



MADISON *Indiana*

Merry Madison Events Recap



Light Up Madison & A Very Merry Madison Christmas Parade and Celebration

Light Up Merry Madison was just the perfect way to kick-start the Christmas festivities in Madison, and it's always one of our favorite holiday traditions! At the event, we announced the winner of our K-5 grade Christmas Card Competition, Grace Grubbs! Her artwork will be featured on all of the City of Madison's Christmas cards this year, and she was given a bundle of finished cards with her artwork as an award. Other honorable mentions in the competition include designs by 4th grader Makenzie Coin (snow globe), Kindergartener Dezi Austin (Christmas tree), and 5th grader Molly (red truck).

We had so much fun with everyone at the Very Merry Madison Christmas Parade this year! With over 45 local organizations/groups/businesses represented, it was incredible to see everyone come to celebrate the Christmas season together.

Thanks to everyone who has participated in our Christmas events -- we couldn't do it without you!



Grand Marshal: Frank Hayes

At the city's A Very Merry Madison Christmas Parade last weekend, Frank Hayes was honored as the grand marshal after receiving numerous public nominations for this year's position of honor.

Hayes is a beloved Madisonian and veteran who served with USAF Strategic Air Command reconnaissance units following advanced electronics training courses and participated in overseas deployments. He co-authored "We Served With Honor" on the 91st Strategic Reconnaissance Wing RB-47 photo-recon overflights of USSR-denied territory. Hayes has an incredible background and completed programs in field engineering (Philco Corp.), math (Oklahoma University), business and management (NYIT), Life Cycle Cost (George Washington University), and company training conducted at Republic Aviation, Fairchild Republic, Collins Radio and Laboratory For Electronics in addition to his impressive biography of achievements and service. Frank traveled the world and lived in New York for 55 years but chose Madison as his home upon retirement.

"Madison is the most beautiful place to be for Christmas," said Hayes. Often found supporting local shops and restaurants and spreading good cheer wherever he goes, his generosity and character have earned him the title of "Ambassador of Madison" and he embodies the spirit of the Christmas season. "I'm known for positivity, been known that way since I was a kid."

Hayes is passionate about aerospace history and the benefit of educators, students, families with children, and future generations, in addition to his unwavering love for Madison and its many members. Frequently found walking downtown, Hayes has been a friendly neighborhood figure for years and lives next door to City Hall in the heart of downtown Madison.

"I couldn't think of a better parade grand marshal than Frank Hayes," said Mayor Courtney. "As an Air Force veteran and a Madison ambassador, Frank exemplifies the character of Madison and the spirit of Christmas!"





Bringing Local Industry Leaders Together

On Tuesday afternoon, the City of Madison's economic and redevelopment department hosted a Hospitality and Restaurant Summit in collaboration with the Madison Area Chamber of Commerce, Visit Madison, Inc., and the Madison Main Street Program.

Patrick Tamm, the President and CEO of the Indiana Restaurant and Lodging Association, spoke to attendees about local trends and the 2024 culinary forecast. Other topics included new alcohol laws and the state of tourism in Madison. Attendees also participated in a thoughtful Q&A session that discussed various subjects like food trucks and entertainment packages.

Thank you to our speakers and all of our attendees for helping make this such an informative event! Madison is truly on the move, and our partnerships with local entrepreneurs are one of the driving forces of investment in our city, which increases the quality of life for all of the community.

Madison Police Department

City of Madison Chief of Police Announces Retirement

The City of Madison's Police Department Chief, John I. Wallace, will retire at the end of December 2023.

Beginning his career in 1986 as a patrolman under Mayor Mark Lytle, Wallace served 24 years as a patrol officer, detective, and eventually Chief of Police. Elected as Jefferson County's sheriff in 2010, he served two terms before shifting to the position of Chief Deputy under Sheriff David Thomas. He later served Madison Consolidated Schools as a school resource officer until he was appointed to the City of Madison's Chief of Police by Mayor Courtney in 2020.

"It has truly been an honor and privilege to serve the citizens of Madison and Jefferson County as a police officer," said Chief Wallace. "I have been blessed to serve with some of the best men and women Madison and Jefferson County has to offer and sincerely appreciate the opportunity Mayor Bob Courtney gave me, returning to the city police to finish out my career as chief."



After 37 years of serving as a police officer, Wallace wants to take on the next stage of life and retire alongside his wife, Patti Wallace, at the end of the year. Blessed with four grandchildren, they look forward to spending more time with their family.

"Our department has grown, not only in numbers but in professionalism and pride. I believe the Madison Police Department's best days are ahead; a strong foundation has been established that can be built upon. Thank you for allowing me to serve you as a police officer," said Chief Wallace.

Under Chief Wallace's leadership, the city has seen incredible accomplishments, including growing the department to 34 officers, forming a crime suppression task force, reducing drug-related crime by 22%, creating a traffic division, and implementing Operation Predator Net, which deals with crimes against children.

"Wallace also oversaw creating a part-time officer program, improving evidence handling procedures and best operational practices, among many other things," said Mayor Bob Courtney. "Chief Wallace has worked tirelessly to make Madison a safer place for everyone. I wish him all the best in his retirement."

The City of Madison is now accepting applications for the position of Police Chief, and any interested parties may file a submission online at madison-in.gov/employment. Applications will be accepted through December 17 at midnight.

