



ST JOSEPH-LITTLE FALLS-COLD SPRING

THE AREA BUZZ

ROCKVILLE-ROYALTON-RICE-WAITE PARK

Vol 1
Issue 5

From Video Production to Web Design: Illuminet, LLC is Shaping Little Falls' and St. Joseph's Creative Landscape



Local Celebrity

Ashley Karolus

Check Out Our Site @ CENTRALMNBZZ.COM



In a world where creativity knows no bounds, one company stands at the intersection of rhythm and innovation—Illuminet, LLC. Originally making waves in the music production scene, this dynamic team has transformed its artistic prowess into a multifaceted agency that's now reshaping web design and digital experiences in St. Joseph and Little Falls. But how does a passion for sound translate into stunning visuals? We explore the journey of Illuminet from crafting amazing music and business videos to designing captivating websites that resonate with local businesses and creatives alike.

various artistic disciplines into one cohesive entity. From dazzling music productions both music and video to stunning web designs, this innovative company is leaving its mark on the community. It's not just about aesthetics; it's about storytelling and connection.

they wanted to be part of it. Now their Youtube channel has over 125K subs and music videos from several different music artists. Transitioning into web design wasn't just a shift; it was an expansion of their creative philosophy. They applied the same principles from music videos and music production—collaboration, innovation, and storytelling—to help businesses establish their online presence.

Illuminet started with an ear for talent and a vision for quality, they produced captivating music tracks and that resonated with audiences. Their unique approach transformed artists' ideas into polished sounds. As demand grew, so did their ambitions. Illuminet recognized the potential to diversify beyond music. The digital landscape was evolving rapidly, and

Illuminet, LLC blends

This evolution marked a new chapter for Illuminet as they embraced technology while staying true to their artistic roots. Each project became an opportunity to blend creativity with functionality seamlessly.



What do you do for a living?

I'm a Cosmetologist

What are some of your Hobbies?

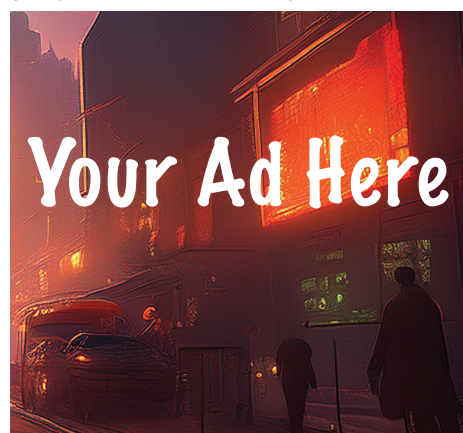
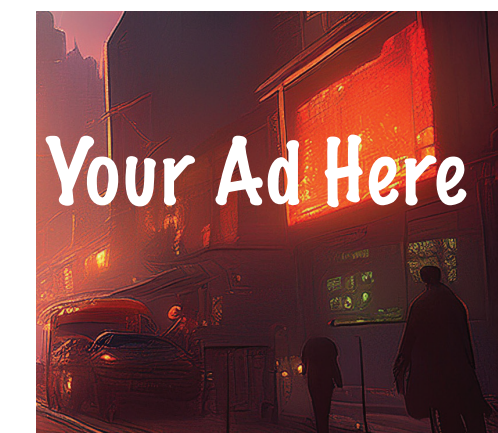
I enjoy doing anything outside, hanging out with my kids, gardening and making bread

Favorite Food?

Pizza

Favorite drink?

Any kind of margarita



FEATURED STORY

illuminet, LLC

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Continued from page 1

Illuminet, LLC offers a vibrant array of creative services that truly cater to diverse needs. With business and music video production, they craft visually stunning narratives that resonate with audiences. Check out a sample of a business review made by a National Earphone Manufacturer. This video already has over 550K views and is growing fast. Check it out here:



Their expertise in website design and development transforms ideas into interactive experiences. Each site is tailored for optimal user engagement, ensuring businesses stand out online.

Music production remains at the heart of Illuminet's offerings. With skilled producers at the helm, artists find their unique sound brought to life through high-quality recordings. Check out an album and video produced by Illuminet here



Additionally, they help with the production of "The Area Buzz" Newspaper

The blend of these services showcases Illuminet's commitment to fostering creativity in every project they undertake.

From recording sessions to mixing and mastering, each project receives meticulous attention. Artists find a collaborative environment that nurtures their vision. Every note is polished to perfection, every video clip carefully edited to perfection.

Illuminet not only supports local talent but also ensures

high-quality production standards that compete on larger platforms. This commitment helps artists shine in an ever-evolving industry. Check out a local music artist review here:



Illuminet, LLC understands the power of the written word. Their print and online publications are designed to include national entertainment and news but also elevate local voices and stories that matter.

