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# CITY pages

FOREVER FREE

October 17-24, 2024

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# PUBLISHER'S NOTE

## Reaching Beyond The Veil

Dear Reader,

In the quiet moments of reflection, when the world around us falls still, it is natural to wonder about those who have gone before us. They lived, they loved, they achieved noble purposes, and now, they dwell in the spiritual realm, a world that seems distant yet so intimately connected to our own. The question arises: Can we summon their guidance, their wisdom, to help us navigate the challenges of life and fulfill our own noble purposes?

It is a comforting thought to imagine that those we cherished in life could reach back across the divide to offer us support. We often think of them as watching over us, their presence felt in the whispers of intuition or the sudden, inexplicable clarity that descends upon us in moments of need. But is there a way to actively seek their counsel, to draw upon their strengths and love in a way that influences our own journey?

The idea of summoning those who have passed, much like Aladdin's three wishes, is a compelling one. Yet, unlike a magical lamp, the spiritual world operates on principles that we may not fully comprehend. Perhaps it is not a matter of summoning, but rather of aligning ourselves with the higher purposes they embodied. When our goals are steeped in goodness and love, when we strive to add light to a world often shrouded in darkness, we may find that their influence naturally flows into our lives. It is as though the veil between the physical and spiritual world thins, allowing their energy to blend with ours.

This raises the question: Are we truly alone in our struggles, left to our own devices to fight dragons and defend the vulnerable? Or are we, in fact, accompanied by unseen forces—guardian angels assigned to us in childhood, perhaps, or angelic warrior guides who step in as we mature? These



beings, if they exist, could be seen as extensions of the love and guidance from those who have departed. They are the guardians of our souls, nudging us toward the right path, helping us bear the burdens that life inevitably places upon us.

As hybrids of the physical and spiritual realms, we

walk a unique path. Our souls, tethered to this world by the body, are still deeply connected to the spiritual plane. In our imperfection, we long for the perfection that our souls might achieve once freed from the body. But what if we could draw upon that spiritual perfection even now? What if we could channel some of the purity and wisdom from the other side into our daily lives?

It is possible, perhaps, to reach out and connect with the spiritual world more intentionally. Through prayer, meditation, or simply living a life aligned with higher principles, we might open ourselves to the influence of those who have gone before us. In doing so, we are not only connecting with them but also drawing from the eternal into the finite. We become conduits for the love and wisdom that transcends this earthly existence, allowing it to flow through us and into the world around us.

Ultimately, life may indeed be a test, a proving ground for the soul. But it is also an opportunity—a chance to blend the physical with the spiritual, to draw upon the resources of both worlds as we strive to fulfill our purpose. And in this endeavor, we are not alone. The spiritual world, with all its love and wisdom, is closer than we think, ready to support us as we walk our path.

So, as we move forward, let us do so with the knowledge that we are supported by those who have gone before us, by guardian angels, and by the very perfection that awaits us in the spiritual realm. We are here

for a reason, and with the help of the unseen, we can fulfill that purpose with grace and courage.

**PATRICK J. WOOD**  
Publisher

Author of "Reflections" a new book now available on Amazon.

*Reflections* by Patrick Wood is Now Available at Janke Book Store, Wausau

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THE STUFF


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# Morgue progress

**Marathon County's new regional morgue exterior expected to be finished this year**

The exterior of the building for the forensics science center — previously known as the regional morgue — should be finished by snowfall, county leaders say.

County Medical Examiner Jessica Blahnik told the county's public safety committee that the project is on schedule, and a shift in the location saved the county a lot of money.

Marathon County way back in 2015 started working on the idea of a regional morgue since right now the only places to have forensic autopsies performed are in Fond du Lac, Milwaukee and Madison. That costs the county a lot of time and money transporting bodies back and forth.

The new center would be utilized by a number of counties in the region, and is supposed to be revenue neutral from an operation standpoint because of revenue from those counties. Work began this year on the center near the Northcentral

Technical College campus. Marathon County purchased land from NTC to build the morgue on.

The county is currently looking to hire a forensic pathologist for the center, and the county is budgeting for that position next year.

The morgue was expected to cost roughly \$14 million according to estimates from late last year, but the county is on track to receive state and federal grants to cover a lot of the costs.

## Visit Wausau awarded grant for horseshoe tournament

Visit Wausau will get an extra \$25,000 to boost an upcoming horseshoe championships.

The organization received the Ready, Set, Go grant from the Wisconsin Department of Tourism, the organization



announced recently. The grant will help the organization "enhance the visitor experience" and help provide infrastructure and marketing for the tournament.

The CVB announced that the newly constructed Greenheck-Turner Field House would be hosting the World Championships Horseshoe Pitching Tournament in 2026 and again in 2029 which could bring more than 1,000 players to the Wausau area.

