

**ENTERTAINMENT**  
Radio-Active Theater - Lake Live

**EVENTS**  
Mardi Gras Pub Crawl - Polar Plunge

**OUTDOORS**  
Boating - Fishing

# VACATION NEWS

LakeNewsOnline.com

February 7 - March 6, 2025

Vol. 76, No. 01

**FREE**

LAKE LIFE

## WINTER FUN

Winter events and activities to  
enjoy at the Lake of the Ozarks

In  
this issue!

**RealEstate**  
RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL Lake of the Ozarks

Page 21



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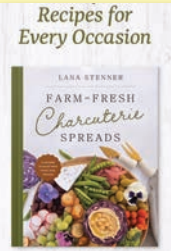
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# VACATION NEWS

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## IN THIS ISSUE



### Boat Shows

Lake of the Ozarks Marine Dealers Association hosts several boat shows in 2025 to showcase all the newest gadgets in the boating world. Get your water toys before summer comes along!



### Radio-Active Theater

The Radio-Active Players are bringing a unique form of entertainment on a monthly basis. Don't miss out on seeing this talented group perform!

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## TOP EVENTS

### LOZ FISHING EXPO • FEB. 8



The Fifth annual Lake of the Ozarks Fishing Expo sponsored by Eco Fishing Shop of Camdenton will be held on Feb. 8 at the Community Christian Church, 1064 N. Business Route 5, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Over 50 Missouri businesses selling custom lures, fishing tackle and products relating to the outdoor sport. A fishing kayak valued at \$850 and tackle packages valued at \$250-plus to be raffled. Bass and crappie fishing seminars are planned. Admission \$5; children 10 and under free. For more information, call 847-707-1917.

### HOME, BUSINESS & LAKE LIVING EXPO • FEB. 21-22

The Home, Business and Lake Living EXPO will be held Friday and Saturday, Feb. 21 and 22, at The Regalia Hotel & Conference Center, 250 Racquet Club Drive, Lake Ozark. Hours are 3-7 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday. This is the place to be for the latest innovations, offerings and ideas related to personal and business services as well as in the home building, landscaping and remodeling industries. For more information contact the Camdenton Area Chamber by email at [info@camdentonchamber.com](mailto:info@camdentonchamber.com) or call 1-800-769-1004 or Fax 573-346-2227.

### POLAR PLUNGE & STRUT • FEB. 22



The 2025 Polar Plunge & Strut supporting local Special Olympics Missouri athletes will be held Saturday, Feb. 22, at the Grand Glaize Beach, 711 Public Beach Road, Osage Beach. Registration is \$10. Each participant must raise a \$75 minimum (\$10 fee included in that price) by event day. Pee Wee Plungers (9 & under) must raise a minimum of \$25. Registration from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with the strut beginning at 10 a.m. A chili cook-off will take place at 11 a.m. Pee Wee Plunge at 1 p.m. The Parade of Costume line up is at 1:50 p.m. with the Plunge Parade and opening ceremonies at 2 p.m. Plunging begins at 2:30. To register, visit <https://support.somo.org/event/2025-polar-plunge-lake-of-the-ozarks/e623331>.

# VOTE NOW!



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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## February

**8 •** Fifth annual Lake of the Ozarks Fishing Expo sponsored by Eco Fishing Shop of Camdenton, Community Christian Church, 1064 N. Business Rt. 5, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Fifty-plus Missouri businesses selling custom lures, fishing tackle and products relating to the outdoor sports. A fishing kayak valued at \$850 and tackle packages valued at \$250-plus to be raffled. Bass and crappie fishing seminars are planned. Admission \$5; children 10 and under free. For info call 847-707-1917.

**12 •** Xtreme Bingo at H. Toad's/Camden on the Lake from 7-9 p.m. Free to play. Bingo is offered every Wednesday.

**13 •** The public is invited to attend the Missouri Right to Life Lake of the Ozarks Chapter meeting at 5:30 p.m. at Sunrise Bible Church, 17184 N. State Highway 5 in Sunrise Beach. Members will plan the chapter's 2025 educational outreaches. Men, women and teens are welcome to attend. For additional information contact Pam at 573-216-9457.

**13-16 •** The Overland Park Boat Show is held at the Overland Park Convention Center. Admission is free. Visit [www.OverlandParkBoatShow.com](http://www.OverlandParkBoatShow.com) for more information.

**14 •** The Kids' Harbor Share the Love Open House will be held Feb. 14 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 1811-B Eastlawn Avenue, St. Robert. Refreshments and a light lunch will be provided. Wish list items needed: \$10 gas cards, retail gift cards and small bottles of water.

**15 •** Radio-Active Players, a talented group of local actors, perform their very entertaining monthly Reader's Theatre, in the style of live Old-Time Radio, at Barista GO Coffeehouse, on State Road KK, at 7 p.m., doors open at 6 p.m. For information, contact Beth at 913-909-8603 or Will at 573-462-6623.

**15 •** Tacos and Trivia and Silent Auction will be hosted Feb. 15 from 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. at The Exchange in Camdenton. The event supports the Lake Area Science & Engineering Robotics teams. Cost is \$35 per person or \$250 per table of eight. Sponsorships include a trivia round sponsor for \$250 or a table sponsor for \$250. Dinner will be provided by El Patron. Additional desserts and drinks for sale. For more information, contact [laser3284@camdentonschools.org](mailto:laser3284@camdentonschools.org) or 573-346-5651 ext. 6025.

**21-22 •** Auditions for the Lake Arts Council "Spring Variety Showcase" will be 5-7 p.m., Friday, Feb. 21, and 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 22, at the Lake Arts Council office, 3797 Osage Beach Pkwy., Suite D4, Stone Crest Mall, Osage Beach. Performance of the Variety Showcase will be 7 p.m., Saturday, April 5, at the Little Theatre, Camdenton Middle School. To sign up for auditions, or for more information, please contact The Lake Arts Council at 573-964-6366, or [Administrator@ArtsAt-TheLake.com](mailto:Administrator@ArtsAt-TheLake.com).

