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WAUSAU DAILY HERALD

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A customer shops for produce at an H-E-B grocery store on February 12 in Austin, Texas. BRANDON BELL/GETTY IMAGES

Many area grocery stores are open on New Year's Eve and Day

Erik Pfantz Wausau Daily Herald USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

New Year's Eve and New Year's Day are a time of reflection and celebration, but what happens when you find you do not have enough delicious treats or bubbly drinks to enjoy alone or share with friends or family?

Fortunately, many grocery stores in the Wausau area will be open on both New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. To help readers find those items forgotten until the last minute, we put together a list of stores that offer grocery items that will be open and closed on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day and their hours.

- **Aldi**, 225805 Rib Mountain Drive: New Year's Eve - 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.; New Year's Day - Closed
- **Aldi**, 3311 Schofield Ave., Weston:

New Year's Eve - 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.; New Year's Day - Closed

- **Downtown Grocery**, 607 N. Third St.: New Year's Eve - 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; New Year's Day - Closed
- **Express Market by Festival Foods**, 6205 Business Hwy. 51, Weston: New Year's Eve - 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.; New Year's Day - 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- **Festival Foods**, 110 S. 17th Ave.: New Year's Eve - 6:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.; New Year's Day - 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- **Wausau Hy-Vee**, 220 S. 18th Ave.: New Year's Eve - 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.; New Year's Day - 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- **Kwik Trip locations**: New Year's Eve - Open; New Year's Day - Open
- **Lamb's Fresh Market**, 730 E. Wausau Ave. and 227250 Rib Mountain Drive: New Year's Eve - 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.; New Year's Day - 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- **Pick 'N Save**, 10101 Market St., Mosinee: New Year's Eve - 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.;

New Year's Day - 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

- **Pick 'N Save**, 2806 Schofield Ave., Schofield: New Year's Eve - 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.; New Year's Day - 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- **Pick 'N Save**, 205 Central Bridge St.: New Year's Eve - 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.; New Year's Day - 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- **Target**, 2707 Schofield Ave.: New Year's Eve - 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.; New Year's Day - 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- **Walmart**, 505 S. Pine Ridge Ave., Merrill: New Year's Eve - 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.; New Year's Day - 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- **Walmart**, 226100 Rib Mountain Drive: New Year's Eve - 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.; New Year's Day - 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Erik Pfantz covers local government and education in central Wisconsin for USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin and values his background as a rural Wisconsinite. Contact him at epfantz@usatodayco.com.

Ring in 2026

Get out and enjoy these Wausau area New Year's Eve events

Caitlin Shuda Wausau Daily Herald USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

WAUSAU - As 2025 begins winding down, there are plenty of options to celebrate the ringing in of 2026.

If you're looking for a New Year's Eve event or party in the area, check out these options in the Wausau area.

Noon Year's Eve

Children's Imaginarium will host Noon Year's Eve from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dec. 31 at 195 N. Second St. in Wausau. Festivities include making noisemakers, creating a time capsule, confetti globes and a balloon drop at 12:59 p.m. For more information, visit childrensimaginarium.org or find Children's Imaginarium on Facebook.

Comedy night

Rib River Accentu Inc. will host Comedy Night with Bob Zany from 5:30 p.m. Dec. 31 to 1 a.m. Jan. 1 at 135737 State 29 in Marathon. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with a bar and buffet. The buffet will close at 7 p.m. ahead of the 7:30 p.m. comedy show. Brady Gregurich will open for Bob Zany. Following the comedy show, DJ Paul Belky will play until 1 p.m. Jan. 1. Tickets are \$35 plus tax and will include the buffet and the show. For more information, visit ribriver.com or find Rib River by Accentu, Inc. on Facebook.

New Year's Eve at Granite Peak

Granite Peak Ski Resort will host New Year's Eve at Granite Peak with DJ OFF PISTE starting at 6:45 p.m. Dec. 31 at 227200 Snowbird Ave. in Wausau. A Torch Parade will start the event at 6:45 p.m., with fireworks starting at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join. Doors will open at 8 p.m. for the New Year's Eve party for those 21 years and older at the Historic Chalet. The cover charge for the party will be \$20 and will include music with DJ OFF PISTE, hors d'oeuvres, dancing and a champagne toast at midnight. For more information, visit skigranitepeak.com or find Granite Peak Ski Resort on Facebook.

Local bars

Most bars will be open with special festivities for New Year's Eve. Check out your favorite local spots to see what they'll offer.

Do you have an event to add to this list? Please email cshuda@gannett.com with all event details.

Contact Caitlin at cshuda@gannett.com or follow her on Twitter @CaitlinShuda.

Powerball winner to be revealed ... eventually



More than a dozen states let winners collect their lottery prizes anonymously, and in some places the condition depends entirely on the amount of money that is won.

EDUARDO MUNOZ/REUTERS FILE

Julia Gomez, Fernando Cervantes Jr. and Amaris Encinas USA TODAY

One lucky person in Arkansas won the second-highest Powerball jackpot of all time, but it could take years for their identity to be released to the public.

On Dec. 24, after months of the Powerball jackpot continuing to grow, someone finally got lucky and won big. The \$1.817 billion jackpot was won by a single ticket. If the lucky winner

chooses to collect the cash option, they will receive an estimated \$834.9 million.

If the winner chooses to remain anonymous, the world won't know who won the grand prize - but only for a limited time.

According to Arkansas law, if a person wins over \$500,000 through the lottery, they may request to remain anonymous. But, after three years, the name of the person who claimed the

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The New Year's Eve ball drop numerals for 2026 are displayed in Times Square on Dec. 18 in New York City. SPENCER PLATT/GETTY IMAGES