## Trial set for woman in road rage incident

A jury trial date has been set for a woman accused of beating another woman in a road rage incident in Ringle earlier this year.

Terra LaFave is slated to appear for a jury trial starting May 7, according to Marathon County Court records.

LaFave, 50 of Ringle, was passed by another woman on Clubhouse Road near Ringle Road, according to police reports. LaFave then sped up behind her and flashed her bright lights and turn signals. The other woman stopped at a stop sign and got out to find out the cause of LaFave's behavior, the woman told police. That's when LaFave beat her and strangled her to the point where she nearly went unconscious, police reports say.

LaFave's husband Leroy also faces charges. According to police reports, after LaFave threw the woman to the ground, he began kicking her.



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Pick N Save - 205 Central Bridge St. <b>Wausau.</b>	8:30 AM	4:50 PM
Walmart - HWY 47 <b>Antigo.</b>	9:25 AM	3:55 PM
<b>Monday</b>		
Pizza Ranch - 302 N Central Ave. <b>Marshfield.</b>	8:00 AM	5:30 PM
Pick N Save - 205 Central Bridge St. <b>Wausau.</b>	9:00 AM	4:30 PM
Wausau VA Clinic - 1105 E Grand Ave. <b>Rothschild.</b>	9:25 AM	4:05 PM
Wilderness Crossing - W17256 Red Oak Ln. <b>Wittenberg.</b>	10:00 AM	3:30 PM
<b>Tuesday</b>		
Sceeter & Otis Village Inn - 10994 Main St. <b>Hewitt.</b>	8:00 AM	5:30 PM
Cenex - C - Store - 10361 Country Road K. <b>Auburndale.</b>	8:30 AM	5:05 PM
Dunham's parking lot - 5601 US HWY 10. <b>Stevens Point.</b>	9:05 AM	4:40 PM
Wausau VA Clinic - 1105 E Grand Ave. <b>Rothschild.</b>	9:50 AM	4:05 PM
Wilderness Crossing - W17256 Red Oak Ln. <b>Wittenberg.</b>	10:30 AM	3:30 PM
<b>Wednesday</b>		
Pizza Ranch - 1302 N Central Ave. <b>Marshfield.</b>	8:00 AM	5:30 PM
Pick N Save - 205 Central Bridge St. <b>Wausau.</b>	9:00 AM	4:30 PM
Wausau VA Clinic - 1105 E Grand Ave. <b>Rothschild.</b>	9:25 AM	4:05 PM
Wilderness Crossing - W17256 Red Oak Ln. <b>Wittenberg.</b>	10:00 AM	3:30 PM
<b>Thursday</b>		
Belvedere Supper Club - 203630 WI - 97. <b>Marshfield.</b>	8:00 AM	5:30 PM
Dunham's parking lot - 5601 US HWY 10. <b>Stevens Point.</b>	8:35 AM	5:05 PM
Wausau VA Clinic - 1105 E Grand Ave. <b>Rothschild.</b>	9:05 AM	4:40 PM
Wilderness Crossing - W17256 Red Oak Ln. <b>Wittenberg.</b>	9:40 AM	4:05 PM

A passerby told her to stop and that he had a gun, which dispelled the incident, police say.

LaFave is currently free on a \$5,000 bond, including \$1,000 in cash, according to court records. The trial is scheduled for two days.

## County board to take up election worker security resolution

A new resolution would help protect election workers in Marathon County.

Marathon County's Public Safety Committee last week passed a resolution that would protect poll workers and spell out penalties for interfering with them.

Wausau's City Council passed a similar resolution this month.

Marathon County Clerk Kim Trueblood says thankfully so far there haven't been any incidents in which an election worker was threatened, but there definitely have been incidents in which election workers were harassed or bullied.

The resolution adds a section to the county's ordinance on disorderly conduct, adding that disorderly conduct to an election worker could result in a fine ranging from \$500 to \$1,000.

The Marathon County Board will still need to take up the resolution.

## County tax rate will drop again

County taxpayers are expected to see a drop in their tax rates next year.

Marathon County Administrator Lance Leonhard says the tax rate for the county is expected to drop at least 15 cents per \$1,000 of valuation. That would be a \$30 drop in taxes for the owner of a home valued at \$200,000.

That comes as the county's budget this year is expected to be "status quo," Leonhard explains. There aren't many new budgetary requests but also not really any funding cut requests.

The Wausau School District also expects to see lower tax rates.

How that will impact actual taxpayers remains to be seen, however. Wausau re-valuated its properties this year, so residents whose home values increased a lot might still see a higher tax bill despite the rates dropping.

