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MAGAZINE

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February 2016

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Publishers

Marvin Murphy Ruth Ann Heeter

Managing Editor

Ruth Ann Heeter
raheeter@foxcitiesmagazine.com

Associate Editor

Amy Hanson
edit@foxcitiesmagazine.com

Contributing Writer

Kate Mothes

Editorial Interns

Clare Bruning Sarah Perret-Goluboff
Ariela E. Rosa Anh Ta Krystin Williams

Art Director

Jill Ziesemer

Graphic Designer

Julia Schnese

Account Executives

Wendy Levenhagen
wendy@foxcitiesmagazine.com

Courtney Martin
courtney@foxcitiesmagazine.com

Maria Stevens
maria@foxcitiesmagazine.com

Administrative Assistant / Circulation

info@foxcitiesmagazine.com

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CONTENTS

Features

ARTS & CULTURE



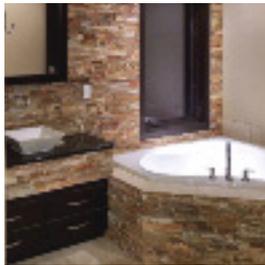
16

A date with books

Libraries offer opportunity to discuss reads

By Amy Hanson

AT HOME



22

Bathroom beauties

Home builders create impact with new designs

By Amy Hanson

FOOD & DINING



26

Cup of comfort

Restaurants ladle up unconventional flavors

By Amy Hanson

Departments

- 6 Artist spotlight
- 8 Not to be missed
- 14 Showcase
- 28 Ask Chef Jeff
- 29 Where to dine
- 30 The place we call home



On the Cover

Couples who are alumni or parishioners of Old St. Joseph's Church at St. Norbert College are able to be married at the church, which holds about 35 weddings annually. Photo courtesy of Jerry Turba.

COVER STORY



18

WEDDINGS: Unique unions

Nonprofits offer special wedding venues

By Amy Hanson

foxcitiesmagazine.com

Story idea?

We're always looking!

Feel free to call and share your lightbulb moment with us! From the latest on the arts scene to your favorite restaurants and everything cultural in between, FOX CITIES Magazine is YOUR destination for what's happening in and around the Fox Cities. Please remember stories focus on general themes. Contact Amy Hanson, associate editor, at edit@foxcitiesmagazine.com or (920) 733-7788 ext. 103. We look forward to hearing from you!

ONLINE...

- ▶ Expanded calendar listings and exhibits
- ▶ Searchable Dining Guide
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ARTIST SPOTLIGHT



Bejeweled in beads and more

Peot designs one-of-a-kind jewelry creations

After making jewelry for a decade, Lea Peot continues to create one-of-a-kind designs for her customers.

Prior to starting her business, she had experimented with bead weaving on a loom, which led to the creation of her now signature pieces — Treasure Bracelets and Treasure Pendants.

“These very wearable bracelets and pendants are woven on a small hand loom using Czech seed beads as the base. The top is embellished with semi-precious stones, freshwater pearls and Czech glass,” shares Peot who is self-taught.



“I have always loved designing and creating things that did not require instruction or patterns and was searching for something that would fulfill my need to create something colorful and usable, but would be entirely self directed,” Peot adds.

She also creates other bracelet and necklace styles, along with earrings.

Over the years, Peot’s customer e-mail list has grown to more than 800 people. “It is really those people who are responsible for my success. I am very fortunate to have customers who come to find me at shows and I try very hard to always provide them with new and exciting designs,” she says.

While Peot describes her work as “very calming and therapeutic,” it does take time.

“My most complex and time consuming items are the Treasure Bracelets and Pendants,” she explains. “Some of the simpler, narrow bracelets only require five to seven hours, but the wider bracelets, where I design a pattern in the base and then sew on all of the semi-precious stone and freshwater pearl clusters to

coordinate with the base, can take 15-20 hours.”

Color, balance and wearability are the starting points for every piece that Peot fashions. She admits that color is likely her strongest motivator when selecting the direction a piece should take. She does not sketch her designs, but rather goes with what comes to her naturally.

“I am often complimented on my use of color and my unique and vibrant combinations,” she says. “This certainly springs from my own personal love of color, but I also feel that we all wear so many neutrals and a pop of color can really pull a simple outfit together, make a dramatic statement or just make you feel good wearing it.”

Each of Peot’s creations is either very limited edition or a one-of-a-kind piece, so custom sizing is often incorporated into her work. “I love to work with the customer to incorporate their ideas into a design specific to them,” explains Peot. “They might be inspired by something they see at one of my shows. Or, they might like a color or a particular stone, but not the design on display. We talk about when the piece would be worn, the type of neckline and most importantly, the style of jewelry they are most comfortable wearing.”

Peot has even had customers send her fabric samples and photos of dresses. While the designer doesn’t specifically create wedding jewelry, she has made custom works for mothers of the bride and groom to complement their attire. Brides-to-be also have selected jewelry for their big day.

For more information on her work or to order a piece, visit Peot’s website at leapeotjewelry.com.

— By Amy Hanson

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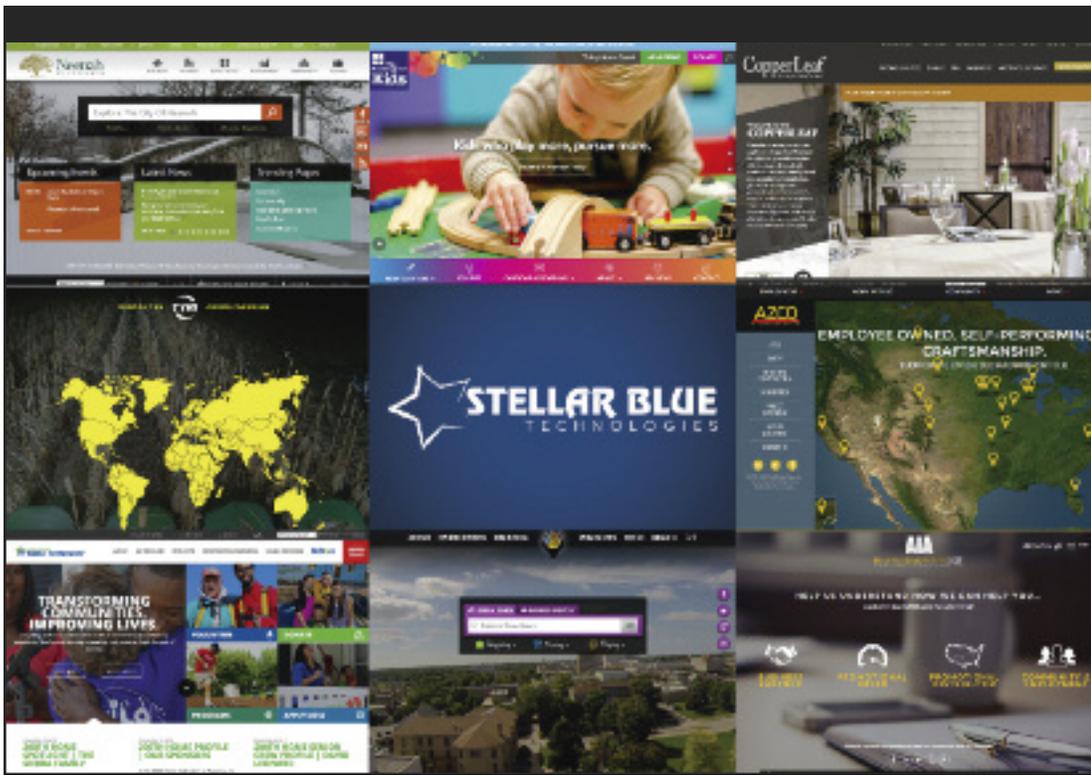
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JANUARY WINNER

Jean Long Manteufel, Appleton
Answer: The “Between the Locks”
building in Appleton

Stellar Blue Technologies



Stellar Blue Technologies' expertise reaches into communities

Stellar Blue Technologies, established in 2004, specializes in custom website design, development and digital marketing. Stellar Blue has been growing and enhancing its wide array of services to continue providing custom work for the greater Fox Valley region, as well as nationwide.

One aspect that sets Stellar Blue apart is that their team of in-house, local experts views each company individually and uniquely. The crew tailors services to suit each individual client's needs. Stellar Blue embraces the fact that no two projects are ever the same.

This philosophy is important considering the varying types of companies and organizations Stellar Blue works with. Projects have included website development for FOX CITIES Magazine, Building for Kids Children's Museum, Appleton Downtown Inc. and the City of Neenah, as well as local and international businesses in construction, finance, e-commerce and service industries, just to name a few.

Another aspect of the Stellar Blue team that makes them stand out from the crowd is the wide array of services they offer. While website design and development are certainly core pillars of the company, Stellar Blue also provides digital marketing services including: search engine optimization, content marketing services, analytics and more. This is because in the modern digital world, all of these aspects work together to promote success.

Stellar Blue's success has not gone unrecognized by

various organizations. In 2015, Stellar Blue received the Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce award for Corporate Citizen/Corporate Leader, which recognizes organizations that give back to their surrounding communities. Stellar Blue also received two Davey Awards; one for the TRYI

Lights website in the international business category, and another for the City of Neenah website in the government category.

In addition to serving the needs of a variety of clients, Stellar Blue cares deeply about improving communities and the lives of those that reside in them. That is why Stellar Blue is a sponsor of the Greater Fox Cities Area Habitat for Humanity, Future Neenah, Warrior Princess Mud Run, Neenah StreetBall, PaceSetters of the Fox Cities, Fox Cities Marathon, the Burundi Education Fund and many others.

Being active in the community also means being involved with networking organizations. Stellar Blue employees have memberships in organizations ranging from the Heart of the Valley Chamber of

Commerce, Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce, Green Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, and The New North, as well as Sales and Marketing Professionals of Northeast Wisconsin, and the Appleton Northside Business Association.

Stellar Blue is proud to call the Fox Valley home, and has its sights on continuing to provide top-notch web development and digital marketing expertise, while giving back to its surrounding communities.



Stellar Blue Crew

w: stellarbluetechologies.com

p: 920.931.4250

e: info@stellarbluetechologies.com

NOT TO BE MISSED: February events calendar

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

ARTS EVENTS

2-7 | Newsies

They delivered the papers until they made the headlines. Tue.-Fri. 7:30pm; Sat. 2pm & 7:30pm; Sun. 1pm & 6:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

2 | L. A. Theatre Works — Bram Stoker's Dracula

7:30pm. Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, Green Bay. 465-2726.

12 | Celtic Nights: Spirit of Freedom — Celebrating 100 Years

The story of Irish independence, beginning with the Easter Rising. 7:30pm. Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, Green Bay. 465-2726.

12 | Open Mic Night at the ARTgarage

Musicians, singers, poets, actors and spoken word artists are welcome to share their talents. Material should be appropriate for general audiences; edgier material held until after 7:30pm. Doors open at 5:30pm. ARTgarage, Green Bay. 448-6800.

18 | Neville Public Museum Dinner Program

"Fish Fries and Rib-Eyes and Highballs, Oh My! Wisconsin's Supper Club Culture." Dinner at 5pm, program at 6pm. Neville Public Museum, Green Bay. 448-4460.

18 | The Peking Acrobats

Since their Western debut in 1986, The Peking Acrobats have redefined audience perceptions of Chinese acrobatics. 7:30pm. Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, Green Bay. 465-2726.

