



Full issue available on our Facebook page and online!

CITY pages

FOREVER FREE

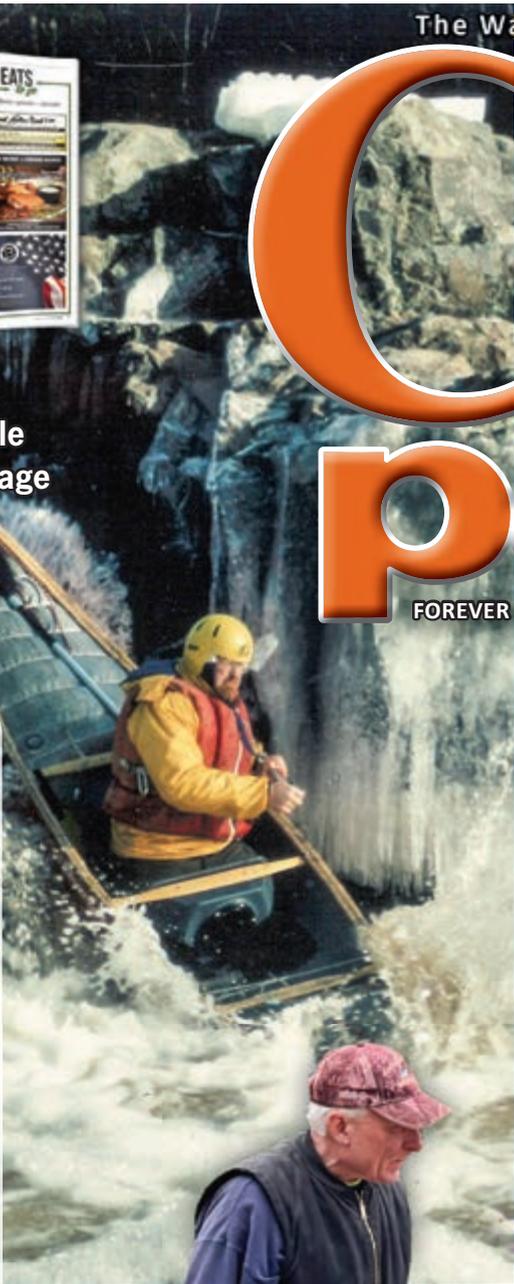
January 23-30, 2025

The city's lead line
program met its 2024 goal
4

Duffy calls
for more Boeing scrutiny
6

Iprov comedy,
Them Coulee Boys and more this weekend
10

Your new cozy bookstore
with a splash of coffee
15



Remembering PHIL JOHNSRUD

Johnsrud was known for being able to groom cross-country ski trails in the harshest conditions in Iowa, and for his work as a teacher, paddler and volunteer

Intercity's Mortgage Team:

Turning the American dream into reality



Ashley Dupuis-Bohman

715.241.0434
NMLS #1313581

Calli Scheel

715.350.8095
NMLS #2094109



Wausau • Schofield • Weston

Intercity State Bank NMLS: #433884

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Looking Past; Looking Forward

Dear Reader,

When the love of your life dies, the impact is profound and life-altering. The grief can feel as though it will never subside, and the absence of that person—your partner in all things—casts a shadow over even the smallest moments of your day. The process of losing them, from illness or sudden tragedy to the final goodbye, is one of life's greatest challenges.

After the funeral is over, the loneliness often sets in deeply. Friends and family may surround you for a time, offering kindness and support, but eventually, their lives pull them back to their routines. And there you are, left to grapple with the silence.

Many who experience such a loss have shared how the grief feels inescapable. The memories you shared with your spouse linger everywhere—in your home, your daily habits, and even in the way you think about the world. The ache is particularly acute when something good or bad happens, and you instinctively want to share it with them.

There is no one-size-fits-all answer to coping with such loss. Each person's grief is unique, shaped by the depth of the relationship and the individual personality of the one left behind. However, here are some thoughts that may offer comfort and guidance as you navigate this painful journey.

First, take it one day at a time. It's simple advice, but it holds profound wisdom. In the early days, just getting out of bed and facing the world can feel like a monumental task. Allow yourself to move at your own pace. Don't rush the grieving process or feel pressured to "move on" too quickly. Healing is not linear, and it's okay to have days when the sorrow feels overwhelming.

It's important to lean on others—but also seek to rebuild. Family and friends can provide crucial support, but

their lives will naturally continue, and you may find yourself needing to rebuild parts of your own. Consider joining a grief support group where others who've experienced similar losses can share their insights and struggles. Knowing you're not alone in your feelings can be deeply reassuring.

Over time you can find new meaning and purpose. Though it feels impossible at first, try to slowly re-engage with the world. Take up an activity or explore something you've always been curious about. Join a class in art, writing, or history. Volunteer with an organization that aligns with your values. If you're physically able, activities like yoga, gardening, or walking in nature can offer both physical and emotional relief.

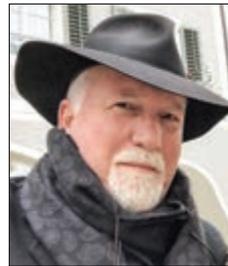
You may find some healing in honoring your loved one's memory. Create a ritual or space where you can remember and celebrate your spouse. It might be a small garden, a photo album, or even a weekly moment of reflection. This helps keep them present in your life in a way that feels healthy and comforting, rather than overwhelming.

But don't remain in a constant state of sorrow. Your loved one wouldn't want that. While they may no longer be physically by your side, their love and influence live on in you. Embracing life doesn't mean forgetting them; it means carrying their memory with you as you find joy again.

Take heart, dear reader. Though the journey of loss is painful, it's also a testament to the love you shared. Grief is a long and winding road, but it does not mean your own story is over. It's a new chapter—one you didn't ask for, but one in which you can still find meaning, connection, and even hope.

PATRICK J. WOOD
Publisher

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



**Institute of Kinlein
Wausau**

**INVITES YOU TO OPEN A DOOR
AND EXPLORE:**

*Practical Wisdom for
Everyday Life*

at Kinlein Offices
408 Third St., #300, Wausau

What's True About Being Human? Thur. 2/6

*A look at the power, responsibility, dignity
and irreplaceable uniqueness of each person.*
10:30am-12pm OR 6pm-7:30pm

What We Focus on Grows Thur. 2/13

*What is possible expands when we build on all
that is good, strong and beautiful.*
10:30am-12pm OR 6pm-7:30pm



Presenter:

Loretta Ulmschneider,
faculty member of the
Institute of Kinlein,
will draw on 40 years in
the practice of
kinlein, assisting
clients as they
build on all that
is good, strong
and beautiful
within them.

More info:
715-842-7399 and
kinlein.org

Manitowish Waters
Original "Up North" Experience

Bike Trail

OVER 50 MILES OF PAVED TRAILS

NORTHWOODS FUN ANY TIME OF THE YEAR

**CLOSER
THAN YOU THINK.**

**AN EASY DRIVE
FROM WAUSAU,
EAU CLAIRE
OR GREEN BAY**

IN MANITOWISH WATERS enjoy
the area's pristine beauty after
a snowfall while snowshoeing
or cross-country skiing.
manitowishwaters.org



SMOKEY'S Restaurant
smokeysdining.com
715-543-2220



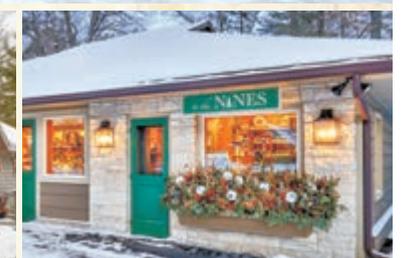
THE LODGE
lodgemw.com
715-543-2024



THE SPA
spa-mw.com
715-543-2535



DIXIE'S COFFEE HOUSE
dixiesmw.com
715-543-2353



TO THE NINES Shop
ninesmw.com
715-543-2699



A MAN LEADS A TEAM OF SLED DOGS TO GIVE CHILDREN RIDES ON THE 400 BLOCK AS PART OF WAUSAU EVENTS' WINTERFEST EVENT SATURDAY.

THE STUFF

PUBLISHER'S NOTE 2

METRO BRIEFS 4
Leading the way

CAPITOL EYE 6
New transport

COVER FEATURE 8
Remembering Phil Johnsrud

HIGHLIGHTS 10

BIG GUIDE 11

THE BUZZ 15
Book buzz

THE STAFF

- Publisher**
Patrick J. Wood, publisher@mmlocal.com
- General Manager**
Tim Schreiber, tschreiber@mmlocal.com
- Editor**
B.C. Kowalski, brian.kowalski@mmlocal.com
- Sales & Marketing Support**
Linda Weltzin, linda.weltzin@mmlocal.com
- Office Manager / Customer Service Representative**
Dawn Ricklefs, dricklefs@mmlocal.com
- Marketing & Sales Consultant**
Paul Bahr, pbahr@mmlocal.com
- Editorial Support** Ben Graewin
- Graphic Design** Kimberly Byrne

CITY
pages
every Thursday

Postal.....800 Scott Street, Suite 11, Wausau, WI 54403
Office.....715-845-5171 • Fax.....715-842-5989
Website.....thecitypages.com
Office hours.....Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Subscriptions.....Price by mail \$25/3 mos., \$50/6 mos., \$100/1 yr. domestic U.S. Mail only. To subscribe got to www.ShopMMLocal.com
Back issues.....\$2 per copy • \$5 per copy mailed USPS

Member:
aww WNA V wausaucitypages

City Pages is a locally owned news and entertainment paper published every Thursday by Multi Media Channels LLC, PO BOX 408 Waupaca, WI 54981. City Pages is available free for its intended use—to read. © Copyright Multi Media Channels LLC 2025. All Rights Reserved. No part of this publication or any of its contents may be reproduced, copied, modified or adapted without the prior written consent of Multi Media Channels LLC.

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

ECKERT & KRAUTKRAMER, LLC
630 N. 4th St., Wausau, WI 54403
715-842-0907 • jason@eckertlawllc.com




Creative Ways to Use SNT Funds-Part 2

In addition to the expenditures discussed last week, an SNT can purchase the following. Therapeutic services and programs-Nontraditional medicine, aromatherapy, reiki, yoga, and massage therapy, as well as spa treatments and grooming services.

Pets and pet care-The costs of pet adoption, veterinary care, food, grooming, pet supplies, and training.

Education and skill-building-Educational programs, classes, or workshops.

Home entertainment and furnishings-Although many housing-related expenses are not allowed, many of the items that make a house a home—such as furniture, décor, and an engaging sound system—are allowed.

Cultural and religious activities-Cultural or religious events, such as festivals or ceremonies.

SNTs are highly technical and complicated, schedule an appointment for assistance.

49622

Red Robin is Bringing the Beach to you...

60oz Margarita your choice of flavor,
3 EXTRA Beaker
Tequila Shots,
& Chips & Salsa for only \$29.97




Red Robin
GOURMET BURGERS AND BEERS

225548 Rib Mountain Dr., Wausau, WI 54401
715-301-0019

440647

Leading the way

Wausau's EquiFlow program met and exceeded its goal last year.

City leaders say they met and exceeded their goal for the number of lead service lines replaced last year as they announce how many they plan to address in 2025.

The city contracted with CIP last year with a goal of replacing a minimum of 553 lines. The contractors ultimately replaced 602 lines by the end of the year, according to a city report.

The work last year all occurred in census tracts 6, 5, 7 and 8, and in 2025 the city will add census tract 4 as well as more homes in the previous census tracts. The city aims to replace 1,900 lines this year.