## County still deciding on how to handle opioid settlement money

Marathon County is set to receive some money from a class action lawsuit it joined against opioid manufacturers who pushed pain medication while underplaying their addictive aspects.



A worker mans the polls during an election. A new resolution would help protect them from harassment and bullying.

Marathon County leaders funded a gap analysis to look at the areas the money could most impact in curbing addiction in the community. That analysis found the county exceeds neighboring communities in overdose-related ER visits, high rates of alcohol mortality and a much greater need for addiction treatment.

Wisconsin is expected to receive \$36 million in opioid settlement money in 2025, which includes a number of allowed uses such as treatment facility expansion, funding harm reduction efforts and community-based prevention programs.

Marathon County in 2017 voted to join 70 other counties and several municipalities in a class action lawsuit suing the manufacturers of opioid pain medications, alleging that those manufacturers hid data demonstrating that they were highly addictive.

Marathon County leaders are now working on how they can decide where the money gets spent to curb drug and alcohol addiction and how.

## County broadband deal could hook up numerous people

Residents in rural Marathon County who have struggled with broadband could soon see some relief.

Marathon County's Executive Committee Thursday

approved a new plan to continue funding broadband expansion in the county.

According to the terms of the agreement, the county would loan broadband provider Bug Tussel \$8 million in order to run 191 miles of fiber optic line and 16 towers in rural areas throughout the county.

Bug Tussel had already been working on the broadband project but ran into cost overruns. The company originally wanted more than \$12 million to do the work, but county leaders negotiated the terms. The loan also comes with a large balloon payment 12 years into the loan, something county leaders say they insisted on.

Marathon County has struggled with rural broadband for years. After early efforts didn't do much to change the situation, a new task force put together a plan to spur broadband in rural areas, something that has been a difficulty for rural businesses and homeowners as the internet has become an important part of economic development.

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# Playing defense

## Kaul prepared to defend election results as November looms

**Wisconsin Attorney General** Josh Kaul says he expects challenges to Wisconsin's elections and is prepared to "defend the results" if need be.

"There have been suggestions again about the integrity of our elections," Kaul said on WISN's "UpFront," which is produced in partnership with WisPolitics. "So I think two things are important: One is we need to make clear, and when I say we, I mean bipartisan groups of people, need to make clear that we have safe and secure elections in Wisconsin. They've been tested over and over again. We know that the system works. And then secondly, we're certainly prepared, if we need to, to defend the results of the election.

"This is not new ground in Wisconsin," Kaul said. "Since I've taken office as attorney general, we've had a lot of challenges to our voting system. There was an effort to remove tens of thousands of voters from the rolls. We defended against that effort, and we won. There were efforts to overturn the results of the 2020

presidential election. Several lawsuits were filed. We won every one of those cases, and the results were upheld."

Kaul has charged three former allies of Donald Trump — Kenneth Chesebro, Jim Troupis and Mike Roman — in connection to the 2020 fake electors scheme.

### Walz knocks Trump in Green Bay stump

Vice Presidential candidate Tim Walz in Green Bay attacked Donald Trump's comments on using the military to combat the "enemy from within."

Trump made these comments in an interview with Fox News that aired Sunday morning when asked if he expected "chaos" on Election Day.

"The idea of sending U.S. military personnel against American citizens makes me sick to my stomach," Walz, a retired member of the National Guard, said yesterday. "I'll tell you what, we'll let the lawyers decide if what he said was treason, but what I know is it's a call for violence,



plain and simple, and it's pretty damn un-American if you ask me."

Walz, who made a stop in Eau Claire earlier in the day, continued to question the former president's trustworthiness, citing criticism from former Trump staffers.

Walz quoted former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Mark Milley saying, "No one has ever been more dangerous to this country than Donald Trump, and he is a fascist to his core." Walz continued, saying, "Let that sink in, and don't be a damn bit afraid of saying it because that's exactly who he is."

Ahead of Walz's stop, state GOP Chair

Brian Schimming knocked Walz as a "Vikings fan with a propensity for lies and exaggerations to explain away Kamala Harris' lackluster record."

"From dragging his feet during the riots in Minneapolis to pushing tax hikes amid record inflation, Walz is emblematic of everything wrong in the Democratic Party," Schimming said.

### Committee deadlock clears path for joint finance ads

The Federal Election Commission deadlocked 3-3 on whether U.S. Senate candidates should be allowed to use joint

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fundraising committees to finance political ads, a boost for GOP businessman Eric Hovde and other Republicans.

Outraised by many of their Dem opponents, GOP U.S. Senate candidates in several states have been running hybrid ads paid for by their joint fundraising committees that largely carry a political message, but also include an appeal for donations at the end.

