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MAGAZINE



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December 2016

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Celebrating the Place We Call Home.



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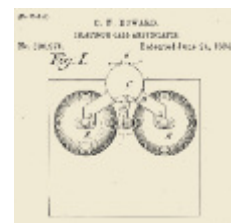


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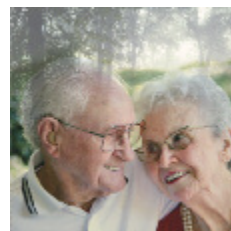
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FOX CITIES Magazine's online
event calendar is the premiere
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On the Cover
Illustrations by Katherine Meulemans

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT



Brown Tessellation



Name: Andrew Linskens
Residence: Green Bay
Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Whether through animation, performance pieces or paintings, artist Andrew Linskens takes the term “blending” to a whole new level. Linskens’ pieces appear chaotic at first glance, but soon take viewers on an expressionistic roller coaster ride they never want to end.

Linskens, a 37-year-old Green Bay resident, dove into art at a very young age.

“I was always known as the ‘art guy’ as a kid; I was always drawing and sketching,” he says. “Over a course of time, I continued to work on my pieces and thought to myself, ‘I guess I’m an artist.’ Now, I’ve been painting for over 20 years and consider myself a sort of anti-artist.”

After attending college at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Linskens pursued a career as a meteorologist. Though a brief career choice, it did help shape him as an artist and influence his work. “A lot of my pieces are influenced by pop culture, as well as technology and science.”

Now an animator and art director at NorthCoast Productions, Linskens’ main art form is painting, though he does dabble in sculpting as well. His paintings contain many different images, from human faces to animals to industrial tools. The result is a turbulent blend of disorder and order.

“I want people to look at my painting and be comfortable with the uncomfortable. They can look at the painting from 20 yards away and see something different than when they stand up close,” he says. “The idea is to see images within images within images. It’s like what a child sees in the clouds.”

This past October, Linskens performed a solo show at The ARTgarage in Green Bay – that’s right, performed. Linskens explains he was inspired by the link between hip-hop and graffiti in the 1980s that generated a new wave of art into the decade.

“I am very interested in blending music and painting,” he says. “I have a performance piece where I paint with accompanying music playing. It creates a whole new experience and a certain intimacy for the people watching.”

In the future, Linskens hopes to do more performance pieces with computerized sounds.

Visit andrewlinskens.com for more of Andrew’s artwork.

— By Nicole Witmer



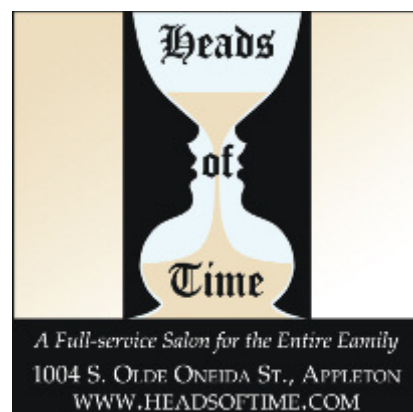
hidden IN PLAIN SIGHT

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



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NOVEMBER WINNER



David Dalke, Appleton

Answer: Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church,
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services and dedication of trained and knowledgeable physicians, nurses and rehabilitation professionals. Patients who receive post-acute care generally regain their strength and return to normal functioning more quickly compared to those who go directly home.

Long-term care is a continuum of medical and social services designed to support the needs of people living with chronic health problems that affect their ability to perform everyday activities. Long-term care services include traditional medical services, social services and housing.

Both Appleton and Neenah centers provide 24-hour Alzheimer's and dementia care in a separate and secure environment, complete with dining rooms, outdoor courtyards and other amenities. Residents benefit from a welcoming environment, surrounded by

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not to be missed

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

MUSIC

Holiday Concert featuring Steve March-Tormé December 10

For their 50th anniversary holiday concert, Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra will be joined by local legend Steve March-Tormé as they perform traditional holiday music. 7:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton.

The Ten Tenors: Home for the Holidays December 13

Join Australia's rock stars of the opera as they amaze and enthrall audiences with their unique selection of traditional and contemporary seasonal favorites. 7:30pm. Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, Green Bay. 456-2726.

Christmas at the Chapel December 17

Join newVoices to celebrate the true meaning of the season with



75 voices lifted in praise and joy, featuring your most-loved Christmas songs, audience sing-alongs, and a candle-lit finale. 2pm & 7:30pm. Lawrence Memorial Chapel, Appleton. 832-9700.



The Oak Ridge Boys December 19

The Oak Ridge Boys kick off this huge show with hits including "Elvira" and "Bobbie Sue" along with other favorites. After a short intermission, the stage is transformed into a Christmas wonderland. 7:30pm. Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, Green Bay. 456-2726.

Boogie & the Yo-Yoz: Christmas with You December 19

A popular regional show band, Boogie & the Yo-Yoz, takes its audience on a musical journey celebrating Christmas by performing new adaptations of traditional Christmas songs and a few brand-new Christmas songs penned by members of the group. 7:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

Lorie Line: A Merry Little Christmas 2016 Holiday Tour December 22

Simple but elegant, Lorie will be playing all of the favorite

traditional carols that make her show unique. She will be bringing along her cast of characters, including Santa, and a special featured vocalist. 7:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Grignon Mansion Christmas Tours December 2-4 & 9-11

Learn about 1840s Christmas traditions while taking a tour by candlelight. Times vary. The Charles A. Grignon Mansion, Kaukauna. 766-6106.

Generations Together for Movie Night December 7

Gather your favorite ladies and experience the holiday classic "It's a Wonderful Life" by candlelight, remastered in pristine black and white. 6pm. Sepia Chapel, Green Bay. 680-1614.



Menasha Historical Society Christmas Dinner & Program December 8

5pm. Riverwalk Hotel, Neenah. For further information email menashahistorical@yahoo.com.

Coffee Talk: Cracking a Cold Case December 8

Attempt to solve a 50-year-old murder case with author and historian Gavin Schmitt. 7pm. Kaukauna Coffee and Tea. 766-4038.



Holiday Hay Ride December 9

Take a ride through the beautifully decorated streets of the Menasha Island. Visit Mr. and Mrs. Claus, see reindeer and enjoy hot beverages and cookies! Eight rides with the last leaving at 8:40pm. Memorial Building, Menasha. 5-9pm. 967-3640.

Cocoa & Coloring Night December 12

Melt away holiday stress with an event designed for grownups. Supplies provided. 6pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6177.

Winter Wine Walk on Broadway December 16

Quaint wine tastings from local wineries in more than 20 Broadway businesses. 5-9pm. Broadway District, Green Bay. 437-2531.