From online to print, they ensure every detail shines.

Whether it's community news or special interest features, their team dives deep into research. They capture the essence of Central Minnesota's diverse narratives. Check out one of their local websites here:



Illuminet, LLC also produces music videos and music for artists including, StarShot.Rocks, Real Light, Seven No 6 and For Him In Steath to name a few.

StarShot.Rocks is an online entertainment website that also has a music project and online radio station. This music project has artists from all over the globe coming together to make excellent music.

At Illuminet, LLC, creativity thrives in a collaborative atmosphere. Each project begins with an open dialogue between the team and clients. Ideas flow freely, sparking innovative concepts tailored to specific needs.

The design phase is where magic happens. Graphic designers and web developers come together to craft stunning

visuals that resonate with target audiences. They incorporate feedback seamlessly, ensuring each detail aligns with the client's vision.

In music production, sound engineers dive into tracks. Every note is meticulously fine-tuned to create a polished final product that captures the intended emotion.

Throughout this process, a culture of support fosters growth and experimentation. The team embraces challenges as opportunities for learning and improvement—creating not just products but lasting relationships spanning the globe.

The future of Illuminet, LLC looks bright as it continues to evolve and adapt within Central Minnesota's dynamic creative landscape. With a commitment to innovation, the company is well-positioned to embrace new technologies and trends in music production and web design. As they expand their offerings, we can expect even more exciting collaborations that push the boundaries of creativity.

Illuminet's mission remains clear: to support local artists, businesses, and organizations through high-quality services that enhance their visibility and impact.

As they forge ahead, Illuminet will undoubtedly continue shaping not only individual projects but also the very fabric of artistic expression in the area. Their unique blend of experience across multiple disciplines makes them an invaluable resource for anyone looking to make their mark locally or globally.

illuminet, LLC
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myilluminet.com
info@myilluminet.com

CONTENTS

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Interested in a video for your song or business?
info@myilluminet.com

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Area Community Events

The Science of Happy Marriage Workshop
 Saturday, April 11, 2026
 College of Saint Benedict
 An educational workshop designed for couples, hosted on the CSB campus.

St. Cloud Spring Craft & Vendor Market: Starts May 15, 2026, at Crossroads Center (Waite Park).

Carnival at Crossroads Center: Begins May 7, 2026.

(We do our best for event schedules. Always verify with the establishment for confirmation)

Paramount Center for the Arts Apr 17-May 3, 2026: GREAT Theatre presents Frozen.
 May 8, 2026: Quiet Riot.

Veranda Lounge
 Apr 25, 2026: Ben Vogel (Acoustic).

May 2, 2026: Mystery Machine. Red Carpet Nightclub 8pm-12am

The Fabulous Armadillos (20th Anniversary Celebration): Thursday, April 16 at 7:30 PM. at Pioneer Place on Fifth St. Cloud.

Quiet Riot: Friday, May 8 at 7:30 PM. A high-energy rock performance at the Paramount Center for the Arts in St. Cloud.

Divine Mercy Chaplet in Song 6.30pm
 The Last Friday of every month in 2026 at The Poor Clare's Monastery 421 4th St S, Sauk Rapids, MN 56379

Some Picks from Legends Bar & Grill
 St. Cloud

Saturday April 11, 2026
 Thunder Road: 8PM
 Thursday April 16, 2026
 Mace Band: 8:30PM
 Saturday April 18, 2026
 Pandemic: 8PM
 Saturday April 25, 2026
 Radio Nation: 8PM

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Slave Raider Rocked Medina MN!

We had a chance to check out the band Slave Raider on March 14th at the Medina Entertainment Center and wow, this was a show to remember. This show brought back so many good memories for me. I remember sneaking out my bedroom window when I was a teenager to go see this iconic band that spanned the last 40 years.

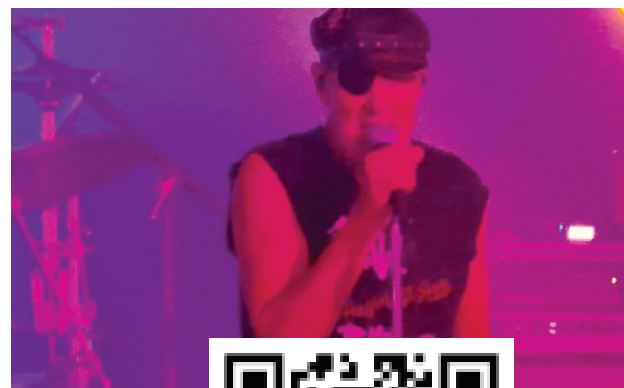
First thing just walking into the Medina Entertainment Center I do want to say this is an amazing venue. They have a full restaurant and bar, bowling and video games and then a huge ballroom for live music. They even have the Medina Inn. So if you decide to have a couple extra brewskies you don't have to worry

about the drive after. So we all grabbed a couple beers and enjoyed the show.

