

# Fox Cities

MAGAZINE



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April 2015

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## Valley Home Builders Association Builds Quality of Life in the Fox Cities...



In partnership with The Building for Kids Children's Museum in Appleton, VHBA members helped construct a renewable energy exhibit which opened in October 2014.

VHBA hosts special events to raise funds for education and charitable aid efforts. Last year's recipients include Habitat for Humanity, Harbor House Domestic Abuse Program and ReBuilding Together Fox Valley, along with scholarships and tool grants to students pursuing careers in residential construction.

VHBA is the official Local Coordinating Organization for the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots program. Since 2006, VHBA has coordinated 480+ sites which have collected more than 131,800 toys for thousands of Fox Cities children in need.

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Cover photo by Ian Law, courtesy of Parma

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### Bookmark our blogs

Do you love FOX CITIES Magazine? Keep up with what's going on in the community between issues too with our blogs on foxcitiesmagazine.com. We have the fun reads that you're looking for whether it's the latest theater productions, weekend outings or things you didn't know about in your own backyard. Learn more about our interns and spring happenings online now. Also, feel free to send your blog suggestions either through the Community Chat on foxcitiesmagazine.com or via email to Associate Editor Amy Hanson at [edit@foxcitiesmagazine.com](mailto:edit@foxcitiesmagazine.com).



### Correction

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is responsible for administering the account for the Wisconsin Trail System. Counties in turn can receive grants and spread funds to their respective clubs. An article in the February issue of FOX CITIES Magazine incorrectly stated how the system was funded.

## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT



### Putting the pieces together

Mosaic artist Vicki Menge turns everyday objects into works of art



Name: Vicki Menge  
Residence: Greenville  
Medium: Mosaics  
Price range: \$35 to \$600

It started with a mirror. Five years ago, town of Greenville resident Vicki Menge was looking to do a mosaic for herself and created a reflective piece to hang on her wall. Soon after, she was hooked on assembling materials to create different forms of artwork.

A technical illustrator by day, Menge is no stranger to dabbling in the arts. She previously created and sold custom jewelry and wholesale pieces — including pins, necklaces and earrings — 25 years ago for art shows. Creating art has always been a bit of a side project for Menge, she says.

She currently has her mosaic work available online through an Etsy shop, Victoria's Mosaics, but hopes to start showing more of her work at shows in Milwaukee, Cedarburg and Madison, along with doing more custom pieces.

As Menge notes, her work can range from “something that’s practical or usable, and then there’s just art.”

Her work has included mirrors, decorative wall hangings, stepping stones, signage, table tops and more.

She finds her beads, vintage jewelry, stained glass and found objects of any kind at thrift and rummage sales. There is not just one type of medium Menge works with and she creates one-of-a-kind pieces out of porcelain clay, along with purchased and repurposed tiles.

Menge originally went to school for fashion design and ended up with a fine arts degree. Her love of fashion still finds its way into her work.

“Fashion is kind of in my brain,” she says.

Pieces ranging in the amount of time they take Menge to create depending on size and detail, she explains. Grouting also takes additional time as well.

“I have to clean it and make sure it looks good,” Menge adds.

Sometimes ideas strike Menge in the evening as she tries to fall asleep.

“It comes from everywhere, wherever I’m looking, nature,” she says. Shapes, colors, subjects and other artists also influence and inspire Menge.

She is currently contemplating starting to work with cement to create flower pots and lawn ornaments from scratch. She does have her own small kiln in her home studio and would love to merge her interest for pottery and mosaics together. She’s also thinking of working with more furniture and resin pieces.

For more information, contact Menge through Victoria's Mosaics or [vmengeart@aol.com](mailto:vmengeart@aol.com).

— By Amy Hanson



## HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

Do you recognize this local architectural detail?



Send us your answer along with your name and address no later than April 13, 2015.

Correct submissions will be entered in a drawing for a **\$25 gift certificate to**



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### MARCH WINNER

Robert Buettner, Appleton  
Answer: Xavier High School, Appleton

## The Fire Pottery, Mosaic & Glass Fusing Studio



### Creativity, connection come together at The Fire

The Fire began in March of 2005 as most small businesses, the dream of a hopeful entrepreneur. Audra Haas desired to create a space for the people of the Fox Valley to explore the joy of making art. Even more than that, she dreamt of a place for families to come together and connect.

The past 10 years have been filled with too many beautiful pieces and connections to recount them all with their full magnitude.

“Art is something that helped me transcend difficult times in my life; that’s why I wanted to make art easily accessible to people on a walk-in, as-needed basis,” says owner Audra Haas. “I was a stay-at-home mom before starting The Fire and my husband a full-time student.”

The Fire started on a shoestring and has become a bustling piece of downtown Appleton, including being recognized as “Best of the Valley” in 2014.

“There is something so special about the Fox Cities,” continues Haas. “As people began to find out about us, they were excited and completely embraced us. It is truly something special about our community. People want you to succeed. So, here we are celebrating 10 years. It’s been quite the journey.”

Budding artists and enthusiasts will feel at home as they work with a variety of mediums at The Fire. Whether it’s a child crafting a keepsake memento to an adult looking to test their skills, everyone is welcome to roll up their sleeves — get their hands a little dirty — and experiment with art. Haas also is grateful for the many wonderful artists who have worked for and contributed to The Fire. “We truly have had amazing employees!” Haas adds.

Here is a sampling of the types of projects Haas welcomes customers to try:

**Pottery Painting:** Choose from a wide variety of pottery items, from sushi plates and serving platters to fun kid options. We’ll help you gather a palette of paints from our large selection, so you can create any image you desire. Then, we’ll fire your pottery.

**Mosaic:** It is much easier than the stunning results might make you think. You simply choose an item to mosaic — anything from photo frames and candle holders to wall décor and mirrors — and glue small pieces of glass onto it.

**Glass Fusing:** Glass-fused items are incredible, but they are surprisingly easy to make. You start with a flat piece of glass — small if you’re doing a pendant or large if you’re making a dish — and then glue additional pieces of glass on top. You can choose colors and shapes, from thin lines to large squares or circles. When you’re done, we’ll fuse the pieces together.

**Precious Metal Clay:** If you want to make a unique piece of silver jewelry for yourself or for a gift, precious metal clay is an easy and fun choice. You can make earrings or pendants using a variety of molds, and you can personalize them with letters, or your own sketches. Our precious metal jewelry is non-toxic and 99.9 percent pure silver.

**Summer Camps:** Every Summer we offer Camps for Kids ages 8 and up. Sessions offer a variety of mediums inside and outside of the Studio.

**Going Forward:** We want to continue to be a place where people are inspired to create freely. We want even more people to come to know the beauty and restorative power of the creation process. We want to connect with people, through art, in meaningful ways.



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# NOT TO BE MISSED: April events calendar

For a complete listing of current exhibits and our expanded events calendar, go to [foxcitiesmagazine.com](http://foxcitiesmagazine.com).

## ARTS EVENTS

### 3-4, 9-11, 16-18, 23-25 | Real Housewives of the U.P.

You've seen the TV show, now see the reality musical on the Meyer stage. See how the U.P. wives handle their husbands and themselves. 8pm, 1pm. Meyer Theatre, Green Bay. (800) 895-0071.

### 10 | Theodore Roosevelt: Man in the Arena

Derek Evans is a professional actor and scholar who has spent a career of almost 40 years engaged in educational presentations. Since 1995, he has concentrated on living history presentations of Theodore Roosevelt, which have now totaled over 500 performances. 7:30pm. The Grand Opera House, Oshkosh. 424-2355.

### 11 | This Joint is Jumpin

Be entertained with great songs of the jazz era including "The Joint is Jumpin" by Fats Waller, and "What'll I Do" by Irving Berlin, as well as later classics on the same theme. 3pm-5pm and 7:30pm. Xavier Fine Arts, Appleton. 734-9495.

### 16-25 | Failure: A Love Story

Failure: A Love Story is a magical, whimsical fable that traces the main characters' triumphs and defeats, lived out in the rickety two-story building by the Chicago River. This funny, moving and wise play reminds us that in the end, all that remains is love. 2pm, 7pm. UW-Fox Valley, Menasha. 832-2889.

### 16 | The Best of the Second City

From the company that launched the careers of Tina Fey, Stephen Colbert, Steve Carell, Gilda Radner, Bill Murray and more, comes the next generation of the comedy world's best and brightest in an evening of hilarious sketch comedy and Second City's trademark improvisation. 7:30pm. Weidner Center for the Performing Arts. 895-0071.

### 17 | Lawrence University Jazz Series Presents Jon Cowherd's "Mercy Project"

Pianist and keyboard player Jon Cowherd, best known for his long-term partnership with drummer Brian Blade's Fellowship, performs works from "Mercy." 8pm. Lawrence Memorial Chapel, Appleton. 832-6612.

### 18 | Wild Kratts — Live!

Martin and Chris Kratt, stars of the Emmy®-nominated show, step out live on stage to engage the audience in a classic "Wild Kratts" story. 10:30am. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

### 21, 23 | Camille A. Brown & Dancers

Using the writings as inspiration, Brown creates and celebrates Black Girl (working title), a multimedia work that depicts the joys and complexities of carving out a positive identity as a young, black female in urban American culture. 6:30pm on April 21, 7:30pm on April 23. John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan. 458-6144.

### 23 | Ozark Jubilee: Stars of the Grand Ole Opry

If you like country music and good clean family entertainment, come to the Ozark Jubilee. 2pm. Capitol Civic Centre, Manitowoc. 683-2184.

### 23 | Poetry Reading by Cynthia Marie Hoffmann

Come see Cynthia Marie Hoffmann reading poetry in the Hoffmaster Gallery in the Wriston Art Center at Lawrence University. 4:30pm. 832-7000.

### 24-26 | Wisconsin Dells Polka Fest and Expo

The 4th Annual Wisconsin Dells Polka Fest and Expo will be held April 24-26 at the Chula Vista Resort. Live concerts, jam sessions, musician workshops and free polka dance lessons. (773) 889-6811 or [dellspolkafest.com](http://dellspolkafest.com).

### 24-26 | Rocking Reifs Mills

This show runs at the Palace of Reifs Mills Dinner Event Theater. Shows are Fri. and Sat. at 7pm, Sun. at 1pm. 732-3172.

### 24 | Baleigh Industrial Marquee Series: An Evening with Rita Rudner

Rita Rudner is an award-winning television personality, screenwriter, playwright, Broadway dancer, and actress. She also has the longest-running solo show in the history of Las Vegas. Come see her perform at the Capitol Civic Centre, Manitowoc at 7:30pm. 683-2184.

### 25 | The Magic of Bill Blagg Live!

Even the most skeptical audience will think twice about believing what they see when they watch the magic of Bill Blagg. Combining his original illusions along with audience participation, comedy and his trademark off-the-cuff personality, Blagg creates a show unlike anything you've ever seen before! 2pm, 7:30pm. The Grand Opera House, Oshkosh. 424-2355.

### 28 | Pilobolus

This modern dance company returns to the Fox Cities with a new repertoire that includes Houdini-inspired, astonishing physical illusions performed with fantasy, athleticism and strength that will challenge the way you think about dance. Recommended for mature audiences only. 7:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

### 8 | TCCES Welcomes Wisconsin Singers

Featuring the top talents from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Wisconsin Singers entertains more than 40,000 annually with stellar vocals, stunning choreography and spectacular big band sound. 2pm. Jane Bergstrom Fine Arts Education Center, Neenah. 727-0279.

### 10 | Festive Fridays: VO5

Ain't no stoppin' us now. VO5 returns for another night of all '70s music all night long. Start growing out your hair now for that brushed back and finely feathered look. 6:30pm. John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan. 458-6144.