Avenue of Ice Festival December 17

Enjoy ice sculptures along College Avenue, plus free family-friendly activities such as horse-drawn carriage rides, music and winter games. 10am-2:30pm. Houdini Plaza, Appleton.



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ART & PERFORMANCES

Purlieu

Opens December 2

Artist Ellis Jake Solie presents this solo exhibit including sculpture, paintings, photos and poetry. The works meditate on the small bits of magic that live in those unforgettable life moments. Feather and Bone Gallery, inside The Draw, Appleton. 427-5724.

The Nutcracker

December 9-11

Makaroff Youth Ballet presents, in its entirety, one of the season's most beloved traditions, Tchaikovsky's The Nutcracker. Dec. 9, 7pm. Dec. 10, 4pm. Dec. 11, 1pm. Stansbury Theatre at Lawrence University, Appleton. 257-8288.

The Sound of Music

December 13-18

The spirited, romantic and beloved musical story of Maria and the von Trapp family will once again thrill audiences with its Tony-



The Church Basement Ladies: Away in a Basement

December 20

As they plan the Sunday School Christmas program of 1959, the ladies in the church basement, in their witty, down-to-earth style, are creating their own memories from Christmases past and present. 7:30pm. Grand Opera House, Oshkosh. 424-2350.

Holidazed and Confused Revue

December 22

The Second City's Holidazed and Confused Revue continues to be the season's most time-honored, riotous send-up of Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and everything in between. Rated R. 7:30pm. Grand Opera House, Oshkosh. 424-2350.



Grammy- and Academy Award-winning Best Score. 13-16, 7:30pm. 17, 2pm & 7:30pm. 18, 1pm & 6:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

Art After Dark

December 15

This is not your garden-variety museum experience. With local actors as your guides, grab a craft beer or soda and explore the current exhibition of neon and plasma sculptures. Museum admission is free. 5-7pm. Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, Neenah. 751-4658.

Members' Biennial Exhibition

December 16-February 5

A juried exhibition featuring works by members of The Trout Museum of Art. The Littlest Members' Biennial Exhibition will feature work by museum members' children. Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

Wisup Comedy News Show

December 16

Comedians Tyler Sitar and Elijah Holbrook bring a stand-up comedy good time with news from around Wisconsin. Ages 21+. 10:30pm. The Backlot Comedy House, Oshkosh. 479-6023.



Information is subject to change, we recommend confirming dates and times with the organizer. To have your event considered for publication, submit online at foxcitiesmagazine.com.



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Out of the Darkroom

"Out of the Darkroom" is an exhibit which features photographic works by 10 Lawrence University students, ranging from tableau and portraiture to landscape and still-life photos. Lucy Bowman, a 2015 Lawrence alumna, helped the university secure a grant from The Reva and David Logan Foundation, which allowed students to fully utilize the darkroom facilities. Additional funds were donated by individuals in memory of Lawrence assistant professor Julie Lindemann; the materials needed to create these works were fully funded through generous donations. Students used a variety of photographic processes to create the images, which are interpretations of the self-portrait. The free exhibit is open through December 31 during museum hours in the Regional Artist Gallery on the third floor of the Fox Cities Building for the Arts. Visit troutmuseum.org for more information.



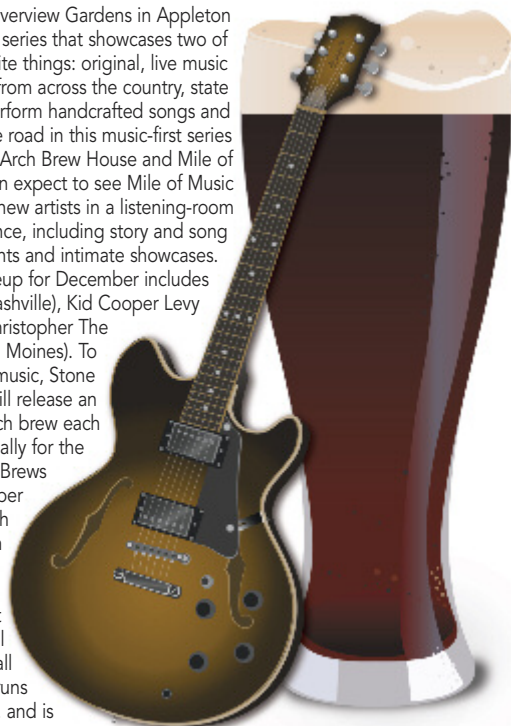
Rhythms & Brews

Rhythms & Brews at Riverview Gardens in Appleton is a new weekly music series that showcases two of the Fox Cities' favorite things: original, live music and craft beer. Artists from across the country, state and region will perform handcrafted songs and share stories from the road in this music-first series created by Stone Arch Brew House and Mile of Music. Attendees can expect to see Mile of Music alumni as well as new artists in a listening-room concert style experience, including story and song sessions, solo spotlights and intimate showcases.

The lineup for December includes Adrian+Meredith (Nashville), Kid Cooper Levy (New York) and Christopher The Conquered (Des Moines). To

accompany the free music, Stone Arch Brew House will release an exclusive small-batch brew each week made especially for the series. Rhythms & Brews began in November and will run each Wednesday through May, presenting 28 concerts in total.

Doors open at 4:30 p.m. with a full bar and special small plates menu. Music runs from 7:30-9 p.m. and is open to all ages. For more information and a musician lineup, visit mileofmusic.com.



NEW YEAR'S EVE FESTIVITIES

Countdown to 2017 at these events.



FNB FOX VALLEY FIRSTSTEVE

Celebrate the New Year with a live televised broadcast from downtown Menasha. Built on the premise of Dick Clark's Rockin' New Year's Eve, Menasha's city square is transformed into a town-wide party, complete with a ball drop and fireworks at midnight. Enjoy live music, street dancing and a sky lantern launch. December 31, 10pm. Curtis Reed Square, Menasha.



NEARLY NEW YEAR'S PARTY

The Neenah Public Library is hosting a youth's Nearly New Year's Party on December 30. All ages are welcome to celebrate the New Year early with music, dancing, crafts and more! This event is perfect for families who can't celebrate on New Year's Eve but still want to ring in 2017. The party starts at 10am. Neenah Public Library, Neenah.



LET ME BE FRANK PRODUCTIONS: BEST OF 2016

Let Me Be Frank Productions' annual New Year's Eve show is a night of five performances packed into one. NYE with Frank's: All the Best of 2016 will feature segments from "Who Killed Al/Alice Capone," "The Wake of Johnny Blood" and three other productions from the past year. December 31, 8:30pm. Meyer Theatre, Green Bay.