Dems had asked the FEC for clear guidance on the practice in the hopes of it being ruled improper. The arrangement allows the committee to pay the cheaper rates afforded to candidates, and Republican U.S. Senate candidates have used it to close the gap with their Dem opponents.

The deadlocked vote allows the practice to continue.

### Karofsky wonders if governor's veto went too far

Liberal Justice Jill Karofsky expressed concerns the state Supreme Court has for too long broadly interpreted governors' partial veto powers and wondered if Dem Tony Evers' move to extend school revenue caps for 400 years is a bridge too far.

But Assistant Attorney General Colin Roth during oral arguments yesterday said court precedent supports Evers' move in the 2023-25 state budget to strike out individual numbers and a hyphen to push back a sunset to 2425 rather than 2024-25 as the Legislature intended.

He also argued lawmakers have several options if they don't like Evers' move: amend the Wisconsin Constitution, as

lawmakers did twice after guys used their partial veto power; override the veto; or draft better bills that don't create opportunities for guys to exercise the power.

"The Legislature knows what the governor is going to try to do. The governor knows what he can do and not have it challenged after the fact through partial veto cases like this one," Roth said.

Roth's answer was prompted by Karofsky's observation that legal scholars believe Wisconsin is an outlier in the nation with the partial veto power it has granted guys. She said the court now stands at a crossroads with Evers' latest move.

### Racial gaps in test scores persist

Major racial disparities persist between students of color and white students in English language arts, according to new statewide test results.

Results for the 2023-24 school year were released after the Department of Public Instruction came under fire this year for implementing new categories for student achievement that critics argue mask poor performance.

The state had used the terms "below basic, basic, proficient and advanced" to describe student performance since 2014-15. Those terms were replaced with "developing, approaching, meeting and advanced."

Due to the change in terminology, this year's results for English language arts and math cannot be compared with previous years. **GP**



## From the Attorney's Desk

by Jason Krautkramer, J.D.

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630 N. 4th St., Wausau, WI 54403  
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### Who Makes a Good Guardian for a Minor Child

If you have had any estate planning discussions, you have likely heard the words "guardian" and "trustee." Although there is no substitute for you as a parent, a guardian is someone who steps in when you pass away to assume your parental role and raise your minor child. Deciding who will be tasked with caring for your minor child is an important decision that requires consideration of many factors.

When choosing a guardian, the top consideration is who will love and raise your child like you would. Keep in mind the potential guardian's religious beliefs, parenting style, interest in extracurricular activities, energy level, and whether they have children. You may want to consider where the individual lives and whether they have the capacity to provide daily love, care, and support for your child.

Next week I'll discuss choosing a trustee.

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# Making radio waves

**The Wausau Business Show has brought a different kind of spotlight to area's business, and Wausau's leaders**

Wausonians to Red Lobster in the Fox Cities — for those not in the know, Wausonians have been clamoring for a Red Lobster since at least the 1990s (a '97 issue of City Pages questioned whether a Red Lobster was ever coming to town) and it's become one of Wausau's principal memes. And they organized the city's first August Kickbusch event, which featured music from Brad Emanuel (who was also interviewed on the show) and a contest to kick cans of Busch.

The show hasn't entirely focused on business leaders — long-time WAOW anchor Melissa Langbehn or Grand Theater Executive Director Sean Wright have appeared on the show, for instance. They've

also taken a strong stance on keeping the Monk Botanical Gardens name (the gardens board had announced earlier this year they were changing the name to Wausau Botanical Gardens, which the board has since rescinded after wide community outcry).

And it represents a different kind of reporting than the community has seen before. While the Buzz in City Pages has focused on new businesses, opening up a platform for long-form interviews with business and other area leaders in the city is a different model, and gives listeners a deeper look at some names Wausau area leaders are probably familiar with.

Gallagher is the CEO of Rocket Industrial, and Grinsel also works there as the Associate Director of Sales. How do they find the time to run a radio show on Bull Falls

Radio? What motivated them to start the show? What are their plans for it? These are some of the questions I had in mind when I walked into the studio.

## A new kind of show

Gallagher and Grinsel stepped out of the conference room from a business meeting, and that's where we would be heading again. The Rocket Industrial conference room has become a makeshift radio space with a rack of audio equipment and three microphones set up around the table. The microphones have the Wausau Business Show local, a WBS that looks 80s retro.

Many of the interviews happen there in the studio/conference room but they also will take the show remote sometimes, Gallagher explains. Often it's a matter of how cool it might sound. One episode was recorded on the top of the Dudley Tower, for instance. Another interview with a new clothing shop was done in the shop, with customers talking in the background. "We're not just saying that, we actually go there," Grinsel says.

