June Member Clips

Alger Delta

- Home destroyed by fire near Vagabond

ATC

- Utilities seek pause on competitive bidding
- Negotiating the future of hyperscale data centers shouldn't come at the cost of our last wild places

Cedarburg

- City of Cedarburg Light & Water Commission president receives Public Office Award

Cuba City

- Council picks new president city seeks new officer

Florence

- Energy News consumer information

Hartford

- Hartford Police Department warns of recent utility scam attempts
- Hartford Utilities offering incentives for EVs

Jefferson

- 10th annual Jefferson Plein Air planned for June 17-20
- Jefferson celebrating 250th Independence Day

Kaukauna

- Little Chute High School/Career pathways class of 2026 award and scholarships

Lake Mills

- Jefferson County to host household recycling event
- Lakeside Lutheran scholarship recipients announced
- Lake Mills High School scholarship recipients announced

New Holstein

- Kiel High School seniors receive awards, scholarships
- Scholarships, awardspresented at KHS

Oconto Falls

- Beth Rank promotion announcement

Plymouth

- Downtown parking lot closed for redo

Sun Prairie

- Sun Prairie Garden Club announces May Garden of the Month
- Sun Prairie Utilities receives award
- Sun Prairie scales down to four polling places
- Second annual S.O.S. Food Fight Drive kicks off in Sun Prairie

Waunakee

- For 21 years, Tim Herlitzka helped keep Waunakee's lights on

DAILY PRESS

Home destroyed by fire near Vagabond

Jun 23, 2026



A firefighter steps over charred remains of a garage that burned along with its contents -- like the automobile seen -- in addition to the attached house on Monday morning on Stonington Peninsula. (R. R. Branstrom | Daily Press)

NSIGN TOWNSHIP — Six months ago, Stewart Moran bought his first house. Yesterday, he had to watch it burn down.

The house is a total loss, but no one was injured. Moran credits the smoke detectors with saving the lives of himself and his sister, the two occupants of the residence that stood near the Vagabond Resort on the Stonington Peninsula.

As firefighters from multiple agencies continued to hose down the smoldering remains of his home, Moran explained what happened to neighbors and the Press.

Early in the morning, the homeowner was awake but not quite ready to get up when he heard an alarm go off, he said.

“That’s the only reason I got up, because I didn’t smell any smoke in my room until I opened the door,” Moran shared. He walked through the house, found smoke hovering in some of the rooms, and realized it was coming from the garage. Considering it might have been a small garbage fire, he opened the door to the garage, thinking he’d look inside.

“I opened that door, and just smoke hit me, and then I turned around. I was like, ‘this isn’t a little garbage fire,'” Moran said. He yelled towards his sister’s bedroom for her to get up, grab her phone and evacuate. “I waited for her, and we both ran out the side door.”

With her cell phone, they called 911; Moran didn’t attempt go back to his bedroom to find his phone.

Ensign Township Fire Chief Alan Novak estimated that he was paged around 6:30 a.m. along with the volunteer fire departments of Masonville Township and Nahma Township.

“We responded along with Masonville and Nahma, then once we were in route, we heard it had went from ‘full of smoke’ to a ‘house engulfed,’ and we got Brampton coming,” Novak said. “We set up and started fighting fire, and then we requested manpower from Gladstone volunteers and Escanaba Township volunteers.”

Early arrivers were DTE Energy and Alger Delta Cooperative Electric Association, who Novak said “promptly” cut off the gas and electricity while the place was burning.

The dispatch operator had asked the callers asked for their gas and electric suppliers: “When we called 911, that was one of the first things — they were actually really good about it,” Moran said.

Yvonne Pittman, co-owner of the neighboring Vagabond Resort, expressed that she was impressed with the response time from the firefighters. She was on the scene in part to make sure people camping nearby were out of the danger zone.

Though the property that burned is next to the boat launch at the Vagabond and is accessed via an easement at the resort, Moran’s home was not exactly lakefront. However, with the water just a couple hundred yards away, firefighters set up hoses and filled their portable tank with lake water to douse the fire.

“We were able to pump out of the lake and pump right up to the engine, so it eliminated a tanker shuttle, so that was pretty nice,” Novak said. “We filled with tankers at first till Masonville got their volume pump set up, and then they pumped up into the tank.”

The house — a single-story building with cathedral ceilings and a basement as well as attached garage — was the only structure affected, but it was completely destroyed.

Though it seems pretty clear that there fire started in the garage, wherein Moran's car was reduced to a blackened shell, exactly where or how it initiated is yet unknown.

Though Moran and his sister lost much of their belongings, the Iraq veteran was optimistic that he'd be able to rescue his war medals. Unfortunately, old family photographs were almost certainly destroyed.

Since the house, which he purchased in January, was his very first, he had wanted to cover his bases and was heavily insured. He may rebuild, but it's too soon to say. Pittman offered an open cabin at the Vagabond free of charge.

Novak said that while it took about an hour to knock down the flames, responders were on scene until a little after 10 a.m. finishing dousing the site and then cleaning up.

"Put a little safety briefing in there," Moran called to the Daily Press reporter preparing to leave the scene. "Fire alarms work."

Jun 01 2026 Page A001 Clip resized 46%

Portage Daily Register



Utilities seek pause on competitive bidding

Lawmakers urge federal commission to reject request

MITCHELL SCHMIDT
mschmidt@madison.com

MADISON — An effort by several utility companies — including some of the largest in the state — seeking to limit competition on large-scale energy infrastructure projects has been met with pushback from a dozen state lawmakers and the Midwest grid operator that oversees Wisconsin's transmission network.

Nine transmission companies, including Wisconsin's American Transmission Company, ITC Midwest and Xcel Energy Services, last month filed a complaint with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission requesting a suspension of competitive bidding rules for multi-billion-dollar powerline projects within the footprints of Midwest grid operator MISO, which covers Wisconsin, and central U.S. grid operator SPP.

The coalition of companies argues the solicitation process for those projects is "unjust and unreasonable," while opponents say competition can hold down the price of such projects and call the request "tone deaf" at a time when customers across the country face rising energy rates.

Please see **UTILITIES,** Page A2



JOHN HART, STATE JOURNAL ARCHIVES

Transmission towers that are part of the Cardinal-Hickory Creek project are shown along the southern shoulder of Stagecoach Road in the village of Cross Plains. Several companies assert that the process for soliciting bids for certain regional transmission projects is "unjust and unreasonable."

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.



Portage Daily Register

WISCONSIN NEWS TRACKER

Utilities

From A1

The request comes as states like Wisconsin see unprecedented development of artificial intelligence data centers. FERC's decision could have a dramatic impact on which companies get to build out the power lines needed to supply those energy-hungry facilities.

The coalition has asked the commission to temporarily suspend the solicitation process for five years, or exempt competitive bidding for certain regional projects that, "if delayed by solicitation, would delay service to new generation or load." The companies have asked the five-member federal commission to act on the matter by July 16.

In response, a dozen Republican state legislators, including eight in the Assembly and four in the Senate, sent a letter to FERC urging commissioners to reject the coalition's request.

Lawmakers note the request follows repeated failed efforts, led by some of the companies now seeking action from the federal government, to implement a so-called "right of first refusal" law in Wisconsin. Such a law would essentially block out-of-state companies from building long-distance power line projects. Similar bills dating back to 2021 have failed to clear both legislative chambers.

Wisconsin's right-of-first-refusal proposal was by far the most-lobbied bill during the 2023-24 legislative session.

"Having failed repeatedly to persuade the Wisconsin Legislature — a body accountable to the state's ratepayers, businesses, and communities — the same incumbent entities are now pursuing an end-run at FERC," the lawmakers wrote.

The utility companies are challenging FERC's Order 1000, a rule adopted in 2011 that lays out competition rules and planning processes for high-voltage line projects.

The arguments

The companies assert the solicitation process can delay large-scale transmission projects by as much as 20 months. One year of delay can increase construction costs by as much as 20% for every $1 billion spent the companies argue.

State lawmakers argue the companies are seeking to undermine the federal commission's "core goal of promoting competition in regional transmission planning to lower costs, enhance reliability, further expand wholesale electricity markets, and accelerate innovation for the benefit of consumers."

"This goal is even more urgent today given the rising issue of customer affordability," the lawmakers wrote in the letter.

One of those lawmakers, Rep. Dan Knodl, R-Germantown, said competitive bidding "keeps people honest."

"That is what we're wanting to always have — some kind of downward pressure or competitive bid pressure to keep rates in check," Knodl said.

Ellen Nowak, a former member of the state Public Service Commission and current vice president of regulatory and government affairs for American Transmission Company, asserted opponents to the proposal are relying on "outdated and misleading statistics," which ignore the final costs customers ultimately pay on such projects.

"Competition still plays a role in the procurement of labor and materials," Nowak said in an email. "The solicitation process at MISO is anything but open and transparent, and Wisconsin residents deserve to know how decisions are made about its infrastructure."

The grid operator

MISO, a nonprofit established in 2001 to operate electricity markets and oversee regional planning in 15 states, including Wisconsin, and one Canadian province, also responded to the complaint. While the grid operator stopped short of recommending the commission approve or reject the complaint, it did challenge assertions made by the companies.

For one, MISO wrote in a recent filing with FERC that it "disagrees with the exaggerated length of the delay alleged in the Complaint as MISO's actual experience differs from the alleged 16-20-month timeframe."

The grid operator also noted multiple efforts made since FERC's order was implemented to streamline and enhance the competitive bidding process.

An analysis released earlier this week by R Street Institute found that competitively bid transmission projects within MISO have generally reached completion faster than comparable projects built by companies already operating in the state. Savings from competitively bid projects "are in the 30 percent range as compared to incumbent projects," the institute said.

Paul Cicio, chair of the Electricity Transmission Competition Coalition, a nationwide group that promotes the benefits of competitive bidding on large-scale transmission projects, described the companies' request as "tone deaf," especially considering rising energy prices nationwide.

"The incumbent electric utilities are essentially asking FERC to protect them from competition, so that they can increase their profits and electricity prices on captive consumers — that's what this is all about," Cicio said.

The federal government does not directly control the grid but sets ground rules for entities such as MISO.

In its filing, MISO urges the commission to "take care to avoid unintended consequences that may undermine the goal of expediting transmission development to meet the needs of new load and generation integration."

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.



Cedarburg, News Graphic

WISCONSIN NEWS TRACKER

Jun 11 2026 Page A04 Clip resized 46%

GUEST OPINION

Negotiating the future of hyperscale data centers shouldn't come at the cost of our last wild places

By Tom Stolp

Wisconsin communities have been thrust into fast-paced, often behind-the-scenes negotiations regarding hyperscale data centers and their required energy infrastructure when we really need to have a frank conversation about this emergent sector and its impacts on our communities.



Stolp

The closest we've come to a frank conversation is now hurriedly unfolding via a highly technical evaluation at the Wisconsin Public Service Commission (PSC), which is reviewing a proposed 123-mile high-voltage transmission line by American Transmission Company to serve the Port Washington data center.

