The Wausau Area News & Entertainment Weekly



Full issue on our Facebook page and online!

City has a new approach for north riverfront 4

Collective bargaining decision sparks debate 6

Boogie and the YoYoz, the Nutcracker, and more this weekend 10

This new shop combines fashion and vinyl 15



City Pages sat down with Arran Hersey, Metro Ride's new transit director. He has a plan to turn Metro Ride around

INTERCITY'S BUSINESS BANKING TEAM

Commercial loans, business banking, and so much more.

Schofield • Weston • Wausau

















Sue Ann Hintz **Chris Pfender** Treasury Management Executive Vice President

Randy Balk President/CEO

Kate Tischendorf **Ryan LaCerte** Assistant Vice **Credit Analyst** President – Business Banking



PUBLiSHER'S NOTE Becoming Instruments of God's Peace

Dear Reader,

As we go through life, there's one undeniable truth we all share: we are all going to die. This sobering reality has been with us since the dawn of humanity, yet we often fail to confront it until we're forced to. But what if, instead of avoiding this truth, we embraced it as a powerful motiva-



tor? What if we used it to drive us toward something greater than ourselves?

Imagine if, knowing that our time here is limited, we dedicated our lives to becoming instruments of God's peace. Imagine if we became peacemakers in a world that so desperately needs peace. The concept isn't new—it's been the call of countless prophets, leaders, and thinkers throughout history. But now, perhaps more than ever, it's a call we need to answer.

Why don't we? Why don't we choose to be God's peacemakers, to show kindness and love that extends beyond our own material needs and desires? Perhaps it's fear, or perhaps it's because we're so often caught up in the mundane routines of life. We focus on accumulating wealth, power, and possessions, thinking that these things will bring us happiness. But deep down, we know that they won't. True fulfillment comes from something far more profound.

What if God's plan all along has been for us to figure out that we're here to spread peace and love? What if our highest calling is to reach out to others, to transcend our own selfish needs, and to show acts of kindness and compassion? It's a simple idea, yet it's incredibly powerful. Think about the impact we could have if each of us made the conscious decision to be a peacemaker. If we chose to resolve conflicts rather than create them, to build bridges rather than walls, to spread love rather than hate. The ripple effect of our actions could transform not just our immediate circles, but the world at large.

As instruments of God's peace, we have the opportunity to leave a lasting legacy. We can make a difference in a world that often seems lost in chaos and division. And in doing so, we can find a sense of purpose that goes far beyond our individual lives.

So, let us ask ourselves: why not? Why not become peacemakers? Why not live our lives in a way that reflects the love and kindness that God has shown us? Why not strive to leave the world a better place than we found it?

In the end, we all will face the same fate. But until that day comes, let's commit to living our lives as instruments of peace. Let's reach beyond our material needs, show love to those around us, and embrace the calling that has been with us all along. We may just find that in doing so, we fulfill the very purpose of our existence.

> PATRICK J. WOOD Publisher Author of "Reflections" a new book now available on Amazon.



Lessons and Carols



Join us for a Service of Scripture Readings & Christmas Carols in the Anglican Tradition

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER II | 6 PM The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist 330 McClellan St., Wausau

stjohnswausau.org



Dec 6th/7th 8A-4P & Dec 8th 8A-2P Cards, Venmo, PayPal, Zelle, CashApp & Cash accepted

#MYCITYSCENE (BY ROGER ZIMMERMANN)





Postal ..800 Scott Street, Suite 11, Wausau, WI 54403

Member



000 awy 🕼 🗰 🗶 wausaucitypages City Pages is a locally owned news and entertainment paper published every Thursday by Multi Media Channels LLC, PO BOX 408 Waupaca, WI 54981. City Pages is available free for its intended use—to read. © Copyright Multi Media Channels LLC 2024. All Rights Reserved. No part of this publication or any of its contents may be reproduced, copied, modified or adapted without the prior written consent of Multi Media Channels LLC.

MyCityScene

Want to see your photo in Scene?

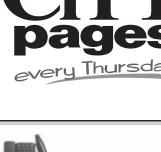
Email BC at brian.kowalski@mmclocal.com for a chance to have your photo featured. (Event photos or photos with general appeal have a much better chance of running.)

THE STUFF

METRO BRIEFS 4 On the bus
CAPITOL EYE 6 Is bargaining back?
NEWS FEATURE
HiGHLiGHTS 10
Big guide 11
THE BUZZ15 Vinyl and V-necks

THE STAFF

Patrick J. Wood. publisher@mmclocal.com Tim Schreiber, tschreiber@mmclocal.com Editor B.C. Kowalski, brian.kowalski@mmclocal.com Sales & Marketing Support Linda Weltzin, linda.weltzin@mmclocal.com **Customer Service Representative** Dawn Ricklefs. dricklefs@mmclocal.com Marketing & Sales Consultant Paul Bahr, pbahr@mmclocal.com Editorial Sunnort Ren Graewin Graphic Design Kimberly Byrne



From the **Attorney's Desk** by Jason Krautkramer. J.D.

ECKERT & KRAUTKRAMER. LLC 630 N. 4th St., Wausau, WI 54403

Rack issues

715-842-0907 • jason@eckertlawllc.com

Transferring Your Season Tickets

While a fan might pass down their love for a football team to family, passing down season tickets is another matter. Each team has a different policy about transferring season tickets, and teams may restrict transfers during the ticket holder's lifetime and after.

The Green Bay Packers permit transfers to qualifying heirs upon the death of a season ticket holder using the Packers-approved transfer form and the ticket holder's will. Green Bay allows only one individual to own season tickets, so if the season tickets are left to more than one child-and the children cannot agree on the new owner-the tickets revert to the team.

To avoid a botched handoff, huddle up with your attorney before the snap and go over the x's and o's, such as completing a transfer form that can be stored with your other estate planning documents.

Schedule an appointment today to learn more.



METRO BRIEFS by B.C. Kowalski

City Pages sat down with Arran Hersey, Metro Ride's new transit director. He has a plan to turn Metro Ride around



A common phrase used to describe the city's mass transit department — Metro Ride — has been thrown around a lot in the past decade.

Doom loop.

The number of riders for Metro Ride has been diminishing, and with it revenue. As revenues decrease, it means less money to possibly expand the service with better times, more routes and eventually outside the city.

Metro Ride's new director, Arran Hersey, recognizes that. And he's got a plan.

Hersey came to the department in March, replacing new director Matthew Rosenbloom-Jones. Rosenbloom-Jones left the department saying he didn't feel he was getting enough support from city hall.

Rosenbloom had replaced the retiring Greg Seubert, who retired in early 2023 after 40 years with the city.

Hersey comes from Portland's TriMet, working his way up from being a part-time bus driver to one of the top management positions with TriMet. So he has some ideas for turning the department around.

Hersey in an interview with City Pages said one of the first steps is to get the transit department's technology up

to speed. That'll include an app that allows riders to see when the bus is expected to arrive. It'll also include electronic fare cards that can be topped up online, so riders don't have to visit the transit office to pay for their passes.

But that's only the first step. He's working with the Greater Wausau Chamber of Commerce to develop routes that helps Wausau businesses, including exploring microtransit options such as going out to the industrial park.

Chamber President Dave Eckmann told City Pages they've had listening sessions and plan to put together groups to help make it happen.

And, after the holidays he wants to convene with bus drivers to talk about what route changes might make sense and where the gaps are.

What about other communities? Hersey says that's part of his plan, but he wants to improve Metro Ride first. "We show we can do this and get more ridership, then I can take these successes to the other municipalities," Hersey says. "If they see we're succeeding and growing, then they may want to become more of a part of it."

The city lost its last route outside of the city in 2015 — since then bus riders have not been able to leave the city. Several attempts to discuss new routes outside of the city with leaders ultimately came to nothing. That despite a pre-COVID survey showing overwhelming support for expanded bus in other communities, in those metro communities.

The city hired a consultant firm which released a plan to the public in 2022. It focused on many of the same things Hersey is planning, though it also included some detailed plans for Metro Ride expansion in other communities.

Transit Commission Chair Becky McElhaney says riders are clamoring to get out of the city, but more needs to be done to build support in those other communities "I hear from current bus riders hoping one day to take the bus to shop in Rib Mountain and/or Weston," McElhaney told City Pages. "They would enjoy the opportunity to travel by bus to visit a friend or go out to eat on a Saturday."

Hersey, who started in the director role in March, says by later next year passengers should see the technology upgrades on city buses. And they're slated to get 10 new buses through a VW lawsuit settlement.

Hersey hopes those changes can start to turn around the fortunes of Metro Ride.



800-398-2667 • covantagecu.org Wausau • Rib Mountain • Weston • Rothschild



City-owned site to become training area for DPW

A city-owned industrial site in a residential neighborhood is about to become a training site for public works workers.

The city council Tuesday approved the city using 1300 Cleveland Avenue as a training site for new workers in the Department of Public Works.

Public Works Director Eric Lindman told the city that right now, there aren't many great places for the department to train staff, and that means they need to train on the job. That's a problem because mistakes on a job site can be costly. Using 1300 Cleveland Avenue as a training site would allow those workers to train without any mistakes costing the city money.

The city-owned property, which once housed the city's business incubator, saw some controversy when the city requested proposals for the site. City Council Members such as Tom Kilian at the time said the site hadn't received enough environmental testing and ultimately the city council opted to do more testing on the site before trying to market it.

Some council members raised concerns about disruption to the neighborhood, but industrial uses are already going on at the site and the spot they would train is quite far away from any houses, so it shouldn't be a problem, city staff said. Training would also only be during the day.

Turkey Trot sets record numbers

The annual Turkey Trot, a long-standing tradition in the Wausau area, broke records this year with the amount of money it raised.