**21-22 •** The Home, Business and Lake Living EXPO will be held Friday and Saturday at The Regalia Hotel & Conference Center, 250 Racquet Club Drive, Lake Ozark. Hours are 3-7 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday. This is the place to be for the latest innovations, offerings and ideas related to personal and business services as well as in the home building, landscaping and remodeling industries. For more information contact the Camdenton Area Chamber by email at [info@camdentonchamber.com](mailto:info@camdentonchamber.com) or call 1-800-769-1004 or Fax 573-346-2227.

**21-22 •** The Lake of the Ozarks Mardi Gras Pub Crawl Kick-Off Party will be held Friday, Feb. 21, with the Pub Crawl taking place Saturday, Feb. 22. Details available at [www.lakepubcrawl.com](http://www.lakepubcrawl.com).

**22 •** The 2025 Polar Plunge & Strut supporting local Special Olympics Missouri athletes will be held Saturday, Feb. 22, at the Grand Glaize Beach, 711

EDITOR'S NOTE: To submit your event, email time, date and information to [newsroom.lakesun@gmail.com](mailto:newsroom.lakesun@gmail.com) with a contact phone number. Events are listed in the order they are received.

Public Beach Road, Osage Beach. Registration is \$10. Each participant must raise a \$75 minimum (\$10 fee included in that price) by event day. Pee Wee Plungers (9 & under) must raise a minimum of \$25. Registration from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with the strut beginning at 10 a.m. A chili cook-off will take place at 11 a.m. Pee Wee Plunge at 1 p.m. The Parade of Costume line up is at 1:50 p.m. with the Plunge Parade and opening ceremonies at 2 p.m. Plunging begins at 2:30. To register, visit <https://support.somo.org/event/2025-polar-plunge-lake-of-the-ozarks/e623331>.

**22 •** The Lake Area Camera Club is hosting a free Camera Basics Workshop Saturday, Feb. 22, from 2-4 p.m. at the Lake Arts Council Office in the Stone Crest Mall, 3797 Osage Beach Parkway, Ste. D4, Osage Beach. Registration deadline is Friday, Feb. 7, at 1 p.m. There is a 12 participant limit on the event, so a \$10 registration fee is required that be refunded if you attend the workshop. The workshop will provide information on basic camera operation: settings, functions, etc. and a practice session to master your camera. For more information, contact 573-964-6366 or Tricia Williamson at [triciawilliamson@aol.com](mailto:triciawilliamson@aol.com).

## 27-March 2

The St. Charles Boat Show will be held at the St. Charles Convention Center. Admission is free. Visit [www.StCharlesBoatShow.com](http://www.StCharlesBoatShow.com) for more information.

## March

**1 •** The seventh annual Who-bilation 5K hosted by the Tri-County YMCA of the Ozarks is from 9 to 11 a.m. starting at the Tri-County YMCA. This Dr. Seuss-themed fun family race is a celebration of a favorite children's author. Enjoy a morning of fitness, community and Seuss-style brunch. Cost is \$35. Call 573-348-9230 for more information.

**6 •** Little Mania Midget Wrestling All-Stars are hosting an event at the Inn at Grand Glaize Grand Ballroom, 5142 Osage Beach Parkway, Osage Beach. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with the show beginning at 8. The event is open to all ages. General admission is \$25 and tickets can be purchased now at the Inn at Grand Glaize front desk located in the lobby.

**14 •** Join Children's Learning Center at Redhead's Lakeside Grill at 6 p.m. for the Pizza for a Purpose featuring brick-oven pizza, cash bar, silent auction, gun raffle tickets for sale (only 250 tickets available), balloon pop and fun giveaways. For more information, call 573-346-0660 or [clcforkids.org](http://clcforkids.org).

**14-23 •** The 46th Annual Spring Art Show "Spring Reflections: A Celebration of Art at the Lake" will be held March 14 - 23. Show hours are 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday at Lake Arts Council, 3797 Osage Beach Parkway, Stonecrest Mall #D4. Reception and awards are scheduled for 2-3 p.m. Sunday, March 23. For more information call 573-552-6366 or email [administrator@artsatthelake.com](mailto:administrator@artsatthelake.com).

**15 •** Osage National is hosting a St. Patty's Open 3-person scramble on March 15 & 16. Breakfast begins at 9 a.m. with the shotgun start at 11 a.m. Both days include breakfast, a tournament, tee gift, on-course events and flight prizes (each day is scored separately). Cost is \$85 per person or \$65 for members. To enter, contact 573-365-1950 ext. 110 or [Isalsman@osagenational.com](mailto:Isalsman@osagenational.com). The double down weekend option for a team of three includes a condo for Friday and Saturday and entry into both days' events. Cost is \$350 per player. To register for this option, contact 573-365-1950 ext. 118 or [jcrowell@osagenational.com](mailto:jcrowell@osagenational.com).

**15 •** Lake of the Ozarks St. Patrick's Day Parade, 1 p.m., Bagnell Dam in Lake Ozark.



# FISHING THE OFFSEASON

## at Lake of the Ozarks

**W**hile winter and spring become the off-season for recreational boating at Lake of the Ozarks, those seasons offer prime time fishing for bass and crappie anglers.

The lake rarely freezes over much anymore and the lack of boating and fishing pressure during the winter gives anglers easier access to their favorite fishing spots. The weather during winter and early spring at the lake can be frigid so anglers need to dress warmly to fish comfortably. Heavy parkas and coats will keep you warm but can also hinder your fishing ability. I prefer wearing layers of lightweight clothes for better mobility. I start layering with a pair of thermal underpants and undershirt covered by a pair of jeans and a cotton sweatshirt. My next layer consists of a pair of insulated coveralls and an insulated pullover. My final layer is a Gore-Tex rain parka and a balaclava cap for my head. I wear a pair of thin insulated gloves while fishing and a motorcycle helmet with face shield for when I am running my boat. A pair of cotton socks and insulated Gore-Tex boots stuffed with foot warmers keep my feet warm on even the coldest winter days.

Bass in the vast open water of Lake of the Ozarks could be swimming anywhere in the wintertime. Good electronics will help you find open water bass by scanning for two underwater clues: baitfish schools and bottom structure. Finding at least one of these clues will eliminate a lot of dead water and pinpoint the largest concentrations of wintertime bass.

Baitfish schools will roam in the open water searching for the warmest water possible on the main lake or in large coves. Bass will follow the forage and hold below the baitfish pods ready to pick off any dying baitfish that flutters down to them.

