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December 19, 2024-January 2, 2025



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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

A New Year With New Beginnings

Dear Reader,

As the calendar turns to another New Year, we find ourselves at a familiar crossroads, a time for renewal and reflection. It's a time when we take stock of our lives, weighing the good against the bad, and consider the impact we've had on the world around us. The New Year offers a chance to set new goals and make resolutions in the hopes of becoming the best versions of ourselves.

Yet, as many of us know, the resolve we feel on January 1st can be fleeting. How often do we revisit our resolutions a year later, only to find they've been forgotten, buried under the weight of daily routines and unexpected challenges? Despite our best intentions, life has a way of diverting our focus, and those grand plans can slip away unnoticed.

But perhaps that's okay. The beauty



of the New Year lies not just in our ambitions but in the grace we grant ourselves when we fall short. It's a time to acknowledge our humanity, to understand that growth is not always linear, and that the journey itself—full of missteps and lessons—is what truly matters.

So as we step into this New Year, let's embrace the opportunity to dream, to set intentions, and to strive for better. But let's also be kind to ourselves when we stumble, and remember that each new day brings with it the possibility of renewal.

Wishing you a joyous New Year, full of hope, reflection, and the endless potential of new beginnings.

PATRICK J. WOOD

Publisher

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

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by Patrick Wood
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MMC PUBLISHER PAT WOOD SIGNED COPIES OF HIS BOOK REFLECTIONS AT JANKE BOOK STORE SATURDAY.

THE STUFF

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Saint Andrew Lutheran Church

150202 County Rd NN, Wausau

715-842-3333 | salc-wausau.org



Christmas Eve Worship

- 3:00 PM Family Christmas Story Worship
- 6:00 PM Candlelight Worship with Chancel and Handbell Choirs
- 9:00 PM Candlelight, Contemplative Worship

Imagine Christmas Together

432738

Come and celebrate the birth of our Newborn King!!!

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Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24th

Services at 2pm & 5pm

Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25th

Service at 10am

Pilgrim Lutheran Church

709 Weston Avenue, Wausau, WI

Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24th

Service at 5pm

Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25th

Service at 9am

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

512 McClellan Street, Wausau, WI

Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24th

Services at 4pm & 10pm



431438

Big chase

Sheriff's office chases vehicle through Rib Mountain; Sheriff's Office confirms suspect



One man is in custody following a high-speed pursuit through Rib Mountain on Saturday.

Police confirmed the suspect is Cody J. Patterson, who was arrested Saturday following a burglary and high-speed pursuit that left a slough of damaged property and squad cars in its wake.

A Marathon County Sheriff's Deputy around 10 am Saturday made a traffic stop for a minor violation. During the stop, the driver told the deputy about a burglary and vehicle theft occurring a short distance away.

The deputy raced to the site to find a vehicle speeding off from the residence, which he attempted to stop. Instead, Patterson kept going, police say.

The driver took off down Highway NN, drove through an open field in an attempt to shake the deputy off, and ended up back on NN. Patterson then headed back toward Rib Mountain, traveling down Rib



Cody J Patterson

Mountain Drive and through several Rib Mountain streets and yards, police say. Wausau Police Department and the Wisconsin State Patrol helped in the pursuit.

Police didn't specify which tactics they used to ultimately stop Patterson on Jonquil Lane, but those tactics resulted in damage to several squad cars involved. The stolen truck was damaged too, according to a report

about the incident.

The driver was treated for minor leg injuries before being transported to Marathon County Jail to await an initial appearance on Tuesday.

Police also believe Patterson was involved in several other crimes along with some accomplices, but police didn't specify the nature of those crimes.

Marathon County Sheriff Chad Billeb told City Pages three squads were damaged but drivable, and another squad was damaged to the point it needed to be towed.

Community on Call activated first time this season

The city of Wausau activated its Community on Call feature last week as cold temperatures found their way to the city.

Community on Call started last year as a way to provide additional shelter for homeless people in the Wausau area to ensure they don't freeze in the cold temperatures. Through the program, businesses, churches and other agencies open up space for temporary shelters when temperatures reach a certain point. Metro Ride helped provide transportation to any off-site location.

City seeking new HR director

The city of Wausau will be looking for a new human resources director.

HR Director James Henderson resigned, according to a copy of the resignation letter received by City Pages.

Henderson's departure follows Liz Brodek's from the Community Development Director position. Brodek resigned her post to take a new job earlier this year.

The city council last week had an agenda item to recruit for a new HR director but neither committee had taken it up, so the council didn't yet act on it.

School district names Bushman permanent superintendent

After spending most of the year filling in the role, the school district made it official.

Cale Bushman will be the permanent Wausau School Superintendent.

Bushman was named interim superintendent in March following the retirement of Keith Hiltz from the position. The Wausau School Board on Monday voted Bushman permanently into the role.

School Board President James Bouche said Bushman demonstrated excellence in the more than six months he served as interim superintendent. "We know that he will continue to do incredible work; guiding and positioning the Wausau School District for success."

Bushman in a press release said he was honored to accept the role. It comes at a time when the district will weigh the potential closing of several elementary schools.



Cale Bushman

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DECEMBER 25
9:00 Festival Worship

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Construction on downtown streets could kick off as early as April

A plan to reconstruct city streets around the former Wausau Center mall site could kick off as early as mid-April.

Becher-Hoppe is about 90% complete with designing the project, which will reconstruct Washington, Jackson and Third streets south of Washington. City Engineer Allen Wesolowski told the city's infrastructure committee that Becher-Hoppe plans to start bidding the work in mid-January and hopes to kick off construction in mid-April, as long as the weather cooperates.

The work is connected to the mall redevelopment project. T. Wall Enterprises is working on a 150-unit, three-story building on the site right now. Called the Foundry on Third project, the mixed-use building is expected to open next fall.

Washington Street borders the project on the north end and will be converted into a two-way street. Jackson and Third streets will be extended into the mall area as part of the redevelopment.

The project is expected to cost roughly \$4 million and would be paid for with tax increment financing funds.

Construction on the streets project is expected to last into next fall, Wesolowski says. T. Wall Enterprises has presented plans for a second, similar building on the site, though nothing has been formally presented to city leaders yet.

Apartment owner wins reversal of chronic nuisance declaration

The owner of a rental property that had been declared a chronic nuisance by the city after fully cooperating with police won an appeal against that declaration.

Chad Thompson, who owns a mixed-used building at 1013 N. Third Avenue, appealed the declaration imposed by Wausau Police after they arrested one of his tenants and a guest for dealing drugs.

The city's Public Health and Safety Committee overturned the declaration following a hearing before the committee. In that hearing, Thompson explained that he had anonymously tipped off police about potential drug activity because he feared retaliation. Police investigated the complaint and arrested the tenant and others from that tip.

Police notified Thompson that he could post a five-day eviction of the tenant, which he did. Thompson explained they had a young woman staying there from Michigan, and he let her stay there a few days so she could find somewhere else to go, which she did.

Residents can apply for assistance for ash tree removal

Residents in Wausau can now apply for assistance to have their ash trees

removed, thanks to a new grant from the Department of Natural Resources.

The DNR awarded nearly \$500,000 to the city of Wausau to help remove ash trees. Wausau received one of the largest rewards in the state to remove the trees, according to a press release from Marathon County. That includes \$100,000 to remove ash trees from private property. It also includes money to eliminate trees from public right of way.

The city and other municipalities have

been working to remove ash trees because of an invasive species called Emerald Ash Borer, which burrows into ash trees and kills them. Though treatments exist to keep the tree alive longer than usual, there's no way to completely get rid of the ash borers.

Those interested in applying should look into it at www.marathoncounty.gov/urbanforestry. The grants will be provided on a first-come, first-serve basis. **CP**

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Election deflection

Troupis attacks Kaul in court over 2020 fake electors prosecutions

Jim Troupis said Dem AG Josh Kaul should be “ashamed of himself” for seeking to prosecute him and two other former Donald Trump aides for their role in the 2020 fake electors scheme.

Troupis, after his initial appearance yesterday at the Dane County Courthouse on 11 felony counts, said Kaul is “using the courts for his own political gain.”

“This is a political case,” said Troupis, a former Trump attorney. “This has nothing to do with the law.”

He added: “Having spent more than 40 years defending our judges, defending our system of justice, having been honored to serve as a judge in this very courthouse, I am saddened by this gross misuse of our courts by the Wisconsin Attorney General.”

A DOJ spokesperson didn’t immediately respond to a request for comment on Troupis’ remarks.

Kaul has filed charges against Troupis, fellow former Trump attorney Kenneth Chesebro and 2020 Trump



campaign aide Michael Roman for being a part of the legal team that advised Wisconsin’s 10 GOP electors to meet and cast their votes for Trump after Biden’s victory in the state had already been certified.

Troupis, Chesebro and Roman made their initial appearances in court yesterday, with Roman and Chesebro

appearing by phone. Dane County Circuit Court Commissioner Mark Fremgen said during the hearing there is probable cause to continue with all three cases. All three defendants then agreed to a signature bond with no contact with Trump-Pence electors before the preliminary hearing in January.

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Biden, WI public officials offer condolences over WI school shooting

Wisconsin public officials offered their condolences after three people died in a shooting at a Madison private school yesterday. Gov. Tony Evers ordered flags to fly at half-staff through Sunday in their honor.

Madison Police said the three dead included the suspected shooter, whom they described as a student at Abundant Life Christian School on the city's far east side. A teacher and teenaged student were also killed, while another six students were injured. Madison Police Chief Shon Barnes said two of the students this afternoon were in critical condition with life-threatening injuries.

Barnes said the shooting was confined to one space in the school. But he declined to provide any additional details on the shooter, saying it was still early in the investigation. Barnes said the shooter's family was cooperating, but he couldn't provide details on a possible motivation.

"As difficult as today is, that's still someone's child that's gone, that's still someone that has to deal with what happened today and so we want to make sure that we can ensure as much cooperation as we can," Barnes said.

Evers said there were "no words to describe the devastation and heartbreak we feel today."

"As a father, a grandfather, and as governor, it is unthinkable that a kid or an educator might wake up and go to school one morning and never come home," Evers said. "This should never happen, and I will never accept this as a foregone reality or stop working to change it."

JFC pushes back on DPI assertion it doesn't need committee approval for curriculum decision

The GOP co-chairs of the Joint Finance Committee have rejected the Department of Public Instruction's argument that it isn't required to seek the committee's approval of recommended reading curriculum under the state's new literacy law.

