



Activities & Events

Event information subject to change.
Area code 608 unless otherwise noted.

Revised 01/08/21

Ongoing Attractions

Rotary Botanical Gardens

Mon - Fri, 10 AM – 4 PM,
Rotary Botanical Gardens, Free admission, 752-3885,
rotarybotanicalgardens.org
Rotary Botanical Gardens is an award winning, 20-acre non-profit botanic garden. Much of the garden is wheelchair and stroller accessible, with benches.

Rock County Historical Society

Exhibits by appointment
Rock County Historical Society, 756-4509, rchs.us
View the exhibits at the Helen Jeffris Wood Museum Center, including Pauline Pottery and Pickard China, a General Motors section, and Parker Pen World, as well as the new Historical Campaign Memorabilia exhibit featuring national and local election materials from 1897 through 2012. While you're there, check out the new gift shop with locally made items including jewelry, pottery, textiles, photography, books, masks, and much more.

Milton House Museum

Tours by appointment, Tues - Thur 11 AM & 1 PM
Milton House Museum, 868-7772, miltonhouse.org
Built in 1844, the hexagonal-shaped Milton House is one of the oldest standing poured grout buildings. It was a stop on the Underground Railroad, with a tunnel connecting the Milton House to a log cabin.

Crowd-Free Fun: Selfie Scavenger Hunts

Various Locations, 757-3171
Get outside and explore Janesville! We've created four Selfie Scavenger Hunt lists for you. Download a PDF of each list from the Event page on our website. Scavenger Hunts include Murals (including Downtown's five new murals), Memorials & Monuments, Sculptures & Statues and Historical Markers.

Crowd Free Fun: Heart Art Janesville

Various Locations, Free admission, 756-4509,
www.rchs.us
The Janesville Art League, in partnership with the Rock County Historical Society, began this community art project by greeting our frontline workers at Mercy Hospital with hand painted signs placed in the RCHS lawn facing the hospital. Hearts and other signs are popping up by the police and fire stations, Bessie the Cow, Kiwanis Park, and throughout downtown.

Crowd-Free Fun: Barn Quilt Driving Tour

Various Locations, 757-3171,
rockwibarnquilts.wixsite.com/barnquilts
Rock County is home to over 250 barn quilts. See the Rock County Barn Quilts website for an interactive Google Map. Download a 2012 map of barn quilt locations throughout the county, or driving directions for a quick, hour-long tour.

Crowd-Free Fun: Explore Historic Districts

Various Locations, 757-3171
Janesville has thirteen Historic Districts, including Court House Hill, Look West, Columbus Circle, Main & Milwaukee, and more. Visit our website to download a map showing the boundaries of each district or a walking guide of Janesville's historic downtown. Visit the UW-Madison Libraries Digital Collection to download walking guides of several of the districts. The Rock County Historical Society has programmed historic sites onto the Clio app, allowing you to walk around Janesville and discover history for yourself. Download the Clio app for Android or iOS.

Ongoing Recreation

Sledding

Various Locations, 757-3171
Sledding opportunities are available in several Janesville city parks, including Ardon Park, Palmer Park, Riverside Park, Lustig Park, Rockport Park and Sheffer Park.

Cross Country Skiing

Various Locations, 757-3171
Rockport Park has over 6 miles of trails color coded for easy navigation. The Friends of Rockport Park provide grooming of the trails as volunteers are available. At Riverside Golf Course, a flat beginner's trail is groomed by the golf course staff. Cross-country skiing is allowed in any City park and greenbelt. Rock County Parks also offer cross country skiing options. Gibbs Lake and Carver-Roehl are suitable for beginner and intermediate skiers, and Magnolia Bluff is best for expert skiers.

Snowshoeing

Various Locations, 757-3171
While snowshoeing is allowed in any City park and greenbelt, there are several areas in Janesville that are ideal, including: Riverside and Blackhawk Golf Courses for easy open spaces, and Rockport Park, Robert O. Cook Memorial Arboretum, and Sheffer Park for wooded areas and a variety of terrain.