City leaders started the EquiFlow program in order to leverage federal dollars to start replacing all 8,000 of the city's lead service lines. Lead has been shown to have health hazards in adults and especially in babies and young children.

The program raised some eyebrows recently because early information on the program didn't make clear that the funds were a combination of grants and loans. City officials will have to figure out where the funding will come from the pay back the loan portion of the agreement.

This year's is expected to be one of the more favorable grant/loan mixes the city will see, City Public Works Director Eric Lindman has said. Subsequent years will be more competitive as more cities start applying for the program.

Weston has three vying for village board

Three candidates will vie for the Weston Village Board in a February primary.

Incumbent Village President Mark Maloney will face off against current board members Hooshang Zeyghami and James Pinsonneault.

The three will face off in a primary election on Feb. 18, with the top two vote-getters moving on to the general election on April 1.

Maloney has served on the village board since 2018, and took later over as president for retired police chief Wally Sparks. Zeyghami and Pinsonneault have experience on the village board.



Mark Maloney



James Pinsonneault



Hooshang Zeyghami



Chick-fil-A photo

Chick-fil-A to open in Rib Mountain this fall

A new Chick-fil-A restaurant is slated to open later this year in Rib Mountain, company officials say.

The new restaurant will open sometime in 2025 at 225421 Rib Mountain Drive across the street from Texas Roadhouse. The location appears to be near the previously announced Chipotle restaurant, and both are being built by local building company Lokre Companies.

Both restaurants are new to the Wausau area. The closest Chick-fil-A restaurant currently is in the Fox Valley area, and this restaurant will be the first in the central Wisconsin area.

A press release from the company says the restaurant is slated to open in the fall but an exact date has not yet been set.

Sheriff investigating house fire that kills one

Marathon County Sheriff's Office officials are investigating a fire that killed one in the town of Green Valley.

Police say the fire started shortly before 11 pm in a home in the 133700 block of Highway C in Green Valley on Jan. 16. The fire killed one 65-year-old woman who lived at the residence, according to the Sheriff's Office.

So far, investigators don't suspect foul play in the fire. The cause of the woman's death is still being investigated, according to Sheriff's Office officials.

Police did not name the victim who died in the fire.

Wausau Fire receives mechanical CPR devices

The Wausau Fire Department recently took delivery of a new CPR device that is expected to save more lives.

Fire Department officials say the device, called the Zoll AutoPulse NXT, is an automated device that delivers consistent chest compression in the event of a cardiac event. The device has been shown to improve survival rates because of that consistency.

The Department received the devices because of a donation from the BA and Esther Greenheck Foundation and the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin. Officials did not specify the amount received in order to purchase the devices.

"We are extremely grateful for the support of the B.A. and Esther Greenheck Foundation and the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin," says Jared Thompson, Wausau Fire EMS Division Chief. "Their generous grant assistance allows us to equip our paramedics with the most advanced tools available, ensuring we can deliver the best possible care when every second counts."

The devices will be equipped in all of the department's emergency response vehicles.

County discusses options for state TIF recommendations

County leaders are currently discussing some possible recommendations they can make to state lawmakers on how tax increment finance is run.

Those discussions came out of a task force the county held last year looking at how TIF districts impact municipalities.

TIF Districts work by allowing a municipality to borrow against future development to fund projects that wouldn't otherwise occur "but for" the extra funding. Tax increment generated by new development in that district goes toward paying back the loans borrowed in the first place.

But the county launched the task force because some people had concerns that TIF Districts might ultimately be costing the county and taxpayers money in the long run.

Some suggestions included possibly adding a citizen member to the Joint Board of Review which reviews districts and district amendments; increasing the time the public has to review projects before they go before the

board; and providing updates on existing TIF Districts and how they're performing to the Marathon County Board.

County board passes Assembly ordinance with little fanfare

An ordinance change toward how the county handles large assemblies garnered a lot of discussion at the committee level - but it passed Tuesday with little fanfare.

The Marathon County Board Tuesday passed the new version of the ordinance governing large assemblies with little fanfare. The ordinance passed 29-3.

The county looked at revamping the ordinance after the county's legal team raised concerns that the previous version might not be constitutional because it places restrictions on large assemblies that could violate First Amendment rights.

But the threshold the county was considering of 3,000 attendees made organizers of the eight dairy breakfasts in the county nervous because it might place an additional burden on those organizers. Most of the breakfasts have between 2,000 and 3,000 attendees, organizers had told county leaders.

Members of the Environmental

Resources Committee changed the threshold to 5,000 attendees, leaving the dairy breakfasts safely under that number.

Public safety chair leadership vote garners scrutiny

A fairly benign appointment of the Public Safety Committee's leadership garnered a small amount of controversy Tuesday.

The Marathon County board affirmed long-time Marathon County Board Member Jean Maszk as the committee's chair Tuesday without comment. But one member urged against voting for the recommended vice chair.

Marathon County Board Member Tim Sondalski argued against appointing Yee Leng Xiong as the vice chair. Sondalski accused Xiong of not attending meetings regularly.

Xiong replied that he had been attending the committee meetings virtually, but did miss some in the fall when he was running for State Assembly. Xiong says he has made changes to his schedule so that he can attend meetings regularly.

Xiong ultimately was appointed by a 27-4 vote. **CP**

RETURNING \$6.5 MILLION to YOU!

Your PATRONAGE PAYMENT

is our way of saying,
**"Thank You,
Member-Owners!"**

This is our 44th year of showing gratitude to those who rely on us for their financial needs.

The patronage payment was deposited for eligible members on December 31, 2024.

For details, go to:
covantagecu.org/patronage



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

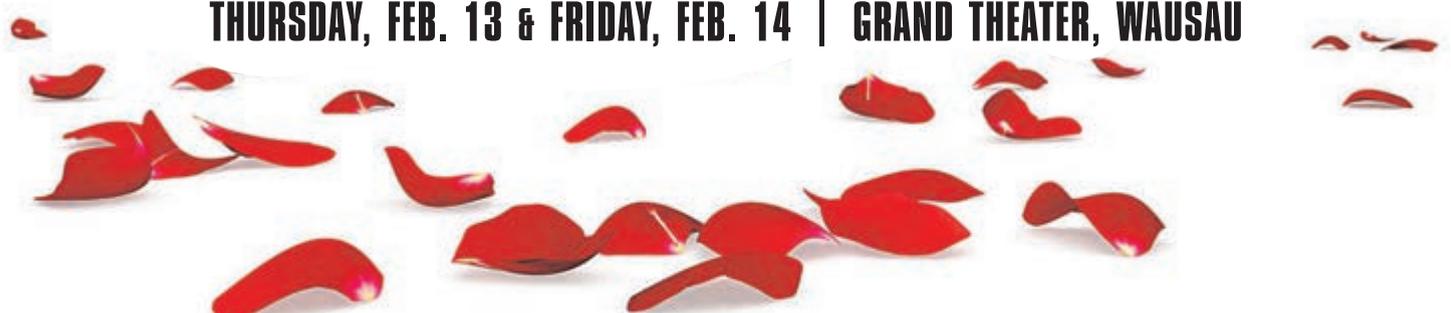


View this issue of City Pages online and more at
www.thecitypages.com

Big New Musical. Big. Huge.

PRETTY THE MUSICAL WOMAN

THURSDAY, FEB. 13 & FRIDAY, FEB. 14 | GRAND THEATER, WAUSAU



**"IRRESISTIBLE! A ROMANTIC FANTASY.
A CONTEMPORARY FAIRY TALE"**

THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER



Tickets starting at \$75.
grandtheater.org
715.842.0988
401 N. Fourth St.
Downtown Wausau

One of Hollywood's most beloved romantic stories is coming to the stage! Be transported back to the 80s, when unlikely soulmates Vivian and Edward took a chance on each other - and on love. Get your seat now to experience this inspired, heartwarming and joy-filled take on the iconic movie. To miss *Pretty Woman: The Musical* would be a big mistake. Big. Huge.

**"A BIG, HAPPY, WONDERFUL,
RECORD-BREAKING HIT!"**

WABC RADIO

PART OF THE
incrediblebank
FOUNDATION
BROADWAY
SERIES

PRESENTING SPONSORS: FEATURED SPONSORS:

New transport

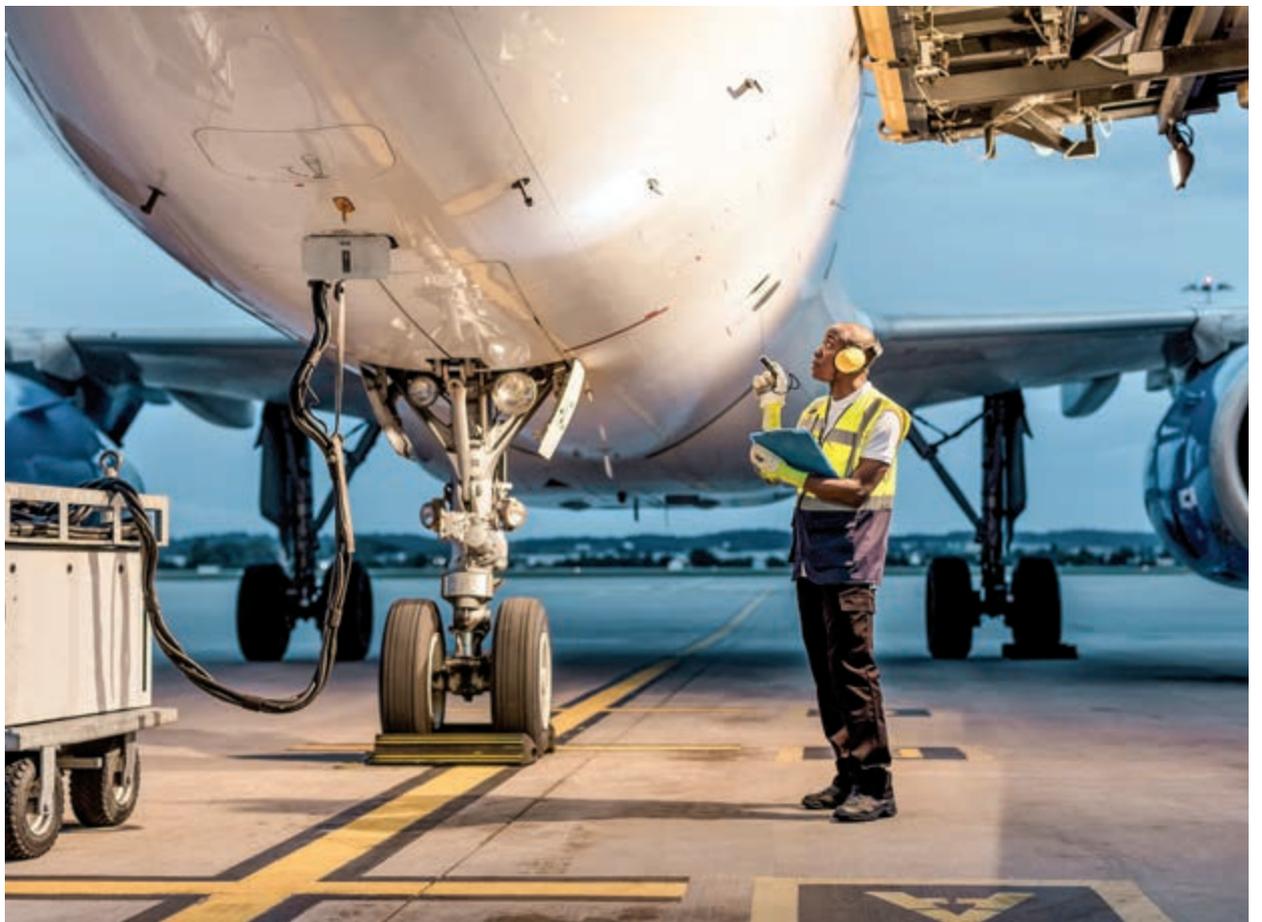
Duffy calls out Boeing in confirmation hearing for secretary of transportation

At his confirmation hearing to lead the Department of Transportation this week, former Wisconsin Cong. Sean Duffy said he would like to get Boeing back on track, assuming it is implementing its safety plan.