[Application Portal Here](#)

Our Local Students

Partnering with our Students

On Monday, Madison Junior High School 5th graders stopped by City Hall to hear from city officials before they hung their Christmas lamppost tags downtown!

Each 5th-grade class at MJHS came together to sponsor a class lamppost tag this year, and everyone signed their tags before hanging them along Main Street. With seven classes represented, we were thrilled to partner with them for this fun, festive effort, and they helped contribute to making Madison extra merry and bright this year!

Thanks for stopping by and helping us make Madison clean, safe and beautiful this December!



Dollar General Market



Last month Mayor Courtney, Economic and Redevelopment Director Tony Steinhardt, Devon Sharpe with Madison Land and Title, and Paul Conway, representing Rafferty Development, LLC,

completed the final paperwork and closed on the property purchase for the downtown grocery store building. The developers started construction on the new Dollar General (DG) Market property in early December and share that the community can expect to see the doors open by early June, 2024.

This contract marks the official purchase of the property from the city's ownership. The city will begin improving the parking lot on the east side of the building in the coming weeks and will complete these infrastructure improvements by the store's opening date.



Rafferty Development, LLC will be responsible for the renovations (based on approved renderings) as well as incorporating public arts into the project. In addition to the parking lot work, the city is coordinating sidewalk and street improvements throughout the Mulberry Arts Corridor and Second Street, which will include lighting, sidewalks, paved roads, and planting of trees and flowers.

"This project has really been a labor of love for several years," said Madison's Mayor, Bob Courtney. "Welcoming a grocery store into downtown Madison has been a goal of this administration from the very beginning, and closing on the property today marks a huge step forward in a multi-million dollar capital investment for our local community. This grocery store will significantly elevate the quality of life for our downtown and greater Madison area residents."

[Learn More About the Project Here!](#)

Santa Schedule & Letters



All Things Santa Claus!

Santa always visits Madison during the holiday season, and he even has a quaint little cottage for the occasion! Stop by to see Santa in his cottage at the Madison Comfort Station located at 221 W. Main Street Madison, IN 47250. Remaining 2023 schedule below:

Fridays:

Friday, December 8, from 5 – 8 PM @ the Santa House

Friday, December 15, from 5 – 8 PM @ the Santa House

Saturdays:

Saturday, Dec. 9, from 2 – 5 PM @ the Santa House

Saturday, Dec. 16, from 2 – 5 PM @ the Santa House

Until December 13, our "North Pole Express" mailbox is outside City Hall for kids to drop off their letters to Santa. These letters will be hand delivered to Santa and letters with a return address will receive a note from Santa.

Sponsored by the Red Restaurants!



Fridays:
Dec 1 5 - 8 p.m.
Dec 8 5 - 8 p.m.
Dec 15 5 - 8 p.m.

Saturdays:
Nov 25 2 - 5 p.m.
Dec 2 2 - 5 p.m.
Dec 9 2 - 5 p.m.
Dec 16 2 - 5 p.m.

Meet
**SANTA
CLAUS**

Learn more online at:
madison-in.gov/christmas



MADISON
Indiana

**FUN, GAMES, ACTIVITIES, GIVE AWAYS,
RAFFLES, SPORTS THEMED HOLIDAY CRAFTS +**

MADISON PARKS AND RECREATION

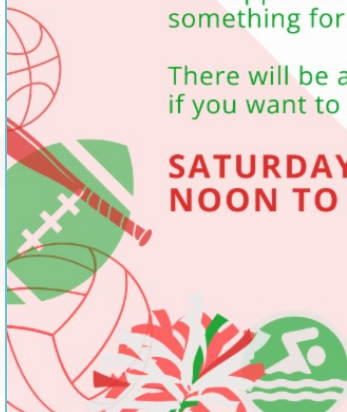
Christmas Jamboree!

Grab a stocking and fill it up! Join Santa, the Grinch, coaches and sport reps at this merry jamboree event! You can find out more about upcoming 2024 programs and get some tasty treats along the way!

Kids can visit Santa, and make stops at tables around the gym to learn about new opportunities to get involved with in our 2024 programming, and get something for their stocking along the way!

There will be also an organized swap meet at the event if you want to donate sports equipment and participate.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2023
NOON TO 3 PM, @THE BROWN GYM**



Merry Christmas from the City of Madison

Merry Christmas!



The City Hall offices, including the water office, will be closed Friday, December 22 through Monday, December 25 for Christmas. We will re-open for regular business hours, Tuesday, December 26.

The transfer station will be closed Friday, December 22, Saturday, December 23, and Monday, December 25. The transfer station will re-open on Tuesday, December 26 for regular business hours.

Trash will be delayed one day during the week of December 25-29, 2023.

CITY OF MADISON

THANK YOU FOR READING!

To learn more details and information about any City Hall event or operation, visit our website @ Madison-in.gov

We'll be back next month with more, so stay tuned!



Share This Email



Share This Email



Share This Email



Share This Email

Not subscribed? Sign up for the e-newsletter here!

City of Madison, Indiana | 101 W. Main Street, Madison, IN 47250

[Unsubscribe hfagen@madison-in.gov](mailto:hfragen@madison-in.gov)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [hfagen@madison-in.gov](mailto:hfragen@madison-in.gov) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!