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MAGAZINE



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February 2017

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WEDDINGS



22 **Real Wedding: Nate & Laura**
An elegant hometown wedding to swoon over
Photography by Melissa Alderton Photography



Can we buy you lunch?

Take our reader survey by February 27 and be entered to win a \$50 gift card to Mr. Brews Taphouse in Appleton. Visit foxcitiesmagazine.com and click on the "Favorites" tab to participate.

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Rock Garden Live

New concert television show is the Fox Valley's very own MTV

By Amelia Compton Wolff



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Rustic & Refined

Farmhouse style reigns at the Winter Parade of Homes

By Rebecca Rehberger

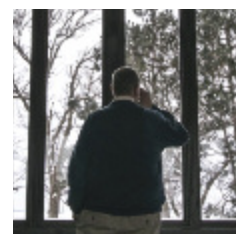


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Usonian style is exemplified in a Frank Lloyd Wright replica on Lake Winnebago

Photography by Adam Shea Photography



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The Year of the Veggie

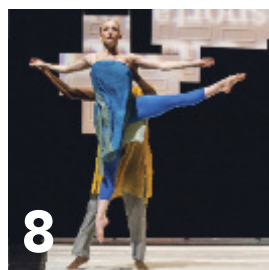
Vegetables are having a moment in 2017 and you're actually going to like it

By Amelia Compton Wolff



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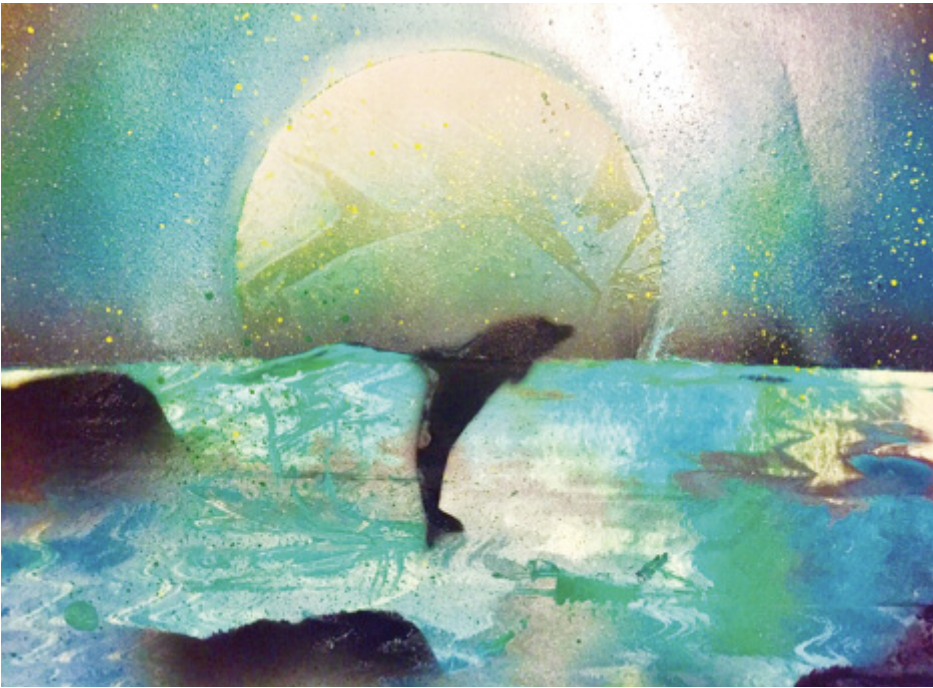
Looking for a romantic Valentine's Day dinner spot? FOX CITIES Magazine's searchable dining guide is here to help. Browse by location, type of cuisine or price point and find the perfect restaurant to impress your date.

PLUS...

- Events Listings and Exhibits
- Read our Blogs
- Downloadable Edition



ARTIST SPOTLIGHT



Jesse Emons, a sophomore at Fox Valley Lutheran High School in Appleton, creates art with unique tools, from his cell phone to a plastic bag.

He started early – Emons says, “I’ve been creating art since I was old enough to draw.” He draws, sketches and paints, but his favorite medium is digital art. He makes cartoons on his phone with an app called ProCreate. This particular app is famous for its many customizable brushes, including some with unexpected uses. “One of the most different tools is one I use for creating facial hair,” Emons says. “I can lower the texture on that brush and make a beard seem more realistic.”



Name: Jesse Emons
Residence: Menasha
Medium: Digital

Even though he uses a stylus to draw on his phone, Emons will often create a paper and pencil sketch first, and then upload a scan of the sketch into the app. He then uses the scan as a guide, drawing black and white outlines and, if he so chooses, adding texture and color.

Oftentimes, he bases his cartoons on amusing observations of movies and TV. “If I see something I like on TV, I’ll make a joke about it,” he says. At a Bucks game, Emons also saw and became interested in the work of David Garibaldi, a painter whose signature act is rapidly creating paintings of rock musicians.

Emons’s biggest source of inspiration and encouragement, however, is his mom Nadine Janik, an acrylic painter. As a young child, Emons found an old pencil sketch Janik made of a dog on a surfboard, and that inspired him to start creating art himself. In addition, she has saved many of his old notebooks and helped him put on several fundraisers.

Emons is currently expanding his ability into creating art with spray paint. In order to add shape and texture to the painting, he uses items around the house, like plastic bags and bowls. He also has a budding interest in tattoo art and Flash-style animation. He’s still settling on future plans, but says that “it’d be cool to work for Pixar or Dreamworks.”

Emons’s cartoons, sketches and paintings are on display through the month of February at the Elisha D. Smith Public Library in Menasha. Visitors can view the collection during the library’s regular hours.



—By Rebecca Rehberger

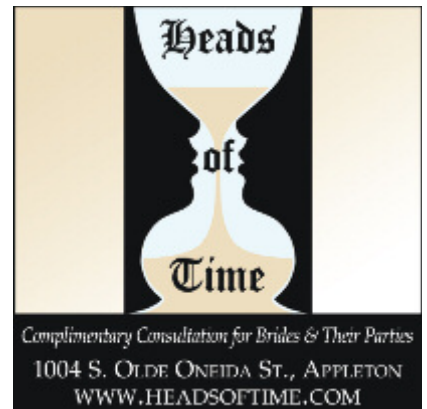
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Katie Pankratz, Waupaca

Answer: *The Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton*



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not to be missed

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

PLAYS & PERFORMANCES



Spectrum Dance Theater
Photo by Tino Tran

Spectrum Dance Theater February 10

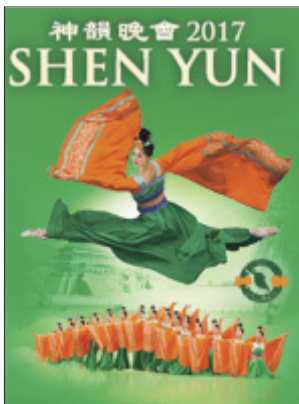
Explore American tradition through ambitious, artistic movement. Founded in 1982, Spectrum Dance Theater is a modern dance company of the Pacific Northwest. 7:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

Annie February 14

Leapin' lizards! The world's best-loved musical returns in time-honored form. Directed by Martin Charnin and choreographed by Liza Gennaro. 7:30pm. Weidner Center for the Arts, Green Bay. 494-3401.

