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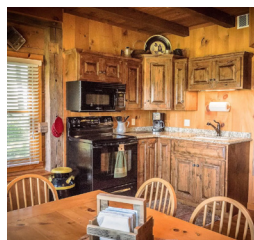
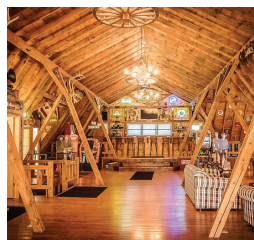
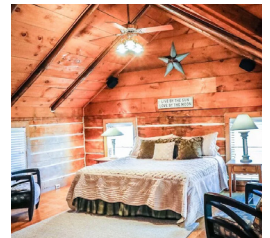
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Real Weddings



Clarissa
& Adam

October 16, 2022

Photography by Renee Barth Photography



Aimee
& Kevin

September 3, 2022

Photography by KMauck Photography



▲ Emily & Jay Manzi | June 17, 2023

The Fields at Van Wilgen's | North Branford, CT

Photo by Your New England Wedding Photographer

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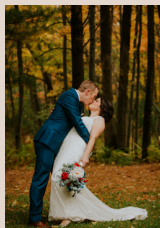
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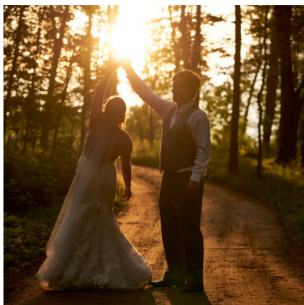


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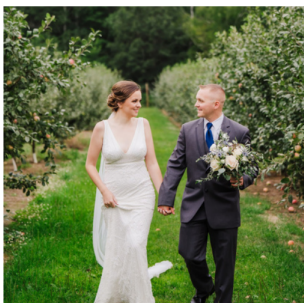
WEDDINGS

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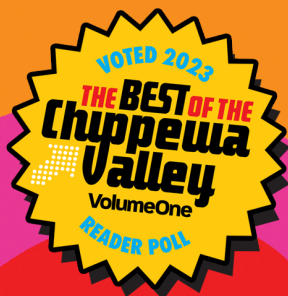
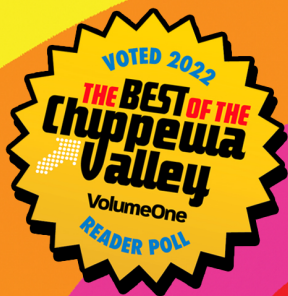
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Countdown to "I Do"!



12-18 Months

- Determine wedding style
- Select location, reserve dates for ceremony & reception
- Decide on budget and expense sharing
- Select reception entertainment
- Begin compiling guest list
- Select your attendants
- Select caterer



9-12 Months

- Register at bridal registries
- Reserve rental supplies
- Visit officiant to discuss ceremony plans
- Choose gown and accessories
- Choose bridesmaid dresses and accessories
- Select and book ceremony musicians
- Select and book florists
- Select and book photographer & videographer
- Discuss honeymoon plans



4-6 Months

- Select men's formalwear
- Order wedding invitations and stationery
- Finish compiling guest list
- Check marriage license requirements
- Select baker and order wedding dessert
- Reserve accommodations for out of town guests
- Make final floral decisions
- Arrange wedding day transportation



2-4 Months

- Start addressing invitations
- Confirm ceremony plans with officiant
- Plan rehearsal and rehearsal dinner
- Arrange for decorations
- Finalize honeymoon plans
- Plan ceremony music with musicians



1-2 Months

- Confirm details with all contracted services
- Have final gown fitting
- Have final fittings for attendants
- Get marriage license and blood tests (if necessary)
- Purchase gifts for attendants
- Get your accessories ready: ring pillow, candles, guest book, etc.
- Mail invitations to arrive 4-6 weeks before wedding
- Maintain record of gifts received and mail thank you notes immediately
- Confirm pre-nuptial dinner arrangements



2-4 Weeks

- Confirm rehearsal time and date with all wedding party members
- Schedule pickup and return of the groom's formalwear
- Arrange name and address changes on bank accounts, credit cards, drivers license, etc.
- Contact guests who have not yet R.S.V.P.'d
- Keep up with thank you notes



1 Week

- Provide final guest count to caterer
- Plan seating arrangements
- Confirm honeymoon reservations, pick up tickets
- Pick up wedding attire and check fit



Wedding Day

- Rings and marriage license
- If pictures are being taken before the ceremony, the entire wedding party should be ready two hours before
- Bring all accessories and an emergency kit including spare stockings, sewing needs, safety pins, etc.
- Give officiant's fee to best man for presentation after the ceremony



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Clarissa
AND
Adam

October 16,
2022

The Barn at Copper Creek



CLARISSA & ADAM October 16, 2022

"Adam and I wanted to get married in a place that had a rustic yet comforting feel. Once we toured The Barn at Copper Creek, we knew it was the perfect location. It was an additional bonus that the staff was just as excellent!"

