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Holidays at the Houses: A Century of Holiday Tradition





MARATHON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Marathon County Historical Society is proud

to present the annual Holidays at the Houses event on Sat., Dec. 14th.

Woodson History The Center and Yawkey House Museum will be decorated the holidays and visitors will experience the season with live entertainment, children's activities, and the always popular Friends of Wausau Historic Landmarks' Sweet Landmarks Gingerbread Contest.

will be "A Century of

Holiday Tradition". Centered around recently discovered book entitled "Growing to be a Christmas Tree," authored by Alice Yawkey for her grandchildren in 1927. The tree will be recreated, as described in the book in the Yawkey perfectly to the new 1920s exhibits.

Closed: Sunday & Monday

In addition, there will be a display of the Woodson China, a cookie decorating station, baked goods sale, vintage caroling, displays, coloring contest. and of course, Santa will be available for visits and tours of the Yawkev House Museum will highlight the Yawkey family's holiday traditions as well as the history and architectural details of the exquisite house itself.

Holidays at the Houses is made possible by our Cornerstone sponsors.

See HOLIDAYS AT THE HOUSES

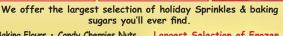
page 3





Mini Holiday Cookie Dough: Butter Spritz, Mexican Wedding, Toffee, Maple Walnut, Mint and More

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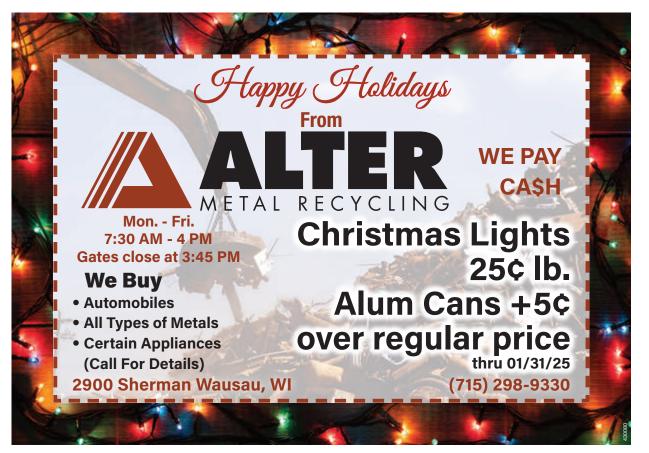
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PUBLISHER'S LETTER

The Joys and Blessings of Christmas

Dear Reader,

Christmas holds many meanings for those who celebrate

this special day and the season that surrounds it. At its heart, Christmas signifies the birth of Christ, a moment of profound spiritual importance. But it also brings to mind the joy of giving, with gifts and presents for little boys and girls, each package wrapped with love and anticipation.



While we often find ourselves

striving to be our best during the holiday season, the true magic of Christmas shines brightest in the eyes of a child. In their wonder and delight, we are reminded of the simple, pure joy that this time of year brings.

Merry Christmas to all.

PATRICK J. WOOD

Publisher

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







Brightening Aspirus: Facility Lights Spark Joy



© Aspirus

ASPIRUS HEALTH

The tradition of stringing up Christmas lights brings a touch of brightness and festive cheer to homes and spaces this time of year. At Aspirus Wausau Hospital, Grounds Facility Project Coordinator Mark Heinrich has once again transformed the hospital's surroundings. creating a warm and hopeful atmosphere for patients, staff, and visitors.

What initially began as a passion for festive displays at home, coupled with a modest effort to area facilities revamp for the holiday season,

has evolved into a grand undertaking for Mark and his team. "We now have quite the display, and people seem to really like it," says Mark.

Overseeing an annual installation of 85 to 100 coats of lights, Mark faces challenges posed by unpredictable weather and the occasional unruly strand. However, his persistence and attention to detail shine through.

"We like to change it up a little bit every year. Anyone can toss a couple of strands of lights into a tree, which is great. But I prefer to add more detail, hoping it will brighten people's days a little more when they see it," says Mark. "It makes me feel great to hear how much it means to people."

One touching contribution is installation of private trees for patients at the Aspirus Hospice House. "We thought, 'wouldn't it be nice if we could do something for those that are bedridden or stuck inside?' So now everybody gets a private decorated tree to put in front of their window," shares Mark. "Patients were so excited when I first started doing it. It was probably one of the

most rewarding things I've ever done."

Mark's holiday ritual is a reminder of the impact of small gestures during tough times. He says, "it's a lot of work, but it's all well worth it at the end of the day when you hit the switch."

