

Fox Cities

MAGAZINE

The Big Idea

ATHENA celebrates 30 years

Transitioning technology | Knowing your financial future | Must-visit restaurants

December 2015

foxcitiesmagazine.com

What If

instead of one point of view, you had every point of view?



Academic medicine's comprehensive approach puts you at the center of it all.

When you're seriously ill, you'll want to know all of your treatment options and be a part of the decision-making process. At Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin Froedtert Hospital, one of the country's top academic medical centers, you'll have a team of renowned specialists working with your physician to look at your condition inside and out. This comprehensive approach enables you and your team of experts to decide which course of treatment is right for you, giving you the hope you need. Here, we turn what ifs into What Is Possible.

Find a specialist who's right for you by visiting froedtert.com/closer or calling 1-800-DOCTORS.

What Is Possible

**is an easy drive
to suburban Milwaukee.**

Froedtert &

**MEDICAL
COLLEGE of
WISCONSIN**

FoxCities MAGAZINE

Celebrating the Place We Call Home.



foxcitiesmagazine.com

Publishers

Marvin Murphy Ruth Ann Heeter

Managing Editor

Ruth Ann Heeter
raheeter@foxcitiesmagazine.com

Associate Editor

Amy Hanson
edit@foxcitiesmagazine.com

Contributing Writers

Ric Reynolds Sarah C. Spencer

Editorial Interns

Amanda Bourbonais Ariela E. Rosa

Art Director

Jill Ziesemer

Graphic Designer

Julia Schnese

Account Executives

Courtney Martin
courtney@foxcitiesmagazine.com

Maria Stevens
maria@foxcitiesmagazine.com

Jay Van Stiphout
jay@foxcitiesmagazine.com

Administrative Assistant / Circulation

Nancy D'Agostino
info@foxcitiesmagazine.com

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

For more information or to learn about advertising opportunities, call (920) 733-7788.

© 2015 FOX CITIES Magazine.

Unauthorized duplication of any or all content of this publication is prohibited and may not be reproduced in any form without permission of the publisher.

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



Facebook.com/foxcitiesmagazine

Please pass along or recycle this magazine.



St. Paul Elder Services, Inc.

... where life is cherished.



St. Paul Home | Long-term care nursing services and specialized Alzheimer's/dementia services

St. Paul Center of Rehabilitation | Post-acute skilled nursing and therapy

St. Paul Villa | Assisted living

St. Paul Manor | Memory care assisted living

Life Enrichment Center | Club Gabriel adult day services program, foot and nail clinic, massage therapy, and warm water therapy pool

St. Paul at Home | In-home non-medical care, Meals on Wheels, transportation services, and emergency response systems

Memory Care Community Resource Center

St. Paul Hospice Services

The Memory Care Center within the Neuroscience Group

316 E. Fourteenth St., Kaukauna, WI | (920) 766-6020
www.stpaulaiders.org

Sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity



Veterinary Care in the Comfort of Your Home

House Calls Veterinary Service cares for your dogs and cats in the stress-free environment of your home. Dr. David J. Riedl and Certified Veterinary Technician Julie Papenfuss provide the entire range of services including wellness exams, treatments, diagnostics, at-home hospice and comfortable euthanasia. Surgery, dental procedures and x-rays are performed at our surgical facility. Appointments available M-F, 8am-5pm.

Bringing quality, experienced veterinary care to your home for 20 years

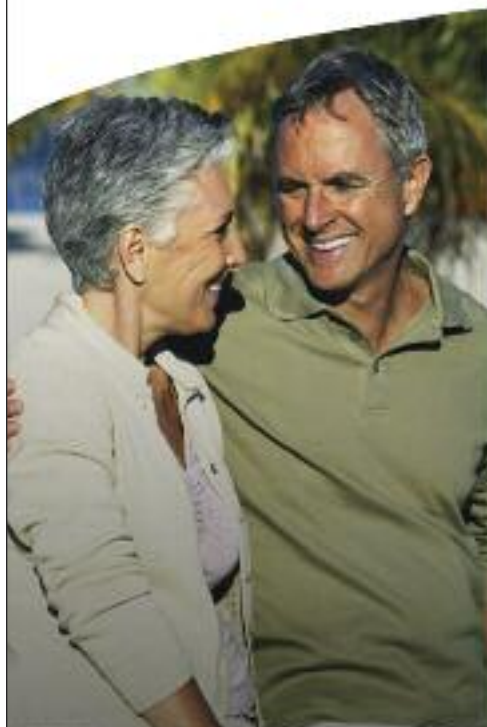
Call (920) 729-4828 or (920) 428-7826 • www.daveriedldvm.com





**THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®**

Connecting faith & finances for good.®



MAKE WISE FINANCIAL DECISIONS

Reflect your values, help protect your future

Our financial representatives can help you reach a place of comfort and confidence in your finances, all while helping you strengthen your community and supporting the causes you care about most.

At Thrivent Financial, we believe that being financially prepared and living generously go hand in hand. So we provide sound financial guidance—and help you make the best use of your time, treasures and talent.

For more than 100 years, we've helped families connect their Christian values with their finances. If that's important to you, let's talk soon.



Thrivent Financial was named one of the "World's Most Ethical Companies" by *Entrepreneur* magazine 2012-2015.

Thrivent Financial representatives are licensed insurance agents/producers of Thrivent Financial, the marketing name for Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, Appleton, WI. They are also registered representatives of Thrivent Investment Management Inc., 525 Fourth Ave S., Minneapolis, MN 55415. For additional important information, visit thrivent.com/disclosures.

Appleton, Wisconsin • Minneapolis, Minnesota • thrivent.com • 800-847-4836

2503BLG 04-15

East Wisconsin & Upper Peninsula of Michigan Region

2000 E Milestone Drive, Suite 4
Appleton, WI 54913
920-628-6170



Complete Home Accessibility Solutions

Stay in the home you love for as long as you would like. We offer residential elevators, chair lifts, stair lifts and vertical platform lifts from industry leaders.



Contact Wisconsin Sales & Service:
Accessibility Solutions
Local Service & Support
Trained & Licensed Installers
Professional Results

Call: 800-261-0007 - WaupacaElevatorWI.com

Rediscover...
Life. Worth. Living.



Rogers is now open in the Fox Valley

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

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

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

CONTENTS

Features

AT HOME



14

Transitioning technology

Today's homes think 'smart'

By Amy Hanson

HEALTH & WELLNESS



22

Knowing your financial future

Planning, protecting assets is just one piece of estate planning

By Amy Hanson

FOOD & DINING



26

It's tradition

Must-visit Fox Cities eateries are a gift at the holidays

By Ric Reynolds

Departments

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



On the Cover

The ATHENA Award. Photo by Courtney Martin

COVER STORY



THE BIG IDEA: Working women

ATHENA Award celebrates 30 years in the Fox Cities

By Amy Hanson

foxcitiesmagazine.com

Get talking about "Chef Talk"

FOX CITIES Magazine was excited to host a launch party on Nov. 9 for "Chef Talk with Kyle Cherek" at Fox Valley Technical College. We'd like to extend a big thank you to all who contributed to the event and to those who attended! To see photos from the event turn to Page 31. And, to view "Chef Talk" episodes, go to foxcitiesmagazine.com. As you visit the restaurants in the Fox Cities and those featured in "Chef Talk" we'd love for you to snap photos and share them on social media with the hashtag #FCMfoodie, too!



ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Appleton illustrated

Appleton native Emily Reetz draws the town

Downtown Appleton isn't just a destination for digital illustrator Emily Reetz; it's also inspiration for her whimsical artwork. Reetz, born and raised in the Fox Valley, is a hometown enthusiast deeply entrenched in the Appleton art scene. Her breakout series is focused on capturing the spirit of the iconic places and spaces of her vibrant community — the one that has provided the backdrop for her fondest memories.

"As I was growing up, my family moved every two years or so, always within the Fox Valley," shares Reetz, waxing nostalgic. "Each address held memories of a period of my childhood that no other place would. I think for that reason, I've always been interested in places and the immense meaning they can hold for people."



Name: Emily Reetz
Residence: Appleton
Medium: Digital drawings
Price range: Prints \$9–25; custom work varies

"Real smiles," she says, "the kind with memories behind them. Some laughed. Some welled with tears. Then, perfect strangers would turn to each other and start sharing their stories that connected them."

Reetz is now drawing her way through the city, sketching every thing from the Fox River Skyline and the Appleton Public Library to Pierce Park and The Trout Museum of Art. She uses a basic stylus and simple iPad drawing app to create her modern storybook masterpieces. And though she devotes much of her time to drawing buildings that hold special meaning to her, she also takes custom orders at her online Etsy shop.

"I mainly work from photos," explains Reetz. "I prefer to take the photos myself, so I can walk around a structure, touch it, take in its surroundings, and make mental notes. I see things differently in real life, and I feel a deeper connection with the places I have visited."

Reetz, a wife and mother of three, does much of her work at night. She likes to duck into various coffee houses within the Fox Valley. One of her next projects includes drawing iconic Neenah. In the future, Reetz says, she'd like to author and illustrate a children's book.

Her work also is available at the Blue Moon Emporium, Appleton Farmer's Market and online at sketchtagart.com.

— By Sarah C. Spencer



HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

Do you recognize this local architectural detail?



Send us your answer along with your name and address no later than **Dec. 11, 2015.**

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



Submit your entry to info@foxcitiesmagazine.com or

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



NOVEMBER WINNER

Ryan Lanning, Appleton
Neenah Joint School District
Administration Building, Neenah

Neuroscience Group



Neuroscience Group is a specialty neurology clinic located on the corner of CB and Hwy. 10 in Neenah. Take a tour online at their Google Business page.

Neuroscience Group offers specialized expertise, high-quality care

Brain tumor, stroke and Alzheimer's disease are some of the most difficult diagnoses a person can hear from their physician, but they are the types of illnesses the experts at Neuroscience Group discuss every day. The independent specialty clinic, founded in 1991 by neurosurgeon Dr. Thomas Lyons, is the only medical practice north of Milwaukee and Madison that combines neurology, neurosurgery, orthopedic spine surgery, interventional pain management, chiropractic and physical therapy. Neuroscience Group has grown to more than 30 associate and physician providers in its almost 25-year history and is dedicated to providing compassionate and high-quality neurologic care to the area.

Poet Emily Dickinson described the brain as, "wider than the sky" and it's the task of the neurologists at Neuroscience Group to unravel the depth of its mysteries for their patients. They specialize in compassionate care for those afflicted with chronic ailments like Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, epilepsy and migraine headaches. The clinic is equipped with imaging, MRI, neurodiagnostic and procedure labs making it especially convenient for patients because they can complete their tests in one location.

The surgical portion of the practice features four neurosurgeons and one orthopedic spine surgeon, as well as a surgery education program for back and neck patients. The one-on-one time these patients receive with the dedicated nurse educator is invaluable for

helping them achieve the very best results from their surgery. The visit includes a visual presentation created to familiarize patients with the site where they will be having surgery and what to expect throughout the entire process. A study from the Journal of American College of Surgeons found that patients who watched a preparation video before their operation reported less anxiety about the procedure and higher rates of satisfaction with the surgical experience. Neuroscience

Group is the only spine clinic in the area to offer this service to its patients.

The goal of the Interventional Pain Management team is to decrease pain and enhance daily living activities without surgery and narcotic use. With the issue of prescription painkiller abuse affecting our state, Neuroscience Group continues to be a leader in the ethical use

of prescription drugs. Patients are offered an individualized and interdisciplinary plan of care by their pain physicians.

The day-to-day collaboration and interaction between the specialists at Neuroscience Group offers different perspectives and ultimately benefits patients who receive high-quality and compassionate care using the most advanced medical techniques available in northeast Wisconsin. The group also is committed to community involvement with its sponsorships of Neuroscience Group Field at Fox Cities Stadium, the Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra and numerous other local charities.