Adam and I designed and crafted many parts of our wedding personally. We enjoy turning ideas into reality. To fit our vision, we made the bouquets, boutonnieres, corsages, centerpieces, and decorations.

We opted for creativity instead of conformity regarding clothing. The foundation of my dress was purchased online, and then I sewed fabric and embellishments to the dress personally and with the help of Sue Anderson Alterations. Adam visualized getting married in a red suit, which was initially challenging to find. We found the perfect shade of red at Men's Warehouse, and then he accessorized as he wanted.

The wedding party was given a fall-themed pallet of colors and shades we were using, and everyone had the freedom to buy or use a suit or dress that matched their likes and comfortability.

We like to do things untraditionally. We have helped with many other weddings because we enjoy doing it!"

- Clarissa Cleven-Peterson



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Life Style and Portrait Design

Renee Barth
 Photography

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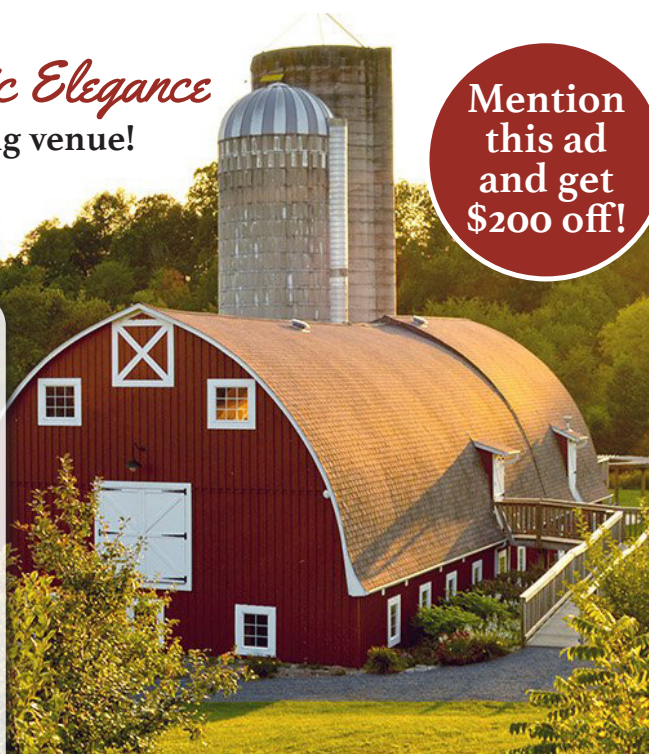
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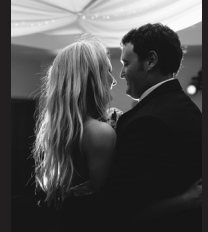
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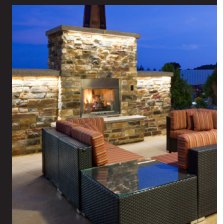
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The Wedding's Over. Now What?

Preparing for the Rest of Your Lives Together

By Ronnie Roll of Hearts Unlimited LLC

.....
You've worked hard for as long as two years to plan your wedding. You've faced a lot of turmoil along the way – sleepless nights, perhaps strong opinions in how you should do things, and plans that seem to go awry at the last minute, throwing everything else off balance. You've successfully navigated tastings, and read through so much fine print on your contracts your eyes hurt. Somehow it all came together beautifully, and you had the wedding of your dreams! Congratulations! The next morning you wake up, and now your marriage actually begins. Now what? What comes next? Marriage is very different from dating or living together!

Dr. Gary Chapman, author of *The 5 Love Languages*, explains that couples invest thousands of dollars and years to prepare for their careers yet expect that the most important relationship of their lives, the one that sets the foundation for a couple's overall success and the success of their children, will just magically happen. We hope that we're happy together for the rest of our lives, and then bewildered when we find ourselves disconnected, feeling unloved and lonely after just a few years.