Rep. Mark Born, of Beaver Dam, and Sen. Howard Marklein, of Spring Green, in a letter to Superintendent Jill Underly Tuesday said the committee would weigh in on the recommendations regardless of DPI's interpretation of the law.

The development comes after Underly in a Friday letter to Born and Marklein said DPI had adopted reading curriculum recommendations by the Early Literacy Curricula Council and wouldn't seek JFC approval.

She pointed to a 6-1 state Supreme Court decision overturning the process the GOP-controlled Legislature has used to block stewardship purchases through JFC, ruling it violates the separation of powers.

But Born and Marklein argued DPI is required by law to submit the council's recommendations to JFC for review or approval, and the court's decision "does not relieve the Department of Public Instruction from this obligation."

Committee recommends sandhill crane hunt

A split study committee voted 8-4 to recommend legislation that would allow a hunt of sandhill cranes while providing state funding to address damage the birds do to crops.

The committee had three bill drafts on its agenda Tuesday: one that only addressed the crop subsidies, one focused on the hunt and one that combined the two.

The committee voted 7-5 to reject the standalone crop subsidy bill. It then passed on taking up the bill that only addressed a possible hunt.

Under the bill draft, the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection would administer a program to reimburse producers up to 50% of the costs to obtain a nonlethal treatment that they apply to corn seed to discourage birds from consuming it. The reimbursement would be capped at \$6,250 per applicant, per planting season.

The bill would appropriate nearly \$1.9 million in general purpose revenue in each 2025-26 and 2026-27. **CP**

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4:30 pm and 10:30 pm

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Celebrate the true meaning of
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YOUR LETTERS

City Pages occasionally prints letters to the editor when there is room in the paper. Send any letters to brian.kowalski@mmclocal.com. Though there is no specific length requirement, letters have a better chance of running if they are between 250-400 words in length. Be advised that letters advocating for a specific candidate or national politics come with a charge per Multi-Media Channels' policy.

Schofield Mobile Home Park story was incomplete

Dear Editor,

This letter is in response to the 11/14/24 City Pages article on the trailer park at 281 Grand Ave in Schofield. While your article is generally correct in what was stated, it is significantly incomplete as it starts somewhat in the middle of the situation and completely ignores the on-going efforts by the City of Schofield and the Mountain Bay Metro Police Department / Everest Metro Police to address the problems. In checking with city staff, no one is aware of any attempts by the City Pages to reach out to anyone within the Schofield city government. Since the trailer park is located entirely within Schofield city limits, this seems to be a very odd omission.

Since 2023, the goals of the City of Schofield through the City Council and the Health and Sanitation Committee have been the clean up and remediation of the 281 Grand Ave property, and to do it in such a way that Schofield or Marathon County taxpayers are not ultimately paying for the clean up and remediation.

Early on in discussions, it was recognized that the scope of the problem was beyond the resources of Schofield alone and that it would take the combined

efforts of the City of Schofield and Marathon County to solve the problem. As the County Board Supervisor representing Schofield at the time, I had discussions with my fellow County Board members and also reached out to County Administrator Leonhard and county staff in 2023 to raise awareness at the county level.

At the request of the Schofield City Council and the Health and Sanitation Committee the new Mountain Bay Metro Police Department and the former Everest Metro Police Department conducted regular patrols through the former trailer park documenting the many on-going health, sanitation and public safety issues. In addition, the Schofield Public Works Department worked to provide an inventory of the abandoned trailers and numerous photos of the dilapidated / hazardous conditions of the trailers.

The combination of the MBMPD police logs and the Schofield Public Works inventory and report provided key documentation required to move the legal process forward.

The next step took place on May 1, 2024 as a public meeting of the Schofield Health and Sanitation Committee along with representatives of the Marathon County Health Department and the Marathon County Corporation Counsel was held at Schofield City Hall. Public commentary was also given during the May 1st meeting and was critical to moving forward. The meeting minutes are attached to the email.

The purpose of the meeting was three-fold: #1 - To share documented evidence regarding the conditions at 281 Grand Ave with Marathon County Staff; #2 - To discuss and evaluate the various legal options to move forward with clean up and remediation; #3 - To build a sense of urgency and a bias for action between the City of Schofield and Marathon County.

My thanks to everyone involved - this was truly a team effort between the City of Schofield, the Mountain Bay Metro PD and Marathon County. When we work together, we can achieve great results for our residents.

Respectfully,
Tony Sherfinski
Schofield Alder,
Chairman - Schofield Health & Sanitation Committee

Editor's note: The story was primarily meant to focus on the county's lawsuit against the mobile home park's owners and the efforts to clean it up, but Sherfinski is fair in pointing out that there is more to the story, and we're happy to have him shed light on another piece of the story.

Homeless aren't being dealt with humanely

The Truthspeak in Wausau is that the Homeless situation is being dealt with as best as possible, with all parties participating.

The options I have seen for the Homeless over the last few years are:

- Drowning in the river.
- Freezing to death in the park.
- Hanging yourself.
- Jumping from the Landmark.
- Overdose.
- Fighting.
- Addiction.
- Murder.
- Hot shot execution.
- Theft.
- Sell yourself at a crackhouse.
- Sell yourself at an apartment encampment.

We do not have effective rehab.

We do not have effective legislation to enforce mental health counselling/medication, or adequate facilities.

We do not have adequate shelter in terms of capacity, integrity, or separation of genders.

The city has a "make the Homeless uncomfortable attitude." Push them over the line to the next jurisdiction.

SILENCE. Don't involve the Public!!!
A R E W E H U M A N (E) ?

Jerry & Vicky Edwards - Missionaries

Choose good sources of information about climate change

Did you know that the Earth's hottest ten years since reliable measured records began in the 1800s have all been since 2014? Climate change is accelerating, and it is critical to try to slow the rate to give humans, plants, and animals more time to adapt.

Despite the efforts of some politicians and companies to hide the truth, the science of human induced climate change has been well understood since the 1980s. Primarily from the burning of coal, oil, and gas, the levels of carbon dioxide since 1750 in the atmosphere have risen by about 50%. Its concentration now is close to 425 parts per million, the highest in about 3 million years according to ice core samples and other natural indicators. Carbon based gases prevent some of the infrared heat emitted from Earth's surface from reaching space. The planet has warmed by about 1.5 degrees C above pre-industrial levels from this process, which was a threshold to avoid exceeding



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from the Paris Climate Agreement a decade ago. However, it appears we are heading for at least 2.0 or 2.5 C by the end of this century due to clean energy not yet keeping up pace with the world's growing energy demands.

You've heard about impacts like sea level rise, coastal flooding, hurricanes intensifying at record rates, and more intense droughts and heat waves. For example, Phoenix had an absurd record of 113 days in a row this summer with high temperatures of 100 degrees F or higher. Their longest stretch before that was only 76 days. Things that were once unthinkable are becoming common.

At the current rate of change, Wisconsin could have a climate similar to current day St. Louis by the end of the century. This will mean longer, much hotter summers, which will cause us to spend more money on air conditioning and make it harder on outdoor workers, as well as dairy and livestock herds. Some of the animals we currently hunt and fish may not thrive here anymore. The economic loss to recreation and tourism from warmer winters with less reliable snow and ice has been felt for many years already around here and will get even more drastic.

Rainfall is becoming more extreme as the warmer air holds more water

vapor. This was well predicted by climate models 20 years ago. For instance, in October, parts of Spain had 19 inches of rain (a whole year's worth for them) in 8 hours with the resulting flash flood killing over 200 people. Try to imagine the catastrophic damage to the land, buildings, roads, and bridges if our state was hit with 20 plus inches of rain in a day. How many of us and our loved ones would be killed outright, not to mention animals? It is more likely to happen with every tenth of a degree our planet warms.

As disasters pile up around the region, insurance costs will skyrocket. The increased volatility of rainfall patterns will make field work and crop growing conditions more difficult. In between the wet bursts, prolonged intense droughts will increase wildfires destroying valuable timber and property. New insects and diseases will move in, further threatening our crops and forests. There will be more days of poor air quality which will take a toll on our health. The list could go on and on.

Please seek out objective scientific data sources on climate change such as The American Meteorological Society, The Wisconsin State Climatology Office, IPCC, WMO, NASA, NOAA, and the journal

Nature. Let's keep trying to lower our carbon footprint on an individual and community level and the good news is that there are very simple options already available that can save us money in the process! Private industry and the energy sector are already working to make positive changes. However, they need the bi-partisan support of our state and national governments to be even more effective. For example, the Republican Governor of Wyoming, Mark Gordon, is doing an excellent job of integrating wind and solar energy into his state with great benefits for all. Contact your local elected officials all the way up to the president and press them to work urgently on sound climate policy. Even if that means fossil fuels can't be completely phased out, our leaders can still provide funding and a good framework for carbon capture techniques, research, and adaptation strategies here and abroad to grow. You and I still have the power to do our part to change the trajectory of this crisis. Seize the chance because we are late in the game already.

Tony Schumacher, Owner and Chief Meteorologist
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Midnight Mass

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Mass of Dawn 7:00 am
Mass of the Day 8:30 am

For more information, go to our website at
www.institute-christ-king.org/wausau or call 715-842-9995

Christmas TUNES

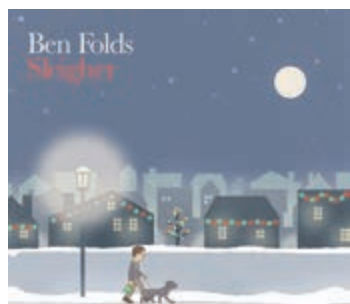
Get into the holiday spirit with these new Christmas album reviews from City Pages alum Jane Neal



Holiday music releases can be a hodge-podge stocking filled with an odd mix of festive favorites, delightful surprises and occasional lumps of coal. In other words, it's hard to know what to expect. Artists who do release Christmas albums will sometimes release them well before Halloween, while others, like procrastinating shoppers, wait until it's almost Christmas. One constant is there's almost always something for every taste – whether it's country, soul, rock or oldies. So, for those who enjoy the tradition of adding a holiday soundtrack to their seasonal activities, here's a selection of new offerings from stars across the musical spectrum.