### 10 | Kohler Foundation Distinguished Guests Series — Straight No Chaser

The Distinguished Guest Series features internationally recognized performers in theater, dance and music, and is intended to provide world-class entertainment at reasonable prices. 8pm. Kohler Memorial Theatre, Kohler. 458-1972.

### 11 | A Tribute to Youth Orchestra

National professional musicians who were once members of GBSO's Youth Orchestra return home as soloists in this final concert of the Green Bay Symphony Orchestra. 7:30pm. Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, Green Bay. 435-3465.

### 11 | Lawrence University Artist Series Presents Third Coast Percussion

Third Coast Percussion melds the energy of rock music with the precision and nuance of classical chamber works. 8pm. Lawrence Memorial Chapel, Appleton. 832-6612.

### 11 | Livingston Taylor

Livingston Taylor's 40-year career has encompassed performance, songwriting and teaching. His introspective and original songs have reached audiences worldwide and will make an appearance in the Fox Valley. Tickets are \$33. 7:30pm. Thrasher Opera House, Green Lake. 294-4279.

## CONCERTS

### 8 | Near Water Concert Series: Shovels and Rope

Mississippi-born, Nashville-bred Cary Ann Hearst and Texas-born, Colorado-raised Michael Trent have been performing together for over a decade, entwining their voices with eerie beauty in their haunting harmonies. Meyer Theatre. 7pm. Tickets are \$25. (800) 895-0071.

## Count aims to track area crane population

With an impressive wingspan and the ability to stand on stick-like legs, the varying species of cranes are interesting birds to examine. Following a migration to Florida in winter, sandhill and whooping cranes generally return to their breeding grounds in the Midwest.

Now in its 40th year, the Annual Midwest Crane Count, facilitated by the International Crane Foundation in Baraboo, currently spans six Midwest states — including Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Michigan and Minnesota — and monitors both the sandhill and whooping crane populations.

On April 4, the public is welcome to be trained at Mosquito Hill Nature Center in New London to assist with the count, which will occur from 5:30-7:30 a.m. April 18. These are the waking hours when cranes can be found roosting in water.

"That's why we chose that time, we have kind of a

captive audience," says naturalist Jessica Miller of Mosquito Hill.

The training will cover both Outagamie and Waupaca counties. The count is usually held the third week of the month and all sites — there are 39 in Outagamie County alone — take part in the event on the same day at the same time.

"The training hopes to recruit more people each year," says Miller. "It takes a big crew."

There is no expense to volunteers. Miller encourages everyone to dress for the weather and bring binoculars. People taking part in the count will weigh count information against environmental factors such as homes built in an area, agriculture and wetland drainage to determine if the population has changed.

Each volunteer will be assigned a site, taught to identify cranes based on sight and sound, and record information on handouts and online. Volunteers will



Photo courtesy of Ted Thousand

return to Mosquito Hill following the count to enter data.

For more information or to register, contact Miller at 779-6433.

— By Amy Hanson



## World-famous group Pilobolus, Appleton history converge

A group with amazing strength, agility and grace, the Pilobolus Dance Company has been challenging modern conceptions of dance for 44 years.

The group will have one performance of their Pilobolus Dance Theater Tour at 7:30 p.m. April 28 at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center in Appleton.



Photo courtesy of John Kane

Amy Gosz, director of programming at the Fox Cities P.A.C., was especially excited to bring the group, which performed at the venue in 2006, back to Appleton because of their new piece titled, "Escape." This piece, designed in collaboration with the comedy and illusionist duo Penn and Teller, is a dance inspired by the famous Appleton native Harry Houdini. "I'm really excited about the piece ... it's going to be special for Appleton," says Gosz.

Pilobolus was founded in 1971 by a group of students at Dartmouth College, and since the beginning, they have been creating avant-garde movement that focuses on innovation and collaboration.

Itamar Kubovy, the executive producer of Pilobolus, explains that the goals of the group are "to broaden the idea in people's minds of what constitutes dance, and to find dance in all sorts of unexpected places in the world."

The group has won many awards, including a Primetime Emmy Award. They also were featured at the 79th Annual Academy Awards.

The Center brings Pilobolus to Appleton as part of its Boldt Arts Alive Series, sponsored by The Boldt Company.

"We're excited to be back in Appleton," says Kubovy, "and there's nothing cooler than being able to perform our Houdini there."

Call 730-3760 or visit the Fox Cities P.A.C. website at foxcitiespac.com for tickets.

— By Maggie Ward

### ➔ ONLINE EXCLUSIVE

For more on Pilobolus, read an extended version of this story on foxcitiesmagazine.com.

#### 11 | Lakeshore Big Band

Come see this performance conducted by Daniel Ackley at the Capitol Civic Centre, Manitowoc at 7:30pm. 683-2184.

#### 12 | Around the World in 80 Minutes

The Chaminade Women's Chorus will present music from across the globe during its 73rd annual concert. 2pm. First United Methodist Church, Appleton. 202-4283.

#### 14 | Fox Valley Symphony Concert

The repertoire featured in this concert includes pieces written by Saint-Saens, Collins, Copland, and Ravel. 7:30-9:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

#### 15 | Orchid Ensemble

A blend of ancient musical instruments and traditions from China and beyond, creating a beautiful new sound. The ensemble has embraced a variety of musical styles to its repertoire, ranging from the traditional and contemporary music of China to world music, new music to jazz, and creative improvisation. 7:30pm. Weidner Center for the Performing Arts. 895-0071.

#### 16 | Jazz at the Trout

Join us in the gallery for intimate performances by renowned Jazz artists. This month features guitarist Fareed Haque. 7:30pm. The Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

#### 17 | Kaboom: Xavier High School Jazz Bands and Hawkswing

7pm. Xavier Fine Arts Theatre, Appleton. 450-0568.

#### 18 | Lawrence Academy of Music Piano Festival

Piano students from all over Northeast Wisconsin will demonstrate their musical knowledge through performance, musicianship and theory. 8am-5pm. Lawrence Conservatory, Appleton. 832-6632.

#### 18 | Manitowoc Symphony Orchestra: Stradivarius Summit

Garth Neustadter will present selections from his Emmy award-winning television score and a brand-new piece commissioned by the MSO. He will be joined by violinist Andrew Dunlap. 7:30pm. Capitol Civic Centre, Manitowoc. 683-2184.

#### 19 | Kimberly Community Band Spring Concert

The band opens its concert season. A social with punch and cookies follows the concert. Free admission. 2pm. JR Gerrits Middle School, Kimberly. 419-1040.

#### 19 | Music Movie Madness

The Spring horn extravaganza concert featuring two guest artists, Marty Erickson from Lawrence University and Lisa Bontrager. 2pm. Lawrence Memorial Chapel, Appleton. 886-9890.

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## Young Audiences Series exposes children to fine arts

An afternoon of ballet, creating art and visiting a museum — it sounds like a cultural experience tailored for art-appreciating adults. Don't be fooled; this experience can be had by any family in the community on April 19, at The Trout Museum of Art in Appleton.

From 2-3:30 p.m., The Trout will be hosting "Inside A Ballet Class" with the Makaroff Youth Ballet as a part of the Young Audience Series. Attendees of the event will get a behind-the-scenes look at a ballet class, learn dance moves from ballet members and make an art project to bring home.

The series, which is now in its second year, aims to engage children in different art forms by pairing interactive performances with a visual arts activity. So far this year, The Trout has paired with the Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra, the Appleton Boychoir and newVoices to give children a hands-on experience with fine arts.

*Photo courtesy of Makaroff Youth Ballet*

"There are a lot of studies that show the importance of early engagement with the arts, as far as reaching developmental milestones, academic achievement and self-confidence," says Oliver Zornow, education manager at The Trout. "We are trying to make an accessible program that targets groups of students who may not otherwise have the opportunity to go to a ballet performance or come to the art museum."

Zornow notes that from the students who come to the events, usually about half have never been to the art museum before. "So, we are really reaching that target audience of kids who haven't been exposed to these sorts of art forms in the past, and they are so excited," he says. "I love going on the bus before the students come in, getting them excited and hearing their remarks."

Generous support has allowed The Trout to reach their goal of making the Young Audiences Series events accessible to all families in the community — it's free to everyone. However, since the museum has a limited capacity, registration is required and can be done by calling 733-4089. Children attending must be accompanied by an adult.

—By Margaret Koss

### 20 | Riverview Gardens Concert

A free series of concerts from Decoda, a group of classically trained musicians who have travelled across the globe bringing music to a wide range of audiences in a personal setting. 7pm. Riverview Gardens. 733-2354.

### 26 | Elling Swings Sinatra

Grammy Award-winner and 11-time nominee Kurt Elling joins forces with a powerful quintet to pay homage to Ol' Blue Eyes. 7pm. Weidner Center for the Performing Arts. 895-0071.

### 26 | FVL Schools Band Concert

An evening of music performed by high school and grade school bands. 6pm. Fox Valley Lutheran High School, Appleton. 739-4441.

### 26 | Lawrence Academy of Music Piano Festival Recital

Winners of the Piano Festival perform. 1-3:30pm. Harper Hall, Lawrence Conservatory, Appleton. 832-6632.

### 26 | Music @ the Library

Featuring The Old Fashions performing waltzes, polkas and some old-time standards on the accordion and fiddle. 2pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

### 28 | Trampled By Turtles Concert

With special guests Web of Sunsets. 7:30pm. Meyer Theatre, Green Bay. (800) 895-0071.

## OPENING EXHIBITS

### 10 | Re:Generation — A Contemporary Art Exhibition

Thru Apr 26. This is an exhibition featuring more than 20 young and emerging artists from Wisconsin. 609C West College Avenue, Appleton. Contact kate.mothes@gmail.com.

### 11 | The George R. Stroemple Collection William Morris: Native Species

Thru Aug 30. These 38 blown-glass vessels, inspired by George R. Stroemple's own collection of Japanese Meiji ceramic vessels reflected Morris' extraordinary combination of skill, passion and artistic vision. Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, Neenah. 751-4658.

### 18 | Centennial Architecture of Green Bay

Thru Mar 26, 2016. This exhibit will feature the archives of the Berners-Schober Architecture Firm, which include drawings, plans and models of the buildings that have shaped Green Bay. Neville Public Museum, Green Bay. 448-7860.

### 25 | Artistic Discovery

Thru May 31. This is a juried annual exhibition of high school art sponsored by the U.S. Congress. The first-prize winning artist has his or her artwork displayed in the U.S. Capitol alongside winners from around the country. Neville Public Museum, Green Bay. 448-7860.

## COMMUNITY & CULTURAL EVENTS

### 4 | EggStravaganza

Free carousel rides, an egg hunt with prizes for every participant, Green Bay's first Marshmallow Peeps Show and photo ops with the Easter Bunny are all included. 10am-6pm. N.E.W. Zoo and Adventure Park, Green Bay. 434-7841.

### 9 | Legacy of Leadership

The Leo Frigo Leadership Award and John M. and Meredith B. Rose Award recipients will be honored during the Greater Green Bay Chamber's "Legacy of Leadership" event. 437-8704.

### 11, 18, 25 | Oshkosh Saturday Farmers Market Inc. Winter/Indoor

Approximately 40 vendors bring you fresh, in-season produce and handcrafted items. Local food artisans bring fresh baked goods, candy, prepared foods and other goodies. Enjoy live music. 9am-12:30pm. Merrill Middle School. 252-2533.

### 11 | Mayhem in the Mud!! — Early Session

Don't be a dud ... come have some fun in the MUD! Join us for an early spring day in the wetland. We'll be mud builders, chefs, artists and biologists all in one day. By the time we're done with this medley of mud, you'll be covered from head to toe. Noon-1pm. Heckrodt Wetland Reserve, Menasha. 720-9349.