NOODLES AROUND THE WORLD

The Building for Kids Children's Museum hosts this family event, sponsored by Noodles & Company. It includes a noodle dish, such as steak stroganoff or Wisconsin mac & cheese, served each hour. A countdown and ball drop will occur every hour from 12-3pm, complete with dance parties and parades. December 31, 11am-4pm. The Building for Kids Children's Museum, Appleton.



MILE OF MUSIC NEW YEAR'S ENCORE EVE

This musical New Year's event will feature many artists from the Mile of Music lineup, including the return of LOLO and Wisconsin artists J-Council and Lex Allen. Enjoy special prize giveaways, a Trilliant Coffee & Chocolate lounge and champagne toasts! Ages 21+. December 31, 8pm. Radisson Paper Valley Hotel, Appleton.

—NW




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What Is Possible

HOLIDAY CRAFTING

Get crafty at these holiday-themed classes.



GLASS ORNAMENTS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

December 10, 10am–12pm
Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, Neenah.

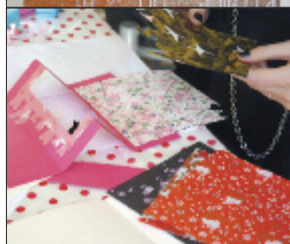
Make three holiday fused-glass ornaments for your tree, to hang in your window or give away as gifts to your friends and family. All levels welcome. Registration required.



BLOCK PRINT CARDS

December 17, 10:30am–1pm
The Trout Museum of Art, Appleton.

The works of famous printmaker Gwen Frostic will inspire you to cut, stamp and print your way to great cards for all occasions during this drop-in family studio.



HOLIDAY CRAFT

December 17, 1–2:30pm
Elisha D. Smith Public Library, Menasha.

This tutorial will give you the basics to create personal notes with paper and bring special mementos to life. Bring meaningful embellishments to personalize your card. Registration required.



Coffee 101

Coffee is an art form that comes with many choices. Single origin or blend? Dark roast or light? Drip or French press? Learn how to pour the perfect cup of coffee with the experts from Timshel Café at the Neenah Public Library on December 14. Become a connoisseur of the pour-over method as you learn about the characteristics of different coffee varieties and how to make the perfect cup. Samples of Timshel's made-from-scratch cookies and complimentary coffee will be provided, of course. The event runs from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Shattuck Community Room. No registration necessary. For more information, visit neenahlibrary.org.

— ACW



Storycatchers Live: Holiday Edition

The holiday season is filled with embarrassing and uncomfortable family get-togethers. Uncles who wear track pants to keep room for more turkey and aunts who always have that tiny smudge of lipstick on their teeth are what make the holidays memorable. These instances are exactly what "Storycatchers Live: Holiday Edition - Awkward Family Gatherings" is all about. A nonprofit organization of two years, the Storycatchers community has been performing since April of 2015. The live storytelling events feature members of the community sharing (mostly) true stories about their own experiences. Founder Tara Pohlkotte says the idea of awkward family stories came from her own blundering holiday experiences. "I was going through old family holiday pictures and awful Christmas card photos when it hit me: We have to do this for our next event," she says. Pohlkotte and the rest of the Storycatchers community emphasize the importance of sharing each other's experiences out loud. "By creating a space to listen and share our stories, we are essentially creating a community," she says. "It isn't until you tell the story out loud that you realize these are the traditions most special to your holidays." The event is free and open to the public, who are encouraged to dust off the ugly Christmas sweaters and listen with a sense of humor and a cupful of eggnog. Storycatchers Live: Holiday Edition is December 9 from 7-9 p.m. at The Refuge in Appleton. Can't make the event, but interested in storytelling? Keep an eye out for Storycatchers workshops and writing sessions by visiting the Storycatchers Live Facebook page.

—NW

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Slow Roll on the Worst Day of the Year

For some of us, frigid winter weather makes exercising a miserable chore. For others, it's completely non-existent. That is why The Recyclist Bicycle Company in Kaukauna is hosting its second annual Worst Day of the Year Slow Roll Bike Ride on December 21. Lora Glasel, co-owner of the shop, explains the interesting title of the event. "On December 22 of last year, it was 40 degrees outside. It was great weather for riding," she says. "Plus, it was the darkest day of the year and all of us were bored, so we came up with the ride." This 8- to 10-mile trek starts at Recyclist Bicycle Company and takes riders along the CE Trail, Konkapot Creek and ends in Little Chute. Glasel says the group usually stops at Seth's Coffee or Tanner's Bar and Grill for a quick break. The main reason for this ride is feeling good. "A lot of bikers, especially women, don't get out too much in the winter," Glasel explains. "This ride helps people feel good and healthy in the winter, and it's fun because the whole ride is in the dark." All levels are invited to join in on the biking event on December 21 from 6-8 p.m. Helmets and lights are required. The Recyclist Bicycle Company is adding a café to their store, so be sure to stay afterward for drinks and snacks. For more information, visit www.recyclist.com.

—NW



WINTER MARKETS

The dead of winter won't stop these fresh food markets.



OSHKOSH INDOOR/WINTER FARMERS MARKET

The Oshkosh Farmers Market offers over 30 vendors per week during the winter months. The market takes place every Saturday at Merrill Middle School from 9am-12:30pm and runs November to April. Each week supplies market-goers with live music and themed events, along with various healthy food choices.



DOWNTOWN APPLETON INDOOR FARM MARKET

Experience Appleton's large indoor market with up to 50 vendors selling each week. Along with the variety of fresh produce, fruits, and baked goods, this market also sells specialty crafts perfect for any home. The market runs every Saturday inside City Center Plaza from 9am-12:30pm from November to May. Each week offers special features, ensuring a new experience for each visit.



NEW LEAF WINTER FARMERS MARKET

The seventh annual New Leaf Winter Farmers Market kicks off its season on December 10. With a huge selection of over 80 vendors, this market provides meats and cheeses as well as canned goods and coffee. Also featured are handcrafted art pieces and local restaurants, which sets this market apart. This event runs Dec. 10, Jan. 14 & 21, Feb. 18 & 25, and Mar. 11, from 8am-12pm at the KI Convention Center in Green Bay.