“Sleigher”

Ben Folds



Singer-songwriter, Ben Folds, who arguably sang one of the most depressing anthems of the 1990s with “Brick,” gifts fans with this melodious, but not particularly jolly holiday release. There are seven original tunes on the 10-track album, including the heart-

wrenching “Me and Maurice” about a sad man walking his dog alone on Christmas Eve. The three covers include the Mills Brothers’ “You Don’t Have to Be a Santa Claus,” a timely tune that suggests sharing the giving spirits all year long. There’s also the rarely covered Burt Bacharach/Herb Alpert collaboration, “The Bell That Couldn’t Jingle,” which stands out as one of the more upbeat tunes in the collection. He also does a nice version of the oft-covered “The Christmas Song.” Folds is a gifted pianist and the release includes two captivating original instrumentals, “Little Drummer Bolero” and “Waiting for Snow.” “Christmas Time Rhyme” stands out as the tune that sounds quintessentially Ben Folds. He also performs a duet, “We Could Have This,” with actress and singer, Lindsey Kraft. The strangest cut, “Christmas Aye Eye,” purports to be an AI-generated Christmas song, and if that’s true, there may be hope for humanity yet. Folds was scheduled to play Wausau’s Grand Theater in October, but the show has been rescheduled to May. This release might help fill the gap for die-hard fans until spring.



“It’s Christmas”

Tower of Power



For those not hip to Tower of Power, they’re an American R&B and funk-based band and horn section that’s been around since the later ’60s. Think Earth, Wind & Fire or Chicago. The band had early success with songs like “So Very Hard to Go” and “What

is Hip?” The R&B group released their first full-length Christmas album extra early, on Sept. 27. The album features 11 tracks that are just as funky and festive as you’d expect from these veteran performers. The release opens with a surprisingly grooving instrumental version of “The Christmas Song” before launching into a soulful rendition of “This Christmas.” Among the soul-infused tracks are traditional seasonal favorites like “Hark the Herald Angels Sing” and “Silver Bells.” Religious favorites, “O Holy Night” and “Mary Did You Know,” become slow and soulful hymns and help balance out the release. The outstanding and only original track on the album is “It’s Christmas (A Long Way from Home).” An unexpected addition is “Maoz Tzur,” a traditional song often sung each night of Hannukah after the last blessing. The collection concludes with an instrumental “Christmas Medley,” which flows seamlessly from “O Christmas Tree” to “Christmas Time Is Here” to “What Child Is This.” Throw this one on when you need to get your holiday groove on.



“The Gift of Love”

Jennifer Hudson



Hudson first rose to fame on Season 3 of “American Idol.” The fan favorite garnered attention not for winning the competition, but for being eliminated in the fourth round. That was 20 years ago, and Hudson has since gone on to be one of the

most successful of all the “Idol” competitors (sorry, Kelly Clarkson). She went on to appear in the movie, “Dreamgirls,” a musical that followed the rise and fall of a Motown girl group. Her performance earned her an Academy Award for best supporting actress in 2007. Two years later, she garnered her first Grammy for best rhythm and blues album. In 2020, she received a Daytime Emmy for serving as executive producer of the animated short film, “Baby Yaga.” When “A Strange Loop,” the Broadway musical she co-produced in 2022, was honored with the Tony Award for best new musical, Hudson became the second Black woman to win the coveted EGOT status. Since 2022, Hudson has hosted her own daytime talk show, “The Jennifer Hudson Show.”

J. Hud is seemingly everywhere this holiday season. She has appeared in Old Navy holiday commercials and served as a mega mentor on “The Voice.” Her first holiday album, “The Gift of Love” was released Oct. 18. Fans had a chance to see her perform two cuts from the album, the classic “Winter Wonderland” and “Make it to Christmas” on NBC’s annual “Christmas in Rockefeller Center” special. Her holiday release includes a nice mix of traditional and new songs. Her powerful voice really shines on some of the cherished holiday hymns, including “Go Tell it On the Mountain” and “O Holy Night.” There are some secular tunes, including the lighthearted “Santa for Someone,” and even a couple of not-actually Christmas songs like “My Favorite Things” from “The Sound of Music” and Leonard Cohen’s melancholy “Hallelujah.”



“It’s Officially Christmas”

Dan + Shay



Dan + Shay is an American country music duo composed of vocalists and songwriters, Dan Smyers and Shay Mooney. In 2023, Dan + Shay appeared as the first duo-chair on Season 25 of “The Voice.” The duo released their first-ever holiday album, “It’s Officially

Christmas: The Double Album” on Oct. 18. Although their style is predominately country, there’s enough mainstream pop and traditional stylings in the mix to give this collection a broader appeal.

The pair’s debut holiday album contains a generous 21 songs, including 10 traditional cuts and 11 originals. The release is conveniently divided into two “discs,” with Disc 1 featuring the Christmas classics and Disc 2 featuring all original songs written or co-written by Dan + Shay. The two have been teasing a Christmas album for several years, releasing several of the original tunes over the last few years. The title track, “Officially Christmas,” along with “Take Me Home for Christmas” and “Christmas isn’t Christmas” were released as singles in 2021. Likewise, “Pick Out a Christmas Tree” and “Holiday Party” were first released in 2022. It’s a good mix from the rollicking “Rockin’ Around the Christmas Tree” to the solemn “Silent Night.” The hefty number of originals, such as “Blame it on Santa” and “Save the Snowman” means listeners aren’t forced to listen exclusively to the same old holiday covers. With almost two dozen songs, this is one that can be thrown on before tree decorating and might still be playing as you’re wrapping up presents.



“Holiday Seasoning”

Jimmy Fallon



“Tonight Show” host Jimmy Fallon’s new album released Nov. 1. It features a cavalcade of stars and finds the ever-exuberant Fallon collaborating with both bona fide pop stars like the Jonas Brothers, the Roots, Justin Timberlake, Ariana Grande, Megan Thee

Stallion, Meghan Trainor and Dolly Parton, as well as fellow comedians like Will Ferrell, “Weird Al” Yankovich and Chelsea Handler. The release consists of all original songs.

Fallon makes no secret of his love for the season, so several of the songs are previously released singles, including “It Was A ... (Masked Christmas)” featuring Ariana Grande and Megan Thee Stallion, “Almost Too

Early for Christmas” with Dolly Parton and “Wrap Me Up” featuring Meghan Trainor.

“Holiday Seasoning” also offers several tunes featuring Fallon performing solo. As might be expected, most of these are comedic. For example, “Thanksgiving Eve” finds Fallon spoofing Bob Dylan. “Weird Cousin” is exactly what it sounds like, an ode to the weird cousin who comes to visit for the holidays. As Fallon explains, “Your weird cousin/Everybody has a weird cousin.”

Diehard Fallon fans who are SiriusXM subscribers can stuff themselves with a heaping helping of Fallon by listening to his all-new holiday channel. The station features a mix of classic holiday songs personally picked by Fallon as well as funny stories, exclusive holiday mixes and holiday dedications to fans around the world. This channel will also give listeners a rare and intimate look into the making of “Holiday Seasoning.”



“A Philly Special Christmas Party”

The Philly Specials



If we’re going to be honest, one of the reasons The Philly Specials latest holiday album received a little extra hype this year was probably due to power-duo Travis Kelce/TaySwift spillover (sorry, Jason). The album dropped Nov. 22 and quickly

made national news. “A Philly Special Christmas Party” is the third and supposedly final holiday release from Philadelphia Eagles legend, Jason Kelce, and his former teammates, offensive tackles, Lane Johnson and Jordan Mailata.

The first album, “A Philly Special Christmas,” released in 2022. The record donated over \$1.25 million to local charities, including Children’s Crisis Treatment Center and fulfilled the wish lists of Philadelphia School District teachers via Donors Choose. The second holiday album,

“A Philly Special Christmas Special,” was released last year. The third album features Jason’s previously released collaboration with his brother, Travis Kelce, and Boyz II Men, “It’s Christmastime (In Cleveland Heights).” It also includes a duet between Jason and his wife, Kylie Kelce, called “Loud Little Town,” and Jason singing with Stevie Nicks on a cover of Ron Sexsmith’s “Maybe This Christmas.” The album has a pleasing classic Christmas feel throughout that makes it worth a listen even if you have no ties to Philly. If you want to feel extra good about listening to it, the project will also be released on limited-edition vinyl with several beneficiaries, including the Children’s Crisis Treatment Center and the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.



(four Candy Canes if you’re a Philadelphia Eagles fan)

Reality TV Rules the Holidays

“The American Idol” vibe is strong across the Christmas music landscape this holiday season. In addition to Jennifer Hudson’s release, former Idol favorites, Kelly Clarkson, Ruben Studdard and even Clay Aiken are offering up holiday music.

Studdard’s first-ever holiday project is an EP that was released on Nov. 1. It’s a pretty sparse offering, a mere five tracks. His voice is as soulful as it was when he won the second season of “Idol” back in 2003. The title track, “My Favorite Holiday,” shines brightest of the cuts, but honestly there’s not a dud in the bunch.

Aiken, who came in second on “American Idol” behind Studdard all those years ago has seen success as a singer songwriter author and even a brief stint as a politician. It has been 10 years since Aiken’s first holiday album, “Merry Christmas with Love.” His new holiday album, “Christmas Bells are Ringing,” includes 10 songs. The album features a rendition of “Do You Hear What I Hear” as Aiken explained he wanted to include a song of hope particularly as this divisive past year draws to a close.

The OG, Kelly Clarkson, who won the debut season of “Idol,” returns with a deluxe version of her 2021 release, “When Christmas Comes Around,” called “When Christmas Comes Around ... Again.” Don’t be fooled though, as this is essentially the same album, with the tracks reordered and one new cut, “You for Christmas.” **CP**

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Christmas Eve: 3, 5, 8 PM	Zion Luth. Church
Christmas Day: 10 AM	709 N. 6th Street

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Holiday Greetings from City Pages

It's become an annual tradition to take the last issue before Christmas and make it an issue that lets you get to know the City Pages staff a little better. And this year is no different. Staff on the next page gave me some recommendations to write up for some holiday season binging and so we've provided a few options for you to enjoy the season, depending on your tastes. Enjoy and have a wonderful Christmas and New Year!

Tim Schreiber

Regional GM / HR Manager

YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY CHARACTER:
Clark Griswold

BEST LOCAL GIFT YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE AS A PRESENT THIS YEAR: Gift Certificate from one or our great area restaurants.



Linda Weltzin

Advertising/Office Assistant

YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY CHARACTER:
Elf (Can't help but love Will Ferrell!)