Finding bottom structure will help you eliminate vast sections of open water and pinpoint winter bass hangouts. Prime winter hangouts for Lake of the Ozarks bass include river or creek channel swings and point drop-offs with rock or brush piles.

You have hit the jackpot if you find baitfish schools roaming around the bass' wintertime hangouts. Then it becomes a matter of pinpointing the depth of the baitfish along the structure to determine the best lure presentation. If you see baitfish and bass suspended at the mid-depth level then your best bet is to throw a suspending jerkbait or an Alabama rig. Try jigs or spinnerbaits if you see baitfish near the bottom.

Bass start snapping out of their winter doldrums when daylight hours lengthen and water temperatures rise in



**Bundle up in warm clothes for the opportunity to catch quality bass at Lake of the Ozarks throughout the winter and early spring.**

the early spring. Lake of the Ozarks bass start migrating towards the spawning coves and can be caught during this time along transition banks with mixed rock (boulders and chunk rock or chunk rock and gravel).

Your lure selection expands during early spring when more bass forage becomes available as shad die off and bluegill and crayfish activity increases. Five lures that catch transitioning bass are a jig and plastic craw, suspending stickbait, crankbait, tube bait and spinnerbait. The jig-and-craw combo, tube bait and brown or red crankbaits best imitate crayfish while suspending stickbaits, spinnerbaits and pearl or chrome crankbaits mimic the lake's baitfish.

Large docks on the main lake are prime spots to find wintertime crappie suspended from 8 to 20 feet deep over water as deep as 70 feet. Large concentrations of crappie will spend the winter at the mouths of coves and creeks throughout the lake.



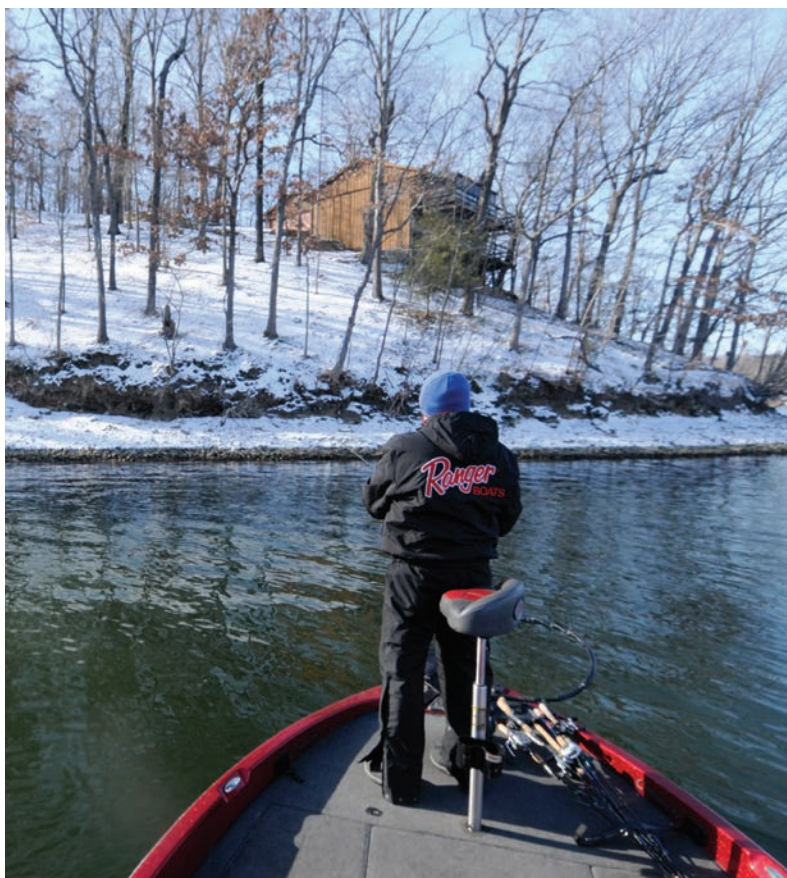
Vertical jigging or swimming a jig through the schools of crappie can produce a quick limit of the tasty panfish. A 1/16- or 1/8-ounce jighead with a tube bait, plastic shad body or small swimbait in blue/pearl, purple/pearl, white/chartreuse or black/chartreuse colors work best for wintertime crappie at the lake.

By late February or early March crappie start their migration towards the spawning banks. Late winter warm spells of two to three days at the lake can trigger some good shallow action in stained water. My favorite late winter pattern is throwing a jig and bobber rig to schools of crappie congregated on secondary points. After I find the crappie with my electronics, I cast the jig set about 6 to 8 feet below the bobber to the spot where the fish are staging. I let the rig drift with the wind, which imparts enough action on the jig to trigger bites. If the weather is calm, I occasionally twitch the bobber to generate some action on my jig.

Recent mild winters has led to an increase in winter bass tournaments. The Winter Bass Challenge presented by BassingBob features five tournaments running from November through February. Early spring tournaments that will draw around 150 boats are the Anglers in Action tournament on March 8 and the Ozark Mountain Team Trail event on March 15.

While recreational boating dwindles during the offseason, the lake is still buzzing with anglers in pursuit of cold water bass and crappie.

Anglers willing to brave the cold can fish their favorite spots in solitude during wintertime at the lake.



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BY JOHN NEPORADNY JR.

# The Fishing Report

## Your guide to catching fish at LOZ!

### Bagnell Dam Report

The lake level was 657.6, generation of 6,000 CFS (cubic feet per second) throughout the week for a lake level of 657.1 by the weekend. Surface temperature at Bagnell Dam was 42 degrees. Truman Lake was at the 705.3 level. To note: the Lower Lake is from the dam to the 22-mile mark; Mid-Lake is from the 22- to 44-mile mark, the Upper Osage is from the 44-mile mark to the Route 65 Bridge.

### Tournament Results

Andy Newcomb and Kevin Freeze won the Fitz Fishing & Tackle Winter Bass Challenge last Saturday with five bass weighing 19.95 pounds.

### Bagnell Dam spillway/Osage River

Water clarity: Clear. Black bass: Good on Alabama rigs along steep rock banks. Crappie: Good on small swimbaits around current breaks. White bass and hybrids: Good on 3-inch swimbaits. Walleye: Good on 3-inch swimbaits. Catfish: Good on cut skipjack herring.

