If you want to have a wedding at the Riverside Park bandshell or a graduation party at Myrick Park in 2014, you'd better be up early on Thursday morning...

The prime shelters and park facilities in La Crosse get booked quickly on the first business day of a new year. The City Hall park and rec office takes reservations in-person starting at 8:30 a-m on January 2nd. And the on-line reservations open even earlier that day, just after midnight. The reservations have to be paid in full at the time they're made, so have your checkbooks or credit cards ready.