

## **May 2025 Member News Clips**

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- Meyerhofer marks 30 years on Kaukauna Utilities commission
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- Downtown Negaunee gets electric car charging station

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- Electronic recycling event May 15

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- Quick response credited with saving man's life
- Nearly \$ 2 million in scholarships distributed
- Major parking lot upgrade planned

**Stoughton**

- Stoughton Utilities wins national safety award of excellence



to return nearly \$7 million. Companies around here. What county to have unambiguous

# BRFMU completes well rehab, continues working on substation replacement

By Garrett Aleckson

The Black River Falls Municipal **Utilities** (BRFMU) Commission met for its regular meeting Monday, May 19.

In the water report, BRFMU general manager Casey Engbretson updated the commission on the rehabilitation of the fourth BRFMU Well.

"They completed the Well Four rehab," shared Engbretson. "They had an opening, so they got in the last week in April. Everything went well. They have noticed improved pumping capacity. As you can see, the quote was for \$14,040 and, depending on what they found, there was a chance at some added costs. If they had to replace some pump columns or pipe sections, then that would be an added cost. The final cost came in at \$15,734, so it was about \$1,694 over. The extra was for four sections of pipe that they needed to replace. But, they noticed improvement, so that went well."

Engbretson added that the Well was located in the Industrial Park.

In additional business, electric superintendent Kevin LaValley updated the commission on the German Hill substation replacement.

"I got to work today and I got an email from Dave Krause (electrical engineer) and they were coming today to work on the German Hill sub," LaValley said. "So they're there today and tomorrow to install the protective relay. And then, when

they got there, the breakers and substations operate on DC voltage. So, if the power is out from the transmission line for a storm, the breakers still operate so you can open and close them if you want. Well, the battery bank failed. The engineer was saying that it looked like the battery charger had been overcharging at that time. So, now we have to buy a battery bank and a new charger."

"Dave has a lot of the equipment lined up for the rest of the work that needs to be done to replace that substation," LaValley continued. "They're kind of scattered around the state. That's going to be collected and they hope to be back in one or two weeks to work on it and finish it. I don't know if it's going to be completed by the end of May, but hopefully in June."

"That means it's going to be back online and operational?" asked commissioner and BRF mayor Jay Eddy.

"I'm hoping so by June," LaValley replied. "We were wondering and then today they just came."

In other business, Engbretson and the commission discussed the Compliance Maintenance Annual Resolution (CMAR) 2025. The resolution stems from the previous meeting, when Engbretson updated the commission on a non-compliance notice BRFMU received from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for the phosphorus limit at the wastewater treatment plant.

"The CMAR is essentially an annual report card that follows how the Wastewater plant is operating," Engbretson explained. "In that CMAR, they require a resolution from the governing body, confirming that you reviewed it and it gives you a chance to add any actions or comments. As you can see, this year we received a C grade for the phosphorus portion. If you receive a C or below, it requires actions or comments from the governing body."

"We talked about last month that we got the notice of non-compliance," Engbretson continued. "We did meet with the DNR. Their rules state that they need to hand-deliver any notice of non-compliance. What it came from was the phosphorus level, which was above the monthly limit three months in a row. We met with our DNR wastewater engineer and we went through everything. She was very happy with how they're operating the plant. She commended the wastewater plant on their communication throughout, because they knew they were out of compliance and they trying different things. Once we got done, we had to send her an email going over what the problems were and what we've done to remedy those. She was satisfied with what we came up, which is basically in the resolution. They were satisfied with our response, so we're good."

The commission approved the resolution.

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## Pines awards over \$320,000 at scholarship night

BY NEWS-REVIEW STAFF

Northland Pines High School hosted its Senior Scholarship and Awards program for the Class of 2025 on Monday, May 5, inside the school's auditorium.

Scholarships awarded to the senior class totaled \$321,380.96. The amount does not include scholarships that individual students will receive at the university or college they attend.

A list of awards, recipients, and amounts are as follows:

Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board (WHEAB) Academic Excellence: Matthias Milanowski, \$9,000.

WHEAB Technical Excellence: Mackenna Altmann, \$6,750.

United States Coast Guard Academy Appointment Certificate: Matthias Milanowski.

Badger Bridge Club: Nicholas Boxrucker and Anderson Kielty, \$500 each.

Land O' Lakes Fish and Game Club: Grace Indermuehle, \$1,000.

St. Germain Women's Service Club: Elizabeth Chicka, Eliana Conrad, Michaela Kieffer, Kinsey Neff and Chase Neubauer, \$1,500 each.

Community Thrift Shop in St. Germain: Eliana Conrad, Grace Indermuehle, Malia Remme, Cody Vojta, \$1,000 each.

Eagle River Lions Club - University: Owen Libby and Hope Rothmeier, \$2,000 each.

Eagle River Lions Club - Technical Program: Nicholas Boxrucker, \$1,000.

Eagle River Light and Water Customer-Shared Strength Through WPPI Energy: Nicholas Boxrucker, \$1,000.

Dunnie and Roselynn Richter Technical/Trade: Nicholas Boxrucker, Emily Kasper, Eli Kerner, John Rooyakkers and Autumn Stecker, \$2,000 each.

Our Angel Berkle Strong: Eliana Conrad, \$2,500.

American Red Cross Blood Drive: Madison Brock, \$1,000.

Andrew Schaffer Science: Eliana Conrad, \$1,000; Grace Indermuehle, \$750; Riley Cain, \$500.

Veterans Resource Center: Ava McCormick, Autumn Stecker and Madison Wielhouwer, \$1,000 each.

American Legion Awards: Scholar: Matt Milanowski.

American Legion Awards: Art: Emma Hinton.

American Legion Awards: Music: Malia Remme.

American Legion Awards: Athlete: Cody Vojta.



**SCHOLARSHIP AWARD** – The final 2025 Land O' Lakes Historical Society Education Scholarship was awarded on Monday, May 5, at Scholarship and Awards Night at Northland Pines High School in Eagle River. The \$1,000 scholarship was given to Grace Indermuehle of Conover for her outstanding community service. Indermuehle recently completed 120 hours of volunteer work and will attend UW-Stevens Point to study biology. Here, Land O' Lakes Historical Society Vice President Valerie Hogan presents the award to Indermuehle.

—Photo By Bob Hughes

American Legion Awards: Americanism: Eliana Conrad.

Vilas County Tavern League: John Caden Bass, RJ Behrens, Elizabeth Chicka, Owen Libby, Ava McCormick and Cody Vojta, \$1,000 each.

Nicolet College Foundation - Ethical Law Enforcement Scholarship: Edward Apfel, \$500.

Nicolet College Foundation - Nicolet College Employees Scholarship: Maggie Reppert, \$500.

Nicolet College Foundation - A Day for Nicolet Scholarship: Maggie Reppert and Natalie Rozga, \$400 each.

Nicolet College Foundation - Study Abroad Scholarship: Natalie Rozga, \$500.

Nicolet College Foundation - Wisconsin Women Equal Prosperity Endowed Scholarship: Natalie Rozga, \$750.

Nicolet College Foundation - Schmidt's Bakery Endowed Scholarship: Richard Behrens, \$650.

Nicolet College Foundation - St. Mathias Thrift Shop: Richard Behrens, \$1,100.

Nicolet College Foundation - John E. Gambill: Tyler Busha, Skyla Komorowsky, Victoria Talady, \$500 each.

Northland Pines Youth Football and Cheerleaders: Davis Beyer, \$750; Eli Kerner, \$500.

Forward Bank: Owen Libby, \$500.

Conover Lions Club - In Memory of Raymond "Ray" Johnson: Olivia Payne, \$1,000.

Conover Lions Club - In Memory of "Bud" and Kathryn Reed: Grace Indermuehle and Kimberly Tomaszewski, \$1,000 each.

Eva Schmidt Memorial-Eagle Chapter #218 Order of the Eastern Star: Ava McCormick, \$1,000.

Sam Larsen Memorial: Jonathan Miller and Anna Westfall, \$750 each.

St. Germain Elementary and Montessori PTO: Aleena Ryan, \$500.

Ripco Credit Union: Owen Libby, \$1,000.

Headwater Muskies: Derek Buckton, \$1,000.

Walter S. Mehr Memorial: Nicholas Boxrucker, Tyler Busha and Alyvia Streich, \$1,000 each.

John Mark Price Memorial: Derek Buckton and Cole Wiedenbeck, \$1,000 each.

Parsons of Eagle River: Nicholas Boxrucker, \$1,000.

Nicolet National Bank: Elizabeth Chicka and Malia Remme, \$500 each.

Bunter Baseball: Davis Beyer, Jonathan Miller and Ava McCormick, \$1,000 each.

Dairymen's Foundation, Inc.: Olivia Payne, \$2,500.

Medford Cooperative, Inc.: Cody Vojta, \$500.

Sayner/St. Germain Fish and Wildlife Club: Grace Indermuehle, \$2,000.

Masonic Foundation/Eagle River Lodge #248: Derek Buckton, Grace Indermuehle, Emily Kasper and Aleena Ryan, \$500.

Peoples State Bank: Anna Westfall, \$500.

Land O' Lakes Arts (LOLA): Andrea Wiler, \$1,000.

Eagle River Rotary Club: Malia Remme, \$1,000.

Eagle River Rotary Club - Nicolet College: Richard Behrens, \$1,000.

Badger Girls - ER Rotary Club: Jordyn Hahn, \$400.

Eagle River Chain of Lakes Association (ERCLA): Derek Buckton, \$1,500.

Land O' Lakes Historical Society: Grace Indermuehle, \$1,000.

First Congregational UCC Bird's Nest: Grace Indermuehle and Malia Remme, \$8,000 each.

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## Eagle River, Three Lakes News

# Awards

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First Congregational UCC Educational: Eliana Conrad, \$1,250.

First Congregational UCC Jinny Paterson: Derek Buckton, \$2,000.

First Congregational UCC Roger Rieckman: Olivia Payne, \$2,000.

First Congregational UCC Kranz: Kyli Gwyn and Ann Westfall, \$2,000 each; Addison Skarda, \$1,000.

Eagle River Union/NP Athletic Hall of Fame: Nicholas Boxrucker, Mordan DePuydt, Eli Kerner, Jason Linn, Jonathan Miller and Cody Vojta, \$1,200 each.

Plum Lake Lions Club: Eliana Conrad and Cody Vojta, \$1,000 each.

Sayner Star Lake Lions Club: Eliana Conrad and Austin Muench, \$1,500 each.

Isaac Tessier Memorial Scholarship: Owen Grassl, \$500.

Marian Pasholk Hendrickson Memorial: Nicholas Boxrucker, \$2,000.

St. Germain Lions Club: Ellie Chicka, Eliana Conrad and Grace Indermuehle, \$2,000 each.

Land O' Lakes Elementary PTA: Natalie Rozga, \$500.

Nick Parins Memorial: Meredith McCormack, \$600.

Pepsi: Emma Petreikis and Cody Vojta, \$500 each.

Eleanor Royal Scholarship: Michaela Kieffer, \$1,000.

Lower Nine Mile Lake Association: Derek Buckton, \$750.

American Citizenship: Student Council: Eliana Conrad, Grace Indermuehle, Owen Libby, Kile Page, Malia Remme, Ricaye Samuelson and Addisan Skarda.

Student Council: Eliana Conrad and Grace Indermuehle, \$500 each.

Ken Liesegang/Class of 1971: Grace Indermuehle, \$2,000.

Secret Chocolate Society (SCS): Emma Hinton, Eliana Conrad and Addisan Skarda, \$500 each.

Peter Kable Memorial Trap (Sponsored by Boulder Junction Shooting Range, Inc.): Derek Buckton, \$2,000.

Steven R. Koskelin Memorial: Madison Brock and Malia Remme, \$500 each.

Phelps/Land O' Lakes Lions Club: Madison Brock, \$1,000.

Robert W. Martinson Sr. Memorial Scholarship/Conover Fire Department: Grace Indermuehle, \$500.