1305 W. American Drive
Neenah
(920) 725-9373, ext. 7683
neurosciencegroup.com

NOT TO BE MISSED: December events calendar

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



Photo courtesy of Future Neenah

Holiday fun in the Fox Cities

With an emphasis on family togetherness, the Fox Cities invite people of all ages to enjoy outdoors events, new and old, designed to bring everyone together and into the holiday spirit.

Menasha ushers in the holidays with their annual Holiday Hayride on Dec. 4 from 5-9 p.m., starting on Keyes Street on Doty Island. For \$1 per person, and no charge for children 2 and younger, families can meet Mr. and Mrs. Claus and their reindeer while enjoying hot beverages and cookies.

Downtown Neenah presents their annual living mannequin display on Dec. 4 from 6-9 p.m. during A Very Neenah Christmas. A festive holiday staple since 1998, the display features real people posing as figures in various scenes. According to Pamela Barnes, events coordinator at Future Neenah, the displays have become increasingly creative.

New this year, Neenah also will have a tree-lighting ceremony following their Rudolph Run. "People dress up," says Barnes. "Families come and do a Grinch theme, or some come in a Santa costume and run."

Downtown Appleton kicks off the season a bit later, hosting its second annual Holiday Fun Fest on Dec. 19.

Ice sculptures sponsored by area businesses and displayed in Houdini Plaza will serve as the centerpiece of the event. Krystal Kleer Sculptures will offer ice carving demonstrations, and Cavanaugh Carriages will take people on a magical ride through downtown.

Appleton's One-Stop Elf Shop returns for the second year in a row as well, with local high school students dressed like elves to help young children shop for the perfect gift. The shop is open now and continues every Saturday through Dec. 19.

Anne Wiegman, marketing director at Appleton Downtown Inc., emphasizes Appleton's goal of taking the commercialization out of Christmas by offering festivities that focus on the family experience.

"Between the music, visits with Santa, the live reindeer, wagon rides and ice decorations, the day is sure to put you in the holiday spirit," she says.

—By Ariela E. Rosa

HOLIDAY EVENTS

1-Jan. 3 | Christmas in the Mansion

Ribbons, packages, lights and frivolities will warm your visit with traditions from Christmases past. Tues.-Fri. 10am-4pm, Sat. & Sun. 11am-4pm. Rahr-West Art Museum, Manitowoc. 683-4501.

1-5, 7-12, 14-19, 21-24, 26, 28-31 | Self-guided Tours of "Nutcracker in the Castle"

Guests journey through more than twenty rooms and spaces, which are elaborately decorated as the fantastic scenes of the Nutcracker story. 11am-4pm. The Paine Art Center and Gardens. 235-6903.

1-31 | Oshkosh Celebration of Lights

From the 100-foot tree to the animated light displays and holiday music, visitors will escape to a magical place. Tues.-Sun. 5-9pm. Menominee Park, Oshkosh. 303-9200.

1-26 | Handcrafted Holiday Sale

Get that one-of-a-kind gift that will really wow! Tues., Wed., Fri. 11am-5pm; Thur. 11am-6pm; Sat 11am-3pm. The ARTgarage, Green Bay. 448-6800.

1-8 | Merry-Time Festival of Trees

Holiday-themed trees and decorations adorn the galleries, and visitors can buy raffle tickets to win their favorite fully decorated tree. Daily 10am-5pm. Door County Maritime Museum. 743-5958.

2-23 | Let Me Be Frank Productions: A Frank's Christmas

Fun and frolic for the whole family, Frank and the gang will tug at the heartstrings and tickle your funny bone. 8pm and 1pm Dec. 3, 11, 17 and 19. Meyer Theatre, Green Bay. 494-3401.

2 | It's Christmas, Carol

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

3, 10, 17 | Studio Art: Pre-School Holiday Workshop

For ages 3-5. Make your own holiday gifts for special family and friends. All supplies included. 10-11am. Trout Museum of Art, Appleton.

3-5, 10-12 | Christmas Stars 2015

This spectacular, holiday-themed extravaganza celebrates and honors the joy of the season with a mix of secular and religious music, dance, skits and more! 7pm. Xavier Fine Arts Theatre, Appleton. 733-8840.

3 | Electric City Christmas Parade

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

4, 11, 18, 22, 29 | Candlelight Tours of "Nutcracker in the Castle"

An especially entrancing way to take a self-guided tour of the Nutcracker display. The lights of the "castle" are dimmed and the settings are illuminated by the glow of more than 70 Christmas trees. 4:30-7:30pm. The Paine Art Center and Gardens. 235-6903.

4, 11, 18 | Victorian Christmas

This year Hearthstone will be decorated to explore the five senses. 6-8pm. Hearthstone Historic House Museum, Appleton. 730-8204.

4-6, 11-13, 18-20, 22-23, 26-27, 29-30 | Sugar Plum Fairy's Cupcake Café

A fantasy café serving delicious cupcakes and yummy hot cocoa, with a very special hostess, the Sugar Plum Fairy! Times vary. Paine Art Center and Gardens. 235-6903.

4-6, 11-13, 18-20, 26-30 | WPS Garden of Lights

We invite you to gather your family and friends for an evening of holiday memories at the Garden this winter and experience the magic of more than 250,000 twinkling lights. 5-9pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

4-5, 12-13 | Viva Las Reifs Mills Christmas

Celebrate the season at the Palace of Reifs Mills Dinner Event Theater. Fri. and Sat. 7pm, Sun. 1pm. 732-3172.

4-5 | UW-Manitowoc Lakeshore Ensemble Festival of Christmas

Enjoy Christmas favorites along with music from the "Nutcracker." 7:30pm. Capitol Civic Centre, Manitowoc. 683-2184.

4 | A Time for Joy

Join the Fox Valley Chorus as we celebrate the joy of the holiday season and the true meaning of Christmas! 7:30pm. UW-Fox Valley Communication Arts Center, Menasha. 982-5639.

4 | A Very Neenah Christmas

The night offers events for the entire family, including a Rudolph Run, Santa, carriage rides, carolers and new tree lighting ceremony. View the live mannequin window displays downtown. Downtown Neenah. 6-9 pm. 722-1920.

4 | Holiday Hayride

Starting on Keyes Street on Doty Island. Meet Mr. and Mrs. Claus and their reindeer while enjoying hot beverages and cookies. 5-9pm.

4 | Jim Brickman Comfort and Joy

With featured musical guests, feelings of comfort and joy are fused together with beloved hits like "Valentine," "If You Believe," "The Gift," "Angel Eyes" and "Sending You A Little Christmas." 7:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

5-6, 12-13, 19-20, 23, 26-27, 30 | Guided Tours of "Nutcracker in the Castle"

Led by an actor and featuring live music and ballet performances, the "Nutcracker in the Castle" brings the characters and scenes of the fairy tale to life. Wednesdays and Saturdays 5-8pm; Sundays noon-3:30pm. The Paine Art Center and Gardens. 235-6903.

5, 6, 12 | Christmas Tree Sale

Cut your own untrimmed tree. Wildwood Road, just south off of Townline Road. Some precut trees will be available at the Nature Center. 11am-3pm. Navarino Nature Center. (715) 758-6999.

5 | A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

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

5 | Art Activity Day: Make a Glass Ornament

Come to the Holiday Open House at the museum and make a flashy glass ornament or table decoration. 10am-1pm. Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, Neenah. 751-4658.

5 | Breakfast with Santa

Come enjoy a delicious breakfast, fun crafts, balloon animals, meet Mr. and Mrs. Santa and more! Stop by anytime between 8:30am and 11am. Thompson Community Center. 225-1700.

5 | Children's Christmas Gift Workshop

Children make six gifts. 10 a.m. to noon and 1-3 p.m. Heckrodt Wetland Reserve, Menasha. 720-9349.

5 | Door CANcer Holiday Home Tour

Tour homes beautifully trimmed for the holidays, including the Merry-Time Festival of Trees display. 10am-4pm. Door County Maritime Museum. 743-5958.

5 | Door County Medical Center's Children's Choir

Dorothy Scott and a trio of angelic voices will perform holiday specialties and share the message of wellness, joyfulness and good will through music. 11am. Door County Maritime Museum. 743-5958.

5 | EAA's Christmas in the Air

Enjoy treats and refreshments then roam the museum to find more than 20 local musical, choral and dance groups performing on various stages. 10am-4pm. EAA AirVenture Museum, Oshkosh. 426-6108.

5 | Family Wreath Making

Create a holiday wreath with your family! 10-11:30am. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

5 | Santa on the tugboat John Purves

Join Santa on board the historic John Purves tugboat to share your Christmas wishes. 10am-1pm. Door County Maritime Museum. 743-5958.

5 | Wrap it up! A Craft Program

Add a creative touch to your gifts this holiday season — make gift bags, wrapping paper and gift tags using paint, yarn, stamps and up-cycled materials. 1pm. Neenah Public Library. 886-6335.

6 | Kimberly Community Band Christmas Concert

Social with punch and cookies to follow. 2pm. JR Gerrits Middle School, Kimberly.

6 | Wreath Making Class

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

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

For ages 3-5. Create a magical gift for someone you love this season. 10-11am. The Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

7 | Herbal Gift Making

Join us for this fun hands-on workshop as we craft together an array of herbal creations that will serve as inspirational gifts for yourself and/or loved ones. 5:30-8:30pm. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

7 | Holiday Fun and Cookie Decorating

Celebrate Christmas with complementary continental breakfast. Decorate holiday cookies to be shared amongst friends and family this holiday season. 9-11am. Thompson Community Center, Appleton. 225-1700.

8 | Handling Holiday Care for Caregivers

We will share tips to de-stress your holiday, provide the best care for your loved one and provide help for talking to family and friends. 10-11am. Thompson Community Center, Appleton. 225-1704.

8 | It's Christmas, Carol

Spend an evening with the Fox Valleyaires Barbershop Chorus as they present an old-fashioned radio drama that tells the story of Carol. 7pm. James W. Perry Hall at UWFox Valley, Menasha. 757-6153.

8 | Jingle, Jingle, Mix & Mingle

Join our festivities, a heavy hors d'oeuvres buffet, a live auction, a themed gift basket silent auction, and our Merry-Time Festival of Trees raffle drawing. 5:30pm. Door County Maritime Museum. 743-5958.

LIVE HOLIDAY CONCERT EVENT!

JIM BRICKMAN

comfort & joy

"The premier romantic pianist of his generation."
— *AT HOME*

"Jim Brickman warms up a winter's night."
— *HOUSTON POST*

"Sensational!"
— *CHICAGO SUN-TIMES*



FOX CITIES PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
Friday, December 4 • 7:30pm
Tickets start at \$29.
TICKET OFFICE: (920) 730-3760 • FOXCIETIESPAC.COM

jimbrickman.com | [f](#) | [t](#) | [v](#)

Mile of Music rocks New Year's Eve

If you're looking to dance your way into 2016 with some great music, Mile of Music has you covered. After the huge success of the 3rd annual Mile of Music, four bands will return to Appleton for Mile of Music's New Year's Encore Eve in the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel ballroom. The event will feature four bands from Mile 3, hosted by local

musicians Cory Chisel and Adriel Denae. The music will start at 8 p.m. and go through the New Year until 1 a.m.

"We identify 10 to 15 bands that we think really knocked it out of the park at Mile of Music and see if they can come back for New Year's Eve," explains Dave Willems, CEO of Willems Marketing, which plans Mile of Music each year. "This year, we were able to narrow the list



Photo courtesy of Graham Washatka of Graham Images

down to four bands that could return and we know they'll put on a great show."

The four returning bands include local rockers Cool Waters Band, indie/alt rock band Me Like Bees from Missouri, folk rock band Motherfolk from Ohio and Nashville-based blues rock band Los Colognes. Each band brings a different style in their own set of original music, but they'll all come together at the end of the night for a Rolling Stones tribute jam, led by Cory and Adriel, to ring in the New Year. The event also includes door prizes, a champagne toast and other side attractions throughout the evening.

In its third year, "there's a lot of people coming for the festival," Willems remarks. "The bands play original music, not just cover music, and that makes this a unique local event."