### Lower Lake

Water clarity: Clear. Black bass: Slow on Alabama rigs and sinking jerkbaits along secondary points and 17 to 20 feet deep in brush. Crappie: Fair on jigs 10 to 20 feet deep on secondary points. Catfish: Fair on Damiki rigs in the middle of coves.

### Gravois

Water clarity: Clear. Ice covered around the Gravois Mills access area. Black bass: Slow on jigs and Alabama rigs along channel banks and secondary points in creeks. Crappie: Slow on jigs 10 to 20 feet deep in brush along main lake points and halfway back in coves.

### Mid-Lake

Water clarity: Clear. Black bass: Slow on Alabama rigs and Damiki rigs along secondary points and 45-degree banks in coves. Crappie: Good on jigs 20 to 35 feet deep along secondary points and in the middle of coves.

### Grand Glaize

Water clarity: Clear. Black bass: Fair on Alabama rigs and suspending jerkbaits along steep banks. Crappie: Fair on jigs 15 to 20 feet deep along secondary points and in pockets of coves.

### Niangua

Water clarity: Clear on the lower end and stained on the upper end. Sections of coves and main lake are covered with ice above Larry Gale access. Most of the Little Niangua is frozen. Crappie: Fair on jigs 8 to 25 feet deep along main and secondary points.

### Upper Osage

The main channel and coves are covered with ice.

### Truman Dam spillway

The spillway and dead-water channel are frozen.



## Sources

Guide Alfred Chapman (573-465-3810), [www.lakeozarkfishingguideservice.com](http://www.lakeozarkfishingguideservice.com); Big Ed's Guide Service (573-692-6710) [www.bigedsguideservice.com](http://www.bigedsguideservice.com); Guide Jack Uxa (573-434-2570) [www.lakeoftheozarksfishingguide.com](http://www.lakeoftheozarksfishingguide.com); Guide John Blankenkober (573-280-1455); Guide Terry Blankenship (573-480-2835); Guide Jim Dill (573-204-9005) [www.jamesdillguideservice.com](http://www.jamesdillguideservice.com); Fitz Fishing (573-693-9299); Bryants Osage Outdoors (573-374-2278); Casey Scanlon (913-449-3176), Unreel Guide Service (636-751-8816) and Cody's Bait & Tackle (660-723-5115). Tournament Results—Thanks to [www.bassingbob.com](http://www.bassingbob.com).



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# *The different types of golf carts*



**G**olf carts may be restricted to the links in many regions, but these fun and convenient modes of transportation are a part of everyday life in various locales as well.

Many communities that cater to individuals who are 55 and older allow and even encourage residents to use golf carts to get around. Golf carts make it easy to get around communities that are essentially self-contained enclaves with their own restaurants, entertainment options and additional amenities that reduce residents' need to leave the area.

Since golf carts are not often part of life outside of private communities, residents who recently moved to such locales may need a little help identifying the right vehicle for them. The following are some options prospective golf cart drivers can consider.

## **ELECTRIC CARTS**

Electric carts are very quiet, which can appeal to 55+ community residents or even drivers who don't want to hear a lot of noise as they traverse their communities. Electric carts also tend to be low maintenance, which adds to their appeal for residents who prefer the convenience of private communities. Charge time is one variable to consider in relation to electric carts, so residents of especially large communities or those considering such locales should keep that in mind when making a decision. If batteries take a particularly long time to charge or are not known for especially long life after each charge, then drivers may find electric carts restrictive.



## GAS CARTS

Gas-powered golf carts may not need as much maintenance as cars and trucks that run on gas, but they tend to require more upkeep than the alternatives. Gas carts are noticeably noisier than electric carts, which can make them less appealing to drivers and their neighbors. Gas-powered carts also emit fumes that are both unhealthy and less than aromatic, which can be disagreeable to drivers and their neighbors.

## BATTERIES

Batteries are another variable to consider when deciding which golf cart is the best fit. According to the Florida-based Advantage Golf Cars, the four types of golf cart batteries are:

- Flooded lead acid (wet) batteries
- AGM lead acid batteries
- Gel lead acid batteries
- Lithium-ion golf cart batteries

Advantage notes that golf carts typically come with flooded lead acid batteries, but such carts typically can be fitted with lithium-ion batteries. Lithium-ion batteries offer greater longevity over lead-acid alternatives, but they also cost more, though prices could drop as these batteries become more popular. Advantage also notes that lithium-ion batteries require no maintenance, weigh less and charge faster.



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## WINTER BOATING PRECAUTIONS

I am sitting at my kitchen table looking at the freshly fallen snow and a temperature of 17 degrees and what do I see in my cove? Yep, people fishing.

While most boats are laid up over winter, there's still plenty of boating in winter to enjoy: in warmer climates for the purpose of fishing or simply cruising, on cold rivers where winter steelhead exist, in coastal waters for migrating species and so forth.

Whether you're boating in winter from an open boat, a boat with a cabin or simply a kayak, you have to respect the elements and be aware of the effects of exposure to cold air and water, even on a warm and windless day. While you should always have all of the normal safety equipment when you go boating, here are 10 tips specific to enjoying cold-water boating in winter.

First and foremost, when boating in the winter, dress for the water temperature, and most of all wear your life jacket.

"I want to start boating in the colder months of the year. What kind of gear do I need?"

Boating in the colder months? Because the question is

much more complex, and it involves your safety, here are some of the factors, in no particular order, that figure into what you need to wear:

- **Water temperature** - Water conducts heat away from your body 25 times more efficiently than air. The best advice is "dress for the swim." The colder the water, the faster your body will lose heat.
- **Personal comfort range** - Here in Missouri we have some folks that wear shorts even in the winter. And, we have others that have heaters running under their desks in the summer months. Only you know how your body works.
- **Water conditions** - Are you fishing from a raft? Are you paddling the inlets of a lazy river, lake observing or hunting wildlife?
- **If you do go for a swim, how long are you likely to be in the water?** Are you in conditions where you won't be in the water long and can get to shore easily to warm up and get into dry clothes?





