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FOX CITIES Magazine is published 11 times annually and is available for the subscription rate of \$18 for one year. Subscriptions include our annual Worth the Drive publication, delivered in July.

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FOX CITIES Magazine P.O. Box 2496 Appleton, WI 54912

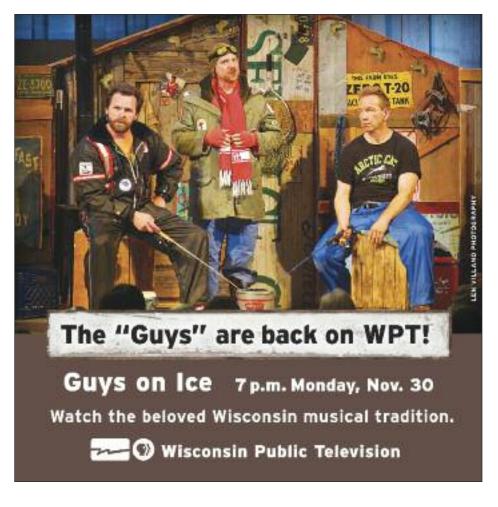


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# DOOR PENINSULA





# CONTENTS

#### **Features**

#### SPECIAL SECTION



18

#### Holiday Happenings

Make a date to take in seasonal offerings in the Fox Cities and beyond

AT HOME



#### Lower level living

Basements create 'usable space' for holidays and beyond By Amy Hanson

**FOOD & DINING** 



26

#### Recipe for the holidays

Restaurants share what makes the season special

By Amy Hanson

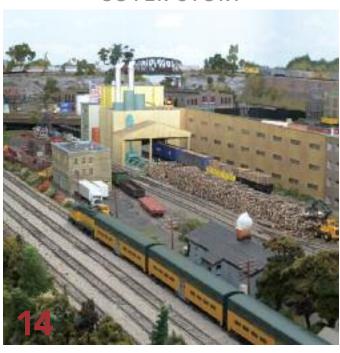
# **Departments**

- **6** Artist spotlight
- 8 Not to be missed
- **16** Showcase
- **21** Ornamental Elegance
- **25** Showcase
- 28 Ask Chef Jeff
- **29** Where to dine
- **30** The place we call home



The Paper Valley Model Railroad Club will host their holiday open house from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Nov. 27-28 and Dec. 26.

#### **COVER STORY**



ARTS & CULTURE: Chugging on Model railroad club preserves hobby, shares seasonal tidings By Amy Hanson

# foxcitiesmagazine.com

Take a look at some of the updates we've made to foxcitiesmagazine.com including our dining listings, exhibit information and events. You'll also find an exciting new web series, "Chef Talk with Kyle Cherek," which will be posted twice a month on the site featuring restaurants spanning from the Fox Cities to as far north as Door County and south to the Sheboygan-Kohler area. We



hope you'll share your feedback with Associate Editor Amy Hanson at edit@foxcitiesmagazine.com on what you think of the series and the restaurants you would like to see featured!

#### ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

# Whimsy takes shape

Rezin fuses art, science to fashion one-of-a-kind creations

Look carefully at the Rezin Studios logo. Yes, that's a unicycle. A curious choice for an artist's emblem? To Sara Rezin, it's a meaningful symbol. "Balance, whimsy, practice and perseverance — just like riding a unicycle all play a role in creating my art."

With a background in science and a passion for art, Rezin creates unique pieces with fused glass and silver clay that can make a statement, decorate a home or preserve a memory.

A native of Central Wisconsin, Rezin's love of nature inspired her to obtain a geology degree from Lawrence University. She raised a family and then worked for 12 years at the Lawrence Academy of Music. For the last 10 years, she has spent considerable time firing silver and fusing glass. Nature and music continue to inspire much of her art.

Rezin's work includes fused glass artwork such as stand, table and wall art; functional art such as trays, platters and bowls; lawn and landscape art; and jewelry including necklaces, earrings, bracelets and rings. She also does commissioned pieces.

Rezin creates her art in her in-home studio, which includes two kilns; a wet belt sander; tile saw; dozens of plaster molds; various cutting, cleaning and shaping tools; and multitudes of frit (tiny bits of glass) and stringers (small thin strings of glass). Her work is extremely detailed, and the scientific aspect of fusing glass and melting silver is critical to understand.

"There are many idiosyncrasies with the firing process," notes Rezin. "There is a lot of experimentation and you have to be very precise."

Glass is particularly unique. "There are so many interesting things about glass," explains Rezin. "The transparency of it, the multitude of colors, the science behind the fusing and the creative ways you can fuse it. But there's serendipity as well. You think you know what you're going to get, but you may open the kiln and it's not what you expected. Sometimes it's a great surprise, sometimes it's not at all what you intended and often it's even better. I don't think I could create the exact same piece twice even if I tried."

One of the most enjoyable aspects of her craft, says Rezin, is creating one-of-a-kind pieces that preserve a family memory. "I love pieces that tell a story. When I'm creating a piece for someone that captures a memory — a family recipe, a handwritten note, a favorite poem, a memorable trinket — that's very rewarding."

Rezin's work is unique in that she can take a handwritten piece and transfer it into the glasswork or silver, preserving it forever. She

also can take special trinkets or memorable items to create one-of-a-kind jewelry or artwork. "I made a bracelet with all the tiny treasures from my grandmother's button box, a table centerpiece out of the leaves from my daughter's wedding bouquet and a platter out of the champagne bottle from my other daughter's wedding toast," says Rezin. "It's a way of turning memories into treasured mementos."

Rezin also has made countless jewelry items using upcycled pieces, such as keys from musical

tiny found objects she's discovered on her travels. In addition to creating artwork, Rezin also teaches

her craft. She offers classes in glass fusing, metal clay and jewelry making at the Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass in Neenah. "I love sharing

what it's all about, and I love seeing students' excitement when they create something new."

Name: Sara Rezin

Residence: Appleton

Price range: \$10-300

Medium: Glass and silver clay

Rezin began showcasing her work at juried art shows in 2012, and continues to attend five to six shows per year in Wisconsin, including Art at the Park in Appleton. You can find her pieces at Coventry Glass in Appleton, the Bergstrom-Mahler Museum gift shop and online on her Etsy store at rezinstudios.com. She will be having a gallery show on Dec. 5 at Copper Rock Coffee Company in downtown Appleton.

- By Emily Anderson

# HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

Do you recognize this local architectural detail?



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

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



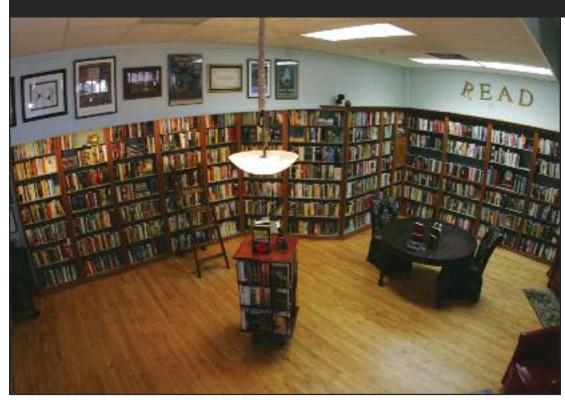
Submit your entry to info@foxcitiesmagazine.com FOX CITIES Magazine P.O. Box 2496 Appleton, WI 54912



**OCTOBER WINNER** Keith Gehring, Appleton Answer: Riverside Cemetery



#### Thomas A. Lyons **Fine Books**



Visitors to Lyons Fine Books will find a wide variety of works lining the walls. The store houses almost 6.000 selections with more available online at lyonsbooks.com.

# Discover a new read with Lyons Fine Books

"Collecting doesn't have to be expensive," says Tom Lyons. As the owner of Thomas A. Lyons Fine Books in downtown Neenah, the book lover has been sharing his collection with readers since opening the doors of his cozy bookstore three years ago.

From mystery to fiction to signed copies to a mixture of

better used books, Lyons has treasures for all readers among the almost 6,000 books he offers in store with more available online at lyonsfinebooks.com. There are even stories on sports, non-fiction, biographies, poetry, short stories, science fiction and books on books. While the shop does not specialize in new releases and young adult selections, it also has a small collection of each, along with a sale section that includes signed finds.

"You'll find what we think are good authors," Lyons notes. Both he and his daughter, Meredith Lyons, who manages the bookstore, read at least two books a week. While Lyons himself is quick to offer a recommendation, he also enjoys discovering new authors from his customers.

Tucked upstairs at the bookstore, lucky visitors will be treated to the likes of Saul Bellow, Junot Diaz, William Faulkner, Robert Frost, John Steinbeck, Ernest Hemingway and many others whose words live on. It's hard not to be intrigued by first editions, inscribed copies, limited and trade editions, ornate slip cases, and elaborate illustrations of sought-after and not-sowell-known titles.

Lyons is constantly on the hunt for new offerings that

are priced to sell. He relies on prior knowledge and what speaks to him when making his picks. And, upon the sale of something he likes, he searches for a better edition. For customers seeking a specific selection, Lyons Fine Books also offers assistance.

For some collectors, "condition is king," while others

are happy to add an affordable copy of a special read to their bookshelf.

"A lot of wonderful things have come through my doors," Lyons notes, adding that his books range from \$5 to thousands. "We're trying to cover the gamut."

And, if there was any doubt that in a changing digital world there isn't still a place for printed books, Lyons disagrees.

"People like to hold the physical book in their hands. That's who we cater to, the person who likes to hold the book in their hands," he shares. "Writing is actually man's greatest endeavor. How else would you pass on man's history, science, endeavors? I think it's paramount that we preserve it."

Lyons Fine Books also offers periodic book signings and readings featuring local, state and

national authors. An upcoming event is planned at Timshel Cafe in Neenah with author Gavin Schmidt on Nov. 12. Book discussion groups also are welcomed.

"We try to do as many as we can. That's part of our mission here," Lyons says.

Store hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Other times by appointment.



124 W. Wisconsin Ave., Suite 140 Neenah (920) 486-1751 lyonsfinebooks.com

# NOT TO BE MISSED: November events calendar

MARK YOUR CALENDARS WITH HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS! See Pages 18-20 for details.

#### **ARTS EVENTS**

#### 4-7 Help! My Husband Has Gone Missing: My Daughter is Getting Married & I am Having Hot Flashes! Barbara has just survived her 50th birthday, which has got her thinking about many things. W-Sa, 7:30pm; F-Sa, 2pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

#### 5 The Second City: Fully Loaded Features classic material made famous by Second City stars like Tina Fey, Stephen Colbert and Steve Carell. 7:30pm. Grand Opera House, Oshkosh. 424-2350.

#### 6 Cirque Mechanics: Pedal Punk Excitement, artistry and thrill occurs when a bike shop mechanic interacts with cyclists and bikes. 7:30pm. Weidner Center, Green Bay. 465-2726.

#### 11, 12 AXIS Dance Company One of the world's most acclaimed and innovative dance ensembles. W, 6:30pm; Th, 7:30pm. John Michael Kohler Arts

# 11 ArtsPower Theatre "Dog Loves

Center, Sheboygan. 458-6144.

Louise Yates' New York Times Best Seller comes to life in this family friendly musical. 3-5pm. Thrasher Opera House, Green Lake. 242-4279.

#### 17 Neville Public Museum Dinner Program 22

Enjoy dinner and a program. Features "Roll out the Barrels," a story of barrel-making in Wisconsin. Dinner at 5pm, program at 6pm. Neville Public Museum, Green Bay. 448-4460.

#### 18, 19, 20 Kevin Coval/Young Chicago Authors and Voices of Sheboygan

The power of spoken word and individual voice in repertory works and original pieces. 7pm. John Michael Kohler Arts Center. 458-6144.