### 11 | Mini Golf on the Town

Play a hole of mini-golf at a variety of downtown bars and when you've completed 9 holes, gather at the "19th Hole" for a fun party and prizes! Team costumes, drink specials and fun are all part of the course! Register at your favorite bar. Noon-5pm. Downtown Appleton. 954-9112.

### 11 | Ultimate Ladies Day

Join Neenah Downtown for a special day including a champagne brunch and fashion show at the Holiday Inn, Neenah from 9-11:30am. Brunch is followed by a freeform afternoon of shopping, demos and happy hour in downtown Neenah. 722-1920.

### 13-16 | St. Norbert's Asian Pacific Islander Celebration

St. Norbert's College and the Multicultural Center celebrate this week with a kickoff on April 13 in the Campus Center, and concluding with an Asian and Pacific Islander Dinner on April 16 in the Michels Commons Ballroom. 403-4023.

### 17 | West Side Story

CASA of Brown County presents its 4th annual fundraiser to benefit abused and neglected children in Brown County, this year featuring "West Side Story." Tickets are available at www.casabc.org or email casapresents@casabc.org. 6pm. Jet Hangar, Green Bay. 437-2272.



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## New exhibit inspired by nature, friendship at the Bergstrom-Mahler

What better way is there to get inspired than on treks through the mountains and deserts with a great friend? What started out as a mere friendship between artist William Morris and patron George Stroemple eventually became the inspiration behind Morris' work; a dynamic breadth of vessels infused with various woodland animals running across the surfaces, subtle leaf patterns and hints of art nouveau. These 38 nature-inspired vessels are currently on display at the Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass.

Before retiring in 2007, Morris became an independent artist and developed his own style of glass blowing, all within 25 years of activity. The pieces allow viewers to walk with Morris through the Steens Mountains, experience the high desert in southeast Oregon and see the maple trees near Morris' previous home in Washington. His collaborated exhibition with Stroemple, "Native Species," was unveiled at the Bellevue Arts Museum in Washington, and gained such popularity that it has crossed the country to the Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass in Neenah.

Jan Smith, executive director for the Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, states that Morris' work "connects our community to a larger platform, so the area is



Photo courtesy of Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass

recognized for its quality, its achievement and its international scope. It brings the work of a world-renowned artist, one of the greatest glassblowers in the world, to our community." She notes the particular importance of this exhibit, explaining it will continue an essential mission of the Bergstrom-Mahler — to bring relevant and educational material to the Fox Valley.

Selections from "Native Species" will be on display April 11 to Aug. 30 at the Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass. For more information, go to [bmmglass.com](http://bmmglass.com).

— By Kristina Verhassel

### 18, 25 | Saturday Morning

#### Birdwalks

Come to the Mosquito Hill Nature Center, New London for their Saturday morning birdwalks every week until May 23. 7-10am. Free. 779-6433.

### 18 | Ladies Day Downtown Fashion Show

Enjoy a fashion show, followed by a full day of activities and shopping specials throughout downtown Appleton for ladies of all ages! 10am. Downtown Appleton. 954-9112.

### 19 | Trinity Lutheran Church Open House

Come celebrate 150 years with the Trinity Lutheran Church, Neenah. Enjoy performances by several music groups. Refreshments will be served. 2-5pm. 722-6712.

### 22 | Golden Apple Awards

This dinner program will honor educators who are recipients of the award. It will be held at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, Green Bay. Program starts at 5:30pm. Tickets available by calling 593-3419.

### 24 | Newstar Astronomy Program: Viewing Constellations

Come learn about constellations and asterisms at the Mosquito Hill Nature Center, New London. 8-10pm. Registration and payment due April 18. 779-6433.

### 25 | 18th Annual UW-Green Bay Intertribal Student Council Pow Wow

This event is free and open to the public, and features several invited drum groups as well as a dinner at 5pm. Doors open at 10am, grand entries at 1pm and 7pm. 465-2720.

## LECTURES, READINGS, DISCUSSIONS & PRESENTATIONS

### 1 | Non-Fiction Book Discussion

"Charlie Wilson's War: The Extraordinary Story of the Largest Cover Operation in History," by George Crile. Appleton Public Library. 11:30am. 832-6173.

### 2, 16, 30 | Page Turners Youth Book Club

For advanced readers ages 8-11. 3:45pm. Neenah Public Library. 886-6315.

### 2, 16, 30 | The Middle Shelf Youth Book Club

For advanced readers ages 11-14. 4:15pm. Neenah Public Library. 886-6315.

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Photo courtesy of the Folk Dancers of the Fox Valley

## Dances from around the world

What better way to start your weekend than by learning dances from around the world? On April 18, beginning at 10 a.m., Folk Dancers of the Fox Valley will be hosting their annual International Folk Dance Workshop at Greenville Grange in Appleton.

It will be a fun day of “wonderful ethnic music and different types of international folk dance,” says Barb Westhofen, one of the event’s organizers.

Folk Dancers of the Fox Valley was founded in 1978 by students and faculty at Lawrence University. The group holds weekly classes for all ages and skill levels at Greenville Grange.

Mady Newfield will lead this year’s International Folk Dance Workshop. Newfield is a well-respected folk dancer who has been studying folk dancing since the age of 13. She also is a founder of Fermilab International Folk Dancing in Chicago, which has been running successfully for 27 years.

“Every workshop is different depending on the different styles of the teachers,” says Westhofen.

The festival will consist of three workshop sessions focusing on different types of international folk dance. Lessons are suitable for all skill levels. According to Westhofen, “Folk dancing is very inclusive” — so come with or without a partner. The morning session will be mainly Romanian folk dances, while the first afternoon session will be focused on English country dancing. The final session will be a mixture of different international folk dances.

After dancing your heart out at the event’s workshops, there will be a potluck dinner prior to the evening’s dance party, which will be accompanied by ethnic music.

For the first time this year, admission will be free for all students. Questions can be directed to Westhofen at 734-4029.

— By Natalie Ortega Wells

- 2 | Embrace Wellness: Sugar Blues**  
Laura De Salvatore will discuss the effects of sugar. 6:30pm. Kimberly Public Library. 788-7515.
- 4 | Foster Care in the Fox Cities**  
This lecture is presented by Andrea Lemke-Rochon, Foster Care coordinator for the Outagamie and Calumet County Foster Care Program. 7pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.
- 4 | Outagamie County Master Gardener Seminar**  
Learn about natural ways to keep your plants healthy. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.
- 6 | What’s So Hard About Hearing, Huh?**  
Stop by the Appleton Public Library for a presentation by hearing loss support specialist Julie Olson. 4pm. 832-6173.
- 7 | Books & Brews: Shotgun Lovesongs**  
A new book club will have their April meeting, focusing on the book “Shotgun Lovesongs” by Nickolas Butler. 5:30pm, Seth’s Coffee, Little Chute. 687-6551.
- 7 | FagBug: Anti-gay Graffiti Turns into Activism**  
On the 11th Annual National Day of Silence, Erin Davies was the victim of a hate crime. She now brings her inspirational journey and message to campuses across the country with a new and improved “FagBug.” 11:30am, display from 10am-4pm. Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, SC132, Green Bay. 498-5483.
- 7 | “Garden Wisdom” Book Signing**  
Presentation and book signing featuring renowned author Jerry Apps. His book, “Garden Wisdom,” is a treasure trove of tips, recollections, and recipes. 6pm. Heritage Hill Education Center, Green Bay. 448-5150.
- 7 | Midwifery 101**  
Attendees will learn about the different roles a midwife can play, from pregnancy support to primary care, in treating women throughout every stage in life. Program begins at 6:30pm at Appleton Medical Center in the Ironwood Room. 830-6887.
- 9 | Fiber Rain Knit Together**  
Come participate in Fiber Rain and Knit Bombing with Kassie Herbst. 6:30pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.
- 11 | Great Beginnings Book Club: Beautiful Ruins**  
Join the inaugural meeting of the Great Beginnings Book Club as they discuss the novel “Beautiful Ruins,” by Jess Walter. 10:30am. Kimberly Public Library. 788-7515.
- 11 | Master Gardeners: Wisconsin Wildflowers**  
Discussion of the diversity of wildflowers in Wisconsin. Little Chute Public Library. 6:30pm. 788-7825.
- 16 | Galapagos Travels**  
Explore the Galapagos Islands and Amazon wilds through a presentation by Randy Williams. Mosquito Hill Nature Center, New London. Register by April 10. 9:30am. 779-6433.
- 18 | Leave No Family Inside Series: Wetlands**  
Naturalist Jessica Miller will guide participants through one of the most unique ecosystems on the planet. Mosquito Hill Nature Center, New London. Register by April 10. 1pm. 779-6433.
- 20-24 | bell hooks Residency at St. Norbert College**  
hooks will host a number of talks throughout the week on topics including the theology of love and radical hospitality, engaged pedagogy, community building and racial justice at St. Norbert College, De Pere. 403-1342.
- 20 | Author Visit: Kathleen Ernst**  
Part of the 2015 Fox Cities Book Festival. Ernst takes readers behind the experiences and places that inspired her work. 6:30pm. Little Chute Public Library. 788-7825.
- 20 | Knit2Gether**  
Come join a free multigenerational knitting circle. 6-9pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.
- 21 | Author Visit: John Ferak**  
Part of the 2015 Fox Cities Book Festival. Ferak is an award-winning investigative team editor for Gannett Wisconsin Media and author of “Bloody Lies.” 6:30pm. Kimberly Public Library. 788-7515.
- 21 | Gloria Steinem Presenting at St. Norbert College**  
Famed lecturer, writer, editor and activist Gloria Steinem will speak at the Cassandra Voss Center on the campus of St. Norbert College, De Pere. Renowned public intellectual bell hooks will participate in a dialogue with Steinem as part of hooks’ week-long residency at SNC. 403-1342.
- 21 | How to Retire the Cheap skate Way**  
Presented by Jeff Yeager. 6:30pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.
- 23 | Meet Wisconsin Authors**  
“How much allowance should I give my child?” presented by Lynne Finch, author of “The No-Cash Allowance.” Books for sale and signing. 4-5pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

**Fox Cities Book Festival**  
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- 25 | Author Visit: Julie Buckles**  
Part of the 2015 Fox Cities Book Festival. Buckles' book about a 1,700-mile canoe trip through Lake Superior, "Paddling to Winter", offers a candid take on modern-day adventures and marriage. 1:30pm. Little Chute Public Library. 788-7825.
- 25 | Author Visit: Nickolas Butler**  
Part of the 2015 Fox Cities Book Festival. Butler's first novel, "Shotgun Lovesongs," is a national bestseller and received the 2014 Midwest Booksellers' Choice Award. Noon. Little Chute Public Library. 788-7825.
- 26 | Author Visit: Susan Gloss**  
Part of the 2015 Fox Cities Book Festival. Gloss's debut novel, "Vintage," centers around a Midwestern vintage clothing shop and a group of women who eventually transform the store and each other's lives. 1pm. Little Chute Public Library. 788-7825.

## FILMS

- 2 | Thursday Afternoon @ the Movies**  
TBD. Refreshments served. 4-6pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.
- 9 | Thursday Night @ the Movies**  
TBD. Refreshments served. 6-8pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

## CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

- 4 | Crane Count Training Session**  
Be part of the Midwest Sandhill Crane Count. Training session required. Free. 1pm. Mosquito Hill Nature Center, New London. 779-6433.

- 4 | Introduction to Glass Bead Making**  
Learn about safe and proper handling of equipment, tools and materials. Pull stringers, layer color and apply surface decoration. 10am-1pm. Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, Neenah. 751-4658.