Aspirus extends heartfelt appreciation to dedicated grounds facility team members who infuse the holiday spirit into the communities we proudly serve across Wisconsin and Upper Michigan. Join us in celebrating their hard work and efforts in spreading joy throughout our facilities.



WILotteryCommunications@Wisconsin.gov P (608) 261-8412 · F (608) 267-4565 2135 Rimrock Rd • Madison, WI 53713

Super 2nd Chance Drawing to End this Year

Last drawing will be on December 26, 2024

FOR MMC

Wisconsin Lottery players have just a few chances left to participate in the Super 2nd Chance has been implementing Drawing before the weekly a drawing comes to an end. The last Super 2nd Chance Drawing will be held on December 26, 2024.

The last three Super 2nd Change Drawings will be held on:

- December 11, 2024
- December 19, 2024
- December 26, 2024

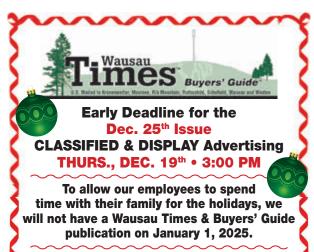
Since June 3, the Lottery comprehensive communications plan across the state to ensure that players, retailers, and others are aware that the drawing is ending.

The Super 2nd Chance Drawing is a weekly

non-winning Wisconsin Lottery tickets for entry. Each entry needs to contain at least \$5 worth Lottery scratch and/or lotto tickets that have not expired. To enter a Super Chance Drawing, players must mail in the entries to a special drawing address, listed on the back

drawing that requires of Wisconsin Lottery lotto and scratch tickets. Ten \$1,000 winners are drawn weekly

After the final drawing of non-winning Wisconsin on December 26, 2024, the Lottery has no plans to replace the Super Chance Drawing 2nd with another drawing. Wisconsin law does not allow for online entry from a residence at this time.



OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

December 23-27 and January 1



Innovative sports medicine partnership continues between UW-Stevens Point and Marshfield Clinic Health System

FOR MMC

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and Marshfield Clinic Health System have renewed their partnership for official medicine sports care through June 2027. This renewal builds on the high quality of comprehensive medicine sports care provided studentathletes.

This medical model allows the athletic training staff, who are health system employees, provide seamless access to the entire system of services including team physician Dr. Chad Giles and team surgeon Dr. Jeffery Rossow.

There are seven fulltime and several casual licensed athletic trainers supporting 26 collegiate teams of approximately 800 students. This level of support provides a dedicated athletic trainer for practices and events daily personalized care on campus. Athletes have full access to a highly trained sports medicine





Marshfield Clinic **Health System**

team. Dr. Giles and Dr. Rossow provide office hours on campus, in the training room or through field event coverage when attending games.

"We provide a full approach to sports medicine care including mental health support, rehabilitation services (including post operative return to play), efficient referral process," said Brock Reichardt, athletic training services manager.

The sports medicine team treats a wide range of injuries and illnesses including, limited to concussions. cardiovascular issues, orthopedic injuries, acute emergencies, eating disorders, viral illnesses, bacterial illnesses, skin disorders, lacerations, surgical cases, mental health, and other injuries and illnesses.

"Our continued partnership Marshfield Clinic Health System merges two vital organizations in Central Wisconsin," said UW-Stevens Point Athletic Director Brad Duckworth. "UW-Stevens Point Athletics strives to provide our student-athletes the best experience in NCAA Division III athletics and having quality health care is an essential component. The world-renowned health care from Marshfield Clinic

continued partnership." With this seamless access to care, the sports medicine team can be active with preventive resources, including early identification of injury and provide a rapid response

2 miles West to Pelsdorf 1/4 mile South

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Health System gives our

student athletes the best

chance to compete at the

highest level. I couldn't

be more grateful for our

to care and recovery. This partnership continues the trailblazing medical model.

"This is a unique model at the Division III level," said Aaron Homolka, director of rehabilitation services. Wisconsin "No other Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) school has a robust network of dedicated athletic trainers team physicians working on campus."

The athletic training programisanotherexample of the close partnerships

the Health System and UWSP have developed in the last several years. In 2018, the two organizations announced a partnership to

advance the development of the health care workforce by providing new education and training opportunities for students.

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HOLIDAYS AT THE HOUSES

from page 1

and Caregiving TDS. along with grant funding Community from the Foundation Central Wisconsin.

For more information, please visit Marathon County Historical Society website www. marathoncountyhistory.org or call 715-842-5750.

