

EVENTS December 18- January 4 in Montague/ Turners Falls!

Wednesday, December 18

Lantern Workshop

Montague Center Library, 5pm

Join Rachel Beaupre at the Montague Center Library to make a lantern just in time for the solstice! Two different versions available for children/adults. Free! <https://www.facebook.com/events/568148259504471>

Wednesday, December 18

Line Dancing with Staci

[Pioneer Valley Brewery](#), 6:30-8:30pm

Wednesday, December 18

Wes Brown and Friends

The Rendezvous, 78 Third St., 8pm

Local jazz musician Wes Brown plays live every 3rd Wednesday- "Wes-day. Wes will be joined by Andrew Wilcox (keys) and Jill Connolly (vocals).

Thursday, December 19

Tyler's Trivia

Pioneer valley Brewery, 6:30pm

Round up your dream teams for a night packed with brain-bending fun!

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1275924513679752>

Thursday, December 19

VOO Holiday Spectacular

The Rendezvous, 78 Third St., 7:30pm

Join us for an evening of eclectic musical genres and alternate versions of "Twas the Night Before Christmas," a bit of sing-along and hopefully a few surprises, along with yummy Voo food and delectable libations, in a room full of groovy people. It's bound to make you feel Joy! We hope to see you there!

<https://www.facebook.com/events/3927253854171074>

Thursday, December 19

The Shea Presents: Stephen Kellogg with The Moonrise Cartel

Shea Theater, \$30-\$40, 8pm

For more than two decades, this wordsmith, TEDx speaker, stand-up comic, author and troubadour has delighted audiences around the world with a mix of music and storytelling. The Moonrise Cartel is an Americana folk/ classic rock/ gospel band.

Friday, December 20

Kidleidoscope Story Hour – Deer

Great Falls Discovery Center, 10:30-11:30am

For ages 3-6, accompanied by an adult. Learn more about our wildlife neighbors in the Connecticut River Watershed. Program includes a story, activities, and crafts. Activities are indoors and outdoors, weather permitting. Siblings and friends welcome. Meet in the Great Hall.

Friday, December 20

Nice and Easy Walk

Great Falls Discovery Center, 102pm

Easy-paced, 1 to 2-mile guided walk, along the Canalside Rail Trail or downtown Turners Falls, geared for seniors, but open to all. Enjoy natural and local history along the way. Dress for the weather with sturdy footwear and bring water. Inclement weather cancels. Meet outside the main entrance.

Friday, December 20

Queer Family Night

Brick House, 24 Third St., 5-7pm

Solstice activities. Free Dinner! All Ages Welcome!

December 20-22

Beauty & The Beast

Ja Duke Theater, \$12-\$15

The classic story tells of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, who is really a young prince trapped under the spell of an enchantress. This timeless story unfolds with mesmerizing performances, beautiful costumes, and unforgettable music. All ages. Friday 7pm. Saturday 2pm & 7pm, Sunday 2pm

Friday, December 20

Swing Dance with Butterfly Swing Band

Montague Common Hall

8-10pm. Special Winter Solstice event. Live Music and Dancing \$15 for a swingin' night at a sweet venue with swell band! <https://www.facebook.com/events/2036506280112400>

Friday, December 20

Far Out: Life On & After the Commune

Shea Theater, 7:30pm, \$16

85-minute documentary tells the story of two rural New England communal farms. Q&A with director Charles Light; Sam Lovejoy, Montague Farm commune member and anti-nuclear activist; and Verandah Porche, poet and long time member of the Packer Corners farm. Q & A with film makers. <https://sheatheater.org>

Saturday, December 21

Ongoing – School Vacation Week:

Mammal Adaptation Investigation Station

Great Falls Discovery Center

Learn about local mammals and their unique winter adaptations at the Welcome Desk. Every animal has special adaptations that enable them to survive in their winter habitats. Explore through touchable artifacts (pelts, replica skulls, and replica tracks), and habitat diorama scavenger hunts. For ages 4 and up.

Saturday, December 21

Breakfast with Santa Fundraiser

Montague Elks, 9-11am

Enjoy a lovely breakfast with the big man himself, enjoy some holiday tunes, and make a festive craft. All proceeds support Turners Falls High School Class of 2025 prom tickets and graduation. Pancakes, bacon, juice and coffee. \$10 ages 13 and Up. \$5 for 6-12 years. Under 5 free! <https://www.facebook.com/100086405646538>

Saturday, December 21

Winter Solstice Celebration

Montague Retreat Center, 177 Ripley Rd

Noon to Midnight: Classes, dances, live music, yoga, vending, fire circle ceremony at dusk, drumming, ecstatic dance, live painting. Organized by the HeARTbeat Collective. Tickets \$20-\$50

<https://www.facebook.com/events/903003988564688>

Saturday, December 21

Great Falls Books Through Bars

Holiday Card Writing Party

104 Third Street, 1-4pm. Members of GFBTB will be hosting a winter card writing event to send cards to incarcerated folks in MA prisons. Participate in-person or check out this link for information about how to participate via ZOOM: <https://www.facebook.com/events/3481209032175273>

Saturday, December 21

Gingerbread Houses

Great Falls Discovery Center, 1-3pm. FREE!

