

Freed's Bavarian hounds become part of hunting stories

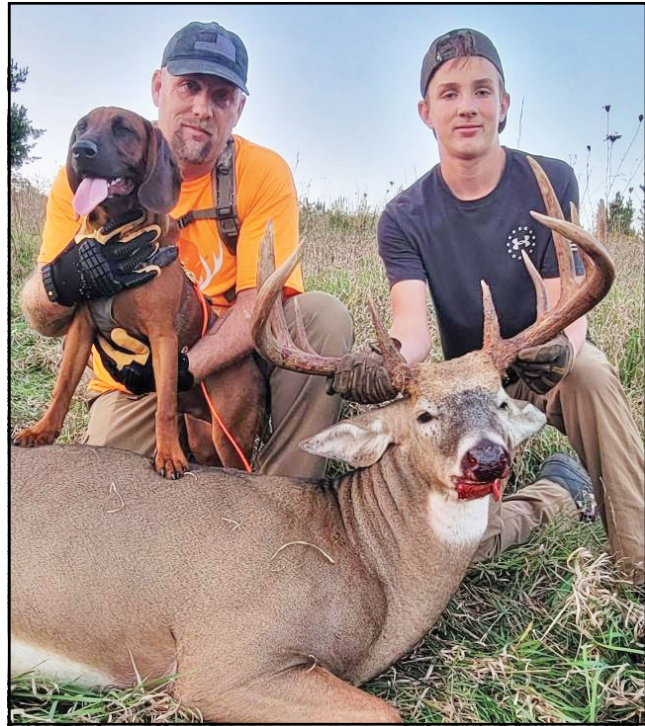
By Ginna Young

It's something that most hunters have been through – losing the animal they just shot on their hunt. In some cases, the animal only runs a few feet before dropping, others make it several hundreds yards. Still others can cover long distances over days, and may, or may not, recover from the wound.

That's where Freeds Deer Taxidermy and Recovery in Cadott, comes in. Owner Tory Freed owns two Bavarian Mountain Hounds and is on call, day or night, to help hunters attain their prey.

"We go out and find wounded animals for people," said Freed.

If a hunter shoots a deer or a bear, and can't find it, they give Freed a call. His dogs track an animal, regardless of size,



Submitted Photo

Tory Freed (left) and his son, Nolan, show off one of the animals they found by using their Bavarian Mountain Hound to track the deer. The hounds are bred specifically to trail the wounded animals and sit low to the ground, which helps pick up the scent given off by the injured prey.

Ruf named to the Winona State fall 2021 dean's list

Shantelle Ruf, Cornell, is among those named to the Winona State University dean's list, for the fall 2021 semester. To be named to the dean's list, a student must be an undergraduate enrolled full-time (at least 12 credit hours for a grade) and achieve a minimum GPA of 3.5.

UW-Stout graduate list

The following students from the area graduated in December 2021, from University of Wisconsin-Stout in Menomonie.

Graduating, Holcombe, was Amanda Ewer, MS clinical mental health counseling; Angela Pahl, BS human development and family studies.

– Student Spotlight –

Name: Torren Parker
School/grade: Cornell freshman

Parent(s) Name: Steven and Karen Parker

Teacher: Nancy Schlageter
Quote: "Time is of the essence."

Activities: After-school program worker; basketball; football; track; weightlifting; making investments

Future Plans: Own and run a business



and are bred specifically to find wounded animals, with only a couple hundred of the breed in the United States.

"If you don't work them, they can be a very destructive dog," said Freed, adding that though his two dogs are house pets, they get very excited when he puts on a certain pair of boots, which means going into the woods. "They're one of those breeds, that you have to have a job for them."

When animals are wounded, they give off a different smell, even through rain and snow, which is actually better for tracking, as the moisture stays lower to the ground.

"The dog can pick up that one different deer, compared to 100 others out there," said Freed. "They're tracking off the scent gland in the hoof, so they don't need blood or anything like that. It's pretty amazing what they can do."

In the six years since Freed has done recovery tracking, his first hound, female Hilda, 6, has more than 350 tracks to her credit, with 110 of those almost impossible to find – except for her.

"She's a pro at what she does," said Freed. "If it's dead, we'll go out there and find it. We've found a lot of deer that nobody would have found."

Hilda's counterpart, 8-month-old male Winston, is still learning the ropes.

"He's already found two deer this year, but he's young, he's still in training," said Freed.

Freed, who was a dog breeder before starting his recovery and taxidermy business, fell in love with the Bavarian hounds when he stumbled across them at a trade show, but isn't sure if he will breed Winston or not. Winston comes from a specialty German bloodline, which is hard to get as an American breeder or hunter, but, luckily for Freed, he's part of a German club and was able to attain the pup.