Duffy received many questions about various transportation issues from the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation during his three-hour hearing yesterday morning. When asked about Boeing and aviation, Duffy said Boeing needs “tough love” to ensure “our skies are safe,” after a mid-air emergency with a Boeing plane last January.

Overall, the committee was friendly to Duffy, commenting on the respect shown by eight of his nine children who joined him in the hearing room. And both Wisconsin senators backed Duffy to lead the department.

“It is critical we have a Secretary of Transportation who understands Wisconsin’s needs and will help us keep families safe when they travel, businesses able to get



their products on shelves on time, and keep our Made in Wisconsin economy moving forward,” U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin, D-Madison, said. “We haven’t always agreed, and I’m certain that will continue to be true, but at the end of the day, I am confident Sean is the right guy to help deliver for Wisconsin families, businesses, and workers.”

Moore refused to attend Trump’s inauguration

U.S. Rep. Gwen Moore is among the Democrats not attending Donald Trump’s inauguration, saying, “It’s been very hard to respect Donald Trump.”

Providing You Year-Round Peace of Mind

Sales, Installation, Maintenance & Service No Matter the Season



(844) 233-6565

1116 East State Highway 153 | Mosinee, WI 54455 | www.adamspower.com

Adams is Excited to Introduce



Your Adams Lifetime Warranty covers repairs to your generator for as long as you own it.

-  Included with every qualifying purchase
-  Unlimited protection and lifetime guarantee
-  100% parts and labor coverage
-  Customer satisfaction guarantee

Call (844) 233-6565 today for more details and to schedule your free in-home assessment!

"It was a process, my deciding not to go," Moore said on WISN's "UpFront," which is produced in partnership with WisPolitics.com. "When I came to the realization that Inauguration Day was going to fall on MLK Day, something that hasn't happened since Bill Clinton was inaugurated, my constituents really, it was a drumbeat of folks begging me to come and go to the events I go to every single year since there's never any conflict.

"I think the final straw for me was his whining about Jimmy Carter's, about the flag being flown at half-staff to honor the 39th president," Moore added. "I just, you know, I think that it's been very hard to respect Donald Trump."

U.S. Rep. Mark Pocan, D-Town of Vermont, is also not attending, but U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin's office said the Madison Dem will.

"People have different reasons for doing it," Moore said. "You got somebody like Amy Klobuchar, for example, who's definitely going to show up because she's in charge of the inaugural ceremonies. I have no problem with my good friend and colleague, our United States Sen. Tammy Baldwin for showing up. People have their own insights and instincts about what to do."

Karofsky pressed GOP attorneys on conversion therapy ban resistance

Liberal Justice Jill Karofsky pressed an attorney for GOP lawmakers to justify a handful of lawmakers repeatedly suspending a rule seeking to ban conversion therapy, a practice she called "beyond horrific."

After reading a description of the treatment during oral arguments Thursday, Karofsky demanded a justification for allowing some members of the Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules to prevent implementation of an Evers administration proposal to essentially ban the practice.

"I'm saying there are real lives that are at risk here," Karofsky said, adding, "This is hurting people."

As GOP attorney Misha Tsteylin sought to answer Karofsky's questions, conservative Justice Rebecca Bradley interjected.

"Counsel, what is left of the rule of law if this court makes its decision based not on the Constitution, not on the law, but on our visceral personal, emotional responses to what policies the Legislature may be attempting to enact or resist?" she asked.

The court on Thursday heard arguments in the Evers' administration challenge of oversight powers the Legislature has granted the JCRAR.

State Dems outraise GOP in final months of 2024

The state Dem Party outraised the Wisconsin GOP over the final 10 weeks of the year.

And the Dem Party's fundraising machine kept churning even after Chair Ben Wikler announced his bid to lead the national party.

The latest fundraising reports show the Dem Party raised nearly \$2.8 million between Oct. 22 — the close of the last reporting period — and Dec. 31. It spent \$4.2 million and finished the year with \$650,569 in the bank.

The state GOP, meanwhile, reported \$2.4 million in receipts over that period and \$3 million in disbursements. The Republican Party finished 2024 with \$673,257 cash on hand.

The state GOP received \$257,000 from Beloit businesswoman Diane Hendricks in late October. Otherwise, other committees accounted for the bulk of the party's fundraising over the 10-week period at more than \$2.1 million.

That includes \$866,589 in in-kind donations. Those often show up as both a receipt and an expense as candidates, for example, pay the party to do mail pieces to take advantage of the bulk rates it can receive.

The state Dem Party's biggest donations over the period were \$300,000 each from William Harris, a Florida executive, and William H. Harris, a Massachusetts retiree. Both donations were made last month.

WI House delegation conflicted over transgender sports ban

Wisconsin's House delegation split along party lines this week as the chamber signed off on legislation that would ban transgender athletes from women's and girls sports.

The House signed off 218-206 as two Dems joined all Republicans voting in supporting the bill.

U.S. Rep. Mark Pocan, D-Town of Vermont, in a floor speech argued the measure put young girls at risk by exposing them to an invasive process to determine their sex.

"Does this mean hiring potential predators to peek at the private parts of kids in locker rooms? Now that sounds like an actual problem to me," Pocan said.

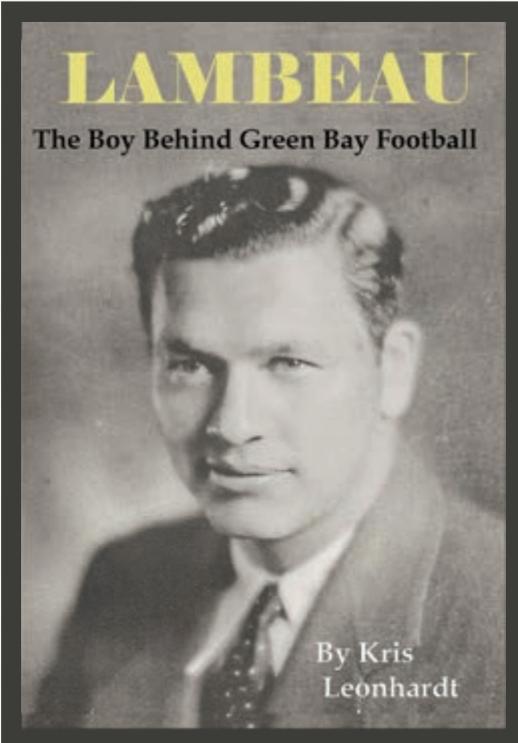
U.S. Rep. Tony Wied, R-De Pere, said the bill is "common sense." **CP**

READ THE CITY PAGES EVERY THURSDAY
Don't lose touch.
THECITYPAGES.COM

Alange Auction & Realty Saturday, January 25, 2025 10:00 AM
MOVING AUCTION | EXPO Center, 303 N Sales St., Merrill
 See Website for Directions. WATCH FOR SIGNS!
 Tools • Guns • Household • Coins • Marbles and Buttons • 4 Gallon Red Wing Crock
 • Western Stoneware Jug • McDonalds Dolls • Collector Metal Signs and Pictures
 • Metal JD Tractor • Coke-Cola Metal Sign • Sleds • Wood Ski Set
 • Ice Fishing Poles • Tonka Toys • Blue Jars • Keys and Locks • Match Box Cars
 • Charlie Brown Glasses • Gal Jugs • Coors Stine • Boxes of Records • Tins
 • Blue Bowls • Old Bottles • Bar Mats • Tinkertoys • Barbe Van • License's Plates
 • Baseball Collector Cards • Erector Set • Superman • and Much More
 Visit our website for pictures, details, terms, conditions & Buyers Premium at:
 www.alangeauctionrealty.com or Call Arnold at: 715-574-2258
 Registered Wisconsin Auctioneer • Col. Arnold H. Lange, Manager/Broker, WI Lic. #230
OVER 50 YEARS OF TRUSTED EXPERIENCE

Make Your Life Less Taxing!
 20 million new self & no credential prepared returns. IRS hires 67,000 new auditors. Coincidence? Have your taxes prepared by a professional.
Specializing Businesses, Payroll and Individual Taxes
Kersten Accounting & Tax Pro's
 1721 Cty Rd XX Mosinee, WI 54455
 Call 715-524-2302
 for an appointment Walk-ins are also welcome

"A fascinating TALE
 of dedication that will inspire fans and readers alike. If you love football, community and tales of grit, this book is a must-read."



The story of the beginning of the Green Bay Packers and the life of Earl Louis "Curly" Lambeau are so intertwined that it is hard to imagine one without the other.
 From the streets of Green Bay, Lambeau developed a passion for football and grew that yearning into a football team that would exist long past his lifetime.
 Like the Packers, Lambeau's story is a tale of adversity and challenge, but also a story of triumph and perseverance. While his personal life and professional career were wrought with challenge, his legacy continues to resonate in the Green Bay community, including a massive structure along Lombardi Avenue that shines a light on his contribution to the professional team.

BOOK SIGNING
Saturday, Jan. 25 - 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Bosse's News Depot
 107 S Broadway, De Pere

Remembering PHIL JOHNSRUD

Johnsrud was known for being able to groom cross-country ski trails in the harshest conditions in Iola, and for his work as a teacher, paddler and volunteer

There was early snow for Thanksgiving in 2009 when I was visiting my son in Denver, so I drove up-mountain to the Frisco Nordic Touring Center. In the chalet, a guy noticed my jacket from a Milwaukee bike/ski store and asked me about skiing in the Kettle Moraine. He was from Wausau and had recently retired to Colorado. Returning his curiosity, I asked, "You skied mainly at Nine Mile?" He replied affirmatively, so I queried, "Have you ever tried Iola?"

He jumped forward with his eyes bugging, put his hands on my shoulders, moved his face close to mine, and said with almost maniacal enthusiasm, "Iola?! That guy can groom frost!"

That guy was Phil Johnsrud, who passed away in October after four years of serious medical challenges. In addition to being arguably the best snow groomer in the state, he paddled the entire Grand Canyon in a solo canoe with a bunch of hotshots from all over the country and was the only one who didn't tip and swim. He and his wife, Dr. Mary Schultz, had two children.

Few people have made as big an impact on one sport and its community as Phil, yet he was a giant in two of our silent sports sub-cultures: whitewater paddling and Nordic skiing.

➤ Taught Whitewater Skills to Many

I first met Phil when I joined the Sierra Club River Touring group in the mid-80s to run whitewater. Around a campfire on the Peshtigo River, beer in hand, this guy was telling stories about characters he had paddled with in the Arctic. The next day on the river, I was blown away. All the rest of us paddled newer plastic boats with rockered hulls made for turning quickly in rapids. Not Phil. He was in an ancient aluminum canoe with a keel designed for two people going straight on lakes. Phil, paddling solo, made that thing dance down rapids, eddying into tight spots between rocks, perfectly balanced.