—NW

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

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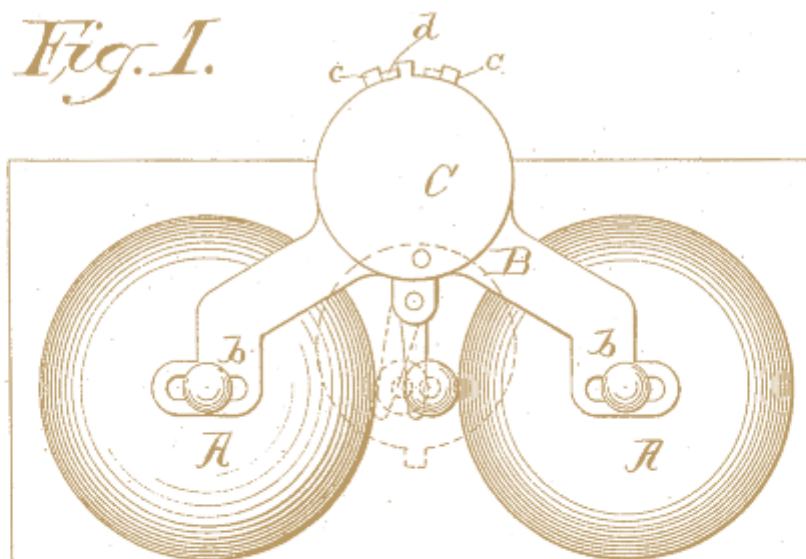
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Fig. 1.



Invented in the 920: PATENT EDITION

By Amelia Compton Wolff and Nicole Witmer

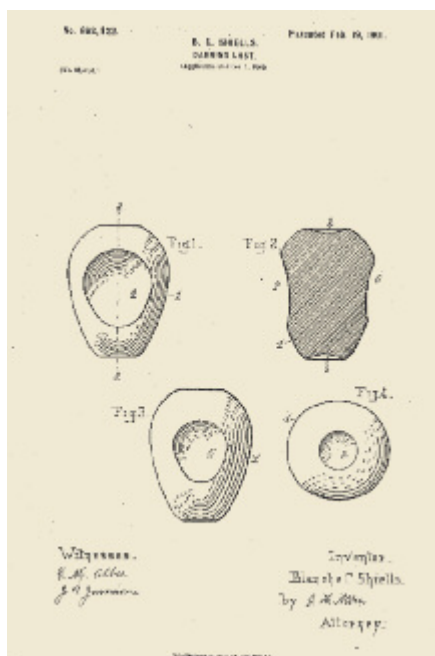
The Fox Cities have a long history of innovation. From medical advancements to manhole covers, here are a few groundbreaking inventions from locals who made the bold move to patent their big ideas.

Telephone technology

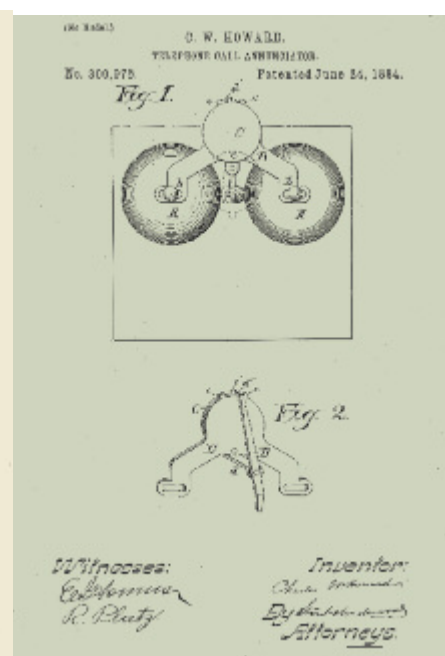
In 1884, Neenah resident Charles W. Howard, the grandfather of Hollywood legend Howard Hawks, patented a telephone call annunciator — that's the bell in a call box that would ring when a call is received. Howard's annunciator is an antique by today's standards, but the technology at the time was revolutionary. Howard's invention functioned sort of like a row of dominoes. According to the patent, when a call was made the ringing of the call bell would vibrate the lever. The vibrations cause its lug to strike the lug of a disk, throwing the latter over its center, falling into a downward position indicating that a call has been made.

New and improved darning last

Blanche C. Shiells of Neenah, a rare female inventor for her time, was issued a patent on February 19, 1901 for her updated darning last. A darning last is a hard, egg-shaped object that is placed into a stocking or sock to preserve its shape during the mending process. While the darning last itself already existed, Shiells' version included a new feature. She added concavities on each end and sides of the last that would facilitate the darning of different kinds of garments, not just socks, as well as a



Blanche C. Shiells' Darning Last



Charles W. Howard's Telephone Call Annunciator

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Eureka!

Big names in Fox Cities inventions:

Ernst Mahler

This Austrian chemist moved to Neenah in 1914 where he invented cellucotton, an absorbent cellulose-based cotton substitute in several Kimberly-Clark products like Kleenex and Kotex.

John Stevens

A miller and inventor who lived in Neenah, Stevens patented nearly 20 inventions over his career, including the roller mill in 1880 which revolutionized the flour milling process as we know it.

James P. Keating

Keating, a Neenah native, spent more than 50 years with the Neenah Foundry. In 1931, he patented the first non-rocking manhole cover. His designs have been copied extensively and have a cult following. Fans worldwide are encouraged to share pictures of their Neenah manhole cover sightings on the Neenah Foundry Manhole Covers Facebook page.



greater variety of hole sizes. But this was not Shiells' only invention. She also patented a (unglamorous, but useful) portable urinal bottle.

Envelope update

On August 23, 1904, William W. Ormsbee Jr. of Kaukauna was issued a patent for improvements to the envelope — didn't think it was possible, did you? Known at the time as a "payenvelope," Ormsbee added extra flaps to the side walls of the envelope. When lateral pressure is applied to the flaps, the envelope mouth will automatically open. It provided easier access when placing or retrieving items from the envelope.

Two-in-one crib

In 1920, Russel M. Firestone of Appleton patented a combination crib and dresser. The patent provided simple construction, convenient arrangement and occupied minimal space in a room, all desirable qualities for new parents. The invention looked like a modern-day crib with a dresser resting underneath the left side and drawers facing outward for easy access. All of the baby's clothes were kept in drawers below the crib, so parents didn't have to walk away from their infants at changing time.

Eye care advancements

Optivision Eye Care ophthalmologist Dr. Gerald P. Clarke of Appleton holds three patents in his field of eye and vision care. In 2011 and again in 2013, Dr. Clarke patented intraocular lenses that are implanted in the eye to mimic the natural near vision capabilities in younger patients. For patients who have cataracts removed, it provides smooth focusing from distance vision to near reading vision. In 2015, Dr. Clarke patented an iris protector to aid during cataract surgeries complicated by small pupils, which make visualization difficult during the surgery. The soft, flexible iris protector, referred to as the Clarke Horseshoe, is widely used to dilate and stabilize the pupil, providing a safer method of performing the surgery.

Team pride

Roloff Manufacturing Corporation in Kaukauna recently patented their navy boat anchors in two colors. President David Roloff says the company has been making three styles of anchors for many years, but wanted to appeal to different industries. An employee came up with the idea to offer anchors in two colors to represent sports teams or even businesses.

After a nearly two-year process, Roloff received his patent number in September. The company now offers vinyl-coated anchors in team themes, including green and gold, red and white and even orange and black for the Kaukauna Galloping Ghosts.