Shen Yun 2017 World Tour February 14 & 15

Five thousand years of Chinese history and mythology will be on full display with Shen Yun, a leading classical Chinese dance and music company, who has enthralled audiences for over a decade with colorful costumes, animated backdrops and the athleticism of traditional Chinese dance. 7:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.



I and You February 23-25

In this play by Lauren Gunderson, two classmates work together on a seemingly mundane poetry assignment that unlocks a much deeper mystery which brings them together. 7pm. UW-Fox Valley Communication Arts Center, Menasha. 832-2646.

Cabaret February 28-March 5

Leave your troubles outside – life is beautiful at Cabaret, a Tony-winning musical about following your heart while the world loses its way. For mature audiences. 28-3, 7:30pm. 4, 2 & 7:30pm. 5, 1 & 6:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 733-3760.

Laughter on the 23rd Floor March 2-5

This play, set in the 1950s, follows a team of writers for a weekly comedy variety show who scramble to top each other's gags out of fear of being fired. 2-4, 7:30pm. 5, 2pm. Fredric March Theatre at UW-Oshkosh. 424-7042.



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.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Moonlight Ski and Snowshoe February 10

Enjoy the preserve's 1-mile snowshoe trail or 1.5-mile ski trail, illuminated by candles and moonlight. 5-8pm. Gordon Bubolz Nature Preserve, Appleton. 731-6041.

Warm Your Heart February 11

About 20 downtown Neenah businesses will be offering samples of warm food and treats. Ticket includes a Sunset Hill Stoneware mug. 11am-3pm. Downtown Neenah. 722-1920.

Death By Chocolate February 14

Spend Valentine's Day in downtown Appleton sampling chocolate delicacies prepared by area chefs. Tickets required. 4:30-8:30pm. College Avenue, Appleton. 954-9112.

13th Annual JDRF Celebrity Gala February 18

Join JDRF for an evening of food, cocktails and entertainment in support of their mission to cure, treat and prevent diabetes. 5:30-10:30pm. Radisson Paper Valley Hotel, Appleton. 997-0038.

An Evening of Poetry with Rita Mae Reese February 27

Poet Rita Mae Reese reads her work with a reception to follow. 7-8:30pm. Wriston Art Galleries at Lawrence University, Appleton. 832-6942.

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MUSIC

Young Audiences: Appleton Boychoir February 9

The Appleton Boychoir will be crooning the smooth, sweet sounds of jazz! Kids will make their own jazz collage out of bright, bold papers that pop! Whether it's realistic or abstract, it's sure to be fantastic! Free but reservations required. 4:15–6 pm The Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.



Lawrence University Symphonic Band

Jazz at the Trout: Appalachian Funk/Tango Nuevo February 16

Violinist and composer Randal Harrison Hoecherl performs with rhythm section members Mark Urness, winner of the prestigious International Society of Bassists' Jazz Competition, and Dane Richeson, world-renowned percussionist and Blue Note recording artist. 7:30pm. The Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

Cabaret on the Ave February 18

Talented newVoices singers featured in solos, small groups and the whole ensemble in an evening of sophisticated entertainment and downright campy humor. Proceeds benefit newVoices. 7:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 733-3760.

Franc D'Ambrosio: The Iron Man of the Mask February 24

Called "The Iron Man of the Mask," Franc was awarded the distinction as the "World's Longest Running Phantom." 7:30pm. The Grand Opera House, Oshkosh. 424-2350.

Lawrence University Jazz Series: Gerald Layton Trio February 24

In his trio with drummer Justin Brown and bassist Joe Sanders, Clayton blends diverse styles into a unique musical language. 8pm. Lawrence Memorial Chapel, Appleton. 832-6749.

LU Symphonic Band Concert March 4

The first concert by the Lawrence University Symphonic Band of winter term. 8pm. Lawrence Memorial Chapel, Appleton. 832-6749.



Franc D'Ambrosio

CLASSES & LECTURES



Second Saturdays: Milwaukee Mayhem with Matthew Prigge February 11

From murder and matchstick men, uncover the little-remembered and rarely told history of the underbelly of a Midwestern metropolis. Presented by Sheboygan County Historical Research Center. 9:30–11:30am. Plymouth Arts Center. 467-4667.

History of Cotton: Comfy and Calamitous February 10

Learn about the history of cotton, how it is processed and how we might reimagine its current usage. Register by Feb 13. St. Norbert College, De Pere. 6–8pm. 403-4075.

Layering and Excavating as Process February 22

Learn how to think in layers and create a few small works with richness and dimension. Presented by Marianna Russell, the library's February artist in residence. 5:30–8:30pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6189.

Create Your Own Succulent Garden February 23

Brian and Connie Schroeder of Schroeder's Flowers will instruct attendees in making a one-of-a-kind succulent garden. Register by Feb 16. 6–8pm. Green Bay Botanical Gardens. 490-9457.

Olive Oil 101 February 28

Curt Campbell of The Oilerie will discuss the basics of olive oils. Register by Feb 21. 6–8pm. Green Bay Botanical Gardens. 490-9457.



Vintage IN THE VALLEY Celebrity Wine Dinner

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Rock Garden Live

It's kind of like the Fox Valley's very own MTV. Rock Garden Studio owner Marc Golde launched a new concert television show, Rock Garden Live presented by Tundraland, in January.

Each one-hour episode features a Fox Valley musician or group filmed in front of a live studio audience during Rock Garden Studio's Thursday night concert series. The show is reminiscent of the concert series Austin City Limits, "but small and grungy,"



Golde says. The episodes also include brief interviews with the artists.

Musicians perform in the middle of the recording studio with audience members seated on all sides for an intimate, 360-degree view.

