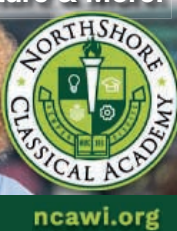


Build a Summer Experience that Engages, Challenges & Inspires

SUMMER SCHOOL FOR 5TH-8TH GRADERS • 1-3 WEEK COURSES • BEGINS JULY 6TH



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OZAUKEE COUNTY



NEWS GRAPHIC

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Thursday, July 2, 2026

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From the school to the pool



Photo courtesy of Gale Clapper

The hot, humid weather drove many to the Cedarburg Community Pool for relief on Monday.

OZAUKEE COUNTY — It was just last week that the Grafton Family Aquatic Center closed its gates because of cool temperatures and low attendance. Now they can't open the gates fast enough.

The high temperatures this week have sent families flocking to community pools for some refreshing relief.

According to Mequon Building Superintendent Justin Bodoh, the community pool attendance this season has been steady and largely dependent on the weather.

On average, the city has seen

roughly 100 patrons per day, but due to the recent stretch of hot weather, that number has increased significantly to 600 visitors per day.

The pool was initially constructed in the 1930s and substantially renovated in the 1980s. And now with the Mequon Commons development around the corner, it will undergo several upgrades.

Bodoh said the pool, however, will appear to still be operating for the rest of this season and during the 2027 season.

In Grafton, the pool is definitely open this week, with attendance

surging to 770 on Monday and 613 on Tuesday, said Charlie Donohue of the Grafton Parks and Recreation Department.

"It ebbs and flows constantly," Donohue said. "We're very happy that it's warm now."

Flick N Float is returning to the pool next week, when family can grab a floating device and watch the movie from the pool. "Moana 2" will be shown July 10 and "Zootopia 2" on Aug. 7. Doors open at 7:50 p.m. and the movie starts at about 8 p.m. The cost is \$6 or free with a season pool pass.

Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program expires with no funds

Officials point the finger at Republican leaders

By Christina Luick
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GRAFTON — As of Wednesday, funding for the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program expired. And some are blaming partisan politics for its end.

Sen. Jodi Habush Sinykin, D-Whitefish Bay, gathered on Monday with local leaders and officials from conservation organizations at Lion's Den Gorge Nature Preserve — a place that has benefitted from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program — to encourage people to keep advocating for the program.

"Actions speak louder than words," she said. "If the people of Wisconsin wish to see the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program continue going forward, we need legislators who value the program and its continuity."



Habush Sinykin

See KNOWLES, PAGE 6A

Dog shot by former Thiensville officer now adopted

By Charley Hanney
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OZAUKEE COUNTY — One of the dogs involved in an April shooting incident that left another dead has officially found its new home.

Friends Alicia Hegedus and Danielle Dietz have put pen to paper to adopt Ranger, who sustained multiple injuries to his back end and underwent numerous surgeries after former Thiensville Police Officer Richard McCormick fired a total of 16 rounds at the dogs.

According to the Thiensville PD press release, McCormick spotted two-unattended pitbulls at the intersection of North Cedarburg and Highland roads around 3:40 a.m. April 23. The dogs, who were unsuccessfully contained by Mequon police officers earlier in the day, were initially assessed as non-threatening before one

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Fun Things To Do This Weekend

Rotary Music Festival, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Cedarburg High School Athletic Field, W68N611 Evergreen Blvd., Cedarburg. Enjoy drum and bugle corps from Blue Stars, Madison Scouts, Cavaliers and Eclipse. Ticket prices range from \$25 to \$45 and can be ordered at dci-tickets.showare.com or at the gate.

West Slip Beer Garden, 5 p.m.

to 9:30 p.m. Friday, The Harborview, 135 E. Grand Ave., Port Washington. Live music by Ronnie Nyles.

Beach Yoga, Saturdays through Sept. 5, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., South Beach, 400 S. Beach Road, Port Washington. Cost: \$20. All levels of yogi are welcome; bring a mat. In case of rain, event will be moved to the Port Washington Yoga Studio, 208 E. Pier St.

