mazomanie was the winner of the \$250 cash grand prize in the first Mount Horeb Tour of Homes, sponsored by News Publishing Company.

Early Learning Center teachers, Nicole Morrisard, Leanne Sellmeyer and Kay Moore attended the second week of the 12th annual John Muir Academy for math, science and technology.

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Back to School

Welcome these new local educators

Fae Bauman
Music Teacher –
Intermediate Center



Fae Baumann (he/they pronouns) has been a Madison area native for 5 years now, originally raised in the small town of Muscoda, WI. Fae received his bachelor's degree in Music Education from UW-Platteville in the fall of 2020. They have worked in multiple capacities since then; including teaching, nonprofit advocacy, and in clinical research. Fae fills his time away from the classroom with his husband, Braden, and their five pets. They love to travel; having been to London, Greece, Mexico, and many of the continen-

tal US states. Fae loves to combine their passions for music and travel together by planning their trips around a festival or concert they plan to attend.

Chris Carr
Athletic and
Activities Manager



Mr. Carr comes to us from Mineral Point School District where he served as Athletic /Activities Director and PE/Health Teacher. He is a triplet and one of five brothers. In his free time, he enjoys golfing, and participating in a bowling league. His enthusiasm, experience, and leadership make him a great addition to our District!

Kara DeLaMar
Special Education
Teacher – Middle School



Hi, my name is Kara DeLaMar, and I'm the new Special Education teacher at Mount Horeb Middle School. I'm originally from Grayslake, Illinois, where I grew up with my siblings and parents before heading to Clarke University in Dubuque, Iowa, to play soccer.

I moved to the Madison area about three years ago and have been teaching and coaching (soccer, cross country, and track & field) since then. I've really enjoyed getting to know the community and everything the area has to offer.

Outside of work, I love all things Disney and enjoy traveling whenever I can.

Nolan Krentz
8th Grade Teacher –
Middle School



My name is Nolan Krentz and I am excited to be joining the Mount Horeb Middle School this year as a member of the 8th grade team. I was born and raised in Mount Horeb, graduating with the class of 2009. From there I attended the University of Wisconsin-Platteville where I earned a degree in Social Sciences/History Emphasis and most recently a degree in Elementary Education (K-9). I was fortunate to complete my student teaching at our middle school in the fall of 2023 working with Mrs. Jennifer Stoddard, and have been able to be a long-term substitute in all three grades there (6th-8th) in the three

semesters since. Outside the classroom, I enjoy both golf and basketball and currently am the high school golf coach for both our boys' and girls' teams here at Mount Horeb. I am excited for the school year to start and the opportunity to continue working with such a great group of students and staff at the middle school.

Stephanie Lassen
French Teacher –
High School



My name is Stephanie Lassen. Most everything you may want to know about me is summed up in where I was born and raised—Seattle, Washington. I live for rainy days, unlucky baseball teams, and exploring rocky coasts and mountain trails. For most of my adult life I've bounced around the Midwest with my husband Dave and our band of ragamuffins, which last year

grew to four. I am an unapologetic Francophile and enjoy watching my students develop a love of the French language and its rich cultural ties. Most especially the food ties. Teaching is a relatively new career choice for me; formerly, I worked as a freelance editor and writer, an administrative/research assistant, and an archivist at the Holocaust Museum in Washington DC. We lived in Madison for about six years during Dave's grad program and after a decade away are happy to be back in the Badger State.

Robert Nyland
Special Education
Teacher - High School



Originally from Cumberland, I recently made the move to Mount Horeb to join the high school as a Special Education Teacher

continued on page 11

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SCHOOL

continued from page 10

and Behavior Intervention-ist. I've spent the past decade working with high school students, helping them navigate academics, emotions, and the leap into adulthood. I'm especially drawn to supporting students with emotional and behavioral challenges, and I enjoy finding hands-on, meaningful ways to make learning stick. Outside of school, you'll usually find me somewhere off the grid backpacking, catching live music, or knee-deep in a home project I swore would only take an afternoon. My partner and I are excited to settle into the Mount Horeb community and look forward to getting involved, both inside and outside of school.

Jared Schmitthenner
Physics Teacher –
High School



My name is Jared Schmitthenner and I am excited to be teaching physics at Mount Horeb High School this year! I grew up in south-

ern California, but moved to Madison for graduate school in physics at UW (go Badgers!), and I have been here ever since. I worked at Epic prior to becoming a teacher; before Mount Horeb, I have previously taught science online and in Johnson Creek. My wife Jenny is a transplant surgeon at UW Hospital, and we have a five-year-old son and an (almost) one-year-old daughter. In my free time, I enjoy playing board games and video games, reading, spending time with my family, watching the Badgers and Packers, and traveling. I love to show how interesting and exciting science can be, and I am looking forward to being a Viking!

Nicol Smith
Special Education
Teacher – Intermediate
Center



Hello! My name is Nicol Smith and I am very excited to be starting my first year of teaching in the Mount Horeb School District. I have been in education for the last 20 years, teaching primarily kindergarten. This year I will be working towards earning my special educa-

tion license to better support all learners. Originally from Waukesha, I graduated from Waukesha West High School and attended college at UW-Platteville where I earned my degree in Elementary Education. My family and I moved to Blue Mounds last year, and we absolutely love the small-town community feel. My husband Craig and I have two boys, Nolan (5th grade), Mason (4th grade), and a chocolate lab named Luna, who all keep life fun and busy. In my free time, you'll usually find me at the ball diamond, football field or on the bleachers in the gym, as our boys are involved in many sports. I enjoy reading and spending quality time with family and friends. I am looking forward to joining the 5th grade team at the IC and having a great year together!

Erin Thiede
School Psychologist –
High School



Hi! My name is Erin Thiede, and I will be the new School Psychologist at the High School. I just graduated from UW-La-Crosse with my Master's degree in Education, I previously earned my Bachelor's Degree from UWL in Psychology with a minor in Child and Youth Care. I am so excited to be starting my professional career in such

an extraordinary district. I am originally from McFarland, so I am very happy to be back in Dane County, especially to be close to my parents and sister who all live in the area. In my free time, I enjoy reading, doing a multitude of crafts, and spending time with my cat (named Goose). I appreciate how welcoming everyone has been to me, and I look forward to getting to know the district, staff, students, and community!

Nicole Wier
5th Grade Teacher –
Intermediate Center



Hello Mount Horeb families! My name is Mrs. Wier, and I am so excited to be joining the 5th grade team at Mount Horeb Intermediate School this year! I come to Wisconsin from Michigan, where I taught first grade for five years and student taught in third grade. I graduated from Michigan State University with my undergraduate degree and earned my master's degree from Central Michigan University, focusing on integrated sciences and reading intervention. This summer has been full of changes and joy—I got married in July and moved to Wisconsin shortly after! When I'm not teaching, I love cooking, reading, hiking, and spending time outdoors. I can't wait to get to know my students and families and feel so lucky to be part of the Mount Horeb

school community!