BEST LOCAL GIFT YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE AS A PRESENT THIS YEAR: Gift Certificate for a local massage



Dawn Ricklefs

Customer Service Representative (and the Super Glue that holds it all together)

YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY CHARACTER: Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer (he's just so darn cute!)

BEST LOCAL GIFT YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE AS A PRESENT THIS YEAR: PIZZA! from Angelo's or Glass Nickel or Red Eye Brewing or, well anywhere, really. My favorite thing to do with pizza is eat many different varieties over a period of time, freeze the leftovers, and then every once in awhile, raid the freezer and treat myself to a random pizza buffet.



Nate Higginbotham

Marketing and Sales Consultant (Wausau Times)

FAVORITE HOLIDAY CHARACTER: Max from the Grinch. My man doesn't have a single line and he still steals the show.

BEST LOCAL GIFT YOU'D LIKE TO RECEIVE AS A PRESENT THIS YEAR: if your loved one is a foodie, get them a generous Red Eye gift card and encourage them to order from the Chef's Menu.



Paul Bahr

Senior Sales & Marketing Consultant

MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY CHARACTER IS: Cousin Eddie (National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation)

MY FAVORITE LINE IS: "If that thing had nine lives, he just spent them all" – Cousin Eddy talking about the Scorched Cat Impression on floor after cat tried to eat the Christmas Lights Cord.

BEST LOCAL GIFT I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE AS A PRESENT THIS YEAR: A gift card from Timekeeper Distillery or Carmelo's.



Kimberly Byrne

Graphic Designer

YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY CHARACTER: Kevin McCallister (Home Alone)

BEST LOCAL GIFT YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE AS A PRESENT THIS YEAR: Clothing and/or accessories from Nicole's Boutique



Ben Graewin

Big Guide Reporter

FAVORITE HOLIDAY CHARACTER: Herbie the elf from Rudolph the Rednosed Reindeer

BEST LOCAL GIFT I'D LIKE TO RECEIVE AS A PRESENT THIS YEAR: Gift Cards to any local establishments



CITY pages every Thursday

HOLIDAY NOTICE

Thursday 12/19/24 DOUBLE ISSUE
Make plans to cover all of your holiday advertising needs in this issue including Christmas & New Years!

There will be **NO ISSUE** the week of Christmas. **Our office will be closed from 12/23 thru 12/27.**

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM ALL OF US AT CITY PAGES!

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B.C. Kowalski

Editor

YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY CHARACTER: John McClane (Die Hard is a Christmas movie, I will die on this hill)

BEST LOCAL GIFT YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE AS A PRESENT THIS YEAR: Buy me a drink at Juliett — Jeff Dixon puts his all into his craft of concocting cocktails, and it shows. **CP**



Binge List 2024

Enjoy the holidays with these binge recommendations from City Pages' staff

It's practically a City Pages tradition that inside the office we all share our favorite new TV shows and movies — especially TV series. That tradition only grew stronger with the advent of streaming. When there is so much to watch, a recommendation goes a long ways!

And let's face it, after all the presents are unwrapped, eggnog consumed and you're sick of Christmas carols, a little post-holiday binging hits the spot. So here are a few of the City Pages staff's favorites to give you some ideas.

Dawn

Recommendation: The Lincoln Lawyer

Where to find it: Netflix

Type: TV Series, three seasons

Synopsis: The Lincoln Lawyer has nothing to do with the 16th President of the U.S. It centers on lawyer Mickey Haller, who operates his law practice outside of the back of his Lincoln Town Car since he feels he spends so much time there anyway. Haller navigates the seedy world of representing guilty clients while battling personal issues. Dawn says Haller reminds her of our salesperson Paul, because he is always scrambling around and she, like character Lorna, can never get him to slow down long enough to answer her urgent emails. So you can watch a great show and get a glimpse of some City Pages shenanigans at the same time!

Nate

Recommendation: Silicon Valley

Where to find it: HBO Max

Type: TV Series, six seasons

Synopsis: Nate and I agree that Silicon Valley is possibly one of the most underrated TV series in recent years. The series centers on tech worker Richard Hendricks who leaves his job at a Facebook-like mega company to found his own tech startup with his friends. That might sound serious, but the show is a non-stop laugh fest with some of the funniest character and skit actors around. The actor who played Hendricks, Thomas Middleditch, played Ken in one of Pete Holmes' Street Fighter skits and one of his "Ex-Men" skits where Holmes plays Professor X and fires everyone. "Let's be honest, when has Mike Judge ever let us down?" Nate asks. Listen to Nate and watch this show.

Tim

Recommendation: Yellowstone

Where to find it: Sling TV, Hulu and others

Type: TV series, five seasons

Synopsis: Yellowstone centers on the Dutton family, led by Kevin Costner's John Dutton III. Dutton and family own the largest ranch in Wyoming, often called The Yellowstone, and the series mixes rural sentiment with business savvy. Tim likes this series because "I can relate to the West and the lifestyle they are trying to maintain and preserve." He particularly likes Beth Dutton's character, as she defines the old West way of doing things. And if you make your way through all the regular series, there is a spinoff 1883 which focuses on the Dutton family during the old West. (And there are two more spinoffs in the works as well.)

Ben

Recommendation: Teen Titans

Where to find it: HBO Max

Type: TV Series, five seasons

Synopsis: Marvel has been all the rage for the last nearly two decades, but D.C. has also been a comics powerhouse. Its Teen Titans series, now available on HBO Max, is one of its best properties. Ben likes this one because of the animation, art style, characters, humor, writing and action. The Teen Titans team is led by Robin (as in, Batman and Robin) and Ben enjoys the battles between Robin and Slade, one of the show's villains.

Paul

Recommendation: Deadliest Catch

Where to find it: Apple TV

Type: TV Series, 20 seasons

Synopsis: Follow the members of a crabbing boat in Alaska (specifically Port of Dutch Harbor out of the Aleutian Islands). The show is thrilling for its portrayal of real crab fishermen as they brave the Bering Strait in pursuit of king crab and snow crab. Kind of gives you a little more appreciation when you're tearing into a plate of crab legs at a restaurant. Paul says it's hard for him to choose a favorite scene, but as an outdoorsman he finds the whole series cool and exciting. Paul also mentioned Mountain Men, a series on the History Channel (word to the wise, you can watch it for free right now on Pluto TV).

Brian

Recommendation: Community

Where to find it: Peacock

Type: TV series, 6 seasons (and a movie! If you know, you know)

Synopsis: I have to admit, I've been mostly watching YouTube lately. So I wasn't entirely sure what to include. But having another chance to shout out one of my favorite shows of all-time? Well, I couldn't pass that up. Community is the story of six people attending what appears to be the most pathetic community college. Its mascot is the human, its dean is a pandering dweeb and the series centers on fired lawyer Jeff Winger (Joel McHale, swoon, ladies) who goes back to community college because somehow he was practicing law without a degree. When Jeff attempts to swindle a study group into doing his homework (you can kind of see how he managed to practice law without a law degree), he ends up befriending them reluctantly and they become an inseparable group of college misfits of various ages and backgrounds (including characters played by Alison Brie and Chevy Chase). Community, helmed by Dan Harmon, is one of the funniest and most-original shows I've seen. And my sister and

I really identified with it as we both attend community college ourselves and had a similar experience. The series really captured the weird mix of ages, life experiences and situations you get with people attending a community college. It's worth a watch.

Kimberly

Recommendation: Loudermilk

Where to find it: Netflix

Type: TV Series, 3 seasons

Synopsis: Loudermilk originally aired on USA, and I can see why it made its way to Netflix. The show centers on Sam Loudermilk (you might remember him as Peter Gibbons from Office Space), a former music critic and recovering alcoholic. Loudermilk finds himself as an acid-tongued addiction counselor who barely has his life together himself, but also has a witty barb for those he interacts with, including his clients. This one really intrigued me, and Kimberly says "the clever writing and group of misfit characters will leave you longing for more episodes!" Well, I know what I'm doing this holiday season!

Linda

Recommendation: Pachinko

Where to find it: Apple TV

Type: TV series, 2 seasons

Synopsis: Pachinko is the story of four generations of a Korean family ranging from 1915 to 1989, and involves the family's move from Japanese-occupied Korea to Koreatown in Osaka, Japan. Along the way the show reveals the discrimination that Korean immigrants in Japan faced over the years. Linda says the show really captures something about life and humanity, and "the cinematography is really beautiful!" **CP**

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LOONEY LUTHERANS

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HIGHLIGHTS



WINTER WONDERLAND

Looney Lutherans: I'm Dreaming of a Looney Christmas

Friday 12/20

Campanile Center for the Arts, Minocqua

Readers of this publication are not unfamiliar with the Looney Lutherans - imagine if your mom got together with your friends' moms and they put together a comedy show. For that picture to work though, you have to imagine that your moms are outrageously funny! The Looney Lutherans are back, and this time they're bringing their hijinx with a Christmas theme. If Christmas cookie and casserole comedy is your thing, you won't want to miss this looney holiday party. 7 pm. See website for ticket info. campanilecenter.org

Candlelight: Holiday Special ft. The Nutcracker and more

Saturday 12/21 | St Stephen Lutheran Church

There's something about The Nutcracker Suite that just gets me in the Christmas mood. I'll take Tchaikovsky over Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer anyway. So this event holds some appeal. Held at the St. Stephen Lutheran Church in downtown Wausau, this promises not only a night of classical Christmas music, but includes a full candlelight experience. Enjoy the atmosphere as the Lisetto String Quartet performs everything from classic carols to Debussy and Tchaikovsky. (There is also a Friday show but it is mostly sold out.) 8:30 pm. Starting at \$25. sslwausau.com

Rotary Winter Wonderland

DAILY THROUGH DEC. 31 | WILDWOOD PARK, MARSHFIELD

Let's be honest. Holiday decorating is a lot of work. So why not enjoy a display put up by other people instead? Rotary's Winter Wonderland is one spectacular display of Christmas lights and has been around for 18 years now! It's a display so large that you really have to see it to believe it. We're talking something like 1.5 million lights for displays set up by more than 1,000 volunteers, all to bring you a visual overload of Christmas cheer.

If you go: The display is open 5-9 pm every day through Dec. 31. Admission is free, but food and/or monetary donations are highly encouraged. Dress warm: it's an outdoor display in winter in the middle of Wisconsin. You can drive too, but you'll miss a lot.

