

Fox Cities

MAGAZINE

22nd ANNUAL

Golden Fork Awards



Home Trend: Lighting | Local Placemaking Projects | Music, Mayhem & More

October 2016

foxcitiesmagazine.com



Helping Others — Now and Forever

Buck Parker came home from Vietnam and created a paradise on an old farm in central Wisconsin.

He hosts fellow veterans who find peace fishing in his ponds.

When melanoma spread through his body and his UW Carbone Cancer Center doctor suggested a clinical trial, Buck said yes. He wanted to help others even if it was too late for him.

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And that new immunotherapy drug is now FDA approved and saving others' lives. **Hear Buck's story and learn more about clinical trials at uwhealth.org/cancertrials**

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FOX CITIES Magazine

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Dave MURPHY

56th Assembly District



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Dave grew up on a small dairy farm in Grand Chute and was instilled with a strong work ethic from an early age. Having worked in the private sector for his entire life, Dave wants to continue putting his real life experience to work for you in the State Assembly.

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Our annual reader poll breaks down
the top dogs in dining
By FOX CITIES Magazine staff

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FOX CITIES Magazine's online event calendar is the premiere place to find out what's going on every day of the week.

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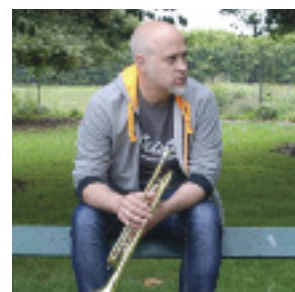
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Town Council Kitchen and Bar, Neenah.

Photo by Adam Shea of Adam Shea Photography, adamsheaphoto.com

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT



Photos by Shaun Pitts

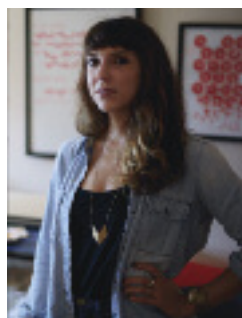
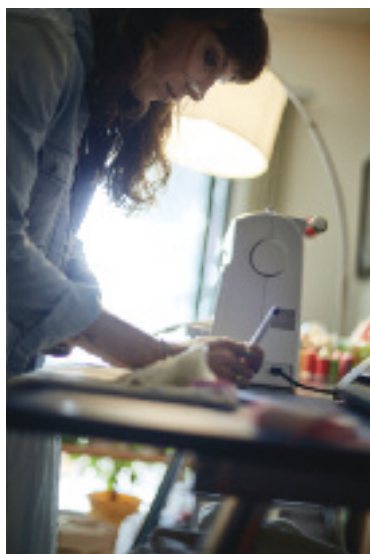
Flourishing in an under-appreciated art medium, Amie Kesler is a Green Bay cross-stitch artist hoping to bring positivity into the lives of others with her designs.

As a child, Kesler learned the art of cross-stitch from her grandmother. "When I was really young, I was always around it. I actually still use her book," Kesler explains. Now, in the over 30-year-old thread book, are bright, fluorescent strings of all colors, used to make cross-stitch pieces for Fluorescent City, a collaborative effort between Kesler and fellow artist Matt Bero.

"It started out with our initial love for color," Kesler says. The "city" part of Fluorescent City is a shout-out

to another driving force behind the project. "I'm from North Carolina [and] he's from Green Bay, so the idea of 'how does where you're from influence what you're making?' came in."

Pursuing the simple goal of spreading joy and positivity through color, Fluorescent City pieces include cross-stitched hoops, spray-painted posters or canvases with stitching details and even a spray-painted skate deck that reads "Let's Roll."



Name: Amie Kesler
Residence: Green Bay
Medium: Fiber

Kesler has a diverse background in studio art, graphic design and public relations that influences her work, but she draws inspiration from all over.

"I love to travel so if I'm going to a different city [or] country, I really take in the surrounding areas, looking at clothes that people are wearing," she says. "Fabrics are a big point of inspiration, [also] nature, sunsets, graffiti [or] blogs." Ideas from these get narrowed down in an ever-changing creative process that may include an inspiration board, sketches or computer designs. Some hoop designs have no preceding creative process if she is free-handing them!

Recently, Kesler's large, interactive cross-stitch pieces were featured at an immersive art show, Catalyst. For the future, Kesler is working on now getting more of the Fluorescent City products into the community and in local stores. Visit amiekesler.com to find Kesler's graphic design work. You can find Fluorescent City on Instagram @fluorescent.city or on Etsy at etsy.com/shop/FluorescentCity.

—SH

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not to be missed

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

3 MUST-SEE FILMS

Museum Movie Night: A Guy Named Joe

October 11

P-38 pilots Spencer Tracy and Van Johnson both compete for Irene Dunne's attention in this MGM classic. Travel back in time and experience the golden age of cinema at EAA's Skyscape Theater Royale, a free series of classic aviation film screenings. Seating is on a first come, first serve basis and is subject to capacity. 6:30pm. EAA, Oshkosh. 426-4800.

International Film Series: Wondrouis Boccaccio

October 19

Set against the backdrop of a 14th century, black plague-stricken Florence, 10 young men and women escape to a country estate where they spend their days telling stories of love, fate and resurrection. 7pm. Neville Public Museum, Green Bay. 448-4460.

Halloween 3

October 29

Enjoy a classic Halloween film in a historic theater. For mature audiences. 7pm. Time Community Theater, Oshkosh. 231-5500.



The Moody Blues. Photo by Mark Owens

5 GREAT CONCERTS

Kavafian-Schub-Shifrin Trio October 7

After 25 years of friendship and music-making, Ani Kavafian, Andre-Michel Schub and David Shifrin – each a true virtuoso and a member of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center – come together as a trio with undeniable chemistry. 8pm. Lawrence University Memorial Chapel, Appleton. 832-6749.

13th Annual Fox Cities Choral Music Festival October 18

This hidden gem of the season lineup enters its 13th year of bringing talented vocalists from local high schools together for a night of amazing music. Conducted by Francisco Núñez of the Young People's Chorus of New York City. 7pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

Your Voice: Vote! A concert of patriotic music October 22

Enjoy stirring renditions of anthems, ballads and patriotic favorites that will restore your spirit and focus on what it really means to be an American. Presented in collaboration with the League of Women Voters. 7:30pm. Lawrence Memorial Chapel, Appleton. 832-6749.



Kavafian-Schub-Shifrin Trio

Take 6 & The Manhattan Transfer present The Summit October 27

Combining forces, Take 6 & The Manhattan Transfer, two of the most acclaimed, award-winning vocal groups in pop music, create an unforgettable concert event that will thrill audiences of all ages. 7:30pm. Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, Green Bay. 465-2726.

The Moody Blues October 27

Join the Performing Arts Center for the Fly Me High Tour, starring Justin Hayward, lead guitar and vocals, John Lodge, bass guitar and vocals, and Graeme Edge on drums. 8pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.