If approved, the project would affect hundreds of acres of high-quality natural areas — lands protected, restored and carefully stewarded over decades. These places support biodiversity, improve water quality and provide meaningful access to nature. Their loss and fragmentation would be significant.

Based on American Transmission Company's application, there is little evidence that permanently conserved lands, wildlife habitat or conservation data were central to route selection.

To defend the integrity of these lands and ensure the PSC relies on the best available science, Restoring Lands (formerly Ozaukee Washington Land Trust) has formally intervened in the proceeding. We have engaged legal counsel, retained PhD-level scientists and conducted fieldwork so these lands that you've helped us preserve for future generations are treated with the seriousness the law — and science-based decision-making — require.

As a regional voice for a wise balance of development and conservation since 1992, we want to ensure we're at the table for negotiations and not on the menu, as the saying goes.

A final decision on transmission routes is expected in late fall 2026. In the meantime, one aspect of process centers on the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which is intended to inform decision-makers before choices are made.

Unlike ATC, the public agencies who prepared the draft EIS proactively identified the conserved lands that may be affected by the transmission line. They also acknowledged protections that are built in to protect conserved lands and limitations on development. Kudos to the PSC and DNR for their work.

> "Installing transmission towers approaching the height of the Statue of Liberty WILL permanently alter rural landscapes."

While we appreciate the diligence of public agencies in preparing the EIS, key aspects of the Draft EIS nonetheless understate the scale and magnitude of impacts — especially along the Southern Preferred and Preferred Contingent routes advocated by American Transmission Company.

Too often, the EIS describes impacts as things that "may" happen, when many WILL happen if the project proceeds.

Clearing a 150-foot-wide corridor through forest WILL fragment ecosystems. Installing transmission towers approaching the height of the Statue of Liberty WILL permanently alter rural landscapes. These are not possibilities — they are outcomes.

This distinction matters because the routes cut through some of the largest remaining intact and permanently conserved natural areas in southeastern Wisconsin. These are not interchangeable acres. Forests and forested wetlands, once cleared, do not return to their prior condition.

The EIS also indicates mitigation is available, but not all mitigation will work. For example, the EIS suggests forested wetlands could be "remediated" into open systems. Converting forest into open systems is not "remediation." Once trees are removed, invasive species often take hold, hydrology changes and unique habitat is lost.

Some impacts cannot be mitigated at all.

Fragmentation affects sensitive wildlife species — from cerulean warblers to spotted salamanders to bobcats — that depend on large, unbroken habitats. The draft EIS focuses on avoiding direct "take" or actions that will directly result in death of wildlife, but gives insufficient weight to habitat loss, the primary driver of species decline.

The human impact also deserves greater attention. Lands such as Riverbend and County Line preserves are open for hiking, hunting, birdwatching and quiet recreation. Many are protected through conservation easements and public programs like the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program. These values are not incidental — they are the reason these lands were protected.

The EIS notes that impacts to endangered species are "harder to compare" between routes. It also fails to discuss future phases of the project that even ATC admits may be forthcoming, as cumulative impacts. Where such uncertainty exists, the answer should be more study, not less clarity.

There is time for that study — at least for this project. The final EIS is due in July and must take into account the concerns addressed by comments from Restoring Lands and others. The PSC will also take testimony from parties to the case like Restoring Lands, as well as citizens via public comment, later this summer and fall, before making its final decision.

While state agencies are empowered to reject the ATC project if it fails to meet required criteria, they shouldn't have to reinvent the wheel of wilderness inventory and protection with every new data center-related development. As this case illustrates, this kind of piecemeal review risks missing issues and the full magnitude of impacts.

We offer two recommended reforms to ensure at least a baseline level of protection for our community's conservation values going forward:

First, Wisconsin should follow Pennsylvania's lead. In 2018, Act 45 strengthened that state's Eminent Domain Code by requiring courts to determine that no reasonable alternative exists before conserved land can be taken. Wisconsin should similarly treat conserved lands as a last resort — not as open space awaiting development.

Second, to mitigate the loss of habitat and preserve rural character and outdoor recreation traditions, any conversion of natural or agricultural land should be offset by permanently conserving acreage of equal or greater conservation value.

Such reforms, whether legislative, regulatory or voluntary, would better ensure community-informed decisions that acknowledge permanent impacts and account for cumulative effects, especially amid uncertainty about what comes next.

For more information, please visit www.restoringlands.org.

(Tom Stolp is executive director of Restoring Lands.)

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.



Jun 02
2026
Page A03
Clip resized 53%

CITY OF CEDARBURG

Light & Water Commission president receives Public Official Award



Photo courtesy of the Cedarburg Light & Water Commission

CEDARBURG — Andy Moss, president of the Cedarburg Light & Water Commission, was recognized by Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin (MEUW) and given the Public Official Award at the association's 96th annual conference in Sun Prairie on May 14.

The Public Official Award is given to individuals who have made a significant impact on public power through an extraordinary commitment to service.

"An association is nothing without the people who make it special," said MEUW President and CEO Tim Heinrich. "The individuals recognized by MEUW embody the mission to unify and strengthen community-owned utilities in Wisconsin. Honoring the folks who demonstrate a commitment to public power is important to our continued success."

Moss has been a strong advocate of public power while on the Cedarburg Light & Water Commission, according to a MEUW press release. His early-career experience working for an investor-owned utility has provided him a valuable perspective to promote the values and benefits of public power.

Moss is a regular participant in public power meetings and events at both the state and federal level. He has represented Cedarburg Light & Water Utility and WPPI Energy at the APPA Legislative Rally and MEUW's Day at the Capitol numerous times during his tenure. He has also represented Wisconsin and four other states as a member of APPA's Policy Makers Council, comprised of governing officials from public power utilities and local leaders who work with APPA staff to advocate for legislative and regulatory priorities.

Formed in 1928, MEUW is the state association providing safety services, leadership and management training, advocacy and member support to 81 municipal electric utilities across Wisconsin. Collectively, these public power utilities distribute more than 11% of the electricity in Wisconsin and most have century-old roots in serving their communities. Municipal utilities operate on a not-for-profit basis overseen by a local governing board composed of local citizens and elected officials. To learn more, visit meuw.org.

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.



Jun
04
2026
Page
003
Clip
resized
91%

Council picks new president

City seeks new officer

BY ELYSSA VONDRA

The City of Cuba City now has its new Common Council members in place and is seeking a new part-time police officer.

During a recent meeting, the council accepted the resignation of the part-time Cuba City Police Department officer who councilors voted to extend a final job offer to in November 2025. On the Police Advisory Committee's recommendation, members of the council also voted to post the part-time officer position.

Based on the online job posting for the role, applications were to be submitted by June 2.

And as Cuba City looks for its new CCPD employee, its Common Council members are settling into their updated board, commission and committee assignments. They also selected a new President of Council following the Spring 2026 election.

Alds. Frank Raupp and Steve Tranel both received nominations for the council president position. The council selected Raupp by secret ballot on a vote of 5–3.

Councilors have also voted in an additional new member to finish out the current term for a District 4 alderperson seat. The city's new mayor, Tim Hazen, was previously serving in this role.

Hazen recommended Melvin Kreul to finish out his term as a council member. Kreul previously worked for the city and has been an active member of the Cuba City Light & Water Utility Commission board, so he knows the "ins and outs" of Cuba City, said Hazen.

City council members in attendance during this spring's Reorganizational Meeting of the Common Council voted in favor of appointing Kreul for the position.

Cuba City's previous mayor, John Van De Wiel — who did not seek reelection this spring — spoke during the reorganizational meeting about the positive experiences he has had working with Cuba City's employees and serving the city in the mayoral role for the last five years, as well as on the council in the five years prior. He plans to remain active in the community, serving as a citizen member of the Community Development Commission and the Plan Commission.

New Mayor Hazen shared his thoughts on taking the reins to lead the council.

"I've always felt that, that we're here as a team, and we work as a team together," said Hazen, in part. "We may not agree on all items; we may not vote the same way, but ultimately then, whatever we vote on and decide upon … we need to respect that … whether you're on the winning side or the losing side."

"…I just think that, collectively, the better we work together, the better we can support our staff and our workers and everything," added Hazen, commenting that they have had a great group while he has been on the council in the years leading up to his election to the mayoral post this spring.

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.



ENERGY NEWS
Consumer Information
FLORENCE UTILITIES
A WPPI ENERGY COMMUNITY

ENERGY NEWS – JUNE 2026

CALL IF YOU EXPERIENCE A POWER OUTAGE

If your home is experiencing a power outage, please contact the Florence Utility Office at 715-528-3330. Please don't assume that someone else has made the call unless you know for certain. A power outage may be isolated to your home or the outage may be experienced at multiple locations. It is important for utility personnel to know the extent of the outage as they work toward restoring power.

STAY CLEAR OF DOWNED LINES

A downed power line can be very dangerous. It could cause serious injury or death. If you encounter a downed line, call Florence Utilities at 715-528-3330 or dial 911 and notify the Sheriff's Office. NEVER touch, walk over or drive over a downed line; assume all downed lines are power lines – energized and deadly.

SPECIAL MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

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

UPDATE OUR RECORDS

We would like to remind our customers how important it is to keep our customer records up-to-date in order to serve you better. If the need should arise to contact you due to a utility related emergency on your property, it is crucial for us to have current contact information immediately available. If you have not provided our office with current contact information within the last 12 months, please call our office at 715-528-3330, or email florenceutilities@florenceutilitieswi.gov to update your records. The information you provide is secure.

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.



Jun 10
2026
Page A03
Clip resized 86%

Hartford Police Department warns of recent utility scam attempts

Community members should be aware and double check

HARTFORD — The Hartford Police Department recently reported an increase in utility scams in the area, warning community members to exercise caution if they receive suspicious communications.

According to an advisory from the department, scammers are calling businesses and residents stating they are sending a tech out to disconnect services; specifically electric service. The department has even received a call at City Hall. The department emphasized that this is not the case, and is a scam.

"If you are a resident of the City of Hartford or Village of Slinger, please take note," said the HPD in the announcement. "Please be alert to these calls as Hartford Electric services the City of Hartford and Village of Slinger residential and commercial electric. If there is to be a disconnection, you would be notified by the city."

Community members who receive one of these calls are advised to hang up. Community members should also never call them back at a number the scammers provide. If someone does feel the need to follow up, they should call Hartford Utilities Billing Department at 262-673-8212. We Energies gas customers can contact them directly at 800-242-9137.

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.



Hartford Utilities offering incentives for EVs

HARTFORD — Hartford Utilities is offering a number of incentives to community members, groups and other entities for installing new Level 2 or 3 electric vehicle chargers.

Level 2 and Level 3 chargers represent different charging speeds and technologies. Level 2 (240V) is standard for home and workplace charging, adding 15 to 30 miles of range per hour. Level 3 (DC Fast Charging) is commercial-grade, adding 75 to 1,200 mph for rapid highway use.

"One of the limiting factors in deciding to get an electric vehicle is the time it takes to charge the car. Hartford Utilities wants to help," said the utility in an announcement. "The utility can help make switching to an electric vehicle easier than ever."