Jordyn Van Zeeland
School Counselor –
Early Learning Center
Primary Center



Hello Mount Horeb Vikings! My name is Jordyn Van Zeeland, and I will be working at the ELC/PC as your K-2 School Counselor. I am a recent graduate from the counseling program at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and spent the past year interning within the Randolph School District in Randolph, WI. I am originally from Twin Lakes, WI and currently reside in Fitchburg, WI. Outside of my work as your school counselor, you will find me venturing around the state trying to find the best coffee shops, playing word games with friends, and reading. I also enjoy spending time in the kitchen making delicious treats for my friends and family. I am currently in the process of making the best chocolate chip cookie from scratch without a recipe! I am excited to join your won-

derful community and can't wait to see what this next year school holds for us.

Alana Krolow
4th Grade Teacher –
Intermediate Center



Hi there! I am super excited to be part of the Mount Horeb School community! I'm from Shawano, WI, but I spent the last four years living in Stevens Point where I went to UW-Stevens Point getting my degree in Elementary Education. I just graduated in December 2024 and quickly got to work as a Long-term sub in the same district I student taught and did most of my practicum in, D.C. Everest. I just moved to Madison in July with my boyfriend and our two kittens, Sal and Bunny. I enjoy hiking at Devil's Lake, watching the Brewers, and getting cozy with a good book. I can't wait to get to know this community and the families within it throughout this school year!

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CRAFTON 24, MOUNT HOREB-BARNEVELD 7

ROUGH START

MH-B falls at Grafton in season-opener

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

GRAFTON — They said all the right things. This was just one game. There’s plenty of time to fix things. Both teams will look dramatically different by November. In theory, Mount Horeb-Barneveld was right. Still, the 24-7 thumping Grafton laid on the Vikings in last Friday’s season-opener stung deep. And while MH-B remains

extremely optimistic about where it’s headed this fall, this was certainly a wake-up call no one expected. “Playing a great team in Week 1 kind of shows you where you stand, and if you have weaknesses, they’re going to expose those,” senior linebacker/running back Jack Wilson said. “So, it was definitely a little bit of wake-up call.” Vikings coach Bret St. Arnauld agreed. “I told our guys, ‘That

continued on page 18



Grafton senior wide receiver Tyler Deer gets loose for a 41-yard touchdown reception during the Black Hawks’ 24-7 win over Mount Horeb-Barneveld last Friday. Photo courtesy of Jerry Rossi

MHB

VIKING VARSITY FOOTBALL

2025 SCHEDULE

MHB

Friday	August 22 nd	7:00PM	Away vs. Grafton
Friday	August 29 th	7:00PM	Home vs. Monroe
Friday	September 5 th	7:00PM	Away vs. Beaver Dam
Friday	September 12 th	7:00PM	Home vs. Watertown
Friday	September 19 th	7:00PM	Away vs. Stoughton
Friday	September 26 th	7:00PM	Home vs. Sauk Prairie
Friday	October 3 rd	7:00PM	Away vs. Lakeside Lutheran
Friday	October 10 th	7:00PM	Home vs. Edgewood
Friday	October 17 th	7:00PM	Away vs. Portage



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MoHo spikers look potent again

Vikings return a gifted group

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

Josh Smelzer knew he had large shoes to fill.

Smelzer, Mount Horeb’s girls volleyball coach, took the program over last season from Kurt Owen. In Owen’s final nine years, the Vikings had a winning record every season, qualified for six regional championships and reached sectionals three times.

With Smelzer in charge, Mount Horeb didn’t miss a beat.

The Vikings went 25-10 overall, finished second in the Badger Small Conference at 6-1 and reached the sectional semifinals before falling to Madison Edgewood.

Now, with a gifted group returning, Smelzer and the Vikings are optimistic about their new season, which begins with a trip to Dodgeville Thursday at 7 p.m.

“Our staff doesn’t talk about goals like conference championships or anything like that,” Smelzer said. “I imagine the girls do. We believe in focusing on every day. We talk about having an elite gym.”

The Vikings certainly have that, excelling on the court and having fun off of it.

Smelzer puts his team through demanding practices. Then when practice ends, Smelzer does everything he can to put smiles on the Vikings’ faces.

This year, Smelzer introduced ‘Moonwalk Monday’ where his team will practice the moonwalk.

“We want the girls to enjoy the year,” he said. “When we are off the court, we let them have fun! There is usually a lot of laughter in our gym.”

“We think pushing each other to compete at a high level, finishing the season strong, and having fun along the way is success, no matter where we end up.”

Mount Horeb could certainly end up near the top of the league again and make another postseason run.

Senior setter/rightside hitter Laila Rasmussen and senior middle blocker Finley Moore, who were both named honorable-mention all-conference last season, will lead this year’s Vikings.

Rasmussen, an Edgewood College recruit, ran a 5-1 offense as a junior setter and finished with



Laila Rasmussen (above), coach Josh Smelzer (right) and Mount Horeb’s girls volleyball team believe they’re ready for a big year. Photos courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

a whopping 729 assists. That was the fourth-highest single-season assist total in school history.

Rasmussen was also third on the Vikings in digs (194) and fifth in aces (52). Rasmussen is already fourth in school history in assists (1,194) and 10th in school history in aces (100).

“She has a good shot at breaking into the top-10 in kills, digs, and sets played this season,” Smelzer said of Rasmussen. “Laila was honorable-mention all-conference last year and I can see her in the conversation for first-team this year.”

Moore, who is also committed to Edgewood, led the Vikings with 41 blocks last year, which was the fifth-most in a single season in school history. Her six blocks against Stoughton were the second-most in a single game in school history, and her 67.5 career blocks are the seventh-most in school history.

“She will most likely be top-10 in kills by seasons end,” Smelzer said of Moore. “She was also honorable-mention all-conference last year. I think she’ll be in the conversation for first-team this year too.”

Senior outside hitter Ella Kahl, who’s committed to UW-River Falls, should

have a big year, as well.

“We think she has a chance to be in the conversation for first-team all-conference, as well,” Smelzer said. “She has a good shot at finishing in the top-10 in school history in kills as well.”

Senior libero Maya Newman is poised for a big final season, as well.

“We expect to see great numbers from her this year,” Smelzer said of Newman. “I can see her in the top-10 in digs per season when it’s all said and done. She has a great shot at all-conference.”

Senior outside hitter/defensive specialist Lizzy Messenberg had a big 2024 campaign, posting 60 aces which ranks ninth in a single season in school history. She could be even better in 2025.

