

# MONONA

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# DANE COUNTY

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## Monona weighs police policy process

By Lucy Ripp

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The number of Monona police procedures requiring review and approval from the city council could soon narrow.

City council members have had discussions in recent weeks on which specific police department policies should require council approval for changes or updates.

The dialogue dates back to last summer, when city council members adopted a resolution in response to the June 2, 2020 detainment of

See **POLICE**, Page A2

## COTTAGE GROVE

## Village alters traffic patterns

By Lucy Ripp

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Three Cottage Grove intersections are set to lose their stop signs beginning Oct. 26.

The village announced Sept. 22 that it will remove "unwarranted" stop signs at the intersections of Killian Trail and Donegal Drive, Manley Lane and Cork Crossing, and Landmark Drive and Michelle Lane.

Cottage Grove Public Works Director JJ Larson said the stop signs were deemed unwarranted because they "never should have been installed as they were and would never be recommended by a traffic engineer."

"These three locations have been brought to my attention a number of times over the years, by multiple

See **TRAFFIC**, Page A2

## HOMECOMING



Madeline Westberg

Both Monona Grove High School and McFarland High School celebrated Homecoming from Sept. 27 to Oct. 3. Above: Monona Grove student athletes ride a float in the parade Oct. 1. Below: The McFarland High School dance team performs at a community pep rally Sept. 29. For more photos, see pages A6 and A7.



## Village breaks ground on safety center

By Madeline Westberg  
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After years of preparation, the village of McFarland broke ground on its new public safety center this week.

Construction is now underway on the nearly 57,400 square-foot building, which will house the village's police and fire departments, and its municipal court services.

The village held a ground-breaking ceremony for the new building on Monday, Oct. 4, at its new home at the intersection of Holscher Road and Broadhead Street.

Village president Carolyn Clow called it a "historic night." "We are so excited to be here this day," Clow said. "Thank you to the community, that has really supported this project."

The new safety center will be a net-zero energy building, which generates the same amount of energy it uses. The building will feature both a geothermal ore field for maintaining the temperature of the building, and solar panels.

The new center will be See **CENTER**, Page A5

## MCFARLAND

## Saw school

Students try their hand at running a sawmill

By Lucy Ripp

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Lucy Ripp

Students gather in the McFarland High School parking lot Sept. 28 to help prepare lumber for the school's tech. ed department.

McFarland High School students are turning discarded wood into usable lumber, and thinking about future careers while doing so.

The high school's technical education students spent Sept. 28 learning alongside sawmill operator Charlie Tom in the school's parking lot, as he demonstrated the life cycle of turning a tree trunk into workable lumber.

Students helped Tom load tree trunks onto the sawmill before brushing off and preparing the wood as it came off the saw.

Steve Pennekamp, a technical education teacher at McFarland High School, said the project not only taught students new skills, but motivated them to consider a career in equipment operations.

"Our hope is that they were able to see Charlie... as a professional operator of the sawmill and understand that the work he did, and the

See **SAWMILL**, Page A2



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