#### 20 3 Blonde Moms

Nationally touring comedy show. 7:30pm. Capitol Civic Center. 683-2184.

#### **MUSIC & CONCERTS**

#### 5 The Wood Brothers

Chris and Oliver Wood, along with Jano Rix, shuffle between bluesy country and swampy funk. 7pm. Door Community Auditorium, Fish Creek. 868-7678.

#### 5 Travelogue: Transient Canvas (Marimba/Clarinet Duo)

Part of the Thursdays concert series hosted by UW-Green Bay. 6:30pm. Weidner Center for the Performing Arts. 465-2726.

#### 6 Brahms Night

Valley Academy for the Arts presents this event in collaboration with the Badger State Girl Choir. 7pm. Valley Academy for the Arts, Neenah. 886-9330.

#### 6 Fred Sturm Jazz Celebration Weekend: Cyrille Aimée

Cyrille Aimée is heralded as one of the most promising jazz singers of her generation. 7:30pm. Lawrence Memorial Chapel, Appleton. 832-6749.

#### 6 John Lambert, Acoustic Guitar Part of the Neenah Public Library Concert Series. 2pm. Neenah Public Library. 886-6315.

#### 7 Rufus Reid's Quartet with Lawrence Jazz Ensemble

Bassist Rufus Reid possesses one of the richest and most generous tones in jazz today. Part of Fred Sturm Jazz Celebration Weekend. 7:30pm. Lawrence Memorial Chapel, Appleton. 832-6749.

#### 11 Jackson Browne

Browne has been defining a genre of songwriting since the mid-1960s and has released 14 studio albums. 7:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

#### 12 Brian Wilson

One of the original Beach Boys, Wilson is the creative force behind some of the most cherished recordings in rock history. 7:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

#### 12 Piano Per Diem — 30 Piano Pieces in 30 Days

Performed by pianists Holly Roadfeldt and Michael Rector as part of the Thursday concert series hosted by UW-Green Bay. 6:30pm. Weidner Center for the Performing Arts. 465-2726.

#### 13 | Lawrence University Choirs

Lawrence Concert Choir, Cantala & Viking Chorale perform, conducted by Steven Sieck and Phillip Swan. 8pm. Lawrence Memorial Chapel, Appleton. 832-6612.

#### 13 US Air Force Band of Mid-America's Airlifter Brass Concert &

Six musicians inspire patriotism, connect communities with service members and honor our veterans. 7pm. Door Community Auditorum, Fish Creek. 868-2728.

#### 14 Fox Valley Symphony Concert

Pre-concert talk with guest artist Marcia Henry Liebenow and a free reception after the concert. 7:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

#### 14 Lawrence Symphony Orchestra Conducted by Thom Ritter George. 8pm. Lawrence Memorial Chapel, Appleton.

832-6612.

#### 14 Tom Chapin

Chapin's career spans five decades, 23 albums and three Grammy Awards. 7:30pm. Thrasher Opera House, Green Lake. 294-4279.

#### 16 Riverview Gardens Concert Series: Year Two

Riverview hosts concerts in collaboration with Lawrence University and New Yorkbased chamber ensemble Decoda. 5:30pm. Riverview Gardens, Appleton. 733-2354.

#### 17 Lawrence University Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band

Conducted by Andrew Mast and Matthew Arau. 8pm. Lawrence Memorial Chapel, Appleton. 832-6612.

#### 18 | Lawrence Brass

8pm. Lawrence Memorial Chapel, Appleton. 832-6612.

#### 19 Jazz at the Trout Season VI

Blues performed by Soulfi Si. 7:30pm. Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

#### 21 Ronnie Milsap

Enjoy an entertaining and engaging live show from the country music star. 7:30pm. Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, Green Bay. 465-5101.

#### **27** VIVO

832-2824.

Winner of 2015 WAMI Jazz Artist of the Year, VIVO is a contemporary jazz-pop, bossy-samba ensemble. 7:30pm. Thrasher Opera House, Green Lake. 294-4279.

#### **OPENING EXHIBITS**

#### 2 Between Now and No Time Thru Dec 4. Prints by Gail D. Panske. UW Fox Aylward Gallery, Menasha.

#### 4 Shifting Gears: A Cyclical History of Badger Bicycling

Thru Sept 2016. Showcasing the crucial role that Wisconsin has played in two national biking years, features historic bicycles and artifacts, intriguing images and virtual interactive experiences. The History Museum at the Castle, Appleton. 735-9370.

#### 6 Joseph Huppert

Thru Nov 24. Joseph Huppert creates beautifully detailed graphite drawings that analyze form and utilize light. UW Oshkosh Allen Priebe Art Gallery. 424-1234.

# 'Shifting Gears' pedals through bicycle history

Beginning with a "bicycling boom" in the late 19th century, bicycling continues to be a major influence in the lives of many Wisconsinites. But how can it be so when we live in a state where it snows for half of the year?

"People might be surprised to learn that the phenomenon actually started in the winter of 1869," says Nicholas Hoffman, chief curator at the History Museum at the Castle. A new exhibit at the museum titled, "Shifting Gears: A Cyclical History of Badger Bicycling" aims to show the critical role bicycling has had in Wisconsin history and will open at the museum on Nov. 4.

The goal of the exhibit, explains Hoffman, is to "point out several themes that make Wisconsin a great bicycle state." Those themes include why and how we cycle, competitive cycling, bicycle advocacy, the creation of many bike trails and paths throughout the state, bicycle manufacturing, and many other facets developed in the past 130 years. Visitors will be able to see a wide variety of bikes on display, collected from bike shops, historical societies and private collectors from the

"For folks who love seeing older classic bikes, especially ones with steel frames, this is the exhibit for you," Hoffman says. He is especially looking forward to seeing an allwood "yankee flying mono-wheel" on display.

There will be some interactive activities as well, including a large computer touch screen displaying a bicycle tour map that shows the best routes from city to city. The map enables viewers to see what routes people took in the 1890s, many of which are still in use today. There also will be two locations where visitors can hop on bikes and virtually ride down some of the



most scenic trails in the state, courtesy of video provided by Trail Genius and the digital experts at Skyline Technologies.

"Shifting Gears" will be at the History Museum at the Castle through September 2016. The museum is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday.

-By Amanda Bourbonais

# E.A.T.S. fundraiser offers food, fun

Live jazz music, lots of food, silent auctions and raffles — these are just a few things attendees will enjoy at the Educational Assistance Through Scholarships fundraiser on Nov. 7 from 6-9 p.m. at the University of Wisconsin-Fox Valley Communications Art

Center in Menasha.



E.A.T.S. is the UW-Fox Valley Foundation's biggest scholarship fundraiser of the year. Last year, the college was able to award \$200,000 in scholarships to 152 students. A majority of these funds came directly from the E.A.T.S. fundraiser.

According to Mary Beth Leopold, executive director of the UW-Fox Valley Foundation, E.A.T.S. aims to raise \$75,000 this year.

"We have a lot of very deserving students," says Leopold. "We're really

supporting our students (with this fundraiser). Those who have promise who wouldn't be able to attend college are able to come because of E.A.T.S.

The event will feature appetizers and main dishes created by more than 40 amateur and professional chefs from the Fox Cities. To keep things fresh, E.A.T.S. will enter its 19th vear with its first "Celebrity Chef Cook-Off." The cook-off will feature community "celebrities" competing against one another for the title of "Top Chef."

The competitors include Beth Davis, vice president of development at Community First Credit Union; Steve Seifert, law partner at Silton Seifert & Carlson; Kim Baehmon, nutritionist and owner of Nutritional Healing; Cindy Budiac, clinician services liaison for Ministry Healthcare; and a mystery chef to be revealed at the event.

For \$100, attendees also can purchase a raffle ticket, with the grand prize winner receiving an all-inclusive week's vacation for two in Cancun, Mexico.

General admission tickets are \$40. A \$50 ticket will get the "foodie's" name listed in the event's program book and an automatic entry into a drawing for a \$50 gift basket.

-By Ariela E. Rosa

## **FUNDRAISERS**

#### 5 Meet Wisconsin Authors

Meet Gavin Schmitt, author of "Milwaukee Mafia: Mobsters of the Heartland." Books for sale and signing. Appleton Public Library. 832-6392.

**COMMUNITY &** 

**CULTURAL EVENTS** 

#### 7, 14, 21, 21 Downtown Appleton **Indoor Farmers Market**

Experience a large indoor farm market with up to 50 vendors selling fruits, vegetables, meats, cheeses and more! City Center Plaza, Appleton. 954-9112.

#### 7 Art Fest

The third annual Annual Art Fest features area artists exhibiting and selling their original works of art. Navarino Nature Center, Shiocton. (715) 758-6999.

#### 7 Family Scavenger Hunt 22

Puzzles and clues will have your family roaming the garden to find hidden treasures. 10-11:30am. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

#### 8 Celebrating Caregivers

Relax with a chair massage, snack buffet and music. Featuring multiple guest speakers. 3:30-6:30pm. Grand Meridian, Appleton. 968-2621.

#### 22 Indoor Outside Lamp 🕿

Harvest grasses, leaves, berries and rocks outside, then assemble a nature-themed glass jar lamp. Register by Nov. 13. 1pm. Mosquito Hill Nature Center. 779-6433.

Fundraiser for the UW-Fox Valley Foundation. Live music, food and drinks, as well as a silent auction and raffles. 6-9pm. UW-Fox Valley Communication Arts Center, Menasha. 832-2849.

#### 10 Celebrate Life Event

Play the game of Life, and sample international food and beverages provided by area restaurants. Hosted by Community Benefit Tree. 5-9pm. 422-1919.

#### 14 So You Think You Can Cook

The Children's Museum of Green Bay offers the second annual culinary competition at the Oneida Golf and Country Club, Green Bay. 6-10pm. 432-4397.

#### 17 Homeless Connections 10th Annual **Benefit Gala**

Gourmet dinner, live and silent auctions, and a program highlighting community impact. 5-9pm. Radisson Paper Valley Hotel, Appleton. 734-9603.

#### 19-21 Friends of Appleton Library **Book Sale**

Books, audio books and DVDs. Proceeds benefit the Appleton Public Library. 9-5pm. 832-6173.

#### 20-21 Green Bay De Pere Antiquarian Antique Show and Sale

Proceeds go to the Antiquarian Society Grant Program. F, 10am-7pm. Sa, 10am-4pm. Rock Garden Banquet and Conference Center, Green Bay. 366-0664.



#### OVEMBER 14, 2015

#### JANUARY 23, 2016



Khachaturian: Masquerade Suite Korde, Svara-Yantra Concerto for Violini and Table with Marca Henry Liebenow Mozart: Symphony No. 35



Weber: Der Freischutz Overture Tchalkovsky: Violin Concerto with Masha Lakisova Dyorak: Symphony No. 8 in G major

#### MARCH 19, 2016

#### MAY 7, 2016



Surinach: Feria Magica Overture Boethoven: Plane Concerto No. 4 with Raffi Boselvan misofice: Symphony No. 5 in B-flat major



Four-time Grammy winner and Americans music icon Rosenne Cash brings hernewest and greatest hits to the Fex Oilles in a grand orchestral performance with the Fox Valley Symphony Orchestia

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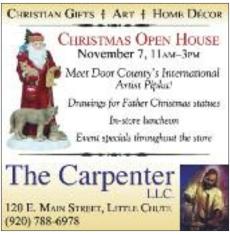
# Rogers is coming to the Fox Valley

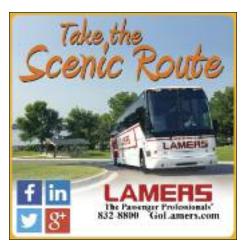
This fall, Rogers Memorial Hospital is making mental health treatment more accessible with the opening of our Appleton location.