The bottom line is: cold water kills. As internationally recognized water safety expert Charlie Walbridge points out in *Cold Water Protection and Hypothermia*, as the body's internal temperature drops, automatic responses begin in the attempt to keep the major organs and functions protected. These responses rapidly lead to loss of manual dexterity, uncontrollable shivering and diminished mental facilities. These inhibit your ability to self-rescue and make the decisions necessary for your survival.

Okay, so at this point you're probably saying, "Alright, I hear all that, but my original question still stands. What kind of gear do I need for cold water boating?"

## **1. CONSIDER SURVIVAL WEAR**

Wearing appropriate clothing and footwear is obviously important for winter boating. However, a float coat or survival suit is a good investment if you'll be venturing out often.

## **2. HAVE TWO PAIRS OF WARM GLOVES**

If you're fishing, one pair will likely get wet. Save the second pair for the ride home.

## **3. USE HAND AND TOE WARMERS**

Put hand warmers in your gloves or at least in your jacket pockets. Use toe warmers in your boots, or maybe electric socks or boot-warming insoles.

## **4. COVER YOUR FACE AND EYES**

Use ski goggles to cover your eyes when the boat is running fast, especially if you're the operator. A warm balaclava should cover all exposed facial flesh. Remember that wind chill is considerable the faster the boat is moving.

## **5. FACE THE STERN; GO LOW**

If you're a passenger, put your back to the bow and face the stern when the boat is running. Get low if possible; some passengers sit on a bean bag on the floor.

## **6. KEEP YOUR PFD ON**

The shock of sudden entry into cold water dictates cold weather boating prudence. If something goes drastically wrong, you have a better chance of survival in cold water if your PFD is already on, secure and properly fitted.

## **7. MAKE SURE YOUR BOAT/MOTOR IS IN TOP SHAPE**

This is not the time for a crippling breakdown that strands you, especially when there are fewer people on the water to come to your assistance. Don't go out unless you have 100% confidence in your vessel.

## **8. LET SOMEONE KNOW**

Have a written float plan to let others know where you are going, what time you expect to be back and who to call in case of emergency.

## **9. HAVE COMPANY**

Take a capable companion (or paddle with another person if you're kayaking) along who can lend a hand if you get into trouble. Whether solo or with someone, let someone else know where you're headed, when you expect to be back and when to raise an alarm if you haven't contacted them.

## **10. DON'T TAKE CHANCES**

Think through your actions. Could you possibly run aground, hit an underwater obstruction and disable your motor, or get stuck behind an ice floe? In each case, you could be in for a long and cold time until you can get out of the predicament. Be realistic about your abilities and the circumstances, especially considering the coldness of the weather and water. Consider how you'd have to deal with an incident that you might otherwise avoid by making a good decision rather than a risky one.

Go out and enjoy cold weather boating! Be safe to enjoy boating another day.



# LOMDA *Boat Shows*

**T**he Lake of the Ozarks Marine Dealers Association (LOMDA) is made up of over 40 Lake of the Ozarks area marine dealers. They represent all the top lines of boats, marine accessories, docks, personal watercraft and everything else to promote fun on our waters. Each year, LOMDA hosts a handful of boat shows for boating enthusiasts to come check out all things new in the boating world. Mark your calendars for these upcoming boat shows in 2025!

## **Overland Park Boat Show**

**When:** Feb. 13 - 16

**Where:** Overland Park Convention Center

## **St. Charles Boat Show**

**When:** Feb. 27 - March 2

**Where:** St. Charles Convention Center

## **In Water Boat Show**

**When:** April 25 - 27

**Where:** Dog Days Bar & Grill



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# EVENTS

PHOTOS: GEORGE DENNY

## *Lake of the Ozarks* **MARDI GRAS PUB CRAWL**

**A** Lake-favorite is back and better than ever! The Lake of the Ozarks Mardi Gras Pub Crawl will be held Saturday, Feb. 22, with a pre-crawl event taking place at The Encore Lakeside Grill & Sky Bar, 3076 Bagnell Dam Boulevard, Lake Ozark. This year, the title sponsor is Alley Cats Pizzeria.

For those too excited to wait for the festivities, a Kick-Off Party is scheduled the night before, Friday, Feb. 21, at Charlie Foxtrots, 5180 Osage Beach Parkway, Osage Beach.

Online wristband presale is \$15 per person. All online orders must be submitted by Feb. 10.

The day of the event, prices raise to \$20 per person. No refunds will be allowed and no replacement wristbands will be provided.

Wristbands are required to ride the buses and bus transportation will run from 4 p.m. to 1 a.m.

All participants must be 21 years of age or older.

Visit [www.LakePubCrawl.com](http://www.LakePubCrawl.com) to purchase wristbands. While you're there, sign up for email and text alerts. All things Pub Crawl will be announced by text and email before and during the event. Make sure to sign up and get the list so you can get all of the latest news, contents, transportation updates and more.

For more information, contact [lakepubcrawl@gmail.com](mailto:lakepubcrawl@gmail.com) or call 573-375-3738.

### **2025 PARTICIPATING VENUES:**

**Alley Cats Pizzeria**, 1263 Bagnell Dam Boulevard, Lake Ozark

**Brick House Gastropub**, 1333 Bagnell Dam Boulevard, Lake Ozark

**Casablanca Pub & Grill**, 1312 Bagnell Dam Boulevard, Lake Ozark

**The Encore Lakeside Grill & Sky Bar**, 3076 Bagnell Dam Boulevard, Lake Ozark

**Tucker's Shuckers Oyster & Tap**, 1339 Bagnell Dam Boulevard, Lake Ozark

**Charlie Foxtrots**, 5180 Osage Beach Parkway, Osage Beach

**S.N.A.F.U. Bar**, 1275 Bagnell Dam Boulevard, Lake Ozark

**Tirebiters Peanut Pub**, 4704 Jayhawk Street, Osage Beach

**Lucky's Lake Ozark**, 1140 Bagnell Dam Boulevard, Lake Ozark

**Marty Byrde's Gastropub**, 1286 Bagnell Dam Boulevard, Lake Ozark

**Chevy's Pizzeria & Pub**, 5151 Osage Beach Parkway, Osage Beach

**JJ Twig's Pizza & BBQ**, 1815 Bagnell Dam Boulevard, Lake Ozark

**The Cuddy Cabin**, 1104 Bagnell Dam Boulevard, Lake Ozark

**Inn at Grand Glaize**, 5142 Osage Beach Parkway, Osage Beach

**Rip Tavern**, 1151 Bagnell Dam Boulevard, Lake Ozark







# Plunging for a cause

PHOTOS BY GEORGE DENNY

**C**old weather can only mean one thing... It's Polar Plunge Season!

Special Olympics Missouri will host its annual Polar Plunge at the Lake of the Ozarks on Saturday, Feb. 22.