Scene from "A Guy Named Joe"

Information is subject to change, we recommend confirming dates and times with the organizer.

To have your event considered for publication, submit online at foxcitiesmagazine.com.

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FESTIVALS & FUN

14th Annual Harvest Moon Festival

October 8

As the full moon rises behind Mosquito Hill, enjoy stargazing, snacks, games and more with the entire family. 5–9pm. Mosquito Hill Nature Center, New London. 779-6433.

Tsyunhehkwá Harvest Fest

October 8

This celebration gives thanks for the harvest with music, demonstrations, vendors from the Oneida Farmers Market and other cultural events. 11am. Tsyunhehkwá Farm, Oneida. 869-2141.

Dream BIG Gala

October 13

This fabulous night offers multiple Vegas-style table games, food, cash bar, raffles, live and silent auctions complete with autographed items, overnight stays and more. Proceeds benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Fox Valley Region. 6pm. Lawrence University Warch Campus Center, Appleton. 739-3542.

From The Land Folk Art Festival

October 15–16

A gathering of crafts and skilled artisans, this festival offers opportunities to learn techniques from people who truly enjoy what they do. All types of crafts will be on show, as well as food and music. 15, 10am–4pm. 16, 10am–3pm. Toll/Londowski Family Farm, Green Lake. 294-3029.



Indoor Fall Harvest Market

October 22 & 29

Start your Saturday mornings right by shopping Future Neenah Indoor Fall Harvest Market in beautiful historic Downtown Neenah. The Market features certified local growers and their fall harvest produce as well as specialty food items. 8:30–11:30am. Marketplace in Downtown Neenah. 722-1920.



Cast of "The Spitfire Grill"

3 MUST-SEE PERFORMANCES

Hysterical Productions Presents:

The Spitfire Grill

October 7–9, 13–15

This folksy musical about a stranger moving to a small town in Wisconsin tells a story of hope, renewal and redemption, brimming with Americana charm, bluegrass tunes and Broadway musical traditions. 7–8 & 13–15, 7:30pm. 9, 2pm. The Grand Opera House, Oshkosh. 424-2350.

What a Wonderful World

October 8

An unforgettable theatre arts revue featuring live ballroom dance and ballet, dance formation presentations and moving vocal performances. This event is a fundraiser for the Fox Valley Veterans Council's Emergency Fund. 7:30pm. Fox Valley Lutheran High School Auditorium, Appleton. 731-8851.

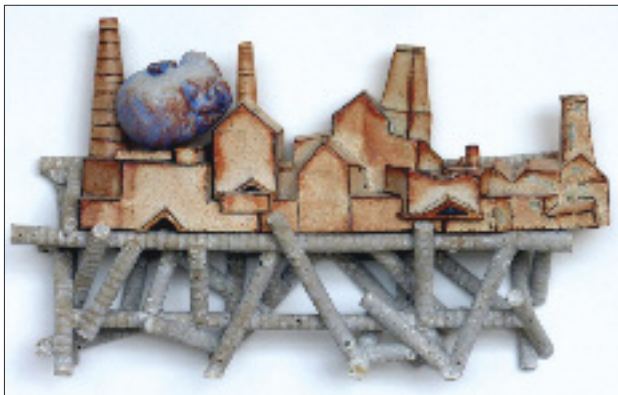
A Twist of Lemmon Starring Chris Lemmon

October 21

Chronicling the life of Chris's father and Hollywood icon, Jack Lemmon, this show is a true father and son story that will warm your heart. 7:30pm. The Grand Opera House, Oshkosh. 424-2350.



DON'T MISS ARTS EVENTS & EXHIBITS



From the Urban Myths exhibit

Urban Myths

October 14–December 9

Featuring the work of clay sculptors Xavier Monsalvatje Vich and Christopher Davis-Benavides, this exhibit looks at the beauty of the metropolitan world, examining the integration between architecture and culture. UWFox Aylward Gallery, Menasha. 832-2824.

Art @ Noon

October 27

A unique 20-minute lunchtime tour of the fall term exhibitions in the Wriston Art Galleries. 12–12:30pm. Lawrence University, Appleton. 832-6621.



Created by Jill Birschbach

Northeast Wisconsin Watercolor Society

October 4–28

Featuring watercolor works by over 40 artists. Reception on Friday, Oct 7 from 5–8pm. The ARTgarage, Green Bay. 448-6800.

October Exhibition

October 5–31

Paintings by Kendra Bulgrin and ceramic sculpture by Bill Pariso and Jill Birschbach. Opening reception on Friday, Oct 7 from 5:30–8pm. James May Gallery, Algoma. 262-753-3130.

Election Day
is November 8th



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Reinvented Classic

On October 11, the Art of Time Ensemble will take the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center stage to perform a re-imagined rendition of The Beatles' groundbreaking album, Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band.

Art of Time Ensemble is a collective of Canadian-based classical, jazz and pop musicians who fuse high art (classical music) with pop culture (recognizable Beatles tunes).

"Our original intent was to create an environment to disarm the audience while exposing them to classical music, to act as a bridge to high art," says Andrew Burashko, founder and artistic director of Art of Time Ensemble.

The ensemble consists of a 12-piece band and four singers including Steven Page (former lead of the iconic band Barenaked Ladies), Wesley Stace, Andy Maize and Craig Northey. The ensemble will perform the album in its entirety including reinvented classics such as "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds," "When I'm Sixty-Four" and "With a Little Help From My Friends."

"The challenge of reinventing the songs is to find that fine line where



Photo by Allan Pettman

we don't destroy the original spirit of the song," Burashko says. "We approach it with reverence and respect."

Burashko, who identifies himself as a huge Beatles fan, says the group is not trying to recreate the album note for note. Rather the ambitious undertaking is meant to be a new take on a rock and roll classic.

"All vocal harmonies and melodies are the same," Burashko says. "That anchors everything so it sounds like the Beatles, but everything behind those vocals is reinvented."

For ticket information, visit foxcitiespac.com.

—ACW

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CULINARY DINNER 2016

Thursday, Nov. 3. 6-10pm.

The Fox Club inside Timber Rattlers Stadium, Appleton
Local chefs from the Fox Valley Culinary Association will host a six-course meal to benefit LEAVEN Fox Cities. Chefs include Charles Behrmann and Chris Prentice of Fox Cities Stadium; Nicole Hoida of Backstage at the Meyer; Brock Decker of Bridgewood Resort Hotel & Conference Center; Heath Barbato of Lambeau Field, 1919 Kitchen & Tap; and Julia Julian of Fox Valley Technical College.



20TH ANNUAL E.A.T.S.

Saturday, Nov. 5. 6-9pm.

