



*Supporting businesses and promoting their success through  
networking opportunities and business advocacy.*

# Chamber Chatter



## Celebrating Excellence: Paradise Picks Finalists Announced!

The Central St. Croix Chamber is thrilled to announce the top finalists (as of February 6th) in each category of our Paradise Picks Awards! These awards recognize the best of the best in our community, as voted on by our community. From outstanding businesses and services to community champions, these finalists represent the heart of our local economy and the dedication of those who serve it. We invite you to celebrate these incredible businesses and organizations at our Annual Meeting & Awards Luau—where we'll announce the winners and honor those making a difference in Central St. Croix.

### 2024 Paradise Picks – Top Finalists

- ☐ Non-Profit/Community Organization
  - Family Resource Center of the St. Croix Valley
  - Roberts Lions Club
  - St. Croix Central School District
- ☐ Financial Planning
  - Baldwin Woodville Insurance
  - Edward Jones (Brian Bedford)
  - WhiteCap Financial Advisors
- ☐ Banking
  - Citizens State Bank
  - Pillar Bank
  - WESTconsin Credit Union
- ☐ Food Service
  - Barn Board Grill and Saloon
  - Bobtown Bar & Grill
  - Carbone's

- Schuggy's
- ☐ Print Service
  - Helmer Printing
  - Minuteman Press
  - Stellar Graphics
- ☐ Health Services
  - Chiroway of River Falls
  - Hammond Health Services
  - Western Wisconsin Health
- ☐ Home Services
  - AK Events
  - JHaas Excavating
  - St. Croix Electric Cooperative
- ☐ Retail
  - Blooms for Happiness
  - Stitchin' Post
  - Kwik Trip of Roberts
- ☐ Industrial Services
  - Ashlyn Synthetics Amsoil
  - Nucor Rebar Fabrication
  - Phoenix Fixtures
- ☐ New Member
  - Grounded Grace Photography
  - Photog Entertainment
  - Ready Randy's
  - Rowdy's Ranch Supply

A huge congratulations to all of our finalists! Your hard work, dedication, and commitment to our community make Central St. Croix a fantastic place to live and do business.

Join us at the Annual Meeting & Awards Luau to see who takes home the top honors and enjoy a night of networking, celebration, and fun! ☐☐



## Don't Miss Out! Secure Your Spot for the Annual Meeting & Awards Luau

The countdown is on for the Central St. Croix Chamber's Annual Meeting & Awards Luau, and we can't wait to celebrate with you! However, please note that ***we cannot accept walk-ins this year—all attendees must purchase tickets in advance.***

### Important Deadlines to Remember:

- ❑ **Ticket Sales Close February 13** – Since we're serving a plated meal, all individual tickets must be purchased by February 13. No tickets will be available at the door, so be sure to secure your spot in advance!
- ❑ **Sponsorships Due February 7** – Want your business featured in our printed materials? Sponsorships must be confirmed by this Friday, February 7, to be included. This is a great opportunity to showcase your brand at one of the Chamber's biggest events of the year!
- ❑ **Raffle Basket Donations Still Accepted** – We are still accepting raffle basket donations! This is a fantastic way to promote your business while supporting the Chamber.

We're looking forward to a night of celebration, recognition, and connection with our amazing business community. Don't wait—get your tickets now and finalize your sponsorships before it's too late! For tickets, sponsorship details, or raffle donations, [contact our Board.](#)

❑❑ See you at the Luau! ❑❑

### Chamber & Member Events

A convenient calendar for all chamber and chamber member events [all in one place.](#) Calendars don't get more local than this!

**MEMBERS:** Be sure to [send us your events](#) to get them added to the calendar!



## CENTRAL ST. CROIX CHAMBER SCHOLARSHIP



**Now  
Accepting  
Applicants**

**APPLY NOW!**

[CENTRALSTCROIXCHAMBER.ORG](http://CENTRALSTCROIXCHAMBER.ORG)



### IMPORTANT UPDATES

Please be sure you've marked ["info@centralstcroixchamber.org"](mailto:info@centralstcroixchamber.org) as a Safe Sender to be sure you're getting our emails. Also please be sure to use ["info@centralstcroixchamber.org"](mailto:info@centralstcroixchamber.org) when sending information, events, updates or press releases to us - we've lost access to our Gmail account.