The Turkey Trot had 2,202 runners this year - more than the 2,000 limit the United Way advertised for the event - and raised \$86,000 toward the United Way's programs.

The Turkey Trot has runners start at the 400 Block and run a 5k loop finishing back at the 400 Block. The run once was an Eastbay event, but with Eastbay gone the United Way now runs it itself.

Police find remains of missing woman in Marathon County

Police on Saturday found the remains of a missing woman in the town of Brighton. The Wisconsin Department of Justice announced investigators found the remains of Cassandra Ayon Saturday in the town of Brighton in Marathon County. Ayon was last seen in the town of Unity in 2020 and had been missing since. She was from Clark County.

Jesus Contreras-Perez in September 2022 was sentenced to life in prison after being convicted in Ayon's disappearance on charges of first-degree intentional homicide, hiding a corpse and stalking causing bodily harm.

Marathon County Sheriff's Office and the Marathon County Medical Examiner's office assisted the DOJ in the investigation.

"My heart goes out to Cassandra's family and friends," said Attorney General Josh Kaul. "Thank you to everyone who has worked to get justice and help provide answers in this appalling case."

One man convicted in fatal beating of Stevens Point man

A Rothschild man will serve 20 years in prison for his part in the beating death of a Stevens Point senior.

A Portage County judge sentenced Arlin Sangster to 20 years in prison and five years on supervision after he was convicted for helping beat a Stevens Point man to death.

Police say witnesses saw the Sangster, along with Brandon Boehm, 20 of Wausau and Christian Emerson, 19 of Wausau, get into an argument with 61-year-old Donald Mitchell, Jr. of Stevens Point and beat him. He was transported to Aspirus Wausau Hospital and died shortly after being admitted.

Wausau Police Department was involved in the investigation along with other agencies, according to a release from the Stevens Point Police Department.

Emerson is scheduled to go to trial in January, according to court records. A trial date has not yet been set in Boehm's case.

City committee OKs north riverfront "guide"

A full-fledged plan for the north riverfront was nixed by a mayoral veto earlier this year — so the city is working on the next best thing: A guide for the area.

The city's Economic Development Committee approved a guide for the area the city put together for the development area north of Bridge Street.

READ THE CITY PAGES EVERY THURSDAY Don't lose touch

THECITYPAGES.COM



The city earlier this year planned to spend money on hiring a firm to create a development plan for the area north of the RiverLife development area. But a mayoral veto override council approval of the plan, and that veto was upheld by the city council which would have needed a 2/3 majority to override it.

City planner Andrew Lynch said the guide was something of an answer to that. It provides a rough guide of what the city would like to see development-wise in that area, a former industrial area. It sets guidelines such as not having more than three stories, and that the corridor would be mostly commercial with the possibility of some residential uses.

The area once housed Great Lakes Cheese, Wausau Chemical and the city's water treatment plant. Those moved as part of the city's plan to remove industrial uses from along the Wisconsin River.

Edgar residents boil water after water main breaks

The village of Edgar issued an advisory that residents should boil their water last week, but has since lifted that advisory.

The village put out a notice Nov. 27, the day before Thanksgiving, that because of a pair of water main breaks, the village advised residents to boil their water prior to use. The village fixed those mains the same day, but kept the boil advisory in place for safety. Because water levels at the water towers were low, the village also advised limiting water use.

Edgar Foods announced later that they were giving away free water thanks to a

donation from the area boy scouts, and a match from Edgar Foods themselves.

The village on Sunday sent out another notice that the water boil advisory has been lifted and the water system has been restored to normal. That came after the village on Friday advised residents they no longer needed to conserve water use as the towers had reached normal water levels.

More licenses, more deer harvested this season

Wisconsin saw a slight increase in the number of deer hunting licenses issued this year compared to last year.

According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, totals for all types of license including gun, archery, crossbow, conservation patron and sports licenses totaled 778,111, a 0.48% increase over 2023 numbers. Of that number, 541,258 were gun licenses.

But despite the increased number of licenses, actual deer harvested on opening weekend were less than last year. Data from the DNR shows 89,203 deer harvested on opening weekend, down 1.8% from last year and nearly 5% off the 5-year average.

The numbers of deer sightings and deer activity on DNR surveys are down too, and DNR officials say that is to be expected "given the late opening date relative to the peak of the breeding season," according to the DNR.

But with the conclusion of the 9-deer gun deer season, DNR officials say harvests are up this year over last. Hunters registered 189,622 deer over the season, a 5.2% increase over the 2023 harvest.



CAPITOL EYE by WisPolitics.com staff

Is bargaining back?

Vos, LeMahieu vow to appeal a ruling that restored collective bargaining powers



Assembly Speaker Robin Vos and Senate Majority Leader Devin LeMahieu are vowing to appeal a Dane County judge's ruling that restored collective bargaining powers for public employees who lost them under Act 10 more than 13 years ago.

Judge Jacob Frost this summer found parts of the law unconstitutional because it treated some public safety employees, such as municipal police officers, differently from others in law enforcement, such as wardens working for the Department of Natural Resources.

Following that ruling, GOP lawmakers had asked Frost to only strike down the definition of public safety employees but otherwise leave the law largely intact. But he rejected that in Monday's decision.

'This lawsuit came more than a decade after Act 10 became law and after many courts rejected the same meritless legal challenges," Vos, R-Rochester, said. "Act 10 has saved Wisconsin taxpayers more than \$16 billion. We look forward to presenting our arguments on appeal."

The 2011 law — enacted following mass protests at the state Capitol — barred general employees from negotiating for anything other than base wage increases that were capped by changes in the consumer price index.

Frost struck down that measure along with two other



key components of the law:

Requiring 51% of all members in a bargaining unit to certify the union while allowing a simple majority of those who voted to certify for those who fell under the public safety employee definition.

Allowing union dues to be deducted from the paychecks of public safety employees, but barring the practice for others.

In all, Frost struck down 87 provisions from Act 10 and another three from a 2015 law that modified the original statute.

DNR held the wrong party responsible for PFAS contamination

The Department of Natural Resources identified at least two parties in the past four years as responsible for addressing PFAS contamination the agency attributed to others, according to agency records.

The records show DNR has issued letters identifying responsible parties for PFAS contamination across 22 sites since 2020. And a WisPolitics review found DNR issued at least two such letters to parties even though the agency pinned the blame on others for causing the contamination. State law does not include a responsibility exemption for so-called "innocent landowners."

A separate request for enforcement actions related to PFAS contamination found at least six notices of violations were issued over the period — two of which were sent to parties that may not have caused the contamination.

WAUSAU LABOR TEMPLE **COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION**

Annual Shareholder's Meeting

Will be held at the Labor Temple Sunday, December 15, 2024 at 2:00 pm



The enforcement process involves issuing a maximum contaminant level violation, notice of violation and enforcement conference to discuss it, as well as a plan and timeline to resolve the pollution.

Corrections more aggressive with youth inmates after counselor's death

Following the death of a counselor, the Department of Corrections has taken a more aggressive approach to managing youth prisoners who made perceived threats or were violent, according to a new report.

That includes confining those youths to their rooms for longer periods, while limiting socializing, showers, education with teachers, recreation time, telephone calls and visiting.

The report from the federal court-appointed monitor of Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake noted the impact the death of counselor Corey Proulx has had on staff, youth and the overall climate of the facility. The monitor also noted staff "seemed less exhausted" and "did not verbally express a fear for their safety."

But the monitor noted that due to the changes, Corrections has moved to "partial compliance" from "substantial compliance" on two provisions laid out in a consent decree that was reached following a 2017 lawsuit over conditions at Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake.

Corrections noted it remained in substantial compliance with 42 of the 50 provisions laid out in the consent decree in the latest reporting period covering July through September.

Annual Meeting of the Wausau Cemetery Association

The annual meeting of the Wausau Cemetery Association will be held at the Marathon County Historical Society, 410 McIndoe Street, Wausau, Wisconsin on Wednesday, on December 18, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. to transact business matters pertaining to Pine Grove Cemetery.

Breakfast With Santa Saturday, Dec 14th Breakfast Served: 8am to 11am

All Are Welcome! Join Us for St. Paul's Annual **FREE Holiday Breakfast with Santa!**



St. Paul's United Church of Christ 426 Washington St., Wausau, WI 54403

www.stpauluccwausau.org

Wausau mall project developer warned about in Senate following vindictive messages

Outgoing state Sen. Duey Stroebel is encouraging his Senate GOP colleagues to be skeptical of working with Terrence Wall in the upcoming legislative session.

The developer told WisPolitics Stroebel, R-Saukville, is being "vindictive" after he sent the lawmaker a text message stating he was happy to have contributed to the lawmaker's defeat. Wall called Stroebel a "one-man political party onto himself" who sought to block legislation that was overwhelmingly popular with other lawmakers because of his personal preferences.

Stroebel's office hand delivered letters to Senate GOP members last week with the warning, and a source shared a copy with WisPolitics. It features an image of a text message that Stroebel wrote he received from Wall the day after the Nov. 5 election.

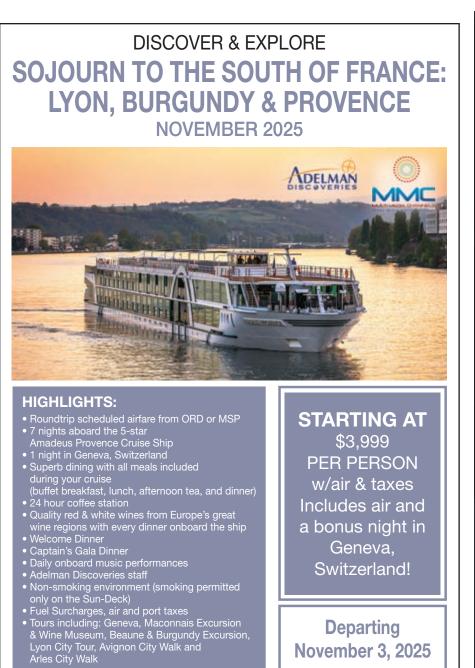
The message reads, "Maybe next time you'll support the team and other team members and support legislation that is good for Wisconsin! I'm proud to have contributed to your defeat."