The Marathon County Historical Society Woodson operates the History Center and the Yawkey House Museum. Our mission is to collect, preserve and disseminate the knowledge of the Marathon history of County and Wisconsin.

Marathon County Historical Society is supported in part by of Wausau Room Funding. Additional support provided through











Patrick J. Wood Publisher publisher@mmclocal.com

Tim Schreiher General Manager

tschreiber@mmclocal.com Graphic Designer

Website: WausauTimes.com

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715-903-0996 Natasha Winkler

nhigginbotham@mmclocal.com

Nate Higginbotham

Marketing &

Sales Consultant

nwinkler@mmclocal.com

Heidi Schult

Dawn Ricklefs

Customer Service Rep

Classified Service Rep

wausauads@mmclocal.com

Heidi Griebel Customer Service Rep

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Keller, Inc. Recognized for **Excellence in Construction of Intercity State Bank**



FOR MMC

The Intercity State Bank building project is being recognized as one of the most impressive and unique construction projects completed by a Wisconsin contractor in 2024. Associated Builders & Contractors (ABC) of Wisconsin will be honoring Keller, Inc. with a GOLD Projects of Distinction Excellence in Construction Award for the ground-up bank located in Weston, Wisconsin.

It all started with what Keller calls "Discovery". Discovery is architectural programming step that Keller, Inc. (Keller) entered with the leadership team at Intercity State Bank.

Because of the in-depth nature of the Discovery process, it required several interview style meetings. This is an innovative program that is centered around the clients needs

instead of the Architect making all of the decisions for the client. The Keller Interior Designer used the same Discovery process, again keeping the client at the center of the design

State Bank Intercity wanted a combination new contemporary styling along with some matching of their headquarters. corporate An innovative steel lattice framework was used at the main, and the employee entrances. Natural stone was used as an accent and highlighted parts of the façade, and then the same stone was repeated throughout the building.

Keller engineering during the design and pricing phase to allow the client to decide the value of certain elements of the design. Keller starts its scheduling process with an interactive tool called a

"Calendar of Events". This tool kept Intercity State Bank completely aware of the design schedule and ultimate construction completion.

Once the construction contract was signed a more elaborate electronic schedule with milestone events implemented. Because Keller is a design/ self-performing build contractor, we general were able to overcome supply chain and weatherrelated issues. Using ABC subcontractors helped us with productivity. Revit, Procore and Tremble were just some of the technologies incorporated into the project delivery.

The Projects Distinction Awards recognizes construction projects that are built on merit and are judged by a panel of construction experts based on several criteria, including quality, owner satisfaction, unusual

challenges, and safety. The awards will be presented at a January banquet in Wisconsin Dells.

Projects are recognized in a number of different types and sizes of general construction and specialty trades. Projects are all completed between October 2023 and September 2024. "Projects of Distinction demonstrate the excellence in construction services by ABC of Wisconsin members.' said Kellv Tourdot. president of ABC of Wisconsin. "These unique projects are evaluated by a panel of experts in the field, including architects, engineers and educators the construction industry allow Wisconsin's contractors to demonstrate professionalism, craftsmanship and safety."

A list of the award winners can be found at abcwi.org/POD.

Wisconsin's Top Tree Farms to Kick Off Your Holiday Traditions

Wisconsin has a deeprooted love for holiday traditions, and choosing the perfect tree is one cherished by many. Not only is it a fun and festive activity, but it brings a sense of nostalgia for those who have enjoyed this tradition since childhood. Keep reading to discover some of the best tree farms around the state to make your holiday season extra special!

Francis Trees | Rio, WI Kicking off our list is Francis Trees in Rio, Wisconsin, secondgeneration tree farm owned by Gerald and Mona Francis. They purchased the farm from Gerald's parents in 2002 and reopened it in 2007. Francis Trees offers a variety of options, including Fraser

off the holiday season than farm makes it easy for Hills Spruce, Douglas by picking a fresh tree those who are looking for fir, Balsam fir, Fraser fir, farm has been a trusted to spruce up your home? a convenient experience: White Pine, and Concolor name in wholesale trees you and your family can drive right out to the trees, pick your favorite, and even cut it yourself with a saw provided by the farm. If you're not comfortable with cutting your own, don't worry-Francis Tree's staff will cut it for you, and even help secure it to your vehicle for you. Beyond trees, they also offer holiday gifts, handmade wreaths, pre-cut trees, and more. It's the perfect spot to bring the whole family-pets included!