19-27 | Almost, Maine

Nine short plays exploring love and loss by the Oshkosh Community Players. Feb. 19-20, 25-27 at 7:30pm; Feb. 21 at 2pm. Grand Opera House, Oshkosh. 424-2350.

25-28 | West Side Story

The world's greatest love story takes to the streets in this landmark Broadway musical that is one of the theater's finest accomplishments. Thur.-Sat. 7pm. Sun. 2pm. UWFox Valley, Menasha. 832-2600.

25-27 | The Hourglass Project

On a remote island, a small group of elderly people on the brink of realizing their mortality is given a second chance at life. 7:30pm. Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, Green Bay. 465-4200.

25 | Once

The enchanting tale of a Dublin musician about to give up on his dream when a woman takes an interest. 7:30pm. Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, Green Bay. 465-2726.

27 | PostSecret: The Show

An immersive journey through the humor and humanity of the personal stories we keep to ourselves, and on rare occasions, share with others. 2pm & 7:30pm. Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, Green Bay. 465-2726.

MUSIC & CONCERTS

6 | Jazz Fest 46 - Big Band Blast!

Featuring UWGB Alum, Chuck Dotas, composer, with special guests the 132nd Army Patriot Jazz Band from Madison. 7:30pm. High School Jazz Band pre-show 6pm. Cofrin Family Hall, Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, Green Bay. 465-2400.

6 | Lawrence University Artist Series

Featuring Rachel Barton Pine, violin and Matthew Hagle, piano. 8pm. Lawrence Memorial Chapel, Appleton. 832-6749.

7 | Lawrence Academy of Music Piano Duet Recitals

12:30-4pm. Harper Hall, Lawrence University Music Drama Center, Appleton. 832-6632.

8 | The Band of the Royal Marines and The Pipes, Drums and Highland Dancers of The Scots Guard

A unique evening with stunning synchronized movement. 7:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

12 | Mack Avenue Super Band

Immerse yourself in original jazz from some of the most pronounced identities in the genre. 7:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

13 | Annual Music Honors Recital

2pm. Fort Howard Hall, Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, Green Bay. 465-2400.

13 | Gerry Sloan

Sloan brings Ireland to the stage with his unique performance. Noon-3pm. Neville Public Museum. 448-4460.

13 | Willy Porter

Perhaps best known as a down tuned six-string wonder, Porter is a master at free-form jam playing. 7:30pm. Thrasher Opera House, Green Lake. 294-4279.

14 | Music at the Library

Featuring the Renard Consort Recorder Ensemble performing Renaissance to modern tunes including folk, international and classical melodies. 2pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

14 | Masters of the Fiddle

Natalie MacMaster and Donnell Leahy meld their virtuosity into a whirlwind of fiddle-driven music, dance and song, combining the best of French, Celtic, bluegrass and Cajun styles. 8pm. Door County Auditorium, Fish Creek. 868-2728.

14 | Music @ the Library

Featuring a VENTO Winds Chamber Recita, a newly formed professional ensemble from Appleton that strives to provide quality musicianship and music education. 2pm. Friends of Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

18 | Jazz at the Trout Season VI

BeBop guitar performed by Dave Sullivan Quartet. 7:30pm. Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

18 | 6:30 Thursdays: music from every angle; Hodges To Ornette

Jeffrey Benedict, a saxophonist, will provide a lecture/performance of music by the most influential saxophonists from the beginning of Jazz through the 1970s. 6:30pm. Fort Howard Hall, Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, Green Bay. 465-2400.

20 | Pert Near Sandstone

Stringband music with raw energy playing and tightly crafted original material that lends itself to the modern audience. 7:30pm. Thrasher Opera House, Green Lake. 294-4279.

25 | Riverview Gardens Concert Series: Year Two

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

25 | 6:30 Thursdays: music from every angle; Miniatures Consortium

This innovative ensemble performs "miniature morsels of music" that are either 100 notes or fewer, or one minute or less in duration. 6:30pm. Fort Howard Hall, Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, Green Bay. 465-2400.

27 | Crystal Bowersox

2010 "American Idol" runner-up. 7:30pm. Thrasher Opera House, Green Lake. 294-4279.

27 | Scott Derckes

Derckes uses the finger style approach, which allows for "pianistic" chord voicings and brass, chords and melodies to be played simultaneously. Neville Public Museum, Green Bay. 448-4460.

'West Side Story,' NEPO bring Brooklyn vibe to UW-Fox Valley

The University of Wisconsin-Fox Valley channels a New York state of mind this spring, highlighting the edgier side of the Big Apple. One of the most successful Broadway musicals of all time, "West Side Story," scored by Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim, will light up Perry Hall.

This is the first time that "West Side Story" has been staged at UW-Fox Valley, and it is a group effort. "This show is much more of a collaborative process," Director Susan Rabideau says, comparing this performance to previous productions. "People are putting in many extra hours outside of rehearsals to help the show come together."

The musical is adapted from Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet," in which young, idealistic lovers are caught between warring street gangs, the so-called American Jets and the Puerto Rican Sharks. Rabideau expects a spectacular production, adding that choreographer



Photo courtesy of the University of Wisconsin - Fox Valley

Corrie Beula Kovacs "is doing a beautiful job interpreting and adding onto Jerome Robbins' original choreography."

Complementing the musical, the Aylward Gallery will host Brooklyn street artist NEPO. "The connection to 'West Side Story' is deliberate," explains Terry Bergen, gallery director. "We wanted something that reflected an urban environment."

Northeast Wisconsin might seem far removed from the streets of Brooklyn, but artists like NEPO are excited to find exposure for their work. "He and other street artists would like to move into the galleries," Bergen says. NEPO has been commissioned to paint murals in Puerto Rico and has shown New York galleries.

The exhibition runs now through March 7. Performances run Feb. 25-28 and March 3-6. More information can be found at uwfox.uwc.edu/cac.

— By Kate Mothes



Winter Family Festival promises outdoor fun

The Green Bay Botanical Garden hopes to draw Fox Valley families out of hibernation this winter, inviting them to bundle up and enjoy the outdoor activities at their Winter Family Festival on Feb. 6 from 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

For the last few years, the botanical garden has hosted a winter festival as a way to encourage families to get outside. Each year's activities

revolve around a central theme, and according to Children and Family Educator Kelle Hartman, this year's festival focuses on all things snow.

"It's such a pretty place out here in the winter when everything's covered in snow," says Hartman. "And, we want to encourage people to get outside and explore."

Various community clubs will offer special activities for all ages from ice fishing to snowman building. Depending on weather, snow carvers also will demonstrate snow carvings in the garden.

The botanical garden will provide activities as well, especially for children. A photo scavenger hunt will keep with the festival's snowman theme. As children find the right items during their hunt, they will earn snowman pieces that they can use to make their own snowmen. Arts and crafts will be provided too, with local artist Sandy Melroy helping children create silk paintings.

Although the milder weather brought by El Niño threatens to curb the amount of snowfall this winter, Hartman vows that families will be able to take advantage of this year's snowman theme.

"We may not have snow, but that's okay," she says. "As long as it's not pouring rain, we'll still have indoor activities, we'll have outdoor activities. We'll play with snowmen even if there is no snow!"

Concessions like hot dogs and hot chocolate will be available. For more information, visit gbbg.org.

—By Ariela E. Rosa

27 | Words on Fire — Coffeehouse Concert

Musicians pair with poets to create a coffeehouse atmosphere. 7pm. Door Community Auditorium, Fish Creek. 868-2728.

28 | Music @ the Library

The Renard Consort Recorder Ensemble performs folk, international, and classical melodies. 2pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

28 | Student Recitals

Lawrence Academy of Music Student Recitals. 12:30-5pm. Lawrence University Music Drama Center, Appleton. 832-6632.

10 | Honors Exhibition

Thru Feb 24. Artist Reception Feb 11, 6:30-8 pm. UW Oshkosh Allen Priebe Art Gallery. 424-2235.

21 | Dreamscapes

Thru Aug 7. Jessica Calderwood and Debbie Kupinsky are alumnae of the Arts Center's renowned Arts/Industry residency program. The exhibit contextualizes work made during Calderwood and Kupinsky's residencies within their larger studio practice by exhibiting a selection of both bodies of work. John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan. 458-6144.

COMMUNITY & CULTURAL EVENTS

1 | Be the Dinosaur™

Thru May 16. Discover what it would be like to be a dinosaur in this innovative exhibition featuring state-of-the-art technology and traditional exhibits. Oshkosh Public Museum. 236-5799.

5 | Quirky

Thru Feb 27. An exhibit of bizarre, unusual, curious, eccentric art. Artist reception Feb. 5, 6-9pm. ARTgarage, Green Bay. 448-6800.

6 | Joye Moon Watercolors

Thru Apr 17. Works by the nationally recognized watercolor artist and Oshkosh native. Exuberant landscapes, flowers & nature, as well as colorful abstractions and paintings inspired by travels will be highlighted. Paine Art Center & Gardens, Oshkosh. 235-6903.

4 | Creative Coloring for Adults

Coloring pages, colored pencils and markers available, or bring your own. Open to adults and teens ages 14 and up. 1pm and 6pm. Kimberly Public Library. 788-7515.

5 | Cuisine For A Cause

A competition among local celebrities and their chef partners from the area's best restaurants. The event will benefit Rebuilding Together Fox Valley. Cocktails 5-6pm, presentation 6:30pm, dinner 6:30pm. Radisson Paper Valley Hotel, Appleton. For event and ticket information, contact Paula Rady at paula@rtfv.org.

6 | Dog Sled Demo

Learn the history of Siberian huskies and dog-sledding; assist with the harnessing process in preparation for riding. 9:30am. Ledge View Nature Center, Chilton. 849-7094.