"Audiences never get to see what a drummer does. Here, you

are sitting right behind them," Golde says. "Musicians face each other, so you can really feel the energy."

Golde says the 26-episode series only features talent from Northeast Wisconsin, a reflection of the region's ongoing artistic renaissance. "There's something going on in the Fox Valley," he says. "There's something in the water, there's magic in the air."

Rock Garden Live presented by Tundraland airs Sunday nights at 10 p.m. on CW14. Learn more about Rock Garden at rockgardenstudio.com or visit Rock Garden Live on Facebook.

—ACW



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Smile On

On February 24, Appleton will host a choir like no other. The Vienna Boys' Choir, a carefully trained and balanced group of around 25 boys aged 10-14, will be performing a concert called "Smile" at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center. According to the Fox Cities P.A.C., this concert will have "joyful music that brings about this youthful choir's fun, celebratory style, which is sure to put a smile on your face." The choir has a wide-ranging repertoire, from traditional classical choral masterpieces to more modern compositions with broad appeal.

As one of the oldest and most well-known boys' choirs in the world, the Vienna Boys' Choir is truly a world-class act. With roots going back to many great composers – Mozart, Salieri, Bruckner, Haydn, and Schubert, to name a few – the Choir's reputation as one of the world's finest vocal ensembles goes back five centuries. The members of the choir themselves each perform around 80 concerts in a year; they are all gifted singers who came from around the world to audition for membership.

According to a publicist, the choir's performances are "universally characterized as joyful, virtuosic displays of musical brilliance by critics and audiences alike." For ticket information, visit www.foxcitiespac.com.

—RR

FIVE ART SHOWS

Catch these exhibits, either opening or closing this month, while they're hot.

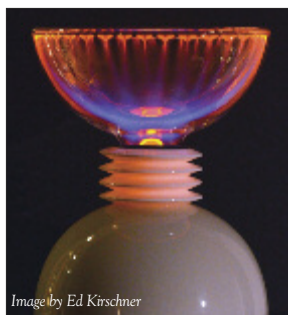


Image by Ed Kirschner

BENDING BRILLIANCE: NEON AND PLASMA SCULPTURE

Through February 19
This exhibition explores light as a medium. Featured artists provide wonder and whimsy in a mélange of styles, using neon lights, shadow and illumination as tools. Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, Neenah. 751-4658.



DRAWINGS BY MIA RUSSELL

Through February 28
Artist-in-residence Mia Russell will exhibit her drawings in the lower level exhibit space. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.



ART IN CIRCLES

February 3–25
Art is commonly seen from a rectangular or square frame. Artists who work using a circular form ask us to view the world differently – as an infinite rather than linear universe. This exhibit will focus on the literal and metaphorical themes of circles. ARTgarage, Green Bay. 448-6800.



THE WORLD OF JAN BRETT

February 4–May 14
Step into the stories of the admired children's author and illustrator with her original artwork. Oshkosh Public Museum. 236-5799.



PAINTINGS BY CRAIG BLIETZ

February 11–May 28
From his studio in Door County, Craig Blietz focuses on animals and rural imagery to create masterful paintings that celebrate the dignity and quiet beauty of agrarian life. Paine Art Center & Gardens, Oshkosh. 235-6903.

Cultural Cuisine 2017

Want to travel the world without leaving town? Then head to Fox Valley Technical College's annual Cultural Cuisine fundraiser on Sunday, February 26 and sample a wide variety of globally-inspired hors d'oeuvres. The event, which runs from 3–6 p.m. at FVTC's Appleton Campus, raises money for the college's scholarship endowment fund.

The theme of this year's event revolves around mountain ranges and will be represented by the cuisine of mountain regions such as the Alps, Andes and Appalachians. In addition to food and drink sampling, a silent auction will be held in the Jones Dairy Farm Culinary Theatre.

Chef Jeff Igel, chair of the FVTC Culinary Arts and Hospitality department, says the event is executed through the combined efforts of about 120 FVTC students and faculty, in conjunction with the Wisconsin Restaurant Association-Big Four Chapter, the Fox Valley Culinary Association and the Fox Cities Lodging & Hospitality Association.

"This is the 'finest hour' of the year for the culinary arts program," Igel says. "Your taste buds will be entertained with dozens of varieties of indigenous and eclectic specialties from around the globe."

Tickets can be purchased at the door or ahead of time at the FVTC branch of Community First Credit Union or at www.fvtc.edu/culturalcuisine.

—ACW



Pistols and Petticoats

In 1910, Alice Wells took the oath to join the all-male Los Angeles Police Department. She wasn't the first or only policewoman, but she became a champion for women in policing which was long considered a male domain. Yet within the covers of popular fiction, women not only wrote mysteries, but also created female characters who solved crimes.

On February 23, Erika Janik, author of "Pistols and Petticoats: 175 Years of Lady Detectives in Fact and Fiction," will share the stories of women like Wells who blazed the trail in law enforcement in real life as well as female characters who did the same in fiction novels. The presentation is part of the

Neville Public Museum of Brown County's Dinner Program series.

Janik's book highlights several fictional stars like Kinsey Millhone, V.I. Warshawski, Kay Scarpetta, Mary Russell and Temperance Brennan and shares how they grew from roots

put down by characters nearly unheard of such as Eleanor Vane, Amelia Butterworth and Maud Silver.

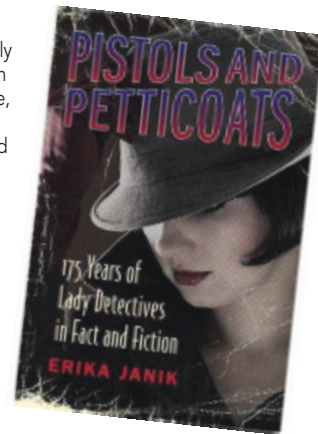
"Her presentation today is relevant as she highlights the struggles that women faced just to become police officers and how society's way of thinking also had to change in order for women to be included in the process of solving crime," says Beth Lemke, executive director of the Neville Public Museum in Green Bay.

The evening begins with dinner, catered by Renard's, at 5 p.m. in the Neville classrooms followed by the program at 6 p.m. in the theater. Register by calling 448-7874 or visiting www.nevillepublicmuseum.org.

—ACW



Erika Janik



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Stacks & Steeples

Stacks & Steeples, a new original music series, is rooted in Green Bay's history of blue collar work ethic and "drive to create something when we want it," says Brian Simons, lead instigator of Stacks & Steeples and Brown County Library executive director.

"If you look at Green Bay's skyline, it's smokestacks and church steeples," Simons says. "You see our present and even more so, our history, in these edifices."