- 6 | Adult Afternoon Program: Trash to Treasure in the Garden**  
Master Gardener Gail Clearwater will show how you can find new uses for discarded items turning it from trash to treasure. 2pm. Neenah Public Library. 886-6315.

- 9, 23 | Creative Writing @ The Library**  
Stop by the Appleton Public Library for this class and workshop. 832-6173.

- 11 | Build Your Own Rain Barrel** ☎  
Naturalist Mike Hibbard will teach participants how to make a rain barrel. Materials and instructions provided with registration, due April 1. Mosquito Hill Nature Center, New London. 779-6433.

- 11 | Glass Birdhouses**  
Make a fused glass bird house to celebrate spring. After your birdhouse creation is fired in the kiln, it will be attached to a metal rod so that you can display it in a flowerpot or garden. 10am-1pm. Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, Neenah.

- 18 | International Folk Dance Workshop**  
During the day dances will be taught by guest teacher, Mady Newfield. This event is famous among regional folk dancers for the lunch, featuring an amazing variety of soups, and for the ethnic potluck supper. Music from many lands will be provided for the evening dance party by accordionist Nick Bratkovich. 10am-11pm. South Greenville Grange. 734-4029.

- 18 | Annual Midwest Crane Count Training Session**  
Anyone interested in participating in the count must have attended the training session. 5:30am. Mosquito Hill Nature Center, New London. 779-6433.

- 18 | Wind Chimes**  
Make a personalized glass wind chime to be hung in a favorite tree or in the garden. We will discuss how the size of the glass pieces determines the sound the chimes make as they blow in the breeze. 10am-noon. Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, Neenah. 751-4658.

- 22, 23 | Art and Gardens Series: Appreciating Gardens**  
Feel more comfortable when viewing the art and gardens at the Paine by attending the New to Art and Gardens Series. 10am Wednesday, 5:30pm Thursday. The Paine Art Center and Gardens, Oshkosh. 235-6903.

- 22 | Earth Day-Recycled Glass Fun**  
Come with the whole family and celebrate Earth Day by using recycled glass bottles to create a beautiful one-of-a-kind work of glass art. Students will learn how to cut a glass bottle into pieces to be repurposed. 5:30-7:30pm. Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, Neenah. 751-4658.

- 25 | Under Pressure: gladU Workshop Series**  
This third introductory session will focus on the pressures young women face from the media and their peers and is part of the larger program for girls grades 8-12. GladU is designed to help young women develop a strong sense of self and authenticity by fostering critical thinking, communication skills and the development of personal

branding. 9-11:30am at the Cassandra Voss Center on the St. Norbert College campus. Presentations for parents will be held immediately after from 11:30-noon. Visit [snc.edu/gladu](http://snc.edu/gladu).

## CHILDREN'S EVENTS & CLASSES

- 11 | Pooches & Pages**  
Join Neenah Public Library for the opportunity to have your child read to therapy dogs. 10am. Registration required. 886-6335.
- 19 | Young Audiences: Inside a Ballet Class** ☎  
Join the Makaroff Youth Ballet behind the scenes in a ballet class while learning basic positions and dance moves, followed by an art project in the studio. 2pm. The Trout Museum. Reservations required. Free admission. 733-4089.
- 28 | Stage Doors Education Series: Laura Ingalls Wilder**  
Laura and her family travel across America in search of a place they can call home. Facing obstacles such as scarlet fever and eviction from their land, their pioneering spirit and family bonds are tested but never broken. This uplifting story comes to life in ArtsPower's popular musical. 10am & 12:30pm. Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, Green Bay. 465-5101.

*Calendar listings submitted to FOX CITIES Magazine are subject to change. The public is welcome to submit events online or to [calendar@foxcitiesmagazine.com](mailto:calendar@foxcitiesmagazine.com).*

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# Building for the future

By Amy Hanson

*Gordon Bubolz Nature Preserve carries on vision of namesake*

Everyone likes critters and creatures at a distance, but imagine a snake falling onto your desk or wildlife digging into the same earth that is shared with your office. Eeek! This has been the case on occasion at the Gordon Bubolz Nature Preserve in Appleton, not to mention water seepage issues in the ceiling, walls and floors. The earth shelter was constructed with soil on each side and is now rapidly aging with an outdated infrastructure.

"Physically, it's over the hill," says Executive Director Randy Tuma who shared stories of issues with the structure. "They (the board of directors) decided instead of just remodeling, we had to plan for the future."

Thirty four years can cause a great impact. The



Courtesy of David Lintz, COLLABORATION, LLC

Gordon Bubolz Nature Preserve is looking to continue its lifetime well into the future with its new capitol campaign, "An Outside Chance." The campaign seeks to raise funds to develop a new nature center.

"It's desperately needed. The number of people who come to the preserve has increased greatly," says John Bubolz, board treasurer and son of founder Gordon Bubolz. "It has faired us well, but is not up to today's standards. ... We can't wait for the new nature center to be built."

When the existing structure was created, it was designed with many "green" features in mind, including solar panels, a greenhouse, wood burner and the overall design, says Tuma.

"It was way ahead of its time," he adds. "All of that combined made for a very energy-efficient building."

It is, however, time for more than just a facelift.

"It's past its life expectancy," adds Development Manager Kristine Schuetze. "It's lived its life and needs to be redone."

The estimated cost for

the updated and expanded center is \$3 million dollars. Fundraising for the campaign began in 2012 and since then, \$1.75 million has been pledged by Fox Valley benefactors. When \$2.6 million is raised, Community First Credit Union will provide a loan for ground to be broken. The goal is to begin construction in spring and complete the building within eight to 10 months. Since the new building will be constructed where the current building stands, staff will be moved to a separate outbuilding onsite and no disruption in service will occur at the preserve, Tuma notes.

Another issue is demand. The Bubolz Nature Preserve has had to turn away field trips due to space limitations. The current center only has one meeting room and needs to be open in case of incimate weather. On average, 6,700 school children visit the preserve annually. The hope is that number increases to 10,000 students within the first year of the new center opening.

"(The new center) gets more kids involved in outdoor education and increases our revenue from those programs," says Schuetze.

Plans also include additional rental spaces and a gift shop to enhance revenue and the visitor experience. A learning center, coffee shop, library and volunteer lounge also will be incorporated. In addition to rental spaces, plans are in the works for onsite catering to accommodate weddings and other special events. Each space will have its own name and there are still naming rights available,





Tuma notes. The building also will be built to LEED standards and constructed by Bayland Buildings.

"They came to us and said, 'We'd like to build your building at no cost,'" says Tuma. The architectural plans also were donated by David Lintz of COLLABORATION, LLC. The new center's design is nearly triple the size of the existing space at just under 18,000 square feet.

According to Tuma, projections for the new center are to accommodate 100,000 guests annually compared to the current 60,000 visitors who spend time at the preserve each year.

"I'm most excited about the fact that we'll have multiple areas that the public can take advantage of," Schuetze shares.

Since January, the preserve has received 10-15 calls about weddings alone.

"People come out here and have their engagement photos done all the time," Schuetze notes. The preserve also has a gazebo.

Corporate team building activities also are becoming popular.

"Many of the programs we do for the kids also relate well for the adults," Schuetze says. One such activity that can easily be modified is the winter survival program. A ropes course may be added to the preserve in the future if demand permits.

*Photos courtesy of Gordon Bubolz Nature Preserve*



Prior to the design phase of the new center, a feasibility study was conducted, along with visits to other nature centers to get input on do's and don'ts that could be applied to the process, Tuma shares. Follow-up visits also have been held, along with informational meetings with the board of directors, staff and the community.


"Even though the building is bricks and mortar, it's really going to enhance the preserve as a whole," Tuma says.

John hopes the project will garner the attention of the Fox Cities, draw more people to explore and carry on his father's vision of "refreshing their minds and re-energizing their bodies with all the things that nature centers have to offer."

"They're going to like what they see when they get there," he adds.

Gordon Bubolz Nature Preserve was just one of the half a dozen nature centers its namesake helped to found, John notes. And, if there was ever a doubt that Gordon would approve of the improvements, his son puts those thoughts to rest.

"This new nature center would be something that he would absolutely be delighted with," John shares. "It's a privilege and a pleasure to be his son that has carried on this tradition. I'm so happy that we have made good progress on something that's desperately needed."

For more information on the campaign, visit [bubolzpreserve.org](http://bubolzpreserve.org). 



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## Fun unleashed

Join **Fox Valley Humane Association** on June 6 for the 35th annual Bark in the Park as we go "Bark to the Future!" Enjoy a walk around the beautiful Thrivent Financial grounds with your four-legged friend while supporting FVHA's Pet Wellness Center. Have a great time with the kids' fun run, '80s pet costume contest, agility demonstration, pet-related vendors, delicious lunch and treats, and other wonderful surprises! For more information or to register, visit [foxvalleypets.org](http://foxvalleypets.org).

## It's raining cats and dogs ...

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## Surf's up!

The snow is gone, so it's time to hit the streets! **Surfin' Bird Skateshop** offers a huge selection of skateboards, longboards and parts from the best skate brands. Also check out our selection of shoes, accessories and gear! 222 E. College Ave., downtown Appleton. (920) 997-4707. Hours: Monday, 4–8 p.m.; Thursday–Friday, noon–7 p.m.; Saturday, noon–6 p.m.; Sunday, noon–4 p.m. [surfinbirdskateshop.com](http://surfinbirdskateshop.com).



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Business travelers will find a home away from home at the Wingate by Wyndham Appleton hotel. Pack your carryon and briefcase, and make your next reservation for the Wingate near the Outagamie County Regional Airport. Conveniently located with easy access off of Highway 41 and Wisconsin Avenue, the Appleton hotel is just minutes from the Fox River Mall and Timber Rattlers Stadium. It's sure to be your go-to destination for a comfortable stay.

Completely renovated in 2014, the former Ramada Hotel became the Wingate by Wyndham. Guests give the hotel a 3.5 star rating and winning reviews. The Wingate is ranked as the No. 5 hotel out of the 23 places to stay in the Fox Cities and many of the top 50 companies in the valley prefer the Wingate for their travelers and clients. Businesses seeking an offsite meeting space for their next gathering can find that at the Wingate, too with a board room to accommodate up to 55 guests. Event planning and catering also is available. Contact the Director of Sales about the Preferred Corporate rate program for pricing details.

Earn Wyndham Rewards Bonus Points on your next stay! Registration is easy and membership is free. Guests get the best rates as a Wyndham Rewards member. Join now to start earning points!

Rest assured, this boutique-style hotel is perfect for the 25- to 55-year-old traveler. You'll be greeted by a friendly staff who will help you with your every need during your stay. The staff of the Wingate is always a step ahead and built for the business traveler. Whether you require thoughtful extras such as dry cleaning services to spruce up

a suit, access to a business center to complete an important presentation, free Wi-Fi Internet access or no-hassle, complimentary shuttle service to and from the airport, these conveniences are accessible to all guests.

Get your day started with a workout in the fitness center followed by a complimentary hot deluxe breakfast buffet, including healthy choices. You'll find plenty of options available onsite seven days a week.

The Wingate also offers leisure amenities. Unwind after a long day of back-to-back meetings with one of the area's largest heated indoor pools and a hot tub surrounded by two-story glass windows with two outdoor decks.

At the end of the day, you'll get a good night's rest when you retire in the comfort of one of our spacious guest rooms, equipped with a microwave, refrigerator and flat-screen TV, along with plush bedding perfect for some much-needed rest. The 81 beautiful rooms feature contemporary furnishings with either double queens, king bedrooms, king suites, whirlpool suites with a fireplace, or for family getaways, family suites which sleep up to eight guests. You'll also discover

small flatscreen TVs in each bathroom.