The show started with Gallagher and Grinsel in Gallagher's garage talking about economic development. Gallagher had a long career in radio, starting at WIFC around the same time as popular radio host and photographer Dave Kallaway. Gallagher produced all the audio that goes between the host and the commercials, and he put together Kallaway's first audio package for the station.

Both the radio and podcast elements were important to the duo, Gallagher said, so partnering with Civic Media helps them get the podcast out while running the show on Bull Falls Radio at 8 am. "[The station] is right on the

**Apparently I've been in a mood** to change things up lately.

So when I reached out to the Wausau Business Show about doing a story, I pitched it like this: What if I came on the show and interviewed the new show's hosts — Ryan Gallagher and Paul Grinsel — on the show itself? It would be a great way for the show's audience to get to know Gallagher and Grinsel themselves, since they're always interviewing other people. Luckily Gallagher and Grinsel are pretty creative themselves, and so they readily agreed.

The show has been making a splash since it launched its first episode in April, with Wausau native and Miss America winner Grace Stanke.

Since then, the duo organized a tour bus to take



corner, it kind of reminds me a little of Northern Exposure,” Gallagher says. “It’s quaint to kind of be on that local station.”

Grinsel says they’re a little old school in that they wanted to be on the radio too, which has a higher barrier to entry than starting a podcast.

While it might seem like a lot to run a thriving business — Rocket Industrial is a packaging company that’s become a major employer in Wausau — Gallagher says they just wake up a little earlier in the morning and go to bed a little later at night to fit everything in. They try to record episodes and bank them so they have episodes available ahead of time to ensure they can meet the deadlines of radio.

## The Why

Once Gallagher and Grinsel — who went to John Muir Middle School, Wausau West High School and even UW-Madison together — decided to start the Wausau Business Show, they spent about two months gathering equipment, setting up a studio and shopping the show around to radio stations.

Once they did that, they started booking interviews.

But why? Running a large company is generally stressful enough. Why start a radio show on top of that?

“One of the reasons we started the Wausau Business Show is we have a number of friends who don’t live here anymore,” Gallagher says, “and we wanted to give them a commercial for why they should move back to Wausau. Like Paul said, we’re involved in economic development, and we’re really passionate about that and attracting people to live in Wausau.”

The show covers that in a way that other publications don’t — by providing a long-form format for people to get to know the guests a little deeper than they might in other formats.

Are people responding to it? “We’ve never heard anything bad,” Gallagher says, then jokes “and that means either we’re doing a good job or no one is listening. Just kidding, we have millions of listeners,” he further jokes.

But that audience may actually be growing. Gallagher says they’ve already had people in the industry approach them about bringing the show to other markets.

“We’re exploring that, Gallagher says, “because if we can get the word out about about Wausau, great.”



“  
**...we’re involved  
in economic  
development,  
and we’re really  
passionate about  
that and attracting  
people to live in  
Wausau.**  
”

Check out our episode of *The Wausau Business Show* Saturday at 8 am on Bull Falls Radio, 98.9 FM, and afterward on Spotify or Apple iTunes.

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# HIGHLIGHTS



THRILLER



DOG AND COSTUME PARADE

## Wausau Dance Theater presents Thriller

Saturday 10/19 | Grand Theater, Wausau

Every year when I come across this listing I have to pull up the Thriller music video. It's a classic. Meeting people on a trip who knew the dance and taught it to us, makes it even more special. Fortunately for all of you I won't be on stage for this production, but the talented dancers of the Wausau Dance Theatre will be, and they always put on a spooky good show. 1 pm and 7 pm. \$20 adults, \$17 children. Grandtheater.org

## A Night at the Cabaret

Friday 10/18 | The Great Dane, Wausau

Here at City Pages we covered the challenges the Wausau Community Theater has faced in recent years. They're still working hard to keep things going and give local people an opportunity to participate in theater. If you want to support the organization, here's a great way to do it and have a lovely evening. Held at the Great Dane, the WCT will have a live performance, a three-course meal, a silent auction, a cash bar and more. A fun evening and supporting a

good cause - sign me up! 6 pm. General admission is \$65, table of eight is \$520. wausaucommunitytheater.org

## Sandy's Bark Park Dog and Costume Parade


Thursday 10/17 | Sandy's Bark Park, Rib Mountain

If you've got a k9 friend, you know how important those dog parks are. Doggies gotta run wild! And Sandy's Bark Park in Rib Mountain is one of the more unique dog parks around. If you're the type who likes to dress their dog up in costumes (I see you) this event is right up your alley. You'll dress ole Fido up in his best costume, join the parade and attempt to win prizes. Plus enter drawings, come away with some doggie treats and more. Registration at 4:30 pm, dogs on parade at 5 pm. Village of Rib Mountain on Facebook.

downtown with the kiddos Wednesday for some trick or treating right in the heart of downtown. The little ones can take their baskets from business to business picking up some candy along the way from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm, then stick around for a showing of the movie Hotel Transylvania on the 400 Block at 6 pm. Should be great for the adults too since they can sneak a little shopping in. And with the Children's Imaginarium downtown, families can make a real afternoon of it. Free. Find the Wausau/Marathon County Parks Department on Facebook for all the details.