Simons remembers growing up in Green Bay during the thriving punk and indie music scene of the 1980s and 90s. He hopes this new music series, featuring local and regional acts, will help revive that scene which is

already growing through festivals like Mile of Music and progressive venues like Meyer Theatre and The Lyric Room.

"Stacks & Steeples is a music series that builds off of what these folks continue to do," Simons says. "As a kid, I saw touring bands live and it inspired me to learn an instrument, start bands and go on tour. It was inspiring and a real confidence booster to see musicians in my small city."

Performances will be held at the Brown County Central Library, free of charge, on Sundays from 1-3pm February 12 through March 26.

Simons says the venue reflects the evolution of libraries as places to experience culture, as well as the intrinsic connection between music and the art of the written word.

"When you can experience live, original music, the message isn't diluted. The story is told from the original source," he says. "Each note, beat and word are the characters, setting and theme of the story being told."

For more information and an artist lineup, visit www.stacksandsteeples.org.

—ACW



Spill your guts and win!

From time to time, we like to check in with our readers to see how we're doing and how we can improve. Take our 2-minute (we promise) reader survey by February 27 and be entered to win a \$50 gift card to Mr. Brews Taphouse in Appleton. Sharing your thoughts means you'll get more of what you love about FCM and less of what you don't. Visit foxcitiesmagazine.com and click on the "Favorites" tab to enter. Surveys are completely anonymous. We greatly appreciate your feedback!



With the advances in healthcare, we are living longer. For some, this may become a burden as many seniors are losing some or all their teeth, making it hard to chew and eat. Conventional dentures are a good way to replace these missing teeth, but they can be cumbersome, loose and hard to deal with. Smile Creations can help replace lost teeth or secure your existing dentures to make them fit better and eat better. This can be done through dental implants. Dental implants have become the standard of care for replacing missing teeth or anchoring loose, ill-fitting dentures.

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Adult Recess

Despite its name, The Building for Kids Children's Museum in downtown Appleton is definitely not just for kids.

On February 10 from 6-9 p.m., the museum will host an Adult Recess, the first in a series of events designed to give grownups age 21 and older a break from "adulting." The theme of this first event is a 1920's Casino Night where attendees can play games like Black Jack, Roulette and Craps. There will also be a 1920's dance class, art activities in the da Vinci Studio and a mixology class featuring popular drinks from the era. Attendees will be able to race a boat in the museum's Water Gallery, climb through the treehouse and operate the crane – all without any kids getting in the way.

Katy Compton, director of marketing and programs, says Adult Recess is a way to introduce the museum to adults who might not otherwise have a reason for visiting, whether they are adults without children or parents whose children are older.

"Part of our mission is to energize the community," Compton says. "These events are a great way for people to come and do something different, learn something new and have fun."

Each of the quarterly events will have a different theme and activities. Upcoming events are currently being planned for May 12, August 11 and November 4.

For more information and tickets, visit www.buildingforkids.org.

—ACW

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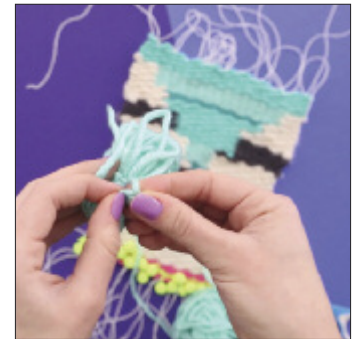
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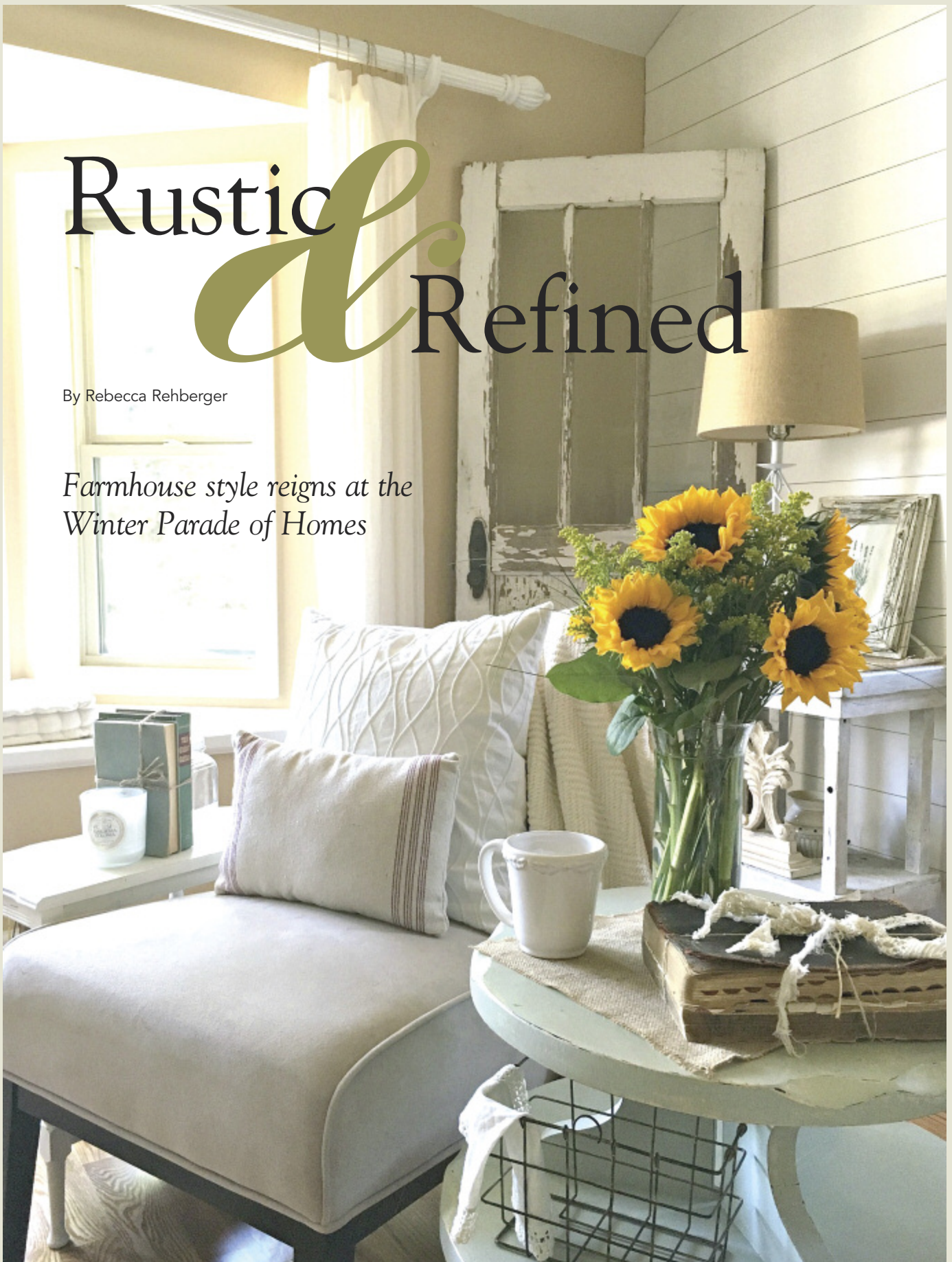
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Rustic & Refined