Offering treatment for eating disorders, OCD and anxiety, posttraumatic stress disorder, depression and other mood disorders.

Call 844-258-1072 for a free screening or visit rogershospital.org.







#### 24 Friends of Oshkosh Library Book Sale

Find a good book for your home collection. 10am-6pm. 236-5211.

#### LECTURES, READINGS, PRESENTATIONS & **DISCUSSIONS**

#### 2 Embracing Wellness

A series on living well and balanced. No registration required. 6:30pm. Neenah Public Library. 886-6315.

#### 3, 6, 10, 13, 17, 20 The Untethered Soul by Michael Singer 22 Book discussion groups will be held from 6:30pm Nov 3, 10, & 17; 9:30am Nov 6, 13, & 20. Unity of Appleton. 739-4823.

# 7 | Bali: An Island of Enchantment

After spending time in the city of Ubud, naturalist Jessica Miller will recap her journey with an array of photos and stories. 1-3pm. Mosquito . Hill Nature Center. 779-6433.

#### 7 Outagamie County Master Gardeners

Plants, Passion, and Power: Traveling through Garden History. 10-11:30am. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

#### 9 Discover the Amazon Jungle and Galapagos Islands 🏖 🕏

Experience these amazing locales through the photos and artifacts Randy Williams brought back from his travels. 6pm. New London Public Library. 982-8519.

#### 9 | SPARK! String Painting 2 Led by a trained museum educator who will engage participants in interactive experiences. Stay for coffee, conversation and support. 10am and 2pm. Building for Kids, Appleton. 733-4089.

#### 10 Tablet Talk: Using Any Tablet With Success

Part of Tech Talk Tuesdays, monthly public lectures about a variety of tech topics. 1:30pm. Neenah Public Library. 886-6315.

#### 11 Appleton Historical Society's Appleton Picture Show

Bring your old pictures for "show and tell" scanning and discussion. 7pm. Thompson Community Center. 540-3699.

#### 11 Non-Fiction Book Discussion Discussion of "The Wright Brothers" by David McCullough, led by retired

history lecturer Bob Schmall. Appleton Public Library. 832-6392.

#### 14 Find Your Ancestors

"Step-by-step — Back to your Norwegian Ancestors" presented by Mary Ellen Peterson, researcher. Funded by Friends of the Appleton Public Library. 2pm. 832-6173.

#### 14 Packers Heritage Trail Trolley Tour

Connect with the rich history of the team, a great option for those who want to experience the trail with the convenience of a guided tour. Original Tour, 10am; ACME Tour, 12pm. packersheritagetrail.com.

#### 16 Knit2Together

Multigeneratonal knitting circle. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

#### 18 Downtown Book Club

Discussion of "Bel Canto" by Ann Patchett, led by Howard Porter. Appleton Public Library. 832-6392.

#### 19 Third Thursday Lecture Series: How Severe Weather Works

Steve Beylon, meteorologist with WBAY-TV, explains how Earth's atmosphere creates thunderstorms. Register by Nov 13. 10am. Mosquito Hill Nature Center. 779-6433.

#### 21 Art Demonstration

Artist Cristian Andersson will demonstrate his painting process. Please stop by and feel free to ask him questions! Appleton Public Library.

#### 30 What's with Modern Art

An introduction to the aesthetic and conceptual ideas of modern art. Presented by Cristian Andersson, artist-in-residence. 5pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

#### **FILMS**

#### 2, 16 Monday Morning Matinee

This film series is designed for persons with cognitive disabilities, but anyone may attend. Refreshments served. 9:30am. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

#### 3 Jurassic World

Tuesday night movies at Neenah Public Library. 6pm. 886-6315.

#### 12 Thursday Night @ the Movies Featuring "Love and Mercy," an American biographical film that

focuses on the life of musician Brian Wilson. Refreshments served. Appleton Public Library. 832-6392.

#### 16 Monday Movie

Enjoy a kid-friendly film at the Appleton Public Library. 4pm. 832-6173.

#### 17 Inside Out

Tuesday night movies at Neenah Public Library. 6pm. 886-6315.

#### **CLASSES & WORKSHOPS**

#### 2 Card Club 2

Make four cards to bring home. Meets the first Monday of each month through March. 6:30pm. Paper Discovery Center, Appleton. 380-7491.

#### 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19 Complete Health Improvement Program

Designed to prevent and reverse the effects of diabetes, obesity, hypertension and high cholesterol, this combined lecture and workshop format by ThedaCare includes a before and after lifestyle evaluation. Appleton Medical Center. 731-4101.

#### 3 Computer Classes 22 Tuesdays at 8am. Class size is limited. New London Public Library. 982-8519.

3 Herbal Soap Making 22 Join herbalist Linda Conroy for this fun evening of soap making! 6-8:30pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden, 490-9457.

# 4 Exploring Art Media: Lucky 7

Each week participants will create art using a different type of media, guided by Amy Eliason. Draw and paint using graphite, charcoal, colored pencil, pen & ink, watercolor, acrylic and oil paints. 1-3pm. ARTgarage, Green Bay. 448-6800.

# 4 DSLR Newbie — Just the Basics

Unlock your creative potential by learning the features of your DSLR camera. Bring in your camera and leave with the confidence to make great images in any situation. 5:30-7:30. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.



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# Oshkosh event lights up park

It won't just be starry skies twinkling during the Oshkosh Celebration of Lights. A new 26-foot tunnel, constructed from a converted greenhouse, will be one of the sparkling attractions attendees can anticipate seeing during the 12/10-mile long presentation, which is set to music.

"You'll think you're seeing the stars if you have a moonroof, but you're not. It's the lights," explains Leon Thompson, Oshkosh Celebration of Lights chairperson.

The Oshkosh Celebration of Lights' 14th year will run Nov. 24-Dec. 31 from 5-9 p.m. at Menominee Park. Cars can enter off of Merritt Avenue. Those who contribute a a non-perishable, in-date, canned food item will receive \$1 off admission. A portion of the event's proceeds are donated to organizations, while the rest goes toward continuing the holiday tradition.

Ninety-five percent of the displays are in new locations. More computer-animated displays and rope lights have been added, and a brand-new snowfall tree, plywood themed cutouts and refurbished PVC pipe candy canes are incorporated into the design. A 100-foot tree also will be covered will LED lights and shine even brighter. Forty-three of the 125 wire frames used throughout the



park have been stripped, repainted and rewired with new LED lights as well.

"Many of these have been there since the beginning," Thompson says. Of course, those familiar with the event will again see "Splash" or the animated guy who jumps into the "pool" of lights. However, there will be a new twist.

"Now, with the technology, we can have him jump into the pool, come out blue and shiver," shares Thompson.

In addition to the lights, Santa will be on hand 23 nights for visits from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Horse and carriage rides will be available on a limited basis for 30-minute rides Dec. 3, 13, 17 and 20 for an additional fee and New Year's Eve activities also are being planned. For more information, visit OshkoshCelebrationofLights.org.

-By Amy Hanson

# 4 | Painting Birds and Blossoms in Oil or Acrylic 2

Amy Eliason will lead participants in drawing and composition throughout the painting process. This class is designed to accommodate all skill levels. 3:30-5:30pm. ARTgarage, Green Bay. 448-6800.

# 4 Techniques in Painting Nature in Oil or Acrylic 2

In this class participants will paint nature's elements using different techniques. 6-8pm. ARTgarage, Green Bay. 448-6800.

#### 5, 19 Neville Cellar Series: Highland Scotch Ale

Learn how to make beer and about it's origins. Brewing Nov, 5; bottling Nov 19. 6pm. Neville Public Museum, Green Bay. 448-4460.

# 5, 12 Evening Watercolor Studio

Demonstrations and tricks from instructor Stacey Small-Rupp. 6pm. ARTgarage, Green Bay. 448-6800.

# 6 Watercolor Made Simple 29:30am. ARTgarage, Green Bay. 448-6800.

# 7 | Explorer Saturday with Jennifer Stevens

The Oneida potter and master instructor will lead a pottery workshop in connection with her exhibit, One Handful of Earth. 12-3pm. Neville Public Museum, Green Bay. 448-4460.

# 7 Intro to Intarsia Knitting Learn the basics of Intarsia, knit a

snowman head, discuss how to read a graph and change colors. 9am-noon. ARTgarage, Green Bay. 448-6800.

#### 9 Cocoa and Coloring

For teens and adults. Color in adult coloring books while enjoying hot chocolate. Appleton Public Library. 832-6392.

#### 10 Arm Knitting 22

No previous knitting experience needed. Bring two skeins of bulky weight yarn. 6-7:30pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

#### 12 Candles

Learn the basics of candle making and make your own to take home. 6pm. New London Public Library. 982-8519.

#### 12 Creative Writing

Workshop using one-line prompts, led by Sharrie Robinson. 10am-12pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

#### 12 | Slumped Wine Bottle Tray

Learn about glass bottles, fusing and slumping while enjoying wine and cheese at the museum. Bring a clean, empty bottle. 6pm. Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass. Neenah. 751-4658.

#### 14 Essential Oils for Beginners 22

Learn how to integrate oils into your wellness habits. Register by Nov 6.

1pm. Mosquito Hill Nature Center.

779-6433.

#### 14 | Master Gardeners Present: Bulbs

How to plant now to create a spring display. 6:30pm. Little Chute Public Library. 788-7825.

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# Go green for the holidays

While the popular saying goes, "sometimes the best gift is the one you give yourself," a demonstration on creating holiday decorations at the Little Chute Public Library on Nov. 9 at 6:30 p.m. aims to teach the community that the best gifts can actually be the ones you make yourself.

The demonstration is sponsored by the Outagamie County Master Gardeners Association, a group composed of volunteers who educate the community about growing and maintaining their flowers and greens throughout the year.

Event speaker, local artist and business owner Sonnet Uhlenbrauck, has been a master gardener since 2009.

"I'm always looking for new plants to try and experimenting with color combinations," she says. "I love looking for ways to incorporate what I have in my yard when decorating and use these elements and other vintage items to decorate for all seasons.

Uhlenbrauck will focus on using materials such as pinecones, tree branches, garlands, flower pots and dried items to create centerpieces and outdoor holiday decorations.

Discussion will not be limited to these projects, however. Uhlenbrauck and other volunteers from the Master Gardeners Association will be available to answer any and all horticultural questions.

"If you have a question about why something isn't growing, they'll help you," says Angela Schneider, adult services & programing librarian at the Kimberly-Little Chute Library. "And, if you have a question about growing anything, they'll find an answer to it."

While the presentation will not be hands-on, lucky winners of the event's raffle will be able to take Uhlenbrauck's creations home with them.

-By Ariela E. Rosa

#### 17 Floral Arranging: Happy Harvest 22 Create a centerpiece using fresh flowers, dried fruit, foliage and other accents. 6pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

#### 19 Survey Glass Class

Try flameworking, fusing and glass enameling all in one class. Basic beadmaking on a torch while adding color and surface decoration will be covered. Create a fused piece of art, learning the basic enameling. 11am. Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, Neenah. 751-4658.

#### 21 Wine Cork Wreaths

Here's the perfect gift for the food and wine aficionado in your life or a unique adornment in your kitchen. Supplies will be provided. Register by Nov. 13. 12-3:30pm. Mosquito Hill Nature Center. 779-6433.

#### CHILDREN'S EVENTS

# 3, 5, 6, 9, 12, 13, 16, 19, 20, 23, 26, 27 Toddle Time

Storytime for babies ages 12-23 months. Every Tuesday and Friday at 10:30-11am and Thursdays at 9:15-9:45am. Neenah Public Library. 886-6330.

