

Boots, Beats, Life

# Weekly NEWSLETTER

December 22, 2025 | Issue #12

## Your Ultimate Dance Week Starts Here!



### This Week's Highlights:

- Holiday Dancing: Discover the charm of The Marquee at New Town in St. Charles.
- Local Release: Matt Wynn – STL's Soulful Storyteller & Reba's Co-Writer.
- 2025 Recap: Morgan Wallen dominates the year-end Billboard charts, proving Country's massive mainstream takeover.

## Featured Venue of the Week



### *The Marquee at New Town, Saint Louis, MO*

The Marquee: Country Elegance in a Storybook Setting!

Why We Love It: Nestled in the "Hallmark movie" setting of St. Charles, The Marquee at New Town (3544 Galt House Dr) has quickly become a favorite for dancers looking for elegance with a country twist. Known for their "Boots on the Floor" line dancing series and stunning white-tent events, it offers a spacious 20'x20' parquet dance floor perfect for sliding. While often booked for weddings, keep an eye on their calendar for their popular community dance nights which feature open dancing and lessons.

You can find the date of the next dance here in this newsletter, or join the private Facebook group, [The Marquee at New Town](#).

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# Country Music Spotlight

*National Spotlight: Morgan Wallen – Still the Problem in 2026!*



*Morgan Wallen.*

Hudson Westbrook is a Texas singer-songwriter who was in relative obscurity until the later half of 2024, when his music began to gain significant traction. Growing up steeped in the influences of '90s country icons like George Strait, his sound blends classic sentiments with a modern edge. He first began releasing music in April 2024 and quickly made a name for himself, catapulting into the spotlight with a viral hit.

## Latest Song

“I Got Better” ([Video](#) released Oct 2025) and the massive [album](#) I’m the Problem

## Where to See Him Perform

Still The Problem Tour (2026) is kicking off April 10 in Minneapolis, with major stops in Las Vegas (May 1) and Denver (May 29). The closest to this area will be on June 19 and 20th 2026 at Soldier Field in Chicago, IL.

## Why We’re Watching Him in the Upcoming Year

Westbrook sits comfortably at the crossroads of Texas dancehalls and commercial country, a style that resonates with fans longing for an organic, authentic sound. With his rapid rise and a sound that appeals to both traditionalists and new listeners, we imagine he’ll only going to keep digging for gold in the new year.

See Tour Dates: Check his tour dates on his official [website](#) to see when he’s coming to a city near you.

*Local Artist/Group of the Week:*

## *Boots, Beats, Life Spotlight: Matt Wynn - “The Storyteller Behind Reba’s New Hit”*



From the local stages of St. Louis to the songwriting rooms of Nashville, Matt Wynn is proving that our homegrown talent belongs in the big leagues. This year, he achieved a songwriter’s ultimate dream when country legend Reba McEntire recorded his co-written

ballad, *Seven Minutes In Heaven*, for her latest project. Splitting his time between the iconic Bluebird Cafe and venues right here in the Metro East, Matt’s soulful storytelling is quickly turning heads on Music Row. Keep this name on your radar, with a Reba cut under his belt, 2026 is poised to be his breakout year.

### Latest Song

“Seven Minutes in Heaven” (Songwriter) The emotional ballad cut by Reba McEntire for her *Not That Fancy* Album.

### Where to See Him

Matt frequently splits his time between The Bluebird Cafe (Nashville) and local listening rooms like Venue on Main (Belleville, IL). Check his socials for pop-up acoustic rounds.

### Why We’re Watching Him

With a major cut by the Queen of Country herself, Matt has proven he writes at an elite level. In 2026, we expect him to leverage this success into more major label cuts and a potential solo project.

Follow their Journey: [Matt Wynn Music](#) for show dates and updates.

Watch a Performance: [Matt Wynn - YouTube](#)

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## Your Weekly Dance Planner: *Where to Two-Step & Line Dance This Week!*

New & Noteworthy: Beginner line dance class starting in January at Bottleneck Blues Bar! Check our website for details.