Build an easy gingerbread house using graham crackers and an assortment of candy. Ages 3-16. Presented by Montague Public Libraries. <https://www.facebook.com/events/8534732993284080>

Saturday, December 21

Five Village Santa Tour sponsored by the Montague Center Fire Department and RiverCulture. Santa arrives at the following locations via fire truck to greet kids:

1:30pm: Montague Center Common

2pm: Lake Pleasant, Rutters Park, 2:30pm: Millers Falls, across from Carroll's

3pm: Turners Falls, Unity Park, 3:30pm: Montague City, Parking lot across from the Farren lot

3:45pm: Turners Falls Fire Dept.

4pm: Return to Montague Center

ALL TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE

<https://www.facebook.com/events/869183892091757>

Saturday, December 21

Solstice Walk- Celebrate the Change of Seasons

Meet at the Discovery Center 3-4:30pm

Celebrate the change in season. Join us for an easy walk along the Canalside Rail Trail for 3 miles on a level paved surface. For adults and children ages 8 and up. Be prepared for cold weather, dress in layers. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water. Walk begins at the front entrance of the Discovery Center. Inclement weather or icy trail conditions cancels. Meet outside the main entrance. Hot chocolate after the walk in the Great Hall!

Saturday, December 21

Holiday Candle Craft Workshop

Element Brewery, Millers Falls, 6:30-8:30pm \$39

An evening filled with creativity and festive fun. Craft two custom 8 oz candles using natural scents and colors that capture the warmth and joy of the season. Whether you're looking to create gifts or add a personal holiday touch to your home, this workshop will leave you with candles perfect for the season! Limited spots. Reserve yours:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/3373774219423484>

Saturday, December 21

Ugly Sweater Party. Music by HyFy

Pioneer Valley Brewery, 7pm

Get ready to unleash your fashion faux pas because it's that fabulous time of year again—our annual ugly sweater extravaganza with HyFy!

Saturday, December 21

QUIET RIOT

The Shea Theater, 8pm, \$59-\$99

Quiet Riot is a rock & roll phenomenon. Famously described as the first heavy metal band to top the pop chart at #1 on Billboard magazine, the Los Angeles quartet became an overnight sensation thanks to their monster 1983 smash album Metal Health. QUIET RIOT Will be Performing All the Hits: * CUM ON FEEL THE NOIZE * BANG YOUR HEAD (METAL HEALTH) * MAMA WEER ALL CRAZEE NOW * SLICK BLACK CADILLAC * THE WILD AND THE YOUNG & MORE... Don't miss this legendary band while you still have a chance! <https://sheatheater.org>

Saturday, December 21

DJ MetalDrift- Quiet Riot afterparty

The Rendezvous, 78 Third St, 10pm

J MetalDrift spinning hard rock & heavy metal vinyl, after the Quiet Riot show at the Shea!

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1835825850576198>

Sunday, December 22

Jeff Belanger's THE FRIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Shea Theater, 7:30pm, \$20

Remember the famous Christmas song which goes, "There'll be scary ghost stories and tales of the glories of Christmases long, long ago?" So what happened to the scary stories? Jeff Belanger brings the spooky back to the yuletide time of year with this eerie holiday show. From the origins of the holiday to the monsters and ghosts that lurk in its shadows Based on his "Creepy Christmas" PBS special, Jeff will take you on a multi-media journey of this haunting holiday! The author of over a dozen books, he is also the Emmy-nominated host, writer, and producer of the PBS series New England Legends. <https://sheatheater.org>

The Week December 24-31

MERRY CHRISTMAS! HAPPY HANUKKAH!

Friday, December 27

Kidleidoscope Story Hour – Ducks

Great Falls Discovery Center, 10:30-11:30am

For ages 3-6, accompanied by an adult. Learn more about our wildlife neighbors in the Connecticut River Watershed. Program includes a story, activities, and crafts. Activities are indoors and outdoors, weather permitting. Siblings and friends welcome. Meet in the Great Hall.

Friday, December 27

Nice and Easy Walk

Great Falls Discovery Center, 1-2pm

Easy-paced, 1 to 2-mile guided walk, along the Canalside Rail Trail or downtown Turners Falls, geared for seniors, but open to all. Enjoy natural and local history along the way. Dress for the weather with sturdy footwear and bring water. Inclement weather cancels. Meet outside the main entrance.