About 1,000 people are expected for the event and there are several ways to attend, including ticket packages with a hotel stay and/or dinner. For more information, visit mileofmusicproductions.com.

—By Amanda Bourbonais

the **YMCA**

FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

TOGETHER WE CAN

YMCA OF THE FOX CITIES

At the Y, kids, families and adults have the opportunity to make friends, get active and discover who they are and what they can achieve.

Stop by today and see for yourself the difference the Y can make.



APPLE CREEK YMCA • 733.0622
APPLETON YMCA • 739.6135
FOX WEST YMCA • 757.9820
HEART OF THE VALLEY YMCA • 830.5700
NEENAH-MENASHA YMCA • 729.0523

ymcafoxcities.org

14th Annual Fox Valley Best of the Valley Award Winner



Photo by Barry McCall

The Grand celebrates Celtic Christmas

A trio of voices will join together Dec. 10 at The Grand Opera House in Oshkosh as the Celtic Tenors — Matthew Gilsenan, James Nelson and Daryl Simpson — take the stage for “The Celtic Tenors Christmas.”

While the Celtic Tenors are classically trained, theatergoers shouldn't be fooled by the group's moniker.

“We try to expel and dispel any of the stuffiness that might be associated with tenors,” says Gilsenan. “Audience participation is really important to us.”

The combination of the group's humor, informal style and singing appealed to Joseph Ferlo, director of The Grand, as he looked at booking them following the results of a Top 100 online audience survey.

“This frankly surprised me,” Ferlo notes. “I guess I shouldn't have been to be honest — Celtic music is one of the requested types of acts.”

As of October, the tenors were in the middle of a U.S. tour as special guests of Celtic Woman. They also had released their debut Christmas CD, “The Celtic Tenors Christmas.”

Oshkosh audience members will hear tunes like “Nessun Dorma” and “Danny Boy,” along with lots of Christmas songs, including “We Three Kings,” “We Wish You a Merry Christmas” and others. “The Wexford Carol” though remains Gilsenan's favorite Christmas tune.

“It sounds old. It sounds like its from the 15th century. It has a beautiful simplicity to it,” he says. “There's something very simple that touches me and I don't really know why.”

John Denver's “Calypso,” Bob Dylan's “Forever Young,” and Martina McBride's “In My Daughter's Eyes,” which gets Gilsenan every time he confesses, also are likely to make an appearance during the 7:30 p.m. performance.

“It almost brings a tear to my eye every time I sing it,” shares the father of two daughters of the last selection.

There's also the emotional “Remember Me,” a song written for The Celtic Tenors by Phil Coulter, about three soldiers the night before battle, which pays tribute to service men and women.

“It's like a taster menu if you like — there's a lot to float your boat,” Gilsenan says of the evening.

—By Amy Hanson

8 | Sounds of the Season with Elvis Presley

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

9 | All is Calm — The Christmas Truce of 1914

This performance relives an astounding moment in history when Allied and German soldiers laid down their arms to celebrate Christmas together. 7:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

10 | The Celtic Tenors Christmas

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

11, 12 | Holiday Pops

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

11 | Boogie and the Yo-Yoz Presents Christmas with You

Adaptations of traditional Christmas songs and a few brand new songs. 7:30-9:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

11 | Garden Sprouts: Gingerbread Fun

Discover how cookies are made from plants like ginger and enjoy a gingerbread story. For children ages 3 to 5 and an accompanying adult. 10-11:30am. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

11 | Holiday Children's Story and Activity Time

Hear an exciting story in the gallery, then visit the studio for a fun art activity. To kick off the Festival of Trees, we'll be reading “The Christmas Crocodile” by Bonnie Becker. 10-11am. Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

12, 19 | The Spirit of Christmas Past

Experience how Christmas was celebrated throughout the 19th and 20th centuries amidst the beautiful backdrop of the park. 12-6pm. Heritage Hill State Historical Park, Green Bay. 448-5150.

12 | Breakfast with Santa Holiday Fest

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

12 | Glass Ornaments for the Holiday

Make fused-glass ornaments for your tree, to hang in your window or to give away as gifts to your friends and family. 10am. Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, Neenah. 751-4658.

12 | Grand Ole Night at the Movies

Join the New London Public Museum as we host a vintage holiday movie at the Grand Cinema Theatre. 6-8:30pm. 982-8520.

12 | Holiday Make & Take

Kids will make eight unique gifts and wrap them with the assistance of our volunteer team. Appropriate for K-5th graders. Registration required by Nov 29. 9-11am or 11am-1pm. Mosquito Hill Nature Center, New London. 779-6433.

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

The Alley Cats have made it to the forefront of a cappella music with their renditions of timeless doo-wop classics and their zany improvisational comedy. 3-5pm and 7:30-9:30pm. Thrasher Opera House, Green Lake. 294-4279.

13 | Breakfast With Santa

Enjoy a pancake breakfast, photos, cookies, ice skating and more. Special visit from Santa Claus! 9-11am. Tri-County Ice Arena, Neenah. 830-7679.

13 | Festival of Trees: Window Walk Open House

Take a walk to Downtown Appleton to see all the beautiful trees in the Festival-partnering store windows, coordinated by Appleton Downtown, Inc. Then stop by the Trout Museum of Art to enjoy live music. 6-9pm. Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

14 | Holiday Christmas Concert

The choirs will take you on a musical Christmas journey as the Hallelujah Chorus and Young at Heart Singers sing Christmas carols. 1-3pm. Thompson Community Center. 225-1700.

14 | Spark! Angels We Have Heard On High!

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

16 | Holiday Children's Story and Activity Time

Hear an exciting story in the gallery, then visit the studio for a fun art activity. 10-11am. The Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

17 | An Evening of Holiday Mischief

Festive music and holiday hijinks from Appleton's favorite troubadour, Corey Chisel, Adriel Denae, and a sleigh-full of special guests. 7pm. Lawrence Memorial Chapel. mileofmusicproductions.com.

18-20 | The Nutcracker

The 40th year of a holiday tradition! Performed by the Jean Wolfmeyer Dance Company. Fri 7:30pm, Sat & Sun 3:30pm. Capitol Civic Center. 683-2184.

19 | Breakfast with the Grinch!

Join us for breakfast, crafts, story-time and photos with the Grinch! Noon. The Building for Kid's Children's Museum, Appleton. 734-3226.

19 | Holiday Fun Fest

Ice carving demonstrations, carriage rides, visits with Santa and more! Downtown Appleton. 10:30am-2:30pm. 954-9112.

19 | Switchback: A Midwestern Christmas

Christmas songs interspersed with lively reels, jigs and originals. 7:30-9:30pm. Thrasher Opera House, Green Lake. 294-4279.

20 | Skate with Santa

Open skating, cookies, photos with Santa, and more! 3-5pm. Appleton Family Ice Center. 830-7679.

22 | Lorie Line Christmas in the City

Pianist Lorie Line takes the stage once again for her 26th year of touring, promising a fun-filled, fashion-forward, magical night of Christmas music in the city. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

26 | Family Studio

Drop in for a family studio art activity and create holiday gift wrap. 10am-1pm. The Trout Museum of Art, Appleton. 733-4089.

26 | Holiday Open House

Paper Valley Model Railroad Club welcomes the public for this annual event. 10am-6pm. W221 Block Road, Kaukauna. facebook.com/Paper-Valley-Model-Railroad-14350636247568/.

31 | Mile of Music's New Year's Encore Eve

Six bands who took the stage during Mile 2 will return for Mile of Music's New Year's Encore Eve. Radisson Paper Valley Hotel, Appleton. 8pm to 1am; dinner at 6pm for package ticket holders. 733-8000.

ARTS EVENTS

3-6 | The Improvised Shakespeare Company

Based on audience suggestion, this band of thespians create a fully improvised Shakespearean masterpiece before your very eyes! Thurs.-Sat. 7:30pm, Sun. 1:30pm. John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan. 458-6144.

5 | Explorer Saturday: Sisters in Spirit

Get a compelling glimpse of the continuing influence of Native Americans on contemporary Wisconsin art. 12-3pm. Neville Public Museum, Green Bay. 448-4460.

9 | Neville Public Museum Dinner Program

Enjoy dinner and a program. This event will feature stories of life in early Wisconsin as seen through the eyes of Elizabeth Baird. Dinner at 5pm, program at 6pm. Neville Public Museum, Green Bay. 448-4460.

Formal event to help war veterans

The phrases "ball attire" and "war veterans" seldom appear together, but this year they will unite at the Black & Pink Ball, a fundraiser organized by the Mid-Day Women's Alliance. The ball occurs on Dec. 2 from 6-9 p.m. at the Waverly Beach Ballroom.

The Mid-Day Women's Alliance has hosted this fundraiser for 39 years in order to support local non-profit organizations. This year, attendees can expect to enjoy hors d'oeuvres, chocolate and wine samples, door prizes, silent and live auctions, and entertainment.

For the first time, there will be a dance demonstration courtesy of Terry Irwin of TC Dance Club in Appleton. Prizes for the best black and pink attire also will be presented. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Fox Valley Veterans Council Emergency Fund.

FVVC has provided emergency assistance to veterans in the Fox Valley, as well as those still in service and their families, since 2010. In 2014, the organization also began offering transitional housing to veterans to fight homelessness.

Barb Sexmith, foundation chairperson of the Mid-Day Women's Alliance, explains that FVVC was chosen this year due to its impressive involvement in the community. "We want to see these nonprofits make a difference," she states.



Photo courtesy of the Mid-Day Women's Alliance

Ann Taylor, an Army private who fought in Desert Storm at the age of 19, has been a member of FVVC for a year and is thankful for their assistance.

"If a veteran is looking to move and can't afford first month's rent or security deposit, they will do that. If the electricity is going to get shut off, they will pay the electricity for you," she says. For Taylor, FVVC stepped in to pay for repairs when her car broke down.

Sexmith says she hopes to double the amount raised at last year's ball in order to support FVVC. Through working with FVVC, she learned that veterans receive less assistance than she realized. "So many people think that the government just takes care of these veterans," she explains.

—By Ariela E. Rosa



Celebrate the season with a friend.

Wisconsin Public Radio is your home for seasonal music, entertainment and talk.



WISCONSIN PUBLIC RADIO

wpr.org

18-20 | Disney's Beauty and the Beast

Based on the Academy Award-winning animated feature film, this eye-popping spectacle has won the hearts of over 35 million people worldwide. Fri. 7:30pm, Sat. 2 & 7:30pm, Sun. 1 & 6:30pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

19 | Artist-in-Residence Demonstration

Cristian Andersson will demonstrate his painting process. Everyone is welcome to stop in and ask questions. Funding provided by the Friends of the Appleton Public Library. 1-4pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

MUSIC EVENTS & CONCERTS

3 | Dragons, Stones and Circuses

Composed by David Colson, performed by UWGB faculty and friends. 6:30pm. Weidner Center for the Performing Arts. 465-2726.

4 | Erin Krebs and Jeff Johnston, Vocal Jazz

2pm. Neenah Public Library. 886-6315.

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

A tribute to the singer in honor of his 100th birthday. Grand Opera House, Oshkosh. 424-2350.

6 | Mal-O-Dua, Acoustic Swing Duo

Part of the Neenah Public Library Concert Series. 2pm. Neenah Public Library. 886-6315.

6 | UWFox Chorale and UWFox Jazz Ensemble Concert

Enjoy the UWFox Chorale and UWFox Jazz Ensemble's winter concert. 7:30-9:30pm. UWFox Valley Communication Arts Center — James W. Perry Hall, Menasha. 832-2600.

12 | Kellie Pickler

Catch famed country music artist and TV personality, Kellie Pickler, live at Destination Kohler. 8pm. Kohler Memorial Theatre. (888) 293-7337.



Christmas Eve
CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP
FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

326 E. North Street, Appleton
3pm, 4:30pm, 6pm* and 10:30pm*
Christmas Day Worship: 10am

6331 N. Ballard Road, Appleton
4pm and 7pm*

*Candlelight Worship



Meet our Midwives

At Women's Care, we have three Certified Nurse Midwives, all who help to make your birthing experience as natural as possible. They are also primary care providers specializing in the needs of women at any stage of life.