Freistadt Fourth, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Trinity Freistadt Historical Site, 11856 N. Church Place, Mequon. Enjoy church service, parade, live music, food, children's games and more.

250 Years of Freedom, 10 a.m. Saturday, American Legion Post, 435 Lake St., Port Washington. Enjoy parade, ceremony, food, drinks, live music, activities, fireworks at dusk and more.

Annual 4th of July Hometown Celebration, 10 a.m. Saturday, downtown Cedarburg. Enjoy parade, all-day picnic in Cedar Creek Park, live music, fireworks at dusk and more.

July Fourth Family Fun, 1 p.m. Saturday, downtown Saukville. Enjoy parade, live music and food and drinks at Grady Park, DJ and fireworks at Peninsula Park.

Have a news tip?

Contact Lisa Curtis.
Email:
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Cedarburg's 4th OF JULY HOMETOWN CELEBRATION

Saturday, July 4

PARADE

10am

Downtown Cedarburg along Washington Avenue

Free handheld flag to the first 1,000 people who stop by DJ Lenny's booth after the parade!

AFTER THE PARADE in Cedar Creek Park



PERFORMANCE BY
MADISON SCOUTS
Drum & Bugle Corps



FOOD & DRINKS AVAILABLE
Cedarburg Lions Club & Fluff 'n Nonsense



Music & video by
DJ LENNY
8pm
CIVIC BAND

FIREWORKS

Around
9:30 PM

Presenting Sponsor



CEDARBURG AUTO REPAIR & SERVICE



CEDARBURG OVERHEAD DOOR CO.



LIGHT & WATER UTILITY

Coordinated by



AP INCOME TAX & ACCOUNTING LLC



NEWMAN CHEVROLET



LABUDDE GROUP INCORPORATED



THE STILL HOUSE



HOMETOWN



ZUIERN BUILDING PRODUCTS & DESIGN CENTER



PWSB



TOAST



SUMMIT CREDIT UNION

How does this garden grow? With the help of St. Francis Borgia students



Photos courtesy of St. Francis Borgia School

Left and right, St. Francis Borgia Catholic School students tend to the SFB Giving Garden. Produce grown in the garden is donated to several different food pantries.

CEDARBURG — Following Mother Teresa’s words, “Give your hands to serve and your hearts to love,” a group of St. Francis Borgia Catholic School students is getting their hands dirty to help others. Planted by second- and seventh-grade stu-

dents, the SFB Giving Garden is beginning to flourish! The special service project provides fresh vegetables to Family Sharing of Ozaukee County, the Milwaukee Homeless Benefit Shelter and St. Rose Food Pantry. As the garden grows, the school is also in

search of some helping hands for watering, weeding and eventually harvesting. Students and families are needed to volunteer during garden work sessions from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Volunteers can also join the Extended Care students at

2 p.m. on Thursdays. The project is considering a way to serve the community while spending meaningful time together as a family. Anyone who would like to help can email Faith Stecker at Steckerf@sfb.school.org.

Homestead student graduates Carthage in three years — with double major



Friedel

MEQUON — Homestead High School graduate Brooklyn Avery Friedel, class of 2023, is headed to Marquette University Law School this fall after an impressive undergraduate experience at Carthage College in Kenosha. Friedel graduated summa cum laude, which requires a 3.9 GPA or higher, in just three years, double majoring in criminal justice and political science. While at Carthage, Friedel was on the Dean’s List every semester, studied abroad in Cuba, received an honorable mention Government Internship award for interning at the Milwaukee County District Attorney’s Office and a member of the Pi Sigma Alpha National Political Science Honor Society, the Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Fraternity and the Zeta Tau Sigma Sorority. Friedel was also a member of the Carthage College Mock Trial Team for two years, during which time she set a record for the highest all-time winning percentage. She also worked as a student assistant at the Carthage College Office of the President.