Visitors looking for leisure opportunities also will find a bounty of attractions nearby, including Barlow Planetarium, Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, the Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, home Packer games, EAA AirVenture, Mile of Music, Fox Cities Marathon, Oktoberfest and more, as well as several businesses and restaurants, making our Appleton, Wis. hotel perfect for both business and pleasure.



*Wingate General Manager  
Jeff McLaughlin has 30 years of  
experience in the hospitality industry.*



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# Diagnosing new innovations

By Amy Hanson

## Health care providers bring medical advances to Fox Valley

Advances in medicine are happening every day and making an impact around the world. Changes in health care in the Fox Valley are no exception. Affinity Health System, ThedaCare and Aurora Health Care are all contributing to the evolution locally.

### Affinity Health System

On Jan. 10, a new chapter in care at St. Elizabeth hospital in Appleton became a reality when patients were welcomed into rooms at Fremont Tower, a five-story building with 90 private patient rooms. The renovations came at a cost of \$95 million, which includes new radiology facilities and other improvements.

The construction project was phase IV of a master plan that was created in 2006 for the hospital, which was founded in 1899.

“Our goal was to take that chemical, sterile feel out of our hospital,” says Heather Schimmers, vice president of Patient Care Services at St. Elizabeth Hospital. “The greatest thing that I’m most proud of is sure we had architects, but they didn’t design it (Fremont Tower). It was our associates and our 700-plus patients.”

The concept for the tower came about six years ago and the design process started three years ago.

Features of the patient rooms include a large window to let in natural sunlight; limited flat services to prevent the spread of bacteria; outlets for charging devices; a chair that converts into a bed for guests; a wardrobe with a safe and a bathroom with a walk-in shower that is easily accessible for both



Private patient room at Fremont Tower

patients, and a care team member if needed, with a sliding door featuring a tree design — every third room has a different design.

Patients also can control their lights, window shades, TV and music at their bedside. TV options include movies to order, patient logging for procedures, a relaxation channel and ability to order meals from the Marketplace.

In order to reduce patient disturbance and streamline medicine and supply procedures, bins are restocked for each room via outside access. Each patient floor offers a small waiting room with a couch, TV, table and chairs, and convenience stations as well.

“Our rationale for that is we want to bring the family to the rooms,” says Schimmers referring to the size of the space.

Noise also has been reduced inside Fremont Tower with sound-absorbing walls. Each floor and patient room was designed the same to help make care more efficient. There are three sections or

“neighborhoods” to each floor. Double doors divide each hallway within the neighborhood and can be closed off if needed to prevent the spread of a disease or in an emergency situation.

Fremont Tower also offers two spirituality rooms in addition to the chapel for “when you just need to take a minute and gather your thoughts,” Schimmers adds.

Last, but not least, Fremont Tower also is gaining attention for its menu offerings in its new cafeteria space, the Marketplace.

“I don’t know that you can go to any other restaurant for lunch in the area that is as good as this with this variety,” shares Schimmers.



Heather Schimmers,  
vice president of Patient  
Care Services at  
St. Elizabeth Hospital



The Marketplace, located in The Fremont Tower at St. Elizabeth Hospital

The Marketplace is open to the public, in addition to patients, family and friends, for breakfast, lunch and dinner at a reasonable price. St. Elizabeth works with Riverview Gardens to get produce for use in its offerings. The space also makes use of large windows to maximize sunlight and limit the use for additional lighting.

Off the Marketplace, visitors will be welcome to enjoy the courtyard in the warmer months. This space is currently under construction, but will feature gardens, a water feature and seating.

"The Fremont Tower at St. Elizabeth Hospital was designed with sustainability in mind, and uses less energy and water than most hospital buildings its size," says Monica Hilt, president for St. Elizabeth Hospital and regional vice president for Ministry Health Care's Eastern Region. "It has green roofs, efficient mechanical systems, and uses passive solar



Monica Hilt, president for St. Elizabeth Hospital and regional vice president for Ministry Health Care's Eastern Region

energy. This saves money and also helps us be good stewards of our natural resources, which reflects our organizational values of wisdom and reverence."

Hilt, who is no stranger to Ministry Health Care after joining the system in 1991, was named to her new post on Jan. 11. St. Elizabeth Hospital is part of Affinity Health System, which joined Ministry Health Care in 2012.

"I was originally attracted to Ministry because of its mission and values, and 24 years later, it is the mission and values which continue to energize and inspire me," Hilt shares. "Our mission as a Catholic health care system is to further the healing ministry of Jesus by continually improving the health and well-being of all people, especially the poor, in the communities we serve."

Hilt is looking forward to continuing her part in "a high-quality, award-winning organization."

"We have outstanding safety, quality and patient experience results," she says. "In my first 30 days, we opened a new five-story building at St. Elizabeth Hospital and were recognized by the state surveyors for our trauma program. It's exciting, and I look forward to working with our associates, clinicians and community partners to continue serving the people of Northeast Wisconsin."

## ThedaCare

ThedaCare is transforming cancer care.

"Our ThedaCare Regional Cancer Center, opening in 2016 demonstrates that commitment to respecting individuals with cancer and their families," says Stacy Milam, director of Cancer Services. "The center will serve as the home base for the ThedaCare premier cancer program, with a team of top-talent care providers and offering a broad range of treatments, services and resources, including access to the latest technologies and promising new treatments through participation in clinical trials. Integrating cancer services at one location makes it easier for patients to maintain their daily routines and family life while going through treatment. Hundreds of thousands of people will now have access to the best cancer care north of Milwaukee in one location."

Prior to breaking ground on the \$44 million project in February, ThedaCare met with individuals affected by cancer — patients, friends, family and physicians.


"We talked about how we could help them — physically, mentally, spiritually," says Milam. "With those insights, we pulled together our wonderful team of specialists and cancer program leaders to create a facility that would be the home base to our premier program and address their needs."

That home base will be located on Capitol Drive in Appleton, near Encircle Health.


The Regional Cancer Center will eliminate patients from bouncing from specialist to specialist for care.

"Because patients are at the table with us, connected to the right team for their wants and needs, they can choose the practical solutions they want, the ones that respect their quality of life and give them personal peace," adds Milam. "Whether patients need chemotherapy, radiation, surgery or have a blood disorder, top-talent specialists are working on their care. The clinical care team also includes experts at Mayo Clinic via electronic consults, specialized nurses, experts in medications, palliative care specialists and hospice providers. We participate in clinical trials and research, so patients have even more treatment options."

Continued on Page 20



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Surgical locations include Woodland Surgery Center, all three Fox Valley hospitals and **NOW** performing surgeries in Green Bay in 2014!

*The addition of a new high-tech, hybrid surgical suite at Appleton Medical Center is slated to be open in September. Exterior shown below.*

It is ThedaCare's philosophy to care for not only a patient's body, but also their heart and mind, along with their loved ones.

"We offer many resources, services and therapies to promote healing and help patients feel better, including emotional support and encouragement in both individual and group settings, pastoral care, stress reduction techniques like yoga, creative therapies including music and exercise, massage, financial counseling, connections to community resources and survivorship care," says Milam. "Patients and families also find hope and healing in our cosmetology services, genetic testing and analysis, nutritional guidance and physical therapy."

Milam hopes ThedaCare's offerings will be sought out as a resource.

"We hope that ThedaCare Regional Cancer Center is the place where people with cancer will go with confidence, knowing they are part of a team with their best interests, and those of their friends and families, in mind."

Another ThedaCare endeavor looking to increase patient's peace of mind is the addition of a new high-tech, hybrid surgical suite at Appleton Medical Center. The suite is currently under construction and slated to be open in September.

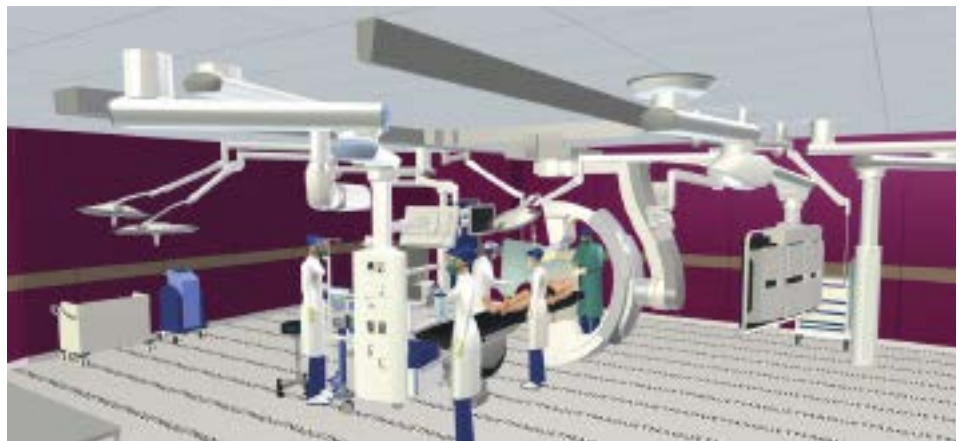
The suite will be used for vascular surgery, interventional cardiology and cardiac surgery.

"Sometimes a patient may need teams from both traditional surgery and the cardiac catheterization lab," says Bill Boyd, director of Perioperative Services Value Stream. "The hybrid approach means that we'll be able to address each of the patient's needs during one session with all the necessary leading edge surgery, imaging and interventional equipment in one place," says Boyd.

Some procedures are more advanced than what ThedaCare can currently offer.

"It will allow us to do things that we can't do now," adds Boyd. "For those patients who need it, it's going to be of benefit."

The suite will allow patients to have access to



advanced technology, limit multiple visits and anesthesia, and offer less invasive procedures. There also are advantages in terms of costs and getting back to life faster.

"When you look at the aging population, they're carrying six or seven decades of life," says Dr. Alex Tretinyak, a vascular surgeon with Fox Valley Surgical Associates. "The

patient who will really benefit from this are ones who really only had open surgery before."

Previously, Tretinyak, who works with ThedaCare through Fox Valley Surgical

*"We hope that ThedaCare Regional Cancer Center is the place where people with cancer will go with confidence, knowing they are part of a team with their best interests, and those of their friends and families, in mind."*

~ Stacy Milam, director of Cancer Services



Associates, would have to turn patients away due to age and other risk factors, but now the hybrid surgery suite is opening new doors. Boyd adds that not every case, however, will be cut out for this.

"In the old days, if the only option you could offer patients was a big, risky surgery, you didn't offer that surgery," Tretinyak says.

In some ways, the advancement is a one-stop shop. If doctors get into a procedure or surgery and realize it may need to go another direction, they don't have to stop and spread out procedures over days or weeks.

"It's less in and out of the hospital and fewer procedures," says Tretinyak. "It's technology that's great to have in the valley."



*St. Elizabeth  
Hospital*

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The state-of-the-art building features five stories and includes an inpatient unit, radiology renovation, and restaurant-style cafeteria called the Marketplace featuring healthy, locally-sourced food choices.

There are 90 patient rooms total, and each room is private with a bathroom, shower and wardrobe unit.

This new space provides a welcoming, comforting environment and offers patients a peaceful place in which to receive care.

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Lung Multidisciplinary Cancer Clinic (MDCC) at the Vince Lombardi Cancer Clinic at Aurora Medical Center in Oshkosh

### Aurora Health Care

After opening in mid-January, the Lung Multidisciplinary Cancer Clinic (MDCC) at the Vince Lombardi Cancer Clinic at Aurora Medical Center in Oshkosh has taken a new approach to treating thoracic cancers — including lung cancer. The Oshkosh MDCC follows guidelines set forth by the National Comprehensive Cancer Network.

“It was good, but it’s even better if we can get all these specialists together,” says Dr. Shamsuddin Virani, a medical oncologist who recently joined the Aurora team, of former options.