Enroll in premarital education either before or after your ceremony. Premarital education is not couples or individual counseling. It does not dive into a couples' past to fix problems that may exist. It is truly an educational program designed to help you gain skills that will strengthen your relationship and deepen your bond moving forward. The purpose of these programs isn't to decide if the two of you belong together, or to poke at challenges within your relationship (they exist in all marriages!), but to help you navigate through the anticipated and unexpected challenges life may present to you, and to help you build upon the strengths you already have. Couples successfully completing premarital



education can experience a 30% increase in overall marital satisfaction and a correlating decrease in divorce after 5 years.

Not all premarital education programs are created equally though. When looking for a premarital education program:

- Look for one that includes significant training in conflict resolution and communication skills.
- Be comfortable with the person leading it and ask about their training.
- Is the program attached to a particular religion or is it taught from a non-religious point of view?
- What material is covered?
- How long is the program?
- Is it taught in person or virtually?
- Is there homework?

All of these questions will help you find the right program for you. None of us ever hope our relationship will hit rocky roads, but those who are prepared in advance will come out on the other side even stronger than before.

For more information about the marital success education offered through Hearts Unlimited LLC, please visit <https://www.revronnie.net/premaritaleducation.html>



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Award Winning Cakes by Local Baker By Becky Streeter

Every wedding has to have a dessert—why not an award-winning, locally baked and decorated one for yours? Head over to the Bloomer Bakery in Bloomer, Wi and ask for Chrissy Meisner. During a 30 minute consultation, and after some mouth-watering samples, you'll have the details narrowed down for your dream cake, and it's sure to be a masterpiece.

Four-time winner of the Best In Show Award for her cakes at the Wisconsin Bakers Association's FreshEx Competition (including this year's competition!), Chrissy came from humble-baker beginnings. Eighteen years ago, she signed up for a cake decorating class at a craft store because she wanted her son to have a special cake for his first birthday. During the class, Chrissy discovered not only a knack for decorating, but also a joy. She continued taking classes, started teaching, and worked her way up in the industry to become a professional baker/decorator. In 2014, Chrissy purchased the Bloomer Bakery in Bloomer, Wi and now decorates there full time.

Just five years after that first decorating class, Chrissy plucked up the courage to enter a competition. She won the silver award at her very first show. Since then she has won many awards, including the Best In Show nine times in the past eight years at various competitions. Some of her favorite submission themes have been wine, under the sea, and blown sugar lemons.

To say the least, Chrissy loves decorating cakes. "One of my favorite things about cake decorating is sharing people's special moments with them," Chrissy says. "We are there for baby showers, first birthdays, sweet 16, graduations, weddings, then back to baby showers. I just love when a couple I made a wedding

cake for comes in for a baby shower cake. Owning a long-standing bakery, we even get to recreate cakes from year's past for anniversaries."

You can call and discuss the details over the phone, or schedule for a half hour, in-person consultation and free samples. Many people have a general idea for their cake, and Chrissy helps customize it by getting the specifics, correct colors and borders, etc. Two and three tier cakes are the most common, and then people often add a sheet cake, cupcakes, cookies, bars or even donuts to go with it. Chrissy also tries to stay within the couple's budget. "We can keep things simple to decrease the cost, or go extravagant for an extra charge," she says. "We do our best to keep small town pricing while still providing the amazing small town bakery quality."

As for the big day, you can have it delivered or pick it up. If you choose to pick it up, Chrissy recommends you drive a SUV and have the back end completely empty. Also check to make sure the trunk doesn't have a slant as even the slightest slope can cause things to shift on the way. "When I had to do my first delivery," Chrissy reminisces, "I was told 'You know that little old lady that goes slow and annoys you while driving? Drive to annoy her.'"

Chrissy's cakes make an impression with both the design and flavor. "Our cake speaks for itself," Chrissy says. "We often hear back from brides that people ask where they got their cake from because it was so good (usually it's when they have the Raspberry Lemonade or Salty Caramel flavors—both gold ribbon winners)."

To learn more about Chrissy's cakes or to get an order started, call the Bloomer Bakery at (715) 568-3321 or visit facebook.com/bloomerbakery.





AIMEE & KEVIN September 3, 2022

Bride's Dress:

Aimee's dress was originally her mothers! The dress was redesigned by Becky Sewing and Design in Milwaukee!

Bridesmaid Dresses:

Azazie

Photographs by:

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Groom's Suit:

The Tailored Foundation made the groom's suit from scratch.

