

Mid-State student to travel to France for skills competition

FOR CITY TIMES

WISCONSIN RAPIDS – Mid-State Technical College Precision Machining Technician student Kaden Stanczyk of Custer will compete in the WorldSkills USA international event. Stanczyk was selected by SkillsUSA to compete and will travel to Lyon, France in September to represent the United States in the CNC Milling event.

Stanczyk represented the state of Wisconsin in Precision Machining at the SkillsUSA Championships in 2022 and 2023. He went on to compete at nationals in 2023 where he met the score requirement to be considered for WorldSkills USA. In addition to his high scores at the state and national levels, Stanczyk went through a series of other qualifying measures, including an interview, before being selected.

"It's an incredible honor and an achievement to be selected," said Stanczyk. "Getting to this point has been a work in progress for me, and I continue to learn and train. I have learned so much from my instructor and SkillsUSA advisor Mike Berry, my trainer and WorldSkills expert J.R. Colvin and my dad, Scott Stanczyk."

"We are proud to have Kaden representing the United States and Mid-State Technical College at the WorldSkills USA competition," said Mike Berry, Mid-State Precision Machining Technician instructor and SkillsUSA advisor. "Kaden works very hard at his craft and trains with professionals across the country to ensure he is prepared for this high-level competition."

Stanczyk is the first Mid-State student to be selected to attend the international competition and one of the few from Wisconsin to ever attend WorldSkills USA.

The 47th WorldSkills Competition in 2024 will welcome 1,500 competitors from over 65 countries and regions to take part in 62 skill competitions at Eurexpo Lyon. The competition will showcase dozens of trade skills from construction and building technology, creative arts and fashion, information and communication technology, manufacturing and engineering, social and personal services and transportation and logistics. Over 250,000 spectators from around the world are expected to attend the 2024 competition including students, public policymakers, employers, teachers, trainers, technical experts and government officials.

Community Calendar

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To submit calendar events, please email information to entertainment@mmclocal.com

ON STAGE

Pete Revelle & 4 on the Floor • Thurs. 5/16, Central Wisconsin Cultural Center, 2651 8th St, S, Wisconsin Rapids. Jazz. Starts at 2 pm. Free admission. <https://culturalcenterarts.com>

EVENTS

Ruby's Pantry Mobile Food Distribution • Sat. 5/18, hosted by Immanuel Lutheran Church at Pitsch Early Learning Center, 501 17th St S, Wisconsin Rapids. Food bundles available from 8 am-9:30 am. \$25 per bundle. <https://www.rubyspantry.org/>

Neighbors Past and Present: The Wisconsin German Experience • Sat. 5/18, hosted by Heart O'Wisconsin Genealogical Society. Virtual presentation by the associate director of Max Kade Institute for German-American Studies at UW-Madison, which is dedicated to researching, preserving and sharing the stories of German-speaking immigrants and their descendants. 9:30 a.m. at McMillian Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids.

Steak Feed • Tues. 5/21, Don Knuth Memorial Hall VFW Post #2534, 2711 Reddin Rd, Wisconsin Rapids. Steak dinner includes 12 oz New York strip steak, sautéed mushroom, sautéed onions, baked potato or rice pilaf, whole kernel corn or green beans, dinner rolls, desserts, condiments, milk and coffee. Cash bar available on-site. Starts at 4:30 pm. \$30. 715-600-0401

Brat Fry • Sat., 5/25, Quality Foods on West Grand Ave., Wisconsin Rapids. Hosted by Home and Community Education, a non-profit that supports local programs and awards a scholarship to high school senior. Starts 10:30 a.m.

Veterans Expo & Pact Act Event • Wed. 6/26, hosted by the Tomah VA Medical Center & Wood County Veterans Service Office at Crossview Plaza, 1000 E. Riverview Expressway, Wisconsin Rapids. Learn about important resources to Veterans. At the Town Hall meeting, veterans can learn about important topics, updates about Tomah VA & ask questions. Expo starts at 9 am. Town Hall meeting

starts at 11 am. Tomah.VAMedicalCenter@va.gov if you have questions or topics you want covered

ONGOING

Winter Market • Saturdays 1/6-5/18, Wisconsin Rapids Moravian Church, 310 First Ave S, Wisconsin Rapids. Vendors will be selling crafts, produce, eggs, bakery, cider, honey, spices, tamales, & fry pies. Closed Easter Weekend. Starts at 9 am. <http://www.wrморavian.org/>

Sunday Brunch on the Farm • Every Sunday from Mother's Day thru October, Lonely Oak Farm, 11946 County Rd S., Milladore. Serving from 10 am-2 pm. No pets please. lonelyoakfarm.net

ARTS/EXHIBITS

The Alexander House • Open Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1131, Wisconsin River Drive, Port Edwards. Art gallery and historical museum with a focus on lumbering and papermaking exhibits. Opens 1-4 pm. <http://alexanderhouseonline.org/>

Central Wisconsin Cultural Center • Open Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays, 2651 8th St S, Wisconsin Rapids. Open from 10 am-5 pm. Free admission. <http://www.culturalcenterarts.com/index.html>

South Wood County Historical Museum • Open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, 540 3rd St. S, Wisconsin Rapids. Open from 10 am-3 pm. Exhibitions closed, office & archives are open. <http://www.swch-museum.com/>

LIFELINES

Blood Drive • Thurs. 5/16, Lake Arrowhead, 1195 Apache Ln, Nekoosa. Starts at 12 pm. redcrossblood.org

Blood Drive • Wed. 5/22, McMillan Library, 490 E Grand Ave, Wisconsin Rapids. Starts at 10 am. redcrossblood.org

Blood Drive • Thurs. 5/23, Trinity Lutheran Church, 990 3rd St, Port Edwards. Starts at 12 pm. redcrossblood.org

Blood Drive • Fri. 6/7, Nekoosa High School, 500 S. Cedar St, Nekoosa. Starts at 9 am. redcrossblood.org

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

A Glimpse Into Tragedy

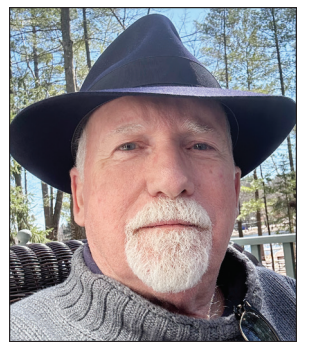
For Michael
Had I But Known

*Had I but known he did not come to stay,
That he was just a transient little guest
By heaven sent and thither shortly bound
How avidly his smallest small request
I should have heard, and its appeasement found.*

*If I had known he entered at my gate
Only to pause on his far homeward flight –
Sweet soul ordained to bear no taint of earth –
How I had schemed to make the hours more bright
And shield his dimpled hands from every hurt.*

*But I knew not. There are tomorrows yet,
I thought, to mend the playthings wrecked today.
Then, lo, a muffling silence stilled the noise
Of clamorous mirth, for he had gone his way
And left my heart like his poor broken toys.*

William McHale



Dear Reader,

Those of you who read this column regularly may have noticed my enduring interest in poetry. Today I would like to share a poem that few have seen. It was written by William McHale, my grandfather, and appeared many years ago in the Chilton Times-Journal, which he published in the 30s and 40s.

The poem is heartfelt and sad, dealing with the death of his son in early childhood. This brings to mind the oft repeated maxim that parents should never have to bury their children. Over the years the poem has meant a great deal to everyone in our family, helping my siblings and cousins to remember the uncle that we lost without ever knowing him.

PATRICK J. WOOD
Publisher

18TH ANNUAL PORTAGE COUNTY SAFETY FAIR

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10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

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