“We see another great year at the service line for her,” Smelzer said. “As outside hitter and defensive specialist, Lizzy looks to have great contributions to the team night in and night out. Lizzy has a shot at all-conference as well.”

Senior rightside hitter Aliyah Thompson, senior middle hitter Katrina Meinholz, senior setter Trinity Alexander and junior defensive specialist Courtney

Monroe should all have large roles, as well.

“We see all four being an integral part of the team and being able to put up big numbers night in and night out,” Smelzer said.

Smelzer sees “usual suspects” Sauk Prairie, Edgewood, and McFarland among the teams to beat in the conference — and at sectionals.

Mount Horeb figures to right in the mix, though.

“We should have a very fast offense and we do a good job of getting everyone involved, which makes it hard for defenses,” Smelzer said. “Defensively we’re solid. We block really well and we’re really scrappy in the back row.”

“There are three areas of question marks, to me. How well do we do in serve receive, can we play smart and be efficient on offense, and who are our go to players in crunch time? These can be three of our strengths too, which is very exciting.”

There’s a lot to be excited about — both on and off the court.

“We work hard to continue the winning tradition,” Smelzer said. “The girls put in a ton of work throughout the season and in the offseason in club vol-

Mount Horeb Girls Volleyball Roster				
No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.
3	Harper Hendrickson	DS	5’3”	Jr.
4	Vera Pernot	DS	5’4”	Jr.
5	Courtney Monroe	L/DS	5’5”	Jr.
6	Laila Rasmussen	S/RS	5’7”	Sr.
7	Maya Newman	L/DS	5’8”	Sr.
8	Aliyah Thompson	RS	5’7”	Sr.
9	Lizzy Mesenberg	OH	5’5”	Sr.
10	Elise Ellestad	OH	5’6”	Jr.
11	Trinity Alexander	S	5’5”	Sr.
12	Elaina Imbus	OH	5’9”	Jr.
13	Ella Kahl	OH	5’11”	Sr.
14	Claire Casey	S	5’6”	Jr.
15	Finley Moore	MB	6’0”	Sr.
16	Alayna Alexander	MB	5’8”	So.
17	Katrina Meinholz	MB	5’11”	Sr.

leyball and other sports.

“All 39 athletes last year finished the year with high honors or honors, which speaks very highly of the parents and teachers. We’ve started a Booster Club this year, too.

“My biggest takeaway is that I’m proud to be a part of this team! I’m very excited to see what we can accomplish this year and I’m very excited about the future of the program.”

• **Solid scrimmage:** Mount Horeb scrimmaged Madison Edgewood, Verona and Stoughton at Verona last Saturday and more than held its own.

Ella Kahl had 15 kills on the day, while Finley Moore had 10 kills, seven aces and 4.5 blocks. Aliyah Thompson and Lizzy Mesenberg both had seven kills, while Maya Newman had 27 digs.

Courtney Monroe added 14 digs, Laila Rasmussen had 11 digs and Claire Casey had six aces.

“The girls played very well,” Smelzer said. “It was great to get out and compete against other teams to see what we’re doing well and what areas need work.”

“We have an exciting crew coming back and an exciting incoming freshman class! We honestly believe we’ll compete at a high level at all three levels.”

Soccer Vikings could turn the corner

Vikings bring back a talented, veteran side

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

It's time.

Mount Horeb's boys soccer program — once one of the state's finest — has had three straight losing seasons. The last two came under coach Rick Gage.

But Gage believes things are about to take a turn for the better.

The Vikings return a veteran group and should be greatly improved on offense. And Mount Horeb — which began its new season Tuesday at perennial power Delavan-Darien — has great expectations for the new season.

"I would like us to be able to compete with the best in the conference," Gage said. "I think we are an improved offensive team and we will need to score some goals early to give us some confidence. If our defense gels quickly enough, I think we will be an extremely competitive team."

Mount Horeb went 7-11 in each of Gage's first two seasons as head coach.

The Vikings return a gifted group, though, led by second-team all-Badger Small Conference defender Brady Rockow and honorable-mention all-conference midfielder Ethan Gage.

Rockow will spearhead a defense that is talented, but that will also have several new players.

"Brady is confident and composed on the ball and will be a key part of our defense this year," Gage said. "We are replacing a lot of players from last year, so I expect Brady to take a big leadership role to help organize the defense this season."

Ethan Gage will lead the midfield after scoring three goals last season operating as primarily an attacking midfielder or a defensive midfielder.

"He has played a lot of soccer over the past year and has gotten quicker and stronger," Rick Gage said of Ethan Gage. "His stamina allows him to get up and down the field, which will be important, as I am expecting him to be able to control play both offensively and defensively in our midfield. He will be a key part of our success this



Mason Williams and Mount Horeb's boys soccer team believe they'll be much improved this season. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

year."

The Vikings' offensive attack should be a strength.

Junior forward Mason Williams led Mount Horeb in goals (four), assists (six) and points (14) last year and should be ready for a big season.

"Over the summer Mason has gotten stronger and more confident on the ball," Gage said. "He is a strong 1-v-1 player with deceptive speed who many teams will struggle with this year. I am expecting him to take a big leap for use this year."

Senior Noah High missed several games due to injury last year, but still finished with seven points and seems poised for a big final season.

"Noah has been one of key creators on offense the last two seasons," Gage said. "He missed some time last year, so his numbers were a little lower."

"He has looked good this summer, and he is showing good speed and finishing ability. I am expecting him to be a key part of our offense this year."

Sophomore Ro Gilles also had seven points last season and appears ready for a jump in his sophomore season.

"As a freshman last year, Ro was a solid contributor who was learning how to compete with the speed and physical play of varsity,"

Gage said. "Over the past year, Ro has worked hard with his club team and has improved immensely in his offensive skills. His shot and vision has improved and I am expecting him to be a key part of our offense this year."

The Vikings took some hits on the defensive side when a few upperclassmen chose not to return. But Gage believes seniors Cam Goodwin and Preston Reed are ready for big things.

"Cam started at outside back for us last year," Gage said. "He is a quick player who does a good job defending 1-v-1 and shows a good burst of speed out of the back. Cam will continue to anchor the back line for us and will be a key to our success this season."

"Preston is a high energy player who excels in 1-v-1

battles and attacking down the wings. He is a very important player to how we can defend and attack out of the back. He is working his way back from injury, so we are anxiously awaiting him to be healthy again as he will be key to our team down the stretch."

Junior keeper Parker Smith, the Vikings' backup goalie in 2024, moves into the cage full time.

"Parker played a lot of soccer over the past year and improved in areas as a goalie," Gage said. "He is a better shot stopper, he makes better decisions and his distribution has greatly improved. It is a great feeling as a coach to feel full confidence in your goalkeeper."