With that club membership come some requirements to breed the male dog Freed purchased from Alabama, such as a lot of testing and possibly a need to breed the male to another club dog. It's also likely the club might say Freed cannot breed Winston, so he would need to have the dog neutered.

Hilda is already spayed, although many people have expressed interest in her having puppies.

"She's done so much work for me, she knows everything," said Freed, who says he thinks Hilda saved his life a couple times, by her awareness of the woods and the conditions they were in. "It's pretty amazing what the dogs can do. It's a good bond though."

On the taxidermy side of Freed's business, the last three years have been dedicated to building a clientele, and more recently, a new shop last year, a step up from his previous 15x15 space. His skills at the 25794 50th Avenue shop in Cadott, include mounting deer heads, European mounts, shoulder mounts and bears, while Freed does everything in-house, including the tanning.

That saves turnaround for Freed and hunters, since it could be a year before getting something back, with the recent sup-

ply chain issues. During his off-time, Freed works in the shop, where it's usually just him, but he does get help from his 11-year-old daughter, Brienna, who goes tracking with him a lot, as well as his son, Nolan, 14, and his older son, who has a spot just for his welding projects.

"So, it's kind of like a family thing we do," said Freed. "I like to get the kids involved in it."

During the rut season, Freed and the dogs put in 16-hour days in the woods, but for him, it's not work, when he's doing what he loves. Freed also wants to ensure that animals don't suffer when they're wounded and that hunters track down the kills, so the animal isn't wasted.

"That's one of the many reasons we do this for," he said. "That's what hunting is about. We serve a purpose and a service, to help them out."

Freed can be contacted for taxidermy or any time, to track an animal, by calling 715-559-7667.

"I'm part of the whole hunting story," said Freed. "That special moment you're part of, they're going to remember this forever. They'll be telling this at deer camp in 20 years, this story about how our dog found their deer."



Submitted Photo

Displaying the European mount her father can make in his taxidermy shop, Brienna Freed is involved with every step of the business, from tracking the wounded animals with the family's Bavarian Mountain Hounds to helping out in the shop. Freeds Taxidermy and Deer Recovery tans hides in-house and also offers the popular European mounts, with hydro-dip, a water transfer printing for applying graphics to three dimensional objects.

Lake Holcombe releases second quarter honors

The following students have been listed on Lake Holcombe School's Honor and High Honor Rolls for the second quarter of the 2021-22 school year.

High Honors

12th grade: Hannah Boiteau, Carter Dixon, Samuel Ewer, Elizabeth Guthman, Jaydn Larson, Olivia Larson, Brooke Lechleitner, Megan Luethi, Greta Schroeder, Jaelynn Shackleton, Carly Vavra and Graci Willmarth

11th grade: Cead Ewer, Abigayle Harrison, Kayden King, Karly Kirkman, Caitlyn Kolter, Maxum Sauerwein and Harley Schroeder

10th grade: Trevor Bowen, Ella Hartzell, Coral Hill, Emma Lechleitner, Quinn Porter, Daniel Sinette and Ava Story

Ninth grade: Savanna Bleske, Anastasia Burgraff, Abby Jones, Emily Kirkman and Chloe Lee

Eighth grade: Alex Dixon, Faith Heinzen, Alexia Hoffner and Logan Jaedike

Seventh grade: Maria Andres, Payton Birkenholz, Kadyne Jones and Connor Kane

Sixth grade: Jayna Erickson, Breanna Frear, Andrea Fried-

man, Aliyah Guthman, Kyle Heidtke, Noah Kohls, Carter Kron, Nathan Morfoot, Theron Murphy, Oliver Olmstead and Lane Porter

Honor Roll

12th grade: Brendan Anders, Dylan Bowen, Zack Mann and Jace Wincek

11th grade: Cloey Birkenholz, Preston Hover, Justine Kane, Kole Kasmeirski, Shawna Kasmeirski, Trenton Kron, Elle May Roshell, Hannah Wincek and Abram Wininger

10th grade: Mykalah McCoy, Branden Moore and Drayven Sande

Ninth grade: Hunter Fasbender, Hannah Harrison, Eden Loring and Robert Luethi

Eighth grade: Lauren Brosted, Brody Miller, Hailey Minot, Megan Paff, Olivia Repka, Abby Tirrel and Emma Wright

Seventh grade: Annabelle King, Katya Kuc, Austin McGinnis, Evin Tainter and Olivia Wincek

Sixth grade: Gabriel Bleske, Keegan Dernovsek, Taylor Dernovsek, Kayden Kuc, Ryley Nohr, Kiley Paff, Owen Smith, David Vacho and Weston Winchel