- Monday Dances
  - (W) *Lumiere of Chesterfield* – Chesterfield, MO | Line Dancing with Mona | 6:00-7:30 pm
  - (W) *VFW Post 1234* – Collinsville, IL | [Line Dance Lessons with Stompin' Boots](#) | 6:00-7:00 pm, Open Dance 6:00-9:00 pm | Lessons \$3.00 | Open Dance Free
- Tuesday Night Shuffle
  - (W) *Silver Creek Sports & Social* – Belleville, IL | [Line Dancing w/ Little Cactus Line Dancing](#) | Lessons & Open Dance | 7:00-9:00 pm | Free Event 21+
  - (W) *MK Ranch Bar & Grill* – Warrenton, MO | [Line Dancing with Krissy Schulze](#) | 6:00-9:00 pm | Free Event All-ages
  - (W) *Brookdale Farms* – Eureka, MO | [Line dancing w/Stacey Schwartz](#) | 6:30-10:00 pm | \$7 Cover | 18+ Event
  - (W) *High Ridge Elks Lodge #3455* – High Ridge, IL | [Line Dance Lesson & Dance](#) | 6:30-9:30 pm | \$5 Cover | All-ages
  - (W) *Social Bar Soulard* – Saint Louis, MO | [Line dancing with DJ Fish](#) | 8:00 pm-12:00 am | \$10 for 18-20 | \$5 for 21+
- ~~Wednesday Moves~~
  - ~~(W) *Stovall's Grove* – Wildwood, MO | Couples [dance lessons w/Sami](#) | 7:00-9:00 pm~~
  - (W) *The Outfield Sports Bar and Grill* - Marthasville, MO | [Free lessons](#) 6:00-7:00 pm  
Open Dance 7:00-9:00 pm | Free Event | All-ages
  - ~~(W) *The Marquee at New Town* – Saint Charles, MO | [Line dancing w/Mona](#) | 6:00-9:00 pm | \$5-21+ | \$10-18-20~~
  - ~~*The Crown Hall* at Ballbark Village – St. Louis, MO | [Live music w/ Ethan Carl](#) | 6:00-9:00 pm~~
- ~~Thursday Throwdown~~
  - ~~(W) *Stovall's Grove* – Wildwood, MO | [Line dance lessons w/Sami](#) | 7:00-9:00 pm | Free Event | 21+~~
  - ~~(W) *Swansea Improvement Assoc* – Swansea, IL | [Line dancing w/Stompin Boots](#) | 6:00-9:00 pm~~
  - ~~*American Legion* – Breese, IL | Little Cactus Line Dancing | 7:00-9:00 pm~~
  - ~~*Fast Eddie's Bon Air* – Alton, IL | Live band with The Truckers | 6:00-10:00 pm | 21+ Only~~



- Friday Night Fiddle Fest
  - (W) *Stovall's Grove* – Wildwood, MO | Live band w/Serapis with Mark Moebeck | 7:30-11:30 pm
  - (W) *54 Country* – Kingdom City, MO | [Line dance with Club Ready-Line Dance LOTO](#) | 6:00-11:45 pm
  - (W) *"The Office" Bar and Grill* - Washington, MO | [Line Dance Lesson](#) 6:00-9:00 pm
  - *VFW Post 1234* – Collinsville, IL | Line dance night | 7:00-10:30 pm
  - (M) *McKelvey Vineyards* – Leslie, MO | Line dancing with Glittering Grapevine | 5:00-8:00 pm
  - Trainwreck at Westport – Maryland Heights, MO | Live band and dancing w/ [Whiskey Morning](#)
  - Crown Hall BPV – St. Louis, MO | Live band w/ [Russo & Co](#) | 7:00 pm
- Saturday Night Shindig
  - (W) *Stovall's Grove* – Wildwood, MO | Live band w/ Pick'N and Grin'N | 7:30-11:30 pm
  - (W) *Gene's Country Club* – Pevely, MO | [Diesel Island C&W](#) | 7:00-11:00 pm | \$10 CAD | 21+ | NOTE: Cash Only Event
  - (W) *54 Country* – Kingdom City | [Line dance lessons - Live band - Open dancing](#) | 8:00 pm-1:00 am
  - *The American Legion* – Mascoutah, IL | Line dance lessons with [Stompin' Boots Line Dance](#) | 6:30-10:00 pm
  - *American Legion* – Breese, IL | [Line dancing w/Little Cactus Line Dancing](#) | 7:00-11:00 pm
  - *The Outfield Sports Bar & Grill* – Marthasville, MO | [Free lessons and open dance](#) | 7:00-11:00 pm
- Sunday Soul Steppers
  - (2W) *HandleBar* – St. Louis, MO | [Sunday Stomp by Show Me Country Dance](#) | 4:30-7:30 pm | Every 2nd & 4th Sunday | 21+ | Free Event | NOT THIS WEEK
  - (W) *Sugar Creek Winery* – Eureka, MO | [Line dance lessons and dance](#) | 1:00-5:00 pm | Free | All-ages