#### 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26 Puddle **Jumpers**

An early learning program for infants and toddlers with age-appropriate activities surrounding music, movement, art and storytelling, including mingle time for caregivers. 9:30am. The Building for Kids Children's Museum, Appleton. 734-3226.

#### 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26 Shake, Rattle, Roll

A program for toddlers, preschoolers and their caregivers including interactive music, movement, stories and art. 11am & 1:15pm. The Building for Kids Children's Museum, Appleton. 734-3226.

#### 3, 10, 17, 24 Our Time

Storytime for ages 3-5 every Tuesday. 10-10:30am. Neenah Public Library. 886-6335.

#### 3, 10, 17, 24 Twilight Time

Storytime for ages 2-6 with a caregiver, every Tuesday. 6:30-7pm. Neenah Public Library. 886-6335.

- 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26 Lapsit Storytime for ages 2-3 with a caregiver. Every Wednesday and Thursday. 10-10:30am. Neenah Public Library. 886-6335.
- 4, 11, 18, 25 Baby Time Storytime for babies birth-11 months. 9:15-9:45am. Neenah Public Library. 886-6335.

#### 5, 19 Page Turners: For Readers 8-11 Years Old

Two after-school book groups for girls and boys with contemporary and classic books kids will love — and snacks! Every other Thursday, 3:45-4:45pm. Neenah Public Library. 866-6335.

#### 7 Painting with Yarn

Inspired by the yarn painting of the Huichol Indians of Mexico. 11am-4pm. Paine Art Center and Gardens, Oshkosh. 235-6903.

# 13 Garden Sprouts: Home Sweet Tree

Explore the trees living at Green Bay Botanical Garden while peeking inside to see how creatures make their homes. Designed for children ages 3 to 5 with one accompanying adult. 10-11:30am. 490-9457.

#### 14 Petite Carvings

Try your hand at carving while handling safe tools that easily slide through special balsa foam. 11am-4pm. Paine Art Center and Gardens, Oshkosh. 235-6903.

#### 18, 20, 21 Storybook Stars Presents: Where the Wild Things Are

Join us in the Mielke Family Theater to listen to the story read aloud, meet the star of the book and make a craft to take home! 10-11am or 2:30-3:30pm. The Building for Kids Children's Museum, Appleton. 734-3226.

#### 29 A-Maze-ing Legos

Design a maze using only Legos. See if other builders can solve it! 1:30pm. Neenah Public Library. 886-6315.

> Calendar listings submitted to FOX CITIES Magazine are subject to change. The public is welcome to submit events online or to calendar@foxcitiesmagazine.com.

# = Suitable for families with young children.  $\triangle$  = Reservation required.

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#### Our philosophy

Golf is a cross-generational sport with a terrific value system. It also is one of the few sports that allows young players to go at their own pace. Too many organized youth sports cut young athletes from local teams by the age of 13 - or they ask the athlete to commit great time and resources to one sport in the name of development. The best golfer is a cross-trained athlete who has balanced family time, academics and social experiences.

#### Our history of success

Since 2002, Swing Solutions programming has placed more than 60 players on college teams. We are proud to have coached players from 17 different school districts,

including 28 Conference Player of the Year winners.

We have developmental programming for players as young as 5, as well as programs for: aspiring competitors, girls, boys, high school and college prep, adults and small groups. While adults do not often share their measurable results with us, we have a great reputation for listening to their needs as well whether they are competitive, social or for business purposes.

#### Highlighted programs

The 2016 Swing Solutions Winter Program is designed for middle and high school boys and girls. For seven weeks, players learn, film, study and experience their golf swing. Whether the player is college-

bound or prepping to make a team, we make the journey something that is enlightening and fun. Registration is accepted until Jan. 1, 2016 at swingsolutionsgolf.com; space is limited.

Families also are welcome to come with us to the PGA Village in Port St. Lucie, Fla. for spring break! Everyone is invited to play - or enjoy the beautiful beaches! It's a great way for a young player to get some much needed swings in before spring tryouts and their competitive



(920) 967-GOLF swingsolutionsgolf.com



# Chugging on





The nostalgia of having a train circling the base of a freshly cut Christmas tree or on a track that winds its way through a miniature village dotted by tiny trees evokes the spirit of the season for many people. Whether you have a fondness for locomotives, get giddy upon the sound of "choo choo" or recall the days when trains were a primary mode of transportation chugging along from depot to depot, the Paper Valley Model Railroad Club is offering a seasonal opportunity to children who are young and young at heart during its annual open house event.

"We get a lot of people out here. ... It exposes our club to a lot of people and it's a lot of fun," says Paul Hillmer, vice president of the club. "Model trains are still very popular, but it's amazing that our club has been around that long."

The holiday open houses date back to the 1940s. There is no admission, but donations are appreciated. This year, the public is welcome from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Nov. 27-28 and Dec. 26.

The club, while at its current Kaukauna location, W221 Block Road, since 1995, dates back to the 1930s. It has hopped around from the Eagle Flats area at the old train station near what is now Pullmans at Trolley Square restaurant to Valley Fair Mall to Avenue Mall and most recently WSKC's old station. The building is still owned by Relevant Radio, but leased by the club.

It is one of the oldest model train clubs in the country, says Hillmer. The 501c(3) nonprofit has 40 members, which gather on Thursday nights and Saturday afternoons to swap stories, solve problems, work on updates, run trains and tackle

what's next on the agenda. There is a membership fee and new members are expected to donate a piece of "rolling equipment." There has been discussion about creating junior memberships for interested and dedicated youth.

Upon arrival at the club, visitors may feel not only like they're stepping back in time, but also into a relaxed museum of sorts.

"I think it's one of our charges and goals to preserve that history — we're not just talking about railroading," Hillmer notes. At one time, there were five depots in Appleton alone.

"I like the historical aspect of it (and) recreating what once was," adds Joe Vandenberg who is originally from Kaukauna, but now lives in Clintonville. He has done track work for the club and recalls working with founding member Karel

Richmond who has since passed. Vandenberg joined the club in 1986.

Visitors will find freelanced layouts featuring not only the Fox Cities, but also stretching from Green Bay to Milwaukee.

"I think that's what all of us grew up in this area watching," says Bill Moede, noting the Chicago and North Western Railway.

Though not exact, there are scale models of some recognizable landmarks, like the Kaukauna mills, which serve as snapshots in time. Guests also will be treated to treasures like the scratch-built Clyde Beatty Circus Train created from balsa wood by Richmond. It took about 20 years to get the overall layout to this point, Hillmer shares.

"It grows like a fungus," he joked. The club is currently working on rebuilding one of the rooms, which will be in progress during the open house and recovering from water issues in the basement that damaged some of the inventory. Updating layouts is an ongoing project. There are O scale or O gauge trains downstairs and HO trains on the main level.

"It's not just running trains in circles, we do operate them," says Hillmer who has N scale trains at home. He joined in 1990, about six months prior to Moede. The club does have a schedule for how the trains run that would mirror an actual schedule. It also has trains, track and supplies that stay onsite, but members are welcome to bring their own items as well.

"If you were trying to undertake some of these areas at your home, you couldn't do it," says Wally Kiefer of Little Chute.

"I like it because everybody has different talents — people paint, do track work, electronics," adds Carl Volkman of Appleton who took up an interest in trains in his youth. "If you get stuck, there's always someone here who can help or share an idea." He operates G scale trains at his home, but has enjoyed seeing how the layout at the club has evolved in the at least 25 years that he has been a member.

Dennis Frederick of Appleton became involved due to his electrical expertise. He was in the Signal Corps and Ordnance Corps in the Army.

"My electronics was just something I picked up in the service," says Frederick who played with Lionel trains as a child and later picked up HO scale in the 1990s when he became involved with the club. He also is a past president.

While the use of trains in today's world may be changing, so is the hobby of the model-sized version. Paper Valley Model Railroad Club is keeping up with changes in technology, however, by moving to digital command control or DCC. A chip in the engines will now allow them to run independently.

"The hobby in the last 10-15 years since the DCC has been out has really changed the electronics," Frederick shares. "There's enough electronic things going on out here that I could stay busy for awhile."

Up to 30 engines can now can be running at a single time at the club.

"You can actually install an app on your phone where you can run an engine," Moede adds.



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# **SHOWCASE**



Shop it. Walk it. Love it! Make Appleton Downtown Inc. your holiday stop! See the Festival of Trees at the Trout Museum of Art Nov. 1-21 and a window walk Nov. 13. This year includes businesses displaying trees, wreaths and swags to bid on! Throughout the season, enjoy carolers and visits with Santa.

special offers, Christmas parade and more. appletondowntown.org.

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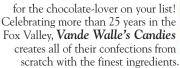
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# SHOWCASE

#### A holiday treasure trove

Design junkies will be over the moon at Cedar Harbor, a retail utopia featuring whimsical handmade gifts by local artists as well as reclaimed and repurposed home decor. Stop in and discover treasures to keep or gift, if you can part with them! Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday 10 am-5 pm and Thursday 10 am-6 pm. 611 Morrison St., Appleton. (920) 740-4669.



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We have everything a dog desires, from coats and collars to toys and treats. You'll also find fun gift items for people who love cats and dogs. Pets welcome. Now offering grooming! 129 W. Wisconsin Ave., Downtown Neenah. Hours: Tuesday–Friday, 10 am – 6 pm; Saturday, 10 am – 3 pm. lucysclosetpetboutique.com Giving the gift of water

Hear the story of two young girls who are using origami to build wells all over the world! The Paper Discovery Center presents "Paper for Water," an exhibit with a global impact. Giving origami ornaments in exchange for donations, the girls and a group a volunteers have provided more than 70 wells to communities in need. See the amazing origami on display through Jan. 2, and included in the regular price of admission. 425 W. Water St., Appleton. (920) 380-7491.

PaperDiscoveryCenter.org.

(This exhibit was supported by a grant from the Community Foundation of the Fox Valley Region.)



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everyone! 204 W. Wisconsin Ave., Downtown Neenah. Monday, Wednesday & Friday,

9:30 am - 6 pm; Thursday, 9:30 am - 7 pm; Saturday, 9:30 am - 4 pm. (920) 722-0481. hangupgalleryoffineart.com



# HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

For a complete listing of current exhibits and our expanded events calendar, go to foxcitiesmagazine.com.



# Pancakes, penguins and Santa — oh, my!

Flapjacks, Santa Claus, carolers and horse-drawn hayrides. It sounds like the makings of the holiday season. All of these items and more will be part of the annual Breakfast with Santa Holiday Fest at the NEW Zoo & Adventure Park in Suamico Dec. 12 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"We do have a higher than normal attendance that day," says Patricia Jelen, operations manager. "I think families are just looking for something to do together during that time of year."

No reservations are needed for the breakfast portion of the event, and all-you-can-eat pancakes and sausages will be served until noon in the Taste of the Tropics Restaurant. The price is \$6 for adults and \$4 for children. Regular rates apply for zoo admission.

Santa will be at the event throughout the day and visitors will see carolers at the restaurant and along the hayride route. Additional fees apply for the hayrides.

Kids' activities will likely include making animalthemed Christmas ornaments, cards and other crafts. Attendees also will have the opportunity to get up close to and learn more about animals like — the armadillo, hedgehog, snakes, turtles, lizards, rabbits, and maybe even penguins. Exact animals will be determined closer to the event.

"It's nice to see the zoo in winter, it's a whole different look at that time and the animals are quite active in the cooler weather," says Jelen.