According to the information provided by the utility, these offers include:

Residential customers

■ $250 rebate for a Level 2 charger (maximum of 50% of installed cost if installed cost is less than $500).

Commercial customers

■ $1,000 rebate per Level 2 or 3 charger (maximum of 50% of the installed cost, rebate not to exceed $1,000 per charger).

■ $1,500 rebate per Level 2 dual-head charger (maximum of 50% of installed cost not to exceed $1,500).

To qualify, the EV charger receipt needs to be submitted within 90 days of purchase. Other eligibility requirements apply. According to the information provided, the applicants must:

■ Have purchased and installed a Level 2 or 3 EV Charger within the past 12 months.

■ Be a resident who owns or leases a registered EV that can receive a Level 2 or 3 charge

■ Be a Hartford Electric customer whose account is in good standing.

■ Have installed a EV charger on an electric meter billed under an electric service rate.

Applicants should also contact the utility at 262-670-3700 to confirm funding is still available. If an applicant meets all eligibility requirements, they can complete the application form, as well as show a receipt for the EV charger and a receipt of installation costs. The form can be found online at tinyurl.com/HartEVRebate. They can then drop off their completed application at the utility's office or mail it to: Hartford Electric, 620 W. Sumner St., Hartford, WI 53027.

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.

Jun 11 2026 Page A03 Clip resized 76%

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

10th annual Jefferson Plein Air planned for June 17-20



CONTRIBUTED

The 10th annual Jefferson Plein Air is scheduled for June 17-20. The event is organized by the Arts Alliance of Greater Jefferson.

ELLEN WALDMER
ellenw@artinjefferson.com

To paint "en plein air" is the French expression for "in the open air." From June 17-20, artists will leave their studios to paint scenes of Jefferson on canvas in the open air. Artists will be found in downtown Jefferson and surrounding areas painting historic buildings, churches, the beautiful Rock and Crawfish rivers, landscapes and other points of interest. You are invited to find the artists and watch them create a piece of art.

This is the 10th year for the Plein Air in Jefferson, organized by the Arts Alliance of Greater Jefferson.

Our judges are Wisconsin Plein Air Artists, Troy Tatlock and Mary Beth Drabiszczak. Troy and Mary Beth will view all the paintings on Friday afternoon and collaborate to choose winners for awards totaling $3,900. The framed artwork will be on display and available for sale at Fort Community Credit Union, 100 N Main St starting Friday evening at a Reception and Awards Presentation. The public is welcome to view and purchase artwork during the gallery hours on Saturday June 20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Local artists participating in this year's event include: Janet Nelson of Cambridge, Chris Steinmiller of Sullivan, and Nicole Gross of Sullivan.

The sponsors for this event include: Gold Sponsor — Nestle-Purina, Silver Sponsor- Jefferson Utilities Commission and Jefferson Tourism Commission, Bronze Sponsor — Jefferson Community Foundation, Community Sponsors — Century 21 Integrity Group, FOCUS Coworking and Fort Community Credit Union.

As part of this event, we are also holding a "kids" contest. Kids (age 5-18) can pick up supplies at Tan-A-Latte in Jefferson, complete a Plein Air artwork and turn it in by Saturday June 13 at Tan-A-Latte. Prizes will be awarded in three award categories, and the artwork will be displayed in downtown Jefferson businesses windows.

Information on the event can be found on www.artinjefferson.com on the Plein Air tab. The facebook page for the "Arts Alliance of Greater Jefferson" will post updates prior to and during the event. For more information contact Ellen Waldmer at 414-322-1440 or ellenw@artinjefferson.com.

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.



Jun 19 2026 Page A02 Clip resized 93%

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

Jefferson celebrating 250th Independence Day

LAURIE STRACHE
Chamber of Commerce
Executive Director

JEFFERSON — The City of Jefferson invites residents and visitors to celebrate a week of community pride, history, music and family fun during Jefferson's Independence Week Celebration, beginning Thursday, June 25, and continuing through July 3.

This year's celebration is especially meaningful as Jefferson commemorates its 190th Birthday while also recognizing America's 250th Anniversary, bringing the community together for a series of events that honor both local heritage and national pride.

The festivities begin on Thursday, June 25, with a birthday celebration for the City of Jefferson featuring live music by Main Street Big Band at 6:30 p.m. Attendees can enjoy complimentary birthday cake as the community gathers to celebrate 190 years of Jefferson's rich history and bright future. Special thanks to our sponsors — Jefferson Rotary Club, Jefferson Historical Society, Edward Jones–Tom Moore, and St. John's Lutheran Church — whose support has helped make this celebration possible.

The celebration continues on Saturday, June 27, at Rotary Waterfront Park with America's 250th Celebration.

"Jefferson's Independence Week is a wonderful opportunity for residents and visitors to come together and celebrate our community, our nation's history, and the traditions that make Jefferson such a special place," said Jefferson Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Laurie Strache. "Whether you're enjoying live music, taking a boat ride, sharing birthday cake, watching the drone show or enjoying fireworks, there's something for everyone to enjoy."

This community celebration is made possible through the generous support of our presenting sponsor, Home Instead, along with sponsors Aztalan Bio, Kikkoman, Nestlé Purina, Festival Foods, Loos Homes, Gorman & Company, the City of Jefferson, Jefferson Utilities, the Jefferson Live Music Foundation and the Jefferson Area Chamber of Commerce. Their commitment to our community helps create memorable experiences for residents and visitors alike.

Additional Independence Week events will take place throughout the week, including a free concert in the park on Thursday, July 2 featuring The Playlist at 6:30 p.m., sponsored by Randy Schopen Foundation, Jefferson Speedway, and Herbie's Bar, culminating on July 3 with a full day of patriotic festivities throughout Jefferson.

The celebration includes First Friday in Downtown Jefferson, featuring shopping, dining, and live entertainment. At 2 p.m. the community is invited to attend a special wreath-laying ceremony honoring Pvt. at the Greenwood Cemetery. Eliada Brown, a veteran of the American Revolutionary War who is buried in Jefferson, recognizing his service and the sacrifices made by those who helped establish our nation.

The day's festivities conclude with a spectacular fireworks display sponsored by Festival Foods at the Jefferson Fair Park, providing a memorable finale to Jefferson's Independence Week Celebration.

We also extend our sincere appreciation to the City of Jefferson Parks Department, City of Jefferson Public Works Department, and City of Jefferson Police Department for their dedication, planning, and support in making this celebration possible.

Attendees are encouraged to follow all event parking signage upon arrival. Designated areas for handicapped parking and motorcycle parking will be clearly marked to help ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all guests.

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.

Kaukauna, Heart of the Valley Times-Villager

Little Chute High School/Career Pathways Class of 2026 awards and scholarships

Heather Altergott — O'Connell Family Technical Education Scholarship

Haven Becker — Project Starfish Pay It Forward Scholarship, Mark G. and Ruth Hietpas Memorial Scholarship

Vanessa Chacon — Borgen Heiting Wealth Management Scholarship, Mr. and Mrs. K "One Word" Scholarship, Top Ten Senior, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Valentina Cristan — Kayla Murphy Boys and Girls Club Scholarship

Jackson Czarnecki — American Legion Post #258 Award for Outstanding Senior Boy, BLC Community Bank Outstanding Math Student Scholarship, National Merit Scholarship, LCHS Valedictorian, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Top Ten Senior

Campbell DeBoth — Booster Club Mustang Spirit Award

Garit Dove — Greg Dove Memorial Scholarship

Elijah Driessen — Wisconsin Academic Excellence Scholarship, WIAA Scholar Athlete Award, Ken's Sports Racing for Academic Excellence Scholarship, Heritage Society Scholarship, Distinguished Scholar Award, University of Dubuque Grant, LCCPA Valedictorian, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Top Ten Senior

Hunter Dunn — UW-Oshkosh Merit Scholarship, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Cooper Effa — EZ Glide Athletic Scholarship, Mike Mollen Outstanding Male Athlete Award, Little Chute Gridiron Club Scholarship, Merit Scholarship

Isabel Garza — Genevieve and Simon Hietpas Memorial Scholarship

Ashley Graf — Joseph Hietpas Memorial Scholarship, WIAA Scholar Athlete Award, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Top Ten Senior

John Haack — Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Maddalynn Hall — UW-Milwaukee Black and Gold Scholarship

Bailey Hietpas-McKeithan — Wisconsin Technical Excellence Scholarship

Addison Hoefler — George Vanderloop, Sr. Memorial Scholarship, Heart of the Valley Lions Club Scholarship, Little Chute Performing Arts Scholarship, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Will Jansen — Greg Dove Memorial Scholarship, Little Chute Gridiron Club Scholarship

Madisen Job — Community Blood Center Scholarship

Madison Kang — Chute-ing Stars Dance Scholarship

Elliott Kaphingst — UW-Stout Merit Scholarship

Ian Keiler — Wisconsin Technical Excellence Scholarship, Tradesman Scholarship

Miranda Kirchner — American Legion Post #258 Scholarship

Jaiden Knapp — Horatio Alger Scholarship

Emily Lemm — Little Chute Education Association Scholarship, Little Chute Educational Enrichment Scholarship

Gwen Lesselyoung — Reynebeau Floral Vocal Music Recognition

Mark Mariano — Reynebeau Floral Instrumental Music Recognition

Elliana Martin — Fox Valley Metro Police K-9 Foundation Scholarship

Logan McClone — American Legion Post #258 Scholarship, Sherwood Area Optimist Club Scholarship

Gavin McInnis — Mike Mollen Humanitarian Award, Tom Myers Sportsman Scholarship

Aubrey Meyer — Reynebeau Floral Instrumental Music Recognition

Zuzanna Mosienska — Outstanding Senior Female Athlete Scholarship, Outstanding Senior Female Athlete Award

Molly Neubauer — Bill Fitzpatrick, Sr. Jaycees 110% Award, Dan Valentyn "Stay Classy" Award, Little Chute Performing Arts Scholarship, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Aron O'Bannon — BLC Community Bank Outstanding Senior Student Scholarship, Mary N. Janssen Memorial Scholarship, ProAmpac Scholarship, Project Starfish Pay It Forward Scholarship, LCCPA Valedictorian, Top Ten Senior, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Evyn Ogden — Project Starfish Pay It Forward Scholarship

Isabel Ogden — Project Starfish Pay It Forward Scholarship, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Carter Rosin — Little Chute Jaycees Personal Growth & Development Scholarship, Kaukauna Utilities Scholarship, Top Ten Senior

Ethan Roskom — Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Ryleigh Schmidt — George Vanderloop, Sr. Memorial Scholarship, Student Council I.M.A.D. (I Made a Difference Scholarship, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Top Ten Senior

Owen Schmitz — Nestle Pizza Division Academic Scholarship, Wisconsin Grant, Federal Pell Grant, LCCPA Valedictorian, Top Ten Senior, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Wesley Schulz — Amy DeBruin Memorial Scholarship, Project Starfish Pay It Forward Scholarship, Mustang GRIT Scholarship, Kara Beattie Memorial Scholarship

Aydian Stingle — Little Chute Wrestling Club Scholarship

James Thiel — Tom Myers Sportsman Scholarship

Marlee Vanden Boogard — George Vanderloop, Sr. Memorial Scholarship, Mustang Mentors Scholarship, Kaukauna Utilities Scholarship, Unison Credit Union John Aman Memorial Scholarship, UW-La Crosse Community Foundation Scholarship, Jason David Koppelman Scholarship, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Kaitlyn Vanden Burgt — O'Connell Family Technical Education Scholarship

Ethan Van Dyn Hoven — Reynebeau Floral Instrumental Music Recognition. Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Grace Van Grinsven — Booster Club Mustang Spirit Award, Little Chute Hoops Club Scholarship, O'Connell Family Technical Education Scholarship

Calvin Van Rossum — Nestle Pizza Division Academic Scholarship, Top Ten Senior

Cameron Van Rossum — Eugene & Jane Romenesko Family Scholarship

Alana Van Wychen — American Legion Post #258 Award for Outstanding Senior Girl, Wisconsin Academic Excellence Scholarship,

Returning home



Submitted photo

The Appleton Airport Flight Center welcomed returning soldiers from the Wisconsin National Guard on Friday, May 29.