Stroebel's letter didn't detail any areas that Wall, who dropped his 2010 GOP primary bid after the party endorsed Ron Johnson, believed the lawmaker hadn't supported "the team." But the two have been at odds in recent years on various tax incremental financing proposals. Those allow a municipality to finance infrastructure improvements as part of a development. The increased property tax revenue from those areas then pay back the infrastructure costs. Once that's completed, the increased tax revenue is then shared with all taxing entities in a district, such as schools.

Wall's company, T. Wall Enterprises, is current building the first apartment project on the former Wausau Center mall site. Wall found controversy when he called for the resignation of council members who opposed TIF funding for his project. 🖙



pbahr@mmclocal.com • 715-845-5171



November 3, 2025

GO TO TOURSMMC.COM FOR MORE INFO OR TO SIGN UP

For more information and a full brochure. please contact Chris Brough at 949-253-9361 or email cbrough@adelmantravel.com



NEWS FEATURE By Wispolitics.com

COURT DECISION ON WALKER'S CONTROVERSIAL

W SPURS

AOKI

Wausau Community Theatre Presents the 17th Annual

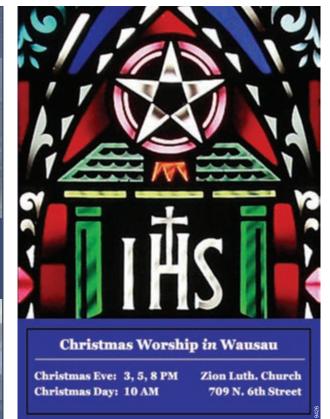
SEMIEMIE



It's the classic tale of hard-hearted Ebenezer Scrooge who is visited by the ghost of his late partner, Jacob Marley and the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future.

Dec. 12th 6:30pm Dec. 13th 7:30pm Dec. 14th 7:30pm Dec. 15th 2:00pm at the James F. Veninga Theater Tickets available at

www.purplepass.com/wct2024christmascarol



Scott Walker's Act 10 more than 13 years ago spurred massive protests on the Capitol Square in Madison and helped the former Republican governor make a national name for himself.

Now a Dane County court decision against key parts of Act 10 is spurring speculation as to how big of an issue it could be in the spring 2025 Supreme Court race that will decide philosophical control of the high court.

Republicans aren't giving up on Act 10. Assembly Speaker Robin Vos and Senate Majority Leader Devin LeMahieu are vowing to appeal the ruling that restored collective bargaining powers for public employees who lost them.

Dane County Judge Jacob Frost this summer found parts of the law unconstitutional because it treated some public safety employees, such as municipal police officers, differently from others in law enforcement, such as wardens working for the Department of Natural Resources. He issued his ruling in early December.

GOP lawmakers had asked Frost to only strike down the definition of public safety employees but otherwise leave the law largely intact.

But he rejected that in his early December written decision.

"This lawsuit came more than a decade after Act 10 became law and after many courts rejected the same meritless legal challenges," Vos, R-Rochester, said. "Act 10 has saved Wisconsin taxpayers more than \$16 billion. We look forward to presenting our arguments on appeal."

The 2011 law barred general employees from negotiating for anything other than base wage increases that were capped by changes in the consumer price index.

Frost struck down that measure along with two other key components of the law:

• Requiring 51% of all members in a bargaining unit to certify the union while allowing a simple majority of those who voted to certify for those who fell under the public safety employee definition.

• Allowing union dues to be deducted from the paychecks of public safety employees but barring the practice for others.

In all, Frost struck down 87 provisions from Act 10 and another three from a 2015 law that modified the original statute.

Public employee unions and workers who were part of the suit challenging the law hailed the ruling. They also noted it is likely the case will be tied up in the courts "for some time" with expected appeals.

Plaintiff Ben Gruber, a conservation warden and president of AFSCME Local 1215, said the decision was personal for him and his coworkers.



"As a conservation warden, having full collective bargaining rights means we will again have a voice on the job to improve our workplace and make sure that Wisconsin is a safe place for everyone," he said. "We realize there may still be a fight ahead of us in the courts, but make no mistake, we're ready to keep fighting until we all have a seat at the table again."

Frost had asked both the unions who challenged the law and GOP lawmakers how he should implement his decision that found some parts unconstitutional.

In their argument, GOP lawmakers argued Frost should only strike down two provisions of Act 10 that defined a "public safety employee." Those covered by that definition included municipal police, deputy sheriffs, firefighters and some members of the State Patrol.

Lawmakers then wanted the Wisconsin Employment Relations Commission to issue a new definition. But Frost wrote in his ruling that made no sense because the Legislature has previously argued the courts can't "decide the policy and define a term the Legislature already defined."

Frost added, "Interpreting 'public safety employee' after striking the legislated definition would be an exercise in the absurd."

That's because there would be no statutory definition to guide a future interpretation, and both WERC and the courts would have to analyze the statutes and legislative history to determine a new meaning. But that legislative history would show lawmakers intended to

carve out exceptions for some public safety employees, and a court or WERC would be barred from following that definition after Frost's ruling that doing so is unconstitutional.

Dem Gov. Tony Evers, who has proposed restoring collective bargaining powers in his state budgets only for GOP lawmakers to reject the provisions, called the ruling "great news for Wisconsin workers."

"I've always believed workers should have a seat at the table in decisions that affect their daily lives and livelihoods," Evers said. "It's about treating workers with dignity and respect and making sure no worker is treated differently because of their profession."

Republicans have been critical of Frost for hearing the case after his name and signature appeared on a petition to recall Walker that matched the address where he lived at the time.



"For over a decade, liberal activists have attacked reforms that have saved Wisconsin taxpayers tens of billions of dollars," LeMahieu said. "Despite Act 10 being upheld repeatedly by state and federal courts, an activist Dane County judge decided to issue a ruling suddenly deciding Wisconsin's law is unconstitutional. We will appeal this decision immediately."

Frost's ruling gave the unions seven days to draft a formal judgment for him to sign. That has to be finalized before an appeal can be filed.

The case also could become an issue in this spring's state Supreme Court race, which will again determine ideological control. The two declared candidates are Dane County Judge Susan Crawford and former GOP Attorney General Brad Schimel, now a Waukesha County judge. Crawford was part of a legal team that unsuccessfully challenged Act 10 in a 2011 lawsuit.

Though the court is now controlled 4-3 by liberals, Justice Janet Protasiewicz said during her 2023 campaign that she might recuse from cases involving Act 10 after she signed a recall petition and protested the law.

Schimel, the only announced conservative candidate and a former GOP attorney general, slammed the ruling in a post on X. The campaign called it the "latest instance of the Left using the justice system to satisfy their donors and dismantle laws they don't like. It's why Democrats have anointed a radical Dane County judge (who helped lead the fight to overturn Act 10) to be their pawn on the Wisconsin Supreme Court."

For more, visit WisPolitics.com 🖙

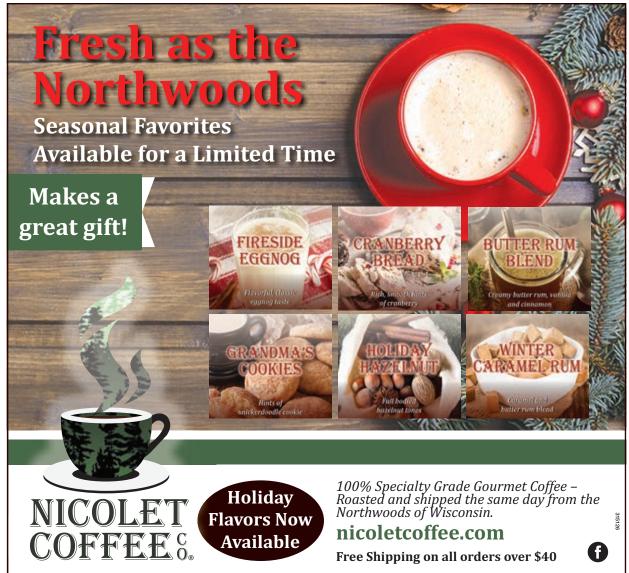
The Capitol Report is written by editorial staff at WisPolitics. com, a nonpartisan, Madison-based news service that specializes in coverage of government and politics, and is distributed for publication by members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.

MOVE IN TODAY FOR \$199



Massive • Holiday • Indoor **Gift And Craft Show** *GIFTS • CRAFTS • AND MORE! 1,000'S OF TREASURES!!* **SAT. Dec. 7** ^{8am to 4pm / \$5 • Free Parking Kids 12 and under free with adult. **Central WI Expo** 10101 Market St A20, Rothschild, WI}

HolidayGiftandCraftShow.com Zurko Promotions • 715-526-976





The Nutcracker

Sat.-Sun. Dec. 7-8 | Grand Theater, Wausau

The Nutcracker, performed by the Central Wisconsin School of Ballet, is a yearly tradition, and it ought to be. Tchaikovsky's masterpiece is a timeless classic in the canon of Christmas music. I can hear the Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy right now as I'm typing this. The Central Wisconsin School of Ballet brings this wonderful creation to life every year, and it's a part of many central Wisconsin folk's annual Christmas traditions. 1:30 pm and 7 pm Saturday.; 1 pm Sunday. \$22-\$42.