He led several trips each year for the Sierra Club and was, for many years, the lead instructor in its annual Whitewater Canoe Clinic, teaching hundreds over the decades how to avoid rocks, ferry, eddy, and laugh on the water. Judy Emmett of Green Bay fondly recalls his "funny, irreverent, sometimes snarky" teaching style. "I remember him most for how kind and patient he was when I was trying to learn how to handle whitewater. I was not an intuitive paddler and if not for that patience, I might have given up trying and would have missed all those wonderful paddles on the Wolf and Red Rivers."

➤ Arctic Rescue

His trips to run Montana Rivers every July were legendary as were the several he led to the Arctic. In 2002, he and three comrades were on the Parent River in Canada's Northwest Territories when they came upon six Canadiens who had been stranded for two days unsuccessfully trying to free one of their canoes pinned against a rock in the middle of a rapids. Katy Golden of Madison, Phil's paddling partner, said, "This was real wilderness, as in 300 miles from a road or cell tower, so they were justifiably scared. But Phil always traveled with extra rope, carabiners, and remarkable ingenuity. Within 90 minutes, he had freed their canoe, and we continued downriver."

Befitting his Norwegian heritage, Phil Johnsrud's other great outdoor passion was cross-country skiing. He completed 32 Birkies and told a half-dozen stories from each. During one, tired of waiting in line at the top of an icy downhill that folks were justifiably hesitant to descend, he took off his skis and jogged through the woods. When people started hollering at him for cheating, he yelled, "Save the prince, save the prince...!" thrusting his skis up in the air with each yell. Soon skiers on the hill joined the "Save the Prince!" chant, all mindful of the Norwegian crown-prince rescue the Birkebeiner commemorates.



Phil and two of his loves: a kid skiing and touching up the trails at the IWSC. Photo by Mike McGibbon.



Phil (kneeling) in 2002 leading the canoe recovery on Parent River in Northwest Territories. (Bandanas were donned for mosquito-protection). Photo originally published in the Winter 2007 edition of the "Nastawgan," Quarterly Journal of the Wilderness Canoe Association. Photo by Allan Jacobs reprinted here with permission granted by the Wilderness Canoe Association.

➤ Extraordinary Volunteer

Phil's Birkie goals were like the rest of his life: more about helping others than promoting himself. He "raced" wearing a hip belt filled with a vise grip and screwdriver in case anybody needed bindings repaired, and Hershey's with Almonds to revive bonkers over the last 10K. He rarely finished on Main Street without someone at Anglers Bar recognizing him and giving him a beer to power him through the final 100 yards.

To Shellie Milford, long-time Birkie Operations Director, Phil's willingness to volunteer, even on days he raced, was astounding. Shellie recalled that before there was running water to Birkie feed stations, 300-gallon water tanks at each station had to be filled from a tank in the bed of Bill Analla's pickup. "The blizzard the night before the 2014 race made that extremely difficult," she said, "so Phil volunteered to help Bill clear snow for the truck to get close enough to the tank. Then he'd horse the huge hose over snow, connect it to the tanks, and get the heaters started underneath the tanks."

Phil only got a couple of hours sleep after that freezing, wet, miserable job, but he showed up early at the start line to see if Shellie needed any more help. Indeed, she did. The blizzard had collapsed one of the warming tents and the blower for the heater had gone out at the other one. "I asked Phil to check the heater and blower," she said, "so he hiked back to his car, got his toolbox, and in a half hour, he had the blower working again. Then he put on his skis and lined up to start in the last wave."

➤ Heart of the Iola Winter Sports Club

Phil's greatest volunteer gig had been decades of grooming trails at the Iola Winter Sports Club (IWSC), which he referred to simply as "the ski hill." Actually, "grooming" doesn't quite capture his contributions. He maintained and repaired the snowmobiles, built and repaired grooming equipment, and monitored real estate adjoining the club so he could pounce on additional land before it hit the market. Then he fundraised to pay for the land, designed new trails, and recruited volunteers and equipment to help him build them.

In 1996, he pulled off a great feat. Trying and failing several times to get the IWSC board to fund lights on the trail, a frustrated Phil went vigilante. He shelled out his own money, recruited his own volunteers, and simply put up lights on his own, eventually lighting 6K of varied terrain. When I discovered what that cost, I asked, "Will the IWSC pay you back?"

"They won't need to," he replied. "This is a small community; as soon as folks see how many more kids join the ski team after we have lights, and more and more adults ski after work, people will be stuffing checks in my pocket." That's exactly what happened; plus, there was a bonus.

When Chet Krause, whose publishing company was the largest employer in the region, heard about what Phil had done, he had Phil sit with him at a Lion's Club meeting. He asked, "Is there anything out there you need?" Phil was ready: "Well, we could sure use a Piston Bully to groom trails." No problem. When the Piston Bully arrived, Phil wouldn't let anyone touch it until Chet came to see it. Perceiving how large it was next to the one-story garage/shop for storing snowmobiles, Chet mused, "It looks like I need to buy you a garage, too."



Phil (pictured right) and Mark Doll building additional trail at IWSC. Photo by Olivia Steinmetz.

➤ Snow Farmer

Grooming is a mixture of art and science, and Phil excelled at both. He liked to refer to himself as a "snow farmer." Since climate change has made freezing temperatures and large dumps less frequent, Phil said, "When we get a few inches, I've got to knock it down, pack it, and preserve it. If it lasts a few weeks, that's just like harvesting a crop."

He never wanted compensation even though, in his mind, he was on call 24 hours per day. When he was teaching junior high school shop in Iola, he often showed up at work directly from the ski hill. If, for example, the snow was in a freeze/thaw cycle, he'd set his alarm for 3:00 AM and scarify the icy surface so morning skiers would have a perfect deck.

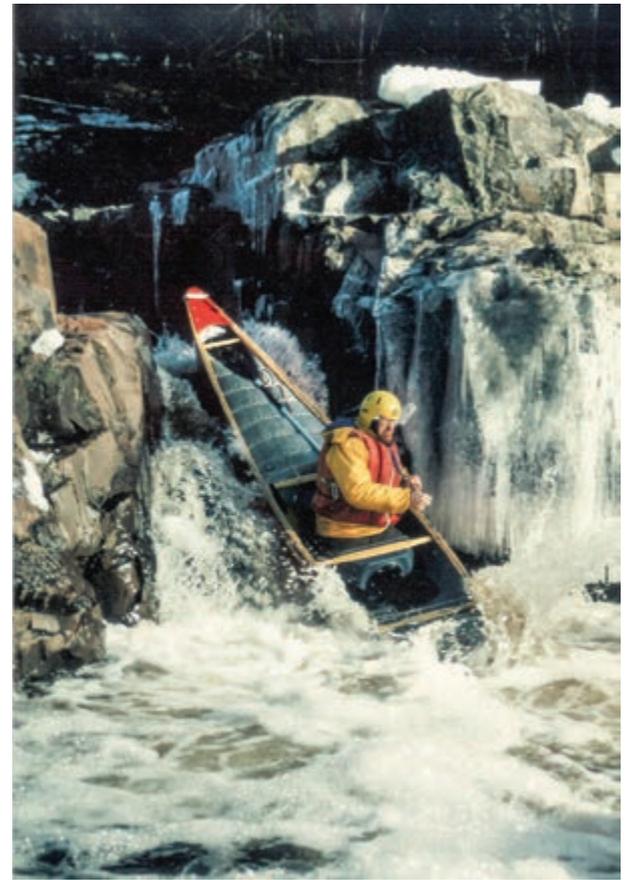
Completing 32 Birkies was an amazing accomplishment for Phil since his entire ski season was spent grooming. The only time people in Iola saw him on skis was when he carried a shovel or saw instead of poles so he could cover brown spots on the trail or take off a branch that had been threatening skiers' faces. I once asked him how the hell he got through 52K after only being on skis for 10K all season. His reply was classic Phil:

"I train the first half of the Birkie, then race the second half."

➤ Living for Others

With Dedication & Humor

Phil's commitment to youth transcended his teaching job and parenting his kids, Lydia and Phillip. He initiated and helped run the Wisconsin Nordic Network program to pay



Phil showing the way on a spring run of the Dells of the Eau Claire River, circa 1998. Photographer unknown, courtesy of Charlie Dee.

entry fees for needy and deserving high schoolers to race the Kortelopot. "The more kids who ski," he used to say, "the fewer kids get in trouble."

Phil's humor and stories went hand-in-hand. He loved the tale about two hikers on a mountain trail who spotted a bear coming their way. One turned to run while the other took his running shoes out of his pack and began changing from his hiking boots. "You can't outrun a bear," shouted the first. The other said, "I don't need to, as long as I can outrun you."

I first heard this when we were both single and camped on the North Fork of the Flathead River in Montana. Having decided to drive 20 miles to a bar that night, Phil built a little pool along the riverside, boiled water on the campfire, bathed, and changed into a clean shirt and jeans. "You must have high expectations for tonight, Phil," I kidded, "trying to look so good." He responded with the bear story, then added, "I don't need to look 'good,' Charlie, just a little bit better than you."

Phil Johnsrud's life made a lot of people look better than they otherwise would have. The legacy he leaves for his kids, his community, and outdoor recreation in Wisconsin is, unlike some of his stories, impossible to exaggerate. **CP**

This story first appeared in Silent Sports Magazine. To subscribe, log on to silentsportsmagazine.com.



NOW HIRING

We're proud of our workers and our work, and we're hiring for the following positions:

- Industrial Sewer
- Tarp Repair
- General Labor

These are year round full time, part time, seasonal positions. We offer excellent starting wages of **\$18 FT MORE with experience**. We offer...paid vacation, holidays, insurance, 401k 4 1/2 day work week & no forced overtime.

Apply in person at 6702 Venture Circle, Weston, WI EOE/M/F

441084



Vacancy

County Board Supervisory District 24

Kurt Gibbs, Chairperson of the Marathon County Board of Supervisors, is accepting letters of interest to fill the vacant seat of County Board Supervisory District 24, representing the Towns of Franzen, Bevent, Guenther, Wards 1 & 2 in the Town of Knowlton, and Wards 6 & 8 in the City of Mosinee as per Wis. Stat. 59.10(3)(e). The appointment is effective upon confirmation by the County Board at their Tuesday, February 20, 2025 County Board meeting. Applicants for District 24 must be residents of County Board Supervisory District 24. The successor appointed shall serve the unexpired term, ending the 3rd Tuesday of April 2026. Interested candidates should submit their letter of interest to Kim Trueblood, Marathon County Clerk, 500 Forest Street, Wausau, WI 54403, by noon on Tuesday, January 28, 2025. A map of Supervisory District 24 can be obtained from the County Clerk's Office or on-line maps.