Symphony on the Rocks

Sunday 12/22 | Grand Theater, Wausau

This is a special treat for the holidays, dear readers - The Symphony on the Rocks features 17 uber-talented musicians, including three multiple-WAMI-award winning members of the Vic Ferrari band. This supergroup will bring to life classics from The Beatles to ELO to Imagine Dragons, plus a smattering of holiday tunes to get you ready for the season. 7 pm. \$32-\$58. grandtheater.org

New Year's Eve Party

Tuesday 12/31 | Granite Peak Ski Area

Granite Peak really needs to do more to promote this event — because it's pretty epic, and in the past included fireworks on the hill. It's something only Granite Peak could pull off this adults-only party, with a night of DJ music, champagne, hors d'oeuvres and merriment, and you're bound to have a good time. \$20. skigranitepeak.com

Bradley Sperger

Thursday 12/26 | The Garage, Rib Mountain

Bradley Sperger is a Wausau area musician and one of the early musicians around these parts to incorporate live-looping into his live show. That means Sperger is essentially a one-man band who can get a party going all by himself. It's a blast watching him build a song: Drumming out a beat, laying down some bass, maybe some synths, overlaying

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Join us for worship every Lord's Day: 4 p.m. Saturday at St. Michael, 8:30 a.m. at Resurrection and 10:30 a.m. at St. Michael



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Mass at 6:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY

Mass at 9:30 a.m.

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The Church is a home with open doors. - Pope Francis



BRADLEY SPERGER



MIA BROWN



BRAD EMANUEL

a guitar part and singing. His style ranges from bluesy to indie, and he has some recordings to his name as well. Come check him out at The Garage, which is starting to really become a powerhouse in the area music scene. 5 pm.

Mia Brown w/ Jordan Miles

Friday 12/20 | Uncommon Pints, Rothschild

Mia Brown is a Wausau native, and she's a local girl done good story. She's currently signed with Big Timber Entertainment and has released a number of singles including "Just Maybe" in November. Inspired by Amy Winehouse, her voice is pretty incredible - she hits the high ranges while retaining a depth few are capable of, whether its country or pop. Brown is joined by Jordan Miles, who many might remember from Wausau band Substyle. The bass player and keyboardist also made an appearance this summer when Billy Bronsted played the Rib Mountain Amphitheater and your jaw will drop at his skills. 7 pm.

Noon Year's Eve Party

Tuesday 12/31 | Children's Imaginarium, Wausau

Let's be honest. If you have kids, staying up until midnight just doesn't seem appealing, and your kids just aren't going to stay up that late. But never fear - the children's Imaginarium has the event for you! The Noon Year's Eve party centers around noon on New Year's Eve, including a balloon drop at noon. Hint: The kids LOVE it. Plus make your own noisemaker, create a family time capsule, make your own snacks and so much more! It's a grand ole time for the whole family. 10 am to 1 pm. Free for members, or cost of admission for the public.

First Day Hikes

Wednesday 1/1 | multiple locations

After all that partying (for me, it's more like sleeping these days) it's time to kick off the new year right. The First Day Hike series is going on in many places, and there are at least two in the Wausau area. One is 11 am at Rib Mountain, meeting at the park office. The hike will be 1.5 miles and about one hour and 15 minutes. (Or hike from 10 am to 3 pm at your own pace). The other is at the Poplar Lane trailhead of the Ringle Ice Age Trail. That one meets at 1 pm and is a roughly two hour out and back on the Ice Age Trail (but since it is an out-and-back, you can pick a short distance you're comfortable with. Bring snowshoes to both if there is enough snow (hey, it could happen between now and then!).

Brad Emanuel New Year's Eve Party

Tuesday 12/31 | Malarkey's Pub, Wausau

What happens when you pair one of Wausau's hottest music venues with one of Wausau's hottest bands? On New Year's Eve, we're about to find out. Brad Emanuel consistently ranks as the number one choice for Wausau area bands in our City Pages annual reader survey. Why? Because Emanuel has a voice of gold and he knows how to keep a crowd partying. And at Malarkey's which is usually ranked one of your most consistent fun bars (not to mention music venues) it seems like a pretty easy choice. But actually it's even bigger than that. Malarkey's will be putting together a supergroup: Brad Emanuel, John Altenburgh, Sidney Rose, Harold Melo and Erik Juvonen. It'll be one epic show. 9 pm. \$10. malarkeyspub.com



FIRST DAY HIKES

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

426 Washington St., Wausau, WI 54403

www.StPaulUCCwausau.org

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*Celebrate our Savior's Birth with
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**Saturday,
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CHRISTMAS SERVICES

December 24th: 6pm & 10:30pm

December 25th: 9am

**Come Home This Christmas.
We Are Waiting For YOU.
*All Are Welcome!**



**Don't spend Christmas alone. Don't miss
out on the true meaning of the season.
Join us to remember.**

Looney Lutherans-I'm Dreaming of a Looney Christmas · Fri. 12/20, Campanile Center for the Arts, Minocqua. Enjoy a show that blends music, comedy & holiday cheer. Starts at 7 pm. \$15-\$42. campanilecenter.org

Candlelight: Holiday Special featuring "The Nutcracker" & More · Fri.-Sat. 12/20-12/21, St Stephen Lutheran Church, Wausau. Enjoy a classical musical concert featuring "The Nutcracker", "Silent Night", "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" & "Jingle Bells". Starts at 8:30 pm on Fri. & 6:30 pm and 8:30 pm on Sat. \$25-\$53. feverup.com/m/256077

The Jake Ramsey Band, Codemaster · Fri. 12/20, Nevermore on Third, Wausau. Rock, blues, funk, jam. 21+. Starts at 9 pm. \$5. 715-298-0028

Gingerbread Jamz: Adam Bluhm · Sat. 12/21, Wildwood Zoo & Park, Marshfield. Acoustic folk/rock. Starts at 6 pm. Free. rotarywinterwonderland.org

Brewery Comedy Tour · Sat. 12/21, Mosinee Brewing Company, Mosinee. Comedy. 18+. Starts at 7:30 pm. \$15-\$20. heronentertainment.com/events/category/mosinee-brewery/list

Lonestar · Sat. 12/21, North Star Mohican Casino Resort, Bowler. Variety. 21+. Starts at 8 pm. \$45-\$55. northstarcasinoresort.com

Symphony on the Rocks · Sun. 12/22, Grand Theater, Wausau. Rock show featuring multi-WAMI award winners Michael Bailey, Tom Bailey, & Ron Kalista of Vic Ferrari along with the WAMI award musicians of STEEM. Starts at 7 pm. \$32-\$58. grandtheater.org

Max Koepke · Fri. 12/27, Bantr, Rothschild. Classic rock & original. 18+. Starts at 8 pm. Free. bantrrothschild.com

The Sissy Lala Show · Sat. 12/28, Rookies Sportspub, Stevens Point. Drag show. 21+. Doors open at 7 pm. Show starts at 8 pm. \$15 advance, \$20 at the door. sissythatlala.com

Gingerbread Jamz: Brady Luke · Sun. 12/29, Wildwood Zoo & Park, Marshfield. Country. Starts at 6 pm. Free. rotarywinterwonderland.org

Jackson Taylor · Fri. 1/3, Bantr, Rothschild. Country. 18+. Starts at 8 pm. Free. bantrrothschild.com

Alive Again: A Tribute To Chicago · Sat. 1/4, Lucille Tack Center for the Arts, Spencer. Tribute concert to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame band Chicago. Starts at 7:30 pm. \$35. lucilletackcenter.com

Hadestown · Mon.-Tues. 1/6-1/7, Grand Theater, Wausau. Broadway musical that intertwines two mythical tales; that of young dreamers Orpheus & Eurydice and that of King Hades & his wife Persephone. Starts at 7:30 pm. \$75-\$135. grandtheater.org

Stayin' Alive-The World's #1 Tribute to Bee Gees · Thurs. 1/9, Grand Theater, Wausau. Bee Gees tribute concert. Starts at 7:30 pm. \$34-\$50. grandtheater.org

The Missing Miles & Dig Deep · Sat. 1/11, Whitewater Music Hall, Wausau. Bluegrass & alternative rock. 21+. Starts at 8 pm. \$15. eventbrite.com/e/the-missing-miles-album-release-party-with-dig-deep-tickets-1106885216479

Candlelight: Featuring Vivaldi's Four Seasons & More · Fri. 1/17, St Stephen Lutheran Church, Wausau. Classical music. Starts at 6:30 pm & 8:30 pm. \$26-\$51.50. feverup.com/m/256074

NEW Dueling Pianos · Fri. 1/17, Bantr, Rothschild. Enjoy a piano show that covers practically every music genre. 18+. Starts at 8 pm. \$30 general admission. bantrrothschild.com

Living River · Sat. 1/18, Lucille Tack Center for the Arts, Spencer. Gospel quartet. Starts at 2 pm. \$20. lucilletackcenter.com

Rock Infused Orchestra · Sat. 1/18, Wausau West High School, Wausau. Enjoy a rock/pop concert performed by over 200 string orchestra students in grades 6-12. Starts at 3 pm. Free. wausauconservatory.org

Comedian Pat Godwin · Fri. 1/24, Bantr, Rothschild. Comedy. 18+. Starts at 6 pm. \$20-\$60. bantrrothschild.com

Them Coulee Boys · Fri. 1/24, Whitewater Music Hall, Wausau. Folk-rock. 21+. Starts at 8 pm. \$20. eventbrite.com/e/them-coulee-boys-tickets-1066889076949

Steely Dane-The Ultimate Steely Dan Tribute · Sat. 1/25, Campanile Center for the Arts, Minocqua. Steely Dan tribute concert performed by 14 of Dane County's top jazz & rock musicians. Starts at 7 pm. \$15-\$42. campanilecenter.org

Hyprov: Improv Under Hypnosis · Sat. 1/25, Grand Theater, Wausau. 90 minute live show that combines hypnosis and improv. Starts at 7:30 pm. \$30-\$68. grandtheater.org

Benny Green · Tues. 1/28, Great Northern Distilling, Stevens Point. Jazz. Starts at 7 pm. \$35. Free for music students, 50% discount for musicians. jazzcoterie.com

The Simon & Garfunkel Story · Thurs. 1/30, Grand Theater, Wausau. Critically-acclaimed, concert-style theatre show about two boys from Queens, NY who became the most successful music duo of all time. Starts at 7:30 pm. \$40-\$75. 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