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Makeup:

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let's connect

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The Whole Farm

By Tony Chavez, Live Great Food

Years ago, I recall a conversation with my now father-in-law in which I nervously stumbled through my words while trying to get the "OK" to ask for his eldest daughter's hand in marriage. He cut me off half way through my plea, and I heard him say something about a pig. Not fully understanding the context, I asked, "Excuse me?"

He continued, "What is she worth to you? A pig? A cow? Ducks? Maybe some laying hens? You are asking me for something that I have raised and cared for, what are you offering me in return? How do I know you're not going to bring her back when things get rough? I need to know that she means as much to you as she means to me. What does she mean to you? Maybe 2 cows?"

As a city kid, I was completely taken aback by the assimilation. I was new to the northwoods. I worked in kitchens and meat shops. I didn't have a farm nor was I able to give him any animals. I mean, I could get one... but let's be honest, I wouldn't have raised it. Through the moment of silence, I could tell he was drawing opinions on my character. I took a deep breath and said the first thing that I could muster:

"Mister, if you give me your blessing, I'll give you a whole farm."

For the last 10 years, I have been making good on my word. Through Live Great Food, we are offering a farm-to-table menu suitable for any size wedding or gathering. We work closely with our butchers

and farmers in our community to offer customizable menus that cover a variety of dietary restrictions without compromising quality. Being a small, locally owned business means being able to offer a little bit more at a reasonable cost.

In celebrating our local farmers, gardeners and craftsmen, our menus reflect the best there is to offer throughout Wisconsin's decorative seasons. The Farmer's Markets offer some of the freshest produce and locally produced honey, breads, mushrooms, meats and accompaniments.

Being a chef-driven and service-based business means we take pride in working to offer the most delicious menus for the entire wedding. We're able to accommodate dietary restrictions and special requests with very little deviation to our original menus. We consistently grow with our business and our menus are constantly changing in that reflection. We relish the opportunity to learn something new or to delve into some research to meet the needs of a menu. We've worked to bring together menus ranging from a localized version of an Ethiopian Beyainatu complete with Injera, to recreating a Russian Grandmother's Borscht recipe.

Being a small family-owned catering company means that for the last 10 years, my beautiful wife and I have been able to raise our family to understand how beautiful and delicious food can truly be, simply by offering the whole farm.



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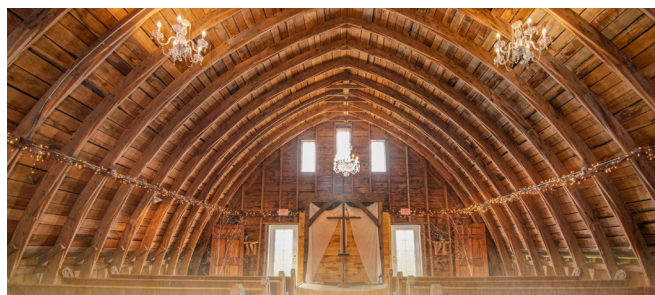
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Rustic - Chic Country Elegance

The site of a 132 year old farmstead set in a valley
on a hill. Complete with farmhouse, pump house,
guesthouse, chapel and stables. Nestled on 40
acres of farmland, your gathering will enjoy privacy
but still be only a quick 3.5 miles from Turtle Lake.



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920-988-8579

celebrationsatthegables.com

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Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Your Amazing Reception to Follow

No RSVP Required



reception and venue guide

Venue	capacity	tables & chairs included	in-house catering/bar	liquor*	outdoor facilities	rehearsal dinners	see ad on page
Beaver Creek Reserve Fall Creek • 715-877-2212 beavercreekreserve.org	100	•		0	•	•	NA
Celebrations at the Gables Turtle Lake • 715-641-0791 celebrationsatthegables.com	280	•	•	•	•	•	27
Dixon's Apple Orchard & Wedding Venue Cadott • 715-313-0315 dixonsapples.com	250+	□		BYOB	•	•	5
Dixons Autumn Harvest Winery Chippewa Falls • 715-720-1663 autumnharvestwinery.com	150	•		•	•	•	5
Eastbay Lodge Holcombe • 715-928-0735 eastbayholcombe.com	400	•	•	•	•	•	2
Fest Valley Events Cadott • 715-289-4401 festvalleyevents.com	400	•	■	•	•	•	22
The Florian Gardens Eau Claire • 715-832-8836 thefloriangardens.com	525	•	•	•	•		NA
Forage Eau Claire • info@forageeauclaire.com forageeauclaire.com	80	•	•	•		•	NA
Holiday Inn Eau Claire South Eau Claire • 715-930-7081 holidayinn.com/eauclairewi	300	•	•	•		•	13
Lake Wissota Golf & Events Chippewa Falls • 888-382-4780 Wissota.golf	300	•	•	•	•	•	14
Menominee Casino Resort Keshena • 715-799-3600 ext. 5209 menomineecasinoresort.com	500	•	•	•	•	•	19