Gage is also extremely excited by his sophomore and junior classes, which

are both deep and gifted.

"They have all gotten stronger and more confident in their play," Gage said of those classes. "This group will be relied upon to give us depth and large minutes over the course of the season."

"Overall we have a great returning core of players. They have all gained significant experience playing with their clubs over the past year and have become more skilled, stronger and faster."

Overall, Gage believes the Vikings — who scored 19 goals in 18 games last season — will be significantly improved offensively. The defense could be a work in progress after some players didn't return.

"I believe this year we will be a more skilled of-

fensive team who should be able to score at a higher rate than we did the last few years," Gage said. "We return quite a bit of our offense and the returning players are all bigger, faster and stronger. Due to the lack of player turnover on the offense I expect them to gel quickly as a team."

"On defense ... we will also have a core group of young players coming up to help there. I really feel that the younger players are good soccer players. We will just spend a lot of time the first couple weeks of practice getting them used to varsity level soccer and getting the entire back line to play together as a unit."

Sauk Prairie, Madison Edgewood and McFarland all bring back strong teams and figure to be among the top teams in the Badger Small. Gage is optimistic his Vikings can crack the top half of the league, though.

Mount Horeb's sectional looks tough, as always. But Gage believes his team could make some postseason noise, as well.

The Vikings are currently battling some injury issues, but once healthy, Gage is extremely optimistic about his 2025 Vikings.

"We are a little beat up to start the season," Gage said. "A couple of returning starters are beat up and will not be playing for a few games as they heal up. This has me worried as it has cut down on some of the depth our team needs over the course of the season."

"Hopefully we get healthy soon and get the needed results while the players are healing up. I think as long as we get healthy soon and don't take anymore injuries to our depth we can be a very good team this season."

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Mount Horeb girls soccer coach Mark Newman, who led the Vikings to the state tournament four times, recently stepped down. Photo courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

‘It was time’

Legendary soccer coach Newman steps down from Mount Horeb’s girls program

by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

Mark Newman never thought he’d be coaching soccer for nearly three decades.

When Newman was hired to teach in Mount Horeb back in 1997, his plan was to do only that — teach.

But a boys soccer job at the lower levels opened, and Newman took it. Within three years, he was the head coach of both the Vikings’ boys and girls.

Amazingly, the man who wasn’t looking to coach became one of the state’s finest at his profession.

But Newman recently decided “it was time” and stepped down as the Vikings’ girls coach. Assistant Megan Lemire will take over after being approved by the school board on Aug.

18.

Newman had stepped away as Mount Horeb’s boys coach after the 2021 season.

“A lot goes into running a varsity program, and after 26 seasons (including the COVID year), I’m a little worn out,” Newman said. “It was time for someone else to have a turn.

“Megan — who played for and coached with me — was clearly ready to be a head coach. That made it easier, knowing the program will be in good hands.”

Both programs were certainly in good hands with Newman.

Newman coached Mount Horeb’s girls from 2000-2025, compiling a 317-156-46 record in that time. He led the Vikings to the WIAA state tournament

four straight years between 2012-2015 and into the state championship game three times.

Mount Horeb was 0-3 in state title games, though, falling to Waukesha Catholic Memorial each time.

Newman also led the Vikings to four conference championships — a Capitol Conference title in 2001 and Badger North Conference titles from 2016-’18.

Newman had even more success with Mount Horeb’s boys, who he coached from 1998-2021.

The Vikings’ boys made seven trips to the state tournament under Newman between 2010-2017.

Mount Horeb’s boys defeated Catholic Memorial, 1-0, to win the Division 2 state title in 2011, edged Rice Lake, 1-0, to capture the Division 3 state championship in 2015 and downed Delavan-Darien, 2-1, to win the Division 3 crown in 2017.

Mount Horeb was also the state runner-up in 2012, 2014 and 2016.

Newman was named the Wisconsin Soccer Coaches Association Coach of the Year three times — in 2015 for both the boys and girls, and in 2017 with the boys.

Newman finished with a 348-150-51 record with the boys. And his record between the two programs was 665-306-94.

Not too bad for a guy who never planned to coach soccer when he started at Mount Horeb.

“It was a way to be involved with the sport I love and I thought I could help the players in both pro-

grams,” Newman said.

When Newman was asked what he was most proud of, he said: “Helping players improve and have a rewarding experience being part of a team.”

One of those players is Lemire, a 2012 Mount Horeb graduate.

Lemire has been an assistant coach under Newman since 2018, and Vikings athletic director Chris Carr said she shined during the interview process.

“Megan has been a top assistant in our program

for quite some time and she was able to offer a great blend of new ideas and suggestions as well as showing qualities that will undoubtedly help her continue to connect and build great relationships with the girls,” Mount Horeb athletic director Chris Carr said. “Her confidence, open-mindedness, and passion for the sport were obvious and we are so excited to have her leading girls soccer at Mount Horeb moving forward.”

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Delaina Nicewander (left), Jadyn Schellpfeffer and Mount Horeb’s girls golf team enjoyed a solid week. Photos courtesy of Mary Langenfeld

MoHo golfers win Darlington Invite

Vikings cap big week in style
by **ROB REISCHEL**
Sports Editor

Nolan Krentz doesn’t mess around. Mount Horeb’s girls golf coach tests his team early and often when the season begins. The Vikings had four meets in five days last week, highlighted by a first place finish at the Ringen Invite held at Darlington Country Club on Aug. 22. Here’s a recap of Mount Horeb’s extremely busy week.

RINGEN INVITE
Mount Horeb posted a team score of 406 to claim the team title for the second consecutive season. The Vikings edged runner-up Beloit Turner (414), while Lancaster finished third with a 428. Senior Delaina Nicewander and sophomore Ella Baber led Mount Horeb with matching rounds of 97 to tie for fifth place in the 34-player field. Nicewander parred the seventh, 12th, and 18th holes, while Baber parred the ninth

and 17th holes during her round. Junior Jadyn Schellpfeffer finished with a 103 to place 10th, highlighted by a par on the sixth hole. Senior Sonja Schreiber parred the first hole on her way to a 109 and a tie for 13th. “It was a great way to wrap up the week at Darlington,” Krentz said. “Playing our fourth event of the week, we were definitely not as sharp as we would have liked, but we showed great resiliency as a team throughout the round and did what was needed to come out on top for the second straight year in this invite.”