AfterImages 12/5-8 | UWSP Studio Theater, Stevens Point

Many might be surprised to learn that UW-Stevens Point is pretty renowned for its theater and dance departments. This annual showcase highlights that status with something of a variety show featuring short works by many of the performers in that department. They're a delight and make for quite an evening of entertainment. 7:30 pm, 2 pm shows Dec. 7-8. \$27. uwsp.edu



Dear Evan Hansen

Mon-Tues 12/9-10 | Grand Theater, Wausau

It's 2024 and social media dominates our social lives and this Tony and Grammy-award winning musical tackles the conflicts and turbulence of our online lives. Dear Evan Hansen tells the tale of Evan, who always feels like he's on the outside looking in. But when he finally gets the chance he's been hoping for — to finally fit in — it turns out not to be exactly as he expected. Suggested age minimum for this show is 12 and up as it contains some adult themes. 7:30 pm Dec. 9; 7 pm Dec. 10. \$75-\$135. grandtheater.org

Twin City Bronze

Saturday 12/7 | Merrill High School Auditorium, Merrill

Merrill Area Concerts Association operates a little differently than you're probably used to. Instead of selling individual tickets, you buy a season ticket, so the more concerts you go to, the less expensive each one becomes. And, it helps keep their series sustainable. This concert, Twin City Bronze, seems perfect for the holiday season. This Twin Cities-based bell group is one of the top bellringing groups in the country and should be perfect for giving you the holiday spirit. 3 pm. Season tickets are \$60, \$20 for students, \$130 per family. Part of the Merrill Area Concert Association. For more concerts in the series, see sites.google.com/merrillconcerts.org

Children's Imaginarium Visit with Santa

Wednesday 12/11 | Children's Imaginarium, Wausau

Hey, you know what time of year it is. It's that time where you drag the kiddos to see Santa so they can tell them about all the toys they want for Christmas. The mall is gone, but if you missed the Shriner's Santa breakfast a few weeks ago this is a good opportunity. Come bring the kids to meet Santa and get a photo with them and Santa's sleigh, take in a reading of the book A World of Cookies for Santa and do a little cookie decorating. (I may have to come and eat a few just to make sure they pass inspection and all.) 5 pm. childrensimaginarium.org

Holiday Makers Market Sunday 12/8 | Third Street Lifestyle Center, Wausau

Nothing says I love you like a locally crafted gift for the holidays. Head downtown Sunday and browse the Holiday Makers Market at the Third Street Lifestyle Center (which us old timers still remember as the Washington Square building). You can purchase from local vendors featuring clothing, artwork, woodwork, food, drinks and more. 10-3 pm. wausauriverdistrict.org.

Boogie and the YoYoz Saturday 12/7 | Lucille Tack Center for the Arts, Spencer

Back by popular demand, the super team of musicians known as Boogie and the YoYoz are returning to the Spencer for this Christmas spectacular. This eight-piece band is made up of some of the best musicians in the area, including one of its members who is originally from Spencer. They really pull out the stops for this Christmas show and you won't want to miss it. 7:30 pm. \$45. lucilletackcenter.com



Have an event you would like to submit?

Email entertainment@mmclocal.com to have your event considered. Event must have entertainment value and be open to the public.

BAR BEATS

Thursday December 5 Scott Kirby · Northern Waters Distillery, Minocqua. Americana. 4 pm. 715-358-0172 Lawrence Andersen · Point Brewery, Stevens Point. Variety. 5 pm. 715-344-9310

Friday December 6

Klein Creek · Point Brewery, Stevens Point. Americana. 5 pm. 715-344-9310 The Foxfire Affair · Sawmill

Brewing Company, Merrill. Celtic, bluegrass, maritime, folk. 6 pm. 715-722-0230 Tom Jordan · The Office Bar,

Schofield. Variety. 6 pm. 715-355-5432 The Jorgensens · Malarkey's Pub,

Wausau. Americana. 8 pm. 715-819-3663 Saturday December 7

First Avenue · Central Waters Brewing Company, Amherst. Variety. 4 pm. 715-824-2739 Lawrence Andersen · Point

Brewery, Stevens Point. Variety. 5 pm. 715-344-9310

Klein Creek · Sunset Point Winery, Stevens Point. Americana. 6 pm. 715-544-1262

Stewart Ellyson · District 1 Brewing Company, Stevens Point. Rock. 6:30 pm. 715-544-6707

Last Bridge · The Garage, Wausau. 90's-2000's rock. 7 pm. 715-393-4495

MoJoe & Flipside · Mosinee Brewing Company, Mosinee. Funk, blues, Americana. 7 pm. 715-693-2739 Irene's Garden · Intermission Bar, Wausau. Bluegrass/Americana. 8

pm. 715-849-9377 **Ryan Howe** · Malarkey's Pub, Wausau. Variety. 8 pm. 715-819-3663

Sunday December 8 Rod Ellenbecker · The Garage, Wausau. Variety. 1 pm. 715-393-4495

Thursday December 12 Mark Wayne · Northern Waters Distillery, Minocqua. Acoustic country, variety, rock & roll. 4 pm. 715-358-0172

The Swing Doctors · Bullseye Golf Club, Wisconsin Rapids. 16-piece jazz/swing. 7 pm. 715-423-2230

Friday December 13 Snow on the Mountain · Point Brewery, Stevens Point. Bluegrass. 5 pm. 715-344-9310 Mike McAbee · Sawmill Brewing

Company, Merrill. Variety. 6 pm. 715-722-0230

Brad Emanuel/Tyler/John Altenburgh · Malarkey's Pub, Wausau. Variety. 8 pm. 715-819-3663

Saturday December 14 Jared Hubbard · Point Brewery, Stevens Point. Variety. 5 pm. 715-344-9310

Jordan Bain · O'so Brewing Company, Plover. Indie, classic rock, country & originals. 6 pm. 715-254-2163

String Cheese Band · The Garage, Wausau. Variety. 7 pm. 715-393-4495 Red Ben & The Missing Miles · Intermission Bar, Wausau. Bluegrass/Folk. 8 pm. 715-849-9377

Matt Sayles · Malarkey's Pub, Wausau. Variety. 8 pm. 715-819-3663

Sunday December 15 Jay Wildner of October Tree · The Garage, Wausau. Acoustic. 1 pm. 715-393-4495

Wednesday December 18 Z-Man Karaoke · O'so Brewing Company, Plover. 6 pm. 715-254-2163

Friday December 20 Derek Lind · O'so Brewing

Company, Plover. Acoustic. 6 pm. 715-254-2163 Brett Westgrove · The Garage,

Wausau. Country. 7 pm. 715-393-4495

Glen Everhart · Malarkey's Pub, Wausau. Variety. 8 pm. 715-819-3663

Saturday December 21 Pete Revelle & Four on the Floor Point Brewery, Stevens Point. Jazz. 5 pm. 715-344-9310 49 Deluxe · The Garage, Wausau. Classic rock, outlaw country & variety. 7 pm. 715-393-4495 Black Hole Sons · Intermission Bar, Wausau. Rock. 8 pm. 715-849-

9377 Corey Rae White · Malarkey's Pub, Wausau. Variety. 8 pm. 715-819-3663

Sunday December 22

Kylar Kuzio Duo · The Garage, Wausau. Variety. 1 pm. 715-393-4495

Ongoing

Trivia · Mondays, Guu's on Main, Stevens Point. Trivia starts at 7 pm. http://guusonmain.com/ Karaoke Night · Mondays & Fridays, Moua's Callon St. Pub, Wausau. Starts at 9 pm. 715-298-1902 Trivia · Tuesdays, District 1 Brewing Company, Stevens Point. Trivia starts at 6 pm. 715-544-6707 Video Trivia · Tuesdays, The Garage, Wausau. Create a team of up to 4 players or play solo. Registration starts at 6:30 pm. Trivia starts at 7 pm. 715-393-4495 Trivia · Tuesdays, The Bar-Wausau,

Rothschild. Trivia starts at 7 pm. 715-355-7001 Karaoke · Tuesdays. Cop Shoppe

Pub, Wausau. Starts at 7:30 pm. 715-845-2030

Team Trivia Nights at Sawmill Brewing Company · Wednesdays, hosted at Sawmill Brewing Company, 1110 E 10th St, Merrill. The games start at 6 pm each Wednesday. Teams can include up to 6 people. sawmillbrewing.net Trivia · Wednesdays, Rhinelander Brewing Company, Rhinelander.

Play individually or on a team of up to 6 people. Starts at 6 pm. 715-550-2337 **Open Blues Jam** · 1st & 3rd

Wednesdays of the month, Whitewater Music Hall, Wausau. Open to all, amp provided, just bring your instrument. Starts at 7 pm. 715-298-3202 Open Mic w/ Carl Jackson · every BIG GUIDE

The largest list of art, dance, lectures, kids' stuff, movie schedules, music, theater, sports, workshops and many other activities in your community.

Sun. 1 pm, 3:15 pm & 7 pm, Mon

Wicked (PG): Fri. 7 pm, Sat. & Sun.

1 pm & 7 pm, Mon. thru Thurs. 7

Red One (PG13): Fri. 7 pm & 9:15

pm, Sat. 1 pm, 3:15 pm, 7 pm &

9:15 pm. Sun. 1 pm. 3:15 pm & 7

pm. Mon. thru Thurs. 7 pm only

Cedar Creek Cinema,

Rothschild, 715-355-5094

Movie times 12/5-12/11

Moana 2 (PG): Thurs. 1:30

(HeatedDreamLounger), 1

pm, 2:10 pm, 3:40 pm, 6:20

pm, 9 pm, 5:30 pm; Fri. 11:20

am, 2 pm, 4:40 pm, 7:20 pm

(HeatedDreamLounger), 10 am,

10:40 am, 12:35 pm, 1:20 pm,

3:10 pm, 4 pm, 5:20 pm, 9 pm,

9:50 pm, 10:30 pm; Sat. 11:20

(HeatedDreamLounger), 10 am,

3:40 pm, 4:10 pm, 5:30 pm, 6 pm,

10:35 am. 12:35 pm, 1:30 pm,

9 pm, 9:50 pm, 10:30 pm; Sun,

11:20 am. 2 pm. 4:40 pm. 7:20

pm (HeatedDreamLounger), 10

am, 10:40 am, 12:35 pm, 1:20

pm, 3:10 pm, 4 pm, 5:30 pm, 6

pm, 9:40 pm, 10:30 pm; Tues.