## Pete Henry

Friday 10/18 | Malarkey's Pub, Wausau

Pete Henry is one of those musicians who can take some pretty standard instrumentation and make it sound fresh somehow. His wispy, gritty voice is compelling and works perfectly with his acoustic playing and harmonica. Sometimes he's on a resonator and sometimes on banjo, but his unique voice is the gel that keeps the sound together. Henry got his start playing around the Stockton and Modesto areas of California before eventually making his way to the Midwest. He's opened for Dave Chappelle and the lead singer of Creed, Scott Stapp. Now he's making his way to Malarkey's. 8 pm. malarkeyspub.com 

## Halloween downtown trick or treat and movie

Wednesday 10/23 | 400 Block, Wausau

There are usually a lot of places to trick or treat (or bar crawls, which are really the adult version of trick or treat) but this one seems like a really good option. Head on



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PETE HENRY



**Roald Dahl's MATILDA! The Musical** · Fri.-Sun. & Fri.-Sat. 10/25-10/27 & 11/1-11/2, hosted by the Central Wisconsin Area Community Theater at Sentry Theater, Stevens Point. Musical inspired by Roald Dahl's Matilda. Starts at 7 pm on 10/25-10/26, 2 pm on 10/27 & 7 pm on 11/1-11/2. \$20 adults, \$18 seniors, \$10 child & veteran. \$5 Student RUSH. cwact.org

**Celebrating Meat Loaf** · Fri. 10/25, Grand Theater, Wausau. Meat Loaf tribute concert. Starts at 7:30 pm. \$35-\$67. grandtheater.org

**The Missing Miles, Irene's Garden, Dandelion Delivery Service** · Fri. 10/25, Rookies Sportspub, Stevens Point. Funk. 21+. Starts at 8 pm. \$15 cover. 715-344-7026

**Thunderstruck: America's AC/DC Tribute x Rising Phoenix** · Sat. 10/26, Bantr, Rothschild. Classic rock. 18+. Starts at 6 pm. \$20 early bird, \$30 general admission. bantrrothschild.com

**Horseshoes & Hand Grenades w/ special guests Burnt Toast & Jam** · Sat. 10/26, Central Waters Brewing Company, Amherst. Americana, soul, funk/rock. Reception starts at 6 pm. Show starts at 7 pm. \$15 advance, \$20 at the door. jensencommunitycenter.ticketspice.com

**NEW Dueling Pianos** · Sat. 11/9, Bantr, Rothschild. Enjoy a dueling piano show. 21+. Starts at 8 pm. \$30 general admission. bantrrothschild.com

**1st Brigade Band** · Sun. 11/10, LuCille Tack Center for the Arts, Spencer. Enjoy patriotic tunes from the 19th century. Starts at 2 pm. \$20. lucilletackcenter.com

**Sister Winchester** · Tues. 11/12, Grand Theater, Wausau. Rock, blues & folk. Starts at 7:30 pm. \$10. grandtheater.org

**No More Talk of Darkness-Jeremy Stolle** · Thurs. 11/14, hosted by the Merrill Area Concert Association at Merrill High School Auditorium, Merrill. Enjoy Broadway songs sung by Phantom of the Opera veteran, Jeremy Stolle. Starts at 7 pm. \$60 adult, \$20 student, \$130 family membership. maca.merrillconcerts.org

**The Fab Four** · Thurs. 11/14, Grand Theater, Wausau. Beatles tribute concert. Starts at 7:30 pm. \$35-\$62. grandtheater.org

**Willie & Family Live (Michael Moore as Willie Nelson)** · Fri. 11/15, LuCille Tack Center for the Arts, Spencer. Outlaw country tribute to Willie Nelson. Starts at 7:30 pm. \$40. lucilletackcenter.com

**Terri Clark** · Sat. 11/16, Grand Theater, Wausau. Country. Starts at 7:30 pm. \$40-\$75. grandtheater.org

**Elle King: Baby Daddy's Weekend Tour** · Sat. 11/16, North Star Mohican Casino Resort, Bowler. Country. 21+. Starts at 8 pm. \$60-\$80. northstarcasinosort.com