By Rebecca Rehberger

*Farmhouse style reigns at the
Winter Parade of Homes*



Whether overlooking a cornfield in the country or a side street in the city, farmhouse-style homes are celebrated in the rural landscape as well as the suburbs. The farmhouse, or folk house, is a persistent part of American architecture, adapting to different environments and trends over many decades. Recently, the farmhouses' simple and functional style has experienced a resurgence, thanks in part to the popularity of television shows like HGTV's "Fixer Upper." The trend can be seen in homes locally, particularly in several being featured in the Home Builders Association of the Fox Cities Winter Parade of Homes.

The Farmhouse-Style Home

According to Leslie Wilson, owner of Bellwether Interior Design in Neenah, a farmhouse-style home "starts with the exterior and the use of board and batten as the main siding material," with right-angled walls and 45-degree roof pitches. Inside, a farmhouse-style home often has exposed wooden beams, open layouts and plenty of natural materials for texture. Farmhouse-style homes are adaptable to different eras, functions and locations, with a distinctly modern feel being in vogue. But whether a farmhouse incorporates elements from other styles or not, themes of simple lines, homelike materials and connection to the land are this style's constant hallmarks. Other modern farmhouse signatures include large porches, airy color palettes, furniture style vanities and sliding "barn door" style doors.

Fox Cities Farmhouses

Two homes featured in HBA Fox Cities Winter Parade of Homes fit these themes nicely. One that O'Brien Builders, Inc. constructed and that Wilson designed includes reclaimed wood corbels on the back patio and reclaimed decorative beams on the interior and exterior. The builders also included a local touch: the wood used to make the flooring, dining table, and butcher-

block island in the kitchen came from trees on the construction site. "It's what a traditional farmhouse floor would have possibly done," Wilson says. "It keeps the product you're putting in your home local, in turn making it a green material." Even though the home has many farmhouse-style touches, it maintains a modern feel with "clean, simple lines in the woodwork and furnishings," according to Wilson.

Another home, constructed by Schmidt Bros. Custom Homes in northern Appleton, has a basic yet modern approach to the farmhouse style: "Decorative beams, clean straight lines on the exterior with a steel roof on the porch and a large kitchen," according to Lisa Schmidt. The home offers many possibilities for recreating a traditional style, such as hardwood floors, vintage lighting and wrap-around porches; it also has many up-to-date modern amenities such as stainless steel kitchen appliances, a large master suite and radon and dampness control systems.

The Parade of Homes

The Winter Parade of Homes runs February 11-12 and 16-19, with remodeling projects open for viewings February 17-19. Of the 39 homes featured, 34 are new-construction homes, one is a new construction condominium and four are remodeling projects. The featured homes come in a variety of styles and floor plans, and the remodeling projects showcase a wide range of changes and updates.

According to Megan Schlimm, the director of marketing at HBA Fox Cities, the parade "is a unique way to experience what you may like about floorplan flow, functionality of a new product or service and aesthetics of the latest trends and paint colors." It also gives ticket-holders a chance to see

2017 Winter Parade of Homes February 11-12 & 16-19

11am-5pm weekends | 5-8pm weekdays

HBA Fox Cities has a free mobile app for Parade of Homes attendees called HBAFC, which is available for both iOS and Android. The app allows users to build custom routes with turn-by-turn directions, search homes with a number of criteria, add personal notes and ratings on each home, and purchase tickets for each Parade of Homes event. Tickets can be purchased online at foxcitiesparadeofhomes.com. In-person ticket sales begin at the HBA Fox Cities office in Appleton and in local ticket selling locations on February 6.



the latest in construction techniques, products and services, as well as an opportunity to speak to the builders and designers of the homes and ask questions about their work. "The Parade of Homes is for anyone, but it is especially helpful to those interested in building a new home, remodeling or updating their existing home, viewing new trends and interior design, and those looking for a general contractor/remodeler," Schlimm says.



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The United States of ARCHITECTURE

Usonian style is exemplified in this Frank Lloyd Wright replica on Lake Winnebago

By Amelia Compton Wolff

Photography by Adam Shea Photography

Roy Bendickson keeps a stack of books on Frank Lloyd Wright under the bed of the mobile home where he has been living since last summer. His temporary dwelling sits on the lot where his new home, a Frank Lloyd Wright replica, is currently under construction.

“About everyone I meet likes Frank Lloyd Wright, so it’s easy to be a fan,” says Bendickson, a product engineer for Kohler Company, as he pages through the materials that served as guidebooks in the planning of his home on the eastern shore of Lake Winnebago.

The home is a replica of Wright’s

Goetsch-Winckler House in Okemos, Michigan. Built in 1940, it was one of Wright’s early Usonian homes. A play on the abbreviation “U.S.,” Wright created the Usonian style to be uniquely American and affordable for middle-class families.

Usonian homes are usually single-story, flat-roofed dwellings that emphasize a connection with nature — Bendickson’s replica, built by BerHoff Homes, is all of the above. Wright meant to design homes that seemed to have sprung from the earth on which they rested, thus the strong emphasis on including the natural habitat whenever possible.

To Bendickson, the home is more than elegant architecture; it’s a work of art. But replicating the home, which took two years to plan, came with challenges.

“It was a tough build all the way around,” Bendickson admits. “Everything was difficult.”

From the massive structural timbers that had to be delivered by crane to finding windows large and strong enough for the unique design, Bendickson can easily rattle off a litany of problems he and his contractors encountered along the way.

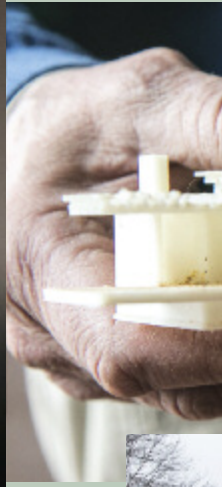
But would he do it again?