This approach includes everyone who would be involved with a patient’s care conferring with one another and the opportunity to create a unified patient-centered plan focused on comprehensive, coordinated care. It also allows patients to see members of their team within a shorter period of time — typically within the same day — and in one place with one appointment. This could include a medical oncologist, radiation oncologist, surgeon, interventional pulmonologist, pathologist, interventional radiologist and other specialists.

“Cancer can be a real overwhelming diagnosis,” says Virani. “This is a way to convene all the specialists in one place.”

A cancer nurse navigator also is a key part of the process and provides support, advocacy and education based on individual patient needs.

“They’re like your tour guide, they hold your hand through the whole process,” Virani notes.

The multidisciplinary cancer clinic concept works across other cancer disciplines as well. Extended services are offered in Fond du Lac.

“Although Aurora is pioneering this concept in the area, it is a global concept,” Virani shares. “I see it’s going to be a standard of care concept as it goes down the line. ... It’s here to stay.”

According to the American Cancer Society, small cell and non-small cell lung cancer is the second most common cancer in both men and women, not counting skin cancer. “It also accounts for about 27 percent of all cancer deaths and is by far the leading cause of cancer deaths among both men and women. Each year, more people die of lung cancer than of colon, breast and prostate cancers combined,” the society states.

For these reasons, Virani recommends adults ages 55-80 who fit certain criteria participate in an annual screening, which is Medicare approved, and involves a low-dose CT scan to determine if someone has lung cancer.

“This is to detect cancer early before you have any signs or symptoms,” says Virani.



Another initiative on the horizon for Aurora Health Care is primary care redesign. This concept is already underway and is expected to be complete by the end of summer 2015. All Aurora practices will undergo this transition and implement the new approach, according to Laura Spurr, director of medical group

operations.

Designed by Aurora, the initiative aims to aid practices in shifting from a volume-based care model to emphasizing patient-centric care, Spurr explains.

“The goal of the initiative is to make it easier for our patients to live well by accessing the care they need, when they need it, with an increased focus on wellness and prevention,” she says. A greater emphasis will be placed on matching patient needs with the right person and skill set.

According to Spurr, the goals of this new concept are to: “help patients live well by providing high-quality care; improve patient experience by

providing ongoing guidance to the right care at the right time; improve patient access to meet patients’ needs; enhance engagement through top of license, team-based care; and instill a culture of



“Cancer can be a real overwhelming diagnosis. This is a way to convene all the specialists in one place.”  
~ Dr. Shamsuddin Virani, oncologist at Aurora Medical Center

sustainable, self-improving operational excellence.”

Moving to this model will benefit all Aurora patients, Spurr says.

“Getting an appointment without waiting is a high priority for everyone,” she adds. “By streamlining our practices using LEAN design techniques, patients should experience shorter waiting times. Improved care coordination between clinics and the hospital will result in better outcomes for patients and easier navigation of the healthcare system for those who need it.”



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# FOOD *for* Thought

By Amy Hanson

*Newcomers welcomed to Fox Cities dining scene*

New restaurants reserved their place in the Fox Cities dining scene this last year as many opened their doors for the first time. Others made plans to welcome new ownership, expand or renovate. There also were twists by thinking beyond the menu and some dining establishments who said goodbye. Here is a sampling of the dish that took place in the area over the course of this past year.



## CUSTOM CREATIONS

### Rye Restaurant & Lounge

Located within the Copperleaf Boutique Hotel in Appleton, Rye Restaurant & Lounge is a mix of stylish sophistication and rustic undertones.

"We are right downtown College Avenue in Appleton," says Manager Brian Johnson who notes the fine dining establishment is within walking distance of the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center. "Our menu has small, medium and large plates," he adds.

Johnson describes Rye's cuisine as classic American fusion with dishes from salads to seafood. The restaurant opened Nov. 3, 2014 and makes everything from scratch. Rye also serves craft cocktails and beers, along with an impressive wine list in a "great atmosphere," says Johnson. The restaurant is closed Sunday evening, but open for brunch.

*Rye's Butter poached Atlantic lobster with grilled pork belly, sweet corn relish and citrus crème. Photo by Julia Schnese*



### Green Gecko Grocer & Deli 2

Richmond Terrace welcomed a new tenant in November 2014. Green Gecko Grocer and Deli 2 moved into the first floor space in the residential/commercial building after being approached by tenants within the building who were looking for a business like Green Gecko to move in.

Owner Robert Wall was intrigued by the idea of moving and initially thought about a partner for the new location, but instead sought a small bank loan. The first Green Gecko continues at its spot inside City Center in downtown Appleton.

"We're able to do the hot food that we couldn't at the other location," Wall shares. "We did this basically on a shoestring."

So far, the string of new opportunities continues. Wall admits it's been a bit slow this winter, but the business is open for breakfast and lunch and offers take-home options with its grocer and deli selections, too. Wall also is looking forward to summertime traffic with Richmond Terrace's patio space on the corner of Richmond and Packard streets and plans for seasonal outside events.

"We want to challenge the residents of downtown to see if they're really interested in fresh foods," Wall says.

*Continued on Page 26*

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The Source Public House  
Asian marinated pork chop  
Photos by Julia Schmese

### The Source Public House

Sourcing is the name of the game at The Source Public House in Menasha.

“We source locally as much as we can,” says General Manager Tyler Rueth. “Our menu changes over the winter about once a month and then over the summer every two weeks.”

The new eatery opened July 24, 2014 and builds its offerings based on what’s available, primarily within a 50-mile radius of the restaurant.

“That’s one of his favorite things to do is come up with new things for our menu,” Rueth says of Head Chef Adam Devens. One example is a Specialty Grilled Cheese featuring local Asiago cheese on Manderfield’s Home Bakery sourdough bread.

Customers will find local live music and the works of area artists on the walls at The Source Public House. The restaurant also features a fish fry that changes week to week with Wisconsin perch, bluegill and walleye, and an off-the-menu brunch.

### Riverview Diner

Riverview Diner is making waves in Little Chute. Attached to the Hawk’s Nest Bar, the restaurant was a work in progress for years that came to fruition on May 8, 2014 when it opened. The business is owned by Gary and Dorrie Konetzke.

“I worked for him for quite a few years tending bar and we thought this would be a good fit,” says Kitchen Manager Kurt Koehler who spent his spare time remodeling the space for almost three years prior to opening.

Riverview Diner serves breakfast and lunch all

day, featuring omelettes, pancakes, sandwiches and specialty burgers, along with weekly specials. The restaurant has become a popular destination for third-shift workers, Koehler notes. You’ll also find a Friday fish fry.

“I’ve had nothing but compliments on our food and service,” Koehler adds. “We have a beautiful view of the river. We’re looking forward to getting some boat traffic this spring and summer.”

### SAP Brunch, Brown Bag & Bakery

“We had done it a few times before so each time it gets a little easier,” says Nicole DeFranza of opening SAP Brunch, Brown Bag & Bakery in Appleton. “You’re counting on a lot of people to get things done.”

The crew was basically at SAP around the clock the 14 days prior to opening the doors, DeFranza notes of the restaurant she co-owns with her sister, Kristen Sickler. SAP just happens to be right in the same area as their other joint venture, Carmella’s an

Italian Bistro.

“Overall, my sister and I couldn’t be more thrilled with how things have gone,” says DeFranza. “We definitely felt that the need was there. You never know if that need will transfer to other people. ... There’s more and more people in the Fox Valley who are starting to eat like we cook.”

While SAP serves breakfast all day, DeFranza

and Sickler are beginning to offer new entrees to entice the dinner crowd. Watch for expanded items in SAP’s deli case as well with more Grab-n-Go, brown bag options, DeFranza shares.

### Brewed Awakenings

Make way for a fresh start and changes at Brewed Awakenings in Appleton.

“We’re definitely going to be changing up the menu,” says Owner Nora Asplund who is glad to be back in the business’s former location after almost six years. “It feels really good. I’m very excited.”

Brewed Awakenings returned to the host of downtown eateries on Jan. 11, 2015.

Besides a cup of Joe, customers can expect new daily lunch specials and breakfast specials on the weekend, with more vegetarian and vegan options being explored for the menu as well. Brewed Awakenings also will serve at least one made-from-scratch soup a day, Asplund says.

### Home Run Pizza

What started as a fundraiser for St. Joseph’s Church blossomed into a family business in Appleton.

“We named it Home Run Pizza because my husband taught my son baseball and we started it in our home,” explains Co-Owner Pati Reinke of the adventure the business has taken her on with her husband and Co-Owner Randy. Their son, Chris, is Home Run’s manager.

On Sept. 22, 2014, Home Run moved into its new location on Wisconsin Avenue and recently opened for the lunch crowd. Patrons are welcome to dine in; carryout fresh frozen, custom Take-N-Bake or Hot-N-Ready; or have their pies delivered.

“It’s always better when the pizza comes hot to your table,” Reinke shares. “I don’t know of any other places that make their own crust from scratch.” Home Run is USDA-inspected and makes its own sausage and hamburger, too.

“I want to get back to the natural, better foods,” says Reinke. “I’m using all local suppliers. I believe in those people.”

It’s also a family friendly environment.

“People can bring their kids and feel at ease with that,” Reinke adds.





Tasty Treats & Eats

### Tasty Treats & Eats

Tucked away under the green awning on Wisconsin Avenue in Appleton, Tasty Treats & Eats has been luring in customers since Dec. 1, 2014 with homemade, specialty desserts for all, including doughnuts, scones, muffins, filled cupcakes and custom cakes. Among the selections are gluten-free, diabetic and low-carb options.

“We do everything from small cakes to 3-D treasure chests,” says certified Pastry Chef Amanda Theisen, who is also a graduate of Le Cordon Bleu in Minneapolis.

“Baking has always been a passion for me and I’ve been cooking since I was a kid. ... We wanted to offer people these options that still taste great.”

Tasty Treats & Eats also is open for breakfast, lunch and to-go, with a focus on making things from scratch, with fresh ingredients, and also offering vegetarian and vegan choices. Soup is served daily with homemade stock, Theisen notes.

“The soups have really been the highlight,” she says. “Everyone who has tried them has said, ‘Wow, these are great!’”

The soups are made by Theisen’s mother, Tasty Treats & Eats Owner Sandy Theisen, who says the menu changes both weekly and seasonally.

### Parma

Marc Waltzer opened his latest Fox Valley dining creation — Parma — on March 16.

The restaurant is divided into three areas and features farm to table Italian cuisine in the main dining space, an Italian gastropub with 60 on tap specialty craft beers from across the country and separate menu, and a craft cocktail and martini bar with a large selection of bourbon, Scotch and whiskey.

“We make our own pasta every day, we fly in our seafood fresh every day and we source our items fresh in the state where possible,” explains Parma’s owner.

Parma also includes a display kitchen where customers can watch items such as pasta and gelato being made and purchase them to take home. The other side includes a to-go deli with Italian, dry-cured meats and cheeses, prepared

pastas, sauces and other items.

An outdoor, covered pergola space seats up to 60 guests when weather permits. Waltzer plans to bring in brewmasters for talks and dinners in the garden space, which features organic, heirloom vegetables and herbs that will be grown for the restaurant.

*Continued on Page 28*



Parma  
Photo by Julia Schnese

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## NOT YOUR TYPICAL CHAIN

### World of Beer

Newly opened in Appleton, World of Beer is tapping into the restaurant scene with 52 beers on tap and just under 600 selections available for patrons' drinking pleasure. Not sure what to order? Leave that to the knowledgeable staff who are educated in the selections to help you decide.

General Manager Partner Darold Doris describes the fare as "your basic comfort food infused with a beer twist."

Tater tots and Guinness Brat sliders are popular selections, but customers also will find shareables including an Artisan Sausage Board and the signature German Pretzel.