UW-Fox Valley Communication Arts Center, Menasha
E.A.T.S. (Educational Assistance Through Scholarships) features more than 40 community leaders and faculty/staff chefs who prepare culinary dishes for guests to sample while enjoying music, entertainment and a silent auction. The highlight of the event, the Celebrity Chef Cook-Off, features five local "celebrities" as they showcase their culinary skills and compete to be named Top Chef.



TASTE OF THE TOWN

Thursday, Nov. 10 & Friday, Nov. 11
Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, Green Bay

Four celebrity chefs will compete in the new and improved Thursday night Chef Showdown which will include a preliminary cook-off with the two winning chefs competing head-to-head in the finale. Return on Friday evening to enjoy signature dishes and new items from elite restaurants and caterers.

—ACW

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

Art on a Mission

A day of art, music, food and fun awaits as St. Vincent de Paul of Appleton and The Refuge come together for Art on a Mission on October 8.

Starting at 10 a.m. at The Refuge in Appleton, roughly 20 local artists will begin creating original artwork using hand-picked materials from St. Vincent de Paul's thrift store. Event-goers will be able to observe the creation process in real time while enjoying live music, food, drink and walking trails. At 5 p.m., the completed pieces will be auctioned off with all proceeds benefiting St. Vincent de Paul. Children will be able to make their own works of art and check out old instruments courtesy of The Building for Kids Children's Museum and Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra.



The event is a collaboration to promote St. Vincent de Paul and raise money for their various programs. "I think a lot of people think of us as just a thrift store," says Executive Director Kristen Trimberger. "They don't realize that the money that we raise here actually goes back into our community." St. Vincent de Paul partners with nearly 50 different local agencies, providing furnishing and funds for those in need.



St. Vincent de Paul's new outlet store opens October 1 next to their main building. Here, material can be purchased for 99 cents a pound. The outlet is part of the organization's green initiative and will mean fewer items of lesser quality heading to landfills.

Donations will be accepted during the Art

on a Mission event, which is free of charge. For more information on what can be donated, visit www.svdappleton.org/donate.

—AS

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Follow the Flowers: Historic Roots

You've probably seen them as you drive down South Oneida Street: cheerful dots of yellow and orange lining the sides of the street; marigolds that brighten your way as you travel through Appleton. They're such an established part of the town, you'd be forgiven for assuming they are a fixture on South Oneida Street, but there is more to those Inca marigolds than the 1-foot wide stretch of ground they take up.

"My wife started planting flowers out in front of where we lived here in the nursery," says Joe Sturm, co-owner of Fox Valley Nursery, Inc.

Appleton resident John Law approached the couple in the late 1980s with a question. "He asked, would we be willing to plant them up and down the street all the way to Dairy Queen—so he kind of founded the group that way," Sturm adds. Soon, businesses were requesting marigolds in front of their stores, and the Fox Valley Nursery organized volunteers to help out and gain community service hours. In 2008, the project became the Marigold Mile Inc. Seven years later, though, the very existence of the marigolds was put in jeopardy.

In 2015, designs were released for renovations on South Oneida that did not include the strip of land needed for the marigolds. So the Marigold Mile team began a campaign to save them—one that publicized both the work behind them and their impact on the community. Their hard work paid off. City hall unanimously voted to keep the Marigold Mile that November. In February of 2016, Mayor Hanna even proclaimed the marigold to be the Official Flower of Appleton.

Marigold Mile organizers have plans for expansion, environmentally friendly changes in planting and upcoming events. Sturm hints, "It's not just Oneida street anymore." Stay tuned for upcoming features as we follow the flowers to find out more, and be sure to check out marigoldmile.com.

—KN

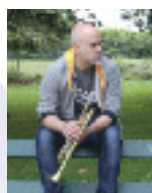


Q&A: Michel Padrón, Asere & Havana Cuba All-Stars

Padrón is the leader and musical director of Asere & Havana Cuba All-Stars, an amalgam of top Cuban musicians who will be performing at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center in Appleton on November 1.

Asere & Havana Cuba All-Stars are made up of various musical artists. What was the inspiration behind bringing these musicians together?

Asere was formed in Havana, Cuba, in 1996 by several Cuban musicians who wanted to play traditional music. Many musicians have passed through Asere during all those years, but it is at this point when the band is taking another step forward. Asere & Havana Cuba All-Stars is a bunch of



Michel Padrón

great musicians that I've met during my professional music career and that I am proud to be able to put together. This new group of artists is formed by Cubans living in Spain, the UK and some others that are still in Cuba. In this new project that we've been working on for two years, we want to take to the road again, but with something special — a new instrumental format with a larger band and some peculiar elements, like the addition of violins to the formation.

One of the ensemble's goals is to promote Cuban music. How are you accomplishing that?

During these two decades of Asere, we've realized that in some ways with our work, from the moment when we choose the repertoire or arrange music to the innovative lyrics, this "traditional music with a twist" has been such a contribution to the development, global dissemination and enrichment of Antillean music in more than 20 countries. In this new stage, with the choirs, horns, rhythm section and vocal diversity of the three leading singers, we reach another level and keep contributing to this amazing music.

What can people expect at the show in Appleton?

Havana Cuba All-Stars will bring the warmth of the Caribbean to the stage and, during almost two hours of music, people will feel as if they are in Cuba enjoying the best of our music, rhythms and grooves. They can also learn Cuban dance moves with us! I can assure you that Appleton will have a great time with us. We are looking forward to being there!

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—AS

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Exhibit Focus

*"The clearest way into the Universe
is through a forest wilderness."*

—Wilderness World of John Muir

This fall, the Neenah and Menasha Public Libraries will be hosting "Wisconsin's John Muir: An Exhibit Celebrating the Centennial of the National Park Service." This travelling exhibit on loan from the Wisconsin Historical Society will be on display October 11-17 at the Neenah Public Library and October 18-25 at the Menasha Public Library.

In conjunction with the Muir exhibit, local attorney and history enthusiast Tom Sutter will be presenting his own exhibit, "National Parks, Past and Present," throughout the month of October. Sutter's exhibit will feature historic national park photos, as well as modern images to compare. Both of these exhibits celebrate not



only the legacy of John Muir, but also the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service in October.

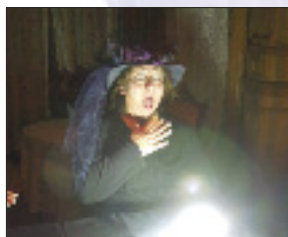
Throughout the month of October, both libraries will host guest speakers, book discussions and several special presentations

that highlight Muir, wilderness preservation, natural resource management and harmony with nature.

For more information, visit menashalibrary.org or neenahlibrary.org.

—JK

5 HALLOWEEN HAUNTS



HAUNTED HEARTHSTONE

Oct. 7, 14, 21 & 28, 6-8pm

With the theme "Victorian Macabre," explore the Hearthstone Historic House Museum in Appleton this October for various showcases of eerie tales, séances and spooky happenings of Victorian times. 730-8204.