Happ's Christmas Tree Farm | Wild Rose, WI

Christmas Happ's Tree Farm in Wild Rose, Wisconsin, is known for its incredibly long-lasting trees-some customers have had them last until Easter! With over 35 years in business, this 40-acre farm offers a wide variety

What better way to kick and Concolor fir. This tree of trees including Black and ISA Certified Arborists. fir. On weekends, Happ's adds a festive touch with hayrides, and they'll even take a photo of you with your freshly cut tree and send it to you afterward! In addition to trees, they sell boughs, roping, and wreaths to ensure you have all of the necessary holiday decor.

Tree <u>Steigerwaldt</u> Farms | Tomahawk, WI

Last but not least is Steigerwaldt Tree Farms in Tomahawk, Wisconsin. If you're looking for a quick and easy tree-buying process, this is the place for you! With over 2,500 acres in five different counties of Wisconsin, Steigerwaldt Tree Farms makes finding vour perfect tree a breeze The farm grows Fraser fir, Balsam fir, and Black Hill Spruce trees, all nurtured by professional foresters

This and wreaths since 1957. Steigerwaldt Tree Farms also offers delivery, so you can enjoy the beauty of a fresh tree without leaving the comfort of your own home.

If you're ready to start a new holiday tradition, or even continue an old one, these Wisconsin tree farms have you covered!

Megan Christian hosts nation's longestrunning tourism TV show, Discover Wisconsin. Watch the show on Saturdays at 10 a.m. on Fanduel Sports Network (formerly Bally Sports Wisconsin) or online at DiscoverWisconsin.com. Follow Discover Wisconsin on Facebook (facebook. com/discoverwisconsin) (instagram. Instagram com/discoverwisconsin), and TikTok (tiktok.com/ discoverwisconsin).

Fiscal Facts: Moving Back to Budget Basics

Heading into the 2025-27 state budget, Wisconsin retains impressive reserves that put the state in a strong fiscal position. But at the same time, after soaring to previously unseen heights two years ago, Wisconsin's budget has predictably returned much closer to earth.

This means that state officials may wish to exercise caution this budget cycle -especially with the prospect of large permanent tax cuts or spending increases.

Two years ago, the combination of record inflation and massive federal

pandemic aid boosted state tax collections, and -- when paired with relatively tight limits on spending -- produced unprecedented state surpluses. Those surpluses helped to build up state reserves that remain exceptionally large today.

As of next June, the state is projected to have about \$6 billion in reserves in its combined general and rainy-day fund balances. Those funds can be used to pay for state priorities but crucially, can only be tapped once.

Yet in some ways, the state's fiscal situation has

now reversed course from two years ago. Its main fund is now spending more than it is taking in, and the state's balances are falling. State leaders now have more reason to exercise caution in approving permanent spending and tax cuts than they did in November 2022.

Forum analysis relies on projected tax collections and spending amounts in the state's general fund estimated by the Department of Administration (DOA) for the budget running from July 2025 to June 2027.

These numbers exclude

all new spending requests by state agencies, and thus do not represent a true surplus -- they should be seen as merely a starting point for the upcoming budget. Most notably, these figures do not account for the rising cost of maintaining existing services such as Medicaid health care for the poor, K-12 schools, local governments, prisons, technical colleges, and the Universities of Wisconsin.

Using this approach, we calculate that state general fund revenues are currently projected to exceed base spending with

some adjustments by \$838 million over the two-year budget. That's down from the \$6.8 billion in excess starting revenues that we calculated two years ago.

Looking ahead, the state's sizable reserves provide a substantial opportunity for state leaders to make investments in their chosen priorities. However, they would only cover large permanent spending increases or tax cuts for a limited time and thus may be better directed toward onetime uses.

In recent years, despite the incredible turmoil of the pandemic, the influx of federal aid and a relatively strong economy helped protect the state's finances. Yet there is no guarantee that this good fortune will last. Policymakers may wish to consider how much of their current reserves they should spend, and how much they should save in case of unforeseen shocks.

This information is a service of the Wisconsin Policy Forum, the state's leading resource nonpartisan state and local government research and civic education. Learn more at wispolicyforum.org.

Cookies For Caregivers at the Veterans Weekly **Cup-of-Coffee group meeting**



STORY COURTESY OF MIKE HEILMANN AND **RENATE WISNIEWSKI**

Dear Veterans:

Thank you for your sacrifices. for vour courage, and for putting your country first. We have our freedoms because of

We delivered close to 40 dozen freshly baked cookies to the Veterans Weekly Cup of Coffee group at Denny's in Rothschild on November 6, 2024. Words cannot describe this group adequately. They were so excited and appreciative for our cookies, when it's supposed to be US showing appreciation to THEM! We thoroughly enjoy this delivery each time it is made. Our heroes, our friends!