Richard Martinson Memorial/Conover Fire Department: Nicholas Boxrucker, \$500.

Karen Reed: Derek Buckton, Ava McCormick, Austin Muench and Addisan Skarda, \$2,000 each.

Plum Lake Woman's Club: Eliana Conrad, \$1,000.

Ken Kazda Memorial: Kinsey Neff, \$500.

Eagle River, Chamber of Business: Anna Westfall, \$500.

Eagle River Chamber of

Commerce Cranberry Fest: Davis Beyer and Cody Bojta, \$500.

Senior Eagle River Volunteer Enterprises, Inc. SERVE: Nicholas Boxrucker and Austin Muench, \$1,000 each.

GNC Scholar Athletes: Davis Beyer, Elizabeth Chicka, Matanna DePuydt, Vienna Klemett, Jason Linn, Tanner Maines, Mathias Millanowski, Jonathan Miller, Grace Plank, Cody Vojta, Anna Westfall and Madison Wielhouwer.

Grace Tienhaara Legacy Award: Danika Rychlock and Chyanne Meacham, \$750 each.

Northern Horizon Scholarship: Jayna Johnson, \$80,000.

Schilleman Bus Service of Eagle River: Owen Frenz, \$500.

St. Germain Northwoods Lions Club: Eliana Conrad and Cole Wiedenbeck, \$1,000.

Michael J. Obrodovich Memorial: Richard Behrens, \$2,000.

R & S Winter Family Fund: Nicholas Boxrucker and Emily Kasper, \$5,000 each.

DeBeleyr Memorial: Matanna DePuydt and Kayleigh Jones, \$1,500 each.

Nelson Ace Hardware Building Trades: Austin Muench, \$500.

Robert Patrick Gaffney Memorial Teaching Scholarship: Owen Grassl, \$3,716.37 for eight consecutive semesters.

National Honor Society: Grace Indermuehle and Malia Remme, \$500 each.

Northland Pines STEM: Riley Cain, \$500.

Jacob A Scheible Golf: Anderson Kilty, \$500.

WIAA Student Athlete: Matanna DePuydt and Jonathan Miller.

Northland Pines Music Boosters: Davis Beyer, Owen Grassl, Owen Libby, Malia Remme, Addisan Skarda and Andrea Wilder, \$500 each.

Arrow Gift Shop: Davis Beyer, \$400.

Northwoods Children's Museum: Eliana Smith, \$500.

Marshfield Clinic: Grace Plank, \$500.

Top 10% Northland Pines High School: Riley Cain, Elizabeth Chicka, Eliana Conrad, Grace Indermuehle, Michaela Kieffer, Jason Linn, Matthias Milanowski, Jonathan Miller, Hope Rothmeier and Cozy Vojta.

Top 10% SOAR: Chase Nuebauer, Joseph Atkins and Abbey Perry.

## Student reported college and university scholarships

Dr. William J. Wooley History Scholarship: Natalie Rozga - Ripon, \$3,000.

Dean's Scholarship: Natalie Rozga - Ripon, \$34,000.

NTC Foundation Scholarship: Aurora Ratliff, \$500.

Dean's Scholarship: Vienna Klemett - Lakeland College, \$64,000.

Schultz Family Foundation Scholarship: Kayleigh Jones - Northern Michigan University, \$15,000.

Jane Zipperer Trust Scholarship from the United Church of Christ in Eagle River: Malia Remme, \$2,083.



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## Florence Utility Commission

Florence Utility Commission is a municipally owned and operated electric, water, and natural gas utility, serving more than 1,800 customers in Florence, Wisconsin. We strive to provide low-cost, reliable service with a community-focused, personal touch. We are your friends and neighbors who share your values and understand your needs.

Florence Utility Commission was founded in 1898. While a lot has changed over the past century, the focus of the utility has not. Today, we still offer our customers some of the lowest electric rates in the area - rates significantly lower than those in territories that are served by most investor-owned utilities. And, since we live and work in the community, we provide reliable energy with superior customer service.

Florence Utility Commission also provides our

customers with clean, high-quality water that meets or exceeds all state and federal standards. Our water quality and capacity are monitored every day by well-trained system operators. Florence Utilities is dedicated to meeting our customers' needs while helping to make the community a better place to live and work. We are one of the country's 2,200 public power systems — a utility owned by the community it serves.

A three-member Utility Commission, appointed by the Town Board, decides how to operate Florence Utility Commission. This local representation and control allows all citizens to have a voice in how our utility can best meet the community's needs.

Call 715-528-3330 or visit the office at 501 Spring Avenue, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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A special section with  
ideas, helpful advice and  
designed especially for  
readers 55 and over.

## ENERGY NEWS Consumer Information FLORENCE UTILITIES A WPPI ENERGY COMMUNITY

### MAY 2025 811 DIGGERS HOTLINE – FAQ

Q: What is Diggers Hotline?

A: It is a free service that you use before you do any kind of digging to make sure you don't damage underground lines. Let them know at least three working days before you start digging and they will help you avoid causing damage to costly or dangerous buried lines.

Q: Will all of the lines be marked on my property?

A: Not necessarily. Diggers Hotline coordinates between excavators (such as a home-owner) and the owners of buried lines. It's up to the owners of the lines to mark the locations near your job site with paint and/or flags. Private lines, such as an electric line to a detached garage or other out-building or a line from a propane tank that may be on your property, are considered the responsibility of the landowner. A locating company can be hired to mark private lines. This link provides a list of Wisconsin locating companies: [www.diggershotline.com/locators](http://www.diggershotline.com/locators)

Q: What are private lines and why don't they get marked?

A: Private lines are facilities that are owned by homeowners or private businesses and are contained fully on their property. Because these lines do not cross in to the public right-of-way, they are not required to be members of Diggers Hotline and will not be notified of locate requests. Examples of private lines include propane lines, sewer laterals, sprinkler systems, ornamental lighting and electric lines to a barn or garage.

Q: Do I have to call if I'm only using hand tools?

A: Yes, and it doesn't matter how deep you are digging. State law (Wisconsin Statute 182.0175) requires notifying Diggers Hotline before you excavate, grade, trench, dig, drill, augur, tunnel, scrape, plow cable or pipe. Excavation, according to the law, means anything that moves, removes or displaces earth rock or other material in or on the ground.

Q: Why do they ask so many questions?

A: Many of the questions are required by Wisconsin state law and some questions are required by the underground line owners to help them accurately mark their lines at your job site. Here is a link to help prepare a list of required information prior to making the call: <http://www.diggershotline.com/required-information/>

Q: I can't wait three working days. Can I get an earlier start date and time?

A: Early start dates must be obtained directly from each facility owner after submitting a locate request. Diggers Hotline can provide you with the list of facility owners who will receive your locate request and their phone numbers. All facility owners will need to agree to your earlier start date request.

Q: How deep are underground lines buried?

A: It depends on the type of buried line, and whether it was installed properly. Although facility owners may follow depth guidelines when installing lines, they have no control over depth variation caused by human interference, weather, or other circumstances. As a result, depths are not provided by utility locators.

Q: Why do I have to hand dig within 18 inches of a marked facility?

A: Locating is not an exact science, and, therefore, the actual location of the facility could vary from the position of the marks. Also, state law mandates an 18-inch buffer zone on each side of a marked facility. No mechanized equipment can be used within this buffer zone; only hand digging is allowed. Also, you should stay 18 inches away from any utility structure at your job site.

Source: <http://call811.com>

### NO FATS, OILS & GREASE DOWN THE DRAIN

Sanitary sewer overflows have been known to occur due to sewer blockages generated from Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) poured or flushed down residential drains that connect to the sanitary sewer system.

Bacon grease, chicken fat and vegetable oil, to name

a few examples of common FOG, tends to clump together with other FOG washed down drains or flushed in toilets, slowly solidifying and reducing flow capacity in the sewer pipes. Much like too much fat in your diet can cause clogged arteries and lead to a heart attack in humans, the result of many households washing fats down their drains can also be disastrous. Fats don't dissolve in water. Washing fats down the drain with hot water may take it past your sewer connection, but as the water cools, the fats and grease harden in sewer pipes. Detergents dissolve fat enough to clean your dishes or laundry, but not enough to keep it from congealing in the sewer. Fats, oils and grease cause about 47% of sewer overflows in the U.S.

What Should You Do with your FOG? 1) Put it in your trash. If a FOG will solidify, let it. Placing it in your refrigerator or freezer can speed up the process. Simply spoon it into a container (preferably not anything recyclable) and put it in the trash, once solidified. 2) Scrape plates into the garbage using a rubber or silicon spatula. 3) Before washing pans or anything else containing FOG, pour it into a container to solidify. Then wipe the pan with a paper towel before you wash it to absorb as much FOG as possible and discard the paper towel in the trash. 4) Don't put liquid oil in the trash. Instead, place it in a sealed can and add kitty litter, coffee grounds or other absorbent material, such as the paper towels used to wipe pans before washing. The message is simple: Never put fats, oils or grease down your drain. If you have any questions, please contact [Florence Utilities](http://www.florenceutilities.com) at 715-528-3330.

### PIPELINE SAFETY

Pipelines exist almost everywhere throughout the U.S. and chances are you may live near or drive past one every day. There are several ways to identify a pipeline in your neighborhood.

Pipelines are marked by above-ground markers (signs, placards or stakes) to provide an indication of their presence, approximate location, the name of product carried and the name and contact information of the company that operates the pipeline. THE PRESENCE OF THESE MARKERS DOES NOT REMOVE THE NEED FOR A CALL TO 811 PRIOR TO EXCAVATION! They give an

approximate indication of where a pipeline might be (not necessarily over the pipeline) and must be verified through placement of a call to 811. Placement of the markers depends on many factors, not necessarily the exact pipeline location.

The markers are generally yellow, black, and red in color. Their primary function is to identify the location of the pipeline to help the public understand the location of pipelines and prevent excavation damage accidents. Pipelines are generally, but not necessarily, buried 3 to 4 feet under the ground or deeper. Other cases require the pipeline to be buried much deeper to go under rivers or roads. The reason for this is because sometimes these areas become shallow after years of erosion or newly dug ditches. The pipeline lies within an area called the pipeline right-of-way, which is kept clear of trees and other vegetation, buildings, or other structures.

Another thing you might see out walking in your neighborhood or driving along the road is a fenced and secured area with some aboveground piping. These secured areas often provide access to valves along the pipeline system. These valves are controlled manually or remotely to stop the flow of products in a pipeline.

Other functions of the aboveground signs and markers include identification of the pipeline for routine patrols by foot, ATV, airplanes and sometimes helicopters. Pipeline operators must patrol their pipeline corridors and inspect the pipelines valves regularly. Such surveillance is an important safety tool to ensure that unauthorized activities, including unauthorized digging / excavations / building that might damage the underground pipe, are noticed and can be evaluated immediately.

Source: [www.pipeline101.com](http://www.pipeline101.com)  
You can also contact [Florence Utilities](http://www.florenceutilities.com) 715-528-3330 if you have any questions regarding pipelines in our area.

### SPECIAL MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

If anyone in your household has special medical equipment, such as an oxygen machine, that requires constant electrical power, please contact our office at 715-528-3330 as this information is vital to us in the event of an outage or emergency.

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Equal Opportunity Living

**ADRC**  
Aging & Disability Resource Center  
of Florence County

The Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) of Florence County is a source of information for all aspects of adults aging or living with a disability. The ADRC is a friendly, welcoming place where anyone - individuals, concerned families or friends, or professionals working with issues related to aging or disabilities - can go for information tailored to their situation.

The ADRC of Florence Co. offers:

- Transportation
- Nutritious, Healthy Meals
- Disability Benefits Counseling
- Caregiver Support
- Elder Benefits Counseling
- Assistive Technology

For more information or to talk with someone about your aging-related concerns, contact the ADRC  
Monday-Friday 8:30am - 4 pm.