"It's very appealing while you're drinking a beer," says Doris.

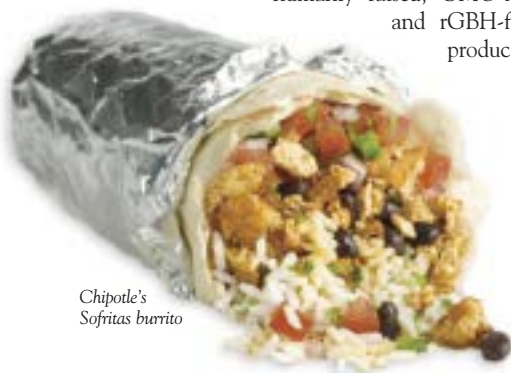
World of Beer also has live music, weekly special events and trivia, along with its Beer Brunch on the weekend.

### Chipotle Mexican Grill

You may have heard of Chipotle Mexican Grill before, but now there are two locations in the Fox Valley. The new addition on County KK in Buchanan opened Dec. 7, 2014. But, unlike its counterpart, you can partake of an alcoholic beverage with your dinner at this location since the restaurant serves both beer and margaritas.

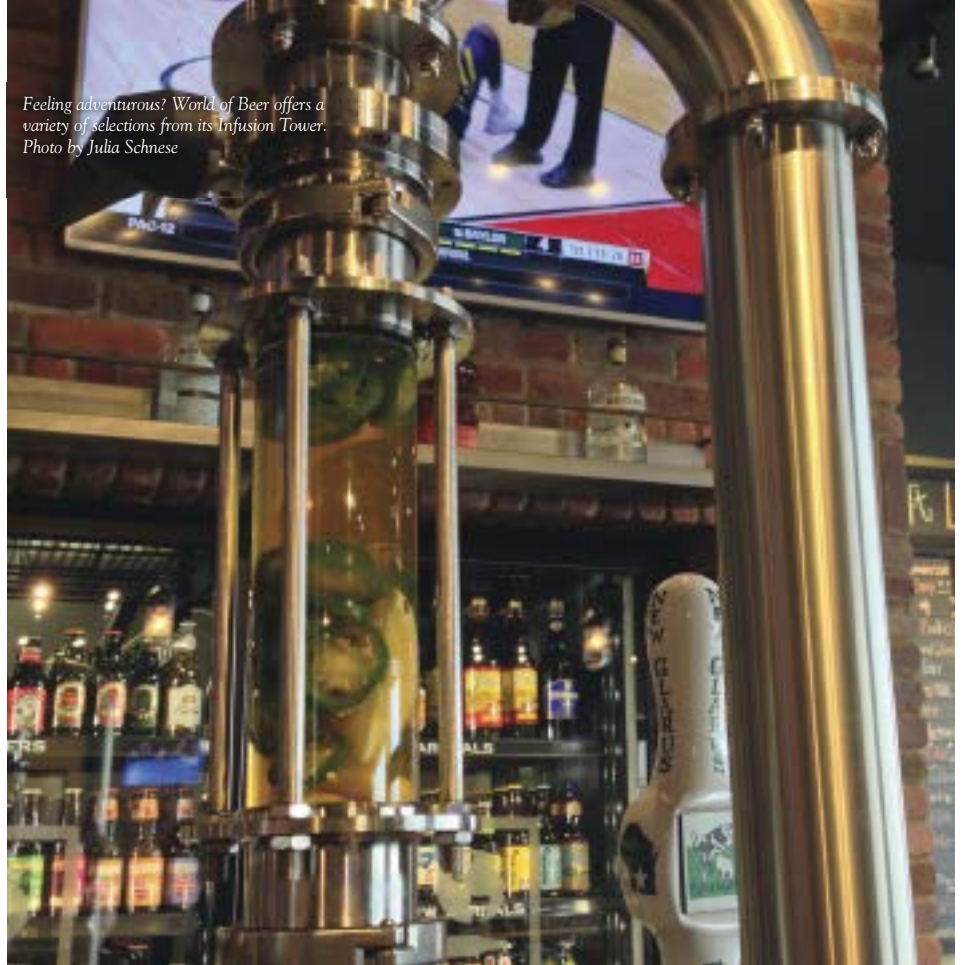
Another menu item gaining traction are Sofritas featuring organic, shredded tofu made with braised vegetables.

"It doesn't look like tofu, it doesn't taste like tofu. It's really, really good," says General Manager Yeng Vang, who stresses that Chipotle uses humanly raised, GMO-free and rGBH-free products.



Chipotle's Sofritas burrito

Feeling adventurous? World of Beer offers a variety of selections from its Infusion Tower. Photo by Julia Schnese



### Culver's

Maggie Kauer knew she wanted to own her own restaurant some day. She just didn't know it would be in fast food until she became involved with the mentoring program through Culver's. Kauer now owns the Wisconsin-based chain's 518th location with her mentor, Glenda Woosley, in Little Chute.

"I was looking to grow and expand," says Kauer who started working at Culver's when she was 15 years old.

"Their values, my opportunity for growth, they take care of their team members, their guests" led Kauer to the decision to become her own boss.

"We knew we wanted to stay local, so we picked this location," adds Kauer. "I think what sets us apart from the other locations is this mentoring program.

## MOVING UP

### Antojitos Mexicanos

Make way for changes at Antojitos Mexicanos in Appleton. The restaurant packed up its Richmond Street location of almost seven years in mid-March and is slated to open in its newly renovated location on College Avenue around April 21. The restaurant's new home will feature rustic Mexican decor.

"The menu will stay basically the same, but we'll be running a Mexican Fusion menu every week," says Co-Owner Fernando Almanza of the restaurant he owns with his sister, Veronica Banda.

The front portion of the restaurant will be for dining with a bar in the back of the space. In addition to weekly dining specials, Almanza is looking forward to offering margarita flights that

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will change as well. Another new addition is Mexican brunch, which will be served on Sundays. The restaurant will be open on Saturdays for breakfast, too.

## OWNING THEIR FUTURE

### Apollon

Following the death of Apollon Owner Stavros Kodis, the vision of the restaurant's founder and chef lives on.

"We wanted to keep the tradition alive," says Co-Owner Craig Persha who now operates the Appleton restaurant with Co-Owner Chef Modesto Santander. Both Persha and Santander, who took over the business in May 2014, trained under Kodis prior to his passing.

Customers can expect "nothing to be different than it was before," says Persha. "That's what made it the Apollon. That's why it's been there 20 years."

The restaurant will celebrate 21 years in April and continue to offer three-course dining "at a quiet, easy level," notes Persha.

"It's more about the social (environment) than the quick turnaround," he adds.



### Josef's Gyros & Kabobs

"We've tried to keep it pretty close to the original," says Owner/Manager Carl Sanderfoot of Josef's Gyros & Kabobs in Appleton. "I always thought this was a cool little shop he had."

Sanderfoot purchased the business in mid-July 2014 from Josef Sattakeh who opened the restaurant in 2004. Sanderfoot has added kabobs



back to the menu and sources better, local ingredients, he says.

Sanderfoot also has owned New York Deli for almost 11 years and wanted to expand his business. Continuing Josef's seemed like a natural fit to "let our staff grow and get out of their way," he adds.

### The Outpost Pub & Provisions

Chris Fiedler is bringing his famous fish fry to a new location.

"We're known for our Friday night fish fry," the managing partner of The Outpost Pub & Provisions shares. "We used to own Germania Hall." Where one door has closed, another has opened for Fiedler in Sherwood with his new dining endeavor.

"Ours is an old-school fish fry. I have a recipe that I've been working on for 30 years," he says.

Fiedler took over The Outpost Pub & Provisions on July 1, 2014 with three silent partners. He has since paved the restaurant's parking lot, revamped the dining area and installed new kitchen equipment. A revamped menu also was introduced in March with healthy appetizer and meal selections, which was driven by customers, says Fiedler. Gluten-free pizzas, wraps, buns and breads are available with the new menu, too.

The restaurant also has its own in-house smoker where Fiedler is working on his "soon-to-be famous baby back ribs."

*Continued on Page 30*

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## BREAKING NEW GROUND

### Houdini's Escape Gastropub

It's not an illusion, Houdini's Escape Gastropub in Appleton is undergoing some changes.

"We are expanding mostly to accommodate a new kitchen," says General Manager Cole Plamann.

The current kitchen is expected to remain available once the new open kitchen is ready. The new space will feature an open design and will be four times larger. The interior of the restaurant will undergo some cosmetic changes and a reconfiguration of tables with more high-top tables added to the bar area. There also are some outdoor additions in the works on the Oneida Street side of the restaurant.

A 500-square-foot patio will include a fire table with a natural gas pit in the middle and include community-style seating. There also will be 15-20 tables for outdoor dining.

"We will have the patio ready for people to sit on by the time it's warm around here," says Plamann. The renovation project began mid-January 2015. "It was a matter of not turning guests away. ... There are a lot of people who want to try the gastropub experience."

### Stone Cellar at Riverview Gardens

Sometimes happy accidents happen in life. For Stone Cellar in Appleton, when opportunity came knocking, Tom Lonsway didn't shy away.

Lonsway owns Stone Cellar with his son Steve who also is Stone Cellar's head brewer. In 2013, the growing restaurant was beginning to be stretched on space for gatherings and their regular customer flow. When Riverview Gardens approached them in July 2013 about operating the

former clubhouse facility, once part of Riverview Country Club, it seems like a natural fit. The new venture opened in September of 2013.

"It's just a neat thing to be involved in this program and help the people who need it," Tom Lonsway says.

Recently, the Gardens Pub Room, available for special events, was opened to the public on Wednesday nights for small plates, a wine bar and soft music. In the summer, Tom plans to offer live guitar and piano music.

"We had so many former country club members coming to us and asking about the space," he adds. "It's a beautiful, beautiful building. It's the best view in the Fox Cities."

### Riverside Bar and Grill

There's activity going on at Riverside Bar and Grill in the historic flats area in Appleton.

"We just felt that our other patio was often full. And, we want to be known for games and music," says Manager Jeanne Peskie of the new 25-foot-by-50-foot patio. The old patio, about a quarter of the size of the new one, will remain, too.

The new patio is expected to open in May and feature a tiki bar, shuffleboard court, live music and patio furniture.

"We just pride ourselves on good food and

good drinks and think this will be something fun for the area," Peskie shares.

### GingeRootz Asian Grille

After starting to construct a new outdoor space in the summer of 2013, GingeRootz Asian Grille in Appleton officially opened the outdoor room in spring of 2014. The previous space was half the size, hidden and lacking in atmosphere, says Owner Doris Ng.

The new rectangular space is divided into two areas for dining and lounging. It includes a retractable roof, heaters and curtains on all sides so the chance of showers doesn't effect dining.

"It's a very calming area for them," says Ng of her customers. "They like just hanging out there. It gets them away from the outside, even though they are outside."

## TEMPTING TASTEBUDS

### Village Hearthstone Restaurant and Catering

What better place than the middle of a farm field to hold a dinner? It's these types of ideas that are getting Village Hearthstone Restaurant and Catering in Hilbert noticed.

"I was just looking, and I'm always looking for ways to portray rural culture with food and dining," says Tracy Darling, general manager and chef.

Darling tries to host an event once a month, which has ranged from farm-to-table dinners to "The Sweet Life" — a six-course dinner featuring honey in each dish. She's also planning a dinner for Cinco de Mayo to bring in other cultures. Colectivo Coffee will be there and a beer will be created from the skin of the coffee bean.

"We're also looking for ways to marry modern interests with the rural culture," Darling adds. Upcoming event information is available online.