This event offers frigid fun for the entire family – all while supporting a good cause.

Participants can support local Special Olympics Missouri athletes by walking, running or crawling into the cold winter waters of Grand Glaize Beach/Public Beach #2.

Make the Plunge a little more bearable by bringing friends and dressing in your best costumes. The day will offer a fun atmosphere with music, food and memories that will last a lifetime.

A PeeWee Plunge will also take place to allow kiddos (9 & under) the chance to showcase their bravery and contribute support.

If jumping into freezing water isn't your forte, you can also support Special Olympics Missouri athletes by walking, running or crawling a 5K in the frigid winter air.

The 2025 Polar Bear Strut will also be held Saturday, Feb. 22, at 10 a.m., starting at Grand Glaize Beach, 711 Public Beach Road in Osage Beach.

All event proceeds benefit Special Olympics Missouri's

year-round program of sports training and competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

In 2024, the Lake of the Ozarks Plunge welcomed 281 plungers and raised more than \$99,500.

All Plungers must raise a minimum of \$75 by event day. Participants' \$10 registration fee will apply towards the \$75 minimum. Pee Wee Plungers (9 & under) don't require a registration fee, but must raise \$25 by Plunge day in order to participate.

Strutters don't have to pay a registration fee, but must raise a minimum of \$50 by event day to participate.

The day holds much more than just the plunge and strut! A chili cook-off and silent auction will also take place the day of the Plunge/strut. These events begin at 11 a.m. and are free to all Plungers – guests may participate for \$5. Participants can also join in on the fun and showcase their creative costumes by participating in the Parade of Costumes before taking the Plunge.

There are so many opportunities to contribute to Special Olympics Missouri during this day of fun. Whether you plan to plunge, strut or put your cooking skills to the test – supporting local Special Olympics athletes is the ultimate goal.





## ABOUT SPECIAL OLYMPICS MISSOURI

Special Olympics Missouri is a year-round program of sports training and athletic competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Thousands of athletes participate in 16 Olympic-type sports throughout the state. Special Olympics provides people with intellectual disabilities continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage and experience joy as they participate in the sharing of gifts and friendship with their fellow athletes, their family and friends and communities across Missouri.

Special Olympics Missouri is proud of their financial health, returning 78 percent of every dollar back to program services. They are recognized with these honors: Better Business Bureau A+ Charity Accreditation, Charity Navigator 4-star rating and Guidestar Gold Level. Special Olympics was also recently named Morning Consult's No. 4 most-trusted nonprofit.

## EVENT DAY SCHEDULE:

Registration: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Polar Bear Strut: 10 a.m.

Chili Cook-off: 11 a.m.

Pee Wee Plunge: 1 p.m.

Parade of Costume lineup: 1:50 p.m.

Plunge Parade/Opening Ceremonies: 2 p.m.

Plunging Begins: 2:30 p.m.





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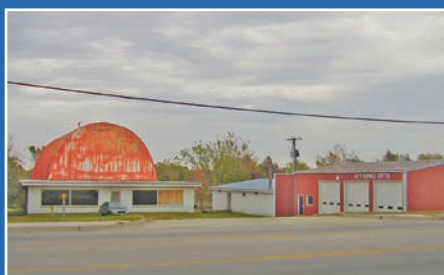
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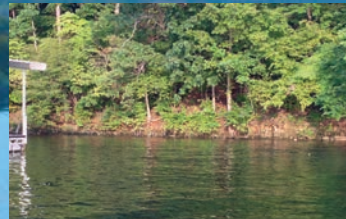
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3BD/3.5BA. 1.45AC lot. 2 car garage & large shop. Remodeled kitchen, marble stone floors, hardwood floors, large screened porch, new furnace & more.



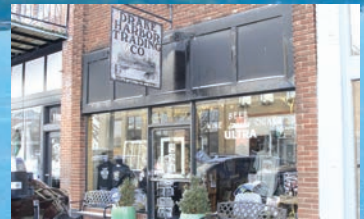
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**3572402 ..... \$144,000**  
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**3573068.....\$79,500**

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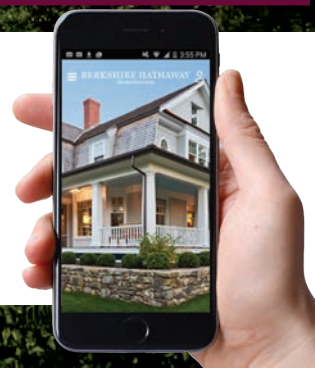
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# Radio-Active Theater

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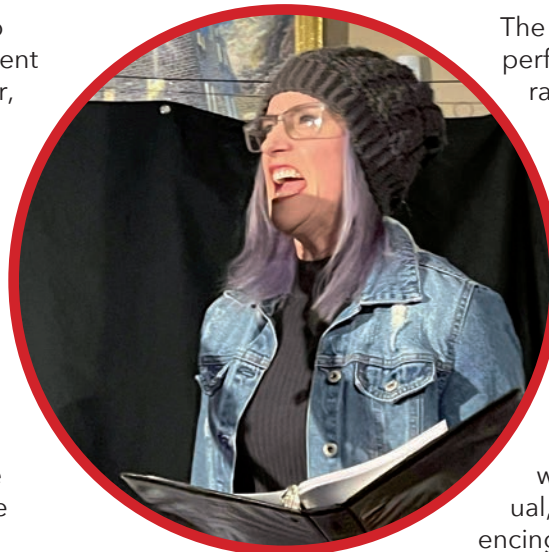
**T**he Lake of the Ozarks is no stranger to live entertainment on a nightly basis, however, some unique options may fly under the radar if you're unaware of them taking place.

One group in particular, the Radio-Active Players, perform a Readers Theater-style show monthly at the Lake, an experience that may not be on your radar if you're not a local.

