

The Metal Grill
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www.themetalgrill.com

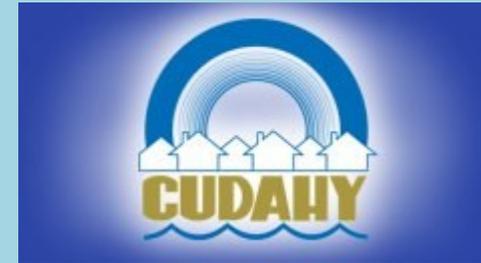
We spoke with Theresa Borkowski, part-owner.

When did you open The Metal Grill in Cudahy?

We opened in August of 2013. Prior to that it was a venue called the VNUKS Lounge owned by someone who was interested in selling. My husband Neil and I wanted to start our own business and decided on opening a music venue. We liked the idea of having a niche with live music. The restaurant component came later.

What previous business experience did you have?

Combined, we owned commercial property and internet businesses LLCs, managed restaurants and offices, and had significant service industry experience.



As a part of a continuing effort to promote local business in the City of Cudahy, the Office of the Mayor has a feature article called the **Local Business Spotlight**.

Each month, we will interview a local business owner to showcase his or her business. In-turn, this will help residents of our community and elsewhere become familiar with the many quality companies located within our borders. - Mayor John Hohenfeldt



The name of the venue calls attention to heavy metal music, but do you host other genre acts?

Even though we are called The Metal Grill we like to promote that we are open to all shades of music, including alternative, rock, and acoustic nights. We are very interested in supporting local musicians that we can wrap around touring bands.

Who are some nationally known names that have performed?

Carl Palmer from Emerson Lake & Palmer was here recently and Kip Winger routinely stops here on his tours. National acts who have

played at The Metal Grill include: Y&T, TRAPT, METAL CHURCH, Randy Jackson of ZEBRA, Mushroomhead, SOULFLY, VOIVOD and Devil City Angels– Tracii Guns-(L.A. Guns), Rikki Rockett (POISON) and Eric Brittingham (Cinderella).

What was your most exciting experience at The Metal Grill?

For me it is the anniversary shows. It's so nice to get on a stage and be able to thank all of the people who support us. Our venue is intimate and many people enjoy being up close and personal with the band. Most bands mingle the audience before and after shows and are happy to do so.

What types of business improvements did you put into the building? Do you have plans for expansion or renovation?

We renovated the downstairs kitchen to suit our restaurant. We also remodeled the green room for bands. We repaired the roof, invested in new signs, and gave the outside a fresh coat of paint. We pride ourselves on cleanliness, especially of the bathrooms.

There are aspirations to give the exterior an extensive facelift as our funds become available. We would like to double our capacity with expansion.

How do you give back to the community?

We give to several charities when asked. We have a great relationship with the police and fire departments. Our lead bartender's son is a Cudahy fire fighter. Our lead bartender has been given Shepard Express and mayoral awards as the community's best bartender. Everyone loves her!

How do you advertise?

We've placed commercials on 102.9 The Hog, 95.1 WILL Rock, and 91.7 WMSE. There is our website, www.themetalgrill.com, and we have a Facebook page as well. Something unique is that we have our own smart phone app.



What else would you like people to know about The Metal Grill?

Even if people from the community do not enjoy live music we have much more to offer. We have a full service menu (editor's note: great burgers!), drink specials and the bar is open on non-show nights.



As always, we encourage you to support each and every local business. For information on previously featured businesses visit the City of Cudahy's website at www.cudahy-wi.gov and click on Departments > Economic Development.