Edited aerial ladder

Pierce Manufacturing was recently issued a patent for its 107-foot, two-axle Ascendant aerial ladder that was engineered to provide firefighters with better performing trucks. A traditional aerial ladder attached to a fire truck requires three axles to support the weight of its parts. The two-axle ladder Pierce developed allows for a shorter truck, which is 20,000 pounds lighter and more maneuverable, especially in tight areas like cul-de-sacs. It is also advantageous to municipalities which can now purchase the trucks at a lower cost. Less weight and fewer components also mean less wear and tear, which lowers the cost of ownership over time on repairs.





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So much to plan, so little time ▶

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▼ Downtown for the Holidays!

Downtown Appleton is the perfect place when you are in the holiday spirit! Enjoy visits with Santa, the One Stop Elf Shop Kids Market and the Downtown Appleton Farm Market inside City Center every Saturday. The Avenue of Ice Festival & a handcrafted gift market returns on Dec. 17. Shop at the 60+ boutiques for unique gifts or celebrate at one of the 70+ pubs, clubs and restaurant! Downtown Appleton gift certificates can be redeemed at over 170 locations! For **Appleton Downtown Inc.** details and dates visit www.appletondowntown.org.



◀ Brrrr... it's cold outside!

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A Dickens Christmas ▶

Experience an authentic Victorian mansion aglow in gas lights and decorated with scenes from the beloved novel, "A Christmas Carol." **Hearthstone Historic House Museum's Victorian Christmas** runs through Jan. 15, 2017. Admission: \$10/adults; \$5/children under 17. Special musical programs and costumed guides are featured Friday evenings in December: \$12/adults; \$5/children. 625 W. Prospect Ave., Appleton. (920) 730-8204. Visit our website for information: HearthstoneMuseum.org



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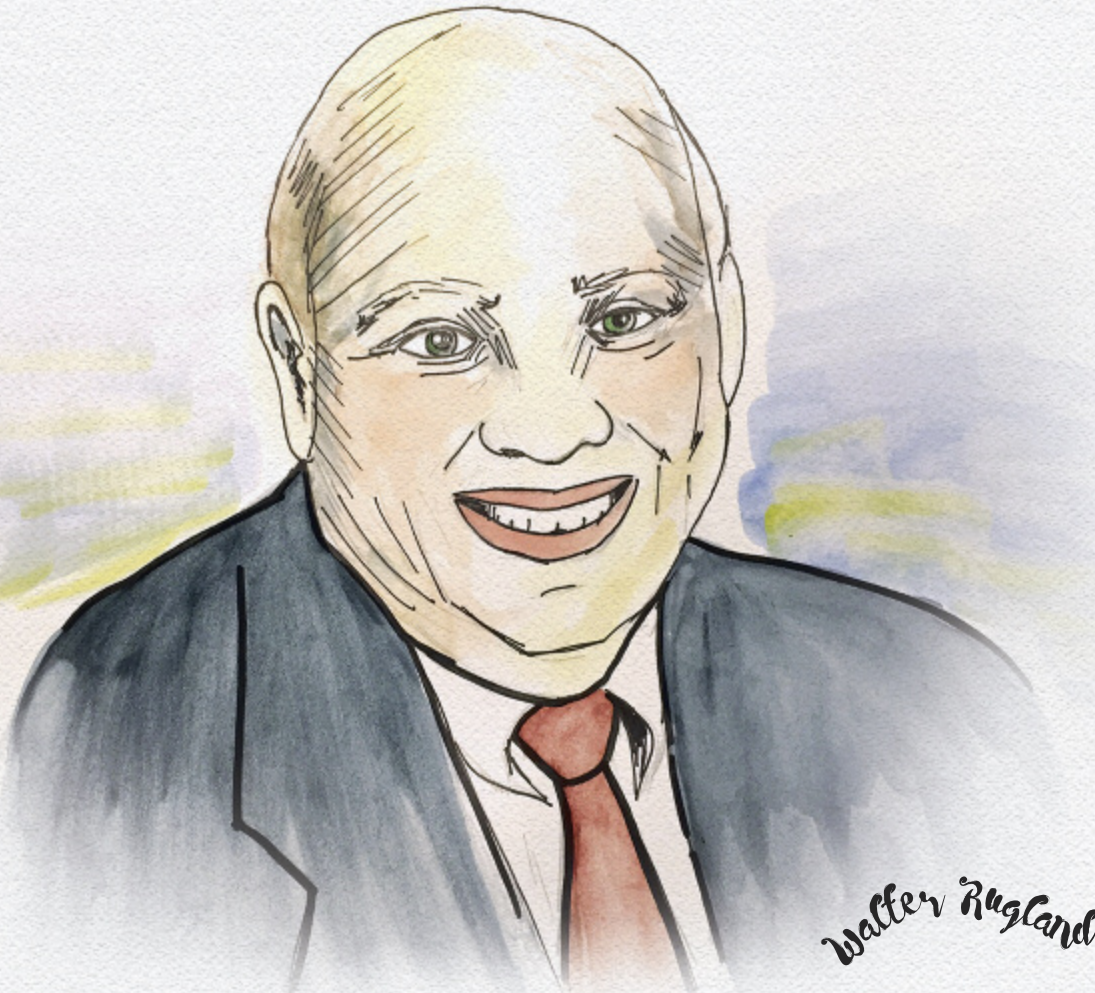
Felician Village
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felicianvillage.org

The Big Idea

Edited by Amelia Compton Wolff
Illustrations by Katherine Meulemans



Ideas make the world go round. Here, five visionaries share their big ideas for improving the Fox Cities.



THE BIG IDEA:

Establish a community vision statement that all Fox Cities public governing councils and boards, along with community-wide private service agencies, would embrace and abide by.

WHY: To preserve the quality of life we currently enjoy, while ensuring it continues to improve for future generations.