Radio-Active Theater started in October of 2018. The founders were Will Runyon, Jr., Kris Oliver and Dave Bond.

Around September or October of 2018, Dave and Will performed in a readers theater fund raiser for the library in Jefferson City. Having enjoyed that experience, Will (and his collaborator Kris) enlisted Dave's help putting together a similar show at Great Stone Coffee (now Barista Go Coffee House).

A cast of friends was quickly assembled for the first performance, and they have continued to meet up and perform ever since.



The Radio-Active Players offer a unique performance as Reader's Theater is rare these days. The performers are primarily voice acting, with minimal theatrical equipment (no or few props, costumes, sets, etc.), but are accompanied by sound effects and music. It harkens back to the pre-TV days of gathering around the radio with friends and family to share some "theater of the mind." The intimate medium and relative simplicity offers some respite from today's over-stimulating world of frenetic imagery and perpetual, disposable content. While experiencing the audio-only version of the show is perfectly adequate, seeing the show live is

where the real magic happens. The chemistry between actor/characters, body language, facial expressions, etc. creates a very unique performance. The thin facade allows actors' personalities to bleed through and make a more personal connection with the crowd. The leanness of the production also allows for more agility and spontaneity, and the flow and content of the show is often influenced by the venue and audience.





"For instance, we have, at times, pulled audience members up to perform in the show, and ad-libbing and improvisation are common. All that said, we also take advantage of available technology to live stream our monthly performances and publish a bi-weekly podcast," says Runyon.

The group typically performs four original, locally-written pieces, most of which are provided by members of the troupe who also perform. The shows usually consist of three 15-25 minute pieces and one 5-10 minute piece (though it varies from month to month, depending on what scripts are submitted).

Performers are seated on stage and move to the microphones when their parts come up. Sound effects and music are "performed" by Will, who does the sound design and triggers the cues from his laptop during the show. Even though there is an additional layer of entertainment and connection to be had by watching the performers, you can close your eyes (or listen to an audio-only recording/stream) and see the events unfold in your mind.

"Our annual anniversary happens to be in October, so in addition to celebrating that milestone, we appear in costume and encourage the audience to do so as well for some memorable Halloween shows," Runyon said.

Runyon says the groups goal is to entertain and inspire others.

"Beyond giving people a fun reason to get out of the house and socialize, part of what I like about the format is that the whole process is so visible and accessible," he said. "I want people to see us and not only say, 'I want to do that,' but to realize, 'I can do that!'"

For the first couple of years the group had an open door policy for writers and performers. They held open casting calls and anyone who showed up would get a chance on stage.

"I don't think we ever rejected a script," Runyon said.



"Fortunately, they were all good enough we didn't have to."

Runyon said the Radio-Active Players aren't currently taking new cast members, but said it would be an honor to someday hear that they inspired someone to start their own similar group.

"We're working on booking more regional shows and growing our online audience in hopes of someday bringing the live Radio-Active Theater experience to audiences all over the world," Runyon said.

Radio-Active Players currently has eight cast members, most of whom are also writers, and a couple other regular contributors: Will Runyon, Jr., "show-runner," sound design and performance and voice actor; Lori Ann Stuckmeyer, co-author, digital art video presentation design and performance and voice actor; Matt Clemmons, creator, co-author and voice actor; Larry Williams, author and voice actor; Tony Coons, author and voice actor; Angelina LaVonne, occasional author and voice actor; Shaunna Wood, occasional author and voice actor; Sandra Andes, voice actor; Todd Hanks, author; and Jeff and Kathy Johnson, sound engineering, tech and gear assistance.

When asked what their favorite part of the theater group was, each member had a different angle they enjoyed most.

"I enjoy the camaraderie of the group. I'm proud that the show is entirely written and produced by RAT," Coons said.

"What I love about performing in our group is the ability for each of us to be able to bring multiple characters to life in one performance, LaVonne said. "We have four scripts, meaning four different stories we bring to life in an evening, so there are so many characters that are being portrayed. Having some new stories and some that are ongoing series, the possibilities are endless."

"I love being part of Radio-Active Theater because I get to spend time with some of my favorite people in the whole world, Andes said. "I started out working on a theater major but shifted to broadcasting and kind of abandoned my passion for theater for a career in radio. I'm pleased that I no longer have to choose between the two... the occasion is rare within the scope of my career that I am able to convey emotion and stretch my voice dramatically. I deeply appreciate the time I spend with my brothers and sisters in this group and the audience that honors us with their attention every month."

### Radio-Active Theater Schedule

**Feb. 15; March 22; April 19; May 17; June 21; July 19; Aug. 16; Sept. 20; Oct. 18; Nov. 15; Dec. 20**

Performances are hosted at Barista GO Coffeehouse, 1375 State Highway KK in Osage Beach, at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. For more information, contact Beth at 913-909-8603 or Will at 573-462-6623.