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

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

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

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

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

Marathon County Historical Society's Youtube page

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

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

First UU Church of Wausau Service · Sundays. First UU Church of Wausau, 504 Grant St, Wausau. Sun. 12/22 will be the annual Christmas Sing led by the Rev. Brian Mason & Margaret Jerz. Celebrate the joyous melodies of the season, a cherished tradition that fills our hearts with the spirit of unity & togetherness. 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

EVENTS/SPECTATOR SPORTS

Yoga Body Bootcamp · Thurs. 12/19, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 5:15 am. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

Rosholt Choices Book Club: Idiosyncratic Individuals · Thurs. 12/19, Portage County Public Library, Rosholt. Each month we pick a topic & invite participants to pick any book they would like to read on that topic. December's theme is "Idiosyncratic Individuals". Starts at 2:30 pm. 715-677-4512

Les Mills RPM-V · Thurs. 12/19, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 4:40 pm. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

Zumba · Thurs. 12/19, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 5:45 pm. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

Les Mills Pilates · Fri. 12/20, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 5:15 am. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

Bodycombat-V · Fri. 12/20, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 4:45 pm. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

Bodypump · Sat. 12/21, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 8 am. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

Barre · Sat. 12/21, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 9:15 am. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

Friends of MCPL Members Only Book Sale · Sat. 12/21, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. Books, CDs, TV movies, artwork, board games and puzzles for sale. For members only but nonmembers can join on the spot for a yearly membership of \$10 or \$25 per family. Starts at 9:30 am. 715-261-7200

Ugly Sweater Party feat. Jerry Schmitt Band · Sat. 12/21, Rock Ridge Orchard, Edgar. Enjoy pizza, snacks & music from the Jerry Schmitt band. Cash prizes for best ugly sweater & best couple. 21+ event. Doors open at 6 pm. Music starts at 7 pm. \$10 entrance fee. 715-370-4083

Soccer Game: Wisconsin Conquerors vs. St. Louis · Sat. 12/21, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 7 pm. \$10 adults, \$7 for children under 12. wisconsinconquerors.org

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RPM-V · Sun. 12/22, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 3:30 pm. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

Flow & Restore Yoga · Sun. 12/22, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 4:30 pm. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

TRX · Mon. 12/23, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 5:15 am. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

Yin and Yang Yoga · Mon. 12/23, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 4:30 pm. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

Les Mills Bodypump · Mon. 12/23, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 5:30 pm. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

HIIT · Mon. 12/23, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 6:30 pm. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

Ride & Renew · Tues. 12/24, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. 35 min of Trans Siberian Orchestra cycling & 20 min of Pentatonix. Starts at 7 am. Free. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

Bodypump · Tues. 12/24, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 8 am. Free. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

Christmas Eve Services · Tues. 12/24, Covenant Community Presbyterian Church, 1806 Weston Ave, Schofield. Family-focused service starts at 4 pm. Traditional service starts at 6 pm. covenantcommunitypc.org

Yoga Body Bootcamp · Thurs. 12/26, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 5:15 am. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

Les Mills RPM-V · Thurs. 12/26, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 4:40 pm. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

Zumba · Thurs. 12/26, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 5:45 pm. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

Boxing & Self Defense · Thurs. 12/26, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 6:45 pm. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

Les Mills Pilates · Fri. 12/27, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 5:15 am. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

Bodycombat-V · Fri. 12/27, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 4:45 pm. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

Wausau Cyclone Game · Fri. & Sat. 12/27-12/28, Marathon Park, Wausau. Wausau Cyclones vs. Rochester Grizzlies. 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

RPM 102 Launch · Sat. 12/28, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 8 am. Free. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

Barre · Sat. 12/28, Greenheck Turner Community Center, Weston. Starts at 9:15 am. gtcc.dce.k12.wi.us/quick-links/group-fitness

New Years Eve Party · Tues. 12/31, Granite Peak Ski Resort, Wausau. Enjoy music from a live DJ, hors d'oeuvres & a champagne toast at midnight. Starts at 8 pm. \$20. skigranitepeak.com

Mosinee Papermakers Game · Sat. 1/4, Mosinee Rec. Center, Mosinee. Mosinee Papermakers vs. Fond du Lac Bears. Starts at 7:30 pm. mosineepapermakers.com

2025 Women's Highlander Bonspiel · Fri.-Sun. 1/10-1/12, hosted by the Wausau Curling Club at Wausau Curling Center, 1920 Curling Way, Wausau. Wear tartan attire & enjoy music, Scottish dancing, food, drinks, curling & more. Starts at 6 pm. \$280/team before 12/1, \$300 after. wausaucurling.org

CWMMR 27th Annual Model Railroad Show · Sat.-Sun. 1/11-1/12, Holiday Inn Convention Center Hotel, 1001 Amber Ave, Stevens Point. Many layouts, swap/sales tables & vendors. Starts at 9 am on Sat. & 10 am on Sun. \$5 adults, \$2 kids ages 12-17, free for ages 12 & under. 715-340-0265

2-Person Scotch Doubles Fundraiser · Sat. 1/11, hosted by Wausau Metro Adult Special Olympics at Dale's Weston Lanes, Weston. Win prizes with colored head pin strikes. In-game raffles. 50/50 cash raffle & basket raffles. Proceeds benefit the Wausau Metro Adult Special Olympics. Check-in at 5 pm. Bowling starts at 6 pm. \$35. wausaumetroadultso@gmail.com for questions. Submit entry form to Char Luedtke-918 Hillcrest Ave, Wausau WI 54401. Ph. 715-571-9582

Mosinee Papermakers Game · Sat. 1/11, Mosinee Rec. Center, Mosinee. Mosinee Papermakers vs. Fox Cities Ice Dogs. Starts at 7:30 pm. mosineepapermakers.com

Sleigh Rides for Small Groups with Lunch Option · Sun. 1/12, Willow Springs Garden, Wausau. Go out on sleigh rides and enjoy optional soup buffet. Intended for groups of 8 or less. Starts at 9 am. \$15 per person for ride, \$25 per person for ride and soup buffet, \$14/buffet only, \$8 kids 6-11, free for ages 5 and under. 715-675-1171 or willowsspringsgardens.com

Marathon City Book Club: "Hello Beautiful" by Ann Napolitano · Mon. 1/13, Marathon County Public Library, Marathon City. Awarded a college basketball scholarship away from his childhood home silenced by tragedy, a young man befriends a spirited young woman who welcomes him into her loving, loud, chaotic household. Starts at 5:45 pm. 715-443-2775

Edgar Book Club: "The Great Alone" by Kristin Hannah · Tues. 1/14, Marathon County Public Library, Edgar. When her father impulsively moves the family to mid-1970's Alaska to live off the land, young Leni & her mother are forced to confront the dangers of their lack of preparedness in the wake of a dangerous winter season. Starts at 12 pm. 715-352-3155

Hatley Book Club: "The Horse Whisperer" by Nicholas Evans · Tues. 1/14, Marathon County Public Library, Hatley. After her teenage daughter & the girl's horse are injured in a tragic accident, Annie Graves journeys across the continent in search of Tom Booker, the Horse Whisperer, in the hope that he can use his ancient gift to help both the horse & the maimed girl. Starts at 1 pm. 715-446-3537

Athens Book Club: "The Storm We Made" by Vanessa Chan · Tues. 1/14, Marathon County Public Library, Athens. In 1945 Malaya, her family in terrible danger due to a choice she made 10 years earlier, Cecily Alcantara, who was lured into a life of espionage for the invading Japanese forces during WWII, who will do anything to save those she loves. Starts at 2 pm. 715-257-7292

Stratford Book Club: "The Women of Copper Country" by Mary Doria Russell · Wed. 1/15, Marathon County Public Library, Stratford. A store inspired by the life of Annie Clements, retelling in historically authentic detail how in 1913 she led a courageous strike against the world's largest copper-mining company. Starts at 1 pm. 715-687-4420

Winter Brew Fest · Fri. 1/17, Jefferson Street Inn,

Wausau. 8+ breweries, brat bar & live music. 21+ event. Starts at 5 pm. \$40 advance, \$45 at the door. wausauevents.org

Mosinee Papermakers Game · Fri. 1/17, Mosinee Rec. Center, Mosinee. Mosinee Papermakers vs. Dane County Dairy Kings. Starts at 8 pm. mosineepapermakers.com

Garden Visions 2025 · Sat. 1/18, Northcentral Technical College, Wausau or virtually via Zoom. Northcentral Wisconsin's largest gardening conference featuring Melinda Myers, Allen Pyle, and Leigh & Erin Presley. Doors open at 7:30 am. Starts at 8:30 am. \$69 regular registration, \$59 for ages 62+ registration, \$40 virtual registration (all day), and \$79 walk-in day. ntc.edu/calendar/2025/01/18/garden-visions-2025

Winter Fest · Sat. 1/18, Washington Square & 400 Block, Wausau. Kid's activities, free cookies & pizza, sled dog demonstrations, ice sculptures, petting zoo & more. Starts at 11 am. Free. wausauevents.org

Craft & Vendor Show · Sat.-Sun. 1/25-1/26, Cedar Creek Mall, Rothschild. Craft & vendor show. Starts at 9 am. cedarcreekmall.com

Sleigh Rides for Small Groups with Lunch Option · Sun. 1/26, Willow Springs Garden, Wausau. Go out on sleigh rides and enjoy optional soup buffet. Intended for groups of 8 or less. Starts at 9 am. \$15 per person for ride, \$25 per person for ride and soup buffet, \$14/buffet only, \$8 kids 6-11, free for ages 5 and under. 715-675-1171 or willowsspringsgardens.com

Mosinee Book Club: "The Only One Left" by Riley Sager · Mon. 1/27, Marathon County Public Library, Mosinee. In 1983, home-health aide Kit McDeere cares for Lenora Hope at Hope's End, uncovering dark secrets about the Hope family massacre. As Kit learns more, she realizes Lenora may be far more dangerous than expected. Starts at 2 pm. 715-693-2144

Rothschild Book Club: "Good Night, Irene" by Luis Alberto Urrea · Wed. 1/29, Marathon County Public Library, Rothschild. After D-Day, two heroic Red Cross women, Irene Woodward and Dorothy Dunford join the Allied soldiers streaming into France, from the Battle of the Bulge to the liberation of Buchenwald, & where Irene learns to trust again through their friendship. Starts at 11 am. 715-359-6208