11:20 am, 2 pm, 4:40 pm, 7:20

pm (HeatedDreamLounger), 10

am, 10:40 am, 12:35 pm, 1:20 pm,

3:10 pm, 4 pm, 5:20 pm, 9:30 pm,

Wicked (PG): Thurs. 1 pm, 2:50

pm, 3:40 pm, 4:40 pm, 6:40 pm,

7:20 pm, 8:20 pm, 2 pm; Fri. 10

pm (HeatedDreamLounger), 10

pm, 3:30 pm, 6:20 pm, 7 pm, 8

pm, 8:40 pm, 9:20 pm; Sat. 10

pm (HeatedDreamLounger), 10

am. 10:40 am. 12 pm. 2:20 pm.

3:30 pm, 6:20 pm, 7 pm, 8:10

pm, 8:40 pm, 9:20 pm; Sun, 10

pm (HeatedDreamLounger).

10 am. 11 am. 12 pm. 2:40

pm, 3:30 pm, 7 pm, 8:10 pm,

8:40 pm, 9:20 pm; Tues. 10 pm

(HeatedDreamLounger), 10 am,

3:30 pm, 6:20 pm, 7 pm, 8 pm,

Ghibli Fest 2024 (G): Sat. 3 pm

(Subtitled); Sun. 3 pm, 7 pm

(Dubbed); Mon. & Wed. 7 pm

(Subtitled); Tues. 7 pm (Dubbed)

Dr. Seuss' The Grinch (PG): Fri., Sat.

& Tues. 11:10 am, 4:10 pm; Sun.

10:10 am, 12:40 pm, 4:10 pm;

Mon. & Wed. 3:40 pm, 6:10 pm

Elf (PG): Fri., Sat., Sun. & Tues, 1:40

pm, 6:30 pm; Sun. & Tues. 9 pm;

My Neighbor Totoro-Studio

9:20 pm

11 am, 12 pm, 1:40 pm, 2:40 pm,

am, 11 am, 12 pm, 1:40 pm, 2:40

10:30 pm

am, 2 pm, 4:40 pm, 7:20 pm

pm, 4:10 pm, 6:50 pm

thru Thurs. 7 pm only

pm only

2nd & 4th Wednesday, Wausau Labor Temple (LT Club), Wausau. Starts at 6:30 pm. 715-848-3320 Trivia@MBCo · Wednesdays, hosted at Mosinee Brewing Company, 401 4th St, Mosinee. Trivia starts at 7 pm each Wednesday, Limit team size to 6 people, mosineebrewing.com Bingo · Every Wednesday, Renee's Red Rooster, Stevens Point, Starts at 7 pm. 715-344-9825 Team Trivia at Malarkev's Wednesdays, Malarkey's Pub & Townies Grill, Wausau. Trivia starts at 7 pm. malarkeyspub.com Karaoke · Wednesdays, Wausau

Eagles Aerie & Auxiliary #251, Wausau. Starts at 8 pm. 715-845-4795 **Open Mic at Sawmill Brewing**

Company - Thursdays, hosted at Sawmill Brewing Company, 1110 E 10th St, Merrill. Open mic every Thursday for those who want to perform comedy, music or poetry. Starts at 6:30 pm. sawmillbrewing.net

Third Thursdays Live Music · 3rd Thursday every month, Sconni's Alehouse and Eatery Schofield. Starts at 6 pm. 715-241-7665 Open Mic Night · Thursdays,

Malarkey's Pub & Townies Grill, Wausau. Hosted by Caleb Delaney. Play guitar, drums, bass or other string instruments. Comedy not available at this time. Starts at 8 pm. 715-819-3663 **Karaoke** - Thursdays, Hy-Da Way, Merrill. Starts at 8:30 pm. 715-722-0660

Karaoke · Saturdays, Denmar Tavern, Wausau. Starts at 9 pm. 715-298-3131

Open Mic · Sundays, Intermission, Wausau. Hosted by The Chad O'Kennedy. Starts at 8 pm. 715-849-9377

Karaoke · Every day, The Office Bar, Schofield. Groups of 5 or more can sing at any time. Otherwise, available after 6 pm. 715-355-5432

Brad Emanuel · Saturdays 12/21-3/29, Granite Peak Ski Resort, Wausau. Variety. Starts at 3 pm. skigranitepeak.com

ON SCREEN This week

Cosmo Theatre, Merrill, 715-536-4473 Movie times thru 12/12 Moana 2 (PG): Fri. 7 pm & 9 pm, Sat. 1 pm, 3:15 pm, 7 pm & 9 pm,

TOP 10 BEST-SELLING ALBUMS FROM INNER SLEEVE

- 1. David Gilmour 'Luck & Strange'
- 2. Linkin Park 'From Zero'
- 3. Jerry Cantrell 'I Want Blood
- 4. The Cure 'Songs Of A Lost World'
- 5. Warren Haynes 'Million Voices Whisper
 6. Beth Hart 'You Still Got Me'
- 7. Amyl & The Sniffers 'Cartoon Darkness'
- 8. Crosby, Stills, Nash, & Young 'Live At The Fillmore East 1969'
- 9. Gillian Welch & David Rawlings 'Woodland'
- 10. Billy Strings 'Highway Prayers'

Mon. & Wed. 1 pm, 8:40 pm **Solo Leveling: Reawakening (Dubbed) (TBD):** Thurs. 4 pm, 7 pm (Dubbed); Fri., Sun. & Tues. 10:10 am, 4:10 pm, 7:10 pm (Dubbed); Sat. 10:30 am, 4:10 pm, 7:10 pm (Dubbed); Mon. & Wed. 2:10 pm, 7:50 pm (Dubbed)

Solo Leveling: Reawakening (Subtitled) (TBD): Thurs. 4:50 pm, 9 pm (Subtitled); Fri., Sat., Sun. & Tues. 1:10 pm, 10:20 pm (Subtitled); Mon. & Wed. 5 pm (Subtitled); Tues. 10:10 pm (Subtitled)

For King + Country's: A Drummer Boy Christmas Live (TBD): Thurs. & Mon. 6:30 pm; Fri., Sat., Sun., Tues. & Wed. 6:40 pm

Gladiator II (R): Thurs. 1:10 pm, 4:30 pm, 7:50 pm; Fri. 11:50 am, 3:20 pm, 6:50 pm, 10:10 pm; Sat. & Sun. 11:30 am, 3:20 pm, 6:50 pm, 10:10 pm; Tues. 11:50 am, 3:20 pm, 6:50 pm, 9:50 pm

Red One (PG13): Thurs. 1 pm, 3:50 pm, 7 pm, 8:10 pm; Fri., Sun. & Tues. 10:30 am, 1:30 pm, 4:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm; Sat. 10:10 am, 1:30 pm, 4:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm

- The Best Christmas Pageant Ever (PG): Thurs. 1:10 pm
- Bonhoeffer: Pastor. Spy. Assassin (PG13): Thurs. 1 pm The Met Opera: Magic Flute

Holiday Encore (2024) (TBD): Sat. 1 pm Marcus Mystery Movie (12/9) (R):

Mon. 7 pm Andre Rieu's Christmas Concert

(TBD): Wed. 7 pm

ON STAGE

Gingerbread Jamz: Marshfield Ukulele Group · Fri. 12/6, Wildwood Zoo & Park, Marshfield. Variety. Starts at 6 pm. Free. Rotarywinterwonderland.org Wayland w/special guests Roc Holiday, Gundo & Where Is the Key · Fri. 12/6, The Q & Z Expo Center, Ringle. Hard rock. Doors open at 6 pm. Show starts at 7 pm. \$20 advance, \$25 at the door. qzexpocenter.com Greg Hahn · Fri. 12/6, Bantr,

Rothschild. Comedy. 18+. Doors open at 6 pm. Starts at 7:30 pm. \$20 general admission. bantrrothschild.com

Pert Near Sandstone with Art Stevenson & High Water · Fri. 12/6, Whitewater Music Hall, Wausau. Bluegrass, Americana/ roots. Starts at 8 pm. \$20. eventbrite.com/e/an-eveningwith-pert-near-sandstonetickets-1070078606919 Sweetalk, The Vox Ultima & Screaming Spaceship · Fri. 12/6, Nevermore on Third, Wausau. Rock. 21+. Starts at 9 pm. \$5. 715-298-0028 Market, Wausau. Polka. Starts at 11 am. 715-845-8846 **Twin Cities Bronze** · Sat. 12/7, hosted by the Merrill Area Concert Association at Merrill High School Auditorium, Merrill. Performing ensemble that specializes in music & the art of hand bells. Starts at 3 pm. \$60 adult, \$20 student, \$130 family membership. maca.