**Classical Thursdays** · Thurs. 11/21, Woodson Art Museum, Wausau. Enjoy music performed by the Central Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra while taking a stroll through the gallery. Starts at 5:30 pm. Free. cwso.org

**Dena Blizzard** · Sat. 11/23, Grand Theater, Wausau. Comedy. Starts at 7:30 pm. \$30-\$62. grandtheater.org

**Dena Blizzard** · Sat. 11/23, Grand Theater, Wausau. Comedy. Starts at 7:30 pm. \$30-\$62. grandtheater.org

## ONGOING

**Parent Aide Triple P In-Home Program** · Children's WI, 705 S 24th Ave, Wausau. Program that promotes positive parenting practices to address and prevent a range of social, emotional, and behavioral problems in children and teens. For parents of children ages 0-17. 715-660-0397 for more information or to sign up

**Marshfield Pickleball** · Every Mon., Tues., Weds., and Fri., hosted by the city of Marshfield. Located at the Oak Ave. Community Center, 201 S. Oak Ave. Advanced ticket discounts available through the Parks & Rec department. Ci.marshfield.wi.us

**Learning Essentials About Parenting** · Mondays, Children's WI, 705 S 24th Ave, Wausau. Learn how to solve problems and strengthen relationships in your home. Starts at 6 pm. Free. 715-848-1457 to register

**Werle Park Plus Neighborhoods of Wausau** · 2nd Monday of most months, Grace United Church of Christ, 535 S 3rd Ave, Wausau. Meet and discuss neighborhood issues. Use basement entrance off back of church. Starts at 6 pm. 715-845-7051.

**AARP Chapter 272 Monthly Meeting** · 3rd Mon. of each month. United Way Office, 705 S 24th Ave, Wausau. Each month will have a speaker discuss a current topic in the news or in the area as well as legislation being proposed that affects those over age 50. On Oct. 21, a fireman from the Wausau Fire Department will be speaking about what you can do to be safe in case you have a fire. AARP membership encouraged but not required to attend. Starts at 1:30 pm. 715-571-6189

**The Landing Literacy Book Club** · 4th Mon. of each month. Book club at the Landing YMCA, Wausau. Book notices at YMCA, Literacy Council and Janke Bookstore. 11:30 am-12:30 pm. 715-841-1855

**Senior Bingo** · Every Tuesday, hosted by the Marshfield Parks & Recreational Department at Drendel Room, 211 E 2nd St, Marshfield. Starts at 1 pm. \$1 for 2 cards. 715-486-2041

**Sweet Adelines Center Point Chorus** · Every Tuesday, Harmony House, 3500 Harmony Lane, Stevens Point. Learn and sing 4-part A Capella music barbershop style. Starts at 7 pm. 715-630-3155

**Joe & Dough Military Veterans Morning Social** · 2nd Tuesday of every month, Elk's Club, 1132 Clark St, Stevens Point. Military veterans are invited to socialize with others, ask questions or relax. Select meetings will feature a guest speaker presenting a veteran-related topic. Complimentary donuts, sugar-free bakery items, coffee & tea will also be available for attendees. Starts at 8 am. 715-341-6194 for more info

**Pine Tree Quilters Guild** · 2nd & 4th Tuesday, Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, 6205 Alderson St, Weston. Join us for educational & informational gatherings on the 2nd Tues. at 6:30 pm & 4th Tues. at 10 am. pinetreequilters.org

**Super Sip 'N Swap or Shop** · Last Swap of the Year on

10/17, JN Creations LLC, 608 Washington St, Wausau. Taste a sip of a beverage sold at the boutique from a Wisconsin Maker & Swap out your reading, cookbooks, magazines, puzzles & board games. Not a swapper just a shopper? No problem. Come on in. Open all day from 10 am-5 pm. Free. 612-756-1177

**Veterans Weekly Cup-of-Coffee at a Glance** · Wednesdays, Denny's, Rothschild. Veterans can meet and enjoy a cup of coffee and meal. Starts at 10 am. More info at mikeheil123.wixsite.com/website

**Women's Cancer Support Group** · 2nd Wed. of each month, Aspirus Cancer Care-Wausau, 215 N 28th Ave, Wausau. Open to all women affected by cancer either personally or through a loved one. Starts at 10 am. 1-715-847-2000 ext 50874

**Wednesday Night Sessions** · Wednesdays, Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Weston. Enjoy a fellowship meal at 5:30 pm. Programs include FISH (for parents and children ages 3-grade 5), Ignite Confirmation (grade 6 & 7), Fusions Youth Group (for grades 8-12), and an adult bible study. Starts at 6:15 pm. mtoliveweston.org

**Wausau Morning Toastmasters Meeting** · 1st & 3rd Wed. of each month, Vino Latte, Wausau. Starts at 7 am. toastmasters.org