440617

arts & entertainment

HIGHLIGHTS



THEM COULEE BOYS



PAT GODWIN

Them Coulee Boys

Friday 1/24 | Whitewater Music Hall, Wausau

Midwest touring sensations Them Coulee Boys got their start as camp counselors in Northern Wisconsin. A long session of Avett Brothers and classic country songs in 2011 led to gathering members and the formation of a band that's a favorite amongst those who love bluegrass. The band is kicking off the year with a session at Whitewater Music Hall, which has a nice large space for people to mingle in and beer crafted right on sight. Perfect for a night of musical fun. 8 pm. \$20. 21+ whitewatermusicall.com or on Facebook

Hyprov

Saturday 1/25 | Grand Theater, Wausau

Whose Line is it Anyway is that classic improv show turned stage performance — and one of its principal stars was Colin Mochrie. For this show, Mochrie joins hypnotist Asad Mecci for this hilarious and mystifying show. Hyprov did a 70-show stint off-Broadway, has toured more than 100 cities and had a six-month residency in Las Vegas, all while garnering much acclaim. See what critics are calling

“catnip for those who relish spontaneity and informality.” 7:30 pm. \$30-\$68. grandtheater.org

Lighted Snowshoe Walk and Chili Charcuterie

Thursday 1/23 | Willow Springs Garden, Maine

Lighted snowshoe hikes are really fun — and coupled with food, even better. Willow Springs Garden is hosting this lighted snowshoe walk around their lovely grounds followed by a Chili Charcuterie Buffet, which sounds delicious. Thankfully the temperatures will warm up enough to get out and get some snowshoeing in finally. Snowshoe at your own pace between 5:30 pm and 8 pm, buffet goes until 7:30 pm. \$30. \$10 for just the hike, \$20 for just the buffet, snowshoe rental for \$5. willowsspringsgarden.com

the session guitarist Larry Carlton for iconic guitar solos). Steely Dane recreates the magic that is Steely Dan, and some critics say better than anyone else has. 7 pm. See website for ticket information. campanilecenter.org

Comedian Pat Godwin

Friday 1/24 | bantr, Rothschild

In these pages we like to highlight musicians and we like to highlight comedians, but it's rare that we get both. Pat Godwin is known for blending standup comedy with humorous stories and music. He's put out four comedy albums, has won the International Songwriting Competition three times and his new comedy special, Repeat After Me, is out now on YouTube. He's appeared on The Tonight Show, Howard Stern and Last Comic Standing, and this Friday he will come to bantr. 7 pm. \$20 and up. bantrrothschild.com

Steely Dane

Saturday 1/25 | Campanile Center for the Arts, Minocqua

There are a lot of sayings around Steely Dan. One: They are your favorite band's favorite band. Two: Many jazz musicians are wannabe rock stars, but Steely Dan's members were rock stars who dreamed of being jazz musicians. (Paraphrased from a documentary on the group.) But either way, Steely Dan is one of the seminal groups of the 70s, unique in how they blended jazz with post-60s rock for a sound that's unique and complex. They were also known for bringing top-notch musicians from the rock and jazz worlds (such as bringing Wayne Shorter on to record for Asia, or

North of 29

Saturday 1/25 | Uncommon Pints, Rothschild

A lot of people probably don't think of downtown Rothschild when they think of a happening scene, but Uncommon Pints not only features a great selection of lesser-known beers from around the state, but they're also hosting music pretty regularly. This Saturday Uncommon Pints hosts North of 29, a Wausau band that brings a light, upbeat show with a capella-like harmonies. Grab a beer and chill out while the weather outside is frightful. 7:30 pm. Uncommon Pints on Facebook. CP

St. Adalbert Catholic School
3315 St. Adalbert Rd Kosholt WI 54473

Breakfast Event

JANUARY 26

Serving 8:30am to 11:30am

Adults \$12.00
Children Ages 6-12 \$6.00
Children 5 and Under Free

All you can eat!
Menu: Made from Scratch Potato and Regular Pancakes!
Served with Bacon, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs, Toast, Hash Browns, Desserts, Orange Juice, Milk, and Coffee

Plenty of Parking Available
Handicap Accessible
Mass at 10:30am

Cash and Prize Raffle
Drawing at 11:30
Need not be present to win

Selling Ponczkas
Sorry, no early sales

All Proceeds Benefit
St. Adalbert Catholic School
Additional Questions Please Call 715-573-4216



STEELY DANE

Have an event you would like to submit?

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

BAR BEATS

Thursday January 23

Tuck Pence · Northern Waters Distillery, Minocqua. Acoustic variety. 4 pm. 715-358-0172

Friday January 24

The Cheese Doodles · The Garage, Wausau. Variety. 7 pm. 715-393-4495

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

Saturday January 25

MadLee Band · Nevermore on Third, Wausau. Variety. 12 pm. 715-298-0028

Ira DeBoer · Point Brewery, Stevens Point. Country. 5 pm. 715-344-9310

Andy Braun · O'so Brewing Company, Plover. Folk-rock. 6 pm. 715-254-2163

Santy & Son · The Garage, Wausau. Rock. 7 pm. 715-393-4495

Christopher Gold · Mosinee Brewing Company, Mosinee. Acoustic. 7 pm. 715-693-2739

Corey Rae White · Malarkey's Pub, Wausau. Country, rock, blues, funk, folk & soft rock. 8 pm. 715-819-3663

Sunday January 26

Bradley Sperger · The Garage, Wausau. Variety. 1 pm. 715-393-4495

Thursday January 30

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

Mike Nanstad · Central Waters Brewing Company, Amherst. Classic country & rock. 5:30 pm. 715-824-2739

Friday January 31

Snow on the Mountain · Point Brewery, Stevens Point. Bluegrass. 5 pm. 715-344-9310

Wayne Jaworski · O'so Brewing Company, Plover. Acoustic pop. 6 pm. 715-254-2163

Honky Tonk Highway · The Garage, Wausau. Country. 7 pm. 715-393-4495

Derek Ramnarace · Malarkey's Pub, Wausau. Variety. 8 pm. 715-819-3663

Saturday February 1

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

Cody Earl Band · The Garage, Wausau. Country. 7 pm. 715-393-4495

Joyann Parker & Mark Lamoine · Malarkey's Pub, Wausau. Variety. 8 pm. 715-819-3663

Sunday February 2

Pat, Patience & Tom · Bullheads Bar & Grill, Stevens Point. Acoustic. 1 pm. 715-344-5990

Thursday February 6

Scott Kirby · Northern Waters Distillery, Minocqua. Americana. 4 pm. 715-358-0172

Friday February 7

Jupiter Lynx · Point Brewery, Stevens Point. Alternative & pop rock. 4 pm. 715-344-9310

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

Brad Emanuel · The Garage, Wausau. Variety. 8 pm. 715-393-4495

Saturday February 8

Jordan Bain · Point Brewery, Stevens Point. Indie, classic rock, country & originals. 5 pm. 715-344-9310

Tommy Z · Sunset Point Winery, Stevens Point. Variety. 6 pm. 715-544-1262

Emma Sprenger · O'so Brewing Company, Plover. Folk, Americana, pop, country & soft rock. 6 pm. 715-254-2163

Between Howls · Malarkey's Pub, Wausau. Folk, rock & blues. 8 pm. 715-819-3663

Sunday February 9

Charlie Wiggins · The Garage, Wausau. Acoustic rock, country & pop. 1 pm. 715-393-4495

Thursday February 13

Jared Kay · Northern Waters Distillery, Minocqua. Folk & Americana. 4 pm. 715-358-0172

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

Friday February 14

Garth Engelbright · Point Brewery, Stevens Point. Americana. 5 pm. 715-344-9310

Sam Rodewald · O'so Brewing Company, Plover. Acoustic indie-pop. 6 pm. 715-254-2163

Still Reckless · The Garage, Wausau. Country. 7 pm. 715-393-4495

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

Saturday February 15

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

Refuse to Rust · The Garage, Wausau. Country. 7 pm. 715-393-4495

Sunday February 16

Bob Allen · The Garage, Wausau. Pop & rock. 1 pm. 715-393-4495

Ongoing

Trivia · Mondays, Guu's on Main, Stevens Point. Trivia starts at 7 pm. <http://guusonmain.com/>

Karaoke Night · Mondays & Fridays, Moua's Callon St. Pub, Wausau. Starts at 9 pm. 715-298-1902

Trivia · Tuesdays, District 1 Brewing Company, Stevens Point. Trivia starts at 6 pm. 715-544-6707

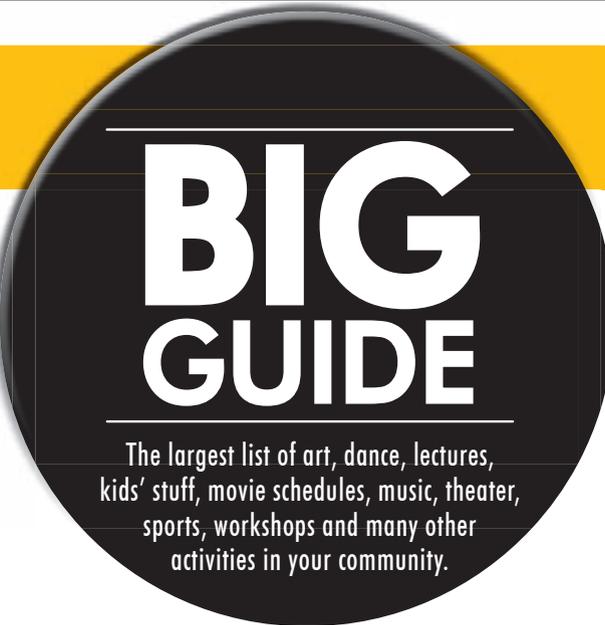
Video Trivia · Tuesdays, The Garage, Wausau. Create a team of up to 4 players or play solo. Registration starts at 6:30 pm. Trivia starts at 7 pm. 715-393-4495

Trivia · Tuesdays, The Bar-Wausau, Rothschild. Trivia starts at 7 pm. 715-355-7001

Karaoke · Tuesdays, Cop Shoppe Pub, Wausau. Starts at 7:30 pm. 715-845-2030

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

Trivia · Wednesdays, Rhinelander Brewing Company, Rhinelander. Play individually or on a team of



up to 6 people. Starts at 6 pm. 715-550-2337

Open Blues Jam · 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the month, Whitewater Music Hall, Wausau. Open to all, amp provided, just bring your instrument. Starts at 7 pm. 715-298-3202

Trivia@MBCo · Wednesdays, hosted at Mosinee Brewing Company, 401 4th St, Mosinee. Trivia starts at 7 pm each Wednesday. Limit team size to 6 people. mosineebrewing.com

Bingo · Every Wednesday, Renee's Red Rooster, Stevens Point. Starts at 7 pm. 715-344-9825

Team Trivia at Malarkey's · Wednesdays, Malarkey's Pub & Townies Grill, Wausau. Trivia starts at 7 pm. malarkeypub.com

Karaoke · Wednesdays, Wausau Eagles Aerie & Auxiliary #251, Wausau. Starts at 8 pm. 715-845-4795

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

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

Open Mic Night · Thursdays, Malarkey's Pub & Townies Grill, Wausau. Hosted by Caleb Delaney. Play guitar, drums, bass or other string instruments. Comedy not available at this time. Starts at 8 pm. 715-819-3663

Karaoke · Thursdays, Hy-Da Way, Merrill. Starts at 8:30 pm. 715-722-0660

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

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

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

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

ON SCREEN THIS WEEK

Cosmo Theatre, Merrill, 715-536-4473

Complete movie listing unavailable at time of press

Cedar Creek Cinema, Rothschild, 715-355-5094

Complete movie listing unavailable at time of press

ON STAGE

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

Timothy Tesch · Fri. 1/24, Nevermore on Third, Wausau. Acoustic. 21+. Starts at 9 pm. 715-298-0028