Venue	capacity	tables & chairs included	in-house catering/bar	liquor*	outdoor facilities	rehearsal dinners	see ad on page
Metropolis Resort Eau Claire • 844-461-1741 weddings.metropolisresort.com	300	•	•	•	•	•	NA
Off Broadway Banquet Center Menomonie • 715-233-3333 offbroadwaybanquet.com	500	•	•	•		•	12
River Prairie Center Altoona • 715-598-8910 riverprairiecenter.com	300	•	•	•	•	•	30
The Barn at Copper Creek Menomonie • 715-308-4434 barnatcoppercreek.com	300	•	•	•	•	•	9
The Lismore Eau Claire • 715-835-8888 thelismore.com	550	•	•	•		•	24
The Mill Events Chetek • 715-790-0491 themillevents.com	220	•	■	BYOB		•	NA
The Oxbow Hotel and The Lakely Eau Claire • 715-839-0601 theoxbowhotel.com	150	•	•	•	•	•	18
Westgate Sportsman's Club Eau Claire • 715-832-4548 ecwestgate.com	300	•	•	•	•	•	18
Wild Ridge Golf Course Eau Claire • 715-834-1766 wildridgegolf.com	250	•	•	•	•	•	NA
WI Farmers Union Kamp Kenwood Chippewa Falls • 715-214-7244 kampkenwood.com	200	•		BYOB	•	•	4

• BYOB-no liquor □ Available with some packages ■ Bar only

*Call for updated liquor license regulations

RIVER PRAIRIE

CENTER

For Any Occasion!

- Weddings
- Corporate Events
- Benefits
- Graduations
- Anniversaries
- Rehearsal Dinners
- Celebration Of Life Gatherings
- Wildlife Banquets & More



Available On Site Or We Can Cater Anywhere Within 120 Miles!

Fully licensed with all the necessary equipment to travel and supply food at your location! Buffet style for any size group from 50 to 500 people with full meal buffets, appetizers, and box lunches! All set up, maintenance, and cleanup for a minimal fee.

Taco & Fajita Buffets

Taco and fajita buffets with all the fixings.

Chicken & Burger Buffets

Chicken sandwich and burger buffets with all the fixings.

Dinner Buffets

2 meats with potato, veggie, bread, and salad.

Call or Email Dave For A Proposal Within 24 hours!

651-269-8120 | dlkre64@aol.com

Beverages

Non Alcoholic

Soda and Coffee (unlimited)

Craft Beer 1/2 Barrel

Ask for selections

Domestic Beer 1/2 Barrel

Ask for selections

Wine By The Bottle

Whites: Moscato, Chardonnay, White Zinfandel, Pinot Grigio

Reds: Cabernet, Merlot, Sangria (5 Gallons)

Specialty Wine - Upon Availability. Cost TBD

Champagne

By the case or by the bottle

Drink Chips

Choose the number of drinks you want to provide

Open Bar - Based on Budget or Time

Guests may order as they wish from the bar

Buffet & Plated Dinners

You may choose two main courses. If there is something you desire that is not on this list, please tell us.

Main Entrées:

Poultry:

Grilled or Baked
Tacos
Lemon
Champagne
Tropical
Turkey
Fajitas

Beef:

Top Sirloin
Burgundy Tips
Tacos
Beef Tips
Stroganoff
Fajitas

Pork & Fish:

Pork Loin
Baked Fish
Salmon
Glazed Ham
BBQ Ribs

Vegetarian:

Stuffed Shells
Vegetable pasta
Lasagna
Garlic Pasta Alfredo
Vegetable Alfredo
Baked Ziti
Alfredo

- Other buffet options: Taco or Fajita buffets with all the fixings, breakfast, picnic, and build your own burger and chicken sandwich buffets with all the fixings. Ask for pricing!
- Special needs: we can make entrees for guests with gluten free, vegan, vegetarian, celiac. Ask for details!