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- 6 | EAA Skiplane Fly-In**
In case weather does not permit aircraft arrivals, other activities will continue, including complimentary chili and cake served beginning at 10:30 a.m. EAA AirVenture Museum's Pioneer Airport, Oshkosh. 426-6108.
- 6 | Sturgeon Day**
See the new sturgeon tank, watch decoy carvers and hear a speaker on lake sturgeon. 2pm. Ledge View Nature Center. Chilton. 849-7094.
- 6 | Warm Your Heart**
Downtown businesses will be offering samples of soups, beverages and snacks. Fee includes samples at more than 15 businesses and a mug to keep, which is your ticket. Mugs available after 10:30am on the day of the event at Future Neenah. 11am-3pm. Downtown Neenah. 722-1920.
- 6 | Winter Family Festival**
Celebrate winter featuring games and activities. Admission is free for all visitors. 10am-2pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.
- 7, 14, 21, 28 | Winter Hike/Snowshoe**
Learn some snowshoe history, then hike with a naturalist to discover how the living world changes during the cold season. 1pm. Ledge View Nature Center, Chilton. 849-7094.
- 8 | Cocoa and Coloring**
Enjoy coloring for grownups. Coloring sheets and supplies provided. All ages welcome. 6:30pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.
- 12, 13 | Candlelight Ski & Snowshoe**
Explore the frozen forests of the Preserve lit by tiki torches. A 3/4-mile loop will be lit for a self-guided trek on snowshoes or cross country skis. 5:30-8:30pm. Barkhausen Waterfowl Preserve, Suamico. 434-2824.
- 12 | Soup with Substance**
Enjoy dinner and dessert with a garden-related presentation followed by entertainment. Come early for a winter discovery hike. Snowshoes provided. 5:30-8pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.
- 13-14, 18-21 | HBA Fox Cities 2016 Winter Parade of Homes**
See the latest in home design; remodels featured Feb. 19–21. Weekends 11am–5pm; weekdays 5–8pm. Ticket info and preview at foxcitiesparadeofhomes.com.
- 13 | An Evening for Sweethearts**
An evening complete with appetizers, beverages and music. Enjoy a snowshoe walk and campfire. Preregistration and payment due Feb 5. 7-10pm. Mosquito Hill Nature Center, New London. 779-6433.
- 13 | Festival Canada**
Celebrate our neighbor to the north with performances, food, art and activities based on Canadian culture. Nominal extra charge for ethnic foods. 11am-3pm. John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan. 458-6144.
- 13 | Night at the Ledge**
Hike through the woods and sit by the campfire sharing s'mores and stories. Preregistration with fees required by Feb 6. 6pm. Ledge View Nature Center, Chilton. 849-7094.
- 14 | 13th Annual, Death by Chocolate**
Spend your afternoon sampling chocolate desserts created by chefs at 17 different restaurants, bars and coffee houses. Tickets on sale now. 1-4:30pm. College Avenue, downtown Appleton. 954-9112.
- 19 | Painting Party**
Paint in a group setting while following instruction. No experience necessary. Beverages available from the Garden's cash bar or bring your own non-alcoholic refreshments and snacks. 6-8pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.
- 20 | Guided Evening Snowshoe Hike & Moonlight Ski**
Learn snowshoe history, constellations and folklore. Program dependent on snow cover; call to verify. 6:30pm. Ledge View Nature Center, Chilton. 849-7094.
- 20 | High Tea & the Floral Language of Romance**
An evening of pre-WWI elegance. Enjoy the aromas and tastes of a three-course "champagne tea." 3-5pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.
- 21 | Cultural Cuisine**
Presented by Fox Valley Technical College's Culinary Arts and Hotel & Restaurant Management students and staff, endless buffets of entree samples and holiday food with proceeds benefitting student scholarships. 3-6pm. Fox Valley Technical College, Appleton. 735-5643.
- 22 | Adult Snowshoe Hikes**
Learn the basics of snowshoeing, explore the winter adaptations of plants, and search for tracks and signs of animals. Be prepared to be outdoors for about an hour. 2-4pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.
- 26 | The Price is Right Live**
The hit interactive stage show that gives eligible individuals the chance to "Come On Down" to win. 7:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.
- 27 | Family Snowshoe Hike**
Learn the basics of snowshoeing then head outside for discovery and exploration. Be prepared to be outdoors for about an hour. 10-11:30am. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.
- 3 | Non-Fiction Book Discussion**
"This I Remember" by Eleanor Roosevelt. 6:30pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.
- 3 | Travelogue: Germany**
Join us as we travel across Germany from east to west. Bring a bag lunch and join us for this free program. Noon to 1pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.
- 6 | I Didn't Know There Were Latinos in Wisconsin**
Books Build Community program featuring Oscar Mireles, editor of the book, "I Didn't Know There Were Latinos in Wisconsin." 2pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.
- 6 | Outagamie County Master Gardeners**
Planning a low maintenance garden. 10am. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.
- 8 | Master Gardener Presents: Fairy Gardens**
The Outagamie County Master Gardeners will share ideas and tips for creating your own miniature garden. 6:30pm. Little Chute Public Library. 788-7825.
- 8 | SPARK! Winter Weaving**
One-hour program led by a specially trained museum educator. Stay for coffee and conversation for support and socialization. 1-2:30pm. Building for Kids, Appleton. 733-4089.
- 9 | Photo Editing & Design Resources: Tools to Create Perfect Photos**
Part of Tech Talk Tuesdays, monthly public lectures. 1:30pm. Neenah Public Library. 886-6315.
- 10 | Non-fiction Book Discussions**
Led by Bob Schmall, a retired history lecturer. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.
- 11 | Books and Brews**
Discuss "A Winsome Murder" by James DeVita. DeVita will visit the Kimberly-Little Chute Public Library in April as part of the 2016 Fox Cities Book Festival. 7pm. Seth's Coffee, Little Chute. 687-6551.
- 11 | Cookbook Book Club**
Share tips, favorite recipes and all things related to food. Bring a dish to pass if interested. 6:30pm. Neenah Public Library. 886-6315.
- 13 | Find Your Ancestors**
Russell Horton, records archivist at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum, will explain how to research your military ancestor. 2:30pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.
- 16 | Tuesday Nonfiction Book Club**
2pm. Elisha D. Smith Public Library, Menasha. 967-3690.
- 17 | Downtown Book Club**
Discussion of "The Finkler Question" by H. Jacobson. Bring your own lunch. Led by Howard Porter. Noon. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.
- 17 | Meet Wisconsin Authors**
Meet Chris Jossart, author of "Growing People: How Green Landscapes and Garden Spaces Can Change Lives." 6:30pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

LECTURES, READINGS, PRESENTATIONS & DISCUSSIONS

17 | Travelogue: Africa

Bill and Pat Larsen will share their travels throughout Africa during this lunchtime presentation. Bring a bag lunch. Noon-1pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

18 | Spacer Artist-in-Residence: My heART for Appleton with Emily Reetz
Hear from the artist how the response to her iconic Appleton series has inspired and encouraged her. 6:15pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

18 | Third Thursday Lecture Series: The I Heart Wisconsin Trip
Ruth Oppedahl, executive director of the Natural Resources Foundation, used her vacation to explore Wisconsin and meet with conservation groups and citizens. Registration and payment due Feb. 12. 9:30-11pm. Mosquito Hill Nature Center, New London. 779-6433.

20 | A Man, His Dog and the Wilderness
Volunteer Don Baumgartner and his husky Nikita will share their adventures of canoeing and portaging. Registration and payment due Feb. 12. 1-3pm. Mosquito Hill Nature Center, New London. 779-6433.

22 | Monday Morning Book Klatch
Reading everything from non-fiction to mystery. 10am. Shattuck Community Room, Neenah Public Library. 886-6315.

FILMS

4 | Thursday Afternoon @ the Movies
"Pawn Sacrifice." Rated PG-13. American chess prodigy Bobby Fischer finds himself caught between two superpowers when he challenges the Soviet Empire. 4pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173

5 | Movies at the Door
"Feed the Fish," directed by Michael Matzdorff. A burned-out children's book writer who during a mid-life crisis, goes with his best friend to Northern Wisconsin. Not rated. 7pm. Door Community Auditorium, Fish Creek. 868-2728.

9 | Museum Movie Night: Flight of The Intruder
Experience the golden age of cinema at EAA's Skyscape Theater Royale, a free series of classic aviation film screenings. 6:30pm. EAA AirVenture Museum, Oshkosh. 426-6510.

11 | Thursday Night @ the Movies
"Bridge of Spies." Rated PG-13. James Donovan finds himself at the center of the Cold War when he's sent to negotiate the release of an American pilot. 6pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173

13 | Vintage Movie
Join the New London Public Museum for Grand Ol' Night at the Movies at the historic Grand Theater in downtown New London. 7pm. Grand Cinema Theatre. 982-8520.

15 | Monday Morning Matinee
"Winnie the Pooh Movie." Rated G. This film series is designed for persons with cognitive disabilities but anyone may attend. 9:30am. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

18 | Thursday Afternoon @ the Movies
"Goosebumps." Rated PG. Upset about moving, teenager Zach Cooper finds a silver lining when he meets Hannah and makes a quick friend in Champ. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

25 | Thursday Night @ the Movies
"Vel Phillips: Dream Big Dreams." Discover how Phillips rose to prominence as one of Wisconsin's great civil rights activists. 6pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

1 | Card Club
Make four cards to bring home. Meets every first Monday of the month through March. 6:30-8:15pm. Paper Discovery Center, Appleton. 380-7491.

2, 3, 9, 10 | Pumped for Printmaking
Explore various aspects of relief printmaking. Supplies included. Tu, 4:30-6:30pm; W, 6-8:30pm. Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

2 | Herbal Infused Oils, Salves & Lotions
Herbalist Linda Conroy will lead participants through the process of making oils, salves and lotions. 6-8pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

3, 10, 17, 24 | Drawing with Pen & Ink, Adding Watercolor with Amy Eliason
Learn new techniques in creating textures, watch demonstrations, do assignments and choose subjects to produce a variety of work. 4-6pm. ARTgarage, Green Bay. 448-6800.

3, 10, 17, 24 | Studio Oil & Acrylic Painting with Amy Eliason
In this eight-week class you choose the subject. Begin with thumbnail sketches, then paint on canvas with oil or acrylic. 6:30-8:30pm. ARTgarage, Green Bay. 448-6800.



Photo credit: "Be the Dinosaur" exhibit photo courtesy of Eureka Exhibits

Interactive exhibit unites dinosaurs, video games

The Oshkosh Public Museum will soon offer a video game that parents will want their children to play, and which kids will be roaring about.

The game is just one component of an exhibit called "Be the Dinosaur™," which uses the latest paleontological data to teach visitors about the lives of dinosaurs during the Cretaceous era. It will run from now through May 16.

"Be The Dinosaur™" was created by a distinguished advisory panel of paleontologists and other experts led by world-renowned and award-winning paleontologist John R. Hutchinson. A Wisconsin native, Hutchinson now teaches at the University of London.

According to Karla Szekeres, marketing and membership coordinator at the Oshkosh Public Museum, "Be the Dinosaur™" brings together the elements of a traditional exhibit with a video game created by Eureka Exhibits that allows patrons to reinforce the knowledge they gain.

The exhibit begins with visitors learning about different facets of dinosaur life, from the ecosystems that they enjoyed to the food they ate, and even their anatomy. Several kiosks, reading panels and models of dinosaur bones and skulls are included in the exhibit.

Afterwards, visitors can play the video game, which is based on the Hell Creek formation in the American Northwest — one of the most studied fossil formations in the world. It requires visitors to use their dinosaur knowledge to survive.

"If you didn't learn enough, you'll die off right away," says Szekeres. "Each time you play, it will be a different experience. Like the old Sims games, (it's) based on the choices you make."

The museum also will offer a virtual safari for younger visitors. Children will be able to strap into a jeep with a video screen for a windshield to enjoy a narrated tour of a virtual environment.

The exhibit is available during the museum's regular hours. Teachers are encouraged to call ahead for field trips.

—By Ariela E. Rosa



Jim Feazel
Member/Owner

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Photo by Deen van Meer

'Newsies' set to deliver premiere performance

Disney's "Newsies" is set to make headlines at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center Feb. 2-7 as the show makes its Wisconsin premiere.

According to Trisha Witt, director of marketing and communications for the Fox Cities P.A.C., "the dancing is phenomenal." The smash-hit Broadway musical, based off of the 1992 movie, "made its Broadway debut in 2012.

While the film, starring the likes of actors Christian Bale, Bill Pullman and Robert Duvall, didn't do well at the box office, it has exploded as a touring musical. The music was created by Alan Menken, lyrics by Jack Feldman and the book by Harvey Fierstein.