TOMAH TUNE-UP
Mount Horeb kicked off its busy week at the Tomah Tune-Up on Aug. 18 held at Hiawatha Golf Club. The Vikings finished with a 406 team score to place seventh in the 20-team field. Host Tomah claimed the title with a 337, followed by River Falls (359) and Onalaska (366). Nicewander led Mount

Horeb with a 92, placing 16th individually in the 99-player field. Nicewander parred four holes during her round and birdied the par-five, 13th to finish her day. Baber had a 101, parring No. 5, 15 and 16, while Schreiber added a 106 highlighted by a par on the seventh hole. Junior Jadyn Schellpfeffer also added a 107. “Weather conditions,” Krentz said of the tournament. “It rained for nearly the first three hours of play leaving the course completely saturated and standing water in numerous areas. “I give our players — and everyone playing — a lot of credit for braving the elements. The weather did clear up for the second half of our round and we were able to come away with a very respectable score and result as a team.”

BADGER SMALL MINI-MEET
The Vikings posted a 197

team score to finish in second place at the first Badger Small Conference Mini-Meet of the season held at Portage Golf Club on Aug. 19. Madison Edgewood finished first with a 171. Nicewander led the Vikings with a 40 and tied for first with Edgewood’s Mya Bindl in the 33-player field. Nicewander parred four holes and birdied the par-five, ninth hole to close her round. Baber posted a 48 to finish in a tie for 11th place, parring No. 2 and birding the ninth hole during her round. Schellpfeffer added a 54, parring both No. 6 and 7, while senior Carmen Oglesby finished with a 55 after posting a birdie at the par-three, second hole and

parring the seventh hole. “Despite having their No. 1 player transfer to a prep school this offseason and another all-conference returnee not in their varsity lineup, Edgewood proved why they are the team to beat in the Badger Small this year,” Krentz said. “Coming off a long day Monday, I thought we had a sluggish start at Portage. “We fell quite a bit behind early, but were able to close strong as a team down the stretch. Delaina had another nice day and Ella was able to finish with a quality score as well to help lead us to a second-place finish.”

SPARTA INVITE
Playing their third event in as many days, the Vi-

kings finished with a 407 to place seventh in the 12-team field. Tomah took home the team title with a 341, followed by Onalaska (370) and New Berlin Eisenhower/West (390). Nicewander continued her strong play with a round of 87 to finish in a tie for third place individually in the 58-player field. Nicewander birdied the par-four fifth hole and parred five holes during her round. Baber finished with a 96 to tie for 15th place, parring three holes along the way. Schreiber added a 108 that included two pars,

continued on page 18



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MOUNT HOREB AREA
SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANNUAL NOTICES

2025-2026
ANNUAL NOTICE:
DISTRICT POLICIES

In order to make the policies of the Mount Horeb Area School District more accessible to the public, all of the district's policies can be found on the school District's website at www.mounthorebschools.org.

113-Equal Educational Opportunity; Sexual Harassment and Sex-Based Nondiscrimination in Educational Programs or Activities; 323-Ceremonies and Observances; 341.31-Human Growth and Development; 342.5-Title I Programs and Family Engagement; 342.7-Services and Programs for English Learners; 343.42-Early Postsecondary Opportunities; 345.6-Graduation; 347-Student Records; 381-Religion in the Classrooms and Schools; 411-Equal Educational Opportunities (Civil Rights); 423-Part-Time Attendance Option for Pupils Enrolled in a Private or a Tribal School; 425.1-Part-Time Open Enrollment; 431-Compulsory School Attendance; 434.1-Release Time for Religious Instruction; 443.5-Student Possession And Use Of Electronic Communication Devices; 443.7.1-Bullying/Harrasment/Intimidation; 453.4-Administering Medication To Students; 454-Reporting Child Abuse/Neglect; 522.3-Adults-Anti-Bullying/Harassment/Intimidation; 731.2-Locker Room Privacy; 734-School Use of Surveillance Equipment; 735-Technology Acceptable Use and Safety; 853-Military Recruitment

Specific annual notices can also be found on the school district website at www.mounthorebschools.org, click on "District", then "District Information", and then choose "Annual Notices" on the left side menu. If you need assistance in obtaining or have any questions regarding any of these policies or notices, contact Dr. Steve Salerno, Superintendent, at (608) 437-7010.

ANNUAL NOTICE: EQUAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY & PUPIL NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The Mount Horeb Area School District does not discriminate against pupils in its educational programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, color, homelessness, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, transgender status (including gender expression, gender identity and gender nonconformity), physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability, or any other status protected by state or federal law.

The district encourages informal resolution of complaints under this policy. If any person believes that the Mount Horeb Area School District or any part of the school organization has failed to follow this policy or the law and rules of Statute 118.13 Wis. Stats. and PI-9 Wisconsin Administrative Code or in some way discriminates against pupils on the basis listed above, they may bring or send a complaint to the following address: Superintendent, Mount Horeb Area School District, 1304 East Lincoln Street, Mount Horeb, WI 53572; (608) 437-7010.

ANNUAL NOTICE: EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS FOR CHILDREN RESIDING IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Mount Horeb Area School District offers students a variety of educational options to children who reside in the District. The District's primary educational pathway and instructional program for students involves a progression from 4-year-old kindergarten through 12th grade, leading to a high school diploma.

Educational options for students who are enrolled in the Mount Horeb Area School District that involve part-time attendance at an educational institution other than a school of the Mount Horeb Area School District include the Early Postsecondary Opportunities and Part-Time Open Enrollment Program. A full description of these programs and other offerings can be found at <https://www.mounthorebschools.org/district/educational-options.cfm>

Mount Horeb High School's Career and Technical Education Department offers a Youth Apprenticeship one or two-year program that combines school-based and work-based learning. Apprenticeships are open to juniors and seniors; they include specialized training on/off campus.

Interested students and families should refer to <https://www.mounthorebschools.org/schools/high/students/youth-apprenticeship.cfm>

Additional educational options for children who reside in the District that involve full-time enrollment/attendance at a school, program, or other educational institution that is not a school or instrumentality of the Mount Horeb Area School District can also be found at <https://www.mounthorebschools.org/district/educational-options.cfm>

The full version of the District's most recent school and school district accountability report, as issued by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction under section 115.385 of the state statutes, can be accessed via the following page on DPI's website: <http://dpi.wi.gov/accountability/report-cards>

ANNUAL NOTICE:
SCHOOL SEARCHES

The Mount Horeb Area School District has a responsibility to provide an environment that maintains the safety and well-being of the students entrusted to their care. In furtherance of this responsibility, school authorities may search school or personal possessions as permitted by law. School property (items like lockers, desks used by students, the person, or personal possessions (items like vehicles, backpacks, purses, etc.) of a student are in accordance with this policy.