Starch (Select One)

- Herb mashed with gravy
- Loaded mashed
- Baked potato
- Au Gratin
- Cheesy hash browns
- Garlic mashed with butter
- Buttered baby reds
- Rice pilaf
- Stuffing
- Other (party's choice)

Vegetable (Select One)

- Green beans
- California medley
- Glazed carrots
- Buttered corn
- Other (party's choice)

Bread (Select One)

- Garlic buttered breadsticks
- Dinner rolls (white, wheat, or combo)

Salad (Select One)

- **Traditional Caesar:** crisp romaine, parmesan cheese, croutons, and Caesar dressing.
- **Garden:** fresh greens, tomatoes, cheese and croutons. Choose 2 dressings. (Ranch, French, Thousand Island, or other)
- **Fruit Salad:** mixed fresh fruit.
- **Italian Pasta Meat**
- **Create Your Own**

Hor D'oeuvres

Pizza

16" - Choose Toppings

Bone-in Chicken Wings

Buffalo, BBQ, Dry-Rubbed, Whiskey
Glazed, or Plain

Meatballs

BBQ, Swedish, or Italian

Loaded Potato Skins

Cheese, bacon, and served with seasoned
sour cream

Spinach & Artichoke Dip

Served with tri-colored chips

Skewers

Choice of chicken, vegetable, or beef.
Served with a dipping sauce.

Cheese Curds

Served with dipping sauce

Pesto Flat Bread

Sautéed Mushrooms

Served with a dipping sauce

Pretzels & Chips

Chips & Salsa

Served with tri-colored chips and
medium salsa

Vegetable Tray

Assorted veggies served with ranch

Taco Dip

Served with chips

Cucumber Sandwiches

Assorted Meat & Cheese Tray

Served with crackers

Assorted Fruit Tray

Served with fruit dip

Assorted Mini Sandwich Tray

Turkey, ham and roast beef with cheese

Chicken Fingers

Bruschetta Bites

BBQ Mini Weenies

Create Your Own App!

If there is something you want that is not
on this list, tell us.

Weddings at RIVER PRAIRIE

CENTER



Indoor Space

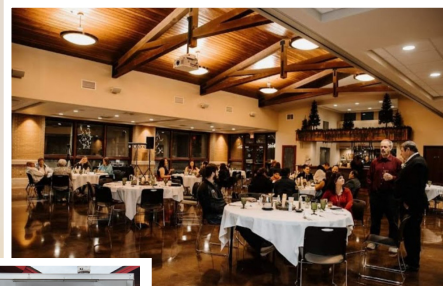
- Seating for up to 300 people at your wedding
- Attached patio space featuring 2 gas fireplaces and a rollup bar access
- Rustic industrial space highlighted by a wood beamed arched ceiling, fireplace, built in bar, floor to ceiling window walls, stained hard surface flooring and custom color down lighting
- State of the art sound and AV system throughout the building and grounds for your wedding
- Attached complimentary parking
- Newly added full kitchen, all food is cooked fresh daily on-site for your wedding



Staybridge
Hotel
right next
door!

Outdoor Space

- **THE GRAINERY** - This gorgeous venue is located along the River Prairie Walking Trail and Pond. It contains a rustic chandelier and electrical connections capable of serving your event.
- **THE TENT** - Set up on the Front Porch Plaza, this venue will have several chandeliers and electrical connections capable of serving your event.
- **THE BLUFF** - Natural terraced area located along the River Prairie Walking Trail. This rustic wooded location features our native ferns and fauna with a peaceful view of the Eau Claire River.
- **FOREVER GARDEN** - Romantic landscaped garden surrounded by mature oak trees and the Prairie Stream. Closest location to the River Prairie Center.
- **FOUR SEASONS PLAZA** - Framed by the Prairie Stream with a lighted rail backdrop art sculpture and built-in bench seating.
- **AMPHITHEATER** - Multi-terraced seating area with lit retaining walls and a large hardscape stage area. Wooded surroundings and the Eau Claire River make for a romantic ceremony backdrop.



River Prairie Center
1445 Front Porch Place - Altoona, WI

715-598-8910

www.riverprairiecenter.com



Dave Kremer (President/Sales & Marketing) • 651-269-8120 • events@riverprairiecenter.com
Connie Thompson (General Manager) • 715-415-0136 • connierpcwi@gmail.com
Denise Berger (Event Coordinator / Sales) • 414-687-5142 • deniserpcwi@gmail.com