"Newsies" tells the story of the New York City newsboy strike of 1899 against New York World, owned by Joseph Pulitzer. The story focuses on newspaper delivery boy Jack Kelly who dreams of leaving New York for Santa Fe. Young newspaper sellers of the time, many of whom were orphaned and homeless, were exploited as they sought to earn an income selling papers. Met with resistance as they sought change, the newsboys fought the wealthy.

"The heart of this story is the underdog overcoming obstacles and ultimately doing what's right," shares Witt. "It's one of those great American stories." The high-energy and athletic show also is the winner of the 2012 Tony Awards for Best Score and Best Choreography. It also has gained a cult following of sorts.

"I fully expect them to show up," says Witt of the show's fan base coming to Appleton. "They're actually called, 'Fansies.'"

Tickets for "Newsies" are on sale now in person or by phone through the Fox Cities P.A.C. ticket office and online at foxcitiespac.com.

—By Amy Hanson

4, 11, 18, 25 | Beginning Group Guitar with Jordan Koel
Eight-week week group course designed for the absolute beginner and covers the essential basics in a step-by-step fashion. Bring your own guitar. 6:30-7:15pm. ARTgarage, Green Bay. 448-6800.

4, 11, 18, 25 | Collaborative Filmmaking
Wyatt and Carolyn Kuether of the Production Farm will teach a class on the inventiveness of independent filmmaking. For high school youth up to age 21. 4-6pm. ARTgarage, Green Bay. 448-6800.

4 | Grow Your Own Mushrooms
Learn the many benefits of gourmet and medicinal mushroom cultivation. Then put your new skills to work. 6-8pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

5, 12, 19, 26 | Watercolor Made Simple with Stacey Small-Rupp
Open to all skill levels, each class will start with a drawing and include step-by-step instruction. 9:30am-12pm. ARTgarage, Green Bay. 448-6800.

6 | Heart Beads for a Special Someone
Create beads over the torch with your special someone or come with a group of friends. 10am-1pm. Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, Neenah. 751-4658.

6 | Paint an Ancient Story
Watercolor artist Geri Schrab will guide you in a painting inspired by ancient petroglyph and pictograph sites. 9am-3pm. Neville Public Museum, Green Bay. 448-4460.

8 | Compassionate Meditation for Family Caregivers
Learn techniques to de-stress, find a smile in the midst of turmoil and find solutions to new problems. 10am. Thompson Community Center, Appleton. 225-1700.

9-11 | Introduction to Mosaic Art 2
This three-night class taught from a Fine Art point of view gives students opportunity to learn additional skills. 5:30-9pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

11 | Creative Writing @ the Library
Word Phrases will be the topic, led by Sharrie Robinson. 10am-12pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

11 | Make a Drinking Glass from Bottles
Bring three beer or wine bottles. Learn the process of bottle cutting using a scoring tool, a candle and a bucket of ice water. 6pm. Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, Neenah. 751-4658.

15 | Knit2Together
Multi-generational knitting circle. Newcomers always welcome. 6pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173

16, 23 | Monuments & Masterpieces in Western Art with Jordan Koel
This six-week course takes you on a whirlwind tour of monuments, masterpieces and major milestones of western art. 6-8pm. ARTgarage, Green Bay. 448-6800.

16 | How to Grow Orchids Successfully
Learn cultural requirements and how to grow orchids at home. 6-7:30pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

17, 24 | Landscape Painting
Be inspired by your favorite landscapes in this introductory/intermediate acrylic painting class. 6-8:30pm. Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

18 | Building Healthy Soil for Healthy Plants
Learn from Vijai Pandian, UW Horticulture Extension agent on how to build good soil tilth, understand organic soil conditioners, sample soil for testing and plant nutrient seeds. 2-4pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

19 | Couple-ish Cork & Canvas with Natalie Vann
Enjoy wine, hors d'oeuvres and light instruction as you create. 6-8pm. ARTgarage, Green Bay. 448-6800.

25 | Advanced Smartphone Photography
Learn the best techniques and apps for making your photos the envy of all your social media friends. 6-7:30pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

27 | Mosaics with Carrie Klitzke
Learn how to create stunning mosaic art using traditional techniques. Students will learn all of the steps necessary to design, assemble and complete their mosaic. 1-3pm. ARTgarage, Green Bay. 448-6800.

27 | Reactive Glass — Using Silver Foil in Glass
Learn how to create subtle or strong reactions in glass and how to incorporate foil when designing a fused glass piece. 10am-1pm. Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, Neenah. 751-4658.

27 | Winter Survival
Participants will identify a survival situation and then demonstrate fire making skills, shelter building, water securement, safe ice travel, basic identification of weather-related injuries and more. Be prepared to spend two hours outdoors. 9am-12:30pm. Barkhausen Waterfowl Preserve, Suamico. 434-2824.

28 | Basket Making Workshop
Weave an 8-by-10 inch basket with handle. Instructor Jeni Mursau will lead the process using flat reed. Registration and payment due Feb. 19. 11:30am-4pm. Mosquito Hill Nature Center, New London. 779-6433.

28 | Silk-Painted Wall Hangings with Sandy Melroy
Create a framed art piece using spring flowers as a theme. 1-4pm. ARTgarage, Green Bay. 448-6800.

29 | Early Season Vegetable Gardening
Explore the plants that grow and can be harvested in early spring. 6-7:30pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

29 | Silk-Painted Scarves with Sandy Melroy
Create a hand-painted 11-by-60 inch silk scarf. 9am-1pm. ARTgarage, Green Bay. 448-6800.

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

2, 4, 5, 9, 11, 12, 16, 18, 19, 23, 25, 26 | Toddle Time
Story time for children ages 12-23 months with a caregiver. Tue. & Fri. 10:30am, Thur. 9:15am. Neenah Public Library. 886-6315.

2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25 | Puddle Jumpers
Early learning program intended for infants, toddlers and their caregivers featuring music, movement, fine art, science and storytelling. 9:30-10:15am. Building for Kids Children's Museum, Appleton. 734-3226.

2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25 | Shake, Rattle, Roll
An opportunity to get up and get moving. We'll enjoy music, movement, stories and art all in an interactive, hands-on environment. Ideal for toddlers, preschoolers and their caregivers, but everyone is encouraged to attend. 11-11:45am & 2-3pm. Building for Kids Children's Museum, Appleton. 734-3226.

2, 9, 16, 23 | Little Wigglers
Story time for children birth-23 months with a caregiver. 5pm. Neenah Public Library. 886-6315.

2, 9, 16, 23 | Our Time
Story time for children ages 3-5, caregivers welcome. 10am. Neenah Public Library. 886-6315.

2, 9, 16, 23 | Twilight Time
Story time for children ages 2-8 with a caregiver. 6:30pm. Neenah Public Library. 886-6315.

3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 28, 24, 25 | Lapsit
Story time for 2-year-olds and younger 3-year-olds with a caregiver. Neenah Public Library. 886-6315.

3, 10, 17, 24 | Baby Time
Story time for children birth-11 months with a caregiver. 9:15am. Neenah Public Library. 886-6315.

4 | Young Audiences: Peru
Join the Appleton Boy Choir and students from the Instituto de Educación Superior de Formación Artística Musica from the city of Cusco, Peru to explore the music and culture of Peru. 4:15-6pm. The Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

6, 7 | Japanese Cultural Celebration
Celebrate the Japanese culture through food, music, history and crafts. Sat. 11am-3pm, Sun. noon-3pm. Building for Kids Children's Museum, Appleton. 734-3226.

6 | Make and Take Valentines
We supply materials, examples and instructions; you create a valentine to share. 1pm. Neenah Public Library. 886-6315.

13 | Bilingual Story Time
Join us for stories in English and Spanish. 1:30pm. Building for Kids Children's Museum, Appleton. 734-3226.

☎ = Suitable for families with young children. 📞 = Reservation required.

"Lost in the Woods," watercolor on paper, by Joye Moon



Joye Moon watercolors bring nature's brilliance to the Paine

If you perhaps find yourself with a case of cabin fever in February, the Paine Art Center and Gardens has a way to brighten your mood! Watercolorist Joye Moon's jubilant paintings of landscapes, florals and nature are certain to kindle thoughts of spring with vivid colors, unique abstractions

and inspirations from her travels. Moon is a nationally recognized and award-winning watercolorist who also is a signature member of the National Watercolor Society.

"It is not the first time the Paine has highlighted a local artist with a solo exhibition in the Main Gallery, but it is in recent years," says exhibition curator Laura Fiser. "We have highlighted a few regional Wisconsin artists in the past several years, but no one with such longstanding ties to Oshkosh and the region."

Joye Moon's exuberant paintings express an emotional connection to nature, and she values the ability to share the creative experience through workshops and travel opportunities. She explains in her artist statement, "As an artist, I've always felt a responsibility to share. Through exhibiting my work as well as teaching, I'm able to share lessons I have learned with others who are eager to experience the creative challenge." Fiser says that the Paine anticipates enthusiastic attendance from Oshkosh and the Fox Valley, especially because of Moon's connection to the area. She also adds, "Joye has an extensive following and outstanding reputation as both an accomplished artist and teacher."

Additionally, in March the Paine will host a number of floral designers who will create fresh, beautiful arrangements inspired by Moon's paintings. A fantastic springtime complement to the exhibition, this popular bi-annual regional floral design show known as "Rooms of Blooms" will transform the Paine into a cheerful springtime haven — a perfect escape from the cold! The first major exhibition of 2016 at the Paine opens in the Main Gallery on Feb. 6 and will be on display through April 17. For more information, visit thepaine.org.

— By Kate Mothes

13 | Family Workshop: Feathered Friends

Explore the garden to identify some common winter birds and make a few special valentine bird treats to take home. All materials included. 10-11:30am. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

14 | Miles of Smiles, sponsored by Delta Dental

Free entrance to the museum. Come explore how a healthy mouth is part of a healthy body! Learn ways to get moving, eat healthy and take care of your teeth. Noon-5pm. The Building for Kids, Appleton. 734-3226.

16, 23 | Cha-Cha Huli

Inspired by the American glass sculptor Dale Chihuly, participants ages 7-11 will create abstract sculptures using translucent acrylic paint and soft aluminum wire. 4:30pm. Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

16 | Children's Story and Activity Time

Hear "Life is a Dream," written by Marc Chagall and Britta Hoepler, in the gallery, then make an awesome art project. 10:30-11:30am. Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

17, 19, 20 | Storybook Stars: Little Critter

Mercer Mayer's Little Critter. Listen to stories, meet the characters and create a craft. Wed. & Fri. 10:30am & 1:30pm, Sat. 1:30pm. Building for Kids Children's Museum, Appleton. 734-3226.

19 | Garden Sprouts: Hot Chocolate Fun

Come celebrate chocolate and other snacks that come from plants! We will read a delicious story and make a few chocolate treats to take home. 10-11:30am. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

19 | Library Campout

Get the library to yourselves during this after-hours program for families. Build a fort to curl up in and enjoy free reads and snacks. 6:30pm. Neenah Public Library. 886-6315.

20 | Spectrum Saturday

Free admission for children on the autism spectrum and their families between 9-10am, but stay as late as you like. Building for Kids Children's Museum, Appleton. 734-3226.

27 | Family Studio: Warhol Hand Prints

Create art as a family with this fun opportunity to engage in hands-on creative projects in the Fox Cities Building for the Arts studios! 10:30am-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.