NCA announces new Summer Enrichment Program

SAUKVILLE — NorthShore Classical Academy is inviting area families to experience its unique approach to education through its new Summer Enrichment Program for students entering grades five through eight. The program, held at the academy’s campus at 341 S. Dries St. in Saukville, will include six one-week sessions running Monday through Aug. 13. All sessions will feature engaging, hands-on courses designed to strengthen critical thinking, creativity, communication and confidence — all while making learning fun, according to organizers. Open to students from any public, private or homeschool background, the flexible program allows families to choose one or more sessions and register for individual classes or half-day or full-day experiences. “This is more than summer school,” said Director of Programming and Community Connections Sarah Foster, who will lead the program. “It’s an opportunity for students to discover the joy of learning in an environment that encourages curiosity, thoughtful discussion and meaningful friendships.” Among the courses being offered are:

- Shakespeare in Action — Students bring “Julius Caesar” to life through acting, performance and storytelling;
 - The Art of Strategy — Chess and classic strategy games that develop planning, patience and sound decision-making;
 - Drama, Dialogue & Discovery — Interactive theatre experiences that build confidence, creativity and communication skills;
 - Beautiful Handwriting & Cursive — Rediscovering the art of handwriting through traditional cursive instruction; and
 - Additional enrichment activities designed to encourage imagination, collaboration and a lifelong love of learning.
- Organizers note that a supervised “Doodle Lunch” (bring-your-own-lunch) program will be offered for students attending both morning and afternoon classes. The summer program marks the first educational offering at NorthShore Classical Academy as it prepares to open its doors in fall 2027. The private, nonprofit high school last month secured financing to begin renovating the historic building it purchased last year that was formerly

home to a Catholic parish school and then to Ozaukee Christian School. The building contains 11 classrooms, administrative offices, a full-size gymnasium with three basketball courts, expansive sports fields, as well as a large cafeteria and commercial kitchen. “Our goal isn’t simply to keep students busy this summer,” Board President Cheryl Rebholz added. “We want them to discover that learning can be joyful, challenging and deeply engaging. This program is our community’s first invitation to experience the kind of education NorthShore Classical Academy will provide for years to come.” Foster brings more than 25 years of teaching experience in public and private education and holds a Wisconsin Lifetime Teaching License, according to NCA. Throughout her career, she has taught English, reading, writing, social studies, theatre and communication, and is passionate about helping students grow intellectually and personally. Registration is now open. Class descriptions, schedules and online registration are available at <https://ncawi.org/summer>.

First Immanuel Lutheran wins ParentPulse’s Parent Choice Award

CEDARBURG — For the third consecutive year, First Immanuel Lutheran School has been selected as a 2025-26 Parent Choice Award winner by ParentPulse— a third-party survey provider that works with private and independent schools nationwide. This award is given to schools with an overall Net Promoter Score (NPS) of 70 or higher for the school year, Sept. 1 through May 31. For reference, NPS is a widely used customer satisfaction metric, scored from -100 to 100, based on the question: “How likely are you to recommend us to

a friend or colleague?” According to FIL, most organizations would be “thrilled” with an NPS of 30 to 50. Scores of 70-plus are rare — and considered “world class.” “We’re honored to be in that tier and deeply thankful for your trust and partnership,” according to an FIL statement. “This recognition affirms our commitment to listening, engaging, and continually improving the experience we offer our families.” The school is located on Evergreen Boulevard in Cedarburg.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

- **Madeleine Ludwig** from Mequon recently graduated from the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Va. with a Bachelor of Arts degree.
- The University of Alabama’s spring 2026 commencement was held at Coleman Coliseum in May. Two area students were among the graduates: **Caden Schelwat** of Cedarburg received a Bachelor of Science in computer science. **Brett Waldvogel** of Mequon received a Bachelor of Science in computer science.
- **Amy Abramavicius** of Cedarburg earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in design communications from Belmont University in Nashville during its spring 2026 commencement ceremonies.
- Carthage College in Kenosha announced students tworeceived the distinction of being named to its spring 2026 Dean’s List. The honors are accorded to Carthage students who achieve a minimum 3.5 GPA while carrying at least 12 letter-graded credits in a given semester. The Dean’s List includes