Saturday, December 28

Anti-Zionist Jewish Deli Night

Dreamhouse Restaurant, 37 Third St, 5-8pm

<https://www.instagram.com/dreamhouserestaurant>

Saturday, December 28

Garrett Grant

Pioneer Valley Brewery, 7pm

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1239269377287068>

NEW YEARS EVE

Tuesday, December 31

The Shea Presents: Roots of Creation

Shea Theater, 8pm \$25 standing/\$35 seated

RoC (Roots of Creation) has taken on a unique new project: Grateful Dub: a Reggae-infused tribute to Jerry Garcia & The Grateful Dead. Combining their longtime love for Reggae-Dub style music and the Grateful Dead, RoC reworked some of the world's favorite Dead tunes into a new studio album. RoC had the pleasure of working in the studio with the legendary 5-time Grammy winner Errol Brown who was Bob Marley's sound engineer for this project. Grateful Dub is also being performed live in its entirety at festivals, theatres, and clubs around the country, and features rotating live special guests that has included Melvin Seals (Jerry Garcia Band), Scott Guberman (Phil Lesh), Zach Nugent, RyMo, AG, & Paul W. (Slightly Stoopid), G. Love (G. Love & Special Sauce), Mihali (Twiddle), Dan Kelly (Fortunate Youth) and others. Grateful Dub captures the spirit and magic of the Grateful Dead, while laying it down Reggae-Dub style. <https://sheatheater.org>

January 1-4, 2025

Wednesday, January 1

First Hike

Meet at the Great Falls Discovery Center, 1-3pm

Start off the New Year on the right foot. A leisurely, staff-guided three-mile stroll on the Canalside Rail Trail. Dress in layers and wear winter walking boots. For ages 8 and up. Dogs are welcome on leash. Meet at 1:00 p.m. in the Great Hall. Hike begins at 1:15 p.m. Refreshments served following.

Wednesday, January 1

Half Shaved Jazz

The Rendezvous, 78 Third St., 8pm

<https://www.facebook.com/events/2347255102289008>

Thursday, January 2

Vinyl Night

The Rendezvous, 78 Third St., 9pm

Hosted by Breakdown Records! Bring your own side of vinyl to play! Breakdown will have vinyl for sale.

Friday, January 3

Montague Shakespeare Festival

WORKSHOP: Recasting the Script

Live ZOOM: 1–2 PM EST / 6–7 PM (UK Time)

Attention all Shakespeare enthusiasts! The **Montague Shakespeare Festival** is proud to announce its exclusive **Live Zoom** workshops led by acclaimed actors, directors, and creatives from Shakespeare's Globe London and the Royal Shakespeare Company. These 9 interactive sessions are crafted to bring the Bard's works to life on the stage. Workshop 1: "Recasting the Script: Shifting Away from Traditional Gender Imbalance" led by Elle While, Artistic Director of Pentabus Theatre and Associate Artist of Shakespeare's Globe. Elle's recent groundbreaking direction of Richard III at Shakespeare's Globe showcased her innovative approach to rethinking gender roles in theatre. Participants will explore the history of gender dynamics in Shakespearean performance, Strategies for challenging traditional casting conventions, how identity and inclusivity enrich storytelling. Reserve your spot. \$25.

www.montagueshakespearefestival.com

Friday, January 3

First Friday: Make Your Own Paper

Great Falls Discovery Center, 4-6pm

Join us for a craft night of tin-can papermaking in the Great Hall and see just how creative you have to be to make it in the paper business. Ages 8 and up. Families welcome! Meet in the Great Hall.

Friday, January 3

Next Stop Comedy

Pioneer Valley Brewery, 7:30pm

Next Stop Comedy brings top stand-up comedians to PVB. Each show features a novel line-up with acts seen on TV and heard on your favorite podcasts. Tickets \$25. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/next-stop-comedy-at-pioneer-valley-brewery-tuners-falls-ma-tickets-796315068807>

Saturday, January 4

Used Book Sale

Carnegie Library, 10am-1pm

Fiction, paperback, DVDs, Audio Books and hundreds of recent donations.

Saturday, January 4

Montague Reporter Fundraiser

in Honor of Christopher Sawyer-Lauçanno

Great Falls Discovery Center, 1-4pm

Celebrate the extraordinary life of Christopher Sawyer-Lauçanno (1951-2024) in the form of a fundraiser for the Montague Reporter. Family, friends, fellow poets, artists, collaborators, community members, and colleagues are welcome and encouraged to share stories, thoughts, and dreams at this event. Christopher fostered and edited the Montague Reporter Poetry Page for many years. Donations to the Montague Reporter are welcomed but not required. Sponsored by family and the Montague Reporter. For all ages.

Saturday, January 4

Mosey Down

Pioneer Valley Brewery, 7pm

Join us in Welcoming Mosey Down to PVB with a night of Rock and Blues with Soul!

Saturday, January 4

Freakshow

The Rendezvous, 78 Third St., 9:30pm

Join Western Mass's hottest, freakiest drag queens, kings, and things for Freakshow! Hosted by Stanley Coochie, this show will also star Gaybo the Drag Clown, Blue Berimore, Anita Blunt, and Huck Pew. Suggestion donation of 5-10\$+ at the door, doors at 9, show at 9:30. Food and drink also available at the rendezvous throughout. Get your freak on, support local drag, and have an amazing night at the Voo!

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1128848625495830>