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

Don Felder: Former Lead Guitarist of the Eagles · Sat. 1/25, North Star Mohican Casino Resort, Bowler. Rock. 21+. Starts at 8 pm. \$45-\$65. northstarcasinoresort.com

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

Clue On Stage · Fri.-Sun. 1/31-2/2 & Fri.-Sat. 2/7-2/8, hosted by the Central Wisconsin Area Community Theater at Sentry Theater, Stevens Point. Mystery play based on the 1985 Paramount movie & inspired by

TOP 10 BEST-SELLING ALBUMS FROM INNER SLEEVE

1. David Gilmour - Luck & Strange
2. The Cure - Songs Of A Lost World
3. Tab Benoit - I Hear Thunder
4. Jerry Cantrell - I Want Blood
5. Dirty Knobs - Vagabonds, Virgins, & Misfits
6. Hammerfall - Avenge The Fallen
7. Jack White - No Name
8. Crobot - Obsidian
9. Linkin Park - From Zero
10. Wilco - Hot Summer Cool Shroud

the classic Hasbro board game. Starts at 7 pm on Fri. & Sat. and 2 pm on Sun. \$15 adults, \$12 seniors, \$10 child & \$7 veteran. cwact.ticbooth.com

Willy Porter · Sat. 2/1, Jensen Community Center, Amherst. Folk, blues, Americana, alternative & progressive rock, original. Starts at 7 pm. \$25 advance, \$35 at the door. jensencenter.org

An Afternoon on Broadway · Sun. 2/2, hosted by Wausau Symphony & Band at First Presbyterian Church, Wausau. Join the Symphony Orchestra on an afternoon visit to Broadway, featuring vocalists from the Wausau Community Theatre performing favorites from Cabaret to Ragtime to Wicked. Starts at 3 pm. \$15 adults, \$10 seniors, free for students & children under 18. wausausymphonyband.org

Ted Vigil John Denver Tribute · Thurs. 2/6, Lucille Tack Center for the Arts, Spencer. John Denver tribute. Starts at 7 pm. \$40. lucilletackcenter.com

Dirty Dancing in Concert · Sat. 2/8, Grand Theater, Wausau. Enjoy the 80's classic movie's first live film-to-concert experience. Starts at 7:30 pm. \$35-\$77. grandtheater.org

Candlelight: Valentine's Day Special ft. "Romeo and Juliet" & More · Fri. 2/14, St Stephens Lutheran Church, Wausau. Classical music. Starts at 6:30 pm & 8:30 pm. \$27.43. feverup.com/m/256077

Wisconsin Jazz Orchestra · Fri. 2/14, Stevens Point Country Club, Stevens Point. Jazz. Starts at 7 pm. \$17.50-\$55. Free for music students, 50% discount for musicians. jazzcoterie.com

Direct from Sweden-The Music of ABBA · Fri. 2/14, Lake of the Torches, Lac du Flambeau. Enjoy all the hits of ABBA performed by an act direct from Sweden. 18+ show. Starts at 7 pm. \$15 & \$10. lakeofthetorches.com

Lit-Fuel Concert · Sat. 2/15, North Star Mohican Casino Resort, Bowler. 90's power punk, rock. 21+. Starts at 8 pm. \$50-\$70. northstarcasinoresort.com

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

Free Community Meal · Every Thursday (except 4/14 & Thanksgiving), Jubilee House, The Church of the Resurrection, 621 2nd St, Wausau. Meals served from 4:30 pm-6 pm. 715-848-6120

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

First UU Church of Wausau Service · Sundays. First UU Church of Wausau, 504 Grant St, Wausau. Starts at 10:30 am. uuwausau.org

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

Marathon City Farmers Market · Thursdays, 400 Main St., Marathon City. 45+ vendors. Produce, food trucks, bakery, arts & crafts, flowers & drinks. Opens 2 pm-6 pm. MarathonCityFarmersMarket@gmail.com

MCPL Learn How to Play Cribbage · Tuesdays 1/7-5/27, 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

Winter Reading Program · Thurs-Fri. 1/2-4/5, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. Read at least three books in three months & log the books in for an entry into a raffle. Reading logs must be turned into the library by 4/5 to be entered in the raffle. Free. 715-261-7230

Fiber Artists Meetup · Wednesdays 1/8-5/28, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. Adults are invited to craft & chat at a weekly Fiber Artists Meetup. Starts at 1:30 pm. Free. 715-261-7230

JN Creations Boutique Occasional Market-Gift Shop, JN Creations LLC, Wausau. Monthly marketing days on 1/29-2/1. Starts at 4:30 pm on 1/29, 11 am on 1/30, 11 am on 1/31 & 10 am on 2/1. Free. 612-756-1177

AARP Income Tax Preparation · Tuesdays & Wednesdays 2/4-4/2. AARP Foundation Tax-Aide volunteers will offer free income tax preparation in Wausau focused on taxpayers who are age 50 and older and have low to moderate income. Scheduling volunteers will be taking calls for required appointments on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays from 9 am-3 pm. 715-298-5734 for required appointments starting on 1/21. For other sites in the surrounding area search: AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Site Locator or call 888-227-7669

EVENTS/SPECTATOR SPORTS

Rondele Ranch Groundbreaking Ceremony · Thurs. 1/23, Rondele Ranch, 8959 County Hwy K, Harshaw. Rondele Ranch is hosting a groundbreaking ceremony to mark the construction by design/builder Keller Inc., on an entertainment space on their main grounds. Starts at 11:30 am. 844-947-2624

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

Breakfast Event · Sun. 1/26, St. Adalbert Catholic School, 3315 St. Adalbert Rd, Rosholt. Enjoy all you can eat pancakes with bacon, sausage, scrambled eggs, toast, hash browns, desserts, orange juice, milk & coffee. Cash & prize raffle drawing at 11:30 am. All proceeds benefit St. Adalbert Catholic Church. Starts at 8:30 am. \$12 adults, \$6 children ages 6-12, free for children 5 & under. 715-573-6216

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

Fiber Artists Meetup · Mon. 1/27, Marathon County Public Library, Edgar. Adults who enjoy needlework are invited to bring their projects & spend time crafting and socializing with others. Starts at 4 pm. Free. 715-352-3155

No-Sew Gnome Craft · Mon. 1/27, Marathon County Public Library, Rothschild. Craft your own DIY felt gnome using just a few materials like yarn & felt. Starts at 5 pm. Free. 715-359-6208

Puzzle Swap · Mon-Sat. 1/27-2/1 & 2/3-2/8, Marathon County Public Library, Stratford. Pass a puzzle on & come back during the first week of February to grab something new. Drop off a complete puzzle between 1/27-2/1 & stop by the week of 2/3-2/8 to take a puzzle someone else has shared and enjoy putting together in your home. Free. 715-687-4420

Vibrational Sound Therapy · Tues. 1/28, hosted by Mosaic of North Central Wisconsin at 5 Koshas, Wausau. Experience a rejuvenating hour of rest with the soothing vibrations of a variety of instruments, including crystal singing bowls. Starts at 6 pm. \$20 person, \$17 members. simpletix.com/e/mosaic-5koshas-empowering-women-through-vi-tickets-193466

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

Sleigh Rides for Small Groups with Lunch Option · Sat. 2/1, 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 Papermakers Game · Sat. 2/1, Mosinee Rec. Center, Mosinee. Mosinee Papermakers vs. M&M Shamrocks. Starts at 7:30 pm. mosineepapermakers.com

Supermassive Black Holes-Uncovering the Invisible · Sun. 2/2, UWSP Allen F. Blocher Planetarium, Stevens Point. Shed light on the physics of black hole formation within galaxy evolution. Starts at 2 pm. Free. uwsp.edu

2025 International Fly Fishing Film Festival · Wed. 2/5, hosted by the Wisconsin River Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited at the Center for Civic Engagement Theater-UW-Stevens Point, Wausau. The International Fly Fishing Film Festival screens premium fly fishing films at locations around the globe. This event is locally-hosted by a network of theatres, fly shops, event producers, clubs, chapters & charities, all headed-up by passionate anglers eager to share an evening with a community of like-minded friends. Starts at 7 pm. \$15-\$50. flyfilmfest.com

Vintage Game Night · Fri. 2/7, hosted by the Marathon County Historical Society at the Woodson History Center, 410 McIndoe St, Wausau. Play card/board games or you can bring your own game to play. Starts at 5:30 pm. Free. marathoncountyhistory.org

Spread the Love Tea Party · Sat. 2/8, hosted by Mosaic of North Central Wisconsin at the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum, Wausau. Enjoy tea & light refreshments, bracelet making & bingo. Starts at 1 pm. \$1 donation, free for members. simpletix.com/e/spread-the-love-tea-party-tickets-198104

Mosinee Papermakers Game · Sat. 2/8, Mosinee Rec. Center, Mosinee. Mosinee Papermakers vs. Sun Prairie Killer Bees. Starts at 7:30 pm. mosineepapermakers.com

Valentine's Day Themed Tea Party · Sun. 2/9, Willow Springs Garden, Wausau. Learn about the history of Valentine's Day, make Valentine's Day cards, and enjoy treats, sandwiches and more. Dress up for the occasion. Preregistration required. Starts at 11:30 am. \$20/person, \$8/children under 11. willowsspringsgardens.com

Mysteries of Your Brain · Sun. 2/9, UWSP Allen F. Blocher Planetarium, Stevens Point. Jump into an animated adventure to discover what makes the human brain special. Starts at 2 pm. Free. uwsp.edu

Marathon City Book Club: "The Woman They Could Not Silence" by Kate Moore · Mon. 2/10, Marathon County Public Library, Marathon City. In 1860, Elizabeth Packard, committed to an insane asylum by her traitorous husband, becomes a champion for the many rational woman on her ward, discovering that the merit of losing everything is that you then have nothing to lose. Starts at 5:45 pm. 715-443-2775

Edgar Book Club: "Born a Crime" by Trevor Noah · Tues. 2/11, Marathon County Public Library, Edgar. The host of The Daily Show with Trevor Noah recounts his coming of age in apartheid South Africa and its aftermath, highlighting the absurdities of modern political and social systems. Starts at 12 pm. 715-352-3155

Hatley Book Club: "Hidden Figures" by Margot Lee Shetterly · Tues. 2/11, Marathon County Public Library, Hatley. A compelling account of NASA's African-American women mathematicians, highlighting their pivotal yet unheralded contributions to America's space program despite segregation under Jim Crow laws. Starts at 1 pm. 715-446-3537

Athens Book Club: "Wandering Stars" by Tommy Orange · Tues. 2/11, Marathon County Public Library, Athens. Tracing the legacies of the 1864 Sand Creek Massacre to Orvil Red Feather's shooting, Opal strives to hold the family together as Orvil turn to prescription drugs, and his brother, battling PTSD, performs secret blood rituals to connect with their Cheyenne heritage. Starts at 2 pm. 715-257-7292

Mosinee Papermakers Game · Sat. 2/15, Mosinee Rec. Center, Mosinee. Mosinee Papermakers vs. Marquette Mutineers. Starts at 6 pm. mosineepapermakers.com

Forward-to the Moon · Sun. 2/16, UWSP Allen F. Blocher Planetarium, Stevens Point. Join Kari Byron from "Mythbusters" & "Crash Test World" to talk about NASA's space endeavors within the 21st century & the next steps towards establishing permanence outside Earth. Starts at 2 pm. Free. uwsp.edu

Spencer Book Club: "The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion" by Fannie Flagg · Mon. 2/17, Marathon County Public Library, Spencer. A novel spanning decades, generations and America in the 1940s and today, centers around five women who worked in a Phillips 66 gas station during the WWII years. Starts at 1 pm. 715-659-3996

Mosinee Book Club: "The Good Son" by Jacqueline Mitchard · Mon. 2/17, Marathon County Public Library, Mosinee. When her son is released from prison after serving time for the negligent homicide of his girlfriend, Thea is committed to helping him make amends until attempts on their lives are made, leading her to believe that those who are threatening them have something to hide. Starts at 2 pm. 715-693-2144

OUTDOORS

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

Wausau Noon Optimist Youth Fisheree · Sun. 1/26, hosted by Wausau Noon Optimist Club at Rookery Park, Wausau. Ice fishing contest for ages 17 and under. Free registration and door prizes awarded to most participants. Starts at noon. wausaunoonoptimist.org

Northwoods Chapter Ice Age Trail Snowshoe Hike · Sat. 2/1, Underdown Recreation Area, Lincoln County. Guided 1-4 hour hikes. Blazing fire, hot chocolate, apple cider & cookies after. Starts at 10 am. 715-551-1118 or brjaecks@outlook.com

42nd Annual Mosinee Area Action Club Fisheree · Sat. 2/8, hosted by the Mosinee Area Action Club at Half Moon Lake, County Rd KK Boat landing, Mosinee. Ice fishing contest. \$300 cash for biggest walleye. Starts at 7 am. \$10 entry fee. mosineeareaactionclub.org

Abby Vans Now Hiring!