**Central Wisconsin Marine Corps League Detachment 350** · 3rd Wednesday of each month, 2970 Post Road, Plover. Meet at 6:30 pm. New members are welcome. 715-824-3343 or 715-252-3339 for more info

**Aspirus Wausau Farmers Market** · Every Thursday, Located at Aspirus Corporate Parking Lot, 2200 Westwood Dr, Wausau. Opens 9 am. Aspirus.org

**History Chats** · Every Thursday, hosted online by the Marathon County Historical Society. Learn about Marathon County's history from Ben Clark and/or Gary Gisselman. Starts at 12:30 pm. On Facebook Live and Marathon County Historical Society's Youtube page

**Out & About** · Every Thursday (except 4/14 & Thanksgiving), Jubilee House Free Community Meal, St. Matthew Catholic Church Campus, 221 S 28th St, Wausau. 4:30 pm-6 pm. 715-848-6120

**Farmers Market of Wausau** · Saturdays & Wednesdays from May-mid Nov., 200 River Dr, Wausau. Starts at 7 am. farmersmarketofwausau.com

**Stevens Point Quakers Meeting** · Every Sunday. Boys & Girls Club, 941 Michigan Ave, Stevens Point. All welcome! Child care available. Religious education twice a month. Starts at 10 am. 715-344-2593 for more info

**First UU Church of Wausau Service** · Sundays. First UU Church of Wausau, 504 Grant St, Wausau. Sun. 10/20, Reverend Brian Mason will be preaching Choosing Your Neglect. All are welcomed at the first UU Church of Wausau. Starts at 10:30 am. uuwausau.org

**"Bloomin' Greenhouse Tour"-2024** · April thru Oct., hosted by the Clark County Economic Development Corporation & Tourism Bureau at Clark County, WI. Go on a self-guided tour to many greenhouses & garden centers throughout Clark County consisting of several plants of many varieties. Start times vary. No cost. For a brochure, call 715-255-9100 or visit clarkcountywi.org



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# Bringing the heat

**Heather Schuette and Brittany Burns opened up a sauna business behind Whitwater Music Hall, bringing something new to Wausau**

When Northern Lights Sauna owners Heather Schuette and Brittany Burns reached out about their new business, I thought I would try something different: What if I conducted the interview in the sauna itself, with the heat radiating?

They agreed. I met Burns and Schuette at Northern Lights Sauna's welcoming area. From there, we made our way to the sauna, got in swimwear, and entered the sauna.

Burns and Schuette would work out together at the YMCA and sit in the sauna together afterward, Schuette says. A sauna business hadn't occurred to either of them, but for Burns's birthday in December Schuette took her to the community sauna in Stevens Point, and the two fell in love with it.

The two sat down with the owner in January to talk about the business specifics and left with the idea to start their own.

From that, Northern Lights Sauna was born. They opened the sauna in September in the open space behind Whitwater Music Hall, and they also rented a space on the corner of Whitwater Music Hall which houses their office and welcoming area.

New customers enter into the welcome area and can book a community session or a private rental as well. The duo, or one of a dozen community volunteers, makes sure they have towels to sit on and a water bottle, and then it's off to the heat.

Sessions are three 15-minute bouts with a break in between. The group also set up a fire pit with places to sit around between or after sessions, and there is even a cold bucket of water to douse oneself with between sessions, as well as an outdoor shower.



Heather Schuette (left) and Brittany Burns founded Northern Lights Sauna outside of Whitwater Music Hall.

We conducted the entire interview in the sauna during the first of two sessions I took that day (I had another interview scheduled and so didn't have time for the third session). It was not my first encounter with extreme temperatures. I've visited several hot springs in Japan, and of course used sauna rooms at health clubs before.

But this little wooden room feels pleasant, and despite being in a parking lot, trees adorn the window in the side giving the feel of a wooded location. You feel the heat immediately, of course, but it takes some time for the sweat to kick in. Schuette and Burns say your heart rate increases to something similar to zone 2 cardio when you're in the sauna.

How have Wausonians taken to it? So far, they're

getting both the curious and the sauna devotees. "We had one lady who wrote in her description of have you ever sauna'd before, 'yes, Finnish sauna is a way of life,'" Burns says. For many others, though, it's a brand new experience.

Business has started off pretty well, but Schuette and Burns say they expect even more people to take advantage of the sauna in the winter when the cold weather sets in. "We'll be encouraging people to jump in the snowbank," Schuette says.

Northern Lights Sauna is located at 133 River Drive, right past the main Whitwater building (the office is on the far end of the parking lot). Find them on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and at [northernlightssauna.com](http://northernlightssauna.com). **CP**

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