**715-528-4890 or Toll-free: 1-855-528-ADRC(2372)**

Sponsored by the ADRC of Florence Co. 501 Lake Avenue, Rm. 125,





# Hartford Utilities helps Juneau recover from storm damage

HARTFORD — On Thursday, May 15, Hartford Electric sent six linemen to assist Juneau Utilities following a tornado that caused significant damage and widespread outages in their service territory. According to the announce-

ment from the city, Hartford Electric joined 10 other municipal utilities in the mutual aid effort, working together to restore power quickly and safely. Thanks to this coordinated response through the MEUW

(Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin), power was fully restored to Juneau within 16 hours of the storm’s impact. “Mutual aid is one of the many strengths of public power, and we’re proud that our crews are always ready to sup-

port our neighboring communities when they need it most,” the utility said in the announcement. “A big thank-you to our dedicated line crew and all the public power utilities who assisted with the restoration efforts.”



# Jefferson seniors awarded scholarships



PAM CHICKERING WILSON/FOR THE DAILY UNION

JHS counselor Amanda Wallace presents Gabby Perez with the Brad Russell Memorial Scholarship.

**PAM CHICKERING WILSON**  
For the Daily Union

JEFFERSON — Members of Jefferson High School's Class of 2025 amassed more than \$1.3 million toward their further education and career development during the school's recent senior scholarship ceremony.

Honorees, including 50 different members of the graduating class, were chosen for their academic excellence, technical proficiency, character, service, and dedication to specialty areas such as health care and agriculture.

Earning the top scholarship amount was Haley Petersen with \$176,500. Petersen earned the Beloit College Presidential Scholarship in the amount of \$176,000 and a Jefferson High School Eagle Theatre Council scholarship in the amount of \$500.

Receiving the next highest amount of scholarships was Piper Crabtree with a total of \$128,750. This included the Emma, Esther and Marcella Friedel Scholarship in the amount of \$500, a Fort Community Credit Union scholarship in the amount of \$2,000, a Jefferson High School Eagle Theatre Council scholarship in the amount of \$750, and three scholarships from St. Norbert's, an alumni referral reward of \$4,000, a music merit scholarship of \$1,500, and a trustee distinguished scholarship of \$120,000.

Christian Crabtree earned \$116,000 in scholarships, including the American Red Cross Scholarship as blood drive coordinator in the amount of \$1,000, the Francis F. Carnes Educational Charitable Trust Scholarship in the amount of \$3,000, a Jefferson Rotary Club Scholarship in the amount of \$3,000, a Jefferson County Deputy Sheriff's Association Scholarship in the amount of \$500, a Jefferson Rotary Club Scholarship of \$2,000, the Les G. Kloss Memorial Scholarship of \$500, the Scott W. Hulstein Memorial Scholarship of \$1,000, and three scholarships



PAM CHICKERING WILSON/FOR THE DAILY UNION

Katie Beck won the \$88,000 Joseph P. Houston Jr. Memorial Scholarship.



PAM CHICKERING WILSON/FOR THE DAILY UNION

Alesa Wontor, a science teacher at JHS, presents Piper Crabtree with three substantial scholarships from St. Norbert's College.

from Carroll University, a trustee scholarship of \$104,000, the Hilger Tradition Award of \$2,000, and a Visit Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000.

Amelia Kamenick won a total of \$110,500, including a Carroll University Trustee Scholarship in the amount of \$104,000, the Dr. Brian T.S. Hurley Health Care Profession Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000, an FFA Alumni Scholarship in the amount of \$500, a \$3,000 Francis F. Carnes Educational Charitable Trust Scholarship, and a Jefferson Rotary Club Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000.

Addison McMahon won a total of \$109,000, including a Jefferson High School

AFS scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 and an Academic Merit Scholarship from Milwaukee School of Engineering in the amount of \$108,000.

Eduardo Medina won a total of \$108,000, all in the form of an Academic Merit Scholarship from Milwaukee School of Engineering.

Ellie Ebel won a total of \$100,050, including a Carroll University Voorhees Scholarship in the amount of \$96,000, an FFA Alumni scholarship of \$300, a Jefferson County 4-H Leaders Association Scholarship in the amount of \$250, and a Urania Henry Biengang Memorial scholarship in the amount of \$3,500.

More SENIORS | A6



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May  
27

2025

Page  
A06Clip  
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A05

## Seniors/

Chloe Smith earned \$98,000 in scholarships, including the Dr. John L. Phelps Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$500, a Dr. Robert F. Handeyside Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000, a Jefferson Rotary Club scholarship in the amount of \$2,000, and several Carthage College awards, including the \$500 early FAFSA filers award, an \$8,000 endowed scholarship, the \$80,000 highest honors scholarship, a \$1,000 nursing scholarship, and a \$4,000 visit scholarship.

Sam Steis won \$90,000, including a President's Scholarship from Edgewood College in the amount of \$88,000 and a \$2,000 Kiwanis Citizenship Award.

Catherine Beck earned \$88,000 in scholarships, including \$88,000 in the form of a Charles Carroll University Scholarship from Carroll University and a Joseph P. Houston Jr. Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$500.

Livvie Liebman won \$64,000 in scholarships, all in the form of a Merit Scholarship from Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design.

Ashlyn Enke earned \$36,500 in scholarships, including a \$26,000 Panther Success Award from the University of Northern Iowa, a \$4,000 Brett Magritz Memorial Scholarship, a \$500 award from the American Legion Auxiliary-Johnson Creek, a \$2,000 Fort Healthcare Partners scholarship, a \$500 Jefferson County Deputy Sheriff's Association Scholarship, a \$2,000 Jordan Vogel Memorial Scholarship, the \$1,500 Richard L. Bowers Memorial Scholarship from the Vietnam Veterans of America Blackhawk Chapter 409. In addition, she earned non-monetary recognition as the Lions Club female athlete of the year.

Kateri Kawleski earned \$32,000 in scholarships, including \$1,000 from the American Legion Auxiliary Local Reinhardt-Windl Post #164, a \$4,000 Brett Magritz Memorial Scholarship, a \$1,500 Fern Fernholz Goff Scholarship, a \$1,000 Fort Healthcare General Scholarship, a \$500



PAM CHICKERING WILSON/FOR THE DAILY UNION

Presenting the Jefferson High School Eagle Theatre Council drama scholarships is Kim Hart, co-advisor, on the left, with recipients Jesa Meulenbruch, Piper Crabtree, Haley Petersen, and Joey Shoop.



PAM CHICKERING WILSON/FOR THE DAILY UNION

Tanya Dwyer of the Jefferson High School counseling office presents Amelia Kamenick with the Dr. Brian T. S. Turley Healthcare Profession Scholarship.

Jefferson County Deputy Sheriff's Association scholarship, a \$3,500 Urania Henry Biefang Memorial scholarship, a \$1,500 Vietnam Veterans of America Blackhawk Chapter 409 Richard L. Bowers Memorial Scholarship, a \$3,000 Jefferson Rotary Club scholarship, and the \$16,000 Kemper K. Knapp Scholarship from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Jasmine Wirth won \$28,300 in scholarships, including a \$300 FFA Alumni scholarship, a \$20,000 Paul and Lee Didion Family Scholarship, a \$6,000 Sheri Sell Nero Scholarship, and a \$2,000 Stuart and Stanley Hake Agriculture Scholarship.

Ayla Debord earned \$17,000 in scholarships, including an Academic Merit Scholarship from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville in the amount of \$12,000, and a \$5,000 Dell Oson Educational Scholarship from the Jefferson

Rotary Club.

The salutatorian of the Class of 2025, Anthony Schunk won \$13,800 in scholarships, including a Wisconsin Academic Excellence scholarship in the amount of \$9,000, a County-City Credit Union scholarship in the amount of \$1,000, the American Legion Americanism and Government Scholarship for 2024 in the amount of \$300, and a \$3,500 Urania Henry Biefang Memorial.

Lily Whitstone earned \$11,500 in scholarships, including the 2025 St. Coletta of Wisconsin Scholarship in

the amount of \$2,000, a \$3,000 Francis F. Carnes Educational Charitable Trust Scholarship, a \$500 Jefferson Chamber of Commerce Scholarship, a \$2,000 Jefferson Rotary Club scholarship, the \$1,000 Jefferson Utilities/WPPI Energy Public Power Essay award, a \$500 Legacy Auto Sales scholarship, and \$2,500 from the Waukesha County Deputy Sheriff's Association.

Ella Clifton won \$10,200 in scholarships, including a \$1,000 Boos Brothers Scholarship, a \$200 FFA Alumni scholarship, a \$2,000 Jordan Bogel Memorial

Scholarship, a \$4,000 Paul and Lee Didion Family Scholarship, the

\$2,000 Steven H. Lipperer Memorial Award, and a \$1,000 Stuart and Stanley Hake Agricultural Scholarship.

Cale Schmidt earned \$10,000 in scholarships, including a University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Warhawk Achievement Scholarship, a \$4,000 Brett Magritz Memorial Scholarship, and a \$2,000 Jordan Vogel Memorial Scholarship.

Emma Schroedl earned \$9,500, including a \$500 Donald D. Dunnington Memorial Scholarship, a \$3,000 Kikkoman Foods Foundation Scholarship, and a \$6,000 Michelle and Craig Auerbach Memorial scholarship.

The Class of 2025 valedictorian, Sara Germondson earned \$9,500, including a Wisconsin Academic Excellence scholarship in the amount of \$9,000 and a \$500 Jefferson County Deputy Sheriff's Association Scholarship.

Vanessa Ganser earned \$8,500, including a Jefferson Lions Club Robert Cowley Memorial scholarship of \$500, a \$2,000 Jordan Vogel Memorial Scholarship, a \$2,000 Kiwanis Citizenship Award, a \$2,000 Black and Gold Scholarship from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and a Chancellor's Merit Scholarship, also from UW-Milwaukee.

More SENIORS | A7

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE JEFFERSON COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

The public is invited to give the Board your comments about Jefferson County Human Services Programs, unmet needs that you have identified, or changes that you think should be made. The Human Services Board and Staff will consider your concerns and recommendations as the 2026 Budget is prepared.

#### HEARING TIME AND PLACE

TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2025  
5:00 P.M.

Workforce Development Center  
874 Collins Road, Jefferson  
Room #103

#### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85198617061?pwd=KTLvqB0lK1Uoc3ZQZG9C1dVXl1C.1>

Meeting ID: 851 9861 7061

Passcode: 135889

Individuals who are unable to attend but wish to communicate with the Board may do so in writing by June 4, 2025, sent to:

Brent Ruehlw, Director  
Jefferson County Human Services  
1541 Annex Rd  
Jefferson, WI 53549

#### Special Needs Request

Individuals requiring special accommodations for attendance at the meeting should contact the County Administrator at 920-674-7101 by June 4 so appropriate arrangements can be made.

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## Fort Atkinson, Daily Jefferson County Union (1870-2005 & 2005-current)

DAILY JEFFERSON COUNTY UNION

TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2025 | A7

### Seniors/ from A6

Madalyn Welter earned \$8,500, including a \$1,000 Gemuetlichkeit scholarship, a \$2,000 Jefferson Rotary Club scholarship, a \$1,000 Jefferson Sno-Hawks scholarship, a \$2,000 Jefferson Sportsmen's Club Scholarship, a \$2,000 Jordan Vogel Memorial scholarship, and a \$500 Student Council Leadership scholarship.

Alicebeth Tovar won \$8,000, all in the form of a Roosevelt University Merit Scholarship.

Noah Copsey earned \$7,750, \$1,000 in the form of a Boos Brothers scholarship and \$6,750 in the form of a Wisconsin Technical Excellence scholarship.

Olivia Jennrich earned \$7,300, including a \$300 FFA Alumni scholarship, a \$6,000 Gaylin Morgan Memorial Scholarship, and \$1,000 in the form of the Jelli's Market Jody Knoebel Honorary Agriculture Scholarship.

Olivia Wolter won \$7,200, including a \$200 FFA Alumni scholarship, a \$250 Twin River Riders Matt Hahn Memorial Scholarship, and a Wisconsin Technical Excellence award in the amount of \$6,750.