Thank you to all who baked and helped with this delivery, visiting with the veterans, and serving the cookies.

Over 80 Veterans and the Denny's staff enjoyed the cookies. The Vets also were able to take cookies home for their families to enjoy.

Cookies for Caregivers was started in Huntingdon, PA. during the COVID-19 experience in 2020. Since then, over 30 chapters have been launched in 21 different states. The local chapter here in the greater Wausau area, is currently the only one in Wisconsin.

If you are interested in recommending other community heroes for Cookies for Caregivers to thank or if you enjoy

baking or being a delivery helper, contact them on Facebook page. their www.facebook.com/groups /cookiesforcaregiverswausauwi/

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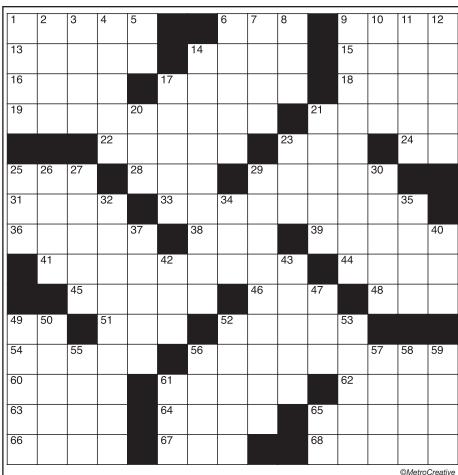
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With the weather getting cooler, are you itching to do some seasonal cleaning? Turn your trash into cash. Sell it in the classifieds.

classifieds MMC.com



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Thou __ do it
- 6. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- 9. Brainstem part
- 13. Town in New York state 14. Little (Spanish)
- 15. Continent
- 16. Retch 17. Short-billed rails
- 18. Small period of time (abbr.)
- 19. Confused
- 21. A team needs one
- 22. Woman in ancient times 23. Republican Party
- Spanish be
- 25. "The Godfather"
- character Johnny
- 28. Not around 29. City in Zambia
- 31. A type of beginning
- 33. Numb 36. Gurus
- 38. Small, gray-headed crow
- 39. Vehicle type
- 41. Disorders 44. One point east of
- southeast
- 45. Indian soldier
- 46. Tree type 48. Midway between south and southeast
- 49. It cools your home
- 51. Corn comes on it 52. Ship's deck
- 54. A way to bake
- 56. Improvised
- 60. Butterfly genus 61. Baseball fields have them
- 62. Designated space
- 63. Discharge
- 64. Two of something 65. Once more
- 66. Part of your face
- 67. Tax collector 68. Cassia tree

CLUES DOWN

- 1. One-time Aaron Rodgers
- target
- 2. Wings
- 3. Overly studious person 4. They protect your valuables
- 5. The Volunteer State
- 6. Non-hydraulic cement
- 7. Horse mackerel 8. Jackson and Diddley are
- 9. Splendid displays
- 10. Mountain in NE Greece
- 11. A daughter or your
- brother or sister 12. German surname 14. Having more than one
- husband at a time 17. Romanian city
- 20. Energy
- 21. Makes less hot
- 23. Gas diffusion electrode
- 25. Former CIA
- 26. Set an example for others
- 27. Support of a particular

- 29. One from the Big Apple
- 30. Mountain range 32. Violate the sanctity of
- something
- 34. Supervises flying
- 35. Talks
- 37. Persian male given name
- 40. Born of 42. Forcibly take one's
- possessions 43. Discounts
- 47. Knockouts
- 49. Posh Colorado
- destination 50. Form of therapy
- 52. British rock band
- 53. Type of virus (abbr.) 55. The U. of Miami mascot
- is one
- 56. Volcanic crater
- 57. Middle Eastern nation
- 58. Sinn __, Irish organization
- 59. Ethiopian lake
- 61. Bits per inch (abbr.)
- 65. Equally

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Announcements

Confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord: and believe in your heart God raised Him from the dead and you will be saved. Romans 10:9



Announcements

7110

7005

Wesley Methodist United Church 1101 Elm St., Wausau

Saturday, Dec 14, 9am-2pm Join us for a fun-filled day w/cocoa, cookies & Santa! Kids can decorate their own cutout cookie & make a craft. PHOTOS w/SANTA 10am-1pm. Hot dog or BBQ w/chips & drink, \$5.00. Holiday & workshop items available for purchase.