From adolescence through menopause and beyond, we are here for you!

Women's Care
OF WISCONSIN, S.C.

Join our Circle of Care!

920.729.7105
www.womenscareofwi.com

Becky Kay Janey



Photo courtesy of Mosquito Hill Nature Center

Kids wrap up holiday spirit

After the holiday shopping is done, parents might find themselves asking what their kids can do to give back to their families. For about the last decade, Mosquito Hill Nature Center and Heckrodt Wetland Reserve have provided a day for kids to come and make their own gifts for family members and friends.

"We came up with this idea to provide kids a time to make holiday gifts and wrap them," says Mary Swifka, staff assistant at Mosquito Hill Nature Center. "And we wanted them to be not crafts, but gifts — things mom and dad will be able to use."

On the day before the event, volunteers come to Mosquito Hill and set up eight stations for eight gifts. On the day of the event, two or three volunteers will staff each station, assisting about 100 kids throughout two sessions, running 9-11 a.m. and 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Parents can drop off their kids or stay to help. The cost is \$14 per child.

"It takes a lot of planning, but we do have a lot of support," Swifka remarks, "It's a fun activity to be involved in as a volunteer so we have a lot of folks that come back each year."

Heckrodt Wetland Reserve provides a similar event for children to come and make six different gifts. They will have two sessions as well, from 10 a.m. to noon and another from 1-3 p.m. They expect about 50 kids for each session, and the cost is \$10 per child. After they make the gifts, kids also can enjoy cookies and hot chocolate.

"We have close to 50 volunteers that walk kids through the activities," says Luke Schiller, naturalist and public program coordinator at Heckrodt. "Then we have about 12 volunteers that wrap the gifts, too."

The Children's Christmas Gift Workshop at Heckrodt Wetland Reserve is on Dec. 5. Holiday Make & Take at Mosquito Hill Nature Center is on Dec. 12. Pre-registration is required for both events.

—By Amanda Bourbonais

OPENING EXHIBITS

- 1 | **Senior Fine Arts Exhibition**
Thru Dec 8. UW Oshkosh Allen Priebe Art Gallery. 424-1234.
- 4 | **20th Annual Holiday Membership Exhibit**
Thru Jan 22. Open to all two- and three-dimensional fine art media including pastel, painting, sculpture, graphite, drawing, photography, fiber, ceramics, metal, glass, wood, paper, jewelry, leather, printmaking and mixed media. Plymouth Arts Center. 892-8409.
- 6 | **Rhinestone Cowboy Conservation Lab**
Thru 2016. Aiming to style himself as a singing "rhinestone cowboy" modeled after Glen Campbell's song, Loy Bowlin of McComb, Miss., became the maker of a remarkable art environment. John Michael Kohler Arts Center. 458-6144.
- 13 | **Ladies of the Lake Quilters**
Thru Jan 11. A display of a variety of quilting patterns and designs. Rahr-West Art Museum, Manitowoc. 686-3090.
- 14 | **UW Fox Fall Student Art Show**
Thru Jan 2. Featuring the work of 2D and 3D Design and Drawing Classes. UW Fox Aylward Gallery, Menasha. 832-2824.
- 15 | **Graphic Design Senior Exhibition**
Thru Dec 19. UW Oshkosh Allen Priebe Art Gallery. 424-1234.

COMMUNITY & CULTURAL EVENTS

- 3 | **UW-Fox Valley College Preview**
Join us at College Preview for a fun-filled evening that includes a welcome and introduction, an optional campus tour, a panel discussion and a Q&A with current students and professors. 5-7pm. 832-2620.
- 5-6 | **Kitsune Kon All Nighter**
The Kitsune Kon Video Game Staff is running the 1st Annual All Nighter with 24 hours of video gaming goodness, including classic and modern consoles, over 4,500 games available to play, free play arcade machines, LAN gaming and tournaments with prizes. 1pm. Radisson Paper Valley Hotel, Appleton. 733-8000.
- 5 | **History Fair**
Appleton Historical Society showcases a number of collections at the Indoor Farmers Market. 9am-12:30pm. City Center Plaza, Appleton. 540-3699.
- 11 | **Watching the Night Sky**
View constellations, stars and planets using binoculars and telescopes. Inside star/constellations talk before outside observation time. 6:30-8:30pm. Navarino Nature Center. (715) 758-6999.
- 14 | **Cocoa and Coloring Night**
Enjoy coloring for grownups. We'll provide the coloring sheets and supplies! Suitable for adults, teens, and seniors. 6:30-7:30pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.
- 26 | **Dog Sledding**
Join Jim Feyen and his huskies for a dog sled ride. There will be 2 sessions offered per day. Chili and hot chocolate will be included. Gordon Bubolz Nature Preserve, Appleton. 731-6041.
- 2 | **Black and Pink Ball**
Join Mid-Day Women's Alliance for this festive evening, which will include silent and live auctions, hors d'oeuvres, wine and chocolate sampling, a Black and Pink attire contest, professional dance demonstrations, door prizes and entertainment. Proceeds benefit the Fox Valley Veterans Council Veterans Emergency Fund. 6-9pm. Waverly Beach Ballroom. 427-6763.
- 5 | **Keys for A Cause**
Fox Valley Music Teachers Association hosts a performance and fundraising event benefitting Fox Valley area music students. Participating students from different music studios will obtain pledges and entertain the public. 10am-6pm. Badger Sports Park, Appleton. 830-6900.

8 | A Night at the Museum — Centennial Celebration

This one-of-a-kind event will highlight the Neville Public Museum's collections and illustrate how far the museum has come since 1915. Funds raised will be used to support the Neville Public Museum Foundation. 5:30pm. 448-7847.

LECTURES, READINGS, PRESENTATIONS & DISCUSSIONS

- 3 | **Great Lakes Great Books Club**
The Door County Maritime Museum and Write On, Door County partner to present a monthly club that features books with a Great Lakes focus. Fiction, non-fiction and poetry will be discussed. 10:30am-12pm. Door County Maritime Museum. 743-5958.
- 3 | **Maritime Speaker Series: Bob Desh**
Bob Desh presents on the vital role dogs played in the WWII Shore Patrols. 7pm. Door County Maritime Museum. 743-5958.
- 5 | **Outagamie Master Gardeners**
See how gardening has evolved through the centuries with the presentation "Plants, Passion, and Power: Traveling Through Garden History." 11am. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.
- 5 | **The Elusive Fisher and its Cousins**
Learn about the history and biology of this mammal and its cousins the weasel, the mink, marten and wolverine. 1-2:30pm. Mosquito Hill Nature Center. 779-6433.
- 8 | **Facebook, Instagram, Twitter ... Oh My! A Guide to Using Social Media**
Part of Tech Talk Tuesdays, monthly public lectures about a variety of tech topics. 1:30pm. Neenah Public Library. 886-6315.
- 9 | **Oshkosh Memory Café**
Get out, get active and get connected with the Oshkosh Memory Café. Socialize with others who are living in the early stage of Alzheimer's disease or dementia. 1:30-3:30pm. Oshkosh Public Library. 236-5211.

FUNDRAISERS



"I'm saving \$70 a month on my car loan through Community First."

We're on a mission to Save Members Money!

Jim became a member and transferred his car loan. Now he's paying \$4,000 less on the term of his loan. You too can save! It's our mission to help people in our communities save \$40 million in loan interest in our 40th year.

Stop in, logon or call us today!



COMMUNITY FIRST
CREDIT UNION
40 Years of Finding A Way!

Jim Deery, Member Owner

(820) 830-7200 • www.communityfirstcu.com

11 | The Teen Book Club

Open to grades 6-12. Pizza and refreshments are served. The first 10 teens at each meeting receive a free copy of the book to be discussed the following month. 4:30-5:30pm. Oshkosh Public Library. 236-5211.

14 | Bariatric Information Session

Bariatric surgery can improve your health and help people get off medications for high blood pressure and diabetes. Visit thedacare.org or call 830-6877 to register. 4:15-7:30pm. Theda Clark, Neenah.

FILMS

2 | Latino Americans Film Screening and Discussion

Viewing and discussion of "Latino Americans-Episode 1 Foreigners in their Own Land." Discussion led by Dr. Jake Frederick, professor of History and Latin American Studies, Lawrence University. 7-8:30pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

3 | Thursday Afternoon @ The Movies

Featuring "The Water Diviner," rated R. Refreshments served. 4-6pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

7, 21 | Monday Morning Matinee

Featuring "Balto" on Dec. 7 and "Toy Story 3" on Dec. 21. Rated G. Refreshments served. 9:30-11am. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

10 | Thursday Night @ The Movies

Featuring "Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation," rated PG-13. Refreshments served. 6-8pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

14 | Monday Movie

Featuring "Jurassic Park," rated PG-13. Refreshments served. 4-6pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

3, 17 | Neville Cellar Series: King Midas Mead

Learn how to make beer and about the origins of certain beer styles. Brewing Dec 3 and bottling Dec 17. 6-7:30pm. Neville Public Museum, Green Bay. 448-4460.

3 | Metal Clay and Glass Pendant

Create a beautiful pendant combining silver metal clay and glass. 10am. Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, Neenah. 751-4658.

7 | Card Club

Make four cards to bring home. 6:30-8:15pm. Paper Discovery Center, Appleton. 380-7491.

10 | Creative Writing @ the Library

Meets 2nd and 4th Thursday mornings for a variety of writing exercises. Topic: One Line Prompts. Led by Sharrie Robinson. 10am-12pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6173.

12 | Find Your Ancestors

Resourceful genealogists turn to less-used historical records to develop their family histories. Led by UW Oshkosh archivist Joshua Ranger. 2-3:30pm. Appleton Public Library. 832-6393.

16 | Money Management

A free interactive workshop about how to make your money work for you! 6-7:30pm. Menasha Public Library. 232-1970.

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

1, 3, 4 | Toddler Time

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

1 | Twilight Time

Storytime for ages 2-6 every Tuesday. 6:30pm. Neenah Public Library. 886-6335.

2, 3 | Lapsit

Storytime for ages 2-3 with a caregiver. Every Wednesday and Thursday. 10am. Neenah Public Library. 886-6335.

2 | Baby Time

Storytime for babies birth-11 months every Wednesday through Dec. 4. 9:15-9:45am. Neenah Public Library. 886-6335.

5 | Royal Tea

Enjoy tea and activities with your favorite princesses! For children 11 and under, tickets \$15 per child and \$5 for a guardian. UW Fox Valley, Menasha. 832-2646.

7 | Messy Mondays

Art projects for 2- to 6-year-olds. Old clothes recommended; drop in anytime! 10am-5pm. Neenah Public Library. 886-6330.

27 | Legos in the Library

Come build a Lego creation and have your creation put on display at the library! 1:30-4pm. Neenah Public Library. 886-6330.

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

Learn Something New!

Add skills to your resumé or find a new hobby

The Take a Class booklet is available online at www.fvtc.edu/TakeAClass or at any FVTC location, as well as area restaurants, gas stations, convenience stores, libraries & job centers.

Fox Valley TECHNICAL COLLEGE
Knowledge That Works

www.fvtc.edu • 1-800-735-FVTC (3882)
Appleton • Chilton • Clintonville • Oshkosh • Waupaca • Wausau

**Nesting Ball Craft Kits • Pine Cone Feeder Kits
Holiday Lantern Décor • Fraser Fir Scented Gifts**

Find Outdoor Inspirations With Us!



go wild with birds

Wild Bird Supplies and Premium Pet Foods

216 W. Cecil St., Neenah (920) 751-3880
www.gowildwithbirds.com

Trusted and Affordable Family Dentistry

**BARNES & ASSOCIATES
DENTISTRY**

Call us today, (920) 996-0123

381 S. Kools St., Appleton

www.barnesdentistry.net





Transitioning TECHNOLOGY

By Amy Hanson

Today's homes think 'smart'

As time has evolved, so has technology. From the days of the first telephone to crowding around a television to get a glimpse of a historical event or favorite variety show, the possibilities have become endless as to what can be found inside today's homes.