Pam & Scott · Sat. 12/7, County

merrillconcerts.org

The Nutcracker · Sat. 12/7, hosted by Central Wisconsin School of Ballet at Grand Theater, Wausau. Enjoy a classic holiday ballet show performed by the Central Wisconsin School of Ballet dancers and guest artists from American Ballet Theatre. Starts at 7 pm. \$22-\$42. grandtheater.org

Boogie & The Yoyoz · Sat. 12/7, LuCille Tack Center for the Arts, Spencer. Variety. Starts at 7:30 pm. \$45. lucilletackcenter.com

Fearless: A Tribute to Taylor Swift · Sat. 12/7, Bantr, Rothschild. Taylor Swift tribute concert. 18+. Doors open at 6 pm. Starts at 9 pm. \$20 general admission. bantrrothschild.com

DJ Mexkalito · Sat. 12/7, Jalapeno's Mexican Restaurante & Bar, Wausau. Variety. 21+. Starts at 10 pm. 715-842-9206

Dear Evan Hansen · Mon.-Tues. 12/9-12/10, Grand Theater, Wausau. Musical about a high school student who is searching for a way to fit in with others. Show is recommended for ages 12 & up. Starts at 7:30 pm on Mon. & 7 pm on Tues. \$75-\$135. grandtheater.org

Home Free: Any Kind of Christmas Tour · Wed. 12/11, Grand Theater, Wausau. Country. Starts at 7:30 pm. \$38-\$74. grandtheater.org A Christmas Carol · Thurs.-Sun. 12/12-12/15, hosted by the Wausau Community Theatre at the UW Center for Civic Engagement, Veninga Theater, Wausau. Holiday tale about miser Ebenezer Scrooge and his encounters with the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present & Yet to Come. Starts at 6:30 pm on Thurs., 7:30 pm on Fri. & Sat., and 2 pm on Sun. \$25 adults. \$21 seniors & college, \$17 youth under ages 17, \$10 child under 10. wausaucommunitytheatre.org **Central Wisconsin Musicians Jazz** Ensemble · Thurs. 12/12, hosted by Central Wisconsin Musicians at Whitewater Music Hall, Wausau. Celebrate the season with the Central Wisconsin Musicians Jazz Ensemble's vibrant mix of jazz & holiday classics! Starts at 7 pm.

Free admission, facebook.com/

profile.php?id=100090947024499

- A Swingin' Christmas: Erin Krebs & Friends · Thurs. 12/12, Stevens Point Country Club, Stevens Point. Jazz. Starts at 7 pm. \$30 general admission. Free for music students, 50% discount for working musicians & music educators. jazzcoterie.com
- Handel's Messiah · Thurs. 12/12, hosted by Monteverdi Chorale at St Stephen Catholic Church, 1401 Clark St, Stevens Point. An inspiring performance of the English oratorio by G.F. Handel, in collaboration with incredible soloists & local instrumentalists. Starts at 7:30 pm. \$30 adult, \$20 senior, \$10 student/youth. Free for ages 5 & under. monteverdichorale.org
- Tiding of Comfort & Joy · Fri.-Sat. 12/13-12/14, hosted by Wausau Pro Musica & Wausau Lyric Choir at First Presbyterian Church, 406 Grant St, Wausau. Welcome in the holiday season with a wonderful array of familiar music such as the Franz Biebl arrangement of Ave Maria for womens voices as well as a rousing rendition of O Come, All Ye Faithful for mixed voices arranged by Daniel Forrest performed by both choirs. In addition to combined choral pieces, both Wausau Pro Musica & Wausau Lyric Choir will perform some of their own holiday offerings. Starts at 7:30 pm on Fri. & 3 pm on Sat. Free. 715-581-5889
- The John Altenburgh Christmas Extravaganza · Fri. 12/13, Grand Theater, Wausau. Enjoy an evening of jazz, blues and other holiday songs. Starts at 7:30 pm. \$45-\$72. grandtheater.org
- Live Radio Adaptation: "Miracle on 34th Street" · Sat. 12/14, Presque Isle Community Center, 8306 School Loop Rd, Presque Isle. The free program is a potpourri of carols & the heartwarming story of the real Kris Kringle at Macy's department store in 1948, immortalized in the movie of the same name. Doors open at 6 pm. Show starts at 6:30 pm. Free. 715-904-9063 Holiday in Broadway · Sat.-Sun. 12/14-12/15, hosted by the Central Wisconsin

Symphony Orchestra at Sentry Theater, Stevens Point. The Central Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra will be performing holiday music along with Tony-award nominee & Broadway star Christiane Noll. Starts at 7:30 pm on Sat. & 4 pm on Sun. \$45 adult, \$35 senior, \$15 students (with ID). cwso.org

Cirque Dreams Holidaze · Wed.-Thurs. 12/18-12/19, Grand Theater, Wausau. Enjoy a circus holiday theatrical event that fuses Broadway-style production with contemporary circus arts. Starts at 7:30 pm. \$55-\$95. 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. 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
- 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



 $\textbf{Wednesday Night Sessions} \cdot \textbf{Wednesdays, Mount Olive Lutheran Church,}$ 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

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

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. Starts at 10:30 am. uuwausau.org

Worship Service · Sundays, Peace United Church of Christ, 1530 Grand Ave, Schofield. Starts at 9 am. peacechurchucc.com

Marathon City Farmers Market · Thursdays, 400 Main St., Marathon City.

45+ vendors. Produce, food trucks, bakery, arts & crafts, flowers & drinks. Opens 2 pm-6 pm. MarathonCityFarmersMarket@gmail.com MCPL Learn How to Play Cribbage · Tuesdays thru December, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau, Adults can visit the library and play cribbage. Cribbage boards and cards will be available and all skill levels are welcome. Starts at 3 pm. Free, 715-261-7230

Saturday Morning Serenity Seekers AFG · Saturdays online. St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 600 Wilshire Blvd, Stevens Point. https:// us04web.zoom.us/j/886522432 Meeting ID 886 522-432 Passcode: Serenity. In person first Saturday of the month at 9 am. 312-626-6799

Stevens Point Area Winter Farmer's Market · Saturdays from November-April, Located inside the Boys & Girls Club, 941 Michigan Ave, Stevens Point. Open from 8 am-noon. spawinterfarmersmarket.com

Women's League Winter Volleyball · Wednesdays 9/11-4/9, Mountain Bay Elementary School, Weston. Join a B level league designed for fun. Teams are made up of women of all ages (19-60's). Starts at 7 pm or 8 pm. \$25-\$35 for season, 715-573-9315 for more info

<u>EVENTS/SPECTATOR SPORTS</u>

Salvation Army-Angel Tree · Sat.-Fri. 11/30-12/13, Children's Imaginarium, Wausau. Stop by & grab a tag off the tree & return unwrapped gifts by 12/13. childrensimaginarium.org

Essential Oils Craft · Thurs. 12/5, Marathon County Public Library, Mosinee. Make a craft using essential oils. All supplies provided. Starts at 5 pm. Free, 715-693-2144

Winter Wonderland Cabaret · Fri. 12/6. Wausau Conservatory of Music. Wausau. This event will feature appetizers, treats, Pinery Coffee Co. popup as well as three rooms of entertainment by showcasing student & local

talent from WCM students, guest performers, Wausau East High School's Prestige & WCM Harmony Hive Children's Choir. Starts at 6 pm. \$5 general admission, free for children 5 & under. wausauconservatory.org Holiday Parade · Fri. 12/6. Marathon Park to 400 Block. Wausau. Watch the holiday parade. Enjoy cookies & visit from Santa & Mrs. Claus after the parade inside of the Washington Square at 5 pm. Starts at 6:30 pm. Free. wausauevents.org

Tree Lighting · Fri. 12/6, WOW's Art Park, Wittenberg. Enjoy cookies, hot chocolate & cider along with caroling. Check out the craft fair & bake sale at 3 pm on Fri. & 9 am on Sat. Starts at 7 pm. Free admission. wallsofwittenberg.com





SANDWICHES & SALADS Dinner Salad • Chicken Salad Hamburger • Cheeseburger Chicken Sandwiches Pizza Fries • Pizza Tenderloin Sandwiches

Fish Sandwiches

157024 E. HAMILTON, WAUSAU THELOADINGZONE.BIZ | 715-845-9585

Pizza Fries





715-298-9339 • www.uffdahhh.com 1103 East Grand Ave, Rothschild, WI 54474 Near Wausau, Just off Hwy 29. 427832 7 Days a Week



620 N. 3rd St., Downtown, Wausau f 回 Mon - Fri 10-6 • Sat 10-4 • Sun 11-3 shopnicoles.com

Mosinee Papermakers Game · Fri. 12/6, Mosinee Rec. Center, Mosinee. Mosinee Papermakers vs. Portage Lake Pioneers. Starts at 8 pm. mosineepapermakers.com

Kringle Jingle Stick Curling Bonspiel Sat. 12/7, hosted by the Wausau Curling Club at Wausau Curling Center, 1920 Curling Way, Wausau. Two person teams. Event includes breakfast & lunch. First draw starts at 8:30 am. Second draw starts at 9:30 am. \$80 per team. wausaucurling.org

34th Annual Homemade Cookie Sale · Sat. 12/7, Zion Lutheran Church Hall, 709 N 6th St, Wausau. Choose your own cookies or prepackaged cookies are available. Bring your own container to fill, if possible; it will be weighed prior to filling. Starts at 9 am. \$12 per pound. zionlutheranwausau.com

Christmas Festival, Craft Show, Photos w/Santa & Parade · Sat. 12/7, Mosinee High School & Downtown Mosinee. Craft, small business & vendor show in the Mosinee High School starts at 9 am. Milk and cookies & photos with Santa at 9 am in the Mosinee High School Auditorium. Christmas tree lighting starts at 5:45 pm Downtown & parade starts at 6 pm. Free. mosineechamber.org

Old Fashioned Christmas Festival · Sat. & Sun. 12/7-12/8, Willow Springs Garden, Wausau. Enjoy a coloring contest, food, horse-drawn sleigh ride, lantern loft, music & more. Starts at 10 am on Sat. & 9:30 am on Sun. Free admission. 715-675-1171

Grownups in the Garden · Sun. & Mon. 12/8 & 12/9, Monk Botanical Gardens, Wausau. Adults can participate in hands-on activities; learn about different topics & more. Starts at 1 pm on Sun. & 10 am on Mon. \$10/person, free for members, monkgardens.org