POE EVERMORE AT HAUNTED HAZELWOOD

Oct. 15 & 22, 5pm

Step back in time at Green Bay's Hazelwood Historic House. Listen to spooky stories of Edgar Allen Poe, view a séance and have your fortune told. 437-1840.



HALLOWEEN HAPPENINGS

Oct. 21, 6:30pm

A non-scary Halloween event consisting of a number of new Halloween games, a Jack-o-Lantern Trail walk and food around a bonfire at Navarino Nature Center in Shiocton. 715-758-6999.



GHOULS NIGHT OUT: FOX VALLEY CHORUS HALLOWEEN CONCERT

Oct. 29, 2pm & 7pm

With an exciting line-up, including Michael Jackson's "Thriller," this is a show you do not want to miss... beware! UW-Fox Valley James W. Perry Hall, Menasha. 982-5639.



NIGHT WHISPERS

Oct. 6-8, 13-15, 20-22, 27-29
6:30pm & 7:30pm

Take a nighttime walking tour through the Oshkosh Public Museum augmented with stories of ghosts reported to haunt Oshkosh. 236-5799.

—SH

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

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Art After Dark

On October 20, nightfall gets brighter. Art After Dark at the Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass in Neenah will light up the night and allow visitors to explore the museum's current exhibit of neon and plasma sculptures. Local actors will guide you through the exhibition, and craft beer and soda will be available for purchase as you enjoy the light-based artwork.

Bending Brilliance: Neon and Plasma Sculpture, the featured exhibition, is made up of artwork utilizing light, dark and shadow to transform the environment. With neon and plasma, the many artists create intricate sculptures with light at the core of the design.

Art After Dark is not your ordinary museum-going experience and will bring you up close and personal with the unique artwork on display. The free event lasts from 5-7 p.m. Can't make it in October? Not to worry — the event will occur once a month through February. Visit bmmglass.com for dates and times.

—AS

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Oct. 5, 4:30-5:30pm

This free tour includes a one to two mile walk throughout the Riverview Gardens property, highlighting the park space, hydroponics greenhouse, orchards, earn-a-bike shop, urban farm, apiary and future prairie. Weather permitting, tours start at the picnic table next to the parking lot of the Riverview Gardens Community Center.

NIGHT HIKE

Oct. 14, 7-8:30pm

Discover the sights, sounds and beauty of nature at night as you hike through the prairies and forests of the Gordon Bubolz Nature Preserve. This hike is designed to be short and family friendly. Register in advance by calling 920-731-6041.



HOUDINI'S MAGICAL APPLETON WALKING TOUR

Oct. 26, 6-7:30pm

Join The History Museum at the Castle to explore the myths and reality of Houdini's brief life in Appleton by visiting where his childhood home once stood, sites of fictional magical feats and his father's synagogue. To register, visit myhistorymuseum.org or call 920-735-9370 x.115.

—ACW

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Ethan Murrow, *Wanderer Above Sea of Fog*, 2013; graphite on paper, 36 x 36 in. Courtesy of the artist and Winston Wächter Gallery, NY. Photo: Stewart Clements.

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Handcrafted COMMUNITY

By Amelia Compton Wolff

Placemaking initiatives take off in the Fox Cities



Photos by Graham Washatka of Graham Images, grahamimages.net

Cities across the country are feeling a sense of urgency when it comes to creating a sense of place, and the Fox Cities are no exception. From enhancing cultural programs to beautifying public spaces, urban developers often refer to this intentional curation of a community as placemaking — a term that causes supporters to celebrate and critics to cringe.

Call it what you will, Josh Dukelow, who serves on Appleton Downtown Inc.'s Board of Directors and Creative Downtown Committee, says that some of that urgency has to do with talent attraction and retention.

"People are deciding where they want to be based on the amenities, the opportunities and experiences that place offers. Once they get there, then they figure out how to pay the bills," he says. "That has really put an emphasis on communities to be a destination."

From murals and festivals to parks and pop-ups, examples of destination creation are abundant throughout Northeast Wisconsin. But, at its core, what does placemaking mean, really?

Dukelow says that in some ways, the term placemaking has become a catchall for what makes a city desirable, a sort of intrinsic vibe that draws people. The result? Economic growth and stability.

"Placemaking really is just about activating public spaces," Dukelow says. "It's been around a long time, now we have a word to describe it. And now we are putting it into action here."



CREATING SPACES

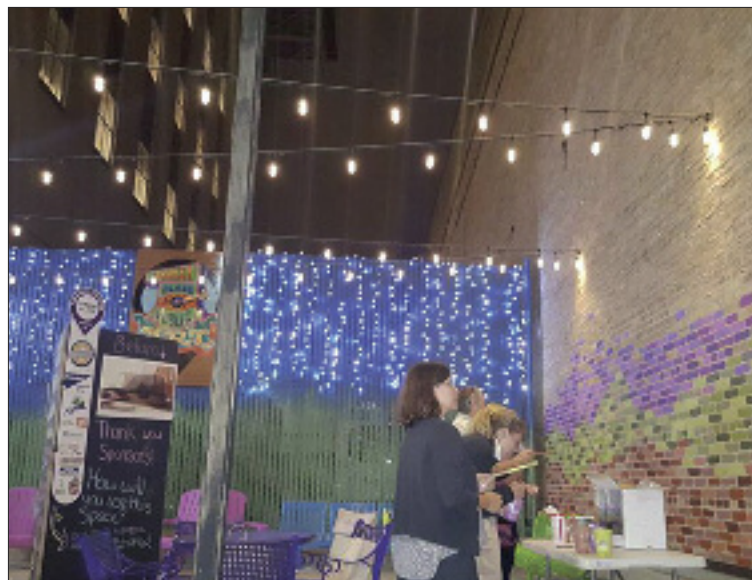
Future Neenah Director Amy Barker stands in Gateway Plaza, overlooking the undeveloped land on the south end of Little Lake Butte des Morts, known as Arrowhead Park. Just off the park's shores, two new trestle bridges are set for construction next spring as part of the Loop the Little Lake Trestle Project which will connect the existing trail system.

The area has long been industrial, but that may change. With the new development routing the trail's 350,000 annual visitors to the edge of downtown Neenah, Barker sees the shoreline as a blank canvas for public art, such as large-scale sculpture, to harken visitors further into the city.

"When we're creating new spaces like these for economic development purposes, sometimes you have to infuse a little bit of creativity into them to create that draw, especially when we are dealing with places that the community isn't used to visiting," Barker says. "It needs to feel like a purposeful place where you want to linger."

Purposefulness is a cornerstone of placemaking, one that is at the forefront of urban design. Take the newly developed community space between Wild Apple Gallery and Your Daily Grind coffee shop in downtown Menasha. Cafe lights were strung between the buildings and a 12-person social table was added to encourage community gatherings and create a more welcoming atmosphere.