-By Amy Hanson

#### **NOVEMBER**

#### 1-21 Festival of Trees

Decorated trees and wreaths from local artists, designers and businesses will be available for purchase throughout the exhibit. The Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

#### 3, 10, 17 Studio Art Class: Pre-School Holiday Workshop 22 Make gifts for family and friends. Supplies included. 10am. The Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

#### 4, 18 Holiday Story Time

Complementing stories and art activities. Nov. 4: "The Christmas Crocodile." Nov 18: special guest reader (The Grinch) from "Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas! The Musical." 10am. The Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

#### 4 Jim Brickman Comfort and Joy New music along with holiday favorites. 7:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

#### 5, 12 Home for the Holidays

Move through stations to gather ideas for holiday entertaining. 6-9pm. The Trout Museum of Art, Appleton.

#### 7-8, 13-15 Live Music in the Gallery

Performances by local groups fill the gallery with holiday classics during the Festival of Trees. Times vary. The Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

#### 7, 14, 15 Up-cycled Holiday Ornaments

Make and take. Noon-4pm. The Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

#### 9 Master Gardeners Present: **Creating Holiday Decorations**

How to create decor using materials from your backyard. 6:30pm. Little Chute Public Library. 788-7825.

#### 11 Boogie and the Yo-Yoz presents Christmas With You

Adaptations of traditional songs and a few new ones. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

#### 12 Oshkosh Holiday Parade

Grab your leis, Hawaiian shirts, and coconut bras for this year's theme, "Surf, Sand, & Santa." 303-2266.

#### 13, 14, 18, 20, 21 A Christmas Carol the Musical

Broadway adaptation of Dicken's most well-known story. Xavier Fine Arts Theatre, Appleton. 733-8640.

#### 13 Festival of Trees: Window Walk Open House

Walk downtown Appleton to see trees in store windows, coordinated by Appleton Downtown, Inc. Then, stop by The Trout Museum of Art for live music. 6-9pm. 733-4089.

#### 17-22 Dr. Seuss' How The Grinch Stole Christmas

Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

#### 19, 20 It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play

The holiday classic comes to life as a live 1940s radio broadcast, complete with music, commercials and sound effects. 7:30pm. Weidner Center, Green Bay. 465-2726.

#### 19 Holiday Treats 22

Angie shares her favorite holiday treat recipes for gift giving. 6-7:30pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

#### 20-Jan 4 Nutcracker in the Castle

The Nutcracker story unfolds throughout the castle's ornate rooms. The Paine Art Center & Gardens, Oshkosh. 235-6903.

#### 21 Auction Reception 22

All final bids placed on the trees and wreaths on display for the Festival of Trees. 6-9pm. The Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

#### 21 Green Bay Holiday Parade

Starts at Jefferson and Stuart, runs north on Jefferson, west on Cherry and south on Washington St. 10am. Downtown Green Bay. 437-5972.

#### 21 Oshkosh Symphony Orchestra **Holiday Concert**

7:30pm. Grand Opera House, Oshkosh. 424-2350.

#### 21 Songs for the Season

Performed by guest choirs from Oshkosh North High School, Oshkosh West High School and UW-Oshkosh. 7:30pm. Grand Opera House, Oshkosh. 424-2350.

#### 22-Jan 3 Deck the Halls

Featuring the Sawyer home decorated in holiday splendor; public reception Nov. 22, 1-3pm. Times vary. Oshkosh Public Museum. 236-5799.

#### 24-Dec 31 Oshkosh Celebration of Lights

Presentation through Menominee Park. Enter off of Merritt Avenue. OshkoshCelebrationofLights.org.

#### 24 Santa Parade

Starts at the intersection of College Ave. and State St. 6:30pm. Downtown Appleton. 739-0950.

#### 25-Jan 3 Christmas in the Mansion

An old-fashioned holiday exhibit highlighting the unique architectural style of the Victorian era. Rahr-West Art Museum, Manitowoc. 686-3090.

#### 27-29, Dec. 4-6, 11-13, 18-20, 26-30 WPS Garden of Lights

Experience the magic of more than 250,000 lights. 5-9pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

#### 27-Dec. 22 The Snowflake Man Exhibit — Wilson A. Bentley

The discovery of "no two snowflakes are alike" was made by Bentley, who would go on to photograph more than 5,000 snowflakes during his lifetime. Hearthstone Historic House Museum, Appleton. 730-8204.

#### 28-Mar 10 Winter Exhibition

Works comprising eight centuries of prints, drawings and paintings that reflect Jewish and Christian tradition. The Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

#### 28-Jan 11 Victorian Christmas: Come Fill Up Your Senses

Experience a Victorian Christmas though sight, sound, taste and smell. Special Friday evening tours Nov. 27 and Dec. 5, 12, and 19, 6-8pm. The Hearthstone Historic House Museum, Appleton. 730-8204.



#### 28 Cantus: Voices of Christmas

The vocal ensemble combines words, stories and wisdom of people from all walks of life. 7pm. Door Community Auditorium, Fish Creek. 868-2728.

# 28 | Mannheim Steamroller Christmas by Chip Davis

7:30pm. Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, Green Bay.

# 28 Ornament Workshop for Wee Ones

Four and 5-year-olds will make three ornaments and decorate cookies. Materials provided. 9am. Mosquito Hill Nature Center. 779-6433.

#### 30-Jan 24 Mr. Beachkofski's Santas

Mr. Beachkofski was the Santa in the New London Holiday Parade for many years. Many of the Santas were given to him by his adoring fans. New London Public Museum. 982-8520.

#### **DECEMBER**

#### 2 It's Christmas, Carol

The Fox Valleyaires Barbershop Chorus presents an old-fashioned radio drama that tells the story of a woman taken on a journey to remind her of what the season is really about. 6:30pm. The Grand Meridian, Appleton. 739-7553.

#### 3-5, 10-12 | Christmas Stars 2015

Spectacular, holiday-themed extravaganza with a mix of secular and religious music, dance and skits. 7pm. Xavier Fine Arts Theatre, Appleton. 733-8840.

#### 3 Electric City Christmas Parade

Starts at Wisconsin and Depot, goes down Wisconsin to Hwy 55, then South to Third Street; West on Third to end at Reaume. 6pm. City of Kaukauna. 766-1861.

#### 4 A Time for Joy

The Fox Valley Chorus celebrates the season and the true meaning of Christmas! 7:30pm. UW-Fox Valley Communication Arts Center, Menasha. 982-5639.

#### 4 A Very Neenah Christmas

Events for the entire family, including a Rudolph Run, Santa, carriage rides and live mannequin window displays. Downtown Neenah. 722-1920.

#### 5 A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

The Appleton Boychoir and MasterSingers combine to celebrate the advent and birth of Jesus. 2 & 7pm. Lawrence University Chapel, Appleton. 955-2224.

#### 5 Art Activity Day — Holiday Open House — Fused Glass Ornaments or Table Decorations

Use shiny metallic strips of dichroic waves and pre-fired frit to decorate your glass piece. 10am-1pm. Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, Neenah. 751-4658.

#### 5 Celebrating Sinatra with Bryan Anthony and the UW Oshkosh Jazz Ensemble

7:30pm. Grand Opera House, Oshkosh. 424-2350.

#### 5 | Family Wreath Making 22

Use fresh evergreens, pinecones, winter berries and other holiday materials. 10am. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

#### 6 Kimberly Community Band Concert Social with punch and cookies to follow. 2pm. JR Gerritts Middle School, Kimberly.

#### **6** Wreath Making Class

Create a wreath using natural material from the wildlife area. Navarino Nature Center, Shiocton. (715) 758-6999.

# 7, 14 Studio Art Class: The Sport of Snowglobing

For ages 3-5. Create a magical gift. 10am. The Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

#### 7 Herbal Gift Making 🕿

Craft an array of herbal creations for yourself or loved ones. 5:30pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

#### 8 It's Christmas, Carol

The Fox Valleyaires Barbershop Chorus presents an old-fashioned radio drama about a woman reminded of what the season is about. 7pm. James W. Perry Hall at UWFox Valley, Menasha. 757-6153.

## 8 Sounds of the Season with Elvis Presley

A concert for fans of all ages, starring tribute artist Elvis John. 6:30-8pm. Kimberly Public Library. 788-7515.

# Theater Latté Da's All is Calm The Christmas Truce of 1914

Relives the moment Allied and German soldiers laid down their arms to celebrate Christmas together. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

#### 10 The Celtic Tenors Christmas

An Irish trio of dazzling tenors. 7:30pm. Grand Opera House, Oshkosh. 424-2350.

#### 11, 12 Holiday Pops

The 150-voice Dudley Birder Chorale of St. Norbert College joins the 90 voices of the Birder Studio of Performing Arts and the Holiday Pops Orchestra. F, 7:30pm; Sa, 2:30pm. Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, Green Bay. 465-2726.





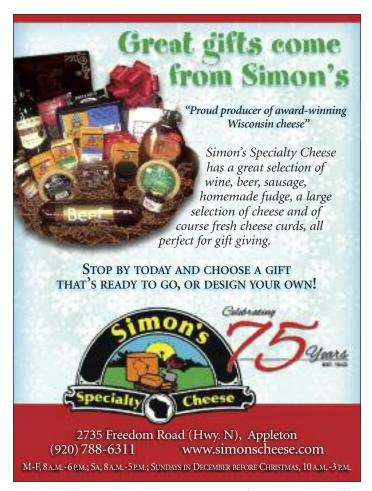
## November 22, 2015 - January 3, 2016

The third annual **Deck the Halls** experience will open on Sunday, November 22, with a public reception from 1-3pm. This extravaganza will feature the Sawyer home decorated in holiday splendor reminiscent of the times.

Children under age 18 will receive free admission, and adult admission will be \$3.50 from November 22 to January 3.



1.131 Algerta (No., Getscath, Wr. 1410) 1.123/10.5710 ft oshkoshmuseum.org Tuesday-Saturday 10 am-4.30 pm-5unday 1 pm-4.30 pm



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# Set the stage for the season



Some of our most beloved stories are set in the holiday season. This November, one of those stories takes on a unique twist. "It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play" sets up the classic holiday tale of George Bailey and his family as a live 1940s radio broadcast, complete with music, commercials and sound effects from the era.

"The entire play is set in a studio on Christmas Eve in 1946," says Jeff Entwistle, chair of the theater department at University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. "Telling this story as a regular play you would have to simplify a lot of things, but a radio drama allows us to transport the audience in a different way."

Another moving holiday tale comes to the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center in December. "All is Calm – The Christmas Truce of 1914" tells the true story of World War I soldiers that called a temporary cease-fire on Christmas Eve.

"There was some singing going back and forth between the soldiers," explainsTrisha Witt, marketing director at Fox Cities P.A.C. "One German soldier came out of the trenches singing 'Silent Night' and Allied soldiers started to camp, they played soccer and helped bury each others' dead."

The play weaves first-hand accounts from 30 soldiers, and though it is not a musical, features trench songs, patriotic tunes and Christmas carols throughout.

"It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play" will be performed at UW-Green Bay's Weidner Center Nov. 19-20 at 7:30p.m. "All is Calm – The Christmas Truce of 1914" will be at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center Dec. 9 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available now.

-By Amanda Bourbonais

# 11 Garden Sprouts: Gingerbread Fun 🕿

How ginger cookies are made and a story. For children ages 3–5 with an adult. 10-11:30am. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

#### 12, 19 The Spirit of Christmas Past

See how Christmas was celebrated throughout history. 12-6pm. Heritage Hill State Historical Park, Green Bay. 448-5150.

#### 12 Breakfast with Santa Holiday Fest

All-you-can-eat breakfast and activities. 8am-4pm; breakfast served until noon. NEW Zoo & Adventure Park, Suamico. 434-7841.

#### 12 Glass Ornaments for the Holiday

Make fused-glass ornaments. 10am. Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, Neenah. 751-4658.

#### 12 Holiday Make & Take 2

Kids will make eight gifts and wrap them with the assistance of volunteers. Register by Nov 29. 9am or 11am. Mosquito Hill Nature Center. 779-6433.