SHOWCASE



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Photo credit: Melissa Alderton

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▶ Chocolate = Love

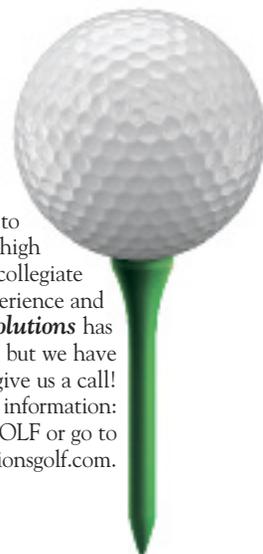
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A date with *books*

By Amy Hanson

Libraries offer opportunity to discuss variety of reads

Getting lost with an intriguing character, enveloped in a scene set through remarkable prose or simply filling your mind with the accounts of days gone by can be an inviting way to pass the time for many. These adventures and more await in a number of books and area libraries are capitalizing on the interest of readers who wish to discuss what they're reading.

"People always say people aren't reading, but I just don't see that," says Nicole Hardina-Wilhelm, assistant director at the Neenah Public Library.

Creating a new chapter

Since January 2006, the Monday Morning Book Klatch has been gathering on the fourth Monday every month at 10 a.m. in the Neenah Public Library's first floor Shattuck Community Room.

Reading everything from non-fiction to mystery, the group is led by Hardina-Wilhelm. While the group started small with its first title, "The Glass Castle," a memoir by Jeannette Walls, it has steadily grown into 15 to 20 regular participating members.

"It's been a really nice way to get to know people and talk about books," says Hardina-

Wilhelm. While the group is currently made up of moms and retired women, it is open to anyone. Children and grandchildren also are welcome to attend.

Hardina-Wilhelm tries to select titles for a year in advance with input from the group. A few slots are left open to accommodate the Fox Cities Reads book, along with other popular titles that may be released. A list of titles are available on neenahlibrary.org.

The Neenah Public Library also offers the Cookbook Book Club that meets once a month on the second Thursday from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the first floor story time room. Each month, a different topic is discussed, recipes are shared and samples have been known to be tasted, too.

The Downtown Book Club started in July 2007 as an opportunity for readers to gather in downtown Appleton at what used to be Harmony Café. Since the café closed, the group has continued at the Appleton Public Library.

"We were looking to start something that met here or close by," shares Elizabeth Eisen, adult programming librarian at the Appleton Public Library. "I think it works out really well because of people who work downtown and want to be part of that book club atmosphere."

Attendees are invited to bring a lunch and discuss books on the third Wednesday of each month from noon to 1 p.m. year round. The format flips between discussing a combination of

fiction and nonfiction books that everyone reads and picking "free-for-all" selections to share with the group.

Howard Porter, a volunteer who now leads the group, picks the reads six months in advance. The selections are posted on apl.org and also include the Fox Cities Reads book.

The group typically consists of seven to eight individuals, but has gone up to a dozen.

While the Appleton Public Library has had a number of book clubs over the years, another club that has continued is the Non-Fiction Book Discussions that started in July 2006. After a hiatus in 2007, the club restarted in March 2015 and is now led by Bob Schmall, a retired history lecturer. The group meets on the second Wednesday of each month, with the exception of summer, from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Joseph Bongers leads another area non-fiction club. After working at the Neenah Public Library where he had facilitated a book club, Bongers received requests to start a daytime non-fiction club at the Elisha D. Smith Public Library in Menasha after starting his new position. "I politely said I wasn't so sure that was a good idea," recalls the adult services supervisor. He later started the Tuesday Nonfiction Book Club which meets on the third Tuesday. It has grown from four to six individuals to a dozen or more. The group became large enough to move the group to a downstairs meeting room.

"People kept coming and it was wonderful," Bongers recalls. The group is probably now maxed out at its usual 16-17 members made up of men and women who are mostly retired; some have participated since the beginning.

The group tends to read history, biographies and some science. Bongers selects the titles for the group, but does so through feedback from a ballot which he gives to the group. The reads are scheduled six months at a time with lighter selections in the spring and summer, and heavier and lengthy material reserved for winter.

What's in a read?

Eisen attributes the interest in book clubs to the comradery and notes it's also therapeutic. In addition, it forces individuals to pick up books they wouldn't normally read and continue to educate themselves.

"It keeps your mind young," she says.

"We just try to read a variety out of our comfort zone," adds Hardina-Wilhelm. "I think people like to talk about what they're reading, but don't always know what people are reading."

Bongers notes that it also broadens one's horizons and understanding of the people and world around them, along with challenging feelings. In some cases, it may also provide an outlet to share an exchange of personal stories.

"It almost has this homework quality about it," he shares.

Bongers enjoys the courtesy of his group. In December 2010, starting with the title, "Spoken from the Heart" by Laura Bush, Bongers asked members to rate the selection on a scale of one to 10.

"I just did it as a tool to make sure everyone had the floor," he notes. Now, Bongers not only has a record of what the club has read, but their feelings about each book as well. He uses the information at the Reference Desk to help patrons who are seeking recommendations.

In addition to hosting library-run groups, area book clubs also can receive assistance from Fox Cities libraries. Library services can help patrons seeking meeting space, title recommendations and multiple copies with proper lead time.

Writing the future

Finding time to read can be challenging due to the demands of everyday life. For that very reason, Hardina-Wilhelm also is exploring non-traditional options for book clubs and discussion groups. She would like to create a discussion group through Facebook that would provide another outlet for readers in need of flexibility.



Bongers believes the formula of his group is working and hopes to keep it going not only for the elements of reading, but also because of the social aspect, which people can appreciate and benefit from. Many of the members have formed friendships through the club and didn't know each other previously, Bongers shares.

"It is one of the things I like best about my job and I like my job," he says. "To me, this is public library service at its best."

Eisen also is up for a new adventure when it comes to books and hopes to collaborate more with the community.

"I want people who are thinking about joining a book club to take the opportunity to explore it," she says. "That's the beauty of the public library, it's free! You get to experience it without paying."

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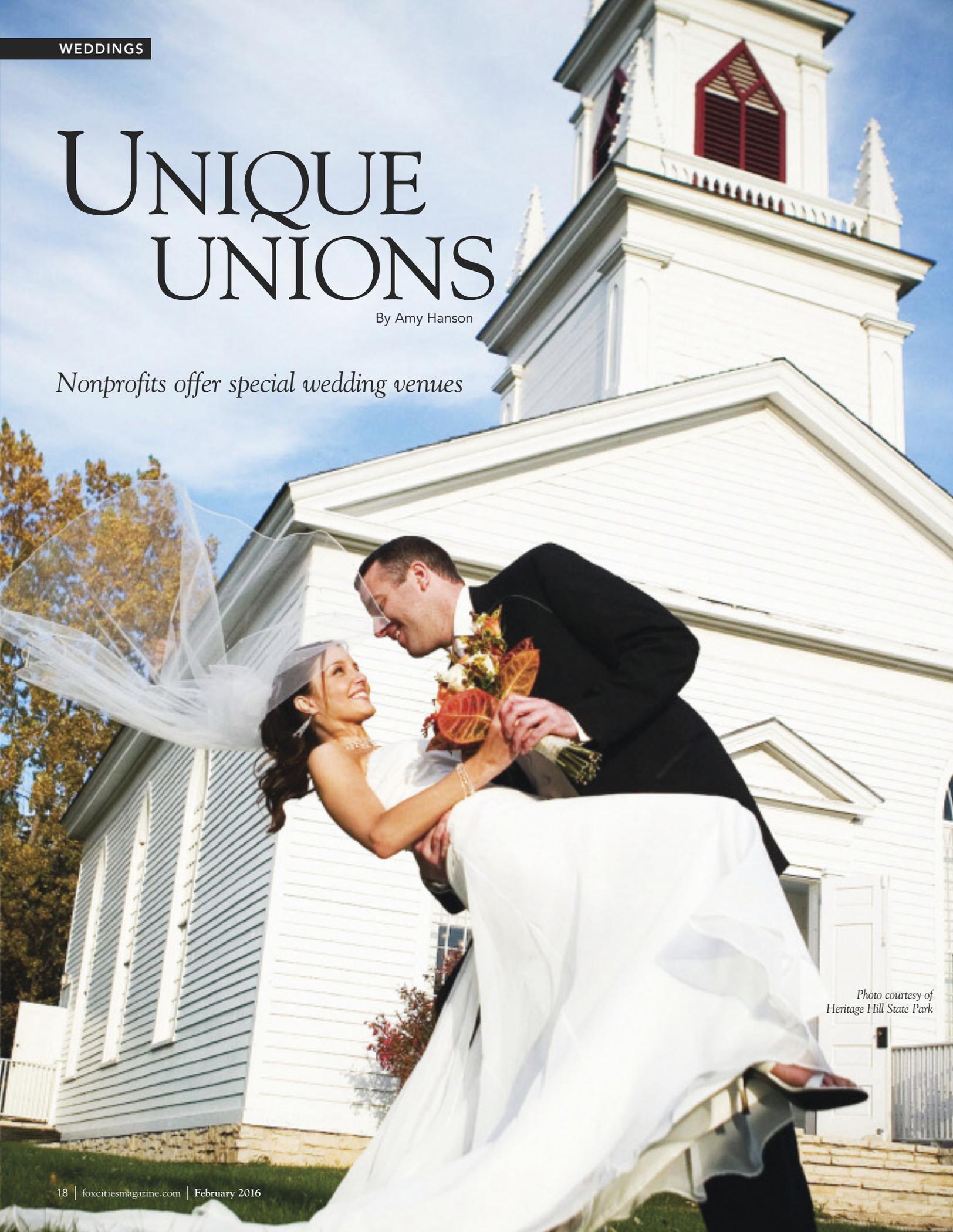
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UNIQUE UNIONS

By Amy Hanson

Nonprofits offer special wedding venues



*Photo courtesy of
Heritage Hill State Park*

Once the ring has been selected and the question of marriage has been popped, then comes the task of planning the big day. For many couples, the first place to start with their wedding is selecting a date, which goes hand in hand with finding a memorable venue.

"I think it's a little girl's dream to get married in the little, white chapel," says Kathleen Gussert, manager of corporate relations & private events for Heritage Hill State Historical Park.

Weddings today can go from the extravagant to the quaint, but for those wanting a site outside the norm, chapels and churches on the grounds of area nonprofits may just be a dream come true.

Boynton Chapel at Lawrence University's Bjorklunden

Tucked away in the woods on the grounds of Lawrence University's Bjorklunden in Baileys Harbor is Boynton Chapel.

"It's a charming, magical place in a beautiful setting," says Kim Eckstein, office coordinator.

The small, wooden chapel looks like



Photo courtesy of Sally Blood



Photo courtesy of EAA

something found in a fairy tale at first glance. Built in the late 12th century stave church style, it was handcrafted by Winifred and Donald Boynton. It was constructed between 1939-1947 on the grounds of what was once their summer residence. The chapel is home to 41 painted frescoes and fine carved wood furnishings. It is modeled after the Garmo stave church at Maihaugen in Lillehammer, Norway.

"Door County is a popular place to be and the venue is so unique. Bjorklunden is a 425-acre estate with 1.2 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline," Eckstein adds. "In addition to being simply a unique building, when one knows the history, it only makes it more charming."