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.

Jun 09 2026 Page A06 Clip resized 97%

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

Jefferson County to host household recycling event

KIM BUCHHOLZ
Sustainable Waste Programs Coordinator

The Jefferson County Solid Waste Program will hold a household electronics and appliance recycling event on Saturday, June 13 from 8-11 a.m. at the Lake Mills Light & Water Department (155 Industrial Dr., Lake Mills). This event is open to all Jefferson County households.

You do not need to register for the event! Come to the Lake Mills Light & Water Department between 8-11 a.m. We will assist customers on a first-come, first-served basis. The cost is $10 per vehicle (cash only).

Note: Depending upon turnout, gates may close earlier than 11 a.m.



KIM BUCHHOLZ /SUSTAINABLE WASTE PROGRAMS COORDINATOR

The Jefferson County Solid Waste Program will hold a household electronics and appliance recycling event on Saturday, June 13.

ACCEPTABLE ELECTRONICS

Computers (desktop, laptop, and notebook); computer accessories (keyboards, mice, hard drives, scanners, speakers, and other devices); monitors; TVs; DVDs; VCRs; fax machines; stereos; calculators; iPads; camcorders; shredders; tablets; cameras; copiers; game consoles; e-readers; electric motors; modems; printers (desktops, 3-D, and combos); handheld electronics; microwaves; cellphones; adding machines; vacuums; scanners; monitors; toasters

ACCEPTABLE APPLIANCES

Refrigerators (mini and regular); freezers (chest and upright); dishwashers; air conditioners; water heaters; dehumidifiers

If possible, please remove all batteries prior to recycling.

ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED

Smoke detectors; fluorescent bulbs; batteries; fans; coffee makers; blenders; hazardous waste; latex paint; unused prescription drugs

For information about this or other upcoming recycling events visit jeffersoncountywi.gov, call 920-674-7430 or email kimb@jeffersoncountywi.gov

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.



Lakeside Lutheran scholarship recipients announced

LAKE MILLS — Lakeside Lutheran High School announces that 45 students in the class of 2026 self-reported almost $1 million in first-year scholarship offers from individuals, foundations, organizations, and schools they applied to, with many of these being renewable for up to four years. Of the 143 graduates, 82 have indicated plans to continue their education at a college or university, 36 to tech school, three plan to enter full-time military and two in ROTC along with college work, 12 to trades/apprenticeships, 10 to the workforce. Scholarships marked with an asterisk (*) indicate a renewable scholarship.

Chloe Barganz, daughter of Todd and Stacci of Johnson Creek: Alabama State University, Marion 9 Academic Merit Scholarship $12,000*, Bethany Lutheran College Presidential Scholarship $13,000*, BLC Christian High School Waiver $2,000*, Concordia-St. Paul Regents' Scholarship $11,000*, Cornell College National Academic Scholarship $42,000*, Cornell Leadership & Engagement Scholarship $5,000*, Cornell Fine Arts Award $1,000*, Cornell Bright Futures Scholarship $2,000*, Edgewood College Founder's Scholarship $26,000*, Elmhurst College Presidential Scholarship $26,000*, Elmhurst College Residential Grant $2,000*, Pere Marquette Scholarship $33,500*, Valparaiso Presidential Scholarship $31,000*, Valparaiso Kretzmann Scholarship $1,500*, Wheaton University Presidential Scholarship $23,000*, Wheaton Thunder Scholarship $3,500*, Wheaton Banks Welcome Center Scholarship $1,000*, Wisconsin Lutheran College (WLC) Presidential Scholarship $21,000*, WLC Partners in Christian Education Scholarship $2,000*, WLC Visit Scholarship $500*, UW-Whitewater Foundation Freshman Academy $1,000

Markenna Bittorf, daughter of Mark and Dawn of Lake Mills: Bethany Lutheran College Luther Scholarship $12,000*, BLC Tille-Moll family scholarship $7,500*, BLC eSports Scholarship $2,000*

Caylah Boldt, daughter of Jeff and Brittany of Fort Atkinson: Community State Bank LEAD Award Scholarship $500, Tammy Hafenstein Memorial Scholarship $500

Aisiah Chaudhary, son of Ashok and Amber of Lake Mills: Otterstatter Family Martin Luther College Scholarship, $750

Joseph Daniel, son of Craig and Monica of Sun Prairie: Chick-Fil-A Remarkable Futures Scholarship*, Chick-Fil-A East Madison Tuition Reimbursement*

Allison Dobberstein, daughter of Aaron and Amanda of Lake Mills: Lake Mills Rotary Scholarship $1,000

Tyler Dretske, son of Phil and Becky of Sun Prairie: MSOE Academic Merit Scholarship, $30,000*, Destination MSOE Scholarship $3,000*

Elijah Dunham, son of Brett of Watertown: Watertown Auto Club Scholarship $1,000

Mila Ewerdt, daughter of Philip and Hannah of Watertown: Otterstatter Family Martin Luther College Scholarship $750

Owen Fleming, son of Scott and Emily of Avalon: Sons of the American Legion Scholarship $500

Linc Foskett, son of Brad and Sarah of Jefferson: Wisconsin Academic Excellence Scholarship $2,250*, Bank of Lake Mills Scholarship $1,000

Evalynn Fregien, daughter of Kevin and Rachel of Portage: Karen Klug Christian Education Memorial Scholarship $750

Alexis Griffin, daughter of Adam and Shannon of Waterloo: Wisconsin Lutheran College Collegiate Scholarship $15,000*

Addison Hallberg, daughter of Mike and Alisa of Columbus: UW-Stout Blue Devil Merit Scholarship $2,000*, University of Iowa Wisconsin Access Award $3,000*, Iowa National Scholars Award $10,500*, Iowa State Academic Achievement Award $11,000*, Iowa State Expedition Award $2,000*, UW-Stevens Point Invest in Your Purpose Scholarship $1,000

Zachary Hallman, son of Carrie of Watertown: Otterstatter Family Martin Luther College Scholarship $750

Madalyn Hillmann, daughter of Andrew and Jennifer of Oconomowoc: UW-Platteville Academic Merit Scholarship $1,000*, David Ward Agriculture Scholarship $1,000*

Brecken Jimenez, son of Joe and Quinn of Cottage Grove: Otterstatter Family Martin Luther College Scholarship $750

Ashland Kaulitz, daughter of Brandon Kaulitz of Watertown, and Sarah Ingersoll of Watertown: Wisconsin Technical Excellence Scholarship $2,250*

Carter Knorr, son of Robert and Karla of Lake Mills: UW-Platteville Academic Merit Scholarship $1,000*, Sons of the American Legion Scholarship $500

Ashton Kuykendall, son of Jim of Lake Mills and Jolene McGowan of Jefferson: Wisconsin Technical Excellence Scholarship $2,250*

Violet Larson, daughter of Dan and Amy of Sun Prairie: F&M Community Service Scholarship $750, Bank CMG Scholarship $1,000, WLC Presidential Scholarship $21,000*, WLC Piano Accompaniment Scholarship $1,000*, Macalester College DeWitt Wallace Distinguished Scholarship $30,000*

Ella Lauber, daughter of Steve and Becca of Lake Mills: WLC Presidential Scholarship $21,000*, WLC Partners in Christian Education Scholarship $2,000*, Lake Mills Light & Water Scholarship $500

Jacob Lindert, son of Tom and Lisa of Watertown: UW-Platteville Academic Merit Scholarship $1,000*

Kylie Lundgren, daughter of James and Carrie of Waunakee: WLC Foundation Scholarship $13,000*, WLC Visit Scholarship $500*, WLC Partners in Christian Education Scholarship $2,000*

Eli McCrary, son of Brian and Amanda of Sun Prairie: Otterstatter Family Martin Luther College Scholarship $750, MLC Pastoral Grant $1,300*, MLC Ambassador Scholarship $1,250*

Elizabeth Mellon, daughter of Paul and Patricia of Verona: UW-Eau Clarie Grace Walsh Scholarship for Forensics $1,300*

Jackson Moore, son of Tom and Sarah of Fort Atkinson: Concordia University of Wisconsin Scholarship $25,000*

Elijah Nelson, son of Mark and Amy of Watertown: WLC Presidential Scholarship $21,000*

Ruby Nerothin, daughter of Shelley Savera of Madison: Michigan Tech Excellence Award $6,500*, MTU National Gold Scholarship $16,000*, MTU Departmental Award $1,500*

Jackson Oppermann, son of Matt and Elise of Fort Atkinson: Karen Klug Christian Education Memorial Scholarship $750, Otterstatter Family Martin Luther College Scholarship $750

More **LAKESIDE** | **A7**

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.