#### 12 The Alley Cats' Jingle Bell Rock: A Harmoniously Hysterical Holiday Hit

A cappella music with renditions of timeless doo-wop classics and zany improvisational comedy. 3-5pm and 7:30pm. Thrasher Opera House, Green Lake. 294-4279.

# 14 Spark! Angels We Have Heard On High!

A program for caregivers and loved ones living with memory loss. Participants engage in discussions, art-making and multi-sensory activities. 1-2:30pm. The Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

#### 16 Holiday Children's Story and Activity Time

Hear a story in the gallery, then visit the studio for an art activity. 10am. The Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733.4089.

#### 18-20 The Nutcracker

Performed by the Jean Wolfmeyer Dance Company. F, 7:30pm; Sa & Su, 3:30pm. Capitol Civic Center. 683-2184.

#### 19 Holiday Fun Fest

Downtown Appleton and Houdini Plaza will be filled with ice carvings, carriage rides, visits with Santa and more! Downtown Appleton. 954-9112.

#### 19 Switchback: A Midwestern Christmas

Christmas songs interspersed with lively reels, jigs and originals. 7:30pm. Thrasher Opera House, Green Lake. 294-4279.

#### 22 Lorie Line Christmas in the City

A fun-filled, magical night of Christmas music. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

#### 26 Family Studio

Drop in for an art activity and create your own gift wrap. 10am-1pm. The Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733.4089

Calendar listings submitted to FOX CITIES Magazine are subject to change. The public is welcome to submit events online or to calendar@foxcitiesmagazine.com.







# Ornamental Elegionice

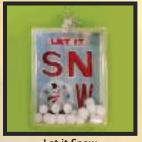
Some ornaments you handle with extra-special care, making sure to find a prominent bough from which to hang them ...



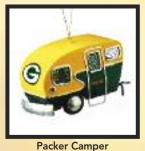
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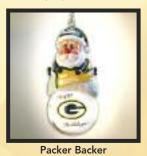
Plaid Santa Glass ornament Anew Emporium 103 S. Main St., Shawano (715) 201-1111



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Oh Come Let Us Adore Him Interior hand-painted blown glass

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(920) 788-6978



# LOWER LEVEL

By Amy Hanson

Basements create 'usable space' for holidays and beyond

is the season for family and friends, laughter and memories, and gatherings galore. The last thing you want, however, is for guests to be stuffed into a room tighter than the dressed turkey on the dinner table. So, where do you go with everyone who brings holiday tidings this time of year?

#### PLACE TO GATHER

The basement, now known as the "lower level" of the home, used to be the blank slate or great room of the home. Now, however, this space is an extension of the first floor living area with more usable space and the same or similar design esthetic, according to area home builders.

"Some folks are adding basements, but more and more people are adding rec rooms or gathering spaces," says Paul Schroeder, president of Schroeder Carpentry Inc.

Having usable space is the main reason builders are finding that clients are seeking to complete lower levels right away in new home construction or remodeling the space in existing homes. Resale value is second.

Finished lower levels also are nice in the event of bad weather as a secondary option and condense the square footage upstairs to keep costs down. Homeowners are opting to keep smaller living rooms upstairs and instead using the lower level space for family, notes Brian Calmes, owner of Calmes & Rohm Construction LLC. For example, if there is 2,000 square feet of space upstairs, clients opt to finish about half of the lower level usually, he shares.

"If it's done properly, you can get real value out of a finished basement," says Schroeder.

"It's a nice piece to have if you're thinking allinclusive in terms of that level," adds Brian Ziegler, owner of Brian Ziegler Builders LLC. "You put everything on that level and it gets away from feeling like a basement. ... 'Basement' has become pejorative."

#### **DESIGN DECISIONS**

Most often, homeowners are seeking a half or full bath, bedrooms for either family members or guests, and entertaining space for a party, game day or the holidays. One thing homeowners should keep in mind when adding bedrooms though is that there are proper codes with windows, window wells and ladders that are likely necessary to keep in mind. Adding the windows into a new construction is easier and more efficient than in a remodel, but also can be done in older homes depending on the structure of the home.

"They want to have that area full

time for living," says Ziegler. "Unfinished space just doesn't appeal to people anymore."

In general, the lower level is a reflection of the upstairs with consistent finishes and function, but for some homeowners it's a place to kick up the wow factor.

"The big TV is always first and foremost, that sports space," says Ziegler. He's also seeing a demand for dry bars, kitchenettes and full kitchens. The convenience of having items like a dishwasher, microwave, pizza oven, refrigerator and full sink makes sense for entertaining and eliminates having to run back and forth to get food, drinks and other necessities. Counter space



Photo courtesy of Brian Ziegler Builders LLC

with cabinets and enough outlets for crock pots and other necessities also come into play. Barn doors are a requested design feature, too.

Schroeder continues to get requests for full bars, but also mini bars to save on costs while Calmes is putting in 10- to 12-foot bars, including some that wrap, to accommodate seating for five to six people. The look of the space also mirrors public spaces with a pub-like feel or sports themes, including prints and signage.

"I think folks are realizing that you're gaining money by watching the game at home," Schroeder says.

"The cost of going out is more expensive than the cost of drinking and driving, people are staying home and entertaining more," Calmes

Ziegler, on the other hand isn't seeing as much demand for bars.



Photos courtesy of Calmes & Rohm Construction LLC

He and Calmes also add that people have gotten away from dedicated theater rooms due to the amount of space that is needed to accommodate the sloped-style stadium seating and a special dedicated room. Instead, they're adding in 75inch screens with specialized sound systems, Schroeder shares.

Offices, golf simulators, and

exercise and hobby rooms also are popping up in lower level designs. Pool tables are typically a "must-have" item as well.

"Almost everyone wants a pool table at some point," Calmes says. Homeowners can even opt for wood floor under the table, while some take it a step further with in-floor heating systems.

Generally speaking, an open space that leads from one area to the next is sought after without a lot of closed off doorways.

#### SPACE FOR STORAGE

One thing for homeowners to keep in mind, however, when mapping out the floor plan of their lower level is storage, this could include utilizing space under the stairs, closets, shelving and an unfinished area for keeping boxes.

"The longer you're at a space, the more stuff you accrue," Ziegler says. "The totes don't go away, they just continue to build." Calmes agrees and notes that many homeowners opt to add additional space to their garages with access to the lower level. Schroeder recommends leaving at least 300-400 square feet of storage within a home that could be left unfinished.

"You'd be surprised how much storage you can get when the shelving is done properly," he notes.

Continued on Page 24

# To-Go Technology





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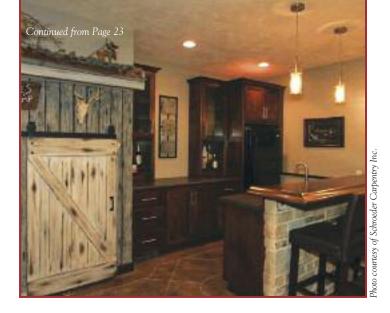
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#### MAPPING OUT MUST-HAVES

Leaving space around service panels, access to the heating and cooling system and doorways should be considered as well.

Mechanicals, plumbing and electrical also should be factored into the plan for the best layout and use options in terms of function. Having adequate heating is important, otherwise the space won't be used, Calmes notes. Most lower level ceiling heights are finished to 9 feet high, which comes down to 8 feet after camouflaging installed mechanicals.

Clients also should keep zoned heating and cooling in mind. Basements typically need the air to be turned over more frequently, can be damp, are generally more difficult to ventilate, are susceptible to holding moisture and can see ground water creep in. Spray foam insulation is not only quieter, but keeps things drier than fiberglass, which can allow moisture in and can't be used with a vapor barrier because that could trigger mold. Ziegler notes the importance of managing drainage outside and condensation inside as well. A second sump pump also may be needed, Schroeder adds.

#### **BUDGET BASICS**

Area builders suggest having a wish list going into the design of a lower level. Thinking through the space and how it will be used are valuable in preplanning. Once those items are mapped out, flexibility and keeping an open mind to what may come up during the building process also will be

For homeowners or homebuyers looking to remodel an existing home, rolling with structural changes that can and cannot be made is important to take note of from the beginning. Working with a competent contractor, getting a home up to code — including ceiling height — and fixing things that need to be updated are vital. Permits, variances and inspections all need to be factored in, too. Knowing whether or not a basement was done with the home and if a permit is on file is important as well.

Going through a Parade of Homes, getting the project quoted out and going to the bank to get a home equity loan can be helpful in the process, says Calmes.

While adding a lower level in a new home construction may increase a homeowner's budget, builders note that it is actually more cost efficient to do the work at the same time as the rest of the home if possible. The reason being that the trades will already be onsite, bulk materials can be ordered, features can be protected, the mess isn't reoccurring and it will be easier to get materials like 12-foot sheets of drywall into a space before it is closed off. It saves, on average, about 20 percent to do the work right away, says Schroeder. He also suggests in both new home construction and remodels, to bring in someone to do the design work since it can be difficult to do on the

If, however, you're not able to come up with the money to match the necessary dollar signs, Calmes suggests having a plan drawn up for the future so that when a home is constructed, things like mechanicals, plumbing and electrical are accounted for and in the right spots. It's difficult to break up a floor to redo plumbing, but also adds money and time.  $\mathbb{R}$ 

# **SHOWCASE**



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#### Swing for the best gift this holiday season!

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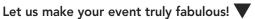
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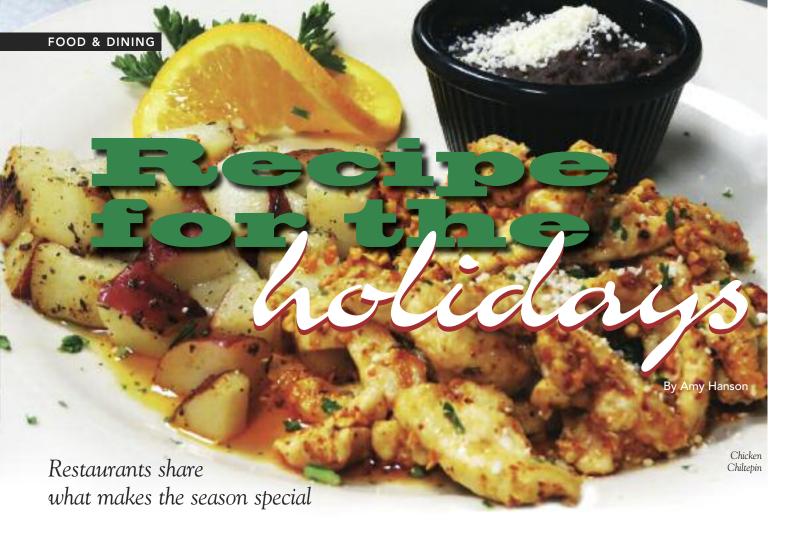
a special menu or pairing dinner customized for your group and nearly any budget will be accomodated. Off-site catering also available. Serving Monday-Thursday, 11am-9pm; Friday & Saturday, 11am-10pm; closed Sunday. 1910 N. Casaloma Dr., Appleton. 955-3766. osorioslatinfusion.com.

#### Toast the season!

Indulge in a special evening on the riverfront Dec. 3 at Atlas WaterFront Café.

This five-course festive holiday dinner will feature

wine and food pairings perfect for celebrating the season. Now accepting reservations, \$49.95 per person plus tax and gratuity. Save 10 percent on tables of six or more! 425 W. Water St., Appleton. (920) 734-6871. atlascoffeemill.com.