"I think one thing that people need to understand is that the technology is changing all the time," says Scott Murphy, president of Silvercrest Construction Group.

"Everything in convenience technology is huge," adds Nick Kampo, president of P&J Kampo Electric, who has seen technology integration become popular within the last six years, but especially within the last two as phone and tablet options have been rolled out. "Everybody has their cellphone in their hand at all times."

From thermostats to sound systems to TVs to appliances to lighting to security systems and everything in between, home technology integration is now within reach of today's modern families as we prepare to move into 2016.

From the outside in

For Tim Sues, president of Sues Electronics, technology starts on the exterior of a home as seen with their design center. It can be as simple as a speaker camouflaged as a rock to a door station where you can see who is standing on your front porch via a camera. A keypad at the station also can be programmed to allow access to the home via a code that is connected to settings inside and out such as activating lights, turning off an alarm

system, adjusting window treatments and more.

"In a true smart home, we're not touching all of these things, we're setting a 'mood,'" Sues explains. "The whole concept is let's simplify, but not give up performance."

Because the systems Sues Electronics works with are meant to "talk" to each room, they can operate independently or together with the use of electronic check boxes to control settings from audio to the thermostat to video to music to lighting to security — both in the home and remotely. The system can be set to activate based on motion, touch or time of day. Verbal commands also are an option, but most clients opt for touch control of the interface that works on a TV, touch screen, tablet, phone or portable screens.

While individual systems are "smart" on their own, having an integrated system allows everything to work together and make recommendations, along with increasing efficiency within a home.

Let there be light

As LED lighting has evolved, so has the applications for its use, says Kampo. While homeowners will pay more for the bulbs on the front end, the savings over time pays dividends.

"LED is just that much more durable," Kampo adds of the average seven-year bulb life. "You don't have that maintenance as often."

Lighting also can be adjusted to create "scenes" or varied levels of light for different times of day. Programming the lights to come on at certain times also eliminates fumbling in the dark to find switches.

Creative coverings

Window coverings also are getting touched by technology as motorization brings infrared or radio frequency technology to creating coverings that not only add to lighting scenes, but efficiency, safety, privacy and ability to cover multiple, and high and out-of-the-way windows.

"When you go cordless, that adds an element of safety and security for kids and pets, and adding



Photo courtesy of Budget Blinds

motorization adds another element to that," shares Jeff Rakestraw, owner and president of Budget Blinds of the Fox Valley.

Battery, low-voltage and hard-wired options exist on the market today. The later two are recommended most often for new construction. There also are solutions available for both indoor and outdoor coverings.

Motorization eliminates wear and tear as well, along with the need to re-cord or restring coverings.

"People like to bring their own touch and feel," Rakestraw says. "Drapery will never go away. It is the way to add softness and color to a room. To me, it is the icing on the cake."

Laundry lessons

Today's appliances aren't without their own set of technological advancements. From washers and dryers to refrigerators and ovens, consumers are now being enabled to operate their household in an efficient manner.

"Some of the washers and dryers are allowing you to interact with your smartphone and self-diagnose problems," says Dave Frittitta, electronics buyer and Oshkosh store manager for



Van Vreede's. "For people who do a lot of laundry and aren't that close to it, you can still keep an eye on it."

Brands like LG and Samsung now utilize apps that connect with their products to let customers know when a load needs to be readjusted, a door is ajar or the machine isn't operating correctly. Some washers also will walk consumers through how to remove certain types of stains and have the ability to contour controls for the way they do laundry.

Gone are the days of TVs in refrigerators, but audio is now gaining momentum. Placing wireless bluetooth sound bars on top of the fridge has gained popularity and some brands are looking at adding ether net ports as well.

Certain refrigerator lines also allow for flexibility of zoned cooling and determining how compartments are used, including for freezing.



Shelving has received a revamp based on consumer needs as well, while manufacturers have looked at air filtration, prep space, better illumination with LED lighting and the ability to open cavities, such as beverage drawers, without having to open the whole refrigerator.

Wall ovens also are becoming more consumer friendly.

"Essentially, they're putting smart technology into that touch pad so you no longer have to look up how long you have to cook that pot roast for," says Frittitta. "They're putting literally hundreds of recipes in the brain of that computer."

Screen scene

"For the person who always wanted the big TV in their room, but didn't think they could, this is the solution," says Frittitta of 4K TVs that are high-definition times four.

While Suess Electronics offers 4K as well, the business also recently added Dolby Atmos. The surround sound system incorporates five or seven regular base speakers, but also includes additional height speakers to enhance the sound of movies, for example.

"It's no longer just a special effect, it feels like you're there," says Suess.

Plasma and LCD TVs have been phased out in favor of OLED models that can create a true black and have a display panel of only a ¼-inch thick. Models are available at both Van Vreede's and Suess.

"For a lot of people, their TV is their window to the world," Suess notes, adding he thinks 80-inch TVs will be common household items in the future.

Keeping up

Before adding any technology into a home, it is important to make sure that a home is built to withstand the environment and run as efficiently as possible, says Murphy.

Once the backbone system of a home has been installed, upgrading is easy to do, he adds. Murphy would like to see more discussion with his clients about technology integration right away in the new construction process just like any other conversation. Area experts agree and add that costs have come down on technology integration.

"Now in spec homes, they're even putting pieces of things in so (homeowners) can get a taste of it," Kampo notes. "It's not just the higher-cost homes anymore."



Collaboration at its Best!

**In real estate,
collaboration
enhances results.**



Barb Merry CRS, GRI, ABR
Senior Broker Associate
(920) 993-7222
bmerry@coldwellhomes.com



Karen Cain
Realtor
(920) 915-6270
kcain@coldwellhomes.com



THE REAL ESTATE
GROUP, INC.

LAMERS
The Passage Professionals®
832-8800 GoLamers.com



THE BIG IDEA:

Working WOMEN

By Amy Hanson

*ATHENA Award celebrates
30 years in the Fox Cities*

Hard work, grit, diligence. These are just some of the characteristics of the growing circle of ATHENA Leadership Award recipients in the Fox Cities. This year, No. 30 — Lisa Cruz — was welcomed into the fold on Nov. 19 at the Fox Cities Chamber's 2015 The Event: Celebrating Business Awards.

"It means a lot of things, I am certainly honored to be this year's ATHENA Award recipient," says Cruz. "It really recognizes those who have been with me on my journey."

The president and founder of Red Shoes PR believes it speaks volumes that the ATHENA has stayed relevant for three decades.

Mary Hosmer, the 10th recipient in the Fox Cities who works in the field of commercial property and casualty, is not surprised that the ATHENA has sustained its legacy, but she does wonder, "Where has the time gone?"

FROM THE BEGINNING

The first local ATHENA Award was given out in 1985 to Susan Knaack when the program was adopted by the Fox Cities Chamber.

Joanne Fischer Chastain, now president of her own consulting business, Telecom Insights, and Ruth Ann Heeter, now managing editor and publisher of FOX CITIES Magazine,

researched what the chamber in Michigan was already doing with the ATHENA.

"The ATHENA Award is a national program, so we follow the national guidelines of honoring local women who have demonstrated community service and professional excellence," says Amy Flanders, vice president administration & operations at the Fox Cities Chamber. "It was started by Martha Mayhood Mertz who was serving on the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce when she conceived the idea of the ATHENA Award. So, there is a natural connection between the ATHENA Award and chambers of commerce."



Lisa Cruz

"What it did was simply reinforce women in business," adds Fischer Chastain who was the first female Breakfast Rotary president in the area.

Following adopting Lansing's criteria, a sponsor for the award was sought. The former Oldsmobile dealer in Neenah was the first to sponsor the award, Fischer Chastain shares. Today, Bergstrom Automotive pays for the award and gives it out.



ATHENA Award recipients gather in 2000

"We've never lacked in sponsorship for this award so I think the community recognizes the value of it," adds Fischer Chastain.

PASSING THE BATON

As this year's recipient, Cruz hopes she is of "value as a leader to women in the community."

"I think anybody can be who they want to be and do what they want to do," she shares. "I just try to share what I've learned along the way." Cruz also makes it a point to support other women in business and stay attuned to her employees' needs. She also shares that when she was younger, she didn't necessarily think it was a struggle for women, but now recognizes that not everything in business is "women friendly" from fair representation on boards and panel discussions to advancement as a professional.

"I'm like, 'Oh my gosh, we have to do better!'" she says. "I am constantly asking myself what I can do as an employer to make things easier to work outside the home." Cruz believes firmly in creating a flexible work environment that doesn't create more angst or guilt, and empowers women to make decisions and have exposure to experience.

"It's a work in progress, but the reality is I can't be one employer making changes and strides in that. It has to be a collective effort," Cruz adds noting she hopes to be a lightning rod.

Fischer Chastain was one of the women to nominate Cruz and also interviewed her during the selection process.

"That's a very warm, exciting feeling to tell another woman (she's deserving)," Fischer Chastain shares. "I think what really makes her deserving is what she's already accomplished." Fischer Chastain notes that she was impressed by Cruz's commitment to starting her own business, promotion of women and dedication to family.

IF AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED

"It was a real honor," says Hosmer of receiving her award in 1994. "I had been nominated the year before and had not received it, but that is not unusual."

While some recipients have been lucky enough to receive the ATHENA in their first year of nomination, this is not typically the case, according to those who have made the cut. It also is possible for a woman who is nominated to not realize it until the field is narrowed. Recipients say, however, that they have worked with the women who have been nominated to encourage them to continue working toward the award.

The nomination process for the ATHENA begins in July and ends in September. Nominations may be made through the Fox Cities Chamber's website by completing a form, which is then shared with the ATHENA task force. Women and men can either self nominate or be nominated by someone for consideration. Upon receiving all nominations, it was put to the recipient group to determine if any other candidates should be considered, notes Beth Davis, VP of business development for Community First Credit Union who received the ATHENA in 2013.

This year, when the nomination pool was narrowed to four after Labor Day, the women and men were each interviewed by ATHENA recipients to create a comprehensive, thoughtful, meaningful and detailed look at each

Continued on Page 18

Now Open on Eisenhower Drive in Darboy!

STAY TOASTII WITH OUR NEW TRIO OF HEARTY & HEALTHY CHILI
LET'S EAT. ENERGIZE.

freshii

Salads, Wraps, Bowls,
Burritos, Soups, Frozen Yogurt,
Juices, Smoothies, Catering.

Order Online at
www.freshii.com
or call (920)815-3725
N162 Eisenhower Drive, Suite 100

coolsculpting FOR KICK AND TONED **CENTERFORAPS.COM**

**FREEZE IT!
DON'T SQUEEZE IT.**

Eliminate stubborn fat without surgery or downtime!

We are among the few centers, and the first in Northeast Wisconsin, to offer **DUAL SCULPTING™**.

DUAL SCULPTING™ allows us to treat two areas simultaneously, reducing overall treatment times.

Twice the result, half the time!

Learn More at:
www.CoolSculptWi.com
920.725.0480

THE CENTER
FOR AESTHETIC MEDICINE

Todd M. Kim, MD, FACS
Board Certified Plastic Surgeon

Amy Brenner, MD
Board Certified Plastic Surgeon

425 S. COMMERCIAL ST. NEENAH / 920.725.0480 / WWW.COOLSCULPTWI.COM

individual who was nominated, says Davis.

In October, the task force gathered and scored the finalists to select this year's recipient based on their contributions in four key areas — 1. Achieved the highest level of professional business and industry excellence, 2. Contributed time and energy to improve quality of life for others, 3. Actively assisted others, particularly women, in realizing their full leadership potential, and 4. Shown leadership and strong character in professional, community and personal life.



ATHENA Award recipients gather in 2012

WHY IT MEANS SO MUCH

Debra Michiels still recalls becoming a recipient in 2002 like it was yesterday, she says.