Activities and Meetings

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- Assist teacher needs; such as moving desks, and replenishing soap, paper towels and other supplies.
- Occasionally assist with snow and ice removal.
- Maintain good public relations by demonstrating a positive and willing attitude in dealing with staff and the community.
- Any other duty as requested by supervisor or administration.

Successful candidates must be self motivated and have the ability to work independently.

To apply: Send completed district application to Jill Resch in the District Office at 400 West Grand Avenue, Wittenberg WI 54499, or email application to jeresch@wittbirn.k12.wi.us. Applications can be found on our website, or picked up from any WB school building.

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District does not discriminate in the employment of professional staff on the basis of the Protected Classes of race, color, national origin, age, sex, creed or religion, genetic information, handicap or disability, marital status, citizenship status, veteran status, or military service. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Megan Marcks, Pupil Services Director, 400 West Grand Ave, Wittenberg WI 54499, 715-253-2213 ext. 1108 or mmarcks@wittbirn.k12.wi.us

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7286

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Invasive Species Council Announces Nominations Now Open For 21st Annual Invasive Species Action Awards

Individuals And Groups Honored For Work Managing Invasive Species

DNR

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) today announced that the Wisconsin Invasive Species Council is accepting nominations for the 21st annual Invasive Species Action Awards now through Feb. 16, 2025.

Award recipients are residents Wisconsin and organizations that have made significant contributions to preventing, controlling or eradicating invasive species that harm Wisconsin's native wildlife, wetlands, forests, prairies, lakes and rivers. Nominees can be individuals, groups or organizations that have demonstrated exemplary efforts to address issues surrounding terrestrial and aquatic invasive species.

The Wisconsin Invasive Council, Species advisory council to the DNR, presents Invasive Species Action Awards for both volunteer and professional categories. A panel of judges selected by the council will review the nomination materials and select the award winners. nominators and winners will be notified in April, followed by an award recognition ceremony in June to celebrate Invasive Species Action Month.

To submit a nomination, download and fill out the form available on the Wisconsin Invasive Species Council's webpage. The

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deadline for submissions is midnight on Feb. 16, 2025.

Invasive species are nonnative plants and that animals cause ecological or economic harm, and some can affect human health. Once an invasive species is established in an area, it can be challenging to control.

Wisconsinites encouraged to protect native plants and wildlife from invasive species by avoiding moving them or the materials that might harbor them to new places. learn more about preventing the spread, visit the DNR's Invasive Species Prevention webpage.





Saturday, December 14, 2024 10:00 AM

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Annual Sweet Landmarks of Wausau Gingerbread

Spatulas up! Grab all your favorite candies, your best gingerbread recipe — and create your favorite building!



FOR MMC

Friends of Wausau Historic Landmarks will hold its annual Sweet Landmarks of Wausau Gingerbread Contest Sat., Dec. 14, 2024, at the Woodson History Center. contest is held each year in conjunction with Marathon County Historical Society's Holidays at the Houses event.

This year we are encouraging entries that not only represent Wausau buildings, buildings from throughout Marathon County. Entries do not need to be a local

building, but bonus points are given to entries that

Youth and adults are invited to bring a building made entirely of edible items, the majority of which is gingerbread, but can include candies, herbs, and other food items. The only part that can be non-edible is the base of the entry. Entries must represent an architectural style such as Victorian, Neo-Gothic, Commercial, Bungalow or Ranch. Bonus points will be awarded if the structure represents a building in Marathon

County such as a store along Third Street, the Exhibition Building at Marathon Park or your own house.

Entries should be brought to the Woodson History Center Saturday, December 14 between 9:00 am and 12:00 pm (noon). There will be three age categories: youth (up to age 11), teen (12-17), and adult (18 and over). Teams are allowed, but the prize money will split among team members.

Judging, by three local will begin at judges,

noon, with awards to be announced at about 1:00 pm. Prizes in each division are \$50 for first place, \$25 for second place and \$15 for third place.

Entries will remain on display at the Woodson History Center through the holidays following the contest. The gingerbread buildings will be open for viewing during Woodson History Center's business hours (Tuesday-Friday 9:00 am-4:30 pm; Saturday-Sunday 1:00-4:30 pm). If vou have further questions please call Christine at 715-212-9922









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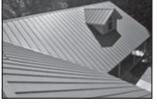
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