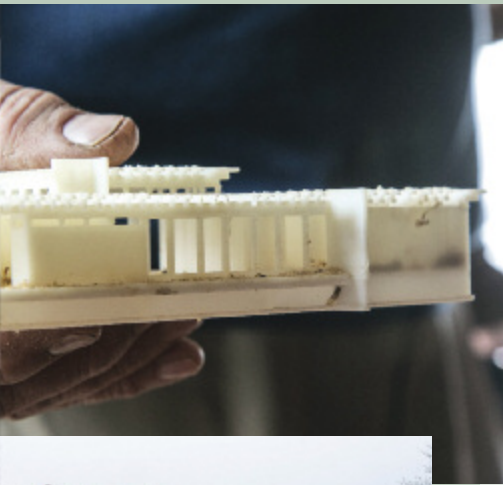
“Absolutely, yeah,” Bendickson says without missing a beat. “Frank Lloyd Wright is voted the architect of the century

and I get to live in one of his houses for the rest of my life.”

U·so·ni·an /yōō'sōnēən/

A term used by Frank Lloyd Wright to describe his architectural vision for the United States. Wright envisioned the word “Usonian” as a replacement for “American” to describe the unique landscape of the United States as distinct from existing architectural conventions.





Bendickson, who worked with an Architect from Martenson & Eisele in Menasha to design the home, used his background in engineering to improve upon the home's structural integrity. "I modeled this whole thing on a computer so we could do a stress analysis of it," he says. "We were able to see things Frank never did." Creating a 3D model of the home allowed them to see areas that needed additional reinforcements, such as the roof and carport. "Lots of Frank Lloyd Wright homes had structural issues, which is why we were so careful picking beams and planning so we didn't recreate those problems," says John Hofferber, owner of BerHoff Homes in Neenah.



Bendickson's home (above) was modeled after an original Frank Lloyd Wright in Michigan (right).



Courtesy of the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office, photographer: Steve Vorderman



"It was a challenge to get the look of a Frank Lloyd Wright, but the workings of a modern, energy-efficient home," says Hofferber, who specializes in green construction practices. Energy-efficiency was a top priority when it came to the windows. A 28-foot-wide bank of alternating windows and doors lines the front of the house. The rear of the house is more of the same, creating the classic

Usonian see-through effect. "It opens up the entire view of Lake Winnebago and brings it right inside," says Tom Miller, owner of Appleton's Window and Door Central, who was contracted for the project. "Performance-wise, the windows are up to today's energy efficiency standards with modern hardware and weather stripping. But from a design standpoint, they are period correct."

Continued

Built-in furniture, a common feature in Usonian architecture, maximizes the home's 1,800-square-foot space. Angela Benson, a designer at Valley Cabinet in Neenah, created a custom maple dining table and desk based on the original home's designs.



“As a kid, I followed Frank Lloyd Wright’s career, so this project was like a dream come true for me.”

—John Hofferber, owner of BerHoff Homes in Neenah.



Darboy Stone & Brick provided the brick for both the exterior and interior elements of the home. “We are carrying a fair amount of the exterior brick product through to the home’s interior which is unique,” says Jeremy Van Dera, sales representative at Darboy Stone & Brick. Seamlessly incorporating exterior materials into a home’s interior is a hallmark of Usonian style. Bendickson says Wright’s use of brick keeps the home’s temperature stable – it holds heat in the winter and keeps it cool in the summer. “It’s interesting to see what kind of genius Frank Lloyd Wright had,” he says.



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Courtesy of the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office, photographer: Steve Vorderman

Off the main living area is a bedroom wing composed of two bedrooms with a bathroom in between. When Bendickson told his employer about the project, they designed the bathroom which will feature all Kohler fixtures.

The home is an in-line Usonian, meaning it is built in a straight horizontal line. Off the carport is the kitchen, or “workspace” as Wright often called it, which is separated from the living area by the fireplace.



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Photo credit: Melissa Alderton

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Real Wedding: *Nate and Laura*

By Amelia Compton Wolff
Photography by Melissa Alderton Photography

Laura Robitschek met her future husband, Nate, when they were introduced by mutual friends who had recently begun dating. Soon a romance of their own began to blossom and in 2014, the couple got engaged while hiking in Door County's Peninsula State Park.

They spent the next two years planning a modern, elegant wedding for 200 guests. Robitschek immediately knew Appleton had to be the setting for their big day.

"Our family lived in Appleton from 1997 to 2015. I consider it 'home' even though I moved to Illinois for medical school," she says. "We have many ties to Appleton, and it felt like the perfect place to be married."

On August 20, 2016, the couple wed at St. Thomas More Church in Appleton and, sure enough, their wedding party consisted of their matchmaking friends who had gotten married just the summer prior.



At a Glance

Date: August 20, 2016.

Budget: \$45,000

Wedding vision: modern, elegant, family-oriented

Color palette: Ivory, gray, fresh greenery and hints of blush

Priorities: Great photography, delicious food, beautiful flowers

Nate and Laura began researching reception venues and the Warch Campus Center at Lawrence University was on the top of their list. "When we walked inside, we both turned to each other and knew immediately that it was our venue," Robitschek says. "We loved the modern style and architecture of the building, and it had the most amazing floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking the Fox River."



Neutral palettes with understated hints of color grew in popularity last year and will continue to be favored by brides in 2017 as well. To achieve a clean, modern look, Nate and Laura chose a palette with shades of ivory, gray, greenery and hints of blush for their floral arrangements and decor.

Along with photography and food, flowers were a top wedding day priority for Nate and Laura. "I think that flowers set the mood for the day," says Robitschek, whose mother, Joan Kula, served as both wedding coordinator and florist. "My mom has always had a passion for beautiful flowers and a knack for arranging them with skill." Kula drew rough sketches of different arrangements, including tall and short vases, greenery and candles. With the help of friends and family, she assembled all the table arrangements, bouquets and boutonnières.





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Brides and grooms will continue getting crafty in 2017, as the do-it-yourself trend remains popular with couples looking to save money and add personality to their celebrations. Nate and Laura found templates online for their table assignment board and table numbers, and simply printed them at OfficeMax. Their calligraphy signage was done by Laura's mom who used a font she found online. "Our decor and flowers turned out even more beautifully than we could've imagined," Robitschek says. "It felt even more special to know that it all came together because of my mom's amazing talent."