MUSICA-Why is the Universe Beautiful? • Sun. 12/8, UWSP Allen F. Blocher Planetarium, Stevens Point. See how art, music & mathematics are integral to the beauty of the Cosmos. Starts at 2 pm. Free. uwsp.edu

Marathon City Book Club: "Carrie Soto is Back" by Taylor Jenkins Reid Mon. 12/9, Marathon County Public Library, Marathon City. A retired tennis champion comes out of retirement at age 37 after watching a young phenom beat her long-standing record at the 1994 US Open. Starts at 5:45 pm. 715-443-2775

Edgar Book Club: "Winter Street" by Elin Hilderbrand Tues. 12/10, Marathon County Public Library, Edgar. A family reunion at Kelley Quinn's Nantucket inn is thrown into turmoil by the personal dramas of his four adult children and the discovery of his second wife's infidelity. Starts at 12 pm. 715-352-3155

Hatley Book Club: "One Perfect Day" by Lauraine Snelling - Tues. 12/10, Marathon County Public Library, Hatley. Two mothers find their lives inextricably entwined when the prayers of a woman whose daughter's life depends on a heart transplant are answered in the wake of the other woman's devastating tragedy at the height of a Christmas season. Starts at 1 pm. 715-446-3537

MCPL Spencer Branch Cribbage Tues. 12/10, Marathon County Public Library, Spencer. Adults can visit the library and play cribbage. Cribbage boards and cards will be available and all skill levels are welcome. Starts at 1:30 pm. Free. 715-659-3996

Yoga & Meditation Class · Wed. 12/11, Marathon County Public Library, Mosinee. Participants are welcome to bring a mat. Wear comfortable clothes. Starts at 10 am. Free. 715-693-2144

METRO Club Luncheon · Wed. 12/11, Gulliver's Landing, 1701 Mallard Ln, Wausau. Presenter is Lois Pietz, harpist. Program is Christmas music. RSVP by 12/6. Starts at noon. 715-203-2382 or mageetutor94@gmail. com to RSVP

New Horizons Book Club: "Absolution" by Alice McDermott · Wed. 12/11, Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point or online via Zoom. In Saigon in 1963, two young American wives, one a starry-eyed newlywed & the other a practiced corporate spouse, form a wary alliance. Meet in the Prairie Room or online. Starts at 1:30 pm in person or 6:30 pm online. eglade@pocolibrary.org for meeting details

Wausau Cyclone Game Fri. 12/13, Marathon Park, Wausau. Wausau Cyclones vs. West Bend Power. Starts at 7:10 pm. \$11 ticket adult or \$12 walk-up, \$8 kids 5-18 or \$9 walkup, 5 and under free. www. wausaucyclones.com

Sacred Heart Cassel-Christmas Cookie & Bake Sale Sat. 12/14, Sacred Heart Cassel, 222761 County Rd S, Marathon. We will have personal shoppers for you. They will be gloved & ready to help you pick out your goodies. Starts at 8:30 am. \$8 a pound. 715-443-3675

Deck the Malls Craft & Vendor Show · Sat.-Sun. 12/14-12/15, Cedar Creek Mall, Rothschild. Craft and vendor show. Starts at 9 am on Sat. & 10 am on Sun. cedarcreekmall.com

Sweet Landmarks of Wausau Gingerbread House Contest · Sat. 12/14, hosted by the Sweet Landmarks of Wausau at the Woodson History Center, Wausau. Grab your favorite candies, your best gingerbread recipe & create your favorite building. Starts at 9 am. http:// wausauhistoriclandmarks.org/ for rules & more info

St. Agnes Sweet Shoppe · Sat. 12/14, St. Agnes Parish, 6101 Zinser St, Weston. Fancy cookies & candy available by the pound. Raffle available. Lunch will be served in the hall. Menu includes homemade chicken noodle & sausage potato soups, barbecue & turkey sandwiches and homemade pies. Starts at 10 am. 715-359-5675

Holiday at the Houses: A Century of Holiday Traditions · Sat. 12/14, hosted by the Marathon County Historical Society at the Woodson History Center & Yawkey House Museum, Wausau. The Woodson History Center & Yawkey House Museum will be decorated for the holidays & visitors will experience the season with live entertainment, children's activities, & the Friends of Wausau Historic Landmarks' Sweet Landmarks Gingerbread Contest. Starts at 10:30 am. Free admission. marathoncountyhistory.org Soccer Game: Wisconsin Conquerors vs. Minnesota · Sat. 12/14, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 7 pm. \$10 adults, \$7 for children under 12. wisconsinconquerors.org

Scaled Up Reptile Expo · Sun. 12/15, hosted by Scaled Up Expo at Central Wisconsin Convention and Expo Center, 10101 Market St, Rothschild. Look at the reptiles from different breeders, stock up on supplies and possibly take a reptile home. Starts at 10 am for VIP, 11 am for general admission. \$14 VIP admission, \$7 general admission, free for ages 5 and under. scaledupexpos.com

Season of Light - Sun. 12/15, UWSP Allen F. Blocher Planetarium, Stevens Point. Go back in time to learn how winter brings out light in all forms through various holiday traditions around the world & the stars in our expansive cosmos. Starts at 2 pm. Free. uwsp.edu

OUTDOORS

Marshfield Rotary Winter Wonderland · Fri.-Tues. 11/29-12/31, Wildwood Zoo & Park, Marshfield. Over a million lights illuminate the park and zoo. Starts at 5 pm. Free but donations encouraged. Rotarywinterwonderland.org

Rib Mountain Adventure Challenge-Winter Edition · Sat. 12/7, TBA (within 30 miles of Wausau). Soloists & teams of 2-4 members will trek or trek & bike their way through a beautiful, wintery course using a map & compass to find the way. Packet pickup at 7:30 am. 6-hour race starts at 9 am, 3-hour no-bike race starts at 9:30 am & 3-hour race starts at 10:15 am, 11 am or 11:45 am. \$65-\$90/person 3-hour, \$50-\$75 3-hour no bike, \$80-\$105 6-hour. ironbull.org

Winter Bird Watching · Mon. 12/9, Schmeeckle Reserve, Stevens Point. Learn how to bird watch in winter. Starts at 6 pm. uwsp.edu

A Frozen Lake's Winter Wonderland · Fri. 12/13, Schmeeckle Reserve, Stevens Point. Learn about what happens to Lake Joanis when it freezes over. Starts at 10 am. uwsp.edu

Night Hike Fri. 12/13, Monk Botanical Gardens, Wausau. Go for an evening stroll through the illuminated gardens. Starts at 5 pm. \$6/person. monkgardens.org

The Jingle Jam \cdot Sat. 12/21, Granite Peak Ski Resort, Wausau. Competitors will spin on the Christmas-lit rails. Registration starts at 2 pm. Jam starts at 4:30 pm. \$10 entry. skigranitepeak.com

LECTURES/WORKSHOPS

DIY Painted Wood Ornament Craft · Mon. 12/9, Marathon County Public Library, Edgar. Paint a wooden ornament. Starts at 5 pm. 715-352-3155 Extension Gardening: Microgreens at Home · Tues. & Thurs. 12/10 & 12/12, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. Learn how to grow microgreens indoors this winter. Registration required. Starts at 6 pm on 12/10 & 10 am on 12/12. Free. 715-261-1241 or mcpl.us to register

ARTS/EXHIBITS

Q Artists Cooperative, Stevens Point · 1108 Main St, Stevens Point. Ongoing exhibits of the work of more than thirty local artists in a variety of media, featured shows rotating every two months. New Winter hours 11 am-4 pm daily. qartistscooperative.com

Riverfront Arts Center, Stevens Point · Open Wed.-Fri. 11 am to 5 pm. Sat. & Sun. 11 am to 3 pm. stevenspoint.com/rac

Fine Art Gift Gallery \cdot Fri.-Sun. 11/1-12/22. Riverfront Arts Center, Stevens Point. Fine arts, gifts & cards. stevenspoint.com/rac

Woodson Art Museum, Wausau · Free. Open Tues.-Fri. 9 am-4 pm, first Thurs. of each month 9 am-7:30 pm, Sat.-Sun. noon-5 pm and closed Mon. & holidays. Iywam.org

Wausau Museum of Contemporary Art \cdot Open 11 am-3 pm Tues-Sat. Wmoca.org

Center for the Visual Arts, Wausau · Free. Gallery hours Wed.-Fri. 10 am-4 pm; Sat. 12 pm–4 pm. Closed Sun.-Tues. 715-842-4545, cvawausau.org. Inspired by activities and events.

Locally Sourced · now-Sat. 12/21. Center for the Visual Arts, Wausau. Locally Sourced showcases early career artists, who started as youth living in the Wausau Area. cvawausau.org

Art by the Foot · now-Sat. 12/21. Center for the Visual Arts, Wausau. Annual juried art show of small works, measuring 12 inches or smaller in dimension. cvawausau.org

CVA Shop Holiday Gift Gallery · now-Mon. 12/23. Center for the Visual Arts, Wausau. All work available for immediate purchase. cvawausau.org Merrill Historical Society Museum, Merrill · Free. Gallery hours Mon.-Fri. 9 am-1 pm. 715-536-5652. discovermerrillhistory.org

Keeping Up Appearances-Suds, Duds & Irons · Ongoing exhibit. This exhibit showcases more than 60 individual & unique restored irons, washing devices & old laundry soap. discovermerrillhistory.org

Marathon City Heritage Center · Open from noon to 2 pm on the second Sunday of each month from Oct. to April, Open Sun. 4/5 noon-2 pm and 5/3 noon-2 pm. 715-443-2221. marathoncity.org

Marathon County Historical Society · Open Tues.-Fri. 9 am-4:30 pm. Sat.-Sun. 1 pm-4:30 pm. marathoncountyhistory.org The 1920s: Rebellion, Prosperity & Loss · Ongoing exhibit. Step back in

The 1920s: Rebellion, Prosperity & Loss · Ongoing exhibit. Step back in time 100 years to learn what life was like in the roaring '20s. This exhibit captures the excitement around new forms of media like the radio & moving pictures, the realities of enforcing a national Prohibition of alcohol, the growth of electrified appliances to modernize life at work & in the home, and much more. marathoncountyhistory.org

Peek Inside: See What We Collect and Why · Ongoing exhibit at the Marathon County Historical Society. View items on display and learn why they are a part of the Historical Society's collection. marathoncountyhistory.org

Our Stories: The History of Marathon County · Jan. 2022 thru Dec. 2025.