A Village Hearthstone farm dinner

### Menasha's Farm to Table Dinner

Last September, Menasha brought community members and leaders to the table for its second Farm to Table Dinner.

"It was a great way to bring people to Menasha to showcase the area and our great chefs and farmers," says Mayor Don Merkes.

Continued on Page 32

# SHOWCASE



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### Getting a rise out of dough

**Q.** Whenever I try to make bread, my dough doesn't rise properly. Do you know why this happens and how I can prevent it?  
—Ezra, Menasha



**A.** Ezra, I like this question because many people have a fear of using yeast. Yeasts are basically plant cells that rest in dormancy until awakened. We activate yeast by adding moisture and feeding it in a warm, moist environment. In this environment, the yeast produces two byproducts — carbon dioxide and alcohol. The carbon dioxide is a gas that provides the leavening to our baked goods like bread. Yeasts need sugar to live, and sugar can be an added ingredient in recipes, or a naturally occurring sugar from the flour and other ingredients.

In troubleshooting your bread products, evaluate the following questions:

- Is there enough yeast to provide proportionate leavening to the bread?
- Is there enough sugar to feed the yeast?
- Is the dough too stiff and unyielding so that the carbon dioxide can't push it up (common in heavy dough like whole wheat)?
- Is the dough not warm enough to activate the yeast?
- Is the dough too warm and has killed many or all of the yeast?
- Has the top of the bread crusted over, making it impossible for the dough to keep rising?
- Is the environment where the dough is rising both moist and warm (a common challenge at home)?

Determining the answer and addressing the solution to these questions can help get your bread moving the right direction, Ezra!

Chef Jeffrey Igel is the chair of the Culinary Arts & Hospitality Department at Fox Valley Technical College, Appleton. "Chef Jeff" has spent his entire career in the restaurant and hospitality industry, serving in many capacities.



Continued from Page 30

The event is anticipated to return mid-September for its third year. Details are still being determined.

"It was a wonderful event last year," says Joanne Roush, Menasha Farm Fresh Market manager. "We tried to bring together a really dynamic group of people and I think we succeeded in that."

### Red Ox Seafood and Steakhouse

"We try to lean heavy to the seafood end," says John Hayes, owner of the Red Ox Seafood and Steakhouse.

He offered his customers oysters a few years ago and then stopped since it became overdone. Now, they're back and running from the second week of September through the last week in May.

"We like the East Coast oysters because of the water temperature," Hayes shares, adding that he sells them at cost to his customers. "We look at it as a bar draw."

The oysters are available each week on Tuesdays and Thursdays after 5 p.m. Customers are encouraged to place their orders by noon the day before to ensure their catch.

Bartender Jerry Ewig continues to shuck the oysters that are flown into Milwaukee from Chesapeake Bay in Virginia.

"Jerry was into it and I said, 'Well, I'll do it if you're going to shuck them,'" Hayes shared with a chuckle. "I think there are a lot of people who look at it as they only ever have them when they're on vacation. ... They're consistent, they're delicious."

### Spats Food & Spirits

After a long week at the office, sometimes you need to unwind. Spats Food & Spirits in

Appleton has created a draw to their establishment.

"Ten dollars gets you anything you want to drink and a 10-minute massage," says owner Bill Neubert. "Something different, something to get people out."

The idea started to help a friend who had received her license in massage therapy. Three years later, it's still going strong once a month — on the last Tuesday. Neubert is hoping to put more dates on the calendar and move massages back out to the Spatio once the weather heats up for the summer. There will also be live music featuring mostly local beginning and established artists.



## SAY GOODBYE

The past year also marked the closings of the following restaurants: all locations of Aspen Coffee & Tea, along with Fresh and Aspen Landing. Blueberry Hill Pancake House also flipped its last flapjack. The Flying Dutchman Supper Club & Lounge, Germania Hall, Menasha Grill, Kangarooost and the Kangarooostaurant food truck, and all Harmony Café locations also closed to customers in the Fox Valley.



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# Home office *havens*

By Emma Martin

*Work spaces for productivity, inspiration*

Wake up, brew a pot of coffee and begin your work day. For some people commuting to their job is not required, their work day starts by simply walking into their home office and turning on their computer. Home offices are no longer dark dens with large built-in desks and cabinets. These areas are being designed as bright rooms filled with natural light, rustic accents,

comfortable furniture and sleek desks.

Telecommuting has increased 80 percent nationally since 2005, according to [globalworkplaceanalytics.com](http://globalworkplaceanalytics.com). Some individuals work from their homes every day, others do so occasionally or when their workload requires extra hours. Since more work is being done at home, office spaces are becoming a priority in home design.

## Personalized comfort

If you are going to spend countless hours working in a home office having it reflect your personality can provide comfort and inspiration. "People are really personalizing



Photo courtesy of Timber Innovations

their home offices based on their interests. We recently worked on an office that incorporated a wall of guitars and old amps to represent the owners interest in music," says Paul Driessen of Timber Innovations in Kimberly. Driessen adds, "We also used a tree we had to remove from his property to build his desk, it was a way to give it back to him in a different form."

For another client, Driessen included a patio door in her office. The door provided a lot of natural light, as well as easy access outside for the homeowner to enjoy brief breaks from her work.

In addition to a space that showcases people's individual interests, comfort also is a top priority for homeowners designing their offices. "Some people who work from home feel more comfortable having an open concept office, maybe they need to keep an eye on their kids while also getting work done," shares Nickolas Arnoldussen of Arn's Cabinets in Little Chute.

"People are really trying to make their home offices enjoyable to be in since they are working from home more often," adds Alexandria Hakenjos of Northtown Lighting Center in Appleton.

## Rustic trend

Visit the social media website Pinterest and you are bound to see home decor pins featuring

images of country chic interior design trends. People also are including natural decor in their home offices. "A lot of people like using the earthy wood look to give their office a rustic feel," says Hakenjos.

Driessen shares, "We completed an office that used a sliding barn door to close off the space from the rest of the home. The desk also had a rustic influence that worked well with the door."

## Functional furniture

In the late 1990s, office equipment required a lot of space. Computers involved large monitors, towers and printers. As technology has evolved, the size of computers have gotten smaller causing home office furniture needs to change.

"Large executive style desks are no longer popular; people are now choosing smaller desk styles. There isn't as much of a need for the large built-in furniture," explains Pat Dewar of Gabriel Furniture in Appleton.

Arnoldussen agrees, "With the size of computers going down, things have become easier to conceal." The office functionality is hidden so the decor elements stand out and the space doesn't scream office.

Chairs and sofas add comfort to home offices. "For people who need to sit for long periods time, comfortable leather desk chairs are popular," says Dewar. He adds, "Including a sofa sleeper in a home office can provide comfort and allows the space to double as a guest room when needed."

## Lovely lighting

Lighting adds style and ambiance to any room. In

home offices, it is important to not only consider the design of the fixture or lamp, but also the lighting needs based on the work being done. According to

Hakenjos, "People have been choosing functional lighting pieces such as ceiling fans



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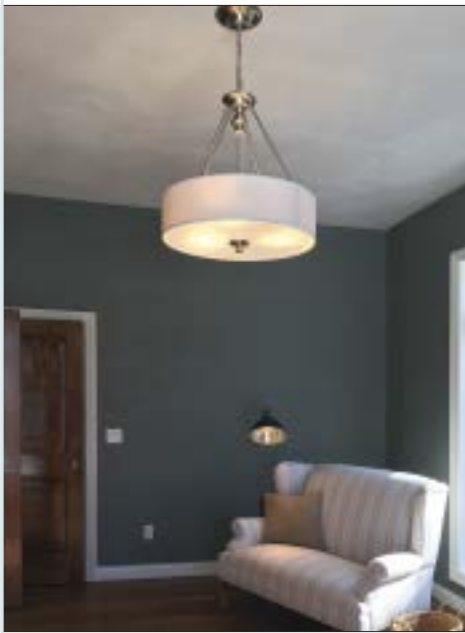


Photo courtesy of Northtown Lighting Center

with lights. Ceiling fans that have rustic restoration looks using reclaimed wood are very popular.”

For a home office light fixture that becomes a central show piece in the room, Hakenjos says some people are choosing to incorporate chandeliers. “We recently worked on a home that had two home office spaces for a husband and wife who both worked from home. The woman’s office included a chandelier made of nickel with an airy look. The chandelier in the man’s office had a more masculine dark bronze look,” shares Hakenjos.

To achieve a lighting look that is subtle and soft, Hakenjos adds that drum shades are frequently being chosen for home office spaces. Whatever your lighting needs and preferences are there is a fit, you are no longer limited to traditional office desk lamps.

### Flooring underfoot

Hardwood flooring also is a popular home trend right now and utilizing it in home offices has not gone unnoticed. “Carpet can be tricky in home offices with rolling desk chairs.

Hardwood or tile flooring is often used. We have also done hard flooring just under the desk for clients who prefer carpeting,” says Driessen.

Cork flooring is another option people are choosing for their home offices. Driessen adds, “Cork is a flooring that is durable and warm.”

### Beautiful bookshelves

Bookshelves and home offices go hand and hand. Even as technology advances and more content is stored digitally, bookshelves stay a staple in office spaces. According to Dewar, “Bookcases continue to be popular because they are both decorative and functional.”

Driessen agrees that including a wall of bookshelves remains a popular choice among homeowners. He adds that painted white cabinets and shelving is a current trend he is seeing in home offices.

### Shared space

When two people need to share one home office it can pose a challenge to the design configuration and technology set up. “At times, we are asked to set up an office for two people. This can be challenging to put together from a logistical standpoint. First and foremost, we consider the layout,” explains Arnoldussen. He adds, “Technology is also an important consideration when planning an office space for two people. Will one printer be shared or will separate printers be used?” Technology integration for two people also has become

easier to plan for as the size of components have gotten smaller.

### Home showcase

Home offices have come out of hiding as forgotten spaces of the home to become rooms that are now carefully planned and designed. Arnoldussen says, “Creating a space that is simple and functional is always a top priority.”

“A lot of people who work from home are having client meetings in their home offices. The office has gone from being a tucked-away space to a showcase within a home,” shares Hakenjos. Thoughtful and quality home office design will wow both guests in your home, as well as clients and colleagues who spend time in the space for business meetings.



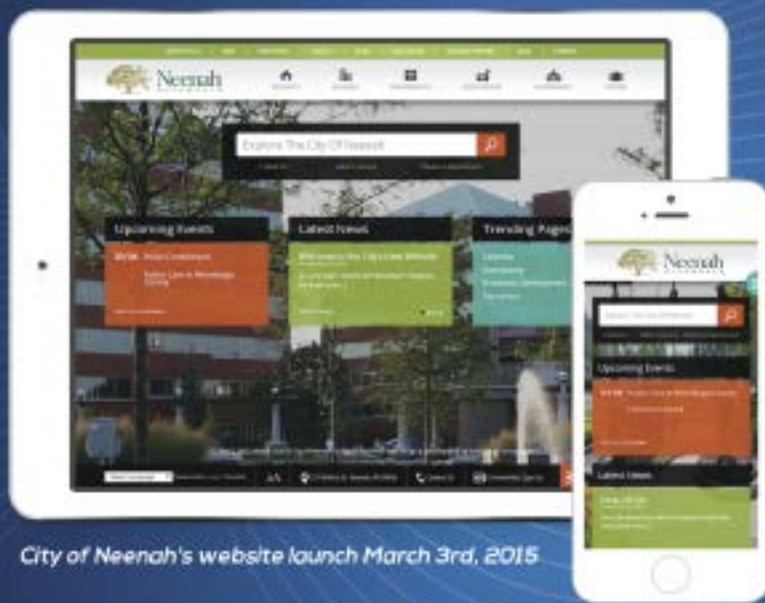
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