Breleigh Mengel earned \$7,000, including an ALCHA Foundation scholarship, a \$2,000 Fort Healthcare Partners scholarship, a \$3,000 Francis F. Carnes Educational Charitable Trust scholarship, and a \$500 Robert Cowley Memorial Scholarship from the Jefferson Lions Club.

Campbell Krause won \$7,000, including a \$1,000 Rome Sno



PAM CHICKERING WILSON/FOR THE DAILY UNION

Jaelynn Ramirez won the Reinel Law Enforcement Scholarship Fund award.

Bandits scholarship from the Association of Wisconsin Snowmobile Clubs, a \$2,000 Jefferson Rotary Club scholarship, a \$500 Jefferson Sno-Hawks Snowmobile Club scholarship, a \$2,000 Jordan Vogel Memorial Scholarship, a \$500 Legacy Auto Sales Scholarship, and a \$1,000 Rising Warhawk Scholarship from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

Joseph Shoop won \$6,250 in scholarships, including a \$1,000 Compeer Financial Scholarship, a \$250 Jefferson County 4-H Leaders Association Scholarship, a \$500 Jefferson High School Eagle Theatre Council Scholarship, a \$3,000 Kikkoman Foods Foundation scholarship, and the Ann Baggett Beaster Endowed Scholarship from the University of Wisconsin-Stout.

Iris Hartford earned \$5,500, including the \$1,000 John and



PAM CHICKERING WILSON/FOR THE DAILY UNION

Libby Knoebel Hafften of Jelli's Market presents the Jody Knoebel Honorary Agricultural Scholarship to Maggie Mindemann.

Pat Kerrigan Freshman Scholarship from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, a \$1,500 ALCHA Foundation scholarship, a \$2,000 Fort Healthcare partners scholarship, and a Scott W. Hulstein Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.

Grecia Hernandez earned \$5,000, including the Laura Jacobson Nursing Scholarship from Fort Memorial Hospital, a \$3,000 Francis F. Carnes Educational Charitable Trust Scholarship, a \$500 Jefferson County Deputy Sheriff's Association Scholarship, and a \$1,000 Scott W. Hulstein Memorial Scholarship.

Jaelynn Ramirez won \$5,000, including the Class of 1960 award in the amount of \$1,000, a \$2,000 Jordan Vogel Memorial Scholarship, and a \$2,000 Reinel Law Enforcement Scholarship Fund award.

Skyleigh Schroedl earned \$4,850, including a \$200 FFA Alumni award, a \$2,000 Randy Schopen Give Someone a Chance Scholarship, a \$2,400 Thomas E. Cheesebro Memorial Scholarship and a Twin River Riders Matt Hahn Memorial Scholarship.

Chase Wangsness earned \$4,000, all in the form of the Winthrop Eagle Promise Scholarship.

Maggie Mindemann won \$3,700 in scholarships, including a \$200 FFA Alumni scholarship, a \$500 Grellton Conservation Club scholarship, a \$1,000 Jelli's Market Jody Knoebel Honorary Agriculture Scholarship, and a Stuart and Stanley Hake Agricultural Scholarship.

Gabriela Perez earned \$3,500 in scholarships: the \$2,000 Brad Russell Memorial Scholarship and the \$2,500 David F. Veith Scholarship.

Aiden DeBlare won \$3,000, all in the form of a Kikkoman Foods Foundation Scholarship.

Kadence Schuld earned \$2,200, a \$200 FFA Alumni Scholarship, a \$1,000 Gemuetlichkeit Days scholarship, a \$500 Jefferson County National Wild Turkey Foundation Scholarship, and a \$500 award from Savaglia Financial Advisors.

Kayla Kehoe earned \$1,950 in scholarships, including a \$200 FFA Alumni scholarship, a \$750 Jefferson County 4-H Leaders Association Scholarship, and a \$1,000 Stuart and Stanley Hake Agriculture Scholarship.

Aeryn Messmann earned \$1,500, the Kenneth and Sonja

Leipold Memorial Scholarship and a Ryan Keuler Memorial Award.

Payton Splittgerber earned two scholarships, the \$1,000 2025 Youth Optimist Award and the \$500 Jefferson Chamber of Commerce scholarship.

Aidan Salerno won \$1,500, the \$1,000 Senior Class/Alumni Gift scholarship and a \$500 American Red Cross Scholarship in honor of being the top male donor at the local drive.

Jada Meyer won \$1,000, all in the form of the Shari A. Biwer Memorial Scholarship.

Jesa Muehlenbruch earned \$750, all in the form of a Jefferson High School Eagle Theatre Council scholarship.

Ava Skoug won \$500 in recognition of being the top female donor at the local American Red Cross blood drive.

Claire Griffith won the \$100 John Phillip Sousa Award in recognition of her outstanding musical aptitude.

### NON-MONETARY AWARDS

Finnegan DeBlare received the non-monetary Jefferson Lions Club Senior Athlete of the Year award, along with the female honoree, Ashlyn Enke.

### MILITARY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Two students received military acknowledgement in recognition of their plans to enter the armed services: Jorge Perez-Hernandez — Army, Unit Supply Specialist; and Isaac Schoenherr, Air National Guard, Tactical Fighter Maintenance.

JUNEAU | IMPACT OF SEVERE STORMS

# Residents offer help after tornado



TERRI PEDERSON, DAILY CITIZEN

Bruce Scott stands in front of his home on Main Street in Juneau on Monday. Scott was at home in his kitchen when the tornado came through. He was hurt when the roof came off of his home and was transported to an area hospital.

No fatalities reported but mayor says a third of the city took damage

TERRI PEDERSON  
tpederson@wiscnews.com

JUNEAU — Bruce Scott returned to his Juneau home on Monday to save what he could after Thursday's tornado wrecked his house and sent him to the hospital.

He retrieved some food for his 42-pound cat who was with him when the tornado ripped the roof from his Main Street home.

"I always wanted to see a tornado, but not like this," he said.

His mother, Norma Scott, who lives in Beaver Dam, said the two were on the phone right before the tornado hit.

"He was in the kitchen and was going downstairs when some of the ceiling fell on his shoulder," she said.

Her son, 64, was buried under the kitchen rafters when emergency workers arrived on Thursday. He thought he could walk, but he was taken from the home on a stretcher and brought to the hospital, where he was kept for a while for observation. He had a follow-up with his doctor on Monday and is feeling better.

The storm, though, sucked the roof right off his home.

"My cat was so afraid," he said, noting that he can't even remove his vehicle from the garage due to the damage at home.

No one died when the F2 tornado struck around 6 p.m. Thursday, but Mayor Dan Wegener said a

third of Juneau suffered damage, including the local electrical distribution system and transmission lines that serve the city and surrounding areas.

"Initially, it was predicted that Juneau would be without power for several days," Wegener said. "However, Juneau's municipally owned electric utility acted quickly, calling for help from other municipal utilities. Thanks to another mutual aid pact organized by the Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin, help arrived swiftly."

A three-person electrical crew, led by Superintendent Nick Gahlman, made the calls, organized and supervised the repair efforts. One substation and the damaged part of the electrical system was isolated

Please see JUNEAU, Page A4

Madison, Wisconsin State Journal

## Juneau

From A3

and repaired for power to be restored by midnight, Wegener said.

"The transmission system west of our city, owned by ATC, was restored in record time, helping bring electricity back to Juneau," the mayor said. "The system east of the city, which feeds our north substation, will require several days to be fully restored. My sincere thanks go to all the electric utility staff and agencies who worked around the clock to restore power. The final customers had their power restored by the end of the day on Saturday."

Juneau's wastewater staff, led by Superintendent Alex Smudde, monitored the city treatment plant and wells while they were running on emergency backup generators.

"Portable generators had to be brought in and hooked up at sewer lift stations across the city to prevent sewage backups into homes," Wegener said. "As the storm ravaged our city, cleanup efforts began immediately. Juneau's Department of Public Works staff, led by Joe Ludtke,



TERRI PEDERSON, DAILY CITIZEN

Bruce Scott is not able to even retrieve his vehicle from his garage after the tornado on Thursday ripped the roof off his home.

along with DPW crews from neighboring communities, started clearing brush and debris from the affected areas. This remains a massive and ongoing task."

### Community effort

Police Chief and Emergency Government Director Dave Beal coordinated and supervised most first responder efforts and helped arrange a visit from Gov. Tony Evers to view the damage firsthand.

"The entire community deserves our gratitude," the mayor said. "Neighbors helped neighbors in the aftermath of this disaster. I

saw people on rooftops with chainsaws, removing fallen trees from their neighbors' homes just hours after the storm. Cleanup continued into Friday and Saturday."

A group of youth soccer players and their parents worked diligently to clean up storm debris in Wild Goose Park on Saturday morning, Wegener said. These efforts were led by Juneau Recreation Director Hunter Karnitz and soccer coach Kevin Klueger. The field — once covered in fallen trees and debris — is now ready for play.

Dodgeland Superintendent Jessica Johnson said

about 25 people, and a dog, used Dodgeland as a shelter the night of the storm.

"I was watching the storm from the back window when I saw a lot of debris in my backyard and there was something that sounded like a train, so I went in the basement," Johnson said.

"I was getting emails from parents, staff, kids all asking how they could help and what help we might need," she said. "I could not keep up with the number of kids who wanted to help."

Students were out in numbers, including the football team, cleaning up the town. The National Honor Society opened up the Dodgeland Purple Purpose Room, which provides clothing and other supplies for students, to the public. The senior class changed its class gift to benefit Juneau's recovery.

Chef Chanse Schomber from the Juneau Community Center, along with local restaurants and businesses, provided food and drinks to those laboring long hours to restore the community.

"I thank the Lord that no lives were lost, and no one suffered serious injury," Wegener said. "Things could have been much worse."





## **‘We’ll go one day at a time’: Community of Juneau bands together following 2 tornadoes**

BY [Wendy Strong](#) Wisconsin

PUBLISHED 8:48 AM ET May 19, 2025

JUNEAU, Wis. — Families in Dodge County spent their weekend cleaning up after tornadoes ripped through the area on Thursday night.

The National Weather Service has confirmed at least 10 tornadoes touched down in Wisconsin on May 15. Two of those hit the small community in Juneau.

While nobody was seriously injured, the north end of the city took a devastating hit.

---

### **What You Need To Know**

- Two of at least 10 confirmed tornadoes in storms May 15 touched down in Juneau
- While nobody was seriously injured, the north end of the city took a devastating hit
- Families in Juneau spent the weekend cleaning up, including Bill Haase, who owns a cattle farm
- Most of the buildings on his farm were totally destroyed

The Electrical Superintendent for **Juneau Utilities, Nick Gahlman**, said a full system outage on Thursday night left 1,200 households without power. For his own two children, seeing severe weather in real time quickly turned from fun to scary.

“When that wind came through and the lights did turn off, you could tell that both of them were pretty shaken up, but my wife was there to comfort them,” Gahlman said.

Gahlman’s team rushed to restore electricity back to nearly all homes by 9 a.m. on Friday morning. Three households had to wait longer for power because of the high level of destruction they went through.

Dan Wegener is the mayor of the city of Juneau and has been an electrical contractor for 45 years. He’s been helping residents with his electrical expertise as much as he can.

Wegener said he was shocked at how fast power was restored to the city.

“I told people, you might not see power for a couple days. I was hoping we’d get it back on the weekend, but by Friday morning we had just about everybody up and running,” said Wegener.

Wegener said about 20% of the city in the north sector got hit the hardest and the community immediately stepped up.

“I saw neighbors the night of the storm Thursday evening, people on roofs at 7 or 7:30 helping neighbors cut limbs off to get them off the roofs,” he said.

Bill Haase owns Haase Cattle Farm located on County Rd. DF, in Juneau. He said his cows survived, but most of the buildings on the farm are totally destroyed.

“Of course, when you see it, for me it gets back to the family was okay, and the house was okay — that was the most important thing,” Haase said.