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Baked chicken senior	\$11.99
Ham steak dinner	\$13.99





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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

Festival of Trees · Thurs.-Sun. 12/12-12/22, WOW's Art Park, Wittenberg. Check out the holiday wreaths & trees displayed at the park. Free viewing starts at 4 pm on Thursdays & Fridays & 2 pm on Saturdays & Sundays. wallsofwittenberg.com

Holiday Family Festival · Sat.-Sun. 12/21, Granite Peak Ski Resort, Wausau. Enjoy Groomer rides with Santa, Christmas-themed scavenger hunt, fireworks, s'mores & holiday themed music from Brad Emanuel. Starts at 9 am. skigranitepeak.com

The Jingle Jam · 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

Gatorade Grom Jam 1 · Sun. 1/12, Granite Peak Ski Resort, Wausau. Go skiing or snowboarding, enjoy pizza or similar lunch and a friendly competition. For ages 12 & under. Registration starts at 9 am, event starts at 1 pm. Helmets & lift tickets/season pass required. skigranitepeak.com

Lighted Snowshoe Walk with Hors D'oeuvres & Sandwich Charcuterie Buffet · Thurs. 1/16, Willow Springs Garden, Wausau. Enjoy snowshoeing walking & buffet. Starts at 5:30 pm. \$30/person for walk & buffet, \$18 for children ages 6-11, \$10/person walk only, \$10/child ages 6-11 walk only, \$20/person buffet only, \$8/children 6-11 buffet only, free for ages 5 & under. willowsspringsgardens.com

Lighted Snowshoe Walk with Chili Charcuterie Buffet · Thurs. 1/23, Willow Springs Garden, Wausau. Enjoy snowshoeing walking & buffet. Starts at 5:30 pm. \$30/person for walk & buffet, \$18 for children ages 6-11, \$10/person walk only, \$10/child ages 6-11 walk only, \$20/person buffet only, \$8/children 6-11 buffet only, free for ages 5 & under. willowsspringsgardens.com

LECTURES/WORKSHOPS

Needlework Social Hour · Mon. 12/23, Marathon County Public Library, Edgar. Adults who enjoy needlework are invited to bring their projects & spend time crafting & socializing with others. Starts at 4 pm. Free. 715-352-3155

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 · 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. lywam.org

Wausau Museum of Contemporary Art · 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 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

KIDS/TEENS

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

Gingerbread House Decorating · Thurs. 12/19, Portage County Public Library, Plover. Create a gingerbread house. Program is for ages 2 years through 5th grade. Supplies are limited. Registration required. Starts at 10:30 am. Free. pocolibrary.org

Tales & Tasty Treats-Mice Skating · Thurs. 12/19, Children's Imaginarium, Wausau. Join us for hot chocolate & a reading of Mice Skating. Starts at 10:30 am. childrensimaginarium.org

LEGO Block Party · Thurs. 12/19, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. Children of all ages and families are invited to build creative projects using LEGO blocks. All blocks will be provided. Starts at 3 pm. Free. 715-261-7220

Teen Dungeons & Dragons One Shot · Thurs. 12/19, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. Experienced teen D&D players are invited to the library for a one-time themed Halloween session. Participants must come prepared with a level 5 character. Registration required. Starts at 4:30 pm. Free. 715-261-7220 or mcpl.us

Visit Santa · Sun. 12/22, Sawmill Adventure Park, 608 Creske Ave, Rothschild. Kids will be able to visit, write letters to the North Pole & meet the elves. Starts at 10 am. Free admission. 715-870-2202

Upcycled Gingerbread Houses · Mon. 12/23-12/30, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. Create an upcycled gingerbread house using cardboard & a variety of other craft supplies. Stop in anytime the library is open. Free. 715-261-7220

Winter Craft · Mon. 12/23-12/30, Marathon County Public Library, Rothschild. Create a fun winter-themed craft. All supplies & instructions will be provided to make a winter hat art piece with DIY pompom. Stop in anytime the library is open. Free. 715-359-6208

Movie Matinee for Kids · Mon. 12/23, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. An eight year old's family goes on vacation & forgets him at home. Hijinks ensue as he gets his first taste of life without adult supervision, & has to defend his home against a couple burglars. Rated PG. Starts at 2 pm. Free. 715-261-7220

Robotics Camp · Thurs. 12/26, Children's Imaginarium, Wausau. Get ready for Robotic Racers, the perfect camp for young engineers & coders. Starts at 9 am. \$30 members, \$35 non-members. Camp includes lunch. zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/cocoa-chemists-unleash-your-inner-scientist-2

New Year's Eve Specials

- Prime Rib Dinner
- Pollo Pasta with Scallops
- Garlic Shrimp Smothered Tenderloin

Stop at the bar for a fun winter drink, like our Tom & Jerry or Sugar Cookie Martini.

Dining room will be open 4-10pm on New Year's Eve. **Reservations encouraged.**

Join us in celebrating the New Year with a free champagne toast at midnight!

Chico's will be closed December 24th-26th and January 1st for the holidays.

We wish you all a joyful holiday season and a happy New Year!

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Era's Party

-FREE CHAMPAGNE AT MIDNIGHT-

Midnight-5am Hourly Line-Up

- 12A-1A "SHRED" YOUR PAST
- 1A-2A "DRINK" TO THE NEW YOU
- 2A-3A BINGO - SEE DETAILS
- 3A-4A "RIDDLE" ME THIS
- 4A-5A LAST SURVIVORS

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New Year's Eve

Open Christmas Eve 9am to Close
Open Christmas Day 11am to Close
Open New Years Eve 9am to Close
New Years Eve Serving Dinner starting at 4pm
Open New Years Day 9am to Close

MENU Reservations appreciated!

8 oz Ribeye.....	\$16.99
10 oz Tenderloin.....	\$20.99
8 oz Lobster Tail	\$25.49
8 oz Lobster Tail & 3 Tiger Shrimp	\$32.49

SURF & TURF

3 Tiger Shrimp & 8 oz Ribeye.....	\$20.99
3 Tiger Shrimp & 10 oz Tenderloin.....	\$26.99
8 oz Lobster Tail & 8 oz Ribeye	\$42.98
8 oz Lobster Tail & 10 oz Tenderloin	\$45.98

PRIME RIB

12-14 oz Queen Prime	\$25.99
w/8 oz Lobster Tail	\$51.48
14-16 oz King Prime	\$27.99
w/8 oz Lobster Tail	\$53.48

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Movie Matinee for Kids · Thurs. 12/26, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. When a magical curse causes endless winter in a kingdom, a brave young woman teams up with a friendly mountain man & his reindeer to find her sister, who has the power to make snow & ice. Together, they go on a big adventure to stop the cold & bring back summer, while discovering the true power of love. Rated PG. Starts at 2 pm. Free. 715-261-7220

Hot Cocoa Camp · Fri. 12/27, Children's Imaginarium, Wausau. Join us for a deliciously fun adventure at Cocoa Chemists. Starts at 9 am. \$30 members, \$35 non-members. Camp includes lunch. zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/cocoa-chemists-unleash-your-inner-scientist

Movie Matinee for Kids · Fri. 12/27, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. In this 2024 animated film, a former villain & his family go undercover in a new town, but things get wild when a revenge-seeking enemy kidnaps their son. With the help of some quirky friends, they pull off a daring rescue & save the day. Rated PG. Starts at 2 pm. Free. 715-261-7220

Curling Camp · Sat. 12/28, Children's Imaginarium, Wausau. Get ready to slide in the world of curling at our "Science of the Slide" Camp. Designed for grades 1-6, this hands-on experience will take you on an icy adventure where science & sport collide. Starts at 9 am. \$30 members, \$35 non-members. Camp includes lunch. zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/cocoa-chemists-unleash-your-inner-scientist-3

Noon Year's Celebration · Sat. 12/28, Greater Wausau Children's Museum, Wausau. Enjoy New Year's themed crafts, Kiddie Sparkle Punch & cookie decorating, balloon drop & run on the bubble wrap. Starts at 10 am. \$7/person. Free for children under 12 months. \$4/person for annual pass holders. 608-408-4668

Movie Matinee for Kids · Mon. 12/30, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. In this 2024 animated sequel, a 13 year old girl faces challenges as she navigates high school & tries out for a new ice hockey team. Her emotions work together to help her through difficult situations, but new emotions cause confusion & self-doubt. Rated PG. Starts at 2 pm. Free. 715-261-7220

Noon Years Eve · Tues. 12/31, Children's Imaginarium, Wausau. Create a family time capsule, balloon drop, make your own snacks & more. Starts at 10 am. childrensimaginariam.org

New Year's Day Bash · Wed. 1/1, Stevens Point YMCA, Stevens Point. Enjoy gaga ball tournaments, music & swimming in the Adventure Pool. Starts at 10 am. Free. spymca.org

Winter Trail Tales · Thurs.-Fri. 1/2-1/31, Nine Mile County Forest, Wausau. Go cross-country skiing through Nine Mile County Forest & enjoy a picture book. Stop by the trail, open dusk until dawn, to read "Whose Tracks in the Snow?" by Alexandra Milton. 715-261-7220

LEGO Block Party · Sat. 1/4, Marathon County Public Library, Rothschild. Children of all ages and families are invited to build creative projects using LEGO



MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

Stop in for our
New Year's Eve Specials
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NEW YEARS EVE!!