#### Venues with Line Dancing — Practical Details

Several of these local venues offer weeknight line-dance nights with lessons for beginners; cover varies, and floor-size/material details are inconsistent across listings.

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## This Week's Featured Article

### 2025: The Year Country Took Over

If you felt like country music was everywhere this year, you weren't imagining it. 2025 has been officially declared the year of the "Country Takeover" by major music charts. Led by Morgan Wallen, Jelly Roll, and Shaboozey, the genre didn't just top Country charts—it dominated the Billboard Hot 100. For dancers, this influx of new hits (like Shaboozey's A Bar Song) has revitalized line dancing, bringing fresh choreography and younger crowds to venues like PBR and Helen Fitzgerald's. As we head into 2026, expect this cross-genre momentum to continue!

Read the full article [here](#), on BootsBeatsLife.com

## Holiday Dance Floor Survival Guide

With Christmas and New Year's bringing huge crowds to venues, floor etiquette is more important than ever. Remember the "Rules of the Road":

1. **Line Dancers:** Stick to the center.
2. **Two-Steppers:** Utilize the outside lane (counter-clockwise flow).
3. **Stationary Drinkers:** Please clear the floor! The dance floor is for dancing, not for holding conversations with Santa.

Read the Full Blog Post [Here](#).

## Community Corner Spotlight

Spotlight: *St. Louis County Library Line Dancing*

We love seeing accessible dance opportunities in our community! The Grand Glaize Branch is hosting free afternoon line dancing sessions (like the one this Monday, Dec 22 at 2:00 PM). It's "exercise in disguise" and a fantastic way for beginners to learn the basics without the pressure of a late-night bar crowd. Check the SLCL events calendar for future dates in 2026! Check out their schedule – "[Grand Glaize Line Dancing](#)"

# Your St. Louis Dance Hub

Your Comprehensive Guides: Venues & Instructors

We've compiled detailed resources to help you find the perfect place to dance or the ideal instructor. These comprehensive guides provide extensive lists of venues within a two-hour drive and a directory of country and line dance instructors.

Explore the full interactive Venue Guide on our website – [Venue Guide](#)  
Find Your Perfect Instructor in our online directory! – [Instructor Directory](#)

## Community Call to Action.

The Heartbeat of Our Community

We all move to the same beat! Help us keep the Midwest moving:

Question of the Week: What is your “Dance Resolution” for 2026? Do you want to master the Two-Step? Learn 10 new line dances? Visit Nashville?

Help Us Grow: Share events, invite friends, and support local venues!

How you can help keep the scene strong

- Attend consistently—regular turnout encourages venues to expand.
- Tip bands and instructors and buy a drink or two.
- Coordinate “community nights” to bring more dancers together in larger rooms (Marquee or Schuetzenground are good candidates).
- Share event pages and invite friends—numbers matter to venue owners.

## Connect With Us:

Got an event or story? Email us at [events@bootsbeatslife.com](mailto:events@bootsbeatslife.com) or [newsletter@bootsbeatslife.com](mailto:newsletter@bootsbeatslife.com)

Visit Our Blog: [BootBeatsLife.com](http://BootBeatsLife.com)

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## Photo of the Week:



*Christmas boots and holiday roots at The Marquee! We paused the line dancing last Wednesday night just long enough to get almost everyone in one frame under the gorgeous lights at New Town. Great music, beautiful decor, and the best dance family in St. Charles. This is what the holidays are all about!*

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Thanks for dancing through the week with me! Be sure to stay tuned for more venue reviews, music picks, and dance floor stories.