SCHOOL PROPERTY

The Board acknowledges that in-school storage (including, but not limited to, lockers and desks) is necessary for student possessions. Lockers, desks, and other school property are public property, and school authorities may make reasonable regulations regarding their use. The school provides these items to students for their convenience, but lockers, desks, and other school property regardless of type, remain the sole property of the school district at all times. The school district retains ownership and possessory control of all lockers, desks, and other school property. Lockers, desks, and other school property may be searched as determined necessary or appropriate at any time, without student consent, without notifying students and without a search warrant. Students should have no expectation of privacy with regard to items stored or kept in lockers, desks, or other school property.

A search of lockers, desks, or other school property may be conducted by the superintendent, assistant superintendent, principals and assistant principals and other employees designated by the principal such as, but not limited to, teachers, coaches and custodians. Searches may also be conducted by the police school liaison officer at the request of the building principal or superintendent.

The principal may decide to conduct searches of lockers, desks, or other school property whenever there is suspicion that alcohol, drugs, material of a disruptive nature, stolen property, weapons, explosive devices or other items which pose a danger to the health and safety of students and staff in the school is present. Any unauthorized item(s) found may be removed.

PERSON AND POSSESSIONS

Searching personal possessions or searching a student's person (clothing, backpack, pockets, etc.) must be "reasonable", that is, the principal must have reasonable grounds to suspect that the search will reveal evidence of violations of either the law or school rules, and the way in which the search is conducted must be reasonably related to the objectives of the search. Strip searches by school personnel are expressly prohibited in Wisconsin.

The school may arrange for a breath test for blood-alcohol to be conducted on a student whenever there is a reasonable suspicion to believe that the student has consumed or is under the influence of an alcoholic beverage while on school premises or while participating in a school-sponsored activity. The student may refuse the breath test. If a breath test is conducted and the results indicate a violation of school rules, disciplinary sanctions may be imposed.

PARKING LOTS

The search of a vehicle and all containers inside the vehicle by a school administrator may only be conducted with reasonable suspicion that the search will produce evidence of a violation of a particular law, school rule, or a

condition that endangers the safety or health of the student driver or passenger(s). An administrator may contact the police liaison officer or law enforcement for assistance.

CANINE SEARCH

School officials are authorized to allow the use of trained dogs on school property to detect the presence of drugs and other devices, such as bombs, on school property under the following conditions:

1. The presence of canine units on school property is authorized in advance by the Superintendent, except in emergency situations, or is pursuant to a court order or warrant.
2. Canines may be used without prior notification of students and/or school personnel.
3. When canines are present, a "hold" must be implemented. Students will be restricted to their classrooms while canines are in use. Student possessions in the classroom may be placed in the hallways for canine inspection.
4. The canine must be handled by a law enforcement officer or certified organization specifically trained to safely work with the dog and must be capable of completing the designated tasks.

GENERAL

Anything found in the course of a search pursuant to this policy which constitutes evidence of a violation of a particular law or school rule or which endangers the safety or health of any person shall be seized and properly cataloged for use as evidence if appropriate. Seized items shall be returned to a person deemed appropriate by the administrator if the items may be lawfully possessed by the owner. Seized items that may not be lawfully possessed by the owner shall be turned over to law enforcement.

Principals will include a copy of this policy in student handbooks that are distributed annually to each student enrolled in the school district or may hold an assembly to read this policy to the student body or may read the policy to all students over the school's public address system. A copy of this policy will be published in the Mount Horeb Mail at the beginning of each school year.

ANNUAL NOTICE:
ADMINISTERING MEDICATION
TO STUDENTS
DEFINITIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Board of Education, the District, and District staff are not responsible for the diagnosis and treatment of student illness or other medical conditions. The Board of Education, the District, and District staff are not responsible for any illness, injury, overdose, or other medical condition resulting from the self-carry and self-administration of medication by students. Accordingly, the Board of Education directs the District and its staff to follow specific provisions consistent with State and Federal law regarding the self-administration of non-prescription and prescription medication in school.

The administration of medication to a student shall be given when the student is in a school sponsored event, including extracurricular events and trips to continue or maintain a medical therapy that promotes health, prevents disease, and relieves symptoms of illness.

For the purpose of this policy "health care provider" shall include any physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, orthodontist, physician assistant, pharmacist, psychiatrist, advanced practice nurse prescriber who is licensed in any state, and any other licensed medical provider. "Medication" shall include all drugs including those that are over-the-counter or those that are prescribed by a health care provider. "Prescription drug" has the meaning specified in Wisconsin Statute 450.01 (20) as a drug, drug product, or drug-containing preparation that is subject to State and Federal regulations; controlled substance as defined by State and Federal law. "Nonprescription drug product" means any nonnarcotic drug product which may be sold without a prescription order and which is prepackaged for use by consumers and labeled in accordance with the requirements of state and federal law. "Administer" means the direct application of a non-prescription drug product or prescription drug, whether by injection, ingestion, or other means, to the human

body.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION OF PRESCRIPTION/NON-PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

The Board of Education directs District staff, in consultation with the Superintendent, to obtain the following information before the District administers prescription and/or over-the-counter, non-prescription medication to students in school:

1. The student's name, date of birth, and grade level;
2. Name of medication and dosage, route, and time interval to be given;
3. Reason for medication
4. For prescription medication, prior written authorization from the student's parent(s) or guardian and student's health care provider (including name and phone number of the health care provider) accompanied with written instructions from the student's health care provider is required. The prescription medication must be in its original pharmacy-labeled container and the pharmacy-labeled container must specify the date, the student's name, the name of the prescriber, the name of the prescription drug, the exact dosage to be administered, and the directions in a legible format.
5. For over-the-counter, non-prescription medication, prior written instructions and written authorization from the student's parent(s) or guardian is required. The over-the-counter, non-prescription medication must be provided directly to appropriate District staff by the parent(s) or guardian, in the original manufacturer's container with a legible list of ingredients, and a legible notation of the recommended dosage. Any deviation from the recommended dosage requires prior written instruction and approval from the student's healthcare provider and written authorization from the student's parent(s) or guardian.

Authorized school district personnel, in consultation with the Superintendent, will ensure that:

6. All prescription and over-the-counter, non-prescription medication will be properly stored in a secure location.
7. All consent forms, including written instructions for the administration of prescription and non-prescription medication to students, will be reviewed periodically in accordance with the District's guidelines by the school nurse or by a healthcare professional with the required license in accordance with State law.
8. Any and all documentation authorizing District staff to administer prescription and non-prescription medication, including documentation pertaining to the administration of each dose and errors, shall be kept and maintained by the District in accordance with the District's guidelines for record keeping.