Haase said there is about \$200,000 worth of damage to rebuild.

“We’ll be okay. We’ll go one day at a time and have faith and go forward,” he said. “We’ll be okay. We’ll go one day at a time and have faith and go forward,” he said.

Gahlman said this violent storm will make the city stronger in the end.

“I think we are just going to come out being more unified, more thankful for what we have had and have going into the future,” said Gahlman. “I think our community’s strength is just going to build from this.”

# DAILY DODGE

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## Juneau Utilities Give Thanks For Those Who Helped Restore Power To The City

May 20, 2025 by [Daily Dodge](#)

(Juneau) **Juneau Utilities** is thanking those who helped them restore power in the city following last Thursday's devastating storms. Superintendent Nick Gahlman offered his appreciation for local departments including Juneau Police and Fire, EMS, DPW, and other city staff for keeping the area safe, clearing debris, and organizing food and water while they worked.

Juneau Utilities is also a member of the Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin, which provides support in coordinating mutual aid in events like these. **A few of the other utilities that assisted were Columbus, Hustisford, Hartford, and Waupun.**

Gahlman says his team, along with the other utilities, were able to restore 100-percent of its available customers in less than 24 hours. He also thanked his staff for their dedication and hard work following the storms.

The superintendent says there is still a lot of work to do, but through these past few days he has seen the community come together and (quote) "literally move mountains."

*—Photo courtesy of the Juneau Utilities Facebook page*

# Tornado rocks Juneau uprooting trees, knocking out power

Foundation of community stands strong as neighbors help one another

**ED ZAGORSKI**

edz@wdtimes.com

JUNEAU — A teary-eyed Linda Bolack walked slowly to the front of her home Friday where downed trees were piled neatly for pickup.

“We’re so blessed for all of the help we’ve received,” she said.

Her partner, Dan Uttech, agreed.

The couple resides on W. North Street in Juneau. They were thankful for their



ED ZAGORSKI/EDZ@WDTIMES.COM

A home’s roof was completely removed along North Main Street, just south of County DF in Juneau. Juneau emergency services had to remove a man from this residence because he was trapped underneath some rubble.

neighbors, especially for the young athletes and the coaches involved with the Dodgeland

High School football team, who walked the neighborhood helping to cut branches and move

trees and other debris to the curb for pickup.

More **TORNADO** | A5



## Tornado/

from A1

Dodge and High School did not have school Friday, but the students, staff and their families helped to check in on those in their city and help where they were needed.

"I'm very grateful to them," Uttech said. "These boys were picking up parts of trees like they were nothing and helping us getting them to the curb. You can't ask for anything more."

Uttech said before the tornado hit Juneau Thursday evening he was sitting in a lawn chair in the garage.

"I should've been in the house," he said. "The winds were blowing pretty hard. I got by the door and heard a loud crash. It scared the hell out of us. All I remember was seeing this extremely bright light. I figured it had to be

lightning crashing into one of our trees."

Bolack said she should've been going to the basement. Instead, she was looking across Fairfield Avenue and watched a tree twist, twirl and then snap like it was toothpick in a giant's hand.

"It looked like something from a movie," she said.

Wiping the sweat from his brow and swallowing a gulp of Gatorade, Uttech said, "I was never in a storm like that before and I never want to be in one like that ever again."

Uttech said once the rain stopped he and Bolack went to check on their neighbors.

"We're a tightly-knit community group here," he said. "We tend to look out for one another."

National Weather Service Meteorologist Andy Boxell said Friday the



ED ZAGORSKI/EDZ@WDTIMES.COM

Kalen Frye, 17, carries brush to the front of his home on Friday after a tornado came through the City of Juneau on Thursday evening.

storms that ransacked both Juneau and Mayville were tornadoes.

The National Weather Service confirmed two tornadoes rocked Juneau with the first one hitting at 5:42 p.m. and starting just west of Juneau. It was categorized as an EF-2 with peak wind speeds reaching 120 mph. It was on the ground for approximately 9.2 miles. The second tornado hit the City near the

airfield at the Dodge County Airport.

"We wanted to clear the debris off the roads first and then get to the airport to clean up the debris there," Field said. "We worked well with the other crews that were out Thursday night, too. It took a lot of teamwork to clear the roads."

He said his department installed a new security fence at the Dodge County Sheriff's Office impound lot.

"We're lucky," Field said. "You can see a lot of people helping one another. We're fortunate there was no significant damage here in Juneau. Our guys really stepped it up and did a great job working with the other departments on clearing the roads of debris and trees. It was a team effort no doubt about it. We could've been hit a lot harder than we were."

Renee Skar, who was checking in on her family's home on Juneau Ave. in Juneau Friday, couldn't believe the number of trees covering the house and the back porch.

"This is really sad," she said looking at the fallen trees. "Just lucky no lives were lost in all of this."

Kalen Frye, 17, of N. Main Street in Juneau was busy pulling brush to the curb for the city to pick up. His father, Stephen, was busy fixing his chainsaw.

"We were upstairs watching the storm come in," the younger Frye said. "It was really clear. Perfectly clear and then all of a sudden you couldn't see the trees in the field and then you could hear the hail come down, and the wind picked up from 0-100 in a matter of seconds."

Frye said it didn't take him long to reach the basement.

"We figured it was a tornado because we could hear our large maple tree hit our porch. I could feel my ears needing to pop because of the pressure building up. That was definitely a tornado," Frye said. "We were in the basement for about 10 minutes and then the hail picked up again. It was about the size of a half dollar hitting the windows so we stayed in the basement."

Frye said when he and his father went outside there was still hail all around despite

temperatures being in the 80s.

The elder Frye said despite some fallen trees the damage could've been a lot worse.

"It was a little nerve-racking," Stephen said. "The wind was very loud. Very loud and it all happened so quick."

The pair had to walk down the street to catch a bus with other evacuees to Dodge and High School because of a gas leak at one of the county buildings.

Juneau Police Chief Dave Beal, who also serves as the Juneau Emergency Management Director, said Thursday's storm was one of the worst he's seen in the 35 years he's been in Juneau.

Beal said Juneau emergency services did receive a call of a man who was trapped inside his house where the roof was torn right off.

"He was transported to the hospital, but in talking to the EMS crew, I think he was more shook up than he was physically hurt," Beal said. "We are very fortunate that is the only known injury in the city from the storm."

Beal said the City of Juneau has been receiving numerous offers for water and miscellaneous food items to be brought in.

"You know tragedy always brings out the best in people so people are coming out and helping their neighbors," Beal said. "Helping total strangers. That's why it's a cliché at times to say Dodge County is great place to work, live and play because it truly is. We're a tight knit community when it comes to helping each other."

He said Thursday night — before he even knew the totality of the storm damage — the City of Beaver Dam Police Department called in its off-duty police officers to come assist the Juneau Police Department.

"Juneau Utilities put their mutual aid system into place and they had power crews from surrounding cities like Wausau, Lake Mills and Hustisford and so many more they had all of the power poles reset by 2:30 a.m. Thursday," Beal said. "If something happens in one community you can bet there will be other communities ready to step up and help without even being asked."



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## Meyerhofer marks 30 years on Kaukauna Utilities Commission

By Brian Roebke  
Editor

The **Kaukauna Utilities** Commission celebrated Lee Meyerhofer's 30-year anniversary as a member of the commission at its May meeting. The general manager at the time was Ernie Mullen, and Meyerhofer re-placed Robert Lamers on the commission.

Action items at that meeting included approving two student summer helpers for \$5.75 per hour as well as electing new officers. Reg Van De Hey was elected president of the commission.

**Kaukauna Utilities** General Manager Michael Avanzi thanked Meyerhofer for helping him transition into the position the past three years.

"I can't even begin to count how many hours we've spent on the phone together with him helping me through things that have come up over the past few years," Avanzi said. "I'll never forget you taking a chance on me and also just helping me over the last few years to get situated."

Meyerhofer said it's been an honor to be on the commission for three decades and lauded the outstanding employees the utility has.

"It's a great organization," he said. "I sometimes think that people don't really appreciate what this organization is. You take it for granted actually, the community takes it for

granted. We have great customers but they take it for granted too, I think."

He said everyone in the organization should feel lucky to be part of it.

Meyerhofer has been active in both state and national organizations related to the industry, particularly with the utility's wholesale power supplier, WPPI Energy.

"I've been around a lot of stuff as a lot of you know, but there's not really a better organization. This is as good as you're going to find from a lot of different perspectives," he said.

He believes the present commission is the best he remembers working with people having diversified backgrounds and working together well.

"We're moving to be tomorrow's utility rather than yesterday's utility," he said. "There's a lot of people across the state and the country who envy what's going on here."

Board member John Moore appreciates Meyerhofer's institutional knowledge.

Also at the meeting, commissioners re-elected Meyerhofer as president and Moore as secretary. Sue Hennes was named to the finance and personnel committee.

The commission also approved Dave Pahl as the new WPPI Board Alternate Director to represent **Kaukauna Utilities** due to the departure of Clara Pickett from **Kaukauna Utilities**.



Brian Roebke photo

**Kaukauna Utilities** General Manager Michael Avanzi (right) presented Lee Meyerhofer with a gift for his 30-years of service as a member of the **Kaukauna Utilities** Commission at the May meeting.



Kaukauna, Heart of the Valley Times-Villager

## Little Chute School Board elects Andres as president

**By Judy Dixon Hebbe  
Reporter**

Steve Andres was elected president of the Little Chute School Board at last week's meeting. Shannon Pomeroy was elected vice president, Rob Eiting, treasurer, and new board member, Betsy Zemlock, clerk.

Pomeroy remains the CESA 6 representative through May of this year.

Board members approved two new hires of Amy Vosters as Kindergarten through grade 12 mathematics coach and Robert

Murray as high school English teacher. Vosters obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education with a minor in mathematics from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and a master of education in curriculum and instruction from Concordia University. She has served the Neenah School District as classroom teacher, mathematics interventionist and mathematics coach for 18 years. She is trained in mathematics interventions such as AVMR and Math Recovery.

Murray received a bachelor's

degree from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and will receive a master's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in August. He is currently engaged in a student teaching placement in the Madison Metropolitan School District. He will be certified to teach English, social studies and English language.

Two out-of-state student activities were approved. First-place finisher in the state Skills USA competition, Emma Fritsch, was granted permis-

*See Andres, page 4*

Kaukauna, Heart of the Valley Times-Villager

# Andres

*continued from page 3*

sion to attend the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in late June in Atlanta, Ga. All transportation and food costs will be paid for with fund-raised money.

The request by Activities Director Kelly Wallace and Dance Team Coach Beth DeBruin to take the Dance Team to a national invite in Orlando, Fla. in February 2026 was approved. The trip is dependent on fundraising and qualification. Participation by the team is dependent upon fundraising and qualification. The team will be assessed and qualify to attend nationals in a summer at a camp. The cost is \$1,500 per athlete and will require the participants to fund raise enough to cover the trip in able to attend.

Donations from booster/feeder

clubs were accepted. The Mustang Booster Club contributed \$880 for winter sports, \$300 for post-prom, \$380 per pupil for state Dance competition and \$20 per pupil participating in state wrestling competition. The Gridiron Association contributed \$3,275 to the GoRout System and the Little Chute Running Club donated \$360.71 to cross country.

**Kaukauna Utilities** donated \$100 in the form of two \$50 gift cards to support the multilingual learner family night, which is held to build community and receive input from family members.

The 2025-26 employee insurance package was approved. The single monthly premium will increase to \$867.90 from \$818.77 last year and family charge will increase to \$1,944.98 from \$1,834.89 last year. Dental coverage will increase to \$61.64 from \$60.43 last year and family coverage will increase to

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# Village's utility commission gets updates from local department leaders

By ERIN HERNDON

*Mount Horeb Mail*

## Mount Horeb Utilities

department heads updated the Utility Commission on their April activities. The Commission met for their monthly meeting May 13, 2025, receiving updates from the Electric Department, Water Department and Wastewater Department. They additionally approved their April 8 meeting minutes and finances.