Another example of this urban space upcycling can be found between Appleton's 222 building and Copper Rock Coffee on College Avenue. Last year, the vacant 1,120 square-foot space was transformed into Parklet Place, a



Appleton's Parklet Place, a miniature urban park on College Ave.

miniature urban park with functional seating and tables, handmade flower planters, decorative lighting and a small stage for live performances. A mural was painted by the community which Dukelow says plays a big part in garnering public support for these projects.

"When people can see their fingerprints on their city, that helps to build that civic pride and buy in," he says. "It's one thing to see a piece of art that's pretty. It's another thing to participate in creating it."

But support for placemaking initiatives isn't always easy to come by.

"Sometimes creative placemaking can be a tough sell because it's harder to measure the economic impact," Barker says. "You might not know exactly why you were drawn to a space or be conscious of the fact that it was that mural or bike rack that made you feel invited."

Engaging the broader community is step one to gaining support. In September, ADI launched a placemaker workshop program to involve area businesses in the placemaking process. In the

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workshops, teams from participating businesses identify places in Downtown Appleton to be enhanced through urban design, accessibility and art. They then conceive and execute their own placemaking project. The hope is that employees will feel more connected to the place they live and will result in quality public spaces that enhance health, happiness and well-being.

"We've had some major local employers find that placemaking work really resonates with them," Dukelow says. "That is the next level of engagement. You aren't just supporting what's going on, you're doing it."

AUTHENTICITY IN ACTION

Elevating what organically exists in a place is key to maintaining authenticity, says Dukelow, who points to the Little Chute Windmill as an example of a destination that is true to the character of its community. The same holds true for programming.

"When Kaukauna wanted to start their music festival, they didn't call it 'The Other Mile of Music.' They called it the Electric City Experience. It's true to their heritage of electric power generation," Dukelow says.

Authentic placemaking is on the mind of Hortonville Village Administrator Diane Wessel as her community prepares for the State 15 bypass reconstruction. To ensure Hortonville's downtown stays viable, the village worked with the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC) and a group of Northcentral Technical College students to develop the Hortonville 2020 Vision project.

"It's all about tying the whole community together and making it more pedestrian and bicycle-friendly and creating a more friendly atmosphere for everybody," says Nick Musson, associate transportation planner with ECWRPC.

Wessel gathered input for the project through community visioning sessions. In addition to creating a public space and emphasizing the area's natural amenities, participants hoped

the developments would highlight Hortonville's unique history.

"The community really wanted to see that historic character," Wessel says. "We have some, but it's a little eroded from the downtown feel. We want to bring it back."



Neenah's new bike racks are themed on values of the community.
Photo by Adam Shea of Adam Shea Photography, adamsheaphoto.com

Plans for new developments were based on historical images of Hortonville in an effort to regain some of that classic, small town charm. Wessel believes this kind of placemaking will result in a more robust local economy.

"It would make Hortonville a place more people would want to come to, raise their families here and support our businesses," she says. "I think strengthening our community would result in all of that."

ENGAGEMENT & INTERACTION

Seating and scenery might establish a space, but programming is what brings it to life.

"Building the space is step one," Barker says. "Programming challenges us to stay on the cutting-edge and see what excites people."

In August, Future Neenah announced the retirement of Streetball, an iconic, 25-year-old Neenah event. Barker says this gives Future Neenah the chance to establish new programs that reflect the local culture and nurture Neenah's potential, possibly with events the area hasn't seen before.

"When we look to new opportunities, I'm very conscious of being authentic to who we are," she says. "We have to figure out what's here, what exists and what we can celebrate."

Barker says that effective placemaking is more than good marketing. Whether it's a public art project or summer concert series, placemaking initiatives have the power to share a city's narrative in a new way.

"It's just a different way to tell our story," Barker says, "and we have some really awesome stories to tell."



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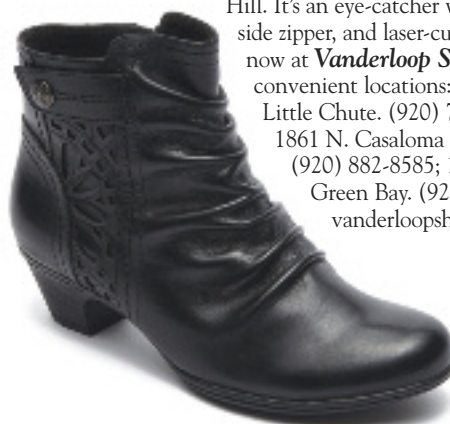
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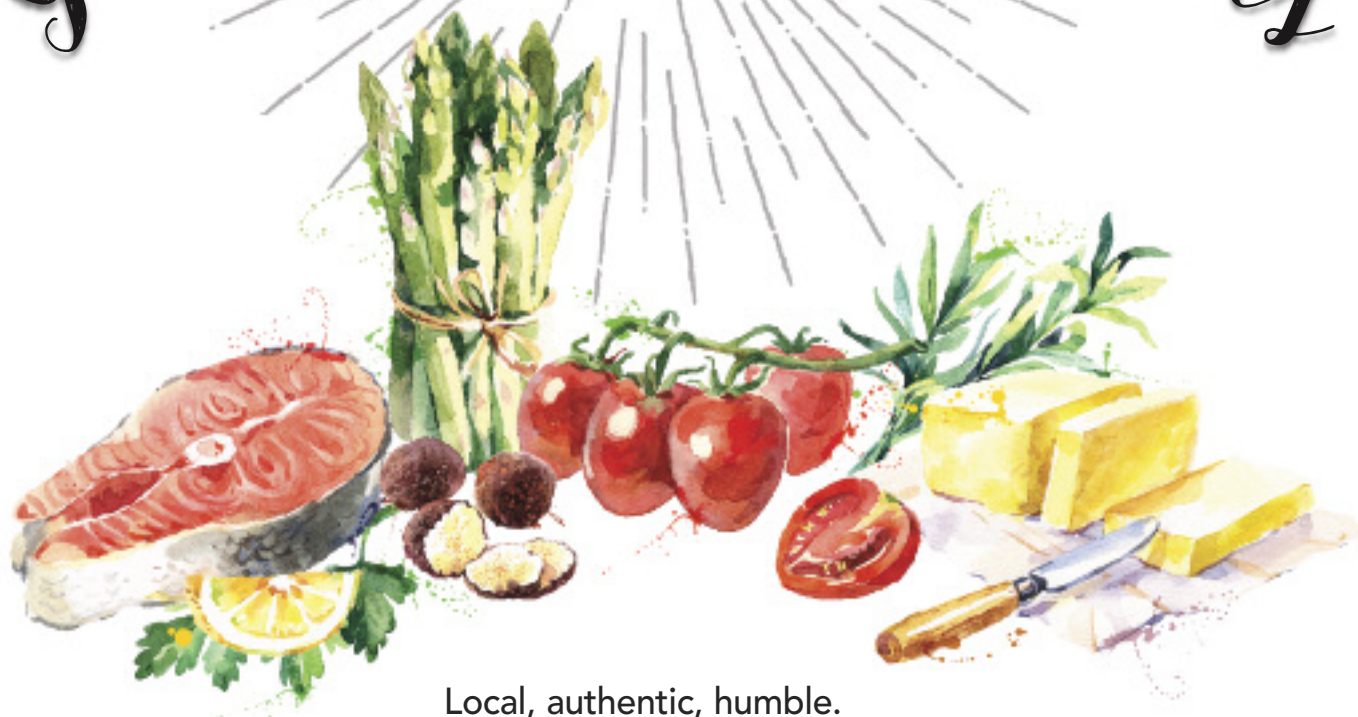
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22nd ANNUAL

Golden Fork Awards

By Amelia Compton Wolff,
Katie Nelson and Suzanne Hones



Local, authentic, humble.