STUDENT SELF-ADMINISTRATION

The Board of Education permits students in grades 6-12 to self-carry and self-administer

over-the-counter, non-prescription medication and prescription medication (except for controlled substances) under the following conditions:

1. Students in grades 6-12 may self-carry and self-administer over-the-counter medication with written authorization from the student's parent(s) or guardian so long as the possession of such medication by the student in school is not prohibited by State and Federal law. Parent and/or Guardian will provide written attestation indicating the Board of Education, the District, and District staff shall not be held liable for any medical reaction, overdose, illness, or other condition resulting from the misuse, act, or omission in self-administering or self-carrying of said medication.
2. Students in grades 6-12 may self-carry and self-administer prescription medication (except for controlled substances) with written instructions from the student's health care provider accompanied by written authorization from the student's parent(s) or guardian and health care provider, so long as the possession of such medication by the student in school is not prohibited by State or Federal law. Student possession of drugs not intended for the individual listed on the prescription label is not permitted. The Board of Education, the District, and District staff shall not be held liable for any medical reaction, overdose, illness, or other condition resulting from the misuse, act, or omission in self-administering or self-carrying of said medication.

3. Students are not permitted to possess, share, provide, distribute, or sell any type of over-the-counter, non-prescription, or prescription medication to another student in school, on school grounds, or at any school-sponsored activity or event. Failure to comply with this provision may result in student discipline up to expulsion.

4. Students are not permitted to possess, share, provide, distribute, or sell any type of over-the-counter, non-prescription, or prescription medication, even products that are not intended for medicinal purposes including, but not limited to, dietary supplements, CBD products, etc. in school, on school grounds, or at school-sponsored activities or events. Failure to comply with this provision may result in student discipline up to expulsion.

All information will be obtained by the District on a medication administration form which will be available at each school office, the District's website, or from the school nurse. In every instance, the form must be completed and on file with the District prior to the administration of any medication to the student. Written authorization for medication administration must be renewed each school year and updated when a change in medication dosage occurs.

ANNUAL NOTICE:
STUDENT RECORDS

The Mount Horeb Area School District maintains student records for each student attending school in the district. State and federal laws require that the maintenance of such records assure confidentiality.

Adult students, or the parent(s) or guardian of a minor student, have the right to inspect, review, obtain copies and seek amendments to the student's school record upon request in accordance with the Mount Horeb Area School District Board of Education policy. Requests should be made directly to the Superintendent. The Superintendent will respond to such requests without unnecessary delay and in no case more than ten (10) days after the request is made. Copies of the District's student records policy are available upon request at the:

Mount Horeb Area School District Office 1304 East Lincoln Street, Mount Horeb, WI 53572. Regular office hours are 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

An adult student, or the parent(s) or guardian of a minor student, have the right to consent to the disclosure of information contained in the student's school records, except to the extent that state and federal laws authorize disclosure without consent. One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials determined to have legitimate educational or safety interests in the records.

The District may transfer a student's records to another school or school district without consent upon written request in accordance with state law, and the District may provide personally-identifiable information to appropriate parties in connection with an emergency if such knowledge is necessary to protect the health and safety of the student or other individuals.

Further, the Mount Horeb Area School District Board of Education has designated the following student record information as directory information: student's name, address, telephone listing, district-assigned electronic mail address, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and athletics, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance at Mount Horeb Schools, photographs, degrees and awards received, and the name of the most recently previous educational agency or institution attended by the student. This directory information shall be considered public information and may be released for any purpose unless the parent, guardian or adult student informs the school that all or any part of the directory data may not be released without the prior consent of the parent, guardian or adult student. The district will not release directory data earlier than 14 days after the initial notice to the parent, guardian or adult student, or after the district has been restricted from doing so by any of those parties. The district will comply with a legitimate request for access to directory information in a timely manner but not more than forty-five (45) days after receiving the request. The requestor will be charged no less than



Mount Horeb-Barneveld quarterback Brooks Hendrickson (left) is pressured, while Grafton running back Jack Nelson (9) gets loose during the Black Hawks’ win over the Vikings. Photos courtesy of Jerry Rossi

FOOTBALL

continued from page 19

team is better than you right now,’ ” St. Arnauld said. “That’s just what it is. “That doesn’t necessarily mean they’ll be better than us in Week 12 or Week 13. So it’s back to the drawing board. The count is zero and we’ve just got to get ready to work.”

Both teams have enjoyed tremendous success in recent seasons, which made this one of the state’s most highly-anticipated Week 1 matchups.

After a 21-year drought, Grafton has made the playoffs seven straight seasons and captured three consecutive Woodland Conference titles. The Black Hawks also reached the Division 3 state championship game in 2023 and the state semifinals in 2024.

MH-B has won four straight Badger Small Conference titles and reached Level 3 of the postseason the last two years.

The Vikings entered the season ranked No. 2 by bound.com, while Grafton was No. 3. But the Black Hawks showed they’re much further ahead right now.

Grafton received a dominant effort from its defense, ran the ball at will and unleashed a highly efficient passing attack in dispatching the Vikings.

“We showed people what Grafton football is all

about,” said Black Hawks senior wideout Tyler Deer, who had a pair of touchdown receptions. “We had a lot of people doubting us coming into the season. Nobody believed in us, but we came through.”

The Black Hawks certainly had their share of questions entering the new year.

Grafton needed to replace six first-team all-conference players on offense — including quarterback Brady Hilgart, running back Tommy Lutz, wide receiver Gavin Lempke and a pair of offensive linemen.

The Black Hawks’ offense didn’t miss a beat, though. And a defense that brought back the majority of its starters was tremendous against an MH-B team that averaged 38.3 points per game in 2024, but had to replace all-state wideout Chris Kiel and star running back Owen Preimesberger.

“We knew their defense would be really good, and it was,” MH-B coach Bret St. Arnauld said. “They had some people to replace on offense, but man, they’ve got dudes everywhere. They were outstanding.”

The Black Hawks didn’t make many mistakes during a dominant first half in which they rolled up 222 total yards, scored on three of their four possessions and led, 21-7, at the break.

Junior running back Jack Nelson had 131 rushing yards on just 14 carries in

the first half (9.4 average) and ripped off a 29-yard touchdown run. Quarterback Nick Schiller also threw TD passes of 4 and 41 yards to Deer.

“We didn’t get off the bus,” MH-B’s St. Arnauld said. “And they punched us right in the mouth.”

They sure did. Grafton struck first when it marched 60 yards in five plays on its opening possession. Nelson capped the drive with a 29-yard TD run off right tackle, but the Black Hawks missed the extra point and settled for a 6-0 lead.

MH-B’s only points of the night came on its opening possession, when it put together an impressive 13-play, 86-yard drive that ate up more than 7 minutes. The Vikings went 3-for-3 on third downs on the drive and junior running back Eli Maier capped the march with a 2-yard TD run off left tackle that gave MH-B a 7-6 lead.

Grafton quickly countered thanks in large part to Schiller and Deer. That dynamic duo hooked up for a 46-yard pass-and-catch to start the drive, then capped the march with a 4-yard TD on fourth-and goal.