"It's business women nominating other business women," shares the president of Fox Banquets Rivertyme Catering. "It was right up there because I knew other successful career women thought of me to be in that circle."

Heather Wessley is one of the youngest recipients in the award's local history. She was 32 when she received it in 2010 and feels "blessed" to have been welcomed into the fold.

"When you look at this list, it's a pretty significant and amazing group of women," says the senior business development officer at Fox Communities Credit Union. "I look back and think, 'How do I fit in to this group of women?'"

"I think it was a great honor and one of the real benefits is the circle of women you become a part of," adds Margie Weiss, CEO and community advocate for Weiss Health Group, LLC, who received the ATHENA in 2000.

Davis keeps her award on her desk.

"It's about what have we impacted individually," she shares. "It's been very special because I've been monitoring these women's careers."

Davis, who moved to the area in 1992, says her career in the financial services industry for 35-plus years, "all came together in this award" and feels it's special that her boss, President/CEO of Community First Credit Union Catherine Tierney, received the award in 1998.

PAYING IT FORWARD

"You're only as good as your last rodeo," shares Michiels, noting that she enjoys the fact that recipients give back and the award is more than a "dust collector." "I would say all of us are great women who are mentoring young women who are just starting out in their careers."

Vivian Huth, the Fox Cities' second ATHENA recipient, stresses to young career women to keep their nose to the grindstone. At the time she won the award, Huth, now manager

at Kampo Properties, was the only woman working in warehousing and distribution in the area. She also managed her career and three children, along with contributing to the Appleton Redevelopment Authority, being the lead person the Fox Cities Chamber's economic development arm and becoming involved with the United Way Board, Rotary and other community outreach.

"I think it's important to be a role model for supporting your family and education, as well as community service," she says. "I just tried to do the

very best I could and show the initiative, and show that I could make it work."

Huth's words now echo with Wessley who says five years ago she was involved in everything, but has chosen to take a step back to focus on her baby and 2-year-old despite occasionally feeling guilty.

"This is just a point in my life when I need to focus on my young family," she shares. Still, she recognizes her own personal reasons for getting involved in the community.

"It felt to me in my heart that I was put here to help people," she says. As a graduate of Kimberly High School, Wessley has always been connected to the Fox Cities, wanted young professionals to be excited by the area and for families to stay here.

Each recipient who was contacted for this story noted that she felt the need to pay it forward by mentoring because another female had helped her during her career. For many of those women, that not only made a difference, but proved to be a pivotal fork in the road.

"I think everybody needs someone they can turn to for advice," says Weiss.

what Women really want

The gift of health.

In the midst of holiday shopping, it's easy to forget that there are some gifts money can't buy – like good health. We look forward to helping you enjoy a healthy new year!

**Women's
Health Specialists**
YOUR FOX VALLEY OB/GYN PHYSICIANS

APPLETON 920.749.4000
NEENAH 920.729.2510
FoxValleyOBGYN.com

"Sometimes, it can be a little bit of a lonely space," Cruz shares. As the mother of four boys ages 16, 14, 11 and 4 — with the oldest dealing with juvenile diabetes and juvenile rheumatoid arthritis — Cruz says she looks to be a role model for them and needs to be filling her own bucket. She also debunks the theory of work-life balance.

"I realized I have to take control of my schedule," she says. "I don't wait anymore until I'm hanging by a thread. I'm very proactive about scheduling that time."

A HELPING HAND

The Fox Cities Chamber will continue to be involved in facilitating nominations for the ATHENA Award through its website and also give it a platform through the annual The Event gathering. This summer, however, a task force determined that forming an ATHENA giving circle through the Women's Fund would allow them to keep the criteria for giving consistent, be transparent, increase the size of the scholarships and determine what giving would look like. The

executive committee — Michaels, Weiss, Fischer Chastain, Hosmer and Davis — have been involved in this process.

The intent of the circle is to grow the number and amount of the scholarships to three a year of a \$1,000 or more, which will be announced at the Women's Fund Grant Recipient Social in spring. Past recipients are encouraged to donate \$100 each annually. The scholarship committee is working with the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, Fox Valley Technical College and the University of Wisconsin-Fox Valley to make recommendations and determine the best candidates to receive the scholarships.

"This is a business award and it needs to go to a woman who wants to further her career with higher education," Davis explains of the scholarship which could be put toward college courses, online credits and certification processes that meet certain criteria.

"I think the changes are great. I think it's a better way to do more for deserving, working women," adds Michiels.

Hosmer would like to see the ATHENA continue to be the women's business award in the area, along with keeping a degree of business acumen, community involvement and giving associated with it.

"I'm really excited about the format that we're moving toward — it really aligns with the group and the initiative," says Weiss. "I think a scholarship plays a really important role in the careers of women today."

ATHENA RECIPIENTS

2015 Lisa Cruz	1999 Beth Nemecek
2014 Margaret LeBrun	1998 Catherine Tierney
2013 Beth Davis	1997 Linda Kennedy
2012 Monica Vomastic	1996 Kate Dugan
2011 Kathi Seifert	1995 Bonnie DeBraal
2010 Heather Wessley	1994 Mary Hosmer
2009 Kim Bassett-Heitzmann	1993 Mary Anne Drewek
2008 Susan May	1992 Joanne Fischer Chastain
2007 Chris Hanson	1991 Valerie Nevitt
2006 Julie Huth	1990 Joyce Bytof
2005 Sharon Hulce	1989 Elizabeth Hoover
2004 Karla Blair	1988 Katherine Westover
2003 Anne Paulus	1987 Ruth Ann Heeter
2002 Debra Michiels	1986 Vivian Huth
2001 Elinor Smith	1985 Susan Knaack

Photo by Craig Augustine



Kathi Seifert, 2011 ATHENA recipient
The ATHENA Award recipient is announced each year at the Fox Cities Chamber's The Event: Celebrating Business Awards.

remaining money was transferred from the scholarship fund with the Chamber Foundation to the circle. A scholarship committee and the

NEVER-ENDING CIRCLE

Joyce Bytof who received the ATHENA in 1990 was instrumental in keeping recipients together, says Hosmer. Since Bytof's passing, other recipients have begun discussing plans to add an annual gathering in addition to the traditional ATHENA luncheon, along with quarterly or twice-a-year cocktail gatherings to meet other recipients and get to know business women in the community.

"These are very strong businesswomen and they all have their charity of choice or mission-based projects," says Hosmer of the recipient pool, noting that each has their own influence within community groups and all have a very high respect for one another.

"I do feel very happy that they're continuing the award and there were a lot of good candidates this year," adds Huth. "I would encourage women to continue on and work hard."



CELEBRATING

10

YEARS OF
AWARD-WINNING
DIGITAL MARKETING

Many thanks to all of
our stellar clients!

STELLAR BLUE
TECHNOLOGIES

stellarbluetechologies.com | 920-931-4250

SHOWCASE



Control your climate

Stay warm this winter with a DEWALT heated jacket — great for all kinds of outdoor activity! The jacket has a compact battery stored in a pocket, and features three heating zones run by a LED controller. Stop in to see our entire selection of quality brands of workwear and footwear such as Carhartt, Berne and Rocky.

Midwest Workwear,

166 W. Wisconsin Ave., Kaukauna. (920) 766-3034.

Store hours: Monday–Thursday, 8am–7pm; Friday, 8am–5pm; Saturday, 9am–3pm. Shop online at midwestworkwear.com.

Come fill up your senses

Use your senses to experience what it was like to celebrate Christmas in 1882 during

Victorian Christmas at Hearthstone Historic House Museum!

See the festive decor of days gone by. Smell the fresh pine. Hear the music and sleigh bells. Taste the maple sugar and ginger. Feel the lace tablecloths and wool mittens. 625 W. Prospect Ave., Appleton. (920) 730-8204. Visit our website for information: HearthstoneMuseum.org.



Photos by Paul Eldridge, HavenPaul Photography

Swing for the best gift this holiday season!

Give the gift of golf to your loved ones this year. **Swing Solutions** offers affordable golf lessons for all ages, as well as special programming for youth.

Through a personalized approach to teaching golf, we will not only maximize your swing, but your love for the game. Contact us for more information: (920) 967-GOLF or swingolutionsgolf.com.



Give the gift of local wine!

This holiday season treat your friends and family to **Parallel 44 Vineyard & Winery's** delicious award-winning wines. Whether you need wine to serve at your holiday celebrations or are looking for the perfect gift, our wines are sure to please! Custom gift boxes and quantity discounts are available

at the winery. For details go to parallel44.com or call (920) 388-4400.



A taste of Door County

Delight your family and friends with a unique gift basket from

Cherryland's Best.

Build your own basket with any of our products from mouthwatering dried cherries to decadent milk chocolate dried cherries to our concentrates, jams, pie fillings and more. Pick up or we'll ship anywhere in the United States. Store Hours: Monday–Friday, 8am–5pm. 801 Fullview Drive, Appleton. (920) 687-1440. Cherrylandsbest.com.



Let them eat cupcakes... under the polka dots!

Stop down under the Polka dots for a Fabu-Lux cupcake from **Tamara's the Cake Guru!** With more than 500 flavors available to order we feature at least 20 cupcake flavors every day in store. Ask about our sweet corporate gifting options as well as dessert catering selections!

Appleton – 1859 Casaloma Drive (920) 903-8440. Oshkosh – 1520 Oregon St. (920) 236-9144. cakeguru.com.

So much to plan, so little time

With so many changes to the tax codes this year, it's not too early to begin planning. **Erickson & Associates, Certified Public Accountants** will help you navigate your tax needs with personalized, quality service. We pride ourselves on being proactive and responsive to our individual and business clients.

Call (920) 733-4957 or visit erickson-cpas.com.



Looking for a great gift idea? ▼

"Proud producer of award-winning Wisconsin cheese"
Simon's Specialty Cheese has a great selection of wine, beer, sausage, homemade fudge, a large selection of cheese and of course fresh cheese curds, all perfect for gift giving.

Stop by Simon's today and choose a gift that's ready to go, or design your own! Hours:

Monday–Friday, 8am–6pm;

Saturday, 8am–pm; and

Sundays in December before

Christmas, 10am–3pm. 2735

Freedom Road, (Hwy. N),

Appleton. 788-6311.

simonscheese.com.



◀ The perfect gift ...

for the chocolate-lover on your list! Celebrating more than 25 years in

the Fox Valley, **Vande Walle's**

Candies creates all of their confections from scratch

with the finest ingredients. Appleton's destination for indulgent treats offers everything from salted caramels and handcrafted truffles to award-winning wrapped caramels. Visit us Monday–Friday, 7am–9pm; Saturday, 7am–6pm & Sunday, 10am–6pm. 400 N. Mall Drive, Appleton. (920) 738-7799. vandewallecandies.com.

Brrrr... it's cold outside! ▶

From the little Chihuahua to a large Great Dane, **Lucy's Closet Pet Boutique and Spa** can help protect from snow and rain! These waterproof coats have reflective trim, to keep your pooch safe and dry.

You'll also find fun gift items for people who love cats and dogs. Pets

welcome. **Now offering grooming!**

129 W. Wisconsin Ave., Downtown Neenah. Hours:

Tuesday–Friday, 10am–6pm; Saturday, 10am–3pm.

lucyclosetpetboutique.com.



◀ Get your Kromer on

In 1903, all George Kromer wanted was a piece of outdoor gear that worked as hard as he did. His wife, Ida, stitched a new-fashioned cap with a pull-down

earband and a cloth visor, and the Stormy Kromer

was born. Get that same quality more than 100 years later in the same town were it all started. **Midwest Workwear**,

166 W. Wisconsin Ave., Kaukauna. (920) 766-3034. Store hours:

Monday–Thursday, 8am–7pm; Friday, 8am–5pm; Saturday,

9am–3pm. Shop online at midwestworkwear.com.