SERVING: 4:00 - 8:30
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST
Serving Full Weekday Menu!
**Make your reservations soon!!*

SPECIALS:
5 oz. Tenderloin Filet & 6 oz. Lobster Tail \$30.00
12 oz. Prime Rib \$21.50
9 piece Shrimp \$19.00
10 oz. New York Strip \$17.50
Ribs & Prime Rib \$21.00
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blocks. All blocks will be provided. Starts at 11 am. Free. 715-359-6208

Teen DIY Neon Signs · Sat. 1/4, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. Teens will learn how to make their own custom neon sign using electroluminescent wire. Starts at 2:30 pm. Free. 715-261-7220

Family Story Time · Mon. 1/6, 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

Family Story Time · Tues. 1/7, Marathon County Public Library, Edgar. Children can listen to stories, sing songs and learn through other literature-based activities. Starts at 11 am. Free. 715-352-3155

Winter Wigglers · Tues. 1/7, Marathon County Public Library, Mosinee. Children can enjoy fun physical activities at an indoor obstacle course. Starts at 3:30 pm. Free. 715-693-2144

Play and Learn · Wednesdays 1/8-1/29, 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 · Wednesdays 1/8-1/29, 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

Family Story Time · Wed. 1/8, Marathon County Public Library, Mosinee. Children can listen to stories, sing songs and learn through other literature-based activities. Starts at 10:30 am. Free. 715-693-2144

Family Story Time · Wed. 1/8, Marathon County Public Library, Rothschild. Children can listen to stories, sing songs and learn through other literature-based activities. Starts at 10:30 am. Free. 715-359-6208

Family Story Time · Thursdays 1/9-1/30, 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

Fairy Tale Ball 2025 · Sat. 1/11, hosted by the Playhouse Theatre Group at UWSP Dreyfus University Center, Stevens Point. Meet fairy tale characters, get their autograph and dance with them. Starts at 2 pm

& 6 pm. \$30. playhousetheatergroup.com

Family Story Time · Mon. 1/13, 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

Family Story Time · Tues. 1/14, 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

Mini Makers · Tues. 1/14, Marathon County Public Library, Mosinee. 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 3 pm. Free. 715-693-2144

Pokémon Club · Tues. 1/14, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. Enjoy Pokémon activities and play cards with other kids. Starts at 4 pm. Free. 715-261-7220

Mini Makers · Wed. 1/15, 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 Story Time · Wednesdays 1/15-1/29, 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 Game Night · Wed. 1/15, Marathon County Public Library, Edgar. Play a variety of board games & card games or bring your own to the library. Starts at 3 pm. Free. 715-352-3155

LEGO Block Party · Thurs. 1/16, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. Children of all ages and families are invited to build creative projects using LEGO blocks. All blocks will be provided. Starts at 3 pm. Free. 715-261-7220

Family Story Time · Tues. 1/21, Marathon County Public Library, Edgar. Children can listen to stories, sing songs and learn through other literature-based activities. Starts at 11 am. Free. 715-352-3155

Family Story Time · Wed. 1/22, Marathon County Public Library, Rothschild. Children can listen to stories,

sing songs and learn through other literature-based activities. Starts at 10:30 am. Free. 715-359-6208

Snowflake Craft Day · Fri. 1/24, Marathon County Public Library, Marathon City. Create a beautiful one-of-a-kind snowflake. All supplies provided. Starts at 11 am. Free. 715-443-2775

Family Story Time · Mon. 1/27, 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: For the Birds · Mon. 1/27, Marathon County Public Library, Stratford. Stop in at the library to make a birdfeeder. Starts at 10:30 am. Free. 715-687-4420

Family Story Time · Tues. 1/28, 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

Ongoing

Greater Wausau Children's Museum, Cedar Creek Mall, Rothschild. Open Tues-Thurs. 9 am-2 pm, Fri. & Sat. 9 am-5 pm, Sun. 12 pm-5 pm. Closed Monday. \$5 per child 1-12 years, free for children under 1 year, \$1 for parents and caregivers. wausauchildrensmuseum.org or 608-408-4668

Story Time for Young Children · Tuesdays, Greater Wausau Children's Museum, Rothschild. Toddlers-age 7 can enjoy stories and other activities. Starts at 10 am. wausauchildrensmuseum.org or 608-408-4668

Wednesday Learning Centers · Every Weds., hosted by the Stevens Point Area YMCA and Boys & Girls Club of Portage County. Available for students in K thru 6th grade. Young learners will get the chance to socialize and learn after school. Centers are open all day. \$10 per child. More info at bgclubpc.org

Mini Monets · Wednesdays, Greater Wausau Children's Museum, Rothschild. Preschool art program for children ages 2-5. Starts at 10 am. wausauchildrensmuseum.org or 608-408-4668

Family Storytime · Wednesdays, hosted online by T.B. Scott Free Library. Listen to stories, songs, and rhymes every Wednesday. Starts at 10 am. On Facebook Live

Kids Workshop · First Saturday of each month, Home Depot, 2705 Sherman St, Wausau. Starts at 9 am. Free. homedepot.com

LIFELINES

Alcoholics Anonymous: www.aawausauwi.org / AA Hotline: 1-715-503-0880

Medicare options through Security Health Plan · hosted weekly, hosted online by the Marshfield Clinic. Learn how Medicare plans offered by Security Health Plan of Wisconsin can help you afford quality insurance. Visit securityhealth.org/OnlineEvent

Food Pantry · Thursdays, St Paul's United Church of Christ, Wausau. Bring picture ID & proof of Marathon County residency. Starts at 9 am. 715-842-3733

Tiny Tots Closet · Thursdays, St Paul's United Church of Christ, Wausau. On your first visit, you must fill out a registration form. Bring proof of residency. Proof you are a parent or guardian of a child in diapers (birth certificate, WIC card, etc.). Limit of 2 dozen diapers per visit. Limit one visit/month. Starts at 10 am. 715-842-3733

Personal Needs Closet · First United Methodist Church, 903 3rd St, Wausau. Free toilet paper, paper towel, soap, personal toiletries and laundry detergent. Enter from parking lot on Fulton St. 2nd Tuesdays 1-3 pm, 4th Saturdays 9-11 am. 715-842-2201

Claire's Critter Closet · First United Methodist Church, 903 3rd St, Wausau. Free cat food, dog food, beds, toys, treats, collars and cat litter. Enter from parking lot on Fulton St. 2nd Tuesdays 1-3 pm, 4th Saturdays 9-11 am. 715-842-2201

Blood Drive · Thurs.-Fri. 12/19-12/20, Stevens Point Blood Donation Center, 3210C Main St, Stevens Point. Starts at 8:30 am. Redcrossblood.org

Blood Drive · Mon. 12/23, Stevens Point Blood Donation Center, 3210C Main St, Stevens Point. Starts at 12 pm. Redcrossblood.org

Blood Drive · Tues. 12/24, Stevens Point Blood Donation Center, 3210C Main St, Stevens Point. Starts at 8:30 am. Redcrossblood.org

Blood Drive · Thurs.-Fri. 12/26-12/27, Stevens Point Blood Donation Center, 3210C Main St, Stevens Point. Starts at 8:30 am. Redcrossblood.org

Blood Drive · Thurs. 12/26, YMCA Aspirus Branch, 3402 Howland Ave, Weston. Starts at 10 am. Redcrossblood.org

Blood Drive · Mon. 12/30, Stevens Point Blood Donation Center, 3210C Main St, Stevens Point. Starts at 12 pm. Redcrossblood.org



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Cocktail craft

Jeff Dixon spent years honing his skill at making high-end drinks. Now he's opened a bar dedicated to them

Walking into Juliett, Wausau's newest cocktail lounge, during the daylight hours really doesn't do the place justice.

It comes alive in the evening, with lights dimmed. That's when the atmosphere really pops.

Juliett, on Third Street across from Downtown Grocery in the space formerly home to 715 Tattoos, is the brainchild of Jeff Dixon. Many might remember Dixon from something called Night Tribe Cocktails. Night Tribe grew out of the pandemic, when a new law allowed establishments to bottle up cocktails to go since no one could drink inside an establishment.

Dixon operated that business out of a couple of places around town and that led to Whitewater Music Hall launching a residency for Dixon and Night Tribe, where he'd serve his cocktail drinks.

It's there where I first met Dixon. I reached out to see if he would be interested in helping with a holiday drink special for City Pages' Winterbook. I had Dixon create the drinks, walk me through their creation while I took notes and took pictures of the finished products.

I of course sampled the results, and they were beyond good. They were the work of a man who has poured everything into his craft for years. The level of detail goes down to even the ice, which is specially prepared in a large sheet and hand-cut with a saw to create those giant, clear cubes that are part of the cocktail experience.

Dixon walked me through the development of his craft on a Thursday afternoon at Juliett, which he opened in November. It started with a job at Back When Cafe, where cocktails piqued his interest and led to him reading books, studying and practicing. He also studied chemistry in college, no doubt a help. And he worked at a place called the Biltmore estate in Asheville, N.C. where he really caught the cocktail bug. No doubt he was also influenced by his time in Japan, where craftsmanship takes on a whole new meaning.



Jeff Dixon, owner of Juliett, takes time for a photo on a busy Thursday night. Dixon spent years honing his craft and now customers are flocking to his new establishment

Dixon also worked at Great Northern Distillery for five years, which re-opened a couple of years ago in Stevens Point after being located in Plover.

Which is to say that once Dixon decided to open his own place, his reputation for honing his craft and presenting a delicious cocktail already preceded him. Pretty much every night in the three weeks since he opened has been absolutely packed. Word spread like wildfire on social media and photos of the place popped up on Facebook as soon as the doors opened.

Much like the care he puts into his cocktails, Dixon put a lot into the look of the place. It's green and red, with exposed brick behind the bar (the wall covers part of the brick, as if a big chunk of it was ripped off, giving it a cool effect). Around the bar and surrounding tables are little green desk lamps.

For sound, Dixon has a turntable and reel-to-reel player, hooked up to speakers with a special tweeter meant to bring out the high end. Jazz is a standard at the lounge, but on display is a copy of a record by Notorious B.I.G. Dixon says he reads the crowd, but

most nights start with jazz.

Dixon says he's very careful about the kinds of liquors he keeps for the bar. Though the focus is on cocktails, he curates some specific wines and beers as well. And there are a number of NA options. Dixon says their mission isn't to serve people delicious cocktails, it's to serve them delicious drinks, period.

Dixon isn't alone behind the bar. He hired a woman with years of experience at some of the top cocktail lounges in Madison, and has two barbacks, one who is now learning the craft of making cocktails too.

So far, chatter is all positive on Juliett. And no doubt, considering the care that Dixon puts into his craft, that isn't likely to change any time soon. **CP**



From the Attorney's Desk

by Jason Krautkramer, J.D.

ECKERT & KRAUTKRAMER, LLC
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Schedule an appointment to learn more.

HAPPY Holidays!



As the year comes to a close, we want to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude to each of you. Your support, resilience, and dedication to the health and well-being of our community have made all the difference. Whether through volunteering, partnership, or simply choosing to prioritize your health, you've contributed to making our community stronger.

This holiday season, we celebrate you. Thank you for your trust, your compassion, and your commitment to a healthier, brighter future for all.

Warmest wishes for a joyful holiday season and a new year filled with peace, health, and happiness.




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