Ice Fishing

Various Locations, 757-3171
Don't let the cold stop you - hard water anglers have lots of options for fishing in the area, including Lake Koshkonong, Gibbs Lake, and Storrs Lake. Please take precautions and make sure the ice is safe.

Crowd-Free Fun: Geocaching

geocaching.com
If you have a GPS-enabled phone or other device, try your hand at finding hidden caches - there are more than 200 hidden within a five mile radius! Download the Geocaching app or visit the website, enter your coordinates, and choose a cache. Use GPS to navigate to the location and search for the secret container.

Crowd-Free Fun: Hike the Devil's Staircase

Devil's Staircase, Riverside Park, 757-3171
The Devil's Staircase segment of the Ice Age Trail travels along and up the side of the bluffs by the Rock River in Riverside Park. This segment is for foot travel only and is a moderate hike, about 3/4 mile each way. Extra caution should be taken during the winter.

Crowd-Free Fun: Janesville Trails

Janesville Trails, 757-3171
Janesville's 30 miles of trails, including Janesville's segment of the statewide Ice Age Trail, connect many neighborhoods, parks and attractions. Most of the trail in Janesville is paved. A few portions of the trail, notably the Devil's Staircase and the Robert O Cook Memorial Arboretum, are unpaved and suitable for hiking.

Crowd-Free Fun: Winter Nature Scavenger Hunt

www.alittletimeandakeyboard.com
Throughout Rock County, 757-3171
Popular travel blog A Little Time and a Keyboard offers a printable scavenger hunt list for hikers and nature lovers. Explore Janesville's trails and parks and see if you can find everything on the list!

Ongoing Events

Historic Campaign Memorabilia Exhibit

Through January 31 by appointment
Rock County Historical Society, \$10, 756-4509,
www.rchs.us
This exhibit features national and local election buttons, posters, matchbooks, political handouts, letters and more ranging from 1897 through 2012, thanks to a collaborative effort between the Rock County Historical Society and the family members of George and Virginia Kowal (Kealey). The campaign display is part of a larger exhibit that spans two levels of the building and includes a Parker Pen collection, a General Motors section, a variety of military collectibles, an art exhibit and much more. Masks and social distancing are required.

Library Art Exhibit

Ongoing
Hedberg Public Library, Free, 758-6600,
www.hedbergpubliclibrary.org
The Hedberg Public Library presents art and items of interest in a juried exhibit that changes monthly.

Mindful Moment

Mondays, 2 PM - 2:30 PM
Your Home, Free, 758-6600,
www.hedbergpubliclibrary.org
Gabi from the Hedberg Public Library will share breathing exercises, visualizations, and gentle yoga poses to relieve stress, refocus, and feel better together. Presented on Facebook Live.

Upcoming Events

Virtual Book Signing Week

1/11 -1/17
Janesville Performing Arts Center, Free, donations welcome, 758-0297, www.janesvillepac.org
Join the Janesville Area Performing Arts Center for video interviews with three local authors. You will be able to purchase a signed copy of their books during the virtual interviews live on JPAC's Facebook page.

Virtual Model Railroad Display

1/12, 6 PM - 6:30 PM
Your Home, Free, 758-6600,
www.hedbergpubliclibrary.org
For the first time in 20+ years the WIS-ILL HO Model Railroad Group won't be able to set up their impressive railroad display. Instead, the group will take you on a virtual tour, giving you an up-close look at some of the most interesting features of the display.

Family Trivia: Book to Movie Edition

1/15, 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM
Your Home, 758-6600, www.hedbergpubliclibrary.org
Does your family know everything about books made into movies? Find out if you have what it takes to beat the competition! Prizes are available to the top three finishers. Registration required.

Virtual Date Night at JPAC

1/15, 7 PM - 9 PM
Your Home, \$20 per couple, 758-0297,
www.janesvillepac.org
Couples will digitally join Tim Roberts and Nathan Burkart of JPAC's Steadily Improv'ing Improv troupe for a night of games and laughs. Compete against other couples in fun, interactive virtual games for a chance at winning a \$100 gift certificate to a local restaurant.