Learn about the stories of people who lived in Marathon County for a long time. Themes include arriving here, making a living and having fun. marathoncountyhistory.org

<u>KIDS/TEENS</u>

Mini Makers · Mon.-Sat. 12/2-12/7, Marathon County Public Library, Athens. Explore process art. Process art is child-led & focuses on creation instead of following specific directions. Each branch will have a different project each month. All supplies provided. Stop in anytime the library is open. Free. 715-257-7292

Family Story Time · Mondays 12/2-12/16, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. Children can listen to stories, listen to songs and learn through other literature-based activities. Starts at 10 am. Free. 715-261-7220

Play and Learn · Wednesdays 12/4-12/18, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. Staff from Children's Wisconsin will read a story, share music and lead children through a craft project. Starts at 9:30 am. Free. 715-261-7220

 Family Story Time · Thursdays 12/5-12/19, Marathon County Public Library, Marathon City. Children can listen to stories, sing songs and learn through other literature-based activities. Starts at 10:30 am. Free. 715-443-2775
 Tales & Tasty Treats-The Snowy Day · Thurs. 12/5, Children's Imaginarium,

Jales & Jasty Treats-The Showy Day - Thurs. 12/5, Children's Imaginarium, Wausau. Join us for a healthy snack & reading of The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats. Starts at 10:30 am. childrensimaginarium.org Sandy Science - Thurs. 12/5, Olson Museum of Natural History, 2001 Fourth

Ave, Stevens Point. Learn about where sand comes from. Enjoy a fun night of sandy science & creations. For ages 7-12. Starts at 5:30 pm. Free. uwsp.edu Morning with Santa · Sat. 12/7, Stevens Point Area YMCA, Stevens

Point. Enjoy snacks, holiday crafts, cookie decorating, & photos with Santa. Registration required. Starts at 9 am. \$5/person members, \$10 nonmembers. spymca.org

LEGO Block Party Sat. 12/7, Marathon County Public Library, Rothschild. Children of all ages and families are invited to build creative projects using

LEGO blocks. All blocks will be provided. Starts at 11 am. Free. 715-359-6208 **Mini Makers** · Mon.-Sat. 12/9-12/14, Marathon County Public Library, Spencer. Explore process art. Process art is child-led & focuses on creation instead of following specific directions. Each branch will have a different project each month. All supplies provided. Stop in anytime the library is open. Free. 715-659-3996

Family Story Time · Tues. 12/10, Marathon County Public Library, Hatley. Children can listen to stories, sing songs and learn through other

literature-based activities. Starts at 10:30 am. Free. 715-446-3537 **Family Storytime** · Tues. 12/10, Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point. Enjoy interacting with local librarians while we read books, sing songs & share other fun activities. Most appropriate for preschoolers but all are welcome. Starts at 10:30 am. 715-346-1549

Pokémon Club · Tues. 12/10, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. Enjoy Pokémon activities and play cards with other kids. Starts at 4 pm. Free. 715-261-7220

Silent Night-A Sensory-Friendly Holiday Experience at the Children's Imaginarium · Tues. 12/10, Children's Imaginarium, Wausau. We'll be dimming the lights, offering sensory-friendly maker projects, providing access to sensory bins & much more. Starts at 5 pm. Free. childrensimaginarium.org

Family Story Time · Wed. 12/11, Marathon County Public Library, Athens. Children can listen to stories, sing songs and learn through other

literature-based activities. Starts at 10:30 am. Free. 715-257-7292 Family Storytime · Wed. 12/11, Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point. Enjoy interacting with local librarians while we read books, sing songs & share other fun activities. Most appropriate for preschoolers but all are welcome. Starts at 10:30 am. 715-346-1549

Family Story Time · Wed. 12/11, Marathon County Public Library, Stratford. Children can listen to stories, sing songs and learn through other literature-based activities. Starts at 10:30 am. Free. 715-687-4420

Mini Makers · Wed. 12/11, Marathon County Public Library, Rothschild. Explore process art. Process art is child-led & focuses on creation instead

of following specific directions. Each branch will have a different project each month. All supplies provided. Starts at 10:30 am. Free. 715-443-2775 Family Storytime · Wed. 12/11, Portage County Public Library, Rosholt.

Enjoy interacting with local librarians while we read books, sing songs & share other fun activities. Most appropriate for preschoolers but all are welcome. Starts at 10:30 am. 715-677-4512

DIY Snowman Ornament · Wed. 12/11, Marathon County Public Library, Marathon City. Create an adorable snowman ornament. Starts at 3 pm. Free. 715-443-2775

Santa Visiting · Wed. 12/11, Children's Imaginarium, Wausau. Stop by & get your picture taken with Santa & his sleigh. Starts at 5 pm. childrensimaginarium.org

STEM Literacy-Cl Pediatric Therapy Reading · Thurs. 12/12, Children's Imaginarium, Wausau. Cl Pediatric Therapy will be reading a Holiday story. Starts at 10:30 am. childrensimaginarium.org

Family Storytime Thurs. 12/12, Portage County Public Library, Plover. Enjoy interacting with local librarians while we read books, sing songs & share other fun activities. Most appropriate for preschoolers but all are welcome. Starts at 10:30 am. 715-341-4007

Gingerbread House Decorating · Thurs. 12/12, Portage County Public Library, Almond. Create a gingerbread house. Program is for ages 2 years through 5th grade. Supplies are limited. Registration required. Starts at 4 pm. Free. pocolibrary.org

Baby Storytime · Fri. 12/13, Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point. A cuddling storytime, featuring interactive stories & songs for you & baby. Recommended for babies, newborn to 17 months, & siblings are welcome. Starts at 9:45 am. 715-346-1549

THE BUZZ by B.C. Kowalski

Vinyl and V-necks

Norwegian Wood is Wausau's new downtown clothing store and it combines style with vintage vinyl



Gabrielle Shier started Norwegian Wood with her husband Tristan. They were planning to add vinyl down the road, but the right opportunity presented itself.

A guy might find it a little uncomfortable to walk into Norwegian Wood for the first time, since the first floor is largely a women's clothing shop.

But don't worry — there's something for you in the basement.

Gabriel Shier and her husband Tristan opened Norwegian Wood in early September at 525 N Third Street in a building that formerly housed a jewelry store. The top floor focuses primarily on women's fashion. That fashion ranges in style and price, from Boho, comfy oversized items to fancy dresses and skirts. Shier says there are items like a basic shirt for \$20 all the way up to a \$150 sweater.

"We really wanted a store where a granddaughter can come shopping with her mom and grandma," Shier says, "and they all have fun here." Customers have included women in their 20s to their 60s and 70s, Shier says.

But sprinkled throughout the first floor, just to give a hint of what lies below, are small collections of records.

For lovers of vinyl, the basement is where the treasure is. (And if you love fashion and vinyl, well then you're really in the right place.)

The room in the record room feels like a friend's basement, with chairs and lamps out of That 70s Show, but with rows and rows of vinyl.

Many of them came from River District Antiques, which had been located on the west side of the Wisconsin River in a building near where The Milk Merchant and October Guitars are located. When River District Antiques closed, Shier said she and Tristan showed him the basement and



now the records are down there. "It's become a bigger part of the store than we initially planned," Shier says. "It was our five-year plan to have records at the store, but it happened right away and we're excited about it."

The space needed a lot of work when they decided to open Norwegian Wood there, and they spent months renovating the space.

While the store is drawing a crowd, Shrier admits sometimes men are a little confused or disoriented when they walk in. She says she guides them to the records right away to assure them.

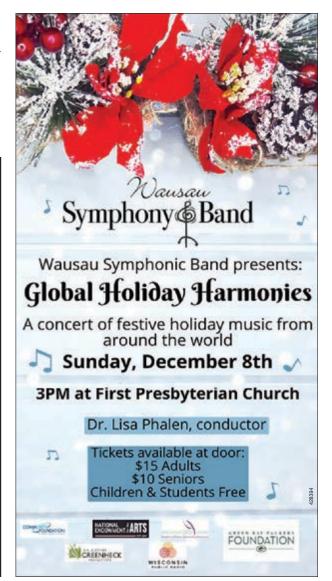
Right now, it's just run by Gabrielle, Tristan and their daughter, and are open every day but Sunday. Shier still worked as a hair stylist when I interviewed her, but planned on retiring by the time this story came out. Tristan works for UPS she says. Right now the shop is open Wednesday through Saturday, but once she retires from hair styling, Norwegian Wood will be open Monday through Saturday (10-5 during the week, 10-4 on Saturday). But they will be open Sundays too, 11-3 during December.



Shier already worked downtown and says her family spends a lot of time downtown for leisure too, so it seemed like a good choice for their clothing and vinyl business. And Shier says she feels like she's in the right place, as downtown is poised for growth in the near future.

"I wanted to get in on it before it got too crazy," Shier says.

Find Norwegian Wood on Facebook and Instagram. 🖙







Hiring 1st, 2nd & 3rd shift positions at the **Marathon City location** Check our website at www.mcheese.com



Advancement Opportunities **Great Benefits Package Paid Vacation Employee Appreciation Events Company match 401(k)**