Slave Raider is an iconic, super heavy, but also melodic band based out of Minnesota that plays some of the best feel good party music ever. Their set included all the fan favorites like Wrecking Machine, The Black Hole, Make Noise, What do you know about Rock and roll and Iron Bar Motel just to name a few. They kept the crowd poppin' all night long and still sounded tight and amazing after all these years.

If you get a chance, check this band out, that is if you are looking for a fun filled energetic evening. Otherwise

check them out on Spotify or other streaming platforms.



Scan here for a video review of the show



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Area's Finest

Le Connoisseur



5

The House "Brick Oven Pizza" and "Cafe" in St. Joe is serving up Deliciousness!



"Marta" another great team member at "The House Food and Tap"



We stopped in at one of our favorite local coffee shops this morning, The House Cafe inside The House Food and Tap. They proudly serve Spyhouse Coffee Roasters and Hugo Tea. They have a wide range of coffee options with examples like cortados, lattes, miel, pour overs and cold brew along with specialty lattes. A couple examples of those are the Lila which includes honey and lavender, and the banana bread which has flavors of banana, vanilla and cinnamon. They have seasonal menu options which now are for spring and our favorite one off of there and the one we ordered today was the Cloudberry latte. This is a blackberry latte and if you order it iced, it comes with a pistachio cream top. We also ordered one of their iced coffees, an iced caramel latte. Both of our coffees were exceptional and you could taste the flavors, without the coffees being too sweet.

As stated, they also have a tea menu.

These options include; Malala Chai Latte, Chai Latte, Matcha Latte, London Fogs, Loose leaf tea and Iced tea. They also have other non-coffee options.

On top of great coffee, they also have baked goods in their case and they have an amazing staff. Gabby helped us this morning and always does a great job.

We had our coffee while getting some work done in their spacious space and waited for lunch. We decided we were in the mood for pizza so chose a three meat option from the Simple menu with sausage, pepperoni and ham and for the other one, we had the Veruda from the Inspired menu which included EVOO, fig spread, roasted artichoke, capers and red onion with mozzarella cheese. They have other simple options with the likes of Cheese, Hawaiian, BBQ and Veggie and more Inspired options with a couple of them being Margherita and a spicier one called Carne

Piccante. You can also order from the Built By You menu where you decide what's on it. We were helped by another great staff member, Marta, who made the pizzas to perfection and was really nice and helpful. They can also make pizzas gluten friendly and we had a pizza with no cheese and it was delicious.

We had a great experience at The House Food and Tap. We were able to get our morning coffee, stay in a comfortable atmosphere and get our work done then stay and have delicious pizzas for lunch. If you want to partake in the beverages or food, but need to take them on the go, you can also order online at thehousefoodandtap.com. Its very user friendly and a way to get in and out quickly on those busy days. Stop in and stay or order to go and get out quickly, but either way, tell 'em The Area Buzz sent ya!

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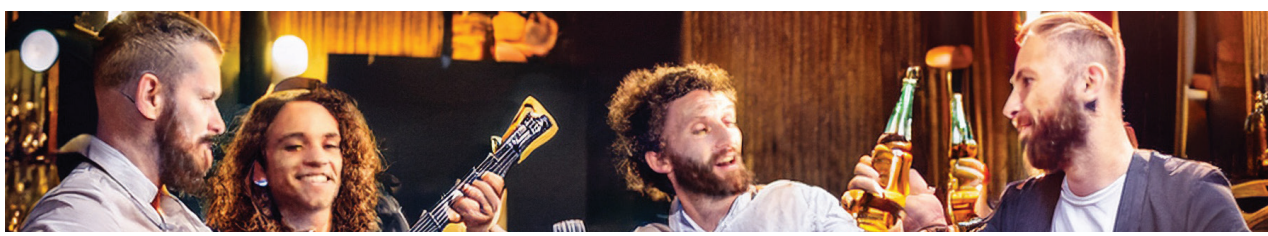
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Cold Spring, MN



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HR Pesty's Saloon and Eatery
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Grumpy's Bar
313 Main St, Cold Spring,



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“Nunsense” Musical Comedy: April 17, 18, 19 and April 24, 25, 2026. This riotous fundraiser features the Little Sisters of Hoboken. Friday and Saturday shows start at 7:00 PM; Sunday at 2:00 PM at Great River Arts. Little Falls, MN

Legacy of the Loud: April 18, 2026 from 8:00 PM – 12:00 AM. A live band performance at Cary’s on the Course.