Since 2010, the chapel has hosted 10 to 15 ceremonies in a year, but 14 are already on the books for this year, Eckstein notes. Weddings can be held year round in the chapel, but there is no heat in the building. The chapel is available for a two-hour block. As many as four ceremonies could be held in a day. There is no bathroom or facility for dressing.

"I like to give a cushion in between (ceremonies) so folks have plenty of time for hugs and pictures. We want them to feel like they're the only ones using the venue on their special day,"

Eckstein says.

Reservations for the chapel are often made through Lawrence's website so there are times that Eckstein never meets the couple in person, but there are some couples who choose to revisit the site of their nuptials.

"One couple comes back every year to visit the chapel and take pictures. Their visits now include their two children!" Eckstein shares.

EAA's Fergus Chapel

Behind the big red doors of Fergus Chapel on the grounds of the Experimental Aircraft Association is the makings of a quaint, old-time chapel nestled between the EAA Nature Center and Pioneer Airport near a quiet pond. The Oshkosh venue was built in the 1980s as the vision of EAA founder Paul Poberezny who sought a gathering place on the grounds, notes August Hoeltzel, events coordinator.

The nondenominational chapel began hosting weddings about seven or eight years ago as a revenue stream and to further EAA's mission. It seats up to 88 people in the pews and up to 100 people with additional seating. A working organ, sound system, eight aviation-themed stained glass

continued on Page 20

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windows and a working fireplace at the front of the church add to the atmosphere, along with a functioning bell.

“A lot of couples ring it as they walk out,” Hoeltzel shares.

A priest used to be onsite daily when regular services were offered. The chapel is now open for weddings, baptisms and memorials, in addition to services held during AirVenture.

“The majority of the couples that we do have coming through the doors have some ties to aviation,” Hoeltzel says.

Fergus Chapel is open from May to November with other times of the year for special circumstances. Up to two weddings can be held on any date. Weddings have not been held during AirVenture due to the busy nature of the event, but aviation opportunities are available for a couple’s big day. Brides and fathers have arrived by helicopter, for example. There’s also the Ford Tri-Motor.

“We do have the capability for having it be a really big wow factor,” says Hoeltzel. “At EAA, we want to make it a memorable experience for every single one of our guests.”

Bridal parties can get ready in the nearby building that was once the priest’s office. While there are no restroom facilities in that building, there are in the church. In addition to the chapel, the EAA grounds also provide other sites for weddings, and receptions also can be accommodated. While Hoeltzel has openings for 2016, she does have two ceremonies scheduled already for 2017 and suggests booking a minimum of six months out from your preferred date.

“Getting your wedding venue and reception site should be first on your list,” Hoeltzel advises.

Heritage Hill State Historical Park’s Moravian Church

The nondenominational Moravian Church at Heritage Hill State Historical Park features eight 15-foot tall windows that let in natural light and make for a quaint venue showcasing natural beauty. “It’s not all about the glitz and glamour,” says Kathleen Gussert, manager of corporate relations & private events. Gussert adds that she’s seeing couples who are looking to bring the wedding day back to family and the unity itself.

“I think it’s the intimacy, the uniqueness of the chapel,” says Gussert of the attraction to the church. “The simple beauty of the chapel is absolutely gorgeous.”

The Moravian Church was built in 1851 and is the oldest standing building in Green Bay. It was moved in pieces to the Heritage Hill grounds in the 1980s and has been hosting weddings ever since. It went through a complete restoration, Gussert says. The pews are original to the church.

The smaller, more intimate venue seats 150 and includes a pipe organ and baby grand piano. Up to two weddings are held a day. It is not uncommon for the church to host 60-70 weddings annually.

“People enjoy and appreciate the historical setting,” says Gussert. “It’s your own personal space. ... A lot of the feedback I hear is the love of history.”

Receptions can be hosted on the grounds and a bridal room is available. Guests also are welcome to wander the park as long as it’s open. Some couples have chosen to incorporate horse and carriage rides, too. The scenery and seasonal backdrops of changing leaves lend themselves to amazing photo opportunities, Gussert shares.

Niles Church at Pinecrest Historical Village

Making a moment in history is what draws couples to Pinecrest Historical Village.

“A lot of people comment that people have been getting married in that church for 150 years and now they can,” says Amy Meyer, executive director, of the nondenominational Niles Church.



Photo courtesy of Oh! Photography

The church was moved to the grounds of Pinecrest in the late 1970s. The first wedding was held there in 1980. It has attracted couples that have a connection to Manitowoc County through family or those who recall touring the village during a school field trip. A few re-enactor weddings also have taken place at Pinecrest.

The organ within the church was moved from a silent movie theater that was once in Shoto and the pews came from three other churches. Niles Church seats 80 people. Weddings can be held there any day or time unless there is an event planned. Only one ceremony per day is held at Pinecrest.

According to Meyer, couples enjoy the peace and tranquility of the site, along with the historical context. They also like to ring in their new beginning.

“The bell is often something people comment on. They can ring the bell before, during or after the ceremony,” Meyer says. While the bell is not original to Niles Church, it did come from another church.

In addition to the church, couples also have chosen to get married in the Nennig Dance Pavilion and outdoors at Pinecrest. The historical village also offers the option for beer in the tavern and exploring the grounds. Pinecrest hosted 13 weddings last year, half of which were in the church.

“What I really enjoy from the weddings is when the bride and groom come back to us with a



Photo courtesy of Heritage Hill State Park

photo or memento from their big day,” Meyer shares, adding that a scrapbook with photos is kept in the Welcome Center.

Old St. Joseph’s Church at St. Norbert College

Despite abiding by the guidelines of the Diocese of Green Bay, Old St. Joseph’s Church isn’t your typical Catholic Church.

The majority of couples who decide to hold their weddings at Old St. Joe’s have met on the St. Norbert College campus and want to get married at the church, which is at the heart of campus. The stained glass windows and cross outside the church also include hearts, says The Rev. James Neilson, administrator of the parish.

“Usually, the biggest thing I hear is it’s coming home,” shares Marie Marsh, administrative assistant and bookkeeper to the parish, noting there have been proposals both on campus and in the church itself. “That gives them a chance to really tie it all into their experience on campus.” Couples who are alumni or parishioners can be married at Old St. Joe’s.



Photo courtesy of Jerry Turba

The church has been around for more than 300 years, but underwent a remodel in the 1990s. The exposed brick and timbers that were sourced and cut locally also serve as links to De Pere’s history. Up to 440 people can fit in the church. Seating is arranged so half the congregation faces the other half.

“The orientation is to surround the couple,” Neilson explains. “There’s something about being enveloped by your loved ones on your special day. ... We certainly like to open the doors wide to those who like to celebrate the sacrament of marriage here.”

A memorable ceremony took place on Oct. 9, 2010 at the church when three of four of President Thomas Kunkel’s daughters — Helen, Claire and Katie — got married at Old St. Joe’s. The youngest daughter, Grace, served as maid of honor.

Couples looking for a more intimate space within



Photo courtesy of Jerry Turba

the church, also have the National Shrine of St. Joseph available to them. The area seats 25 people.

Seasonal changes on campus and taking photos along the Fox River also are a draw to the site. While the church itself doesn’t host receptions, the Bemis Conference Center is available on campus and the Pennings Room within the church is available for the bridal party to get ready in. An officiant, however, needs to be arranged by the couple. On average, the church hosts 35 weddings annually.



Photo courtesy of Oh! Photography

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Bathroom beauties

By Amy Hanson

Home builders create impact with new designs

From the ornate to the functional, bathrooms have come a long way since the days of outhouses. No longer are they just another room in the house, but rather one that can make a design impact in a tiny space or put a getaway retreat within your own home.

"It's all about the look" and what catches a person's eye, shares Mike Gibbons, owner of Wausau Homes of Appleton. He will be showcasing a home in Sherwood during the Home Builders Association of the Fox Cities 2016 Winter Parade of Homes.

Bathrooms are just one of the many home features on display during the parade, which

available at foxcitiesparadeofhomes.com.

Most homes feature two to two and a half bathrooms in new home constructions depending on the age range and number of people in the family, Gibbons says.

Nick Schmidt, president of N.J. Schmidt Construction Inc., uses a lot of natural stone in the homes he builds. Two of his spec homes will

be lighter in color in grey, white and blue hues, which complement chrome and stainless touches. Cultured stone products, sealants, grouts and comparable products that look like stone have made cleaning and maintenance easier as well.

POWDER ROOM PERFECTION

A small bathroom, often referred to as a "powder room," is no stranger to today's homes. Used for guests, it's often a little fancier and homebuyers tend to put a few extra dollars into the design. It's also the one without all the kids stuff, hair dryers, etc., Gibbons adds.

"The powder rooms we try to deck out a bit more," says Schmidt. "Powder rooms tend to be different colors than the rest of the house." Sometimes, however, they're simple, but definitely have style. Schmidt's West Coast design in the Neenah spec has tan walls with a grey stone that reaches from a trademark floating vanity design to the ceiling for a modern look. The top of the vanity is a thick-edge stone with matte finish and is complemented by a white bowl-style sink.

For additional storage, a powder room may be located near a laundry area, but a vanity is usually sufficient to store essentials and cleaning supplies. Powder rooms also tend to be in close proximity to entertaining spaces, but also near where people enter and exit the home, say area builders.

Wausau Homes of Appleton's parade entry is 3,061 square feet and features three and a half bathrooms. The powder room on the first floor features an ornate taupe/grey-colored vessel sink with gold leaf design from Kohler that is incorporated into a furniture-style, dark-colored vanity with a blue ice granite countertop. The brushed brass faucet with a



Photo courtesy of N.J. Schmidt Construction Inc. of another build they've done.

will run Feb. 13-14 and 18-21; remodels will be featured Feb. 19-21. The parade will run on weekend dates from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and weekday dates from 5-8 p.m. Ticket pricing information and a preview of the homes is

available at foxcitiesparadeofhomes.com.

will be included in the 2016 Winter Parade of Homes. "I'm a big fan of natural stone and I like to carry it through the house into the bathrooms," he says. He's seeing a lot of natural cuts that are

continued on Page 24

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taller spout will be part of the vanity, Gibbons explains.

Whether or not a home includes a powder room is dependent on the size of the home. They are usually found in plans that are 1,800 square feet and up.

MASTER CREATIONS

A large, corner whirlpool, private toilet, access to a walk-in closet, and a walk-in, tiled shower with six body sprays and a handheld shower head make up the Sherwood master bath Gibbons will display. The shower also features a corner bench and niche for shampoo with a frameless glass door. Two pocket doors — one leading into the bathroom and the other making the toilet area private — also are used in the design.

The porcelain tile used on the floor, tub deck and backsplash of the tub is virtually indestructible and easy to clean without worry of etching stone, says Gibbons. A his and hers furniture-style vanity with a cabinet in the middle for linens also rounds out the room.