"Nate and I had a sweetheart table for dinner. We both wanted some extra time with just the two of us," Robitschek says. "During dinner, we took a moment to pause and soak in how truly amazing it is to have all your friends and family come together for you on your wedding day. That was one of our favorite memories – feeling so overwhelmed and grateful for all the love and support we had that day."



Simple place settings, accented by fresh greens and gold chargers from Wedding Perfect in Appleton, made an elegant statement against warm-toned linens.

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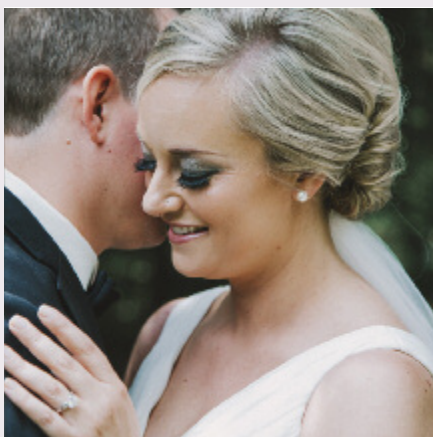




When it comes to dessert, many bridal couples are choosing bite-sized treats over traditional, multitiered wedding cakes. Robitschek worked with Catering Director Lola Rottier and Pastry Chef Camille Malone from Lawrence University's dining service provider, Bon Appetit, to plan the menu. They made a small cake for Nate and Laura to cut and guests then had their choice of cupcakes.

Robitschek's advice for brides and grooms-to-be is as timeless as her wedding style.

"The wedding is just one day, and it goes by more quickly than you can ever imagine," she says. "Don't forget to take time to plan and prepare for a marriage that will last a lifetime."



Robitschek worked with stylists from Anagen 11 in Appleton to achieve her chic updo and classic makeup.



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THE YEAR OF THE Veggie

By Amelia Compton Wolff

Vegetables are having a moment and you're actually going to like it.

In 2017, vegetables will transition from side dish support to the main meal event in both restaurants and home kitchens. Driving this trend are more meat-eaters experimenting with “flexitarian” (semi-vegetarian) diets and an overall growing interest in healthy eating.

Janel Abel, owner of Seven Boutique Catering in Appleton, says people are more willing to experiment with vegetables than ever before.

“The availability and variety of vegetables has increased through our local farmers markets,” she says. “And maybe people are just inspired by recipes they see on Pinterest.”

Whatever the reason, vegetable-forward entrees are coming in hot this year and even carnivores will like what they see.

PREPARATION TIPS

When it comes to successful veggie-centric meals, preparation is key.

“There are two ways to approach plant-based cooking,” says Chef Tracy Darling, owner of Heirloom Kitchen Company in Brillion and Pop Up Fox Cities. “You can try to replicate the texture and flavor of meat, or just let the ingredients shine.”

Darling hosted a vegan Pop Up Fox Cities dinner on Feb. 4 where she served chickpea cakes on roast tomato pepper braise. Another



*Dry cured zucchini with tomato jam by Tracy Darling.
Photo by Dave Compton Wolff*

course was roast vegetable filled sweet potato ravioli.

“People are charmed by meals with an abundant and innovative use of vegetables in them,” she says.

Vegetable purees make flavorful additions to soups and sauces, but they are delicious on their own. Drew Steinke, chef at The Source Public House in Menasha, recommends pureeing root vegetables such as turnips.

“Peel and roast them for 45 minutes or until they’re golden brown, then whip them in

a blender with some olive oil,” he says. “The cool thing is vegetables lend themselves to do whatever you want with them.”

Steinke says grilling vegetables is another one of his favorite cooking methods. “Broccoli is amazing on the grill,” he says. “Cut it into big pieces and blanch it for 15 seconds. Then toss the broccoli with olive oil, salt and pepper and grill until it has grill marks.”

Darling suggests roasting a vegetable medley consisting of classics such as potatoes as well as unexpected vegetables like radishes.



Photo courtesy of The Source Public House

“You can eat them as they are or put them in a pie crust and make a vegetable pie,” she says. “Keeping a supply of roasted vegetables on hand means you’re always only 30 minutes away from a delicious meal.”

FRESH VIBES

Jazmin Martens, barista and baker at Seth’s Coffee in Little Chute, writes a lifestyle blog called “This Must Be the Place,” which chronicles her journey on a plant-based diet.

“There is this common misconception that vegetables are boring,” she says. “But with the right approach and seasoning, you can totally transform any dish.”

Continued

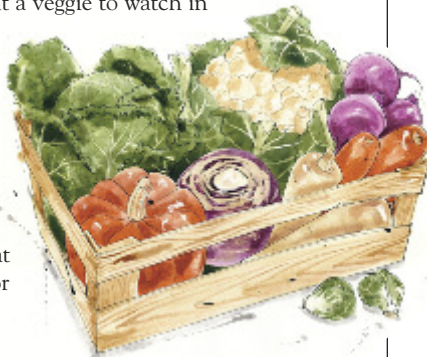
VEGGIES ON THE RISE

Beets

Beets are popping up in all sorts of recipes, especially those with a retro flair – pickled, shredded or just cooked and seasoned with herbs. “Some of those vintage recipes are making a comeback,” Abel says.

Cauliflower

From pizza crust to rice substitute, cauliflower’s adaptability makes it a veggie to watch in 2017. Abel says the simplicity of vegetable purees makes them ideal for home cooks and cauliflower is one of the best. Try pureed cauliflower as a great low-carb stand in for mashed potatoes.



Brussel Sprouts

An undeserved bad rap makes brussel sprouts the underdog of the vegetable world, which only primes them for a success story in 2017. One easy preparation? Cut in half, drizzle with good olive oil and a sprinkle of salt, then roast until the bottoms almost caramelize.



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Q. I feel silly about this one, but I can't poach an egg. Any tips or tricks?
—Karen, Little Chute

A. Believe it or not, after being overlooked and under-appreciated for a long time, poached eggs are making a big comeback in the culinary world. To properly poach an egg, start with the freshest eggs you can get. The fresher the egg, the thicker the white will be that surrounds the yolk and the more compact your finished poached egg will be. In a small sauce pan, bring about three cups of water and one tablespoon of vinegar to a simmer. The vinegar is a critical component because the acid helps to coagulate the egg white immediately upon touching the water.