The holidays aren't just a time for gift giving, but rather breaking bread with loved ones and taking delight in wonderful scents wafting from the kitchen. From spicy to savory to sweet, recipes can evoke time-honored traditions. For five area restaurants, this season is full of delicious flavors that they've shared with FOX CITIES Magazine readers.

#### Twist on tradition

As the old adage goes, if you can't stand the heat get out of the kitchen. For Chef Liborio Osorio, the holidays are a perfect time to throw in some unexpected flavor.

"You can spice it up as much as you want or keep it simple," he says of his Chicken Chiltepin. Not only does the owner of Osorio's Latin Fusion serve the dish at his restaurant, it's also a favorite in his family at the holidays.

"With my mom, that's a nice dish, a special occasion dish, that we enjoyed," Osorio shares, adding his mother is still in Mexico where he grew up. "Keep Momma proud. ... I think I feel her heart knowing that I'm making something she used to make for us. The gift that she has for cooking, I can say she gave to me or it's in my blood. It's magic."

"It's fun to see the cultures merge," adds Kimberly Finnell of her husband's traditions mixing with her own. "It's a huge part of our culture at home." Osorio and Finnell have a 6-year-old daughter, Melinda, and a 5-year-old son, Zander, who also enjoy cooking.

Finnell's family is European, but has embraced Mexican cooking by adding a twist to things like

Krumkake filled with Ancho Whipping Cream. Finnell and her mother cook for Christmas Eve with a multitude of appetizers and desserts while Osorio handles Christmas day.

"That's how we play," says Finnell of the fusion of cultures. "It just always kind of makes sense. It's that time of decadence. That time when you indulge yourself."

#### Chef Liborio's Chicken Chiltepin

Courtesy of Liborio Osorio, Osorio's Latin Fusion For Chicken:

- 1 whole chicken (recommended for best flavor; can substitute 2½ pound chicken breast, if desired)
- 1 gallon water (enough to cover chicken)
- 1 whole onion, cut up
- 2 cloves of garlic
- 2 tablespoons salt

Boil chicken in a pot with water, onion, garlic cloves and salt until internal temperature has reached a minimum of 165 degrees. Debone chicken and discard boiling liquid. Set chicken aside.

Serves: About 6

For Chiltepin:

- 1 pound blanched peanuts
- 2 tablespoons whole Chile Piqueno or
- 1 tablespoon ground Chile Piquin
- 2 tablespoons granulated garlic
- 1 pinch ground cloves
- ½ teaspoon Mexican oregano
- 1 tablespoon smoked paprika
- Salt to taste
- 1 tablespoon olive oil or 2 tablespoons butter

Using a food processor, grind peanuts and Chile Piqueno to chopped consistency (if using ground Chile Piquin, wait to add it with the rest of the spices). Mix ground peanuts mixture with the rest of the ingredients until fully incorporated. Set Chiltepin aside.

Heat olive oil or butter in a sautee pan over medium-high heat. Add chicken pieces and Chiltepin, and sautee until slightly crispy. Use as much or as little seasoning as you wish, depending on your heat tolerance.

Serves: About 10-12; keeps for 5 days covered and refrigerated

#### **Noodling around**

Life and longevity are important values in Asian culture.

"You actually don't cut it, you're supposed to eat it long," explains Doris Ng, co-owner of GingeRootz Asian Grille with her sister Alice, of noodles, which are prepared for Chinese New Year. The noodles symbolize a long, prosperous life and are used in place of rice. The celebration falls between the regular New Year and the Lunar New Year from as early as late January to as late as February.

The noodles are cooked in soy sauce with simple ingredients, such as vegetables and chicken or beef. Ng's family also typically serves yi mein, which is thicker than an egg noodle, the same color, but softer and chewier. This noodle is served by request at GingeRootz.

Seafood is another mainstay in New Year

cooking and means "lively." "Just the livelihood of life. There's a lot going on. There's never a dull moment," Ng notes of the symbolism. When it comes to fish — like tilapia or sea bass — all parts from the head to the tail are prepared for eating. Steaming it is common to preserve flavor. Shrimp, lobster, king crab, oysters, clams and scallops also may be served.

GingeRootz does offer special menus during Chinese New Year to tie the event and cuisine together.

"Being a restaurant and also being of Chinese descent, food is very important to us," Ng says. She grew up in New York and often went out to dinner for the holidays with her family to accommodate everyone at the table. GingeRootz hosts an annual dinner for employees with seven to eight dish variations and multiple pans of each.

#### Lo Mein Noodles

Courtesy of Doris Ng, GingeRootz Asian Grille

- 2 ounces julienne cut carrots
- 2 ounces julienne cut snowpeas
- ½ sweet onion, thinly sliced
- 1 ounce bean spouts
- 2-3 green onions, thinly sliced
- 1 tablespoon olive or vegetable oil
- ½ teaspoon minced garlic
- 16 ounces cooked lo mein noodles
- Sauce
- 3-4 ounces cooked meat (as desired)

In a small bowl, combine the vegetable ingredients together. Heat wok, making sure oil is added onto the wok to prevent sticking. Then add garlic. Once heated, combine all vegetable ingredients into wok and stir-fry until vegetables soften up. Next, add the cooked noodles. Make sure that before you add them to the pan, they're somewhat loose and not all clumped together (you can rinse them in warm water to loosen them up before adding them to the pan). Pour your sauce mixture over the noodles and stir-fry until the noodles are mixed evenly. Then add meat. Once everything is well-combined, dish out the noodles and serve.

#### For sauce:

2 ounces Kikkoman soy sauce,

1 ounce Maggie soy sauce,

1 ounce Dark Mushroom soy

½ ounce sugar

½ teaspoon sesame oil

Dash fresh ground ginger

1 teaspoon white cooking wine

Water to taste

Mix ingredients together.

Serves: Up to 2



#### One big family

"Just being Italian, everything is around food and cooking," says Debbie Cannova-Rasmus, owner of Cannova's Pizzeria & Fine Italian Dining. Growing up, she was exposed to two tables filled with food — one with turkey, ham, and pumpkin and apple pie, and the other with pasta, veal, fried eggplant and more — for 50-60 guests who would gather at the restaurant where her family also lived. The original Cannova's dates back to 1921 with Cannova-Rasmus' paternal grandparents.

She remembers having cannolis, a very traditional Sicilian dessert, on Christmas Eve. Her mother and aunts would be in the kitchen making the "little tubes" and filling them with ricotta. Some had candied fruit, while others had dark chocolate and the ends dipped in pistachios.

Today, Cannova-Rasmus continues to make the family filling, but now purchases shells from a Chicago bakery. Cannolis are available year round at Cannova's. Ravioli was another familiar holiday recipe, which also is served at the restaurant.

"They'd all get together before the holidays and make a ton of ravioli," Cannova-Rasmus says of the day-long gatherings that would take place with four to six women who would churn out hundreds of ravioli to be split among the group for a meal that night and again on Christmas Eve. "It was fun to watch them, they'd all be talking Italian," Cannova-Rasmus shares.

Though her parents have since passed, she still enjoys the recipes and their kitchen table.

"It's a piece of them that you still have. It's who you are and where you come from," she says. "There are very few things that people can open up over or pour your soul over like a meal."

#### Cannoli Filling

Courtesy of Debbie Cannova-Rasmus, Cannova's Pizzeria & Fine Italian Dining

2 cups ricotta

1 tablespoon vanilla

34 cup powdered sugar

1/4 cup heavy cream

1/4 cup mini chocolate chips

6-8 shells (pre-purchased from Italian Bakery)

½ cup pistachios, finely chopped

Powdered sugar to taste for dusting

Whisk ingredients together until smooth. Fold in mini chocolate chips to cheese mixture. Place in pastry bag and fill shells when ready to serve. Dip ends of filled shells in finely chopped pistachios. Dust with powdered sugar.

For Homemade Ricotta:

1 gallon whole milk

½ cup lemon juice

½ teaspoon salt

Heat milk to a simmer and bring to foam. Remove from heat add lemon juice and salt. Stir well; it will begin to curdle. Preheat oven to 100 degrees and then turn off. Put curdled milk in oven and let rest for 6 hours. Line a collander with cheese cloth and pour mixture into cloth, squeezing out excess liquid. Continue to drain cheese in cloth in the refrigerator for several hours. Store in airtight container and salt to taste.

Serves: About 6-8 depending on size of shells



#### Coming together

"We tried to assimilate into American culture as much as we could," says Larry Chomsisengphet, general manager of Basil Café, of holidays he recalls from his youth. "Stuffing is still always one of my go-to's."

Traditionally, however, Chomsisengphet says dishes like sticky rice, papaya salad, roasted pig and Chinese bakery served for Thanksgiving, Christmas and Chinese New Year were a staple in his family as a child and now. He was in utero when his family came to the United States in October 1983 with nothing. They had been in a refugee camp in Thailand for about three years prior before escaping Lao.

Nam Khao still brings back memories for Chomsisengphet. While not necessarily difficult to make, it is a time consuming recipe.

"Mom would be up really, really early making all these things," Chomsisengphet says as if he's picturing her in the kitchen. "The smells would be so delicious." He recalls stealing the rice balls before they were mixed in with the rest of the dish. Today, his nieces do the same. "It's naturally instinctive for a child to steal because it's easy finger food," he says with a chuckle.

"It's all these great flavor profiles that make Lao cuisine what it is," he adds. As a child, Chomsisengphet says he loved the crispiness of the lettuce, but also the "awesome, fluffy jasmine rice" inside the rice balls.

Gathering for a meal in Chomsisengphet's household meant eating together and sharing stories in a communal or family style way with a big bowl of sticky rice and plates with various sides. Everyone shared off of one another.

"It always puts into perspective to me that we made it to America," he says of the holidays and his desire to visit Lao. "The beauty and the mystery behind it invokes the wanderlust behind it."

Continued on Page 28

## ASK CHEF JEFF

Have a culinary question for Chef Jeff? Go to foxcitiesmagazine.com and click Community Chat.

# **Getting salty**

Q. What is all the rage with these different salts on the market?

-Slippery from Slippery Rock



A. First, a little background on salt. Known chemically as sodium chloride, salt is the most common of all ingredients and its use in cooking dates back to the Stone Age. Salt is an essential nutrient to the human body; although most people consume too much of it. It is instrumental in the preservation of certain food products. The basic sources of salt are either from salt mines in the earth or evaporated from ocean and sea water. Salt comes in many physical forms including rock, flake, crystalline and fine salt. During the production of salt, trace elements can be detected in different varieties of salt depending upon their source of origin and method of production. It is these trace elements that render each salt with a subtle, yet distinctive flavor profile and color. Among the more common specialty salts are "Fleur de Sel" (which translated means "flower of salt" in French), Himalayan Pink Salt and Hawaiian Sea Salt. Most people do not cook with specialty salts as it is generally considered cost prohibitive, however their distinctive flavor profile as a finishing salt is often sought by chefs and diners. Sprinkling a little over a finished dish is probably the best way to appreciate these uniquely flavored salts. Does this help clarify things for you, Slippery?

# Find Chef Jeff's Salt Pork Recipe online at foxcitiesmagazine.com.

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 27

#### Nam Khao

Courtesy of Larry Chomsisengphet, Basil Café

For Rice Balls

3 cups of cooked jasmine rice

2 tablespoons red curry paste

½ teaspoon ground white pepper

1 teaspoon of salt

Pinch of sugar

2 tablespoons finely chopped

shallots

2 tablespoons finely chopped garlic

3 tablespoons finely minced

lemongrass

1 cup grated coconut

2 eggs

1 gallon vegetable oil (for frying)

#### For Dressing:

1½ limes, juiced

1 cup chopped cilantro

1 cup chopped green onions

½ cup of crushed roasted peanuts

1 stick of nam/som moo (sour fermented pork),

chopped (optional)

#### Sides:

Lettuce leaves

Cilantro

Mint

Lime wedges

Whole dried, roasted chilies (optional)

Break apart cooked rice clumps then combine rice, curry paste, white pepper, salt, sugar, shallots, garlic, lemongrass and coconut together. Using your hands, mix the ingredients together. Add eggs to rice, to act as a binder, and mix thoroughly and uniformly. Form rice balls by packing the rice tightly together into balls, about 3 inches in diameter, with no loose rice. Set rice balls aside and heat vegetable oil to 350 degrees to fry a few balls at a time.