No, we aren't updating our online dating profile (although it totally applies). These words epitomize the trends that are hot in the Fox Cities dining scene. Maybe they aren't trends as much as they are a way of life for these restaurants and chefs who have been voted the best in class by Fox Valley diners in the 22nd Annual Golden Fork Awards.

So check your ego at the door, embrace your Midwestern roots and read on to learn more about our 2016 Golden Fork champions.





Photos by Adam Shea of Adam Shea Photography, adamsheaphoto.com

BEST NEW RESTAURANT

From New Orleans to his hometown of Neenah, Jonathan Horan spent years working in other people's restaurants. In March 2016, the Le Cordon Bleu-trained chef was ready to step out on his own and opened **Town Council Kitchen and Bar**, bringing "French technique with a Wisconsin spin" to diners in the Fox Valley.

The "Wisconsin" part is brought via seasonal produce and locally-sourced ingredients. Town Council's menu is printed weekly and guests can expect to find something different with each printing, reflecting what's available at the local farmers markets.

It's deceptively simple food that Horan describes as New American—think French charcuterie, pâté made in-house and chicken liver mousse served with Ritz crackers. The restaurant's strong craft cocktail program, led by General Manager Sean Hathaway-Casey, is marked by recipe-driven drinks that lean on local ingredients and feature house-made infusions and syrups.



The restaurant is intimate (a.k.a. kind of small), with seating for about 50 guests. Horan says that was a strategic choice, made so he could concentrate on food rather than

overseeing a large staff, although that may be changing soon.

"In the start, we were trying to open on a shoestring so now we are working on staffing up," Horan says. "I would like to have more staff members that will free my time for more exciting and more frequent menu changes."

For now, Horan doesn't see any major changes in store for Town Council, adding the caveat that when growth occurs, he'd be more likely to open a secondary business rather than expand Town Council.

"Town Council's focus is high-end casual," he says. "Maybe down the road we'd open a different business and do something more divey, but with good food. But that's very far in the future plan."

—ACW



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BEST OVERALL

Like your favorite pair of jeans, **Carmella's Italian Bistro** in Appleton just seems to get better with age. Diners in the Fox Valley voted the well-worn restaurant Best Overall for the seventh consecutive year.

With age comes experience and with experience comes certain advantages, says Carmella's co-owner Kristen Sickler.

"It's every restaurateurs dream to have a farm-to-table restaurant, but that's not always super attainable in the beginning," she says. "Over time we have continued to develop better relationships with our local suppliers. Our vision has always been to support local business, to bring in local meats and produce whenever we can. We continue to do that as we evolve."

As much as diners flock for the food (do yourself a favor and order the chicken saltimbocca), it's in part the hospitality that keeps them coming back. The Carmella's crew has a knack for making guests feel like

VIPs without fawning or being saccharine about it.

"We work with a group of people who have an incredible amount of dignity, pride and self-worth, who have this eagerness to do a good job," Sickler says. "We are lucky to have people who work so hard and care so much about creating an incredible experience for our guests."

—ACW

BEST PIZZA

"Muncheez Pizzeria is open super late, they don't charge for delivery, have lots of good specials and the pizza is as good or better than their competition."

— Matthew Kempf, Appleton



BEST SALAD

Houdini's Escape Gastropub General Manager Cole Plamann calls one of their most popular salads "a little different." The name of this unusual dish? Grilled Caesar Salad. Were you to order this salad at **Houdini's Escape Gastropub**, though, any confusion you felt would be quickly cleared up the moment you saw it. This is because the "grilled" of this salad's title refers not to chicken (which you can also have, if you'd like), but to the greens. Half a head of romaine lettuce is grilled, which adds a caramelized flavor and a twist on the traditional flavors.

Another salad to check out is the beet salad, which has been a consistent customer favorite. All



of the salads, however, are presented as an experience, not just food. As a gastropub dedicated to the study of high-quality food, Houdini's promises a dining experience that engages all of your senses. "It's a trip through flavors, temperatures and aromas," Plamann elaborates, "giving the guest a chance to experience flavors in a way you might not experience them regularly."

—KN

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BEST STEAK

A favorite in this category, **George's Steakhouse** has won best steak in the Golden Fork Awards no less than 10 times. Brad Quimby, son of owners Chuck and Edie Quimby, attributes the success of their steaks to the quality meat that George's uses consistently. "[We] start with a good product, and [we] take care with handling it and serving it," Quimby says. Using the same formula has proven fruitful – or meatful, rather.

The steaks at George's stick out by staying traditional. They're different because they "stick to the basics. We're a traditional steakhouse... nothing fancy," says Quimby. George's also serves prime rib nightly, not only on the weekends like most other competitors. You can find cuts of steak that run the gamut, but the steak tenderloin, large or petit cut, is a customer favorite.

—SH

BEST WAITSTAFF

"I voted Greene's Pour House Best Waitstaff because all of them are knowledgeable about the menu and beer selections. They are also people-oriented and make you feel at home whether it's your first time in there or your hundredth time. They also remain calm when the place gets busy during certain hours or Packer and Badger games. It's always great to have a local friendly restaurant and bar like that in your own backyard!"

— Nick Lyons, Neenah



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BEST ASIAN AND MOST VEGETARIAN FRIENDLY

Q & A: Larry Chomsisengphet, *general manager at Basil Café*

1. How would you describe the philosophy at Basil Café?

Our mission statement has always been to provide the Fox Cities with homemade, flavorful and authentic Southeast Asian cuisine at an affordable price in a clean, welcoming, modern atmosphere with fast and friendly service. The goal is to make authentic Southeast Asian food more accessible to a wider audience of folks who maybe have never had authentic Lao, Thai or Vietnamese food before.