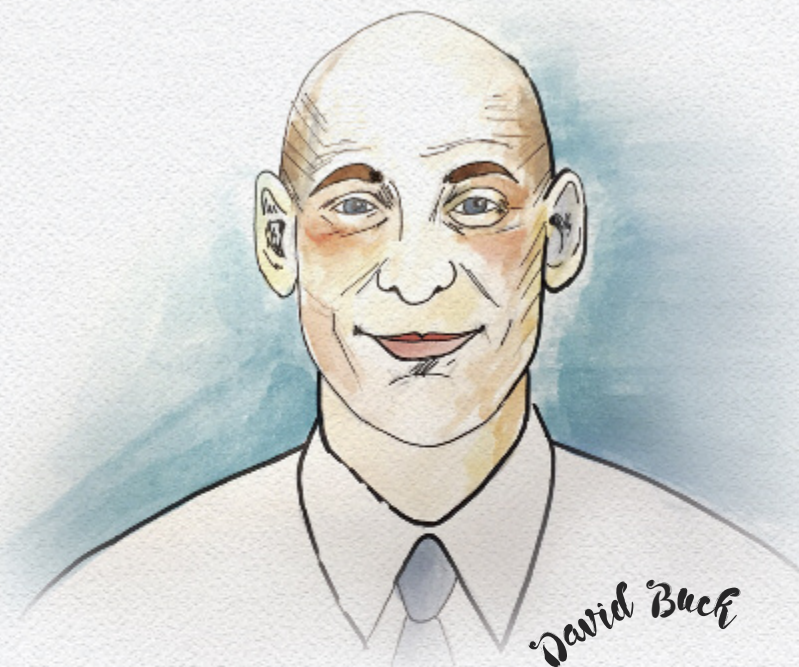
THE BRAINS:

Walter Rugland, Fox Cities Exhibition Center proponent. Current board chair of the ThedaCare Center for Healthcare Value. Past board chair of the ThedaCare Health System and the Community Foundation of the Fox Valley Region. Founding secretary/treasurer of the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center

HE SAYS: "My motivator is the Fox Cities communities' quality of life which we celebrate daily. We revel in the limelight of the national admiration and recognition we receive for how we live. We feel a quality of life in our spirit and know it fosters our commitment to schools, safety, sports and neighbors. This is a legacy that challenges our future. I believe a community vision is a missing component to sustaining and enhancing the quality around us. It requires embracing a fact of life that we are not

10-plus communities, each on its own path; rather that we are a community of 220,000 lives in a wide ranging network of neighbors and workplaces. It demands a realization that we are all in the future together. A vision statement enables a clear and consistent basis for major decision-making; answers the question, "Why is this initiative important?" and provides an unbridled base for plans and aspirations. It will be used to validate future strategies, actions and performance. It will lead us to invest in that which is worth doing, and reject biases, barriers and excuses that hold us back. Future generations are depending on us."

VISION STATEMENT: We are a great community and will always be in both character and spirit. We care for each other and place community before self. We integrate all aspects of life's needs and culture as essential to the quality of life. We pursue innovation, investment and effectiveness with the belief that best is not good enough. We measure success in terms of value added to the quality of life, in both efficiency and enhancement. We foster our humanity and strive to honor our role in the wider world with compassion, creativity, participation and understanding."



THE BIG IDEA:

Enhance and transform downtown Menasha into a central social district that is activated with a never-ending series of engaging activities and social events.

WHY: To improve the quality of life within the community; support retail activity, service business and entertainment venues; and create an energetic and dynamic experience for downtown residents, employees and visitors.

THE BRAINS:

David Buck, Community Development Director
for the City of Menasha

HE SAYS: "The concept of the central social district is the next great phase for Menasha's downtown redevelopment. I see the function of downtown Menasha evolving into an activated social epicenter where the downtown is the heart of the community – a place where people increasingly live and work, and come to gather and celebrate, to meet old friends and make new ones. This can happen by continuing Menasha's ongoing efforts to provide a dynamic mix of housing choices, employment opportunities, specialty shops, dining options and public and private entertainment venues, as well as to

THE BIG IDEA:

Create radical, no-strings-attached collaboration between cities through an artist exchange initiative.

WHY: Fox Cities artists will share our community's story with a broader audience, while visiting artists will bring new ideas and perspectives for local public art and culture, which stimulates economic growth.

THE BRAINS:

Adrienne Palm, Director of Pulse Young Professionals Network at the
Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce

SHE SAYS: "We have a lot to gain by sharing our cultural assets, whether in other Wisconsin communities, cities across the country or even internationally. Our community lacks the racial diversity of many other places and has limited financial resources for public art (which has been proven to stimulate economic growth). We have only scratched the surface when it comes to

invest in the power of people to come together. Let's envision the central city area active and vibrant 24/7. It's not hard to picture our historic downtown's sidewalks lined with local businesses; café tables crowded with people laughing and talking; street vendors and merchandise displays filled with unique and interesting products; food trucks producing delectable aromas and lines of hungry patrons; street performers and musicians capturing our attention; children playing at interactive hardscape amenities like giant chess boards, imagination playgrounds, or even winter ice rinks; and of course a plethora of selfie opportunities next to interesting street art like statues, fountains and murals. We can further enliven the downtown through the expansion, enhancement and promotion of regular public events, such as the Farm Fresh Farmers Market, Twisted Pistons Cruise-In, Hometown Halloween, Corny Community Walk and Menasha First Eve, as well as by developing new events. I envision downtown Menasha crowded with people participating in special events and activities like street sales, art-music-food festivals, concerts, performances, outdoor movie viewings, pep rallies, boating, kayaking, athletic events and similar public happenings. By activating the downtown as a central social district, we can go the next step in making the heart of Menasha a great place to live, work, stay and play."

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promoting our own local talent and cultural capital via musicians, artists, dancers, entrepreneurs, graphic designers, architects, urban developers and so on. Recent efforts to tap into this creative momentum and prioritize creative growth in our region have primed us to learn from other communities and in turn, tell our own unique story to a wider audience. We can tell that story by exporting our "cool" to La Crosse, Atlanta or even Moscow. If our local talent is supported and given new opportunities by the community, they will feel an enduring sense of loyalty and pride for this place — one that will be further cultivated through new experiences and a different level of achievement than they can accomplish in our market alone. The hope is that they will come home with fresh ideas and a broader perspective — ideas that can be recreated or developed locally. By that same token, importing the talent and culture of other places will bring more value than the permanent mural or temporary pop-up shop that initially drives the city-to-city exchange I'm proposing. It will also build a roster of unexpected advocates for the Fox Cities, much like Mile of Music has done. It will expose our children to new ideas, belief systems and cultures. It will hold a mirror up to our community and challenge us to be better, to keep pushing forward and not be afraid of change."



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Dr. Kimberly Barrett



THE BIG IDEA:

Race is a myth. It's time to debunk this myth through the creation of the Fox Cities Inclusion Network — an online and in-person network that would expand our community's "in crowd" to include people of all hues.

WHY: To create a more just, welcoming, and vibrant community in which each of us can reach our unique potential.

THE BRAINS:

Dr. Kimberly Barrett, Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion and Associate Dean of the Faculty at Lawrence University

SHE SAYS: "My big idea is that race is a myth. Our belief in this myth results in racism. Whether it plays out in old-fashioned overt ways such as name calling and segregation or, as is the case more often these days, in ways that are the result of implicit or unconscious bias, it influences our decisions every day with terrible social and economic consequences. This has created a type of colorism in which people identified as white are the "in" group while people of darker hues are the "out" group. I believe it is time to debunk this myth and

THE BIG IDEA:

Transform Wisconsin from its current national position as dead last for business startups through the creation of a more regionally and nationally engaged, active startup ecosystem.