### Electric Department Report

Electric Superintendent Jordan Schmitz presented his report for April 2025. Schmitz noted that a single outage occurred, and four underground services were completed.

“I was pretty happy that we made it about a month and a half with no outages. We had four new underground services this month and one outage. Of course,

**Read more on page 3**



## Mount Horeb Mail

### UTILITY

continued from page 1

it was a squirrel,” Superintendent Schmitz said. “The animal cover-up we have is working. It’s been almost half a year since we’ve had an outage that’s been bigger than 50 people; everything’s been one or two people.”

According to the report, the Electric Department continued installing pipes for new lights at Grundahl Park and partnered with J&R Underground in its boring of new pipes on Orchard Lane and Nesheim Trail. The department is currently inserting new cables, lining up outages and replacing transformers in the area. They additionally worked on GIS inspections for underground facilities as well as site preparation for a new shed on Docken Road and completed their Quick Trip charger project for electric vehicles (EVs).

“Everything went pretty well, and I think by May 5 they were up and running,” Schmitz said on the EV project. “If you need a quick charge, there you go.”

#### Water Department Report

During the Water Department’s portion of the meeting, Water Superintendent Brian Schult introduced the meeting attendees to Tyler Argall of USG Water Solutions. Argall then delivered

a presentation on a potential storage tank asset program.

“We’re the leading asset provider in the country. We specialize in a few different areas; steel tanks, concrete reservoirs and water tanks are our bread and butter, and water quality items go hand-in-hand with that,” Argall said. “Today, we’re really focused on the steel elevated tanks that you have in the Village.”

According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the interior and exterior of water storage facilities containing 10,000 gallons or more of storage that serve public water systems shall be regularly inspected and maintained by a professional tank inspection firm like USG Water Solutions to evaluate the integrity of the paint system and repainted as necessary to maintain structural integrity.

“Asset management is what we do; specifically, water storage tanks,” Argall

said. “That’s a very high-dollar, important and critical asset to the water distribution system for the Village, and we provide the expertise, planning and maintenance to be able to extend the life of the asset.”

In his presentation, Argall outlined a proposal to add the Village’s two water towers, the 300,000 gallon 2nd Street Tower and the 400,000 gallon Telemark Parkway Tower, to the list of 75 Wisconsin tanks currently managed by USG. The plan included both initial repair costs and the predicted cost of annual inspections for the next 10-year span.

“I love the idea budget-wise, rather than having to come up with the money if needed, and I like that if there’s anything structurally with the tower, we have a go-to person as well,” Water Superintendent Schult said. “I asked Verona the other day, and they said they’re

happy with them and glad they went that route.”

The Commission ultimately tasked Argall to return with contracts for the plan to then be considered for recommendation to the Village Board. The Water Department’s section of the meeting ended with Schult summarizing the department’s monthly activity including their normal monthly sampling- which consisted of eight bacterial samples and one fluoride sample, the flushing of 462 fire hydrants, the response to a deep well failure at well #6 and the repair of a broken water main on North 8th Street and Manor Drive.

#### Wastewater

##### Department Report

The meeting wrapped up with Wastewater Superintendent Michael Brace sharing an overview of the Wastewater Department’s April 2025 activity.

“First and foremost, the plant’s running really well,” Superintendent Brace said.

“We’re meeting all of our permitted limits.”

According to the wastewater report, the department cleaned 4,275 feet of sanitary sewer, televised 256 feet, inspected 21 manholes and disposed of approximately 400,000 gallons of sludge in April. The department also cleaned its effluent structure, local service personnel completed the 500-hour maintenance

on the department’s Vac-tor truck and service technicians from L. W. Allen Pump Systems reinstalled a pump at the Lillehammer lift station. Additionally, Brace updated the Commission on information relating to the 2025 permit cycle.

*The next Utility Commission meeting occurs June 10 at 7:00 p.m.*

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Muscoda Progressive



Troy Wardell, Muscoda Utilities Superintendent, receives the Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin Safety Achievement Award from Regional Safety Manager, Steve Eller, on behalf of the Village. Also pictured are Village of Muscoda Linemen Justice Dilley and Kevin Ekleberry. Photo by Kip Smith

## Village of Muscoda honored with Safety Award

The Village of Muscoda announces that it has been awarded the Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin (MEUW) Safety Achievement Award, recognizing the village's outstanding commitment to workplace safety and operational excellence in its utility operations.

Presented annually, the MEUW Safety Award honors municipal utilities across Wisconsin that demonstrate exemplary safety practices, training, and incident prevention. Muscoda's recognition reflects a year of dedication by utility staff and leadership to fostering a culture where safety is not just a policy, but a priority.

"We are honored to receive this recognition from MEUW," said Troy Wardell, Superintendent. "This award is a testament to the professionalism and vigilance of our utility team, whose daily efforts ensure that our community has safe, reliable service."

Throughout 2024, the

Muscoda utility department implemented rigorous work protocols, conducted regular safety audits, and maintained a strong safety record. The village's proactive measures have contributed to not only a safer work environment for staff but also increased reliability for residents and businesses.

The award was presented at the MEUW annual conference, where utilities from across the state gathered to share best practices and celebrate collective achievements in public service and infrastructure safety.

### ABOUT THE MEUW SAFETY AWARD

Founded in 1928, MEUW is the statewide association of Wisconsin's community-owned electric utilities. The MEUW Safety Award program recognizes municipalities that go above and beyond in their safety programs, reducing risk and improving outcomes for workers and the communities they serve.

## Let's go to the Drive-In Theater

By TAMMY KILBY

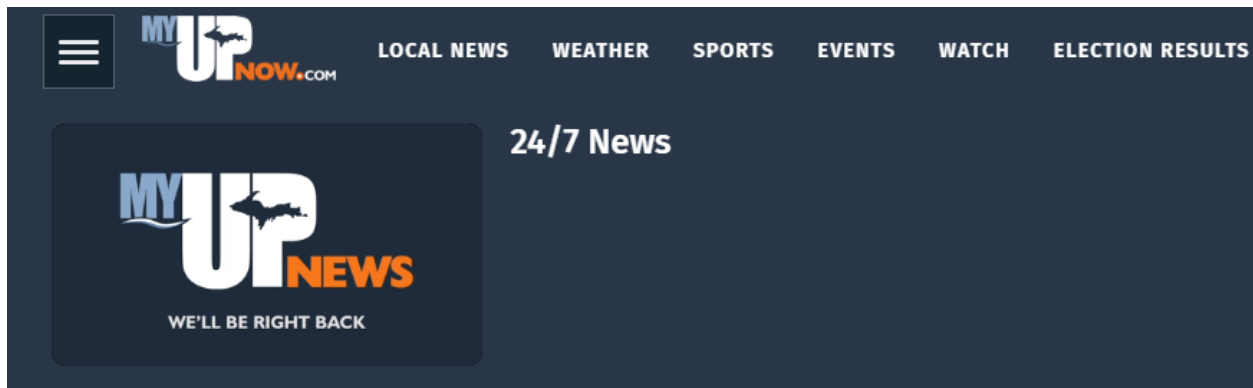
With the season opening at The Starlite 14 Drive-in, going to the movies feels like a wonderful trip down

Some of my best memories include family. Many times my daughter and I would share a pizza, a large popcorn, and park close enough

the Starlite 14 drive-in, and one that stays ingrained in my mind (and heart) forever.

The drive-in theaters offer a variety of concessions, some-

leaving with the speaker still attached to one's window, while attempting to drive off into the sunset (yes, it has been done) the radio method



## Downtown Negaunee gets electric car charging stations

Alexandria Bournonville 20 hrs ago

NEGAUNEE, Mich. (WBUP/WJMN) — Dual-electric car charging stations have been installed in downtown Negaunee as part of the city's Downtown Enhancement Project.

The stations were paid for by the Revitalization and Placemaking grant made available by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) as well as a grant provided by WPPI (Negaunee's member-owned public power provider).

These are ZEF Charging Stations designed to charge the battery of an electric vehicle at a slower rate of time.

"We chose this type of system over quick charging units due to the overall costs, and to provide more opportunities for users to spend their time in our downtown while they wait," said City Manager Nate Heffron.

The stations are located at Chiri Park and off of Tobin Street and allow for two vehicles to be charged at the same time. There are also dedicated parking spaces reserved for electric vehicles from the hours of 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"This was done to provide flexible space for parking," Heffron said.

Users only need to scan the QR-Code located on the charging device, prompting them to download an app on their phone and make an online account. Payments will be managed through the app.

“We have already seen a few people using them before we have officially announced they were available to the public. As electric vehicles become more prominent, we expect to see more in the coming years,” Heffron said.





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#### UPCOMING EVENTS

# Electronics recycling event May 15

**New Holstein Utilities** will hold an electronics recycling event on Thursday, May 15 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Utilities Garage, 1819 Park Ave.

Many items can be dropped off at no charge including wires, cables, computers, laptops, printers, ballasts, cable boxes, VCRs, routers, modems, cell phones, LED TVs, string lights, LED monitors, charger cords, DVD/CD players and small appliances.

Other items have a small charge associated with them, as follows: incandescent, fluorescent and LED bulbs, \$1 each for four feet and under and \$2 each for over four feet; batteries, \$1/pound; microwaves and dishwashers, \$10 each; mini-refrigerators and dehumidifiers, \$10 each; CRT monitors and tube televisions, \$10 each; TVs (plasma, projection and console), \$20 each; room air conditioners, \$20 each; full-size refrigerators and freezers, \$20 each. Payment (cash or checks) is due at the time of drop-off with checks made payable to Redemption Recycling LLC.

For more information visit [www.nhutilities.org](http://www.nhutilities.org).

A hazardous waste disposal event for Calumet County residents only is scheduled for Friday, June 6 from 9 to 11 a.m. at the New Holstein Public Works garage. Appointments can be made in advance at <https://www.calumet-county.org/636/Events-Schedule>. More details on that event will be announced as they become available.

Watch the City of New Holstein Facebook page for more information on these events.



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Kiel, Tri-County News

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### May 15

Food distribution will take place at the Kiel Area Community Food Pantry, Inc. in the Rays of Hope Building, 410 Fremont St., from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

Mindworks is a program which runs at the Chilton Fox Valley Technical College Regional Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. This program is designed for people with Alzheimer's/dementia with work done on cognitive, physical and social stimulation. This also provides respite opportunity for caregivers to drop off their loved one and get a break for themselves. Registration is required by calling 920-225-1711 or email [mindworks@foxvalleymemoryproject.org](mailto:mindworks@foxvalleymemoryproject.org).

Movie Night is held at the New Holstein Public Library starting at 4:30 p.m. in the Arps Room. Popcorn will be provided.

**New Holstein Utilities** will hold an electronics recycling event from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Utilities Garage, 1819 Park Ave. See the Utilities' Facebook

page for more details as some items are free and others have a cost.

Overeaters Anonymous, a 12-step program, meets Thursdays from 4 to 5 p.m. at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1808 Eastern Ave., Plymouth. Please use the back door entrance. Call 920-889-3719 for the door code.

The Kiel Seniors play cards from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Kiel Community Center.

### May 16

Food distribution will take place at the Kiel Area Community Food Pantry, Inc. in the Rays of Hope Building, 410 Fremont St., from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

The Kiel Seniors play cards from 9 a.m. to noon at the Kiel Community Center.

Toddler Time, 10 a.m., Kiel Public Library

### May 17

Food distribution will take place at

**Turn to CALENDAR/page 40**

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# Man survives to stand with those who saved him

by Sarah Hall  
of The Review staff

At its May 13 meeting, the Plymouth Common Council honored police officers, firefighters first responders and a particularly heroic bystander whose quick actions saved a local man's life.

"On the evening of February 21st, 2025, shortly after 6 p.m., Mr. James Thiel was enjoying a night out with his wife at Antoinette's. Mr. Thiel collapsed and CPR was started by a bystander," Plymouth Police Chief Kenneth Ruggles told the council.