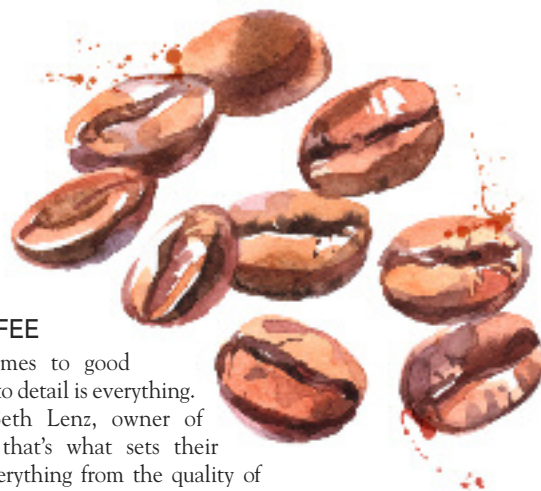
2. What dishes would you recommend for vegan/vegetarian guests?

The vegan pho is delicious. Just as delicious as its traditional beef counterpart – mushroom-based stock with onions, celery and a ton of other vegetables that give the broth a full sense of flavor and umami. The Vegan Bánh Xèo (Vietnamese Crepe/Pancake) is a burst of wonderful flavors and not typically found at most restaurants. The Nam Khao (Lao Style Fried Rice) is another dish you're not going to find anywhere else and is extremely traditional Lao. We are also working on a few new additions to add to the menu (some more authentic Lao noodle soups, some with noodles that we're making in house) which will have vegan options available as well.

3. What makes Basil Café different from other restaurants?

Dishes like the Bánh Xèo and Nam Khao, which I previously mentioned, aren't really found at a lot of Southeast Asian restaurants. These dishes are authentically Lao, difficult to prepare due to the labor intensity and typically not found at other Lao/Thai restaurants. Some of the newer dishes we're about to add to the menu, as well, aren't offered in any restaurants that I know of, and they are only typically found when made at the homes of other Lao people. So making some really authentic Lao food that others aren't offering, and hopefully executing that at a high level, gives us the room to create a distinguishable place and experience.

—ACW



BEST CUP OF COFFEE

When it comes to good coffee, attention to detail is everything. According to Seth Lenz, owner of **Seth's Coffee**, that's what sets their coffee apart. "Everything from the quality of our water to the quality of equipment we use," he says. "The coffee itself is fresh, in-season, and the beans are cut off at 13 days for roasting." Coffee is brewed by the cup at this Little Chute staple, with a drive-thru location just behind the History Museum at the Castle since September 2015. When it comes to choosing which coffee to try, there isn't just one kind that Seth's is known for. "We have such a variety of drinks—we always have five to seven different kinds of coffee available," Lenz says. If you'd really like a recommendation, honey and agave lattes are popular, and you can't go wrong with a traditional cappuccino.

—KN

BEST BRUNCH

According to Kristen Sickler, co-owner of **SAP Brunch, Brown Bag & Bakery** in Appleton, the key to a successful brunch is all in the balance.

"I love having greens with my breakfast," Sickler says. "Sometimes it's hard eating a big, decadent breakfast so having that balance doesn't make you feel quite as bad about it."

This is why many of the restaurant's breakfast offerings include a SAP salad – a serving of lightly dressed greens, seasoned to perfection. (It makes for the ultimate interlude between bites of syrup-laden brioche french toast, FYI.) Apparently, voters appreciate the equilibrium they can find at SAP, helping the restaurant sweep the morning meal categories and snag forks for both Best Breakfast and Best Brunch.

SAP's menu contains tried-and-true staples as well as daily features that rotate based on what can be sourced locally. Can't decide on what to feast? Sickler has a couple suggestions.

"You can't beat huevos rancheros," she says, "but the benedicts are incredible too."

—ACW



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Nothing says Wisconsin like homemade cheese curds, one of the top-selling appetizers at **Greene's Pour House**. The Valley's Best Appetizer isn't the only thing you'll find there – it also has a welcoming environment, whether you're there for lunch, happy hour or dinner. "It's not easy," says owner, Bobby Greene, "but every day is a new day, and you just keep on making sure everything works

out, making sure everything's correct and making sure the customer's always being treated the way they should be treated." Greene recommends the Pour House Trio (egg salad, tuna salad and chicken salad over a bed of fresh greens with cucumber, tomato and flatbread slices) or the P.A.B.S.T. Sandwich, which stands for Provolone, Avocado, Bacon, Salad greens and Turkey. "It sells like crazy," he says. With all of Greene's Golden Fork wins, order what you'd like. You can't go wrong. "It's a very casual setting," Greene adds. "It's like coming home."

— KN

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BEST OVERALL RESTAURANT

Winner: Carmella's Italian Bistro
Runner-up: Greene's Pour House

BEST NEW RESTAURANT

Winner: Town Council Kitchen and Bar
Runner-up: Draft Gastropub

BEST WORTH THE DRIVE

Winner: Black Otter Supper Club
Runner-up: Village Hearthstone

BEST AMBIANCE

Winner: Carmella's Italian Bistro
Runner-up: Houdini's Escape

BEST WAITSTAFF

Winner: Greene's Pour House
Runner-up: Carmella's Italian Bistro

BEST APPETIZER

Winner: Greene's Pour House
Runner-up: Houdini's Escape

MOST VEGETARIAN FRIENDLY

Winner: Basil Cafe
Runner-up: The Source Public House

BEST STEAK

Winner: George's Steakhouse
Runner-up: Town Council Kitchen and Bar

BEST SEAFOOD

Winner: Red Ox Seafood and Steakhouse
Runner-up: Mark's East Side

BEST FRIED/BROASTED CHICKEN

Winner: Mary's Family Restaurant
Runner-up: The Cozzy Corner

BEST FISH FRY

Winner: Mark's Eastside
Runner-up: Ground Round

BEST PIZZA

Winner: Muncheez Pizzeria
Runner-up: Cranky Pats

BEST DESSERT

Winner: Carmella's Italian Bistro
Runner-up: Town Council Kitchen and Bar

BEST SALAD ENTREE

Winner: Houdini's Escape
Runner-up: Ground Round

BEST BURGER

Winner: Milwaukee Burger Company
Runner-up: Ground Round

BEST SANDWICH

Winner: Greene's Pour House
Runner-up: SAP Brunch, Brown Bag & Bakery

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BEST DINER/CAFE

Winner: Little Diner Xpress
Runner-up: WeatherVane Restaurant

BEST ASIAN FOOD

Winner: Basil Cafe
Runner-up: GingerRootz Asian Grille

BEST SUSHI

Winner: Katsuya
Runner-up: Nakashima

BEST MEXICAN FOOD

Winner: Solea Mexican Grill
Runner-up: Antojitos Mexicanos

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Winner: Seth's Coffee
Runner-up: All Seasons Coffeehouse

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Winner: New York Deli
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BEST BAR & GRILL

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ASK CHEF JEFF

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

Q. How do you achieve a flaky pie crust? Mine always end up too dense.
—Richard, Appleton



A. Flakiness in a pie crust is achieved when the solid fat (sometimes referred to as lard if animal-based or shortening if vegetable-based) is distributed into the dough in very thin layers. This is achieved by keeping the solid fat as cold as possible during the preparation process and by not over-mixing the dough. Keeping the fat thoroughly chilled is the reason why most pie crust recipes call for using ice-cold water. As the dough is mixed, a pastry cutter helps distribute the cold, solid fat throughout the dough. If the dough is over-mixed and/or allowed to get too warm, the solid fat will melt and blend in with the flour, making the dough smooth and mealy. When prepared correctly, the dough with the layers of solid fat is rolled out and placed into pie pans or other baking dishes. During the baking process, the layers of solid fat melt and the result is the flakiness created by the pockets where the fat used to reside. Achieving a flaky pie crust is definitely an art, but the secrets are within reach and with a little practice I'm sure you can achieve the results you want, Richard!