Watertown Daily Times

Jun 10 2026 Page A07 Clip resized 59% From A06

Lakeside/ from A6

Natalie Popp, daughter of Jonny and Sarah of Fitchburg: Carroll University Bill Yersin Scholarship $40,200*, Miss Wisconsin Scholarship $8,325, Miss America Scholarship $3,000, VFW Voice of Democracy State Award $1,200, VFW Voice of Democracy District Award $350, CUW Presidential Scholarship $14,000*, University of Alabama Presidential Scholarship $28,000*, Mississippi State University Miss Wisconsin's Teen Scholarship $28,736*, Edgewood University Trustee's Scholarship $24,000*

Jack Rupnow, son of Scott and Joni of Ixonia: MSOE Academic Merit Scholarship $20,000*

Noah Schauff, son of Sebastian Avila of DeForest and Tara Schauff of Sun Prairie: UW-Plateville Merit Scholarship $1,000*

Trent Schlender, son of Troy and Ashley of Watertown: Jefferson County Agri-Business Club Scholarship $1,000, Jones Family Fairy Farm Scholarship $1,200, United Cooperative Scholarship $1,000

Hunter Schwab, son of Dan and Sue of Fort Atkinson: WLC Collegiate Scholarship $20,000*

Aubrey Stelzer, daughter of Chris and Heather of Fort Atkinson: Morgan Turnquist Memorial Warrior Scholarship $500

Sophia Stempski, daughter of Bryant and Jennifer of Sun Prairie: CUW Presidential Scholarship, $15,000*, CUW Early FAFSA Filing Grant $1,000* CUW Church Work Scholarship $1,200*, CUW Luther Promise Guarantee $3,000*, CUW Lutheran Educator Support $3,000*, CUW Visit Grant $1,000*,

Will Stuebs, son of Christian and Adriane of Lake Mills: Otterstatter Family Martin Luther College Scholarship $750

Ella Taylor, daughter of Matt and Michelle of Lake Mills: TCU Dean's Scholarship $32,000*, TCU Fine Arts Academic Achievement Scholarship $4,000*, TCU Horned Frog Scholarship $17,365*, Pere Marquette Scholarship $33,500*, University of Miami Canes Achievement Scholarship, $12,000*, Clemson Merit Scholarship $7,500*

Adaline Thostenson, daughter of Eric and Clare of Madison: Edgewood College Dean's Scholarship $20,000*

Abigail Tolkinen, daughter of Nick and Rachel of Lowell: CUW Presidential Scholarship $15,000*

Cameron Vogel, son of Nicholas and Katrina of DeForest: UW-Platteville Academic Merit Scholarship $1,500*

Gabriel Weidner, son of Matt and Becky of Columbus: MSOE Academic Merit Scholarship $30,000*, Destination MSOE Scholarship $3,000*, Sons of the American Legion Scholarship $500

Brady Wolfram, son of Brett and Jodi of Fort Atkinson: Marshall Hahn Memorial Scholarship $2,000

Grace Zhou, daughter of Vi Quang and Lei Zhou of Madison: Wisconsin Academic Excellence Scholarship $2,250*, Muehrcke Family Fund Scholar-Athlete Award $10,000*, Watertown Regional Medical Center Scholarship $1,500*

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.



Jun 25
2026
Page A22
Clip resized 94%

Lake Mills High School Scholarship Recipients Announced

Lake Mills High School recently announced the 40 students in the class of 2026 scholarship offers from individuals, foundations, organizations, and schools they applied to.

Josh Battist, FFA Alumni, $1,250, Technical Excellence, United Cooperative Scholarshop $1,000

Brady Benish, Dick Soper Award, Honors Scholarship — University of Dubuque $10,000

Nevea Bonsack, Feguson Trades, Lake Mills EMS $4,000

Clara Branzolewski, Arts Alliance of Greater Lake Mills $2,000, Lake Mills Music Parents $500, Rachel Maasch $500, Vera Bohnsack $500

Debra Bruce, Dennis J. & Bettilee B. Zeloski $25,000

Owen Burling, Lake Mills Mat Club — Craig Quest Memorial Scholarship $1,000, Presidential Scholarship — Gardner Webb $22,000

Frida Cabrera, Future Prospects, $3,000, Lake Mills Rotary Club Scholarship $1,000

Mollie Cooper, Clinton B. Setz $2,000, Lake Mills Rotary Club Scholarship $1,000

Kaia Cummings, Lake Mills Sons of the American Legion Scholarship $750

Lilian Doerr, Engsberg Family Scholarship $1,000

Gabi Dressel, Academic Excellence, Clara E. Hein $5,000, Lake Mills Rotary Club Scholarship $2,000, Roland 'Doc' Liebenow $1,500

Zoey Flood, Cicero Environmental $500, Dennis J. & Bettilee B. Zeloski $25,000

Kylie Flores, Ferguson Trades $8,000, Lake Mills Music Parents $500

August Fritche, Scott Alan Ferguson $30,000

Danayara Garcia Chino, Marjorie M Bradt $3,000, The Faith in Education Scholarship $500, Warren C. Krueger $2,500

Jack Halbleib, Becky and Lyle Wallace, Student of the Year $750, Lake Mills Music Parents $500, Lake Mills Rotary Club Scholarship $2,000, Marvin Maasch $500, William Klecker $4,000, William P. Schmeisser $5,000

Asha Herald, Lake Mills Rotary Club Scholarship $2,000, Richard and Jearnice Devor $5,000

Sophie Hooper, Carol F. 'Bugs' Sanft Memorial $2,500

Olivia Kiefer, FFA Alumni Scholarship $1,000, Wisconsin Freemasons & Madison Scottish Rite Masons Children's D $2,000

Will Kirchberg, Bank CMG $1,000

Isabellah Legel, ALCHA $1,500, Bank of Lake Mills — Committed to Community $1,000, Carol F. 'Bugs' Sanft Memorial $2,500, Francis F. Carnes $4,000, Friends of L. D. Fargo Public Library, Lake Mills Rotary Club Scholarship $1,000, Presidents Scholar Academic Award $21,000

Carli Lenz, Ferguson Trades $8,000, Ryan's Auto Scholarship $500

Gabriel Logothetis, Farmers & Merchants State Bank Community Service Scholarship $750, Lake Mills Mat Club — Craig Quest Memorial Scholarship $1,000

Jeremy Lutes, Lake Mills Alumni Scholarship $1,000

Liam McHenry, Ferguson Trades $8,000, Hayes Family Scholarship $5,000

Aubriana Moreno, Joshua J. Moehrke Memorial Scholarship $3,000, Shannon Collier Memorial Scholarship $800

McKynzie Neis, FFA Alumni $1,250, Lake Mills EMS $4,000, Richard and Jearnice Devor $5,000

Sophia Pertzborn, Future Projects $3,000

Harrison Pitzner, Chancellor's Scholarship $8,000

Ava Plitzuweit, Ferguson Trades $8,000, Warren C. Krueger $2,500

Ben Rehm, Nelson H. Falk $3,000

Madelynn Sherry, Daughters of the American Revolution — County Winner $400, Scott Alan Ferguson $30,000, The Wisconsin Elks Association US Constitution Contest $100

Max Springer, E. Jeffery Netzow Memorial $1,000, Ooh La La Award Honoring Tracy Neupert Morse $500, Red Cross $1,600

Violet Thompson, Clinton B. Setz $2,000, Lake Mills Rotary Club Scholarship $1,000

Jack Vogel, Lake Mills Light & Water $1,000, The Faith in Education Scholarship $500

Isabella Wepking, Tammy Hafenstein $500, The Wisconsin Elks Association US Constitution Contest $100

Greta Wiedenfeld, FFA Alumni $1,250, Lake Mills Rotary Club Scholarship $2,000

Lily Wildes, Dr. Kenneth Stetson Teaching Scholarship $1,000, LMEA Teaching Scholarship $500, Mari E. Nahn $1,500, Shannon Collier Memorial Scholarship $800

Patricia Winter, IE University Madrid Scholarship

Mason Wollin, Ferguson Trades $8,000

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.

iwantthenews.com

Kiel High School seniors receive awards, scholarships

Jun 9, 2026

he Kiel Area School District High School Senior Class of 2026 Awards & Scholarship Ceremony was held Wednesday evening, May 13 at the Kiel High School Performing Arts Center.

Special donor presenters, KASD Board members, administration, faculty and staff, students, parents and families were present to celebrate the outstanding achievements of the following students:

Addison Achter—Aurora Medical Center Sheboygan County Medical Staff High School Scholarship, Better Business Bureau Student of Integrity Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, KHS Math Club Scholarship, Kiel Lions Club Scholarship, Laurie Binversie Heckmann Memorial Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, University of Wisconsin-Madison Thermo Fisher Scientific STEM Scholarship, UW-Madison Kemper K. Knapp Rural Undergraduate Scholarship, WI Academic Excellence Scholarship, Wisconsin Association of School Business Officials (WASBO Foundation/BMO Harris Bank) Scholarship

Jayda Arenz—Elkhart Lake-Kiel Fire Department Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, KABA Scholarship, Kiel Lions Club Scholarship, Kiel Optimist Club, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, St. Nazianz Lions Club Scholarship, Zielanis Family Scholarship

Trinity Barts—Dr. Erica Sheets Memorial Agricultural Achievement Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Kiel FFA Alumni Agriculture & Life Sciences Scholarship

Jasmine Bink—Burger King, Dr. Erica Sheets Memorial Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Hagan Scholarship, Helen & Friederich Falz Scholarship, Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans Scholarship, NALC - William C. Doherty Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, UW-Stevens Point Admitted Students Day

Scholarship, UW-Stevens Point Invest in Your Purpose Merit Scholarship, WIAA Scholar Athlete Award

Sabrina Boyer—Adolph Stoelting Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Kiel Lions Club Scholarship, Sheboygan Area CAP Scholarship, Sheboygan Local 833 UAW Scholarship, Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Logan Brunner—KABA Scholarship

Sydney Crom—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Adler Curry—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Miles DeTroye—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, John Adema Memorial Scholarship, KABA Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, St. Nazianz Lions Club Scholarship

Aubrianne Freund—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, KHS Mission Club Scholarship, Lakeland University Science, Technology, and Eduction Scholarship, New Holstein Utilities/WPPI Energy Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award

Blake Gardner—Senior Scholar Athlete Award

Benjamin Gross—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Madison Grunewald—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Milton H. Kuether Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, SSG Amy S. Krueger Memorial Scholarship

Madyson Gutschow—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Lakeland University Dean's Scholarship, Lakeland University Service & Leadership Scholarship

Logan Guzman—UW-Milwaukee Black & Gold Scholarship

Carter Heathman—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Trevin Heller—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, WIAA Scholar Athlete Award, Youth Apprenticeship Graduate, Industrial Welding Certification

Grace Hunsader—R&S Nursing Scholarship

Luke Jenkins—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Cody Joas—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Dominick Kaufmann—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Logan Kautzer—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Kiel Wrestling Club Scholarship, UW-La Crosse Eagle Apprenticeship Scholarship, UW-La Crosse Eagle Merit Scholarship,

UW-La Crosse Charles/Lillian Gay R4 Scholarship, Adolph Stoelting Scholarship, Wayne Horn Memorial Scholarship, Kohler Company College Scholarship

Samuel Keuler—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Senior Scholar Athlete Award

Braedyn Kienbaum—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Kyle Koenig—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, UW-La Crosse Merit Scholarship, Wisconsin Interscholastic Fishing Association Scholarship

Jack Kraemer—Elkhart Lake-Kiel Fire Department, Kiel Lions Club Scholarship, Kiel Optimist Club, Kiel Snowmobile Club Scholarship, Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Williem Langenhahn—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Nathan Lee—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, KHS National Honor Society Scholarship, Kiel Booster Club Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, VFW Auxiliary Scholarship, Milton H. Kuether Scholarship, Violet & Ruben Laack Memorial Scholarship

Annika Liermann—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Zielanis Family Scholarship

Jazzlynn Loewe—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Aubrey Loveland—UW-Milwaukee Chancellor's Merit Scholarship

Maddison McDole—Elkhart Lake-Kiel Fire Department Scholarship, Emily Wegner Memorial Scholarhship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Field of Dreams Assisted Living, KABA Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award