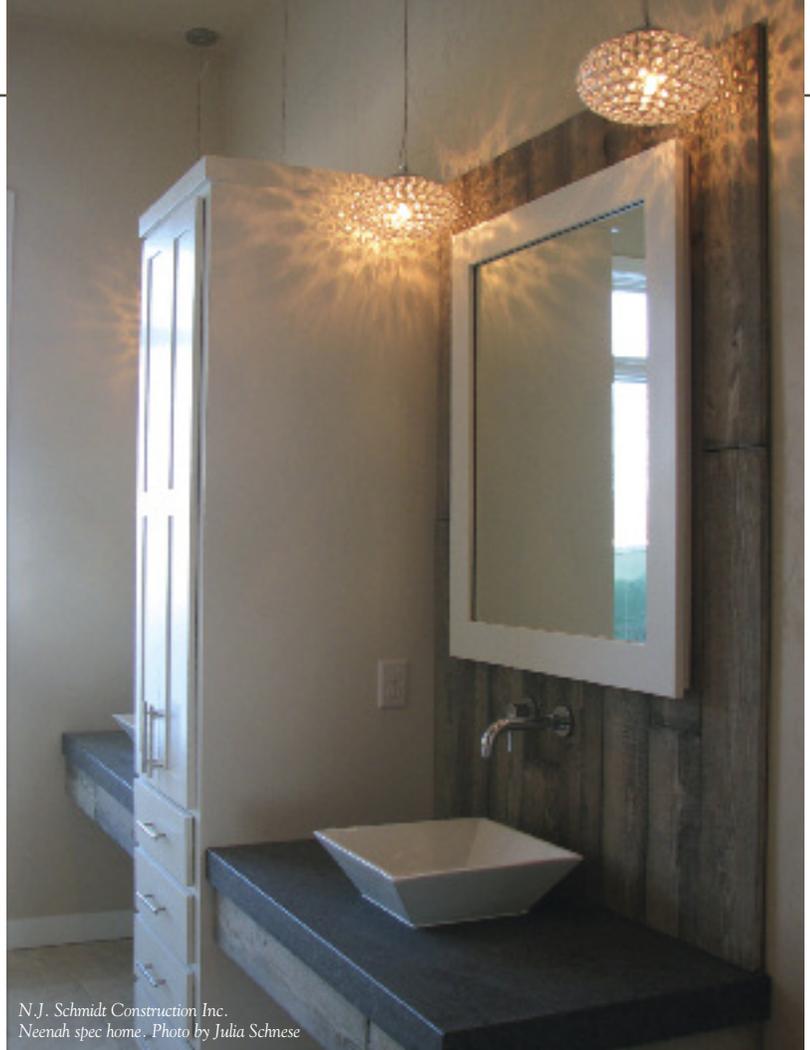
As one of four and a half bathrooms in Steffanie and Dan Salm's home, luxury wasn't spared in their master bathroom. Their two-story home in the Town of Center was built by Dave Dassow, general contractor/builder for Paradigm Construction, LLC.

Salm wanted extra touches like a chandelier, access to her walk-in closet and a slide out vanity drawer designed to hold and conceal her hairdryer.

The walk-in shower features glass mosaic and petrified wood design porcelain tiles, including an arched entry. Inside the shower is a bench in the back, two niches, two spray jets that can be controlled independently or together, and a slide bar, handheld spray. The master bath also includes a whirlpool tub with heater for relaxing soaks. The Salm's also can enjoy listening to their stereo system with surround sound.

"We had a small, small master bath," Salm shares referring to her previous home. "I wanted a spa that you could spend the whole day in."

Schmidt's Neenah design includes 11 1/2-foot high ceilings with



N.J. Schmidt Construction Inc.
Neenah spec home. Photo by Julia Schnese

transom windows. The bathroom provides access to a separate toilet area and walk-in closet. According to Schmidt, about 80 percent of closets are accessed through the bathroom due to convenience.

A trademark floating stone pedestal vanity with a white porcelain bowl sink can be found in the master bath and is complemented by a simple, chrome pipe-look faucet that pours out of the wall.

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"It gives it a really clean, neat look," says Schmidt. "Less is more in a way."

The bathroom is completed with a standalone oval tub and a large, walk-in shower with a natural travertine that is used in the space and on the bathroom floor. The shower includes a corner bench, built-in shelving, plate glass door and double shower head.

An LED backlit niche with glass shelving for item display also is part of the outside of the shower.

BEYOND A PAIL OF WATER

In Gibbons' design, the children who will use the Jack and Jill bathroom will each have their own vanity areas, which will act as an extension of their bedrooms. The spaces will lead into shared shower, toilet and linen areas. Three swinging doors close off access from the shared portions of the design. Square footage also is a consideration when it comes to this type of bathroom.



N.J. Schmidt Construction Inc.
Neenah spec home. Photo by Julia Schnese

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"It gives them a feel of their own bathroom, but it's not separate," Gibbons says. "Because it's more for the kids, it's very functional."

The Jack and Jill in Salm's home also includes two separate vanity areas and two swinging doors that lead into a shower/tub and toilet area. Both vanities include drop-in sinks with cage-style lighting above them and a grey metallic tile backsplash. Similar design features are included in Salm's son's bathroom for an industrial look.

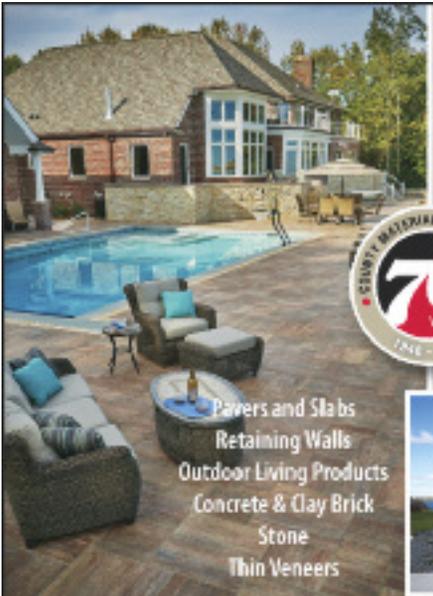
While the upstairs bathroom that Schmidt is showing is intended for family use, it is not a true Jack and Jill. He can, however, convert it to function as one. The Neenah design separates the vanity area from the toilet and shower space with the use of a pocket door in the story in a half home.

"I'm a big fan of separating the bathroom into two compartments if there are going to be kids or guests using it," he notes.

Whatever your bathroom preferences, the parade also serves as an opportunity for attendees to find builders, experience different floor plans, take in interior design ideas and socialize.

As Megan Schlimm, director of marketing and events for HBA Fox Cities says, the parade is an excellent opportunity to touch, feel and see how things would work in everyday life in one place and in person versus in a showroom or online. Being able to get a sense of room size and functionality can really help put things in perspective, she adds. Attendees also are able to ask questions of builder representatives.





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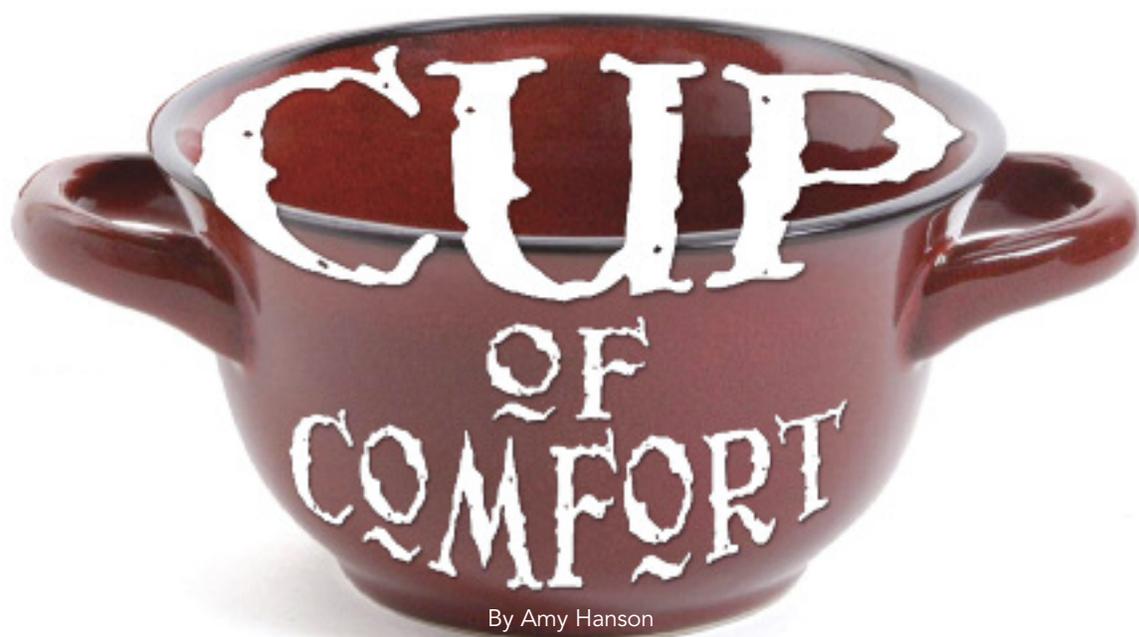
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By Amy Hanson

Restaurants ladle up unconventional flavors

As the weather turns colder, it's not uncommon for people to grab their favorite mugs and curl up with a spoonful of steamy soup. While chicken noodle is a time-honored mainstay, there are plenty of other recipes outside the norm that are ready to bowl you over at Fox Cities restaurants.

"Certainly in winter we sell a lot more soups," says Peter Kuenzi, chef and owner of Zuppas — Market, Café & Catering in Neenah. "More of a comfort, warming."

"You want a winter soup to taste like winter," adds Kevin Woods, executive chef at Village

Hearthstone in Hilbert. Soups are Woods' favorite foods because they can be elevated in flavor, are coupled with substance and can be light, yet rich and powerful, he shares.

He also enjoys highlighting "one star flavor," like a root vegetable, in his recipes. A recent offering was Roasted Cauliflower Soup garnished with a cured egg yolk and rye crouton. This month, turnips, carrots, rutabaga, cabbage and potato likely will appear in his concoctions.

Doing more with less pushes Woods to reinvent dishes, but he admits he'll "probably be making asparagus soup until I'm done."

"With the right touch and energy, you can coax really amazing things out of the things people don't expect," he notes.

Serving selections that you can't find everywhere has become the specialty of some Fox Cities eateries.

For Veda Stuck, cook and head baker at All Seasons Coffeehouse in Appleton, coming up with creations in a small kitchen with two burners is bit more challenging, but Harvest Chipotle Chili with sweet potatoes, apples, chipotle peppers and ground beef, along with Mexican Chicken Noodle have been a hit with customers. Everything, with the exception of the stock, is made by Stuck.

"I know the Mushroom Barley is one of the standouts. It's one of my favorites, too," she says. "I've heard people say that they haven't had that same flavor profile since their grandma made it." The combination of soy sauce and tomato paste creates a deeper flavor, says Stuck who spends

time on food blogs finding ideas. Often she will tweak soups while they're still in the pot based on customer feedback.

All Seasons has 10 to 12 rotating soup selections with two soups offered daily from about September to April. Typically, a soup will stay on the menu for a week in order to give customers time to come in for a taste, Stuck says.

"In this area there's a lot of German influence," says Donny Orozco. "People get tired of the same chicken noodle, chili and something with broccoli."

Since Orozco and his brother, Freddy, became owners of Paninoteca in July, a Dominican influence was added to the Appleton restaurant's adopted menu. More soups also have been incorporated, including additional gluten-free options. As head chef, Donny Orozco prides himself on being able to offer more choices to customers with health concerns who are searching for safe and affordable options.

"I put a lot of passion and creativity into creating those soups," he shares.