"Officers Kalie Novak and Brett Smith responded. The bystander performing CPR was none other than retired Assistant Fire Chief Rory Beebe," Ruggles continued. "Upon arrival, officer Smith deployed his Automatic External Defibrillator. Officer Novak assisted with CPR."

Some wrenching suspense ensued.

"An initial shock was delivered using the AED, but it did not revive Mr. Thiel," Ruggles explained. "CPR resumed and Orange Cross Ambulance arrived on scene. A second shock was delivered by Orange Cross medics and Mr. Thiel was stabilized."

"I'm told he even sat up and was talking in the ambulance on his way to Aurora Medical Center," Ruggles added. "I'm pleased to inform you that Mr. Thiel has recovered from this incident and is

See **SAVE/2**



Plymouth, The Review

## Quick response credited with saving man's life

SAVE from 1

in the audience tonight, with his wife Marjorie."

The couple stood up and were applauded, all those from the Plymouth Police and Fire Departments and Orange Cross Ambulance who assisted were recognized and plaques were handed out. Beebe received a "community hero" award.

"Without their efforts, especially Rory who jumped right in like we all know he will for the rest of his life here, Mr. Thiel would not still be with us. Hats off to all of them for a job well done and teamwork," Ruggles concluded.

Mayor Don Pohlman thanked everyone involved on behalf of the council.

"The community extends its deepest gratitude to Rory Beebe and all the first responders involved for their courage, professionalism, and commitment to saving lives," Fire Chief Ryan Pafford noted in a subsequent news release.

He praised Beebe for immediately stepping in, providing critical care in the crucial moments before emergency crews arrived. Their calm and decisive actions are credited with helping to save the individual's life."

In other business, the council approved purchasing and installing in the new oasis or pocket park in the Stayer Park



**FIREFIGHTERS, POLICE OFFICERS, FIRST RESPONDERS AND ONE QUICK-ACTING BYSTANDER** were recognized at the last Plymouth Common Council meeting for saving James Thiel's life. From left to right are Fire Department personnel Joe Paape, Leah Adamietz and Michael Birshbach, James Thiel, retired Assistant Fire Chief Rory Beebe who jumped in as a bystander, Marjorie Thiel, Orange Cross medic Austin Kramer, additional Fire Department staff Ben Holzmann and Ryan Wagner and Police Department officers Brett Smith and Kalie Novak. – Review photo by Sarah Hall

parking lot a flowing metal sculpture titled "Family Dynamics" by Paul Bobrowitz.

The pocket park is located at the end of the Division Street alley leading to the parking lot, in the spot once occupied by the Strutz Financial building demolished in 2023.

The artwork is an abstract piece suggesting a tree and incorporating elements representing family and connectiveness as well.

A Redevelopment Authority subcommittee charged with identifying appropriate artwork for the pocket park had sought public feedback at the last Mill Street Festival and learned that nature would be the favorite theme. An online survey then indicated a preference for artwork of a tree or flower specifically.

The RDA ultimately voted to allocate up to \$10,000 for



"Family Dynamics" sculpture

the future creation and city staff negotiated a match from [WPPI](#) Energy to bring the total allocation amount to \$20,000. A subsequent Request for Proposal produced five submissions and

"Family Dynamics" was chosen.

"The RDA is really excited about the proposal and our goal is to have it installed by the end of the summer," said Assistant City Administrator/Community Development Director Jack Johnston.

The council also approved two ordinances changing the land use plan for a 66-acre parcel recently acquired by Sargento Foods and located on the southeastern corner of state highway 57 and county highway PP from agricultural to industrial, and rezoning the parcel from agricultural to heavy industrial, to accommodate potential future development.

As most of the adjacent properties already have future land use designated as industrial and heavy industrial zoning as well, and the city's compre-

hensive plan does not identify the area for future residential development, city staff had recommended the action.

There were no speakers other than Johnston at the public hearing preceding the vote.

Mayor Pohlman presented a World Migratory Bird Day Resolution urging local citizens to support efforts to protect migratory birds and their habitats.

The council went into closed session to discuss the West Stafford Street parking lot project associated with the Laack Block restoration before reconvening in open session, but took no votes on the matter.

## One dead in motorcycle crash in Town



## Plymouth, The Review

### Nearly \$2 million in scholarships distributed

Members of the Plymouth High School Class of 2025 will be receiving nearly \$2 million in scholarships, which were announced during the annual Awards Night held May 7 at the school.

The total includes the Arno A. & Loretta K. Vogt Memorial Scholarship, which will be divided evenly among 61 recipients who have at least a 3.0 grade-point average and participated in at least 10 high school extracurricular activities. Arno (1904-1988) and Loretta K. Vogt (1906-1997) were lifelong learners and dedicated educators, who lived in Plymouth and taught in Sheboygan County schools.

Also among the awards are 48 scholarships worth more than \$65,246 administered by the Plymouth Education Foundation.

#### PHS seniors receiving scholarships

**Deacon Allen:** \$1,500 Chris Helmer Memorial Scholarship

**Samantha Andrews:** \$112,000 St. Norbert Presidential Scholarship; \$4,000 Alumni Referral Award; \$3,000 Roy Crawford Education & Development Foundation Scholarship

**Cole Anhalt:** \$6,000 UW-Platteville Merit Scholarship; \$5,000 Curt

G. Joa Inc. Scholarship + internship; \$2,500 Kees Manufacturing Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship

**A'ziah Bailey:** \$4,840 Kohler Foundation Advantage Lakeshore College Scholarship

**Alexis Balde:** \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$500 Plymouth Soccer Club Scholarship

**Colton Beauchamp:** \$6,500 Walter & June Vollrath Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$750 World's Cheese Center VFW Post 5612 Scholarship; \$750 Martha Thalheim Scholarship; \$500 David John Peters Memorial (Never Give Up) Scholarship; \$500 PHS Football Boosters Scholarship

**Miranda Beaudry:** \$7,000 June Longrie Vollrath Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$500 Cascade Lions Club Scholarship

**Cayden Becker:** \$6,000 UW-Platteville Merit Scholarship; \$500 "Hands On Your Future" Scholarship

**Austin Behr:** \$5,000 Mitchell Heun Memorial Scholarship

**Brooklyn Bersch:** \$98,000 Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design Presidential Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$500 PHS Fine Arts Booster Visual Arts Scholarship; \$150 Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizenship Award

**Adam Bindl:** \$15,000 Leonard Gentine Sr. Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$1,000 Plymouth Chamber of Commerce Scholarship; \$500

Sheboygan County Junior Holstein Association Scholarship; \$200 Melroy & Helen Kestell Scholarship

**Jake Bins:** \$6,750 Wisconsin Technical Excellence Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$1,000 Ernest & Ruth Haucke Memorial Scholarship; \$1,000 Robert H. Mueller Trade Scholarship; \$500 Kris Wimpler Memorial Scholarship

**Campbell Booth:** \$24,000 CFANS Animal Science Department Scholarship; \$20,000 University of Minnesota Twin Cities College of Food, Agricultural & Natural Resources Sciences Scholarship; \$15,000 Leonard Gentine Sr. Scholarship; \$2,000 Plymouth Professional Business Women Scholarship; \$2,000 Plymouth Professional Business Women Scholarship; \$1,500 UM Gophers Dairy Club Scholarship; \$1,500 WI Holstein Foundation John Klossner Memorial Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$1,000 Sheboygan River Progressive Farmers Scholarship; \$1,000 Sheboygan Co. Farm Bureau Scholarship; \$1,000 Plymouth Chamber of Commerce Scholarship; \$500 Sheboygan Co. Jr. Holstein Association Scholarship; \$500 FFA Alumni Scholarship; \$500 Plymouth Snow Rangers Scholarship; \$300 PHS Girls Basketball Booster Scholarship

**Blake Buechel:** \$1,000 Ladewig-Zinkgraf American Legion Post #243 Scholarship; \$500 "Hands On Your Future" Scholarship

**Gabrielle Bunyea:** \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship

**Lauren Cantwell:** \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship

**Danielle Conto:** \$28,000 Morehead State University Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$1,000 Stuart & Alyce Giffin Scholarship; \$500 Knights of Columbus #1789 Harold Meyer Scholarship; \$500 Jodi Hinz Memorial Scholarship

**Mary Crumley:** \$2,500 Elizabeth A. Jewett Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$1,000 Sheboygan County Area Retired Teachers Association Scholarship; \$1,000 Peter Talen Memorial Scholarship; \$1,000 UW-Stevens Point Invest in Your Purpose Scholarship; \$500 PHS Fine Arts Booster Drama Scholarship; \$500 Mary K. Croft Writing Scholarship; \$250 Pointer Promise Scholarship

**Hannah Downs:** \$1,000 Plymouth Lions Club Scholarship; \$500 Plymouth Soccer Club Scholarship

**Avery Duff:** \$5,000 Rhyann Family Class Exemplar Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$1,000 Wisconsin Association of Cheer/Pom Coaches Scholarship; \$600 GFWC Plymouth Woman's Club Scholarship

**Emily Entringer:** \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship

**Isaac Falk:** \$131,600 Lakeland University Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$547 Bill Lammers Memorial Scholarship; \$500 Plymouth

Soccer Club Scholarship

**Avalyn Friedel:** \$6,000 Winona State Presidents Honor Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship

**Sylvia Gehl:** \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship

**Marcus Gerlach:** \$2,000 Marshall Signs Scholarship

**Benjamin Harpstead:** \$2,500 Jean Lammers Schwiesow Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$1,200 Jimmy Lohr Memorial Scholarship

**Gaige Heller:** \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$500 VFW Post 9156 Giuliani Family Trades Scholarship

**Chase Hellmer:** \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$1,000 American Legion Post 386 Scholarship; \$500 [Plymouth Utilities](#) Scholarship; \$500 PHS Football Boosters Scholarship

**Barret Helmer:** \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$1,000 Plymouth High School Alumni Scholarship; \$500 Beyond the Badger State Scholarship; \$250 Plymouth Boys Basketball Booster Club Scholarship; Senior Athletic Award

**Brennan Helmer:** \$125,000 Chick Evans Scholarship for Caddies; \$3,000 Royce Thalheim Scholarship; \$1,500 Lisa & Brad Johnson Memorial Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$250 Sheboygan County Christian Youth Organization Athlete Award

**Yahir Hernandez-Montoya:** \$4,840 Kohler Foundation Advantage Lakeshore College Scholarship

**Wyatt Herzog:** \$6,750 Wisconsin



Plymouth, The Review

Nearly \$2 million in scholarships distributed

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The total includes the Arno A. & Loretta K. Vogt Memorial Scholarship, which will be divided evenly among 61 recipients who have at least a 3.0 grade-point average and participated in at least 10 high school extracurricular activities. Arno (1904-1988) and Loretta K. Vogt (1906-1997) were lifelong learners and dedicated educators, who lived in Plymouth and taught in Sheboygan County schools.