WHY: A startup-friendly environment will ensure that corporate innovation, millennial talent, venture capital and our image as builders of businesses are retained here in Wisconsin and the region. Launch Wisconsin is a tangible entity, with staff who communicate with other startup regions around the world to bring relevant connections, ideas, learning and value to Wisconsin.

THE BRAINS:

John Ernst, President and Executive Director of Launch Wisconsin

HE SAYS: "By 2020, 46 percent of the workforce will be millennials. Today, 60 percent of millennials consider themselves entrepreneurs and 90 percent recognize entrepreneurship as a mentality. Our region has been conducting global business for decades and, in some cases, for over 100 years. We have the tools and resources to engage with the innovative class and cities in the startup world today. Unfortunately,

form a new Fox Cities IN group. The "IN" in this case stands for Inclusion Network. The Fox Cities Inclusion Network would exist both online and in our schools, businesses, faith communities and neighborhoods. It would be action oriented, educational and celebratory. As such, it would empower individuals to help debunk the myth of race by sharing strategies for expanding the IN crowd. These inclusion initiatives could involve inviting people who identify as different races to join your group or you to join theirs. This might include mixing up who you sit with in the school cafeteria, inviting a person of a different race to worship with us or inviting a colleague of a different race to a social event or lunch. The Network will also provide an opportunity to showcase successful acts of inclusion on social media and acknowledge those who make exceptional progress in promoting inclusion. Science is clear on the fact that there is only one species of human and that color is only skin-deep. People of all hues have the same range of intellectual potential, physical abilities and possibilities of acting in ways that harm or support others. Wouldn't it be great if our culture finally caught up with the science and if the Fox Cities were to lead the way?"

Wisconsin and the Midwest currently rank last for new business startups among the 50 states. It is not because we lack talent, brands, ideas or capital. It is because we need to change the way we are viewed by other communities and by ourselves. For rapid growth to occur, resources, talent and capital have to come together. Efforts to collaborate and build new businesses here in Northeast Wisconsin are fragmented. This fragmentation is also reflected in our startup community and the result leaves the area trailing behind others in the Midwest and the nation. Thriving startup ecosystems that build successful businesses have an active and dense community that creates systemic coalitions, networking, capital and innovation. Launch Wisconsin, the organization that pulls it all together, is an innovation and entrepreneur summit for millennials, young professionals, entrepreneurs, venture capitalists and corporate innovators. Most importantly, it's an entity that brings people together from across the nation. It is high-quality and low-drag networking for real people who are modeling what the area has to share with the world. When you see it all together, it's quite significant. The events that Launch Wisconsin produce showcase an environment, vibe and culture that innovators thrive in, while also serving as a magnet for high-value national "hot zones." An example is our StartupPITCH contest that will award \$100,000 to a 2017 winner. Nothing like that has been done in Wisconsin before."



John Ernst

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The Best Local Brews

By Amelia Compton Wolff
Photography by Dave Compton Wolff



VIXEN'S VANILLA CREAM ALE

Fox River Brewing Co.
Appleton and Oshkosh

Flavor profile: Fruity, with a sweet cookie-like nose

Perfect for: offering to guests at your Christmas party

This recently released golden strong ale offers the perfect amount of sweet and spice. Expect a strong Madagascar vanilla flavor balanced by the subtle spice of cinnamon, finished with the crispness of California orange peel. Spices were added to the kettle during the brewing process as well as in the aging tank for increased depth of flavor. Malt character is slight, while hop flavor and bitterness are close to absent.



STONE ARCH SCOTTISH STYLE ALE

Stone Arch Brewery, Appleton

Flavor profile: Rich caramel with a hint of smoke

Perfect for: sipping along with some live music

This easy-drinking amber beer is described as a gateway craft beer – it's the first beer brewers at Stone Arch recommend to newbie craft brew drinkers. Its sweet profile, with pronounced malts and faint hops, makes it a great choice for those dipping their toes into the craft beer pool for the first time. We recommend pairing it with a cheese flight and some live music on Tuesday night from 6–9 p.m. in the Stone Arch Tap Room.



DOG DAZE AMERICAN IPA

Bare Bones Brewery
Oshkosh

Flavor profile: Hoppy, with bold citrus notes

Perfect for: becoming your new go-to brew

The flagship beer at Bare Bones Brewery is this India Pale Ale that is all about the hops. Brewmaster RJ Nordlund says tame malts support the hops and allow them to truly shine, with Chinook and Centennial hops providing the bold citrus flavor. With an 8 percent ABV, it's a bit on the stronger side, so proceed with caution. Or don't, but we warned you. Bonus: the Bare Bones Brewery tap room is dog-friendly, so bring the fur family along on your visit.

Seven legit craft beers from Northeast Wisconsin

Wisconsin has long been hailed as the Land of Beer, and the Fox Cities craft beer scene supports that reputation – just take a look at these locally brewed beauties if you need proof.

Grab a designated driver (not it) and make a day of checking out the breweries in your own backyard. Cheers!



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Lion's Tail Brewing Company
Neenah

Flavor profile: Rich vanilla, roast coffee with cream

Perfect for: drinking with dessert

This velvety stout was the first release from Lion's Tail barrel-aged beer series. Two batches of their oatmeal stout were aged in barrels from distilleries along Kentucky's Bourbon Trail (hence the name). The stout aged in the barrels for about a year, developing a lively 8 percent ABV while borrowing flavors of charred oak, vanilla and caramel from the bourbon-soaked barrels.



WINDMILL WHEAT
Little Chute Brewing Co.
(inside Main Event Steakhouse)
Little Chute

Flavor profile: Medium bodied with hints of banana and clove

Perfect for: reminiscing about warm summer days

Little Chute's first original brew is this pale-in-color, light-in-hops traditional witbier — a nod to the town's Dutch heritage. The strong wheat presence provides a light crispness and a subtle sour twang. This easy-drinking, hazy beer is a great end-of-summer sipper, or just a mid-winter reminder that sunny days are ahead. Fans of Blue Moon Belgian White and Hoegaarden Original White Ale will definitely want to add this local version into their rotation.