Schiller then found Deer wide open on a slant route for the 2-point conversion, giving the Black Hawks a 14-7 lead late in the first quarter.

“It feels good to start the season this way,” said Schil-

ler, who was making his first varsity start at quarterback. “We made some mistakes, too, and we can learn from that. We’ve got a lot to improve on, but we still won. So that’s good.”

On both the touchdown and the two-point conversion, MH-B blitzed and Grafton’s receivers were left in man coverage. Black Hawks senior wideout Jack Marti then ran a perfectly executed pick play to free Deer up for both catches.

“We were just replacing the blitz with a slant route,” Deer said. “The corners were manned up and our inside receiver set a pick for me. I came right underneath and there was nobody on me.”

There were plenty of Vikings on — and around Deer — during his second touchdown catch. The thing is, they couldn’t catch him.

On a fourth-and-5 late in the first half, Deer lined up wide left and caught an inside slant. MH-B had three golden chances to corral Deer, but never could.

The speedy Deer, who runs the 40-yard dash in 4.6 seconds, kept angling right, and like a video game character, made one Viking after another miss. Deer then shifted into fifth gear, turned the corner and raced down the sideline for a sensational 41-yard TD that gave Grafton a 21-7 lead.

“They all kept over-pursuing and I just kept cutting back,” Deer said. “It was

just super exciting.” Added St. Arnauld: “I just think the lights were too bright for us at the start.”

The second half wasn’t quite as exciting, unless you’re a fan of defense. And the Black Hawks’ defense certainly delivered.

MH-B had just four first downs in the second half and gained only 74 yards in its 29 plays (2.6 average).

Grafton’s defense also made two enormous plays to stymie MH-B drives that could have tightened things up.

On the first, MH-B started at Grafton’s 12-yard line following a botched Black Hawks punt. On second down, though, standout linebacker Tyler Heinle perfectly spied Vikings quarterback Brooks Hendrickson and intercepted a pass to kill that drive.

“We had a lot of opportunities that we couldn’t capitalize on,” Wilson said.

“But there’s a lot of time to get better and just put our heads down and get to work. We’ve just got to keep working and show everybody what Mount Horeb can do.”

On the second, MH-B moved into Grafton territory. On fourth down, though, defensive lineman Max Glab and linebacker Payton Wissmueller met at the quarterback and sacked Hendrickson to end that march.

“Our front seven was getting to (Hendrickson) and the secondary was covering pretty well,” said Schiller, who’s also a standout free safety. “He didn’t have much time to throw, and at quarterback, that’s hard to

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FOOTBALL

continued from page 19 handle.”

There are several issues the Vikings need to get a handle on if they’re going to have the type of season they desire. They include:

• **Rushing offense:** MH-B was held to 36 rushing yards on 31 attempts (1.2) and finished with just 256 total yards of offense.

“I knew going into the season that this would arguably be the toughest game we’d have,” St. Arnauld said. “I think Beaver Dam, and Edgewood will be challenging, as well, but not like this team. They’ve got seniors everywhere, especially on that defense.”

• **Rushing defense:** Grafton’s Nelson, operating behind a terrific offensive line, finished with 169 rushing yards on 28 carries (6.3). The good news for MH-B is it held Nelson to 38 rushing yards in the second half.

“We definitely improved in the second half, but really

it’s inexcusable to not bring it right out of the gate,” Wilson said. “We didn’t really have the energy we needed and they kind of punched us in the mouth right out of the gate.

“We weren’t expecting that. We were kind of wide-eyed, but it definitely showed us a lot of things we have to work on.”

• **Passing offense:** Hendrickson, one of the state’s top quarterbacks, finished a respectable 16-of-31 for 214 yards with no touchdowns and an interception. He never developed a rhythm with his wideouts, though, and standout tight end Hayden Anderson didn’t have a target until the third quarter.

“I think it was a little bit easier for Brooks last year to have someone like Chris (Kiel) to throw the ball to,” St. Arnauld said. “And right now, I think our receivers are trying to figure out who they are.”

All of the Vikings are trying to figure that out after a performance that certainly

surprised them. But knowing St. Arnauld’s track record of success and MH-B’s history of getting better throughout the season, there was no reason to sulk as the Vikings readied for their two-hour bus ride home.

“I’m definitely not feeling bad about where anybody on our team is right now,” Wilson said. “I just think when it all comes together it’s going to be great. But we just have to keep working every single day.”

St. Arnauld agreed. “We’ve got a long ways to go, but I definitely feel we’ll get there,” St. Arnauld said. “We’re young, we’re athletic, but we’ve got to get our kids up to speed, and that’s where us coaches come in. If we’re still playing like this in Week 9, then I had a (lousy) year, but I don’t think that will be the case.”

Aug. 22	
MH-B	7 0 0 0 – 7
Grafton	14 7 0 3 – 24

How They Scored
Grafton: Jack Nelson, 29, run (kick failed)
MH-B: Eli Maier, 2, run (Cullen Olson kick)
Grafton: Tyler Deer, 4, pass from Nick Schiller (Schiller to Deer)
Grafton: Deer, 41, pass from Schiller (Graysen Bollech kick)
Grafton: FG, 32, Bollech

TEAM STATS
First downs — MHB 14, G 12. Rushes-yards — MHB 31-36, G 32-184. Passing yards — MHB 220, G 166. Passing (comp-att-int) — MHB 17-32-1, G 8-20-0. Total yards — MHB 256, G 350. Penalties-yards — MHB 7-39, G 9-71. Fumbles-lost — MHB 1-0, G 0-0.

INDIVIDUAL STATS
Passing (comp-att-yards-td-int): MHB — Brooks Hendrickson 16-31-234-0-1, Harvey Hellen 1-1-6-0-0. Grafton — Nick Scholler 8-20-166-2-0.
Rushing: MHB — Eli Maier 10-41, Jack Wilson 11-5, Brooks Hendrickson 10-(-10). Grafton — Jack Nelson 28-169, Tyler Deer 2-17, Nick Schiller 2-(-2).
Receiving: MHB — Hayden Anderson 14-72, Colin Haag 3-34, Jack Wilson 4-69, Django Christian 2-25, Cullen Olson 2-11, Cal Odgers 2-9. Grafton — Tyler Deer 4-103, Ian Cornelius 1-23, Jack Nelson 1-16, Jack Marti 1-15, Graysen Bollech 1-9.



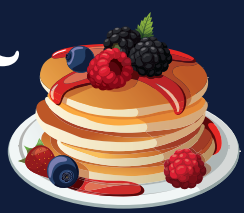
Grafton quarterback Nick Schiller scrambles during the Black Hawks’ 24-7 win over Mount Horeb-Barneveld last Friday. Photo courtesy of Jerry Rossi

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