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**Colton Beauchamp:** \$6,500 Walter & June Vollrath Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$750 World's Cheese Center VFW Post 5612 Scholarship; \$750 Martha Thalheim Scholarship; \$500 David John Peters Memorial (Never Give Up) Scholarship; \$500 PHS Football Boosters Scholarship

**Miranda Beaudry:** \$7,000 June Longrie Vollrath Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$500 Cascade Lions Club Scholarship

**Cayden Becker:** \$6,000 UW-Platteville Merit Scholarship; \$500 "Hands On Your Future" Scholarship

**Austin Behr:** \$5,000 Mitchell Heun Memorial Scholarship

**Brooklyn Bersch:** \$98,000 Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design Presidential Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$500 PHS Fine Arts Booster Visual Arts Scholarship; \$150 Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizenship Award

**Adam Bindl:** \$15,000 Leonard Gentine Sr. Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$1,000 Plymouth Chamber of Commerce Scholarship; \$500

Sheboygan County Junior Holstein Association Scholarship; \$200 Melroy & Helen Kestell Scholarship

**Jake Bins:** \$6,750 Wisconsin Technical Excellence Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$1,000 Ernest & Ruth Haucke Memorial Scholarship; \$1,000 Robert H. Mueller Trade Scholarship; \$500 Kris Wimpler Memorial Scholarship

**Campbell Booth:** \$24,000 CFANS Animal Science Department Scholarship; \$20,000 University of Minnesota Twin Cities College of Food, Agricultural & Natural Resources Sciences Scholarship; \$15,000 Leonard Gentine Sr. Scholarship; \$2,000 Plymouth Professional Business Women Scholarship; \$2,000 Plymouth Professional Business Women Scholarship; \$1,500 UM Gophers Dairy Club Scholarship; \$1,500 WI Holstein Foundation John Klossner Memorial Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$1,000 Sheboygan River Progressive Farmers Scholarship; \$1,000 Sheboygan Co. Farm Bureau Scholarship; \$1,000 Plymouth Chamber of Commerce Scholarship; \$500 Sheboygan Co. Jr. Holstein Association Scholarship; \$500 FFA Alumni Scholarship; \$500 Plymouth Snow Rangers Scholarship; \$300 PHS Girls Basketball Booster Scholarship

**Blake Buechel:** \$1,000 Ladewig-Zinkgraf American Legion Post #243 Scholarship; \$500 "Hands On Your Future" Scholarship

**Gabrielle Bunyea:** \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship

**Lauren Cantwell:** \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship

**Danielle Conto:** \$28,000 Morehead State University Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$1,000 Stuart & Alyce Giffin Scholarship; \$500 Knights of Columbus #1789 Harold Meyer Scholarship; \$500 Jodi Hinz Memorial Scholarship

**Mary Crumley:** \$2,500 Elizabeth A. Jewett Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$1,000 Sheboygan County Area Retired Teachers Association Scholarship; \$1,000 Peter Talen Memorial Scholarship; \$1,000 UW-Stevens Point Invest in Your Purpose Scholarship; \$500 PHS Fine Arts Booster Drama Scholarship; \$500 Mary K. Croft Writing Scholarship; \$250 Pointer Promise Scholarship

**Hannah Downs:** \$1,000 Plymouth Lions Club Scholarship; \$500 Plymouth Soccer Club Scholarship

**Avery Duff:** \$5,000 Rhyann Family Class Exemplar Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$1,000 Wisconsin Association of Cheer/Pom Coaches Scholarship; \$600 GFWC Plymouth Woman's Club Scholarship

**Emily Entringer:** \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship

**Isaac Falk:** \$131,600 Lakeland University Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$547 Bill Lammers Memorial Scholarship; \$500 Plymouth

Soccer Club Scholarship

**Avalyn Friedel:** \$6,000 Winona State Presidents Honor Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship

**Sylvia Gehl:** \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship

**Marcus Gerlach:** \$2,000 Marshall Signs Scholarship

**Benjamin Harpstead:** \$2,500 Jean Lammers Schwiesow Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$1,200 Jimmy Lohr Memorial Scholarship

**Gaige Heller:** \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$500 VFW Post 9156 Giuliani Family Trades Scholarship

**Chase Hellmer:** \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$1,000 American Legion Post 386 Scholarship; \$500 Plymouth Utilities Scholarship; \$500 PHS Football Boosters Scholarship

**Barret Helmer:** \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$1,000 Plymouth High School Alumni Scholarship; \$500 Beyond the Badger State Scholarship; \$250 Plymouth Boys Basketball Booster Club Scholarship; Senior Athletic Award

**Brennan Helmer:** \$125,000 Chick Evans Scholarship for Caddies; \$3,000 Royce Thalheim Scholarship; \$1,500 Lisa & Brad Johnson Memorial Scholarship; \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$250 Sheboygan County Christian Youth Organization Athlete Award

**Yahir Hernandez-Montoya:** \$4,840 Kohler Foundation Advantage Lakeshore College Scholarship

**Wyatt Herzog:** \$6,750 Wisconsin



## Plymouth, The Review

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**Hannah Spiro:** \$56,000 Lakeland University Scholarship

**Claire Steinacker:** \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$1,000 Plymouth High School Alumni Scholarship

**Michael Stephan:** \$1,250 Vogt Scholarship; \$500 PHS Fine Arts Booster Choir Scholarship; \$500 Kiel Area Youth Theatre Scholarship

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# Plymouth, The Review

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Plymouth, The Review

## Major parking lot upgrade planned

### PROJECTS from 1

and Stafford streets.

TIF 8 will also include \$2.35 million in improvements and upgrades to the west municipal parking lot west of Stafford Street.

Other capital projects to be financed through the borrowing will be the Mill Pond dam improvement, a new fire truck, street projects on Collins Street this year and Grove Street next year, improvements at City Park including the addition of a lap pool and an electric storage building for [Plymouth Utilities](#).

Even with the projected \$13 million borrowing, the city will still be at only 21 percent of its debt capacity, what it is allowed by the state to borrow, according to Thorpe.

She noted that the 21 percent figure would still be in the low end for municipalities across the state.

"It's a reflection of thoughtful planning and thoughtful budgeting, when you can take on all these projects with very little impact on your tax rate," Thorpe told council members.

The city has closed out its largest TIF, the one which in-

cluded the Wal-Mart development and the County PP industrial park.

With that, the city was in position to create new TIF districts.

The first one, TIF 7, was created last fall to spur residential and other development on the city's northeast side.

The timetable for TIF 8 calls for presentation to the Joint Review Board June 5, along with a public hearing before the Plan Commission June 5.

The TIF plan is set to go before the council for its consideration June 24.

That meeting will also include authorization of the first \$7 million in notes for the capital projects, followed by \$4 million in 2026 and \$2 million in 2027.

"It's taken us a long time to get to this point, but this news is good," Mayor Donald Pohlman stated.

Even with the creation of TIF 7 and 8, the city still has capacity to create future tax incremental districts if warranted, he noted.

The tax incremental finance plan utilizes the tax revenue from the value of improvements in the district to pay the cost of infrastructure and other public

spending within the district.

During its regular meeting, the council approved an application process and fee for creating future TIFs.

"This proposed process is intended to clarify expectations for applicants, create an efficient and timely review process, and ensure that review of TIF does not place a financial burden on the city," City Administrator/Utilities Manager Tim Blakeslee explained in a memo to the council.

The process would include a \$300 application fee and an upfront deposit to cover the city's costs in assessing the feasibility of any requested TIF.

The council approved a \$350,000 loan from the city's revolving loan fund to Precision Floor and Decor.

The 10-year, low-interest loan would help finance an 8,000 square foot, \$700,000 expansion project for the Highland Avenue business.

"This is a very exciting project," Blakeslee said of the expansion, which he said should create an estimated five to 10 new jobs.

## Deal on paving too good to pass up

by **Tomas Ward**  
Review Correspondent

CASCADE – Roads in the village are already turned upside down, but that's not stopping officials from taking advantage of a special deal on asphalt paving.

"Just because we don't have enough construction in the village, we're doing some more quoting on what to fix this year," said President Tanya Powers at the May meeting of village trustees. She said that she was motivated by price reductions in road work over recent years.

Trustee Steve Green gave an example of the lowered cost. Working with a planner from the county highway department, Green received a quote to repave a section of Johnson Drive for \$11.9K, compared to \$18.6K in 2023, a difference of 36%.

"Blacktop is ridiculously down," Green said.

The board approved \$147,883 to repave sections of Johnson Dr, Francis Ave and Wisconsin Ave which Green said is the worst of the lot. The village saves \$20K by doing all of the work at once, needing only a single mobilization

of county personnel and equipment.

A mandatory update to the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) is looming large in terms of planning and finances.

The WWTP is out of compliance with the DNR and the village needs to upgrade in order to obtain an operating permit for 2026. Powers said that a recent estimate for the work came back at over \$8 million.

Who would be responsible for what portion of the large sum is a point of contention. Over 70% of last month's waste flow originated with Cascade Cheese Co. according to DPW worker Shawn Bigelow.

"So the Village of Cascade residents should have to pay for that?" asked Trustee Josh Karmasin. Powers said that a meeting with the cheese factory to discuss what is fair and appropriate was scheduled for later in the week. The DNR itself may cover \$1-2 million of the project.

Cybersecurity was also a topic as the internet of things comes to include vital infrastructure in the village.

See **CASCADE/12**

## CASCADE from 2

“Keep in mind, with the new well, treatment plant upgrades, a lot of those controls will be wi-fi [connected],” Bigelow said.

Powers said that she was recently approached by a firm that seeks grant funding to address network risks for local municipalities. Karmasin agreed to take the lead as the board develops an initial strategy to protect computer infrastructure.

Cascade’s firefighters and EMTs are offering opportunities to support life-saving services in the community.

The First Responders all-you-can-eat breakfast is on Saturday June 1st at the fire hall, from 7-11 am. The Cascade Fire Department relies on this and other public events to fund

its operating costs and equipment investment fund.

Cascade Fire hosted its annual classic car show on Sunday May 18, with dozens of vintage rides shown at the department headquarters.

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## Business

# Stoughton Utilities wins national Safety Award of Excellence

## American Public Power Association's Safety Award of Excellence

**Stoughton Utilities** has earned the American Public Power Association's Safety Award of Excellence for safe operating practices in 2024. According to a company news release, the utility earned a diamond status award in the category for utilities with 15,000 to 29,999 worker-hours of annual worker exposure.

The Safety Awards have been held annually for more than 66 years. APPA is the voice of not-for-profit, community-owned utilities that power 2,000 towns and cities nationwide.

"Harnessing electricity to keep our communities powered is vital work that can be dangerous, even deadly, if the proper attention isn't paid to tried-and-true safety practices," said Jon Beasley, Chair of APPA's Safety Committee and Vice-President of Electric Cities of GA. "This award honors utilities that hold fast to these practices and – in doing so – put the safety of their personnel and their customers above all else."

More than 200 utilities entered

## Stoughton Utilities receives RP3 designation

Stoughton Utilities also received the RP3 designation, which lasts for three years, recognizes public power utilities that demonstrate proficiency in four key disciplines: reliability, safety, workforce development, and system improvement. Criteria include sound business practices and a utility-wide commitment to safe and reliable delivery of electricity. Stoughton Utilities joins more than 250 public power utilities nationwide that hold the RP3 designation.

"Receiving an RP3 designation is a great honor signifying a utility has demonstrated commitment to industry best practices," said Jeremy Ash, Chair of APPA's RP3 Review Panel and General Manager at Kansas City Board of Public Utilities, Kansas.

Weiss said the designation is the "culmination of a lot of work from a lot of people who really care about powering our community."

"But this designation is not a final destination," she said. "We are committed to continuing to look for ways to improve our operations and service to our customers."

the annual Safety Awards for 2024. The entrants are placed in accordance with their number of worker-hours and ranked based on the most incident-free records and overall state of their safety programs and culture during 2024. The incidence rate is based on the number of work-related reportable injuries or illnesses and the number of worker-hours

during 2024, as defined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

"Stoughton Utilities cares deeply about sending our employees home to their families safely every single day," said Jill Weiss, Director of Stoughton Utilities. "We are proud to be honored for all the work that goes into standing behind this commitment."

# Stoughton Utilities receives RP3 designation

Stoughton Utilities also received the RP3 designation, which lasts for three years, recognizes public power utilities that demonstrate proficiency in four key disciplines: reliability, safety, workforce development, and system improvement. Criteria include sound business practices and a utility-wide commitment to safe and reliable delivery of electricity. Stoughton Utilities joins more than 250 public power utilities nationwide that hold the RP3 designation.

“Receiving an RP3 designation is a great honor signifying a utility has demonstrated commitment to industry best practices,” said Jeremy Ash, Chair of APPA’s RP3 Review Panel and General Manager at Kansas City Board of Public Utilities, Kansas.

Weiss said the designation is the “culmination of a lot of work from a lot of people who really care about powering our community.”

“But this designation is not a final destination,” she said. “We are committed to continuing to look for ways to improve our operations and service to our customers.”