SPECIAL SUBSCRIPTION OFFER

3 years for \$30

plus a \$10 restaurant gift certificate*



☐ **CHECK ENCLOSED**
 Payable to FOX CITIES Magazine

☐ **CREDIT CARD PAYMENT**
 Information below

SUBSCRIBER INFORMATION If different from billing information

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone (required)

email

PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS (choose one):

☐ Apollon

☐ George's
Steak House

☐ Mojito's Mexican
Grill by Sangria's

☐ ATLAS Café

☐ GingeRootz
Asian Grill

☐ Osorio's
Latin Fusion

☐ Carmella's

☐ Good Co.

☐ Red Ox
Steak & Seafood

☐ Darboy Club

☐ IL Angelo

☐ Sangria's
Mexican Grill

☐ Fox River
Brewing Co.

☐ Mark's East Side

☐ Stuc's Pizza

☐ Fratellos

* Offer valid on new subscriptions only. Restrictions vary depending on individual restaurants.

BILLING INFORMATION

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone (required)

Card Number

Expiration Date

CVV #



Signature (required)

RETURN COMPLETED FORM WITH PAYMENT TO:

FoxCities
MAGAZINE

P.O. BOX 2496 APPLETON, WI 54912

OR CALL (920) 733-7788 TO MAKE PAYMENT BY CREDIT CARD.

KNOWING *your* FINANCIAL FUTURE

By Amy Hanson

Planning, protecting assets is just one piece of estate planning

From finances to funerals, there are more details that fall under the umbrella of estate planning than one might imagine — or, even realize. In this story, FOX CITIES Magazine will take a look at this topic and break down the financial sector.

“Typically, some life event (for example job change, divorce or death) is why people call me, but then I have to back them up and work with them to look at their whole picture,” explains Kay Knuth, certified financial planner™ and owner of Knuth Financial Life Planning. She notes that estate planning is part of the bigger financial picture, which includes cash flow, budgeting, retirement savings and taxes for starters.

Ryan Paape, a wealth advisor with Thrivent Financial and certified financial planner, agrees and adds it’s important to create a financial blueprint. He likes to begin the process by getting a better understanding of what clients are trying to accomplish.

Creating a portfolio that manages cash flow and risk to ensure the client has a sound and true retirement plan is important, says Joshua Smith, senior vice president, manager of financial planning solutions with Associated Private Client Solutions. The certified financial planner and certified trust and financial advisor also adds that it’s not a one-size-fits all approach.

“It really depends on what your goals are,” says Amanda Secor, senior vice president of marketing for Community First Credit Union. “For example, in saving for a child’s college education — do you want to be able to pay for all four years? At a state or private school? How much will you need in retirement depends upon



Kay Knuth

what you would like your lifestyle to be, do you plan to stay in the home you have? Do you want to travel extensively?"

Taking a look at the estate planning piece of the pie sooner rather than later makes a significant impact, according to area experts.

"You're allowing yourself the luxury of making decisions when you are of sound mind and not out of the picture," says Knuth. She uses the analogy of remodeling your home with her clients to help them visualize the importance of planning not only for now, but two, five and 10 years down the road, and so on.



Ryan Paape

"The best time to plant a tree is 20 years ago and the second best time is today," says Daniel Evensen, a senior vice president, personal trust manager with Associated Trust Company. "Nobody thinks they're not going to make it home, but sometimes that happens."

For those who choose to put off the process of estate planning or never do it and something happens, there are laws in effect, but they likely will not go the route you prefer.

"If you don't, then you actually do," says Evensen who also is part of the Fox Valley Estate Planning Council and the Wisconsin State Bar Association. "Then, you're actually going to let the state determine where your assets go." In Wisconsin, it goes to your spouse, then children and so on.

Having things like a will, trust, living will, health care directives, power of attorney for finances and power of attorney for health care decisions in place will make the situation more manageable for those left to settle your estate. A will, for example, takes effect upon death while a trust can and does name a trustee for direction of assets during life.

Knuth, Paape and Evensen suggest surrounding yourself with a competent financial planner or adviser, tax adviser, certified public accountant and lawyer or attorney.

"It really does take a team approach to tailor to the family's needs and wishes," adds Smith.

For those who aren't sure where to start with that process, Secor offers this advice: "Check with your financial institution for financial advisory services or ask for recommendations from friends and family."



Daniel Evensen

Communicating who is involved with your team also is key "so everybody knows who the players are and can work in close proximity to make sure those needs are identified and met," says Evensen.

While there is no magic number for when to start and how much to save, Paape suggests starting as young as you can and doing as much as you can while looking at factors including spending, income, cash flow, living within your means, debt management, taking advantage of employer matching and saving. While you can't control the stock market, you can control how much you spend and save, along with knowing your income level, he says.

Knowing your goals and what you wish for your legacy — including any charitable giving — to be important, Evensen shares.

Experts note that your financial picture will look different at each stage of life whether you're young, old, single, married, divorced or have children. Language in necessary documentation also should vary to reflect that and the "what if" situations.

Even if an individual feels as though they have a simple financial picture, it is worth planning, Knuth shares. She encourages people to make a list of their assets — car, house, cash, business if they own one, IRA, 401(k) or 403(b), bank accounts, investments, properties, etc. Anything

Continued on Page 24

For your simpler, yet elegant lifestyle

TIMBER Innovations

Showcase Home For Sale ...

Emphasizing quality over quantity, this Craftsman-inspired home built by Timber Innovations features masterful custom woodwork, a stained glass entry door and soapstone and granite countertops.

It is highly energy efficient, incorporating sustainable building techniques that lessen impact on the environment.

3,800 sq. ft. with 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths and walk-out basement on an .8-acre wooded ravine lot in Kimberly School District. \$489,000.

Offered by

Contact Al Lamers
(920) 858-1658 or (920) 788-9804
www.lamersrealty.com

The Gardens at Felician Village

Celebrating active lifestyles

- Open floor plans
- Washer and dryer in apartment
- All appliances included
- Underground parking
- On-site medical clinic
- Full-service salon
- Three restaurants
- Daily activities
- Fitness room

For a tour, call 920-684-7171, ext. 409
1700 S. 18th St., Manitowoc • felicianvillage.org

Regency

Wealth Management, LLC

Retirement Income Planning • 401(K) Rollovers • Estate Planning
Charitable Giving • Annuities • Mutual Funds • Advisory Services
Fee-Based Planning through LPL Financial • 529 Educational Planning

EVERGREEN BUILDING - SUITE 1400 201 SOUTH RIVERHEATH WAY, APPLETON
(920) 739-5549 www.MyRegencyWealth.com

Securities and Advisory Services offered through LPL Financial,
a Registered Investment Advisor. Member FINRA/SIPC.



Continued from Page 23



Joshua Smith

that doesn't have a noted beneficiary needs to be accounted for through titling of these assets. Appropriately titling assets also can save time, money and energy. Beneficiaries on things like life insurance policies also need to be set

up correctly, Paape shares.

"Where you are invested really is dependent upon what you want to accomplish. Every investment has its pros and cons. A good investment plan will balance those risk and rewards to keep you on track toward your goals," says Secor.

Having an updated asset list, photos of tangible assets, financial statements and titling information in a place or two that another trusted individual is aware of like a safety deposit box or fire/water-safe box is beneficial, along with a document outlining username and password information. Knuth recommends updating the information annually as tax information is being prepared, but definitely every 3-5 years as wealth is acquired. Things like receiving inheritance, adding children to the family, job change, death and divorce also can impact planning, Paape notes.

"Whatever you put down can be changed, it is fluid," Knuth says. It is, however, good to have discussions with the individuals you appoint to carry out your wishes to make sure they are willing to accept the responsibility, and that their values align with yours.

Discussing finances can still be challenging for clients who are baby boomers. They grew up in a very private manner when it comes to money versus millennials who live through Facebook and social media, says Knuth. It is not unusual for her to hear of a spouse or child finding coffee cans or other hiding places stashed with cash. A more open and honest discussion can make this planning process more effective for all.

Evensen also encounters families who start the conversation with the most senior generation, while others prefer not to share information. The more family members can communicate, however, the better, he says.

"It's not painful, it is a process," shares Evensen. "We have seen the results of good planning and what that does for the family."



Amanda Secor

Studio 247 Fine Jewelry



Studio 247 Fine Jewelry focused on custom artistry and hospitality

Studio 247 Fine Jewelry opened its doors to the Fox Cities community this fall with sights set on providing customers with a welcoming experience. Our store offers a unique jewelry experience featuring exquisite, handcrafted, one-of-a-kind pieces in an inviting environment. Custom creations, hand-picked designer lines and rare vintage finds provide an eclectic shopping experience in a wide variety of price ranges.

We're all about building relationships with a "can do" attitude. Our goal is to offer and design beautiful pieces that have special meaning for our customers.

and comfortable. Jewelry is wearable art and what people choose to wear makes a personal statement. Shopping for it should be fun, not intimidating. With that in mind, we've designed an approachable space to pique all variety of interests such that everyone should find something that speaks to them as well as fits their budget.

Co-Owner and on-site designer Craig Slavens is a graduate gemologist from the Gemological Institute of America. He has recently returned to the Appleton area and is working with local partners to bring his creative dream alive. His vast experience includes jewelry design work in Beverly Hills, as well as the former Earth Resources Jewelry in the Fox Cities where Craig also served as manager. National recognition includes two Spectrum Awards from the American Gem Trade Association, one of which was won this fall for his work with



Custom creations are our specialty; when other jewelers say something can't be done, that inspires us to make it happen. We take pride in turning people's ideas and dreams into reality. The creative process involved in doing that comes down to working collaboratively with the people we serve. We have had customers from across the country contact us for design work when told that their complex design "can't be done," and indeed, we made it happen! We often work with customers who own jewelry that has lost its luster to create a new and exciting piece they can really enjoy wearing.

We want everyone to immediately feel welcome

Studio 247 Fine Jewelry.

Customers coming into the store have been overwhelmed by the breadth and depth of our jewelry offerings and tell us they are happy to have such a place in the Fox Valley. We're thrilled to have the opportunity to work with such a creatively receptive, inviting community that embraces the broad-ranging artistry we bring to the table.

All of us at Studio 247 are looking forward to serving our Fox Cities customers by providing meaningful, happiness-inspiring jewelry experiences. Stop in, get to know our friendly staff, relax and enjoy your time with us!



247 S. Nicolet Road, Appleton
(920) 903-8716

www.studio247finejewelry.com

It's tradition

By Ric Reynolds

*Must-visit Fox Cities eateries
are a gift at the holidays*



People have many long-held traditions, and that especially holds true during the holidays. Traditional home-cooked meals on the big days are the norm, but the season affords numerous opportunities for family get-togethers or annual gatherings with friends at favorite places.

The Fox Cities is blessed with so many choices, so it's no easy task to pinpoint the places one can call, "must visit." But the four restaurants profiled below — Apollon, Frank's Pizza Palace, Solea Mexican Grill, and Van Abel's of Hollandtown — each have their loyal customers who return year after year, and in many cases, generation after generation.

Apollon

Appleton's Apollon restaurant traces its roots back to the 1940s when it started out as Karras' Restaurant. It's therefore not surprising that many customers during the holidays are familiar faces fulfilling time-honored traditions of dining at the downtown landmark.

"During the holidays, especially around Christmas season, it's a lot of families that come back," explains Craig Persha, who acquired the restaurant in 2013 with partner Modesto Santander. Going through the old reservation books, Persha sees a lot of familiar names.

"We have one family that's been coming back during the Christmas season for many years and they made their reservation for this year back in March," Persha says. "People even request the same table, and we do our best to offer that — provided the family does not get too large."

Persha joined Apollon in 2007 when it was owned by the late Stavros Kodis, who acquired it from the Karras family in 1995. Apollon does not feature traditional "holiday fare" which is one of the reasons Persha thinks customers return. The menu's flavors are based in Greek and Mediterranean cuisine and include lamb dishes, filo pastries, feta-flavored salads and Greek-style steaks.