Once oil gets to a stable 350 degrees, fry about 3-4 rice balls at a time as to not cool the oil too much (approximately 5 minutes). Once rice balls reach a dark golden brown color remove from oil, and set balls on top of paper towels to drain off excess oil and to let cool. Repeat until all the rice balls have been fried.

Once all rice balls have been fried and slightly cooled, break the rice balls apart into a bowl so that you have smaller chunks of the crispy rice amongst the inner fluffier rice.

Add to the rice and gently mix and toss together, the freshly squeezed lime juice, cilantro, green onions, crushed roasted peanuts and the chopped sour fermented pork (optional). Once thoroughly mixed, plate dish and serve with sides of lettuce leaves, cilantro, mint, lime wedges, and whole dried roasted chilies (optional).

Eaten like a lettuce wrap, take a lettuce leaf and create a bed and add the cilantro and mint. Scoop a little bit of rice onto the lettuce, wrap and take a bite! Typically eaten family style.

Serves: About 5 people

Nam Khao





#### FILL ER' UP

Kimberly Finnell of Osorio's Latin Fusion merged her tradition of Scandinavian Krumkake with a new take on the filling. Find her recipe

for Ancho Whipping Cream, along with cook Sara Berkovitz's recipe for Pumpkin Bread Pudding from Mark's East Side online. Visit foxcitiesmagazine.com.





# WHERE TO DINE

#### **Antojitos Mexicanos**

#### 204 E. College Ave., Appleton. 380-0244.

A family owned Mexican restaurant serving street vendor-style food and fine dining caliber delicacies. The name translates to "Mexican cravings." All meals are homemade, family recipes from our hometown LaCañada, Guanajuato, Mexico. Try our new Margarita Flight! Happy Hour M-F 3-6pm; M & W 2 for 1 margaritas; \$1 fish tacos on F 3-6pm; Tu \$4 sangrias and Th happy hour \$4 mojitos! Open M-Th, 10:30am-9pm; F & Sa, 10:30am-10pm. Closed Sunday.

#### Carmella's: an Italian Bistro

#### 716 N. Casaloma Drive, Appleton. 882-4044.

Experience authentic Italian cuisine in a Europeanstyle setting with a lively atmosphere and knowledgeable, welcoming staff. Select from pastas, entrées, appetizers, salads and sandwiches any time of day. Our divine desserts are all made in-house by our pastry chef. During warmer months, our secluded patio offers an al fresco dining experience unlike any other. We also offer a private dining area for small groups, and off-site catering. Winner of six 2015 FOX CITIES Magazine Golden Fork Awards, including Best Overall. Hours: Su-Th, 11am-9pm; F & Sa, 11am-10pm. Reservations accepted for parties of six or more. carmellasbistro.com.

#### **Chung's Sandwich Bar**

#### 1804 S. Lawe St., Appleton. 815-3154.

Experience Appleton's newest hidden gem. Tucked inside Longcheng Marketplace, Chung's Sandwich Bar is an authentic taste of south Vietnamese street food featuring Banh Mi sandwiches. Locally baked bread is loaded with meat, chicken or tofu, and finished off with pickled daikon, carrots, cucumbers, fresh jalapeno, cilantro and mayo. Be sure to try our chicken wings - perfectly cooked and tossed with your choice of sauces ranging from sweet to savory. Open 10am-8pm daily.

#### **GingeRootz Asian Grille**

#### 2920 N. Ballard Road, Appleton. 738-9688.

Discover how the finest ingredients come together to create a new world of flavor. Stop in for lunch or dinner in our contemporary dining area, or relax with a drink in the Zen Lounge. Special event on the horizon? From business meetings to birthdays, our banquet room will spice up any party. We also cater parties for all occasions. Make your reservations for the holidays now! Open daily 11am-9:30pm; bar open 11am-close. Daily Happy Hour specials. Complimentary appetizers with drinks. gingerootz.com.

#### Houdini's Escape Gastropub 1216 S. Oneida St., Appleton. 574-2616.

Newly re-modeled and double the size, Houdini's has some major improvements to show off. From the beautiful brick patio with three fire tables to keep you warm, to the spotless kitchen with ample room to serve all who enter. Houdini's offers elevated cuisine in a pub atmosphere, which creates a magical dining experience unlike anywhere in the Fox Valley. Order a chef-inspired feature and watch it disappear before your eyes. A selection of more than 160 local, craft, and microbrew beers, and a rotating wine list complement our seasonal food offerings. Unexpected menu items aren't the only things mesmerizing guests — enjoy a fabulous plated brunch menu Sundays from 9am to 3pm. Open M-Sa at 11am, Su at 9am. houdinisescape.com.

#### **Little Diner Xpress** 1939 N. Richmond St., Appleton. 734-9962.

Stop by anytime to experience why Little Diner Xpress was awarded FOX CITIES Magazine's 2015 Golden Fork Award for Best Diner/Cafe! Organic coffee, reduced GMOs, locally sourced ingredients and leaner selections are what sets us apart. We serve breakfast all day (and night)! If you're feeling decadent, try a benedict or Cherry-Stuffed French Toast. How about an Adult Grilled Cheese with bacon. sauteed onions and jalepenos?

You'll feel like one of the family with our superfriendly staff. Open 24 hours every day. Eat Anytime!

#### Mr. Brews Taphouse

#### 201 S. RiverHeath Way, Appleton. 815-3516.

Nestled along the Fox River with spectacular wildlife views, Mr. Brews Taphouse offers 48 tap craft beers as well as a variety of wines to accompany our gourmet burgers and fresh cut fries/chips. We also offer chicken, turkey burgers and vegetarian options as well as salads and a kids menu. Check out our upcoming events featuring: trivia, live music and tap takeovers. Ask about gift card specials for the holidays! Reserve our mezzanine for your next event. Join us for happy hour M-F, 4-6pm. Open Su-Th, 11am-11pm; F-Sa 11am-midnight. Find us on Facebook and Twitter. Order to go! mrbrewstaphouse.com.

#### **Muncheez Pizzeria**

#### 600 W. College Ave., Appleton. 749-1111.

Winner of the 2015 FOX CITIES Magazine Golden Fork Award for Best Pizza and Non-Chain Best Late-Night Dining! Delicious pizzas, subs, salads, wings and more, including more than 40 beers! Pizza lounge with free movies, Wi-Fi and computer. Highquality ingredients — including hand-chopped veggies and fresh Italian sausage. Free Cheezy-Breadsticks with any 14 or 16-inch pizza, free delivery, and more freebies and specials on website and menu! Open 11am-3am daily. www.MuncheezPizzeria.com

#### 708 N. Casaloma Drive, Appleton. 257-2194.

SAP offers breakfast and lunch classics any time of the day! We use locally sourced eggs from organicfed chickens in all of our dishes, and our pork is from a farm down the road. Stop in for a coffee or espresso drink and a from-scratch pastry or dessert from our bakery case. Our deli case is full of artisan Wisconsin cheeses and meats, organic rotisserie chickens and house-made favorites. No time to sit down? Order to go! On warmer days, we'll open the garage doors on our four-seasons patio. Winner of three 2015 FOX CITIES Magazine Golden Fork Awards. M-Su, 7am-8pm. sapbrunch.com.

#### Seth's Coffee

#### 106 E. Main St., Little Chute, 687-6551.

Seth's Coffee is a local craft cafe in Little Chute with fresh roasted, fresh brewed coffee made by the cup. We offer craft beer, wine, sandwiches, tapas and oodles more to excite your palate. Visit our new drive-thru location in downtown Appleton, located behind the History Museum at 323 E. Washington St.! Check out the Seth's Coffee Drive Thru or Seth's Coffee Facebook page for hours. sethscoffee.com



#### Stone Cellar Brewpub

#### 1004 S. Olde Oneida St., Appleton. 731-3322.

Located in the Between the Locks, a 157-year-old historic brewery building. Stone Cellar Brewpub features the Fox Cities' best handcrafted, national award-winning beers made on premise. The restaurant features an extensive menu including steaks, seafood, pasta, burgers, award-winning pizza, creative appetizers and traditional pub favorites. In addition, enjoy our selection of gourmet sodas made in the brewery. We even have Appleton's oldest beer garden! Come enjoy the unique atmosphere, experience excellent food and great service. Brewpub fare with a flair! stonecellarbrewpub.com.

#### The Source Public House

#### 890 Lake Park Road, Menasha, 830-2050.

The Source Public House features local food, craft beer and live music. Our food is clean, fresh, natural and sustainable served in a casual atmosphere. We feature 14 Wisconsin craft beers on tap in addition to a full wine and cocktail menu. The wall art is all from local artists and available for purchase. In the evenings we have a large stage and sound system featuring live music. Check our website for music dates and details. the source publichouse.com.

#### Vince Lombardi's Steakhouse

#### 333 W. College Ave., Appleton. 733-8000.

Located inside the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel. Honored with the NFL's Most Valuable Property (MVP) Award in 2009. Extraordinary steaks, superb wines and legendary service. Enjoy world-class dining set among Coach Lombardi's personal memorabilia and classic photos. Experience a commitment to excellence in food, beverages and service that is commensurate with the standards of our namesake. The award-winning restaurant features extraordinary USDA prime cuts of beef and a wine list that Wine Spectator Magazine has named "one of the most outstanding in the world." vincelombardisteakhouse.com.

#### Zuppas - Market, Café & Catering

#### 1540 S. Commercial St., Neenah. 720-5045.

Our top-flight chef team led by Chef Peter Kuenzi, urban cafeteria setting and penchant for local ingredients, ensure that your food is creative, fresh and ready fast. For breakfast, lunch and dinner, Zuppas Café offers chef-prepared soups, sandwiches, salads and more. Enjoy handcrafted pastries and desserts with coffee or take home a variety of fresh prepared salads and entrees from our deli. Our Green Room is perfect for your personal or business gathering. M-F, 8am-8pm; Sa, 11am-3pm; closed Su. Visit zuppas.com for daily specials.

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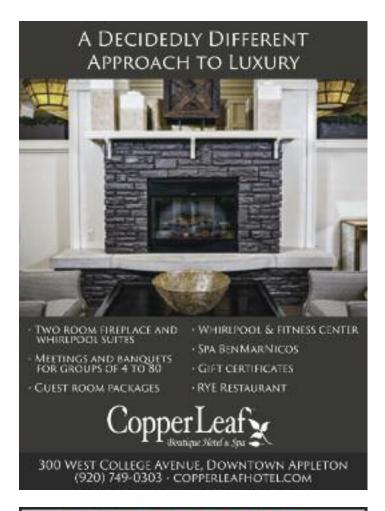


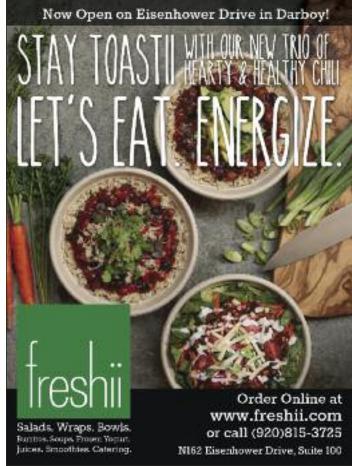


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