- the following students from this area: **Kaitlyn Sander** of Cedarburg, **Marissa Morgan** of Grafton; **Sophia Verplancke** of Grafton; **Tessa Kunschke** of Mequon and **Brooklynn Friedel** of Mequon.
- Miami University in Oxford, Ohio students who are ranked in the top 20% of undergraduate students within each division for the spring 2026 semester have been named to the Dean’s List, recognizing academic excellence. Below are area students attending the university who have been named to the Dean’s List: **Braden Baken** of Grafton, **Alex Faber** of Mequon, **Elise VanHimbergen** of Mequon and **Izze Keller** of Mequon.
- **James M. Albrecht** of Grafton earned a Bachelor of Arts in English from Iowa State University. Albrecht graduated Magna Cum Laude.
- **Grace Kittel** of Cedarburg earned a spot on the President’s Honor Roll at Bemidji State University in Minnesota for the spring

- 2026 semester. To be eligible for the BSU President’s Honor Roll, students must earn a GPA of 4.0 for the semester and be enrolled in at least 12 credits of coursework.
- The following area students have been named to the Dean’s List at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse for the spring semester of the 2025-26 academic year, ending in May. Qualification for the Dean’s List is limited to students who have attained outstanding academic achievement. To be eligible, students must have earned at least a 3.5 semester GPA and carried a minimum of 12 credits.
- CEDARBURG: **Colton Bork**, finance major; **Ruby Broehm**, political science major; **Ethan Czajkowski**, exercise and sport science major; exercise science - fitness track; **Mitchell Czajkowski**, finance major; personal financial planning concentration; **Maya Evans**, psychology major; **Hudson Fore**, finance major; **Abigail Geszvain**, recreational therapy major; **Owen Hallbeck**, finance major; **Aaron Keener**, finance major; **Lauren Knitt**, marketing

- major; **Megan Lacke**, marketing major; **Kenzie Noffke**, communication studies major; interpersonal communication emphasis; **Vincent Rosenberg**, finance major; **Ashley Rytman**, exercise and sport science major; exercise science - pre-professional track; **Maggie Sadowski**, recreational therapy major; **Spencer Sturm**, finance major; **Mary Theama**, radiologic science major; radiation therapy emphasis; **Ava Thronndson**, biology major; **Joe Twietmeyer**, marketing major; **Emily Wrobbel**, management major
- GRAFTON: **Hannah Bickle**, psychology major; **Garrett Bonk**, finance major; **Jack Dykstra**, exercise and sport science major; exercise science - pre-professional track; **Dylan Getschow**, statistics major; actuarial science concentration; **Logan Niemeyer**, food and nutrition sciences major; **Brynn Peacock**, biology major; **Abby Peterman**, biology major; molecular genetics and cell biology concentration; **Justin Polack**, finance major; **Anna Rosewitz**, biology major; **Hailey Weisgerber**, biology major; **Rachael Winker**, biology major; biomed-

- cal science concentration
- MEQUON: **Salvatore Balistrieri**, psychology major; **Charlie Blume**, business analytics major; **Cody Buttermore**, management major; **Kaitlin Friedel**, finance major; **Kaitlin Griesler**, nuclear medicine technology major; **Josh Haberer**, exercise and sport science major; exercise science - pre-professional track; **Izzy Harris**, marketing major; **Lucie Henning**, recreational therapy major; **Rex Korte**, undeclared major- CBA; **Ava Lampert**, general studies major; **Anthony Lopina**, accountancy major; **Conner McGinley**, finance major; **Jacob Peterson**, biology major; **Andrew Rakow**, nuclear medicine technology major; **Sofia Samuel**, marketing major; **Emily Scozzafave**, communication studies major; public communication and advocacy emphasis; **Shaylin Swenson**, communication studies major; media studies emphasis; **Bella Tuler**, marketing major
- THIENSVILLE: **Liam Bowman**, philosophy major; **Sam Hemr**, broadfield social studies education major; political science concentra-