Black Light Party & Karaoke: April 23–25, 2026. Features Black Light Karaoke on April 23rd at 9:00 PM at the Rustic Saloon.

Scandinavian Music Performance: May 11, 2026 at 12:30 PM. A live performance of Swedish, Norwegian, and Danish songs at the Little Falls Public Library.

Jordan Messerole: May 15, 2026 at 7:00 PM. Doors open at 6:00 PM at Great River Arts.

Cinco de Mayo Celebration Saturday, May 2, 2026 11:00 AM

Just Peachy Boutique and Gift, 40 Division St N, Rice, MN

Scent of Spring Market

Saturday, May 9, 2026 9:00 AM Sartell Community Center, Sartell, MN

Three gyms filled with handmade crafts, jewelry, and home decor from MN makers. Free admission and parking

Corey’s Backyard BBQ Competition Saturday, May 2, 2026 All Day The Green

Lantern Bar & Grill, Brainerd, MN
A family-friendly event with a BBQ contest, bean bag tournament, petting zoo, and live music by Prairie Smoke (8 PM – 12 AM)

Michael Shynes: April 11 at 7:30 PM at the Gnarly Bard Theater in St. Cloud.

Strait Country Tribute: April 11 at 7:00 PM at Grand Casino Mille Lacs in Onamia.

Caster Volor: April 25 at 8:00 PM at the Plamor Ballroom in Glenco (Free entry).

May 2nd “Misunderstood” at Cary’s On The Course 8PM-12AM

(We do our best for event schedules. Always verify with the establishment for confirmation)

Some Tips And useful Information If You Are Thinking Of Buying

As we look at 2026, the opportunities in Central Minnesota’s real estate market are abundant. This is a prime time for potential homeowners seeking to invest in vibrant communities like Little Falls, Waite Park, St. Joseph, Rice, Royalton, Cold Spring, and Rockville. The combination of some favorable economic factors and an array of desirable neighborhoods makes now the perfect moment to consider buying or selling.

Buying a home not only offers a place to create lasting memories but also serves as a strategic financial investment. With an eye on affordability and quality of life improvements on the horizon, you may find that your dream home is more attainable than you think.

Whether you’re drawn by picturesque landscapes or thriving local amenities—Central Minnesota awaits your arrival! Embrace the chance to turn your dreams into reality; it’s all within reach if you take the first steps today.

Central Minnesota is home to vibrant communities perfect for families and individuals alike.

Little Falls, with its charming historic downtown and access to the Mississippi River, offers a blend of

small-town warmth and modern amenities. Also, here you will find amazing bars and restaurants like, Cary’s on the Course, Starry Eyed Brewery, Christensens Bar, Bennington’s Entertainment Center and A.T the Black & White. Also here there is an abundance of shops like Brian’s Floral, an amazing Doctor at Libertas Family Medicine and super fast internet from Fallsnet.

Waite Park and St Cloud attracts those seeking an active lifestyle. Parks abound here, alongside shopping options that cater to all tastes. Also, there is an abundance of food and entertainment options like Legends Bar & Grill!

St. Joseph stands out for its strong sense of community and excellent schools, shops, and food like Mission Nutrition, The House Food & Tap, and amazing local shops making it ideal for Food, fun, families and raising children.

Rice presents affordability without sacrificing quality of life. It’s a peaceful retreat with beautiful landscapes.

Royalton has a rich history combined with quaint neighborhoods that appeal to first-time buyers.

Cold Spring boasts stunning

scenery along the Sauk River, creating picturesque settings year-round. Not to mention great food and entertainment options like The Great Blue Heron and Cold Spring Lanes.

Lastly, Rockville’s welcoming atmosphere invites newcomers into a close-knit environment while enjoying easy access to larger city conveniences nearby. Not to mention The Hideaway Bar, an awesome location for live music and entertainment Each location in Central Minnesota has unique offerings just waiting to be explored.

Navigating the home buying process in 2026 can feel overwhelming, but a few strategies can help ease your journey.

Start by getting pre-approved for a mortgage. This step will clarify your budget and strengthen your position when making an offer.

Research neighborhoods like Little Falls or Waite Park to find the best fit for you. Each community offers unique amenities and charm that could influence where you want to live.

Attend open houses with an open mind. This is not just about

finding a house; it’s about envisioning yourself in that space.

Work closely with a local real estate agent who knows Central Minnesota’s market well. Their insights on areas such as St Joseph, Rice, Royalton, Cold Spring, and Rockville are invaluable.

Lastly, don’t rush into decisions. Take your time to ensure you’re making the right choice for both now and the future.



Dan DeMark
Real Estate Pro
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