"Greek tradition features limited courses, and meals do tend to go on for a little bit," Persha shares. "The focus is not a 'get in, eat quick and get out because we have stuff to do' mentality."

Apollon can accommodate small gatherings and up to as many as 50 guests. Featuring a casual atmosphere and a traditional way of doing things, people know what they're going to get when dining at Apollon.

"And, the goal is to have them leave with a smile on their face," Persha adds.

Solea Mexican Grill

Eduardo Sanchez, owner of the three Solea Mexican Grill restaurants in the Fox Cities, certainly has a lot to be thankful for this holiday season.

He began writing his version of the American Dream in 1995 when he arrived in the United States with \$40 in his pocket from Veracruz, Mexico. A friend had suggested he could find work here, but he had to get out a map to figure out where Wisconsin was.

Fifteen years after coming to America, Sanchez has three restaurants and calls the holidays — dias festivo — the best time of the year when he can welcome back loyal customers visiting home.

"We really enjoy the season," Sanchez says. "We try to be a favorite restaurant — that's our goal — and we've gotten to know a lot of families over the years. It's exciting to see their children grow up, some who even end up working for us. Time really flies."

Taking care of customers so they come back again and again is a key to being successful in the restaurant business. "In 10 years, I've seen at least 50 restaurants open and close, but we're here working it one day at a time and have a passion for what we do," Sanchez notes.

Solea's catering business, based in its Neenah location, is busiest during the holidays as well. "A lot of businesses claim to do catering, but we do it right," he says.

Frank's Pizza Palace

A perennial favorite atop many holiday must-visit lists is Appleton's first pizzeria, Frank's Pizza Palace. The holiday season is its busiest time of year, as people come home to the Fox Cities and make a point of getting their "Frank's fix."

In 1955, Frank Pierri traveled from his home in Chicago to Appleton to serve as best man for a friend's wedding. After discovering there was no place to get a pizza here, he got the idea to establish the city's first pizzeria. He and Pat Earle opened Frank and Pat's in May that year.

Sixty years later, that rich legacy lives on with Frank's daughter, Jeanne Pierri-Bice, who has owned and operated the restaurant since her father passed away 15 years ago. She says the key to their success is consistency: the recipes, the service and the huge Fauds six-

Continued on Page 28

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Wine Bar

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
EVERY WEDNESDAY ONLY
4:30 PM - CLOSE**

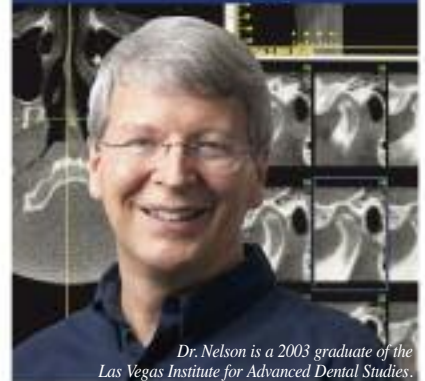
**Extensive wine selection
Full cocktail bar
Beers on tap
Gourmet small plate menu**



STONE CELLAR
at **RIVERVIEW GARDENS**
Celebrations & Events

1101 S. Onondaga Street • Appleton, WI 54915
920.997.3332 • stonecellarriverview.com
Just across S. Onondaga St. from Stone Cellar Brewery

Improving Health... Changing Lives



*Dr. Nelson is a 2003 graduate of the
Las Vegas Institute for Advanced Dental Studies.*

Using new 3D technology,
we can precisely plan your implant.

DOUGLAS NELSON D.D.S. S.C.

*General and Neuromuscular Dentistry
Implants and Esthetics*

**3521 Commerce Court, Appleton
734-7730
WWW.DRDOUGNELSON.COM**

ASK CHEF JEFF

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

Researching ribs

Q. I love pork ribs. Can you explain the different types of ribs? —Cal from Calcutta

A. I'm sure that there are many people who agree with you, Cal! And yes, there are several styles of ribs that come from a pig carcass. Most people are familiar with baby back ribs. Back ribs come from the loin area of the back and are the smallest ribs because they originate from the backbone on the back of

the pig. The difference between a back rib and a baby back rib is size. A rack of baby back ribs should weigh 1¾ pounds or less. A back rib is the exact same cut only larger than 1¾ pound, presumably

from a bigger pig. The rest of the ribs that grow along the sides of the pig are called spare ribs. They are quite large and wrap all the way around the pig's sides. The top of the spare ribs can be cut off into a rectangle, which is then called, a St. Louis-style rib. St. Louis-style ribs are preferred by many barbecue pitmasters as they are thicker and

meatier than back ribs. Toward the front of the loin, near the pork butt, is a small but very meaty section that can be cut into country-style ribs. Country-style ribs are very economical and can be prepared in almost any manner.

Are you ready for some ribs now, Cal?

For Chef Jeff's Honey Stung Ribs recipe, visit foxcitiesmagazine.com.

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



Continued from Page 27

deck rotating pizza oven remain the same since the day Frank's opened.

Pierri-Bice's grandfather ran a meat market in Chicago and invented the sausage used in Frank's pizzas today, made with boned pork butts.

"The best compliment I've received was a longtime customer who said she's been coming here since 1965, and it's just as good today as it was then," says Pierri-Bice.

Even the reconstruction of College Avenue from 2005-06 couldn't keep customers away. People parked across the street and climbed over large piles of dirt to get to the restaurant. The 5,000-square-foot facility has 22 tables and an official seating capacity of more than 200 people.

Pierri-Bice sees her role as caretaker of a tradition. "To know that what you do is appreciated, when people tell me how many times they've eaten here over the years, that's very special," she says.

Van Abel's of Hollandtown

In 1848, the year Wisconsin became the 30th state of the Union, Martin Van Abel set up a saloon and inn as a rest stop for cattle drives heading north to Green Bay. Today, Van Abel's of Hollandtown endures as a revered institution for the ages, frequented by generations from throughout the area and beyond.

Chris Coenen, general manager, calls the holidays at Van Abel's one of the busiest times of the year — not only for the people coming into Hollandtown for dinner, but also for the more than 100 catered events Van Abel's performs during the season.



Family style chicken dinner at Van Abel's

"We are that traditional gathering place. Because of our size we can handle all sized groups."

Van Abel's is one of those places that is just part of the local fabric.

"A lot of people travel to the ends of the U.S. and they inevitably come here during the holidays," Coenen explained.

And of course, there's the food. It's the definitive comfort food often served all-you-can-eat family style, and the menu has not changed in forever, Coenen says.

While many holiday parties take place at Van Abel's, they also cater quite a few special events throughout the area — from large businesses to smaller office gatherings.

To lighten the workload of families celebrating at home, cold carryouts — what Coenen calls "just heat it and eat it" — also are extremely popular during the holidays. Especially, dressing and the green beans with bacon sauce.



EAST WISCONSIN SAVINGS BANK.
Helping you build a wonderful life with exceptional bank services and personal attention since 1887.

Sharonville	Little Chute	Kimbels	Appleton	Greenville	Freedom
760-4846	156-8332	768-3322	731-5858	731-9770	785-6341

Member FDIC

SETH'S COFFEE
LOCAL CRAFT CAFE
Drive thru at:
323 E. Washington St., Appleton
(Behind The History Museum)
M-F 6am-6pm; Sa & Su 7am-3pm
Full cafe at Little Chute
M-Th 6:30am-9pm; Fr-Su 10am-10pm; Sa 7am-10pm; Su 8:30am-4pm

FOR SALE
REVO scooter
Like new condition **\$600** or best offer
(920) 733-7788 ask for Ruth Ann

See our website for open skate and special events!
APPLETON ICE
www.appletonice.org 920.830.7679

WHERE TO DINE

Antojitos Mexicanos

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

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

Basil Café

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

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

Café Debé

3925 Gateway Drive, Appleton. 702-4810.

The Fox Cities have come to know and love Debé Cheesecake and Catering for exceptional food, so it's with great excitement that Café Debé opens its doors to the community! Located within the Fox Valley Hematology & Oncology building, we serve fresh bakery, homemade soups, deli sandwiches, specialty coffee drinks and, of course, Debé's famous artisan cheesecakes. Visit us for breakfast on the go or a deli-style lunch — we offer fast service with amazingly fresh foods. The menu changes daily, please visit our Facebook page for each day's offerings. Open Monday through Friday from 6:30am until 4:30pm. Enjoy!

Carmella's: an Italian Bistro

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

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

CHUNG'S Sandwich Bar

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

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

Gingerootz Asian Grille

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

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

Houdini's Escape Gastropub

1216 S. Oneida St., Appleton. 574-2616.

Newly remodeled and double the size, Houdini's has some major improvements to show off. From the beautiful brick patio with three fire tables, to the 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.

The Lake House on the Marina

124 Main St., Menasha. 486-3391.

Experience a new twist on the traditional supper club with modern American fare! Start with our muddled old fashioned, enjoy a house-made relish tray and salad bar, and then, if you're feeling nostalgic, enjoy prime rib, steak or seafood. We also offer chef-inspired creations such as Walleye Almandine, Fettuccini Artichoke Alfredo or Seared Duck Breast and feature seasonal daily specials and a Friday fish fry. Our monthly wine dinners are a must! Dinner: Wednesday–Sunday, 4pm–close; Lunch: Wednesday–Friday, 11am–2pm; and Sunday Brunch: 10am–2pm. lakehousesupperclub.com.

Little Diner Xpress

1939 N. Richmond St., Appleton. 734-9962.

Stop by anytime to experience why Little Diner Xpress was awarded FOX CITIES Magazine's 2015 Golden Fork Award for Best Diner/Cafe! Organic coffee, reduced GMOs, locally sourced ingredients and leaner selections are what sets us apart. We serve breakfast all day (and night)! If you're feeling decadent, try a benedict or Cherry-Staffed French Toast. How about an Adult Grilled Cheese with bacon, sauteed onions and jalapenos? You'll feel like one of the family with our super-friendly staff. Open 24 hours every day. *Eat Anytime!*

Mr. Brews Taphouse

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

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

Muncheez Pizzeria

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

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

SAP

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

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

Stuc's Pizza

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

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

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

Vince Lombardi's Steakhouse

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

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

Zuppas – Market, Café & Catering

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

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

THE PLACE WE CALL HOME

Area photographers share their vision of
Anticipation

Sarah Celine Elliott of Sarah Celine Photography, Appleton



Debbie Daanen/Ashley Schmit of Debbie Daanen Photography, Appleton



Tara T. Rudy of Tara Rudy Photography, Oshkosh



Amy Gaerthofner of Ardent Photography, Neenah

PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS

To be considered for participation in this monthly feature, contact Ruth Ann Heeter at raheeter@foxcitiesmagazine.com.




#FCMfoodie

FOX CITIES Magazine hosted a launch party on Nov. 9 at Fox Valley Technical College for the latest addition to foxcitiesmagazine.com, "Chef Talk with Kyle Cherek." The web video series features candid conversations with area chefs and is hosted by born-and-bred Wisconsinite Kyle Cherek. Cherek also is the host of the Emmy-nominated PBS show, "Wisconsin Foodie."




foxcitiesmagazine.com

HUNGRY?



We've got what you're looking for.
Go to foxcitiesmagazine.com
and click on Dining Guide.

SEARCH SELECT EAT



Discover an accounting firm that excels in math & chemistry.

It's one thing to have someone do your accounting work with accuracy, timeliness, and professionalism. You expect that from a firm hired to keep the books straight and the numbers crunched.

It's quite another when you and the people doing that work develop a special chemistry that allows you to meet your business goals and personal objectives. It's a hands-on accounting firm that gives you a clear understanding of the financial direction of your business.

Call for a free consultation.

J.A. Huth & Associates, Inc.
*Providing Financial Management Services
for Professionals & Businesses*
(920) 882-9200 | www.jahuth.com

DOOR PENINSULA WINERY



FIND THEM AT YOUR
LOCAL RETAILER OR AT
DCWINE.COM

Let it Snow

5806 HWY 42 1-800-551-5049
STURGEON BAY, WI 54235 DCWINE.COM