Consistency Versus Perfection

1/16, 2 PM - 2 PM
Your Location, Free, 754-3925, www.basicshealth.com
In this virtual Facebook event, learn how to avoid the trap of perfectionism in order to achieve better health. By Basics Cooperative, Sarah from Catalyst Wellness Coaching will break down why most New Year's health resolutions fail, and what to aim for instead.

Show Me Reptile & Exotics Show

1/17, 10 AM - 3:30 PM
Holiday Inn Express / Janesville Conference Center, \$5 general admission, \$12 VIP 9 AM entry
See thousands of amazing animals from the farthest reaches of the planet. Check out the interactive tables, supplies, feeders and more.

Building Modules and Scenery for Model Railroad Displays

1/19, 6 PM - 7 PM
Your Home, Free, 758-6600,
www.hedbergpubliclibrary.org
How do you build the interchangeable modules? How do you create such beautiful scenery? The WIS-ILL HO Model Railroad Group has been setting up their model railroad display in the library for more than 20 years and these are the two most commonly asked questions.

JPAC Virtual Venue: Seasaw

1/21, 7 PM - 8 PM
Your Home, 758-0297, www.janesvillepac.org
We can't gather, but the music doesn't stop. The Janesville Performing Arts Center is hosting a live show on their Facebook page.

Improv Comedy Troupe

1/22, 8 PM - 10 PM
Janesville Performing Arts Center, \$14, 758-0297,
www.janesvillepac.org
Janesville's Improv Comedy Troupe is a comical, unscripted theatrical improv show. Local improvisers will pick suggestions from the audience and create a spontaneous show filled with humor and live music.

Take and Make Watercolor Experimentation

1/23, 10 AM - 4 PM
UW-W at Rock Co, \$50, 758-6549, uww.edu
Enjoy an afternoon of experimentation and fun while you learn the fundamentals of watercolor. In this short online introductory watercolor class you will learn the basic techniques all watercolorists use in the paintings they create. Experiment with basics of materials, tools, techniques, color, and your own creative expression.

Book Launch: Ensnared in the Wolf's Lair

1/24, 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM
Your Home, Free, 758-6600, hedbergpubliclibrary.org
Join the Hedberg Public Library as they celebrate Ann Bausum's new non-fiction book, Ensnared in the Wolf's Lair: Inside the 1944 Plot to Kill Hitler and the Ghost Children of His Revenge. Participate in a live discussion in the comments during the premiere. You can also watch the video on YouTube anytime.

Winter Farmers Market

2/6, 10 AM - 1 PM
Uptown Janesville (formerly Janesville Mall), 289-9292,
www.janesvillefarmersmarket.com
The Janesville Farmers Market will host an indoor winter market from November through April on the first Saturday of the month. Enjoy beef, eggs, honey, baked goods, fresh roasted coffee, pickles and preserves, artisans and more.

JPAC Virtual Venue

2/11, 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Your Home, 758-0297, www.janesvillepac.org
We can't gather, but the music doesn't stop. The Janesville Performing Arts Center is hosting a live show on their Facebook page. If you're able, you can support the musicians and JPAC through donations, a virtual tip jar and merchandise purchases.

Take and Make Acrylic Experimentation

2/20, 10 AM - 4 PM
UW-Whitewater at Rock County, \$50, 758-6549,
www.uww.edu
Enjoy an afternoon of experimentation and fun while you learn the fundamentals of painting with acrylics. In this short online introductory acrylics class you will learn the techniques needed to create representational and abstract paintings. You will focus on getting comfortable with these painting techniques and enjoying the process of painting.

For more information about Janesville, Wisconsin's Great Outside, please visit our website or give us a call!


JANESVILLE AREA
Convention & Visitors Bureau

janesvillecvb.com • (608) 757-3171