Vincent Meyer—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Caden Milbrath—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Armando Moreno Cruz—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Kiah Murphy—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, KHS National Honor Society Scholarship, Kiel Area Youth Theatre Scholarship, Kiel Booster Club Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, Violet & Ruben Laack Memorial Scholarship

Elizabeth Neils—Bill Fromm Memorial Fund (Knights of Columbus) Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Gordon Umland Educational Scholarship, Keegan Grimm Scholarship, Lakeshore Hall of Fame Student Athlete Scholarship, Land of the Free Scholarship-Kiel Area Military Association, Leonard A. Gentine Scholarship (Sargento), Local VFW Art Scholarship, Loree Kakuk Memorial Fund Scholarship, Manitowoc County Sports Officials Association Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, St. Vincent dePaul

Society - Kiel Scholarship, UW-La Crosse Merit Scholarship, VFW Auxiliary Scholarship, Voice of Democracy

Danika Neuhaus—Calumet County Sportsman's Alliance Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Fisherman's Road Fishing Club, Hermitage Conservation Club Scholarship, Kiel FFA Alumni Agriculture & Life Sciences Scholarship, Kiel Fish & Game Club Scholarship, Manitowoc County Deputy Sheriffs & Constables Association Scholarship (Edward J. Shimanek Memorial Scholarship), Manitowoc County UW Ag Alumni Scholarship, Officer Macullen M.Schnell Memorial Scholarship, R&S Criminal Justice Scholarship, Ralph Kelly Kramer Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, UW-Stevens Point Invest in Your Purpose Scholarship, Wisconsin Interscholastic Fishing Association Scholarship, Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Ava Rothe—Dairyland Power Cooperative Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Local 833 UAW Scholarship, Mississippi College Academic Merit Scholarship, Mississippi College Athletic Scholarship, Mississippi College Truth & Virtue Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award

Taavi Saeger—Cleveland State Bank (Charlie Kolb) Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, John Adema Memorial Scholarship, KABA Scholarship, Milton H. Kuether Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, St. Cloud State Athletic Soccer Scholarship, St. Cloud State University Presidential Scholarship, St. Vincent dePaul Society-Kiel Scholarship

Colton Schaefer—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Teagan Schleh—UW-Milwaukee Black and Gold Scholarship

Chelsea Schmidt—Bill Fromm Memorial Fund (Knights of Columbus) Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, KABA Scholarship, KHS Math Club Scholarship, Kiel Area Association of Commerce, Kiel Booster Club Scholarship, Leonard A. Gentine Scholarship (Sargento), Senior Scholar Athlete Award, Sylvia & Jerry Mertens Business Memorial Scholarship, UW-La Crosse Alumni & Friends Foundation/Terry & Mary Murphy Fund Scholarship, UW-La Crosse Eagle Access R4 Scholarship

Ethan Schreiber—Sargento Advanced Manufacturing Scholarship

Aaron Stephany—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Kiel Booster Club Scholarship, Markus J. Ladd Engineering Scholarship, Milton H. Kuether Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, UW-Stout Blue Devil Merit Scholarship, UW-Stout Promise Scholarship

Damon VanWyk—Industry 4.0 Advanced Certification, Sargento Advanced Manufacturing Scholarship, Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Addison Vogel—Cleveland Fish and Game Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award

Presley Wilkens—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Kiel FFA Alumni Agriculture & Life Sciences Scholarship, Kiel Lions Club Scholarship, Kohler Foundation Scholarship (Lakeshore College), WI Technical Excellence Scholarship, Wisconsin Interscholastic Fishing Association Scholarship

Emilee Wirtz—Emily Wegner Memorial Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Kiel Area Youth Theatre Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award

Carson Woods—Calumet Medical Center Auxiliary Scholarship, Dennis J. Hortum Memorial Scholarship, Emily Wegner Memorial Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, NAMI Manitowoc County Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, University of Nebraska-Lincoln New Nebraskan Scholarship

The total Class of 2026 scholarship amount currently stands at $743,978.



WISCONSIN NEWS TRACKER

Jun 18
2026
Page A008
Clip resized 53%

RECOGNITION

Scholarships, awards presented at KHS

The Kiel Area School District High School Senior Class of 2026 Awards & Scholarship Ceremony was held Wednesday evening, May 13 at the Kiel High School Performing Arts Center.

Special donor presenters, KASD Board members, administration, faculty and staff, students, parents and families were present to celebrate the outstanding achievements of the following students:

Addison Achter—Aurora Medical Center Sheboygan County Medical Staff High School Scholarship, Better Business Bureau Student of Integrity Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, KHS Math Club Scholarship, Kiel Lions Club Scholarship, Laurie Binversie Heckmann Memorial Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, University of Wisconsin-Madison Thermo Fisher Scientific STEM Scholarship, UW-Madison Kemper K. Knapp Rural Undergraduate Scholarship, WI Academic Excellence Scholarship, Wisconsin Association of School Business Officials (WASBO Foundation/BMO Harris Bank) Scholarship

Jayda Arenz—Elkhart Lake-Kiel Fire Department Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, KABA Scholarship, Kiel Lions Club Scholarship, Kiel Optimist Club, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, St. Nazianz Lions Club Scholarship, Zielanis Family Scholarship

Trinity Barts—Dr. Erica Sheets Memorial Agricultural Achievement Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Kiel FFA Alumni Agriculture & Life Sciences Scholarship

Jasmine Bink—Burger King, Dr. Erica Sheets Memorial Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Hagan Scholarship, Helen & Friederich Falz Scholarship, Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans Scholarship, NALC - William C. Doherty Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, UW-Stevens Point Admitted Students Day Scholarship, UW-Stevens Point Invest in Your Purpose Merit Scholarship, WIAA Scholar Athlete Award

Sabrina Boyer—Adolph Stoelting Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Kiel Lions Club Scholarship, Sheboygan Area CAP Scholarship, Sheboygan Local 833 UAW Scholarship, Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Logan Brunner—KABA Scholarship

Sydney Crom—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Adler Curry—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Miles DeTroye—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, John Adema Memorial Scholarship, KABA Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, St. Nazianz Lions Club Scholarship

Aubrianne Freund—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, KHS Mission Club Scholarship, Lakeland University Science, Technology, and Eduction Scholarship, New Holstein Utilities/WPPI Energy Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award

Blake Gardner—Senior Scholar Athlete Award

Benjamin Gross—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Madison Grunewald—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Milton H. Kuether Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, SSG Amy S. Krueger Memorial Scholarship

Madyson Gutschow—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Lakeland University Dean's Scholarship, Lakeland University Service & Leadership Scholarship

Logan Guzman—UW-Milwaukee Black & Gold Scholarship

Carter Heathman—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Trevin Heller—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, WIAA Scholar Athlete Award, Youth Apprenticeship Graduate, Industrial Welding Certification

Grace Hunsader—R&S Nursing Scholarship

Luke Jenkins—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Cody Joas—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Dominick Kaufmann—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Logan Kautzer—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Kiel Wrestling Club Scholarship, UW-La Crosse Eagle Apprenticeship Scholarship, UW-La Crosse Eagle Merit Scholarship, UW-La Crosse Charles/Lillian Gay R4 Scholarship, Adolph Stoelting Scholarship, Wayne Horn Memorial Scholarship, Kohler Company College Scholarship

Samuel Keuler—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Senior Scholar Athlete Award

Braedyn Kienbaum—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Kyle Koenig—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, UW-La Crosse Merit Scholarship, Wisconsin Interscholastic Fishing Association Scholarship

Jack Kraemer—Elkhart Lake-Kiel Fire Department, Kiel Lions Club Scholarship, Kiel Optimist Club, Kiel Snowmobile Club Scholarship, Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Williem Langenhahn—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Nathan Lee—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, KHS National Honor Society Scholarship, Kiel Booster Club Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, VFW Auxiliary Scholarship, Milton H. Kuether Scholarship, Violet & Ruben Laack Memorial Scholarship

Annika Liermann—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Zielanis Family Scholarship

Jazzlynn Loewe—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Aubrey Loveland—UW-Milwaukee Chancellor's Merit Scholarship

Maddison McDole—Elkhart Lake-Kiel Fire Department Scholarship, Emily Wegner Memorial Scholarhship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Field of Dreams Assisted Living, KABA Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award

Vincent Meyer—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Caden Milbrath—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Armando Moreno Cruz—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Kiah Murphy—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, KHS National Honor Society Scholarship, Kiel Area Youth Theatre Scholarship, Kiel Booster Club Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, Violet & Ruben Laack Memorial Scholarship

Elizabeth Neils—Bill Fromm Memorial Fund (Knights of Columbus) Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Gordon Umland Educational Scholarship,

Turn to AWARDS/page 10

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Plan Commission and Common Council of the City of Kiel are considering amending the ordinance. This public hearing is being held to consider a proposed amendment to Section 17.24 of the Fremont Commercial District (B-1) zoning regulations. The amendment would create a new subsection, 17.24(3)(d), to allow the short-term overnight parking of self-contained recreational vehicles (RVs) as a conditional use when accessory to a principal commercial use. The intent of the proposed amendment is to provide flexibility for commercial properties to accommodate limited, short-term RV parking while ensuring such use remains incidental to the primary business and consistent with the overall character of the B-1 Commercial District.

During the hearing, the Plan Commission will review the proposed addition and consider its potential impacts, including compatibility with surrounding uses, traffic and circulation, duration of stays, and overall site management. Input from staff, property owners, and members of the public will be taken into consideration. Following the public hearing, the Commission may recommend approval, modification, or denial of the proposed ordinance amendment before forwarding a recommendation to the governing body for final consideration. Materials may be reviewed by contacting the City Administrator's Office at Kiel City Hall, 621 Sixth Street, Kiel, by phone at (920) 894-2909, or by emailing Ryan Pafford, City Administrator, at ryan.pafford@kielwi.gov

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a public hearing related to the ordinance amendment for the Plan Commission is taking place on July 9. 2026, at 6:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers at the City Hall located at 621 Sixth Street, Kiel, Wisconsin.

Dated this 9th day of June, 2026.
Ryan Pafford

City Administrator

(June 18 & 25, 2026)
WNAXLP



Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.