# EXPO 2025

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# live

## Friday, Feb. 7

**Casablanca**, Steven Scott, 7 p.m.  
**JB Hook's**, Steve Moore, 5:30 p.m.  
**Brick House**, Jordan Isakson, 7 p.m.

## Saturday, Feb. 8

**JB Hook's**, Adam Powell, 5:30 p.m.  
**Brick House**, Adam McCabe, 7 p.m.  
**Casablanca**, Wall 2 Wall, 7 p.m.

## Monday, Feb. 10

**JB Hook's**, Adam Powell, 5:30 p.m.

## Tuesday, Feb. 11

**JB Hook's**, Sam Swanson, 5:30 p.m.

## Wednesday, Feb. 12

**JB Hook's**, Joe Farrell, 5:30 p.m.

## Thursday, Feb. 13

**JB Hook's**, Joe Farrell, 5:30 p.m.

## Friday, Feb. 14

**JB Hook's**, Steve Moore, 5:30 p.m.  
**Brick House**, Rich Whalen, 7 p.m.  
**Casablanca**, Zach Simpson, 7 p.m.

## Saturday, Feb. 15

**JB Hook's**, Adam Powell, 5:30 p.m.  
**Brick House**, Zach Simpson, 7 p.m.  
**Casablanca**, Adam Fazio, 7 p.m.

## Monday, Feb. 17

**JB Hook's**, Adam Powell, 5:30 p.m.

## Tuesday, Feb. 18

**JB Hook's**, Sam Swanson, 5:30 p.m.

## Wednesday, Feb. 19

**JB Hook's**, Joe Farrell, 5:30 p.m.

## Thursday, Feb. 20

**JB Hook's**, Joe Farrell, 5:30 p.m.

## Friday, Feb. 21

**JB Hook's**, Sam Swanson, 5:30 p.m.  
**Brick House**, Adam Powell, 7 p.m.  
**Casablanca**, Jordan Isakson, 7 p.m.

## Saturday, Feb. 22

**JB Hook's**, Adam Powell, 5:30 p.m.  
**Brick House**, Morgan Rohr, 7 p.m.  
**Casablanca**, Steven Scott, 7 p.m.

## Monday, Feb. 24

**JB Hook's**, Adam Powell, 5:30 p.m.

## Tuesday, Feb. 25

**JB Hook's**, Sam Swanson, 5:30 p.m.

## Wednesday, Feb. 26

**JB Hook's**, Joe Farrell, 5:30 p.m.

## Thursday, Feb. 27

**JB Hook's**, Joe Farrell, 5:30 p.m.

## Friday, Feb. 28

**JB Hook's**, Steve Moore, 5:30 p.m.  
**Brick House**, Jordan Isakson, 7 p.m.  
**Casablanca**, Adam Powell, 7 p.m.

## Saturday, March 1

**JB Hook's**, Adam Powell, 5:30 p.m.  
**Brick House**, PDA, 7 p.m.  
**Casablanca**, Adam McCabe, 7 p.m.

## Monday, March 3

**JB Hook's**, Adam Powell, 5:30 p.m.

## Tuesday, March 4

**JB Hook's**, Steve Moore, 5:30 p.m.

## Wednesday, March 5

**JB Hook's**, Joe Farrell, 5:30 p.m.

## Thursday, March 6

**JB Hook's**, Joe Farrell, 5:30 p.m.

## Friday, March 7

**JB Hook's**, Phil Twitchell, 5:30 p.m.  
**Brick House**, John Jarrett, 7 p.m.  
**Casablanca**, Cheryl Lynn, 7 p.m.



## get listed

Attention musicians, bands, bars and restaurants: Send us live entertainment schedules to be included in our live music listing. Event information must include name of venue, name of entertainer, time, date and contact information for verification. Send information to [jordyn.lakesun@gmail.com](mailto:jordyn.lakesun@gmail.com) or call 573-346-2132. The following list has been updated as of press time.



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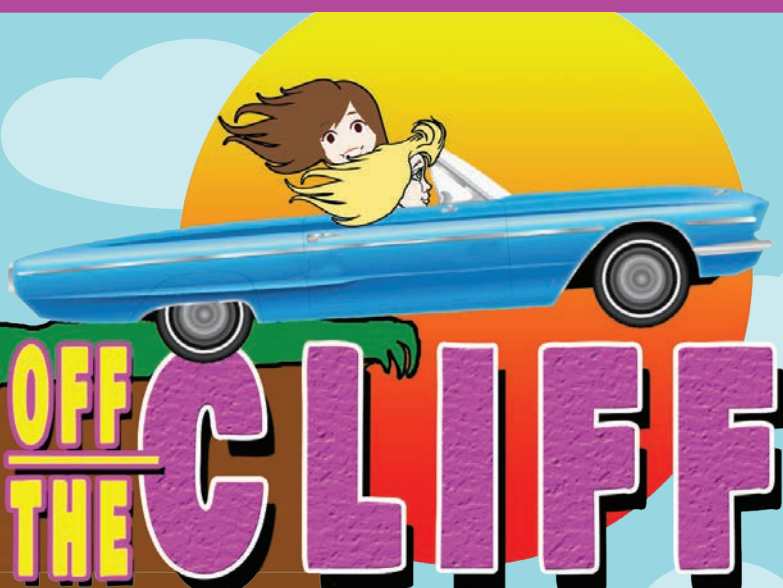


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# BOOZE, FOOD & TUNES

## ENTERTAINMENT

### FEBRUARY

- 7 5pm ADAM POWELL  
8pm TED VAUGHN BLUES
- 8 5pm STARLA AND SCOTTY  
8pm TURNSTYLES
- 11 5pm MATT MILLS  
7pm TAZ - MANIA KARAOKE
- 12 5pm ZACH SIMPSON  
7pm TAZ - MANIA KARAOKE
- 13 4:30pm RAY CARDWELL  
7:30pm GRAYSON WOOD
- 14 5pm ADAM POWELL  
8pm FADE TO BLACK
- 15 5pm MARCUS WORDS  
8pm TAZ - MANIA KARAOKE
- 18 5pm TRAVELIN KIND  
7pm TAZ - MANIA KARAOKE
- 19 5pm PRESLEY DUO  
7pm TAZ - MANIA KARAOKE
- 20 4:30pm TRAVELIN KIND  
7:30pm GRAYSON WOOD
- 21 PUB CRAWL WEEKEND  
5pm ZACH SIMPSON  
8pm TBA
- 22 PUB CRAWL WEEKEND  
5pm CINDY LAWHORN  
8pm TAZ - MANIA KARAOKE
- 25 5pm TRAVELIN KIND  
7pm TAZ - MANIA KARAOKE
- 26 5pm ZACH SIMPSON  
7pm TAZ - MANIA KARAOKE
- 27 4:30pm TRAVELIN KIND  
7:30pm GRAYSON WOOD
- 28 5pm RAY CARDWELL  
8pm PRESLEY

**OPENS AT 11 TUESDAY THRU SATURDAY**

### Appetizers

Fried Pickles.....	\$8	Tater Kegs.....	\$9
Fried Mushrooms .....	\$8	Loaded Fries.....	\$9
Cheese Curds .....	\$8	Pretzel Bites.....	\$10
Mozzarella Sticks.....	\$8	Buffalo Chicken Dip	\$13
Fried Green Beans ...	\$9	Pulled Pork Nachos	\$13
Jalapeno Poppers.....	\$9	6 Cliff Wings.....	\$10
Onion Rings.....	\$9	10 Cliff Wings.....	\$16



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