Enjoy interacting with those in your community, while making a positive difference each day. FT/PT – Variable rates of pay - full time benefits package available.

Requirements include a good driving record – pre-employment/random Drug/Alcohol testing – 10 year background check. Apply online: www.abbyvans.com or call

715-743-3364 for more information

"An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer"





Wittenberg Gun Show

January 17th & 18th
at the Best Western
W17267 Red Oak Lane
Wittenberg, WI
Fri 3-8, Sat 9-4
Admission \$5

Bearing Arms Gun Shows
Jeff 715-641-2439 or
bearingarmsgunshows@gmail.com

WINTER INSPECTION SPECIAL

Stop in or call for details.



Financing Available

24 Hour Towing

FREE Courtesy Inspection
By appointment only.

1045 Grand Ave. Schofield
715-359-6810





CELEBRATING 37 YEARS of BSG Winter Games (1989 - 2025)



ALPINE SKIING:
Saturday, March 8th, 2025

ARCHERY:
Friday through Sunday, January 17-20, 2025

ARCHERY NASP:
Saturday, January 18, 2025

BENCHPRESS/DEADLIFT:
Saturday, February 22, 2025

BOWLING:
Saturday, February 22, 2025 - Youth Individual/
Adult Individual & Adult 549 & Under team and
Youth Team
Sunday, February 23, 2025 - Adult Team
Scratch & Adult Team 550 & Up

CURLING:
Friday through Sunday,
January 31-February 2, 2025

E-GAMING:
BSG Super Smash Brothers Ultimate Tournament
March, 14 & 15, 2025 (at NTC)

FIGURE SKATING:
Thursday through Sunday,
January 23-26, 2025

GYMNASTICS:
Friday through Sunday, April 4-6, 2025

PICKLEBALL:
Thursday through Sunday,
January 30-February 2, 2025

TABLE TENNIS:
Saturday, March 15, 2025
NEW RETURNING EVENT FOR 2025!

TRAP SHOOTING:
Saturday, February 22, 2025

YOUTH HOCKEY:
Registration is OPEN
Girls 10U A/B December 12-15, 2024
Squirts A/B January 3-5, 2025
Girls 12U January 24-26, 2025
Bantam A/B January 24-26, 2025
Pee Wee A/B February 7-9, 2025
Squirt C & Pee Wee C February 14-16, 2025



JOIN OUR TEAM

Where dedication and passion are appreciated.
Our employees matter at Marathon Cheese.



- Climate Controlled Environment
- Advancement Opportunities
- Great Benefit Package
- Paid Vacation
- Employee Appreciation Events
- Company Match 401(K)

www.mcheese.com/join-our-team



351729



Proud to be a
Silver Sponsor!

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



**We can help you meet
your financial goals**



Visit our website or scan the
QR code to find a branch near you.
www.valleycommunities.org



Candlelight Snowshoe Hike · Sat. 2/15, hosted by the Friends of Rib Mountain at Rib Mountain State Park, Wausau. Enjoy a snowshoe hike & enjoy hot chocolate, special goodies & marshmallows. Some snowshoes are available to borrow. Starts at 5 pm. No cost to participate. Park annual or daily admission sticker is required. In case of possible cancellation due to bad weather or icy trails, check Friends of Rib Mountain on Facebook or call 715-680-9480

Night Hike · Fri. 2/21, Monk Botanical Gardens, Wausau. Go for an evening stroll through the illuminated gardens. Starts at 5 pm. \$5/person. monkgardens.org

LECTURES/WORKSHOPS

Creative Writing Workshop · Sun. 1/26. Wausau Museum of Contemporary Art, Wausau. Workshop writing class hosted by Jodi Bouchard. People of all ages are welcome. Starts at 10 am. \$30/person. Wmoca.org

Landlord/Tenant Rights · Mon. 2/3, Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point. Learn about rights & responsibilities for both tenants & landlords. Starts at 6 pm. Free. 715-341-1548 for more info

Twiddlemuff Creation · Tues.-Wed. 2/4-2/5, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. Adults & teens are invited to create twiddlemuffs, sensory tools for people with dementia. Starts at 6 pm on 2/4 & 1:30 pm on 2/5. Free. 715-261-7230

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. Open 11 am-4 pm daily. qartistscooperative.com

Figure · now until Thurs. 2/27. Q Artists Cooperative, Stevens Point. Group show featuring Deborah Wage, Diane Bywaters, Justine Pawelski, Mary Lee Reineking, Mike Jagielo, Dondi Bueno & Joan North. qartistscooperative.com

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

Winter's Garden · Fri.-Sun. 1/17-2/23. Riverfront Arts Center, Stevens Point. Winter-themed juried exhibition. Open reception Fri. 1/17 from 4:30 pm-7 pm. stevenspoint.com/rac

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

Survival of the Fittest · now until Sun. 2/23. Woodson Art Museum, Wausau. Explore 45 masterworks from four influential wildlife painters, German-American Carl Rungius, German Wilhelm Kuhnert, Swede Bruno Liljefors & German Richard Friese. Lywam.org

The Bird Room Redux · now until Sun. 2/23. Woodson Art Museum, Wausau. Exhibits 3 larger-than-life canvases of avian subjects. Lywam.org

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

Solo Exhibit-Sara Lee Hughes · now until Sat. 3/29. Wausau Museum of Contemporary Art, Wausau. 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.

WVAA Member Memorial Exhibit · now until Fri. 3/14. Center for the Visual Arts, Wausau. Artwork on display created by members of the Wisconsin Valley Art Association. cvawausau.org

35th Annual Midwest Seasons · now until Sat. 3/15. Center for the Visual Arts, Wausau. Midwest Seasons features artists from all over the country who submit pieces that capture the spirit of the Midwest & its seasonal wonders. Open reception on 1/17 from 5 pm-7pm. cvawausau.org

Portals, Planets, & Petri Dishes · now until Sat. 3/15. Center for the Visual Arts, Wausau. Angela Piehl's prints & drawings explore the medium of collage & its aesthetic as a metaphorical parallel to the process of composting. Open reception on 1/17 from 5 pm-7pm. 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 the second Saturday of each month from 10 am-1 pm year round or by appointment. 715-443-2221. visitMCHC@yahoo.com

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

Art Cluster · Tues.-Wed. 2/4-2/19, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. Artwork from students in 4th & 5th grade will be on display in the Youth Services Department. Open during regular business hours. Free. 715-261-7220

KIDS/TEENS

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

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 · 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

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

Snacks & Stories with Shelly · Thurs. 1/23, Children's Imaginarium, Wausau. Join us for a reading & a healthy snack. Starts at 10:30 am. childrensimaginarium.org

Family Storytime · Thurs. 1/23, Portage County Public Library, Plover. Enjoy interacting with local librarians while we read books, sing songs & share other fun activities. Most appropriate for preschoolers but all are welcome. Starts at 10:30 am. 715-341-4007

Baby Storytime · Fri. 1/24, Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point. A cuddling storytime, featuring interactive stories & songs for you & baby. Recommended for babies, newborn to 17 months, & siblings are welcome. Starts at 9:45 am. 715-346-1549

Family Storytime · Fri. 1/24, Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point. Enjoy interacting with local librarians while we read books, sing songs & share other fun activities. Most appropriate for preschoolers but all are welcome. Starts at 10:30 am. 715-346-1549

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

Teddy Bear Clinic · Sat. 1/25, Children's Imaginarium, Wausau. Join us for a Teddy Bear Clinic with the Medical College of WI-Central WI medical students. There are two 1 hour sessions. Preregistration encouraged. Starts at 10 am. childrensimaginarium.org

Family Storytime · Sat. 1/25, Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point. Enjoy interacting with local librarians while we read books, sing songs & share other fun activities. Most appropriate for preschoolers but all are welcome. Starts at 10:30 am. 715-346-1549

Baseball Camp · Sun. 1/26, Greenheck Field House, Wausau. This exclusive event will offer young athletes in grades 5-12 the rare opportunity to train with the latest Major League Baseball technology & coaching techniques. Starts at 8 am. \$75 admission. ksocstavefoundation.org

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

Family Storytime · Mon. 1/27, Portage County Public Library, Plover. Enjoy interacting with local librarians while we read books, sing songs & share other fun activities. Most appropriate for preschoolers but all are welcome. Starts at 10:30 am. 715-341-4007

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

Family Storytime · Tues. 1/28, Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point. Enjoy interacting with local librarians while we read books, sing songs & share other fun activities. Most appropriate for preschoolers but all are welcome. Starts at 10:30 am. 715-346-1549

Family Storytime · Wed. 1/29, Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point. Enjoy interacting with local librarians while we read books, sing songs & share other fun activities. Most appropriate for preschoolers but all are welcome. Starts at 10:30 am. 715-346-1549

Family Storytime · Thurs. 1/30, Portage County Public Library, Plover. Enjoy interacting with local librarians while we read books, sing songs & share other fun activities. Most appropriate for preschoolers but all are welcome. Starts at 10:30 am. 715-341-4007

Baby Storytime · Fri. 1/31, Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point. A cuddling storytime, featuring interactive stories & songs for you & baby. Recommended for babies, newborn to 17 months, & siblings are welcome. Starts at 9:45 am. 715-346-1549

Family Storytime · Fri. 1/31, Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point. Enjoy interacting with local librarians while we read books, sing songs & share other fun activities. Most appropriate for preschoolers but all are welcome. Starts at 10:30 am. 715-346-1549

Family Storytime · Saturdays 2/1-2/22, Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point. Enjoy interacting with local librarians while we read books, sing songs & share other fun activities. Most appropriate for preschoolers but all are welcome. Starts at 10:30 am. 715-346-1549

LEGO Block Party · Sat. 2/1, Marathon County Public Library, Rothschild. Children of all ages and families are invited to build creative projects using LEGO blocks. All blocks will be provided. Starts at 11 am. Free. 715-359-6208

Beaded Wall Art · Sat. 2/1, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. Teens are invited to the library to create colorful bead art. Starts at 2:30 pm. Free. 715-261-7220

