

Affordable Thanksgiving Eve parties are on tap



Melody Baetens / The Detroit News

Thanksgiving Eve traditionally is known as the biggest bar night of the year -- although New Year's Eve and St. Patrick's Day may be just as big.

This year, the economy probably won't stop anyone from going out and having a good time. Whether you are partying downtown on Woodward or out in Wixom, this year's Thanksgiving Eve bashes are affordable. Most small and mid-sized live music venues are charging an average of \$5-\$10, and many club parties are offering \$10 for general admission and even keeping the VIP prices low.

From pulsating club parties to live music of all sorts, Wednesday night is jam-packed with things to do, largely because most people have Thursday off for Thanksgiving. It's also a popular night out because many people (especially those in college) come home for the holiday and want to go out and catch up with friends.

On this night, bars and clubs vie to have the best lineup of DJs and acts. Some of this year's notable events include the Motorball at the Atheneum Suite Hotel in Greektown with DJ Johnny Vicious, known for his work with Madonna. At Clutch Cargo's, MTV will be searching for the next "Real World" show. "Real World" alum Cyrus will host the party.

Local music fans are sure to be tempted by the Magic Stick's Thanksgiving Eve lineup, which features the newly revamped Sights and a killer supporting bill including SSM, the Beggars and a not-to-be-missed female barbershop quartet called the Barrettes.

Local musician and songwriter Jay Graves plans to attend the annual Bump and Natives of the New Dawn rock show at the Roostertail in Detroit.

"Both bands are really talented and bring a unique show to the stage every time they perform," Graves says. "I have been to their Thanksgiving show three or four years in a row now and it's great to see friends being successful and doing what they love in an industry that continues to change and become tougher to survive every day."

Eddie Baranek, front man for the Sights, says, "Detroit has an energy about it.

"The night before Thanksgiving is such a fun night to be playing because people want a reason to get loose," he says.

The Sights recently wrapped up recording of its fourth album with Jim Diamond's Ghetto Recorders. "The big thing about playing the night before Thanksgiving at the Magic Stick is that we get a sneak peek of the parade floats (on Woodward Avenue) before they are trotted out the next day."

Big Shows

WAYNE COUNTY

David Allan Coe at Harpo's Concert Theatre, country/rock, 6 p.m. \$20-\$25. 14238 Harper Ave., Detroit. (313) 824-1700.

The Sights with SSM, the Beggars and the Barettes at Magic Stick, rock, 8 p.m. \$10. 4120 Woodward Ave., Detroit. (313) 833-9700.

Young American Comedy Tour with Mike Young, J. Chris Newberg and Mr. Skin at The City Theatre, comedy, 8 p.m. \$20. 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. (313) 471-3469.

The Night Before Thanksgiving with Bump, Natives of the New Dawn, DJ Matt A, DJ Kenneth Thomas and more at Roostertail, rock, 9 p.m. \$20-\$78.50. 100 Marquette St., Detroit. (888) 882-1121.