Crack your egg into a shallow bowl to make it easy to add them to the acidic water. Swirling the simmering water with a spoon will encourage the egg to the center of the pan and help keep the whites together as they begin to set. Poach the egg in the simmering acidic water for the length of time needed to cook the yolk to the doneness you desire. For a medium yolk that is still runny, about four to five minutes should be sufficient. Remove the poached eggs with a slotted spoon to allow them to drain off and place them in a bowl or other serving vessel. Serve immediately as part of your breakfast or brunch menu.

► 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.



Eric Seyler, line cook at The Source, with the BBQ Sweet Potato Sandwich.

Martens, who has been incorporating more vegan baked goods at Seth's, sees vegetables taking over the realm of comfort food. For example, take her favorite mac and "cheese" (recipe on next page) and even cauliflower "wings."

"You basically butcher a head of

cauliflower, batter the chunks and the pieces become the 'wings.' Crispy on the outside, with a meaty texture on the inside," she says.

The Source serves a sandwich made from shredded sweet potatoes smothered in house made BBQ, topped with vegan slaw on a vegan Pretzilla bun.

"People really don't think about everything they can make with vegetables instead of meat," Steinke says, "but sweet potatoes make a great substitute for chicken."

Darling predicts this year we will also begin to see vegetables in the front and center of morning meals in things like savory pancakes and breakfast bowls.

"I don't consider it breakfast unless there are three vegetables in it," she says. One of Darling's favorite breakfasts is a homemade vegetable breakfast cake with poached eggs.

Even if you don't plan to give vegetable cake a go anytime soon, Darling sees advantages in knowing the options.

"Many people on this planet never eat meat a day in their lives," she says. "In this world we live in, learning about different ways of eating is wise."

Stuffed brussel sprouts

Submitted by Seven Boutique Catering, adapted from Delish.com

Serves 6

1 lb brussel sprouts,
trimmed and halved
1 cup ricotta cheese
1/2 cup parmesan cheese
1/4 cup Italian bread crumbs
salt & pepper

Preheat oven to 375° F. In a large pot of salted boiling water, blanch brussel sprouts for two minutes. Transfer to an ice bath and then drain. Using a paring knife, cut out insides of sprouts and place shells on a parchment lined baking sheet. Finely chop the insides and quickly sauté them over medium high heat with olive oil. Once sprouts are tender, place them in a medium bowl. Stir in the ricotta, parmesan and bread crumbs to the bowl. Season with salt and pepper. Spoon mixture into brussel sprout shells. Top with additional bread crumbs if desired for a crunchy topping. Bake sprouts for 20–25 minutes until they are crispy. Serve immediately.



Photo by Melissa Alderton Photography

Mac and "Cheese"

Submitted by Jazmin Martens, adapted from Ohsheglows.com

Serves 4

1/4–1/3 cup potato, peeled and chopped
 1/2 cup carrot, peeled and chopped
 1/4–1/3 cup onion, peeled and chopped
 1 1/2 cups raw cashews
 1 cup unsweetened almond milk
 4 garlic cloves
 6 tbsp fresh lemon juice
 3 tsp kosher salt

2 tbsp nutritional yeast
 Freshly ground black pepper, to taste
 1 tsp mustard
 10–12 oz uncooked macaroni
 1 slice bread
 1 tbsp Earth Balance or butter
 Fresh or dried parsley and paprika, to garnish

Preheat oven to 350° F. Set aside a small casserole dish. In a medium sized pot, add the chopped potatoes, carrots and onion, and fill with water until just covered. Bring to a boil and then reduce to low-medium heat. Cook about 15 minutes until tender.

Add your pasta to a medium sized pot and fill with water until the pasta is covered by about one inch or so.

Bring to a boil and reduce to low, cooking for about seven more minutes. Drain and rinse with cold water.

Meanwhile, process one slice of bread in a food processor until crumbs form. Add in one tablespoon of Earth Balance or butter and process until incorporated. Place in a small bowl and set aside.

Assemble your sauce ingredients (cashews, almond milk, garlic, lemon, salt, yeast, pepper, mustard) and add just the cashews to the food processor. Process until a fine



Photo by Jazmin Martens

crumb forms similar to corn meal. Now add in the rest of the cheese sauce ingredients and process until smooth. Drain the veggies and add to sauce mixture in food processor. Process until smooth.

In a large bowl, mix together your sauce and pasta. Scoop into your casserole dish and sprinkle with the breadcrumb mixture. Now garnish with paprika and bake in the oven for 30 minutes at 350 °F. Allow to cool for about 10 minutes before serving. Garnish with chopped fresh parsley or dried parsley to serve.

If your favorite subject was all of them.

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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 Phô and Khao Soi, 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/basilcafepho.

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3925 Gateway Drive, Appleton 702-4810
Fresh, Fast, Delicious. Located within the Fox Valley Hematology & Oncology building we're proud to offer a 16 oz., \$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.

Castilla Bistro & Tapas

213 S. Nicolet Rd., Appleton 749-0342
Take a culinary tour of Spanish flavors right in the FOX CITIES! Start with a round of sparkling Cava or a pitcher of fruity sangria from the bar before digging into Castilla's menu of traditional tapas, grilled steaks, market-fresh seafood, artisanal cheeses and cured meats.

The atmosphere is warm and inviting and the staff is well-trained and knowledgeable. Round out your evening with a house-made dessert and you'll experience a culinary trip like no other. Serving M–Sa, 4–10pm; closed Su. castillaappleton.com.

El Patron Mexican Grill & Bar

100 E. College Ave., Appleton 996-0122
El Patron Mexican Grill & Bar is family owned, featuring homemade recipes with nightly specials like two for one margaritas on Tuesdays and Thursdays. It's a little bit of Mexico in Downtown Appleton! “El Patron is the most authentic Mexican cuisine I have had since returning to Appleton from Texas. The owners, Ardelia and Miguel, make me feel like I stepped off the streets of Mexico and right into their home and dinner with their family. I love this place!” —Mary M. Open M–Sa, 11am–9pm, Closed Su. Facebook@elpatronmexicangrillandbar.

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 in the lounge with a drink from our full service bar. Have a special event on the horizon? From business meetings to birthdays, our private banquet room will spice up any party. We also offer off-premise catering for parties of all occasions. Open daily 11am–9:30pm. Offering complementary appetizers during Bar Happy Hour: 4–7pm, Su–Th; after 8:30pm, F & Sa. Daily Dining Happy Hour specials 3–5pm. gingerrootz.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.

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!*

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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! mrbrewstaphouse.com.

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600 W. College Ave., Appleton 749-1111
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Vince Lombardi's Steakhouse

333 W. College Ave., Appleton 733-8000
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