WISCONSIN NEWS TRACKER

Jun 18
2026
Page A010
Clip resized 60%
From A008

AWARDS
from page 8

Keegan Grimm Scholarship, Lakeshore Hall of Fame Student Athlete Scholarship, Land of the Free Scholarship-Kiel Area Military Association, Leonard A. Gentine Scholarship (Sargento), Local VFW Art Scholarship, Loree Kakuk Memorial Fund Scholarship, Manitowoc County Sports Officials Association Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, St. Vincent dePaul Society - Kiel Scholarship, UW-La Crosse Merit Scholarship, VFW Auxiliary Scholarship, Voice of Democracy

Danika Neuhaus—Calumet County Sportsman's Alliance Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Fisherman's Road Fishing Club, Hermitage Conservation Club Scholarship, Kiel FFA Alumni Agriculture & Life Sciences Scholarship, Kiel Fish & Game Club Scholarship, Manitowoc County Deputy Sheriffs & Constables Association Scholarship (Edward J. Shimanek Memorial Scholarship), Manitowoc County UW Ag Alumni Scholarship, Officer Macullen M.Schnell Memorial Scholarship, R&S Criminal Justice Scholarship, Ralph Kelly Kramer Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, UW-Stevens Point Invest in Your Purpose Scholarship, Wisconsin Interscholastic Fishing Association Scholarship, Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Ava Rothe—Dairyland Power Cooperative Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Local 833 UAW Scholarship, Mississippi College Academic Merit Scholarship, Mississippi College Athletic Scholarship, Mississippi College Truth & Virtue Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award

Taavi Saeger—Cleveland State Bank (Charlie Kolb) Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, John Adema Memorial Scholarship, KABA Scholarship, Milton H. Kuether Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, St. Cloud State Athletic Soccer Scholarship, St. Cloud State University Presidential Scholarship, St. Vincent dePaul Society-Kiel Scholarship

Colton Schaefer—Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Teagan Schleh—UW-Milwaukee Black and Gold Scholarship

Chelsea Schmidt—Bill Fromm Memorial Fund (Knights of Columbus) Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, KABA Scholarship, KHS Math Club Scholarship, Kiel Area Association of Commerce, Kiel Booster Club Scholarship, Leonard A. Gentine Scholarship (Sargento), Senior Scholar Athlete Award, Sylvia & Jerry Mertens Business Memorial Scholarship, UW-La Crosse Alumni & Friends Foundation/Terry & Mary Murphy Fund Scholarship, UW-La Crosse Eagle Access R4 Scholarship

Ethan Schreiber—Sargento Advanced Manufacturing Scholarship

Aaron Stephany—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Kiel Booster Club Scholarship, Markus J. Ladd Engineering Scholarship, Milton H. Kuether Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, UW-Stout Blue Devil Merit Scholarship, UW-Stout Promise Scholarship

Turn to SCHOLARSHIPS/page 11

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.



Jun 18
2026
Page A011
Clip resized 134%
From A008

SCHOLARSHIPS from page 10

Damon VanWyk—Industry 4.0 Advanced Certification, Sargento Advanced Manufacturing Scholarship, Youth Apprenticeship Graduate

Addison Vogel—Cleveland Fish and Game Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award

Presley Wilkens—EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Kiel FFA Alumni Agriculture & Life Sciences Scholarship, Kiel Lions Club Scholarship, Kohler Foundation Scholarship (Lakeshore College), WI Technical Excellence Scholarship, Wisconsin Interscholastic Fishing Association Scholarship

Emilee Wirtz—Emily Wegner Memorial Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, Kiel Area Youth Theatre Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award

Carson Woods—Calumet Medical Center Auxiliary Scholarship, Dennis J. Hortum Memorial Scholarship, Emily Wegner Memorial Scholarship, EWC Academic All-Conference Award, NAMI Manitowoc County Scholarship, Senior Scholar Athlete Award, University of Nebraska-Lincoln New Nebraskan Scholarship

The total Class of 2026 scholarship amount currently stands at $743,978.

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.

Jun 15 2026 Page 012 Clip resized 45%

Food & Beverage Manufacturing

Riverside Foods, a Lakeside Foods company, recently announced the promotions of three of its employees. **Mike Jansen** has been promoted to operations manager. In this role, Jansen will drive the company's operational improvements and strong performance results. **Chanh Thao** is now serving as Riverside Foods' production manager. **Rogelio Verduzco** was promoted to second shift production manager. According to the company, these advancements reflect the momentum at its Two Rivers operation and its commitment to growing leaders from within.

Kelly Gusloff recently transitioned into a new role at **Schreiber Foods**. Gusloff will now serve as a sales manager, where she will support the Green Bay-headquartered company's work with Sysco, the largest food distributor in the world. Gusloff joined Schreiber in May 2025 as a communications manager. She earned a bachelor's degree in communications with an emphasis in media from St. Norbert College.

Utilities

Oconto Falls Municipal Utilities (OFMU) recently announced the promotion of **Beth Rank** to utility manager. She previously served as a customer service representative and interim manager before being promoted to lead the utility. As utility manager, Rank oversees operations for OFMU's water and electric departments.

Entertainment Venues

PMI Entertainment Group recently welcomed a handful of new employees, including:

- **Rowan Clark** – events assistant
- **Gabriela Matamoros** – associate marketing manager
- **Logan Doel** – concessions product supervisor

Finance

FVSBank is celebrating the work anniversaries of a few of its employees. They include:

- **Tammy Christopherson** – staff accountant, 17 years
- **Jim Ziebarth** – vice president, 28 years
- **Angela Boehning** – vice president, human resources director, 11 years

The **Bank of Luxemburg** recently celebrated the retirement of two longtime employees. **Patti Rollin** – vice president of loan operations – is retiring after 42 years of dedicated service, while Chief Credit Officer **Jeff Mulloy** is retiring after 17 years. Rollin has held various roles, including teller and loan operations. Mulloy joined the organization in January 2009 and has held a variety of roles, including credit analyst, vice president of credit administration and senior vice president of credit prior to becoming a member of the executive team. Mulloy will be succeeded by **Mike Simonds** – who joins the organization with 12 years of banking experience, most recently with Verve, a Credit Union. He earned a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.


Jansen


Thao


Verduzco


Gusloff


Rank


Clark


Matamoros


Doel


Christopherson


Ziebarth


Boehning


Rollin


Mulloy


Simonds


Berg


Cummins


Frank


Buechel


Tula


Hau


Lorenz


Pomplun


Johnson


Navis


Riedeman


Miller


Gebhart


Francis


Krug


Gage


Gross


Rohde


Krueger


Knuth


Adamicki

National Exchange Bank & Trust (NEBAT) recently welcomed **Ellie Berg** to its team as personal banking manager. As personal banking manager, Berg will support customers and lead the branch's deposit operations team, ensuring smooth, reliable service. She earned a bachelor's degree in business communications and management from Concordia University-Wisconsin. **Jennifer Cummins** recently joined National Exchange Bank & Trust as operations manager, bringing more than five years of banking experience to her new role. As operations manager, she will help lead the branch teams and ensure smooth, efficient day-to-day deposit operations focused on excellent customer service. Cummins studied psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. NEBAT recently announced the promotion of **Nichole Frank** to operations manager for the bank's Princeton and Montello offices. Frank joined the bank in 2024 as a customer service representative at the Montello office. In her new role, she will support the management of both the Princeton and Montello locations and oversee staff to help ensure smooth and efficient deposit operations. Frank attended Mid-State Technical College. The bank also announced the position changes of


Nejedlo

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.





DOWNTOWN PARKING LOT CLOSES FOR REDO – Plymouth Utilities workers (above) remove electrical equipment from a now-unused pole in the parking lot south of Mill St. and west of Stafford St. near the Mullet River. The work is part of a complete overhaul of the entire parking area, requiring closure of the parking area through the summer.

One early casualty of the project was a large tree in a planter (below) just east of The Review building on Mill St., removed Wednesday morning. City Administrator Tim Blakeslee had not responded to a request for more information about the plans for the planter and other trees by deadline Wednesday. — Review photos by Ian Johanson



Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.

Sun Prairie, The Star



Jun 02
2026
Page A04
Clip resized 59%

Sun Prairie Garden Club announces May Garden of the Month

Among five to be featured in garden tour

ROBERTA BAUMANN
rbaumann@hngnews.com



CONTRIBUTED

This shows the corner of the yard.

As spring brings out a splash of blooms, the Sun Prairie Garden Club has announced its May Garden of the Month, beginning a new season of highlighted yards and landscapes.

The club members found that Jan Ciotti's gardens at 156 West Goodland not only have curb appeal but are "magical on the other side of the house," they said in an announcement of the choice for its May Garden of the Month.

Past the arched gate at the corner of the house is a path to trimmed boxwood, and around the corner lies a cool, quiet, restful retreat that she has created, one that is "filled with beauty, color, texture and surprises," according to the garden club's announcement.

Ciotti puts together installations of plants, many specimens, and her sons have helped to construct a cottage in the corner, an adjacent pergola and deck.

Hostas dominate the different selections, but a variety of trees and perennials provide year-round color and texture variation that "treat the eye and calm the senses," according to the garden club.

"Jan has created a masterful expression of her love of gardening that amazes all who visit," the garden club's announcement notes.

Ciotti said she began working on the gardens as soon as she moved into the home, and continues to build on it, sometimes working a plan she's created. Other times, she just falls in love with a tree, shrub or flower and brings it home.

Her family has played a large role, as well.

"I brought up two sons here, and they had a tree fort, swing set, sandbox and a pool. As they grew, each spot became a garden," Ciotti said, adding that her sons helped to transform each of the areas.

"For Mother's Day, I always get a tree or shrub," she added.

While Ciotti doesn't have a specific plant of flower that she feels is noteworthy, the overall variety and placement of plants is what's appealing, she said.

She built the garden to have blooms all through the season, starting with the magnolia, bluebell, hyacinth, tulips and daffodils, followed by red bud, crabapple and lilacs just as the peony flowers are about to open.

"Weigela will be a show stopper once they bloom," she said.

Ciotti considers the garden like a canvas to create, layer, and add different textures, colors and variety.

This year's Sun Prairie Garden Walk will be Friday, June 26 from 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. and will feature five gardens to tour and five mysteries to solve.

The other four gardens have also been Gardens of the Month, including those of:

Connie and Randy Burmeister, September 2024; JoAnn and Tom Loftus, July 2024; Peg and Ken Schaub, August 2025; and My Yia Vang, October 2025.

The SPGC Garden Walk helps raise funds for club and community outreach activities.

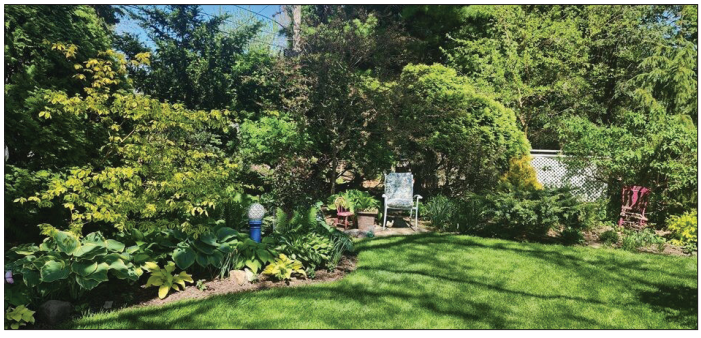
The club generally meets at the new Sun Prairie Utilities offices on Linnerud Drive on the second Monday of the month.

For information on the club or for tickets to the garden walk, contact Diane Powelka, SPGC president, at jpowelka@chorus.net or by phone at (608) 837-6308.

GARDEN WALK

This year's Sun Prairie Garden Walk will be Friday, June 26 from 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. and will feature five gardens to tour and five mysteries to solve.

For information on the Sun Prairie Garden Club or for tickets to the garden walk, contact Diane Powelka, SPGC president, at jpowelka@chorus.net or by phone at (608) 837-6308.



CONTRIBUTED

The northeast corner of the yard.

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.