Continued



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ASK CHEF JEFF

Q. What is the best way to sharpen my knives?

—Louis, Kaukauna

A. At one time, the best way to sharpen knives was to use a whetstone. A whetstone typically has three distinct stones of differing grit or coarseness, and by going from the coarsest to the finest with the appropriate amount of pressure at the correct angle in both directions, a beautifully sharp edge could be achieved. The use of a whetstone almost seems like a lost art, as most people have gone to the use of knife grinders. The advantage of a knife grinder is they are set up at a perfect angle every time. The disadvantage of a knife grinder is you must make nice smooth strokes, or you can put little scars in the edge of your knife. The other caution with using a knife grinder is to not allow the edge of your knife to get too

hot which could damage the steel. Just like a knife should never be put through a dishwasher because of the damage done by the intense heat, the same is true with a knife grinder. The consistent use of a steel while working with your knives is the best thing you can do to maintain the edge on your blade. The steel trues the edge of your blade and allows it to function at its best.

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

Chef Jeff Igel is Program Director of Culinary Outreach at Fox Valley Technical College, Appleton. "Chef Jeff" has spent his entire career in the restaurant and hospitality industry, serving in many capacities.



The Best Local Brews *cont.*



**RESOLUTION BARREL
AGED IMPERIAL PORTER**

Appleton Beer Factory

Flavor profile: Sweet tobacco, vanilla coffee and a little coconut

Perfect for: lounging by the fire, preferably in a snow-covered lodge somewhere

The Zusammen Project (Zusammen means "together" in German) is Appleton Beer Factory's new barrel-aging program which crafts beers with complex flavors using local ingredients. Its latest release is this chocolaty imperial porter. Brewer James Bardeen is heading the program which repurposes old bourbon and wine barrels for aging beer anywhere from 6-18 months. This porter has been aged in rye whiskey and bourbon barrels from a craft distillery in Illinois. The barrels lend flavors of vanilla and even slight coconut notes to the 9 percent ABV beer.



MUNICH HELLES

Courthouse Pub, Manitowoc

Flavor profile: Malty, with a touch of spice

Perfect for: a Saturday afternoon, after the yard work is done

A lighter styled Marzan with mild hops, this Munich Helles was one of the first beers brewed when Courthouse Pub began making beer 15 years ago. It's been on tap (almost always) ever since. Golden in color, it's a well-balanced beer that shouldn't be overlooked for its simplicity. The beer's pleasant flavor – not too hoppy or overly sweet – makes it a favorite of craft beer snobs and new beer lovers alike.

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WHERE TO DINE

Antojitos Mexicanos

204 E. College Ave., Appleton 380-0244
Our name translates to "Mexican cravings" and that is what you will find in our family owned Mexican restaurant. We serve street vendor-style food as well as fine dining caliber delicacies. All meals are homemade from family recipes used in our hometown of LaCañada, Guanajuato, Mexico. Be sure to try a Margarita Flight to sample four delicious varieties! Happy Hour is M-F, 3-6pm — featuring 2 for 1 margaritas on Monday & Wednesday; \$4 sangrias on Tuesday; \$4 mojitos on Thursday; and \$1 fish tacos on Friday! Open M-Th, 10:30am-9pm; F & Sa, 10:30am-10pm. Closed Sunday. Now taking reservations for holiday parties!

The Appleton Street Sports Bar & Grill

124 N. Appleton St., Appleton 731-8885
We are not your average sports bar — the food, drinks and warm atmosphere will remind you more of a gastropub. We serve appetizers, home-made soups, salads, sandwiches, gourmet burgers and pizza as well as salmon entrées, Friday fish fry and from-scratch desserts. Hosting a party? Book your event in our private room complete with an inviting fireplace. We are proud to be the official venue of Wisconsin Badgers Alumni! Open M, 3pm; Tu-F, 11am; Sa & Su, 10:45am. Happy hour 3-6pm every day plus Badgers and Packers game specials.

Basil Café

1513 N. Richmond St., Appleton 830-6741
Proud winner of the 2016 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-close and Sa, 11am-close. Closed Su & M. www.facebook.com/basilcafephoto.

Café Debé

3925 Gateway Drive, Appleton 702-4810
Fresh, Fast, Delicious. Located within the Fox Valley Hematology & Oncology building we're proud to offer a 16oz., \$3 latte all day, every day! Stop in for a healthy lunch—we feature made-from-scratch soups, fresh salads, sandwiches, specialty coffee, house-made bakery items and our famous artisan cheesecakes. In a hurry? Text your order to 917-382-8286 and we will have your order ready when you arrive. See our Facebook page for daily offerings. Open M-F from 7am until 4:30pm.

Carmella's: an Italian Bistro

716 N. Casaloma Dr., 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 2016 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.

Draft Gastropub

2639 S. Oneida St., Appleton 585-1618
Experience Appleton's newest spot for craft food and cocktails. Combining higher-end food with a casual bar setting, craft cocktails and beers are served alongside an innovative menu using fresh, locally-sourced ingredients.

Check out our holiday gift certificate special, free \$10 bonus card with the purchase of a \$50 gift certificate through December 31! Happy hour M-F, 4-6pm. Open M-Su at 11am. draftappleton.com.

Houdini's Escape Gastropub

1216 S. Oneida St., Appleton 574-2616
From the beautiful brick patio with three fire tables, 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.

IL Angelo Restò-Bar

201 N. Appleton St., Appleton 993-8811
To enjoy original gastronomy from France, Spain, Italy, Greece, Egypt and Morocco, IL Angelo is the ideal place to celebrate the Mediterranean feast, creating for you the most diverse and original dishes prepared with recipes of each region, specializing in high-grade cuts and the freshest catch of the day, prepared with the best selection of local herbs and spices, fresh produce from the local farmer's market, as well as imported ingredients and artisan products. M-Sa, 5-10pm. ilangolo-appleton.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 Golden Fork Award for Best Diner/Cafe for two years running! 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 warming up with one of our delicious homemade soups or chili? 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, offering spectacular water and wildlife viewing, Mr. Brews Taphouse features 48 tap craft beers and a selection 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 website and find us on Facebook for upcoming 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. Connect with us on Untappd for our current beer selections! Ask us about holiday gift card specials. mrbrewstaphouse.com.

Muncheez Pizzeria

600 W. College Ave., Appleton 749-1111
FOX CITIES Magazine Golden Fork Award winner for Best Pizza and Best Non-Chain Late-Night Dining in 2014, 2015 and 2016! Delicious pizzas, subs, salads, wings and more, including the best gluten-free crust around. Pizza lounge with free movies, Wi-Fi and computer. High-quality ingredients — including hand-chopped veggies and fresh Italian sausage. Large selection of Wisconsin beers and ciders. Free Cheezy-Breadsticks with any 14- or 16-inch pizza, free delivery, and more freebies, specials, and menu at www.MuncheezPizzeria.com. Open late 11am-3am 365 days!

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 the 2016 FOX CITIES Magazine Golden Fork Awards for Best Breakfast and Best Brunch. 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.

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.



THE PLACE WE CALL HOME

a look back

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