Hedgehog Craft Week · Mon.-Sat. 2/3-2/8, Marathon County Public Library, Mosinee. Drop in anytime the library is open 2/3-2/8 for fun hedgehog crafts. Free. 715-693-2144

Tales for Tots · Mondays 2/3-22/24, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. Toddlers can enjoy interactive stories & songs in this 30 minute story time. Starts at 10 am. Free. 715-261-7220

Family Storytime · Tuesdays 2/4-2/25, Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point. Enjoy interacting with local librarians while we read books, sing songs & share other fun activities. Most appropriate for preschoolers but all are welcome. Starts at 10:30 am. 715-346-1549

Family Story Time · Tues. 2/4, 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

Play and Learn · Wednesdays 2/5-2/26, 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 2/5-2/26, Marathon County Public Library, Athens. Children can listen to

stories, sing songs and learn through other literature-based activities. Starts at 10:30 am. Free. 715-257-7292

Family Storytime · Wednesdays 2/5-2/26, Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point. Enjoy interacting with local librarians while we read books, sing songs & share other fun activities. Most appropriate for preschoolers but all are welcome. Starts at 10:30 am. 715-346-1549

Family Story Time · Wed. 2/5, 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 · Wednesdays 2/5-2/26, 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

Snowplow Story Time · Wed. 2/5, Marathon County Public Library, Rothschild. Enjoy snowy stories & fun songs about snowplows. A special guest from the Village of Rothschild will demonstrate how a snowplow operates & teach you a little about it. Starts at 10:30 am. Free. 715-359-6208

Family Story Time · Thursdays 2/6-2/27, 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

Family Story Time · Thursdays 2/6-2/27, 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

Dungeons & Dragons Battle Royale · Thurs. 2/6, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau. Experienced teen D&D players are invited to the library for a Level 5 Battle Royale. Participants must register & send in finalized character sheets. Starts at 5:30 pm. Free. 715-261-7230 or mcpl.us

Fascinating Fossils · Thurs. 2/6, UWSP Science Building, 2001 Fourth Ave, Stevens Point. Learn about fossils and how they are made. Program is designed for ages 8-11. Starts at 5:30 pm. Free. uwsp.edu

Baby Storytime · Fridays 2/7-2/28, Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point. A cuddling storytime, featuring interactive stories & songs for you & baby. Recommended for babies, newborn to 17 months, & siblings are welcome. Starts at 9:45 am. 715-346-1549

Family Storytime · Fridays 2/7-2/28, Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point. Enjoy interacting with local librarians while we read books, sing songs & share other fun activities. Most appropriate for preschoolers but all are welcome. Starts at 10:30 am. 715-346-1549

LEGO Block Party · Sat. 2/8, Marathon County Public Library, Edgar. Children of all ages and families are invited to build creative projects using LEGO blocks. All blocks will be provided. Starts at 11 am. Free. 715-352-3155

A Valentines Family Tea · Sat. 2/8, Woodson History Center, 410 McIndoe St, Wausau. Activities include children's tea, sweet treats, a Valentine Day craft, photo fun, story time & cookie decorating. Starts at 2 pm. \$5 per person. Tickets available at the door. marathoncountyhistory.org

Family Story Time · Tues. 2/11, 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. 2/11, 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. 2/11, 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. 2/12, 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

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

Book buzz

The Story Cellar brings back the used bookstore to Wausau, with a touch of coffee



Laura Spaeth started The Story Cellar last November in part of the building that once housed River District Antiques.

There's something about a used bookstore that feels different from other types of stores. The dusty old books. The cavernous feel, the feeling of discovery.

The Story Cellar on Wausau's near west side doesn't have books that are dusty exactly, but it's got the same cozy feeling one expects of the best used bookstores. And it adds an element of coffee.

The Story Cellar opened Nov. 30 at 205 Callon Street in the west side of the Wausau River District business area. The business is co-located in the building that once housed River District Antiques. Located in the same building are a massage therapist and a dermatologist, Dr. Stephen Lewellis, who City Pages featured last year.

The owner, Laura Spaeth, has loved and collected books all her life, and she long dreamed of opening her own bookstore. Finally her husband prompted her to just do it, so last summer she started collecting books for her store.

When searching for a location, she wanted something that felt like the right vibe - wood floors, something that had the vibe of an old bookstore. When her real estate agent showed her the Callon Street building, it seemed just right. "I thought it was perfect," Spaeth told me from behind the register.

She got the keys on Oct. 30, she says, and by Nov. 30 had the store ready to go, just in time for the Small Business Saturday event.

The store's interior underscores Spaeth's profession. She works as a freelance graphic designer after having worked on the staff at Roastar.

Not only is that reflected in the decor, which gives a cozy but stylish vibe, but in some of the non-book products she sells. Lining some of the shelves are bags of coffee, and Spaeth explains that all of the coffee featured are ones whose bags she helped design. One is from Hawaii and another is by a Wisconsin-based roaster. There's a brand of granola too.

Spaeth also brews some coffee for those who are looking for an afternoon perk up. "Yeah I have no intentions of being a full-on coffee shop," Spaeth says. It's meant to appeal to the afternoon coffee drinker and as a sampling of the coffee she sells. She changes it up on a monthly basis, Spaeth says.

But the real focus is on the books. A customer described her selection as "late-model" used books. Most books are recent and in pretty good shape. "I didn't want it to be like one of those really old, dusty, floor-to-ceiling bookstores," Spaeth says.

"I wanted it to be a little lighter than that." Spaeth adds that she enjoys those kinds of bookstores too, and always seeks out used book stores when she travels.

Besides shelves of books, she has some reading nooks for children and adults, and as I walk in a child leaves with his mother having just tested it out himself.

Spaeth says that books are back among the younger set. She's seeing a pretty steady stream of people selling their books at The Story Cellar and those including

younger folks. BookTok (a trend on TikTok) is helping to make books cool again amongst younger readers. She thinks the trend started during COVID. "I think people started to look for things to do once they stopped making new seasons of their favorite shows," Spaeth says.

For Spaeth and The Story Cellar, that ought to mean a new customer base that will keep the story busy for years to come. **CP**

Downtown Grocery
607 N 3rd St, Wausau WI
715-848-9800

EVERYDAY MARKET
GRAB & GO • FOODBAR
BAKERY • WINE & BEER

OPEN DAILY M-Sa 9-6 Su 11-4
Food Bar Open M-F at 11 AM
(Store closed on Major Holidays)

Loft seating to dine, gather, enjoy!

Shop, relax, and find fun foods to take home or dine-in!

St. Mark's Lutheran PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, January 30 from 4pm-6pm

- Learn about our 2-day, 3-day, 4-day, and 5-day class sessions as well as our before and after-school childcare options
- Meet the teachers
- Tour the classrooms

St. Mark's Lutheran Preschool
600 Stevens Dr., Wausau
715-848-5511

thrivent
Life Changes? Explore your options.



Patti Hoerter, FIC, RICP®
 Financial Associate
 1200 W Campus Dr Ste 2, Wausau, WI 54401
 patti.hoerter@thrivent.com • 715-571-2171
 27193 R6-20

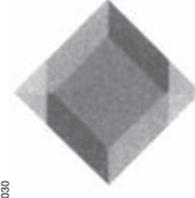
Looking for a Piano Accompanist
 for Birchwood Highlands Senior Choir in
 Weston, WI approximately 1-2 hours per week.
 This would be a volunteer position.

**Please contact Nancy at
 715-409-0976**

Edward Jones Member SIPC



Don't let politics drive your investments.
 Let's talk about your options.
JB Chadwick, CRPC™, CRPS™
 Financial Advisor
 212 Grand Avenue, Wausau, WI 54403
534-356-4443
 > edwardjones.com



LYNN'S PAP INC
 Accounting, income tax and information
 technology services
 Now offering same day tax appointments
 on select income tax returns

1023 Jacoby Street, Schofield, WI 54476 • 715-679-3325

HANSON
 SANITATION & EXCAVATING

Master Plumber Restricted • Certified Soil Tester
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL EXCAVATING & PLUMBING
 Septic System Install & Repair | Septic Tank Pumping
 Septic Evaluations | Site Prep | Roads | Basements | Food Plots
CRUSHED AND SCREENED AGGREGATE
 Fill | Road Gravel | Screen Sand | Top Dirt | Washed Stone

STUART HANSON mprs #227138 • JASON HANSON mprs #262025
 P.O. Box 349 Wittenberg, WI 54499 | 715.253.2020

Thimbleberry Books
 166 South Central • Marshfield, WI 54449
 thimbleberry@frontier.com

HOURS
 Monday through
 Saturday
 10am-3pm
 Closed
 Sundays

**USED AND UNUSUAL
 715-387-3049**

**Kindred Spirit Books
 And Gifts**

**Mon - Fri: 11am-6pm
 Sat: 10am-5pm**

715-342-4891

1028 Main Street • Stevens Point, WI 54481



**Rightway & Stratford
 PROPANE**
1.800.463.5100

CLOCK REPAIR: All makes & models.
 • Free pick-up and delivery • In-home grandfather clock service
 • 40+ years experience, factory authorized • New & antique

Dave Dettmann, Dr. Times Clock Repair
 (formerly Dr. Time's Fine Clock Shop)
715-581-7973

BLACK & WHITE starting at **\$60/WEEK** **BiZBOARD** CALL OR EMAIL TODAY TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT! **715.846.4901** **citypagesads@mmclocal.com** **FULL COLOR** starting at **\$65/WEEK**

Budget Planner for City Pages Advertising

2025 UPCOMING SPECIAL EDITIONS *Publication & Deadline dates subject to change.

PUBLICATION DATE*	FEATURED TOPIC	AD DEADLINE*
February 6, 2025	SENIOR SPIRIT	2/4/25
February 13, 2025	Valentine's Day (Friday, Feb. 14)	2/11/25
February 27, 2025	HEALTH & WELLNESS	2/25/25
March 13, 2025	St. Patrick's Day (Monday, March 17)	3/11/25
April 3, 2025	KIDS CORNER - Summer Preview	4/1/25
March 6 thru April 17, 2025	Lenten Season	TUES PRIOR TO PUB DATE
April 10 & 17, 2025	Easter (Sunday, April 20)	4/8 & 4/15
April 17, 2025	GARDEN & FOOD ISSUE	4/15/25
May 8, 2025	Mother's Day (Sunday, May 11)	5/6/25
June 26, 2025	KIDS CORNER - Fall Preview	6/24/25
July 10, 2025	SENIOR SPIRIT	7/8/25
September 11, 2025	FALL FINE ARTS PREVIEW	9/9/25

CITY pages every Thursday

CONTACT PAUL BAHR FOR MORE INFO
715.846.4901
pbahr@mmclocal.com

SUMMER FUN BOOK
 Publication Date: May 22, 2025
 Ad Deadline: April 24, 2025

THE PROGRAM BOOK
 Publication Date: Sept. 4, 2025
 Ad Deadline: Aug. 7, 2025

WINTER BOOK
 Publication Date: Nov. 20, 2025
 Ad Deadline: Oct. 23, 2025

MARATHON CHEESE CORPORATION

Hiring 1st, 2nd & 3rd shift positions at the Marathon City location
 Check our website at **www.mcheese.com**
 for current openings and get your application in today. Equal Opportunity Employer

2nd shift wages starting at \$21.87 & higher

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

Are you looking for your next stable career?