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

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



BEST SUPPER CLUB

"Change is not necessarily comfortable, but it is a good thing."

It's no surprise that this quote is from supper

club owner John Hayes, since the customer favorite at his **Red Ox Seafood and Steakhouse** is Haddock 14 Different Ways. (Hayes recommends the crab cake crusted haddock version that is finished with a chipotle pepper hollandaise sauce.) The options don't stop there. "We have run over 1,000 different dinner specials in the last 10 years," Hayes says. It's hard to differentiate between their Best Seafood and Best Supper Club Forks, since what defines both at Red Ox is variety and change. The seafood is distinguished by "variety in the type of seafood and variety in the way it is all prepared," and as a supper club, he adds, "We are always changing and evolving."

—KN



BEST FISH FRY

"Anytime I start thinking I want fish on Friday, my mouth starts to water and all I can think about is Mark's fish fry and a cup of their clam chowder," says Karen Marsceau of Appleton, who enjoys the various fish preparations offered at Mark's East Side. *"I voted for Mark's East Side for the best fish fry because simply it is! My fish always tastes so fresh and has never been greasy."*



<p>Thank you for voting for us!</p> <p>BEST OVERALL RESTAURANT BEST AMBIANCE • BEST DESSERT</p> <p>carmella's an italian bistro</p> <p>716 N. Casaloma Dr., Appleton (920)882-4044 carmellasbistro.com</p>		<p>BEST BREAKFAST • BEST BRUNCH</p> <p>SAP BRUNCH • BROWN BAGS • BAKERY</p> <p>708 N. Casaloma Dr., Appleton (920)257-2194 sapbrunch.com</p>
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WHERE TO DINE

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Formerly Cheyenne's, this is more than a sports bar! With a revamped menu and new entrée features, you will think you are at a gastropub while you're watching the game. Serving appetizers, salads, gourmet burgers, sandwiches, Friday fish fry and from-scratch pizza and desserts. The atmosphere and service are warm and inviting with the old familiar woodwork surrounding the bar and two fireplaces. Hosting a party? We've got you covered with a private party room. Open M seasonally, 3pm; Tu-F, 11am; Sa, 11am. Open Sundays starting Sept. 11. Happy Hour Tu-F, 3-6pm.

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Carmella's: an Italian Bistro

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IL Angolo Restó-Bar

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SAP

708 N. Casaloma Drive, Appleton 257-2194
SAP offers breakfast and lunch classics any time of the day! We use locally sourced eggs from organic-fed chickens in all of our dishes, and our pork is from a farm down the road. Stop in for a coffee or espresso drink and a from-scratch pastry or dessert from our bakery case. Our deli case is full of artisan Wisconsin cheeses and meats, organic rotisserie chickens and house-made favorites. No time to sit down? Order to go! On warmer days, we'll open the garage doors on our four-seasons patio. Winner of the 2016 FOX CITIES Magazine Golden Fork Awards for Best Breakfast and Best Brunch. M-Su, 8am-8pm. sapbrunch.com.

Stone Cellar Brewpub

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Trend Focus:

Lighting

By Suzanne Hones

Lighting is an important fashion accessory in any house, and just like fashion, it is changing all the time. For a lot of homeowners, it's important to keep up with current styles in lighting so that their home can look designer, but with more variety in the industry now than ever before, it can be hard to decide where to start. These trends in lighting will brighten up your style (and your house).



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1. LED Edison Bulbs

Go for an authentic look with an LED Edison bulb. Traditional Edison bulbs are not very bright, but the industry is flipping the switch on that. "Now you can get the best of both worlds with LED bulbs. They last longer, give you light and still get a decorative look," says Holly Gambisky of Northtown Lighting in Appleton. The warm color these lights emit will give any room an old-fashioned glow.

2. Oversized Fixtures

Have a kitchen island that could use some sprucing up? Try making it a focal point with a couple oversized fixtures. "People used to do, say, three small pendants over an island, but now people will do two oversized pendants," says Erin Lenius, a lighting designer

and consultant at Lighting by Design in Appleton. This makes the island as much a space to show off as the dining room.

3. Mixed Metallic Finishes

This trend has two applications – varying the finishes throughout the house and varying the finishes within one piece itself. "When building homes 20 years ago, people tended to stay with the same finish throughout the entire home. Currently, people use different finishes throughout the home, even in the same room as long as they still complement each other," says Gambisky. This trend led to using multiple finishes on one fixture. Right now, soft golds that are a mix of gold, silver and bronze finishes are popular. Often these finishes will have a brushed look to them, instead of a solid color. Another popular combo that you might find is bronze and brushed nickel.

4. Locally Made Fixtures

As Cassidy Evers at Peerless Design Studio LLC in Appleton says, buyers want lights that are custom-made; the more unique the better. It can be hard to find those unique light fixtures that perfectly fit your home, but looking local can be one of the best things for a buyer to do to get that one-of-a-kind piece. A handcrafted porcelain pendant from Peerless can add a distinctive flare to your kitchen. Such a pendant with sleek lines, fewer curls and less "fluff" is also trendy, according to Gambisky.

5. Artful Pieces

As buying local and the demand for the unique picks up, so does the craftiness of fixtures. "Lighting can be a piece of art now," Lenius says. Whether it's handcrafted fixtures made of mercury glass, blown glass, birch wood or upcycled kitchen appliances from Red Door Mercantile in Neenah, lighting is becoming art and the industry is picking up on that. "The continuous ebb and flow of design is always making new out of the old," Lenius says, but art is timeless.



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THIS IS MY STORY



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Sally

"When I heard 'you have cancer' I found out too fast that it can happen to anyone, not once but twice..."

Cindy

"October 1998, my journey began. I thought this disease was in my past. After 17 years my journey began again..."

Gail

"If I knew then what I know now about dense breast tissue, I'd have thought differently about early detection..."

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"I decided on a right mastectomy only. A year of worrying led me to a left prophylactic mastectomy..."

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