Paninoteca patrons will continue to find not only the unusual Dill Pickle Soup, but also Country Chicken, Caribbean, and Cream of Italian Sausage soups to name a few.

IL Angolo Restó-Bar in Appleton also is drawing customers in with their Garlic Soup.

"It's not a



Photo courtesy of All Seasons Coffeehouse





Photo courtesy of Zuppas – Market, Café & Catering

soup that you can find everywhere, but if you can find it, it's different," explains Conrado Lopez, manager and co-owner of IL Angolo. Whole garlic is cooked, peeled and added to a vegetable base, which also is made in house to create the soup. "We take every step to make it," Lopez says. "You cannot compare freshness to canned."



The Garlic Soup is available roughly every other week as a special, Lopez notes. The restaurant serves Tomato Basil daily with two to three other soups that rotate from a selection of roughly 20 options, including Lemon Orzo, Toscana, Potato Cream and Lobster Bisque.

Also serving Lobster Bisque, a signature soup that has been served since opening in 1999, is Zuppas. The restaurant receives live lobster twice a week. The lobster is boiled, shocked in cold water and the meat is taken out to create the soup, explains Kuenzi who adds the stock is made from the shells. Zuppas goes through about 3-4 gallons of the soup each day. The secret to the Lobster Bisque is that it's made from scratch with love and in small batches which are constantly being tasted, Kuenzi says. Zuppas also serves Tomato Basil daily, along with two other special soups that rotate.



Photo courtesy of Paninoteca

With a day's notice, Kuenzi is usually able to put a customer request on the menu, he says.

Paninoteca also has a soup club of sorts and makes a point of calling customers who they know enjoy certain soups, Orozzo shares.

All Seasons will text loyal patrons when their favorites are served as well. And, area restaurants try to post the day's soup lineup on Facebook and Twitter.

Any soup left from the day's service at Zuppas ends up in the freezer in quarts for take-home meals. According to Kuenzi, customers enjoy this option for easy dinners that pair nicely with a piece of crusty bread, roll or sandwich.

"It certainly is a healthy dinner, I think," Kuenzi says, adding that it's also less calories, filling and economical.

He likes to experiment with seasonal flavors and is influenced by his own cravings as well. A Pumpkin Tomato Bisque with toasted cumin recently appeared on the menu, along with Carrot Ginger, and Potato Kale and Kielbasa soups. For those who may be unsure of certain flavors, samples are always available at Zuppas.

"When it comes to soup, they need to be more open," says Lopez who encourages customers to discover what's included in the flavors of the soups served at IL Angolo. "Behind that soup is something else, it takes time."

continued on Page 28



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Stinky situation

Q. How do I get strong food smells off of my hands after cooking? Sometimes soap and water isn't enough.

— Hannah, Kaukauna



A. Hannah, this is a common question from many people that have shared this challenge. Many foods like onions, garlic, chives and fish have bold flavors and accompanying aromas that linger on the hands, and even the utensils like cutting boards and knives of those preparing these foods. For example, whenever I prepare gravlax (cured salmon) in my class, it takes a while for me to get the salmon smell off of my knife. Truly, many of today's hand soaps include active ingredients that do a pretty good job of reducing or eliminating these odors. When they don't get the job done, a typical solution involves some sort of an acid, specifically citrus. Lemon and orange juices have a way of cutting through these pungent lingering smells. This is why citrus is a common ingredient in many cleaning agents.



Other acids like tomato juice and vinegar also can help cut the smells from these aromatic nuisances. I've also heard of people using household items like toothpaste and mouthwash to help, and the result is their hands smell minty-fresh.

I hope you find these tips handy, Hanna!

► To read more from Chef Jeff and get his recipes, go to foxcitiesmagazine.com and click on columns.

Chef Jeff 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



Photo courtesy of Zuppas – Market, Café & Catering

Woods says he tries to "help them (customers) to see this really simple soup can be just as good as any other."

Customers also will find made-from-scratch mainstays like Minestrone, Chicken with Wild Rice, and Chicken Dumpling at Zuppas. The difference, however, is fresh vegetables — which come from the restaurant's garden and



Photo courtesy of IL Angelo Resto-Bar

surrounding farms when possible — and dumplings made in house.

Woods also believes in utilizing what's in season by letting "all the growers and farmers do the work for us." By going with simple and clean ingredients, Woods believes there is no mistaking quality.

He would like to branch off into consommés, a clear type of soup typically created from meat broths, and also experiment with well-executed infusions. Woods has been paying close attention to the work of Scandinavian chefs who utilize forest ingredients such as moss in their dishes.

"We definitely try to include what's in the area as much as possible," he says. "One of my goals is trying to paint a picture of what the local area is providing. ... I feel like the more we focus on what's around us, the more will come out of the woodwork."



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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.

Basil Café

1513 N. Richmond St., Appleton. 830-6741.

Proud winner of the 2015 Golden Fork Award for Best Asian Restaurant and Most Vegetarian Friendly, Basil Café continues to cook delicious, freshly made and authentic Southeast Asian cuisine in a modern, welcoming and warm atmosphere. Enjoy traditional Lao dishes served with warm sticky rice like the Sai Oua (Lao Sausage), authentic bowls of noodle soup like Phó and Kow Boon, or staple stir-fried noodles like Pad Kee Mao and Pad Thai. Open Tu–F, 11am–2pm & 4:30pm–9pm and Sa, 11am–9pm. Closed Su & M. www.facebook.com/basilcafe.

Café Debé

3925 Gateway Drive, Appleton. 702-4810.

The Fox Cities have come to love Debé Cheesecake and Catering! Located within the Fox Valley Hematology & Oncology building, we serve fresh bakery, homemade soups, deli sandwiches, specialty coffee and our famous artisan cheesecakes. We're proud to offer a 16-ounce, \$3 latte all day, everyday! Visit us for fast service and see our Facebook page for daily offerings. Open M–F from 6:30am until 4:30pm.

Carmella's: an Italian Bistro

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

Experience authentic Italian cuisine in a European-style 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. A warm, crisp baguette 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. 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 remodeled 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 plated brunch Sundays from 9am to 3pm. Open M–Sa at 11am, Su at 9am. houdiniescape.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 jalapenos? You'll feel like one of the family with our super-friendly 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 live music and featured beer events. Reserve our mezzanine for your next gathering. Join us for happy hour M–F, 3–6pm. 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. High-quality 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 our website and menu! Open 11am–3am daily. MuncheezPizzeria.com.

Sai Ram Indian Cuisine

253 W. Northland Ave., Appleton. 733-3003.

One of the finest authentic Indian restaurants in the Midwest and winner of seven FOX CITIES Magazine Golden Fork Awards for Best Indian Food. We offer a menu of options from vegan and vegetarian, to chicken, lamb, seafood and beef. All dishes are prepared fresh to suit your taste. Not a curry fan? No problem! Try our famous tandoori or biryani dishes in our newly remodeled, candlelit dining room. Lunch: M–Sa, 11am–2pm. Dinner: M–Th, 4:30–9pm; F & Sa, 4:30–9:30pm. SaiRamCuisine.com.

SAP

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

SAP offers breakfast and lunch classics any time of the day! We use locally sourced eggs from organic-fed 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, 8am–8pm. sapbrunch.com.

Stone Cellar Brewpub

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

Located in the Between the Locks, a 158-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.

Stuc's Pizza

110 N. Douglas St., Appleton. 735-9272.

1395 W. American Dr., Menasha. 725-2215.

With 12 FOX CITIES Magazine Golden Fork awards to our name, including Best gourmet pizza, you can't do better than Stuc's for great pizza in a casual, family friendly environment. Famous for our Chicago-style, deep-dish pies, we also make a mean New York-style hand-tossed, and a crispy thin crust. Sit back with a beer or glass of wine, and see why our pizza is “The Good Mood Food.” Or, dig into a calzone or one of our many pasta dishes. Our second location is now open on Hwy. CB and American Drive, right off of Hwys. 10-441 — we're spreading the good mood! stucs.net.

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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Area photographers share their vision of
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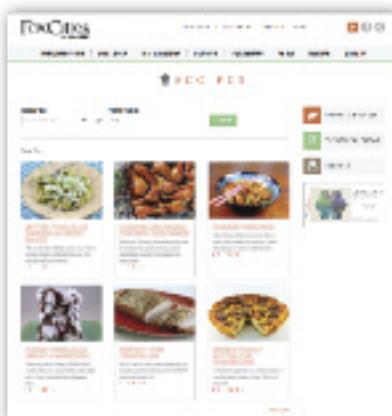


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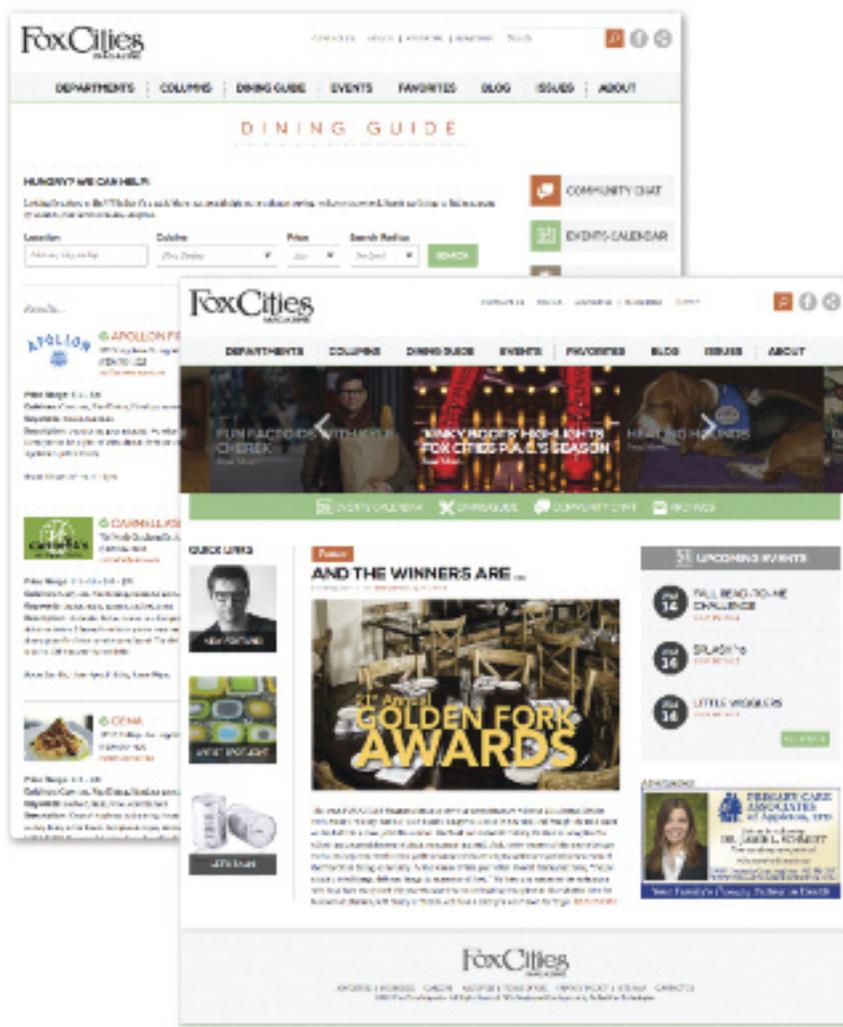


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