Please also check spam folders for membership invoices coming from Autobooks.

**i GOTTA FEELING**



February is the month of love and being more in tune with our emotions. But when it comes to investing or strategic financial planning, having a "feeling or emotion" in which you base your decisions may not be in your best interest. Gut-driven investors

could be making emotional decisions based on factors they may/may not even be aware of. Big life events often “stir things up” and evoke action and reaction when timing may be wrong to do so. Sure, the next greatest thing might be out there OR your friends, family, or co-workers may be buzzing about something they’ve heard. Remember everyone has their own goals, time horizon, and risk tolerance.

Having a trusted Financial Advisor can help you stay focused on your long-term objectives and curb those emotional whims. Contact us today if you’d like to be more strategic about your financial future!

### Seeking Chamber Board Members

Is Board service is for you? Come to a meeting! We meet at Parkside Restaurant the 3rd Thursday of each month at 3:00pm.

If you decide it isn't your cup of tea, maybe you'd like to be a Chamber Ambassador. We hope to see you at our next meeting!



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## WESTconsin Credit Union to Host Fundraiser for Area Children's Hospitals

During the month of February, WESTconsin Credit Union will host the Hearts of Hope fundraiser supporting area [Children's Miracle Network \(CMN\) Hospitals](#)—Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare and CMN Hospitals at



Gundersen Health System. Members are invited to show their support of CMN Hospitals from February 1-28 by purchasing a small paper heart for a donation of \$5 or more or a Wall of Fame paper heart for \$25 or more at their [local WESTconsin office](#) or by calling the Service Center at **(800) 924-0022**. All hearts will be proudly displayed in WESTconsin lobbies throughout the month. In 2024, the campaign raised over \$3,300 to give young patients the critical care they deserve.

There are more than 170 CMN Hospitals throughout the United States and Canada that all share the same mission—to treat the whole child and provide care regardless of the family's ability to pay. At [Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare](#) in St. Paul, MN, charitable funds are used for state-of-the-art

treatments and vital services for kids with the most complex needs in pediatric medicine. At [Gundersen Health System](#) in La Crosse, WI, donations are used to meet the individual healthcare needs of local children and their families, such as transportation assistance, medical equipment, specialty camps, and other patient needs.

## Java Jumpstart/Ribbon Cutting - Thunder Homes



**March 3rd**  
**2501 Hanley Road, Ste 200 - Hudson Wisconsin**

# BINGO IS BACK

Wednesday's at 7PM

*Sponsored by the Etta James Dart Tournament*

## SIDETRACK



### SALOON & GRILL





# HOUSING FORUMS

## St. Croix County, Wisconsin

The St. Croix Economic Development Corporation, in partnership with St. Croix County, local communities, and private industry, is working with the West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission to undertake a countywide housing study. The study will identify housing needs and opportunities in St. Croix County.

Please join St. Croix EDC and other partners for the St. Croix County Housing Forums. Learn about the study, listen to and discuss the preliminary data findings, and share your input and ideas on housing needs in your community.

**Two forums are scheduled - the format and content of each session will be similar.** Advanced registration is appreciated. **We hope you can join us for one of the sessions!**

**Housing Forum Session 1**  
**Thursday, January 30, 2025 at 6 - 8 p.m.**  
**Pedro's Pizza Lounge**  
212 Walnut Street  
Hudson, WI 54016

Register for Session 1 [here](#).

**Housing Forum Session 2**  
**Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 6 - 8 p.m.**  
**Western Wisconsin Health**  
1100 Bergslien Street  
Baldwin, WI 54002  
(enter through main clinic doors)

Register for Session 2 [here](#).

If you have any questions, please e-mail the EDC at [amanda@stcroixedc.com](mailto:amanda@stcroixedc.com).



The celebration will take place October, 3-5, so be sure to save the date!

**Join the Committee:**  
**Thursday, February 20th**  
**Roberts Park Building, 6:30 PM**

Join the [Facebook group](#) for updates!

## Join the Chamber

We'd love to have you join us!  
Being a Member of the Central St. Croix Chamber not only benefits you and your business  
~ it benefits the Community!

Our chamber services Polk, Pierce and St. Croix Counties.

For a full list of our members and their websites, [click here](#)!



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