Sun Prairie Utilities receives award

By Calahan Steed

Published: Jun. 2, 2026 at 3:38 PM CDT|

Watch: Sun Prairie Utilities receives award

Sun Prairie, Wis. (WMTV) - Sun Prairie Utilities was one of 240 public power utilities to earn the American Public Power Association's Safety Award of Excellence during its Engineering & Operations Conference.

Public power utilities from across the United States were placed in categories according to their number of worker hours and safe operating practices in 2025.

Sun Prairie Utilities ranked the highest level in its group.

"The wellbeing of our workers is vital to keep our utility running at its best," said Jill Weiss, General Manager of Sun Prairie Utilities. "This award shows that we work hard to ensure everyone gets home safely."

APPA has held the safety awards program annually for more than 68 years.

Jun 05 2026 Page A20 Clip resized 85%

Sun Prairie scales down to four polling places

ETHAN FERRELL
eferrell@hngnews.com

Sun Prairie residents will see their number of polling places reduced from eight to four, effective Jan. 1, 2026.

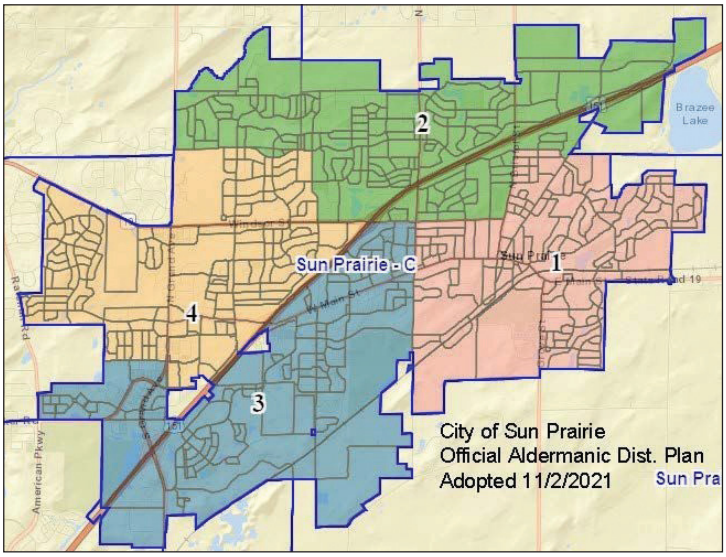
Residents of the city's four aldermanic districts will now vote at the following polling locations beginning next year:

- District 1: Sun Prairie Utilities Building, 510 Linnerud Drive.
- District 2: United Methodist Church of Sun Prairie, 702 North Street.
- District 3: Sun Prairie Public Library, 1350 Linnerud Drive.
- District 4: Westside Community Service Building, 2598 W. Main Street.

The change comes via unanimous approval from the Sun Prairie City Council to adopted city staff's polling place consolidation plan on Tuesday, June 2.

While alders did not have any questions for staff regarding the plan that evening, any concerns they had about the plan's feasibility were previously quelled by City Clerk Elena Hilby.

When Hilby first introduced the proposal on May 5, she noted that the idea was borne out of a desire to reduce city expenditures in light of the upcoming budget deficit in 2027.



CITY OF SUN PRAIRIE

A map of Sun Prairie's aldermanic districts, with #1 shown in red, #2 in green, #3 in blue and #4 in yellow.

However, she has maintained strong support for her department's ability to handle the change without creating negative impacts for the city's voters.

Hilby has previously cited the growing number of absentee voters, and her staff's continued improvement in efficiency and familiarity with the technology and systems they use on election day.

"Staff is confident that the proposed locations can accommodate the necessary equipment, staffing, accessibility requirements and voter flow needs," she said on May 19.

The change is expected to save the city approximately $25,000 to $30,000 every two years.

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.

Jun 16 2026 Page A03 Clip resized 77%

Sun Prairie, The Star

Second annual S.O.S. Food Fight Drive kicks off in Sun Prairie

ETHAN FERRELL
eferrell@hngnews.com

The Sunshine Pantry at Sunshine Place opened its second annual School's Out Summer (S.O.S.) Food Fight Drive on Thursday, June 11.

The food drive for Sun Prairie's local food pantry calls on area businesses to compete until July 9 to collect the most non-perishable food and personal care donations per employee.

Participation isn't just limited to businesses who sign up, community members are invited to make donations as well. Those who want to help can donate items to businesses of their choosing, and in turn give them a boost in the competition.

Readers can visit the Sunshine Place website to learn more about this year's competitors and their donation drop-off locations. They are as follows:

- Bank of Sun Prairie
- Heins Contracting
- Independent Pharmacy Cooperative
- Milwaukee Tool
- One Community Bank
- Prairie Kids Club
- Prairie Pawz
- Pro-Active Engineering
- QBE & DMB Community Bank
- Royle Printing
- Sunny Nutrition
- Sun Prairie Utilities
- The Insurance Center, an Alera Group Company

Sunshine Place is also welcoming monetary donations for the S.O.S. competition. Those who choose to do so will have their donations added to the business of their choosing's total at $3/pound.

Some of the Sunshine Pantry's current top needs in terms of non-perishable food items and personal care products, along with their preferred quantities, are:

- Canned meals, tuna and chicken (5-12 oz.)
- Coffee (12-16 oz.)
- Cooking oil (24-32 oz.)
- Juice (48-64 oz.)
- Sugar (1 lb.)
- All-purpose cleaners (20-30 oz.)
- Deodorant (1-2 oz.)
- Dish soap (12-16 oz.)
- Shampoo (15-20 oz.)
- Toothpaste (4-6 oz.)

The S.O.S. Food Fight program is intended to help boost Sunshine Pantry's offerings for its shoppers. Food pantry donations tend to drop off nationwide during the summer months between June and August.



SUNSHINE PLACE

The QBE team drops off their donations for the Sunshine Pantry's first S.O.S. Food Fight Drive in 2025.

Meanwhile, community need often remains and can actually increase over this same period of time as school-based assistance is unavailable.

Those looking to lend a helping hand by hosting their own food or item drive can choose to get started with a food drive kit at www.sushineplace.org/food-drive-kit/, or add their donation to a participating business' drive.

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.



WISCONSIN NEWS TRACKER

Jun 05 2026 Page A02 Clip resized 56%

For 21 years, Tim Herlitzka helped keep Waunakee's lights on

Manager retires this week

ROBERTA BAUMANN
rbaumann@hngnews.com



ROBERTA BAUMANN

Pictured is Waunakee's new water tower under construction in the Kilkenny Farms West subdivision. This pictures was taken in April. Once completed, it will be 115-feet tall and hold 500,000 gallons of water, according to Tim Herlitzka, Waunakee Utilities manager. It is expected to be online in October.



ROBERTA BAUMANN

As Waunakee Utilities general manager, Tim Herlitzka and the Waunakee Utilities team have helped prepare Waunakee for the growth ahead with new infrastructure such as a water tower, well and transformer.

As Tim Herlitzka prepares for retirement June 5, he speaks fondly of his 21-year career as Waunakee Utilities manager. The only thing he won't miss is getting up so early for the workday, which starts at 7 a.m., he said.

Herlitzka previously was the utilities' finance manager, and after a transition in the general manager role, was appointed to that post in October of 2005. He'd previously worked in public accounting for 12 years and had a specialty in municipally owned utilities. That involved a lot of travel, he said, so when he and his wife were expecting their first child, he felt finding a job with a more predictable schedule was "the right thing to do."

Several area municipalities had their own utility, but Waunakee's finance director was retiring, creating an opening.

"It just worked great. I feel really fortunate to have worked for such a great utility," he said.

Municipal utilities differ from investor-owned companies. They are guided by a utility commission with members from the community.

"We're basically here to provide a service; we're not here to make money," Herlitzka said. "An investor-owned utility like Alliant Energy or Madison Gas & Electric, they are there to provide a return to shareholders, and our shareholders are our customers, the people that live in the community."

Herlitzka spoke proudly of the service Waunakee Utilities provides.

"A customer can call us, and you're going to talk to a person if it's normal business hours," he said, adding the customer service staff are friendly and helpful.

The differences in the business models can also be seen in the utility rates. Herlitzka said Waunakee Utility residential rates are generally 25% to 45% lower than investor-owned utility rates; that's true for commercial rates, as well, he said.

"Our businesses and schools are saving a lot of money by being served by Waunakee Utilities," Herlitzka added.

Looking back at his career in Waunakee, Herlitzka said he is struck by how much the community has grown. In 2005, it served 4,700 customers and today has 7,700.

That's created a need for additional infrastructure, such as the new water tower at Kilkenny Farms West currently under construction. The utility is also currently constructing a new well, Well No. 6. A large project at the Division Street substation involves adding a new and "very expensive" transformer.

"A lot of what we're doing right now is related to growth and being able to stay ahead of the growth in this community," Herlitzka said. "I think we've been very successful at that."

He also credited the village's utility commission for its support in ensuring the village has adequate facilities.

Electric and water rates are set by the Wisconsin Public Service Commission, Herlitzka explained, although sewer rates are set by the village board.

The application process for an electric or water rate change through the PSC can be several months long, he said, and similar approvals are needed for new water towers and wells.

Herlitzka said the work has been satisfying.

"I greatly enjoyed working for our community. The people I work with are realy amazing and so dedicated," he said.

The customers have also been supportive, and Herlitzka credits the local citizen commission for that support.

Along with sleeping in a little more, Herlitzka is looking forward to spending more time with his family, including his wife and their 16- and 20-year-old daughters.

He plans to relax this summer and enjoy the outdoors, saying he is passionate about fishing.

His replacement is a familiar face in Waunakee. Caitlin Stene, who previously served as clerk and human resources director, has returned after working with the City of Sun Prairie. She began on May 18.

As Herlitzka looks at Waunakee Utilities' future, he sees continued growth ahead, he said, but said the utility is prepared.

"I feel like the infrastructure is very well positioned to support growth for the next five to 10 years, which is a great feeling to know that we've all worked together here to get us to that point," he said. "And I feel like the new general manager will be able to slide into a pretty good situation."

BUYING: ALL JEWELRY, ALL COINS, WATCHES, FIREARMS (ANY CONDITION), GOLD & SILVER COINS AND SCRAP, STERLING, SILVER PLATE, SURPLUS POSTAGE & STAMPS, MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, COMICS, VINTAGE MOTORCYCLES & PARTS, PARTIAL & FULL ESTATES.

SPECIAL RATES FOR SENIORS & VETS. SERVING WISCONSIN FAMILIES & ESTATES SINCE 1982.

CALL FOR AN IN-HOUSE APPOINTMENT:
920-344-7066 • SAM-5PM, NO SUNDAYS.

ABLEIDINGER LAW, LLC

"Unparalleled Service, Exceptional Dedication"

REAL ESTATE, BUSINESS, ESTATE PLANNING, AND FAMILY LAW



ATTORNEY
MICHAEL J. ABLEIDINGER
1001 Arboretum Drive, Suite 2A,
Waunakee
Phone (608) 850-4222
mike@ablelaw.net
www.ablelaw.net

Property of Wisconsin News Tracker and members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.