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December 2018

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foxcitiesmagazine.com

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Say goodbye to Hidden in Plain Sight and hello to:

#FOUNDINTHEFOX

Share your Fox Cities pics with us and win! In the February issue, we will be introducing a new interactive photo feature called #foundinthefox. Each month we will present a different photo theme, from food to scenic views to events. When you post your photos along the month's theme to social media, use the hashtag #foundinthefox and tag @foxcitiesmagazine for a chance to win a \$25 gift card to a local business. One winner will be selected each month.

SNAP • #FOUNDINTHEFOX • @FOXCITIESMAGAZINE • WIN

note from the **PUBLISHER**



"Life is an accident waiting to happen" is a phrase I've used many times over the years. It aptly describes the beginning of FOX CITIES Magazine.

It began with an accidental meeting between Ruth Ann and I as we passed in the hallway of a local "sudsery." Her friends knew my friends. Ruth Ann was a Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce executive facilitating committees. I was distributing farm/construction machinery.

In fairly short order, Ruth Ann left the security of chamber work and joined me in the risky world of equipment brokerage. Wisconsin winter drove us to the bayous of south Louisiana where parishes (counties) and the state highway department began leasing to buy road maintenance equipment. Ruth Ann quickly realized she loved selling, as I had, and our future looked rosy.

Then the recession of the early '80s mugged us. Leases were canceled and purchases became impossible as government budgets dried up. The prime interest rate rose to over 20 percent, my own rate two points above that. Machinery dealers across the country went bankrupt, including one of the oldest, International Harvester. The economy crashed, we tried not to.

Ruth Ann returned to the Fox Cities to find supporting work as I wound down our efforts and paid the bills. When I got home a couple of months later, Ruth Ann was living with a friend and doing contract work for local business that wanted to test opportunity without capitalizing the effort.

While we were in Louisiana, the Paper Valley Hotel (today known as Red Lion Hotel Paper Valley) was built. It was the first large city hotel to be built in Appleton in a century. Its owners approached the chamber of commerce for information concerning the area that their visitors were requesting. The chamber printed a simple tabloid, the size of a folded newspaper, which contained basic information, museums, parks and the like.



After delivery of the first issue of Fox Cities Magazine

Ruth Ann and I contracted to produce a second edition. I did some editing and enhancing of some descriptive material while Ruth Ann organized production, typesetting and the like. We increased distribution to local motels and merchants who were not advertisers. When we placed a stack in a McDonald's outlet we had an epiphany: hundreds of copies were picked

up by locals. Two changes were immediately obvious. To begin with, content had to change to serve local demand, reprints wouldn't do. Ruth Ann had been a reporter for area radio and so started gathering interesting news that would be appreciated by locals and the visitors we originally set out to entertain, while I wrote the articles. Second, the format had to be improved to make the piece easier to carry and read. The next issue was a magazine format, in newsprint.



Rubylith separation from the archives of the first holiday issue

Improving the appearance followed. Groundwood (typing-paper like) replaced newsprint and spot color appeared, soon followed by a full color cover. Full color was difficult and very expensive at that time. The era of film required that a separation be made of each picture in order for it to be printed.

The next big change came when digital computing gave us Quark, Photoshop and the like. The cost and complexity of full color printing declined, allowing for an expanded staff that the modern magazine required. New skills and ideas made a monthly magazine possible. We remember them with affection.

Bulk delivery has been greatly expanded to include localities within a 50 mile radius and direct mail today comprises thousands of copies. Major employers have sent copies across the nation to prospective employees who needed to be convinced that the Fox Cities is a great place to live, work and raise a family. Specialty publications have been produced to enhance this capability.

I can't remember where along the line it dawned on us both that doing what you love precludes most other considerations.

But surely it involved getting to know the sort of people who have generously agreed to write a few lines concerning living and working in the Fox Cities to celebrate the magazine's 35th anniversary. Confining themselves to a paragraph on a topic they harbor a Tolstoy novel full of thoughts and feelings must have felt a bit like a homework assignment over Christmas break. And, for that, they have my heartiest thank you.

If rather than 35, we were 3,500 years old, the number of people sharing their thoughts with us would still omit many who collectively create the place we so love, the place we call home.



Marvin J. Murphy, publisher

December 2018



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20 PEOPLE The Place We Call Home

Thirty-five community leaders share their experiences in the Fox Cities
Edited by Amelia Compton Wolff

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Cozy up with some of our favorite bowl food this winter
By Sarah Wells

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FOX CITIES Magazine's online event calendar is the premiere place to find out what's going on this holiday season. Visit foxcitiesmagazine.com and click "events."

artist SPOTLIGHT



After 30 years as a muralist, Kaukauna artist Patt Huss traded in 20-foot ceilings for canvases in 2008. She began painting representational and still life portraits, but Huss's current passion consists of abstract works made with layers of oil paint and cold wax mixed together.

"I love it because I can build the layers," she says. "As they dry, you can build another layer on top of it and then scratch and dig to get colors from underneath."

Huss excavates the layers, which can be heavy or light strokes, using tools to reveal the colors below. "It's very textural which I love," she says. "I love the effect that I get from it."

In between adding layers, Huss will work on another piece, with anywhere from six to 10 pieces in progress at one time.

Natural elements such as water, rocks or a crack in the sidewalk cement all inspire Huss's work. She is drawn most to neutral, earthy color palettes that reflect her love of nature. She believes growing up in the Fox Cities countryside and spending time at a family cabin in Northern Wisconsin informed her fascination with the natural world.

Often Huss finds her subconscious emerges spontaneously through her paintings.

"When I paint abstract, a lot of time there will be figures that come through without me realizing it and then I'll enhance them," she says. "It makes the viewer think and it makes them wonder and study. That intrigues me and I hope it intrigues them to look farther into the painting."

As a lifelong artist, Huss describes her creative process as a spiritual one. Abstract work re-

quires a certain amount of zen-like fluidity and adaptability, while still considering artistic concepts of composition and value.

"There's something spiritual that comes out of it for me," she says. "It's calming. It's words that are not spoken. I can write a book just looking at a painting."

Huss's work can be found at galleries throughout the region including The Hang Up Gallery in Neenah, Atlas Coffee & Gift Shop in Appleton, Artless Bastard in De Pere and Woodwalk Gallery in Egg Harbor.

To see more of Huss's work, visit patthuss.com.
—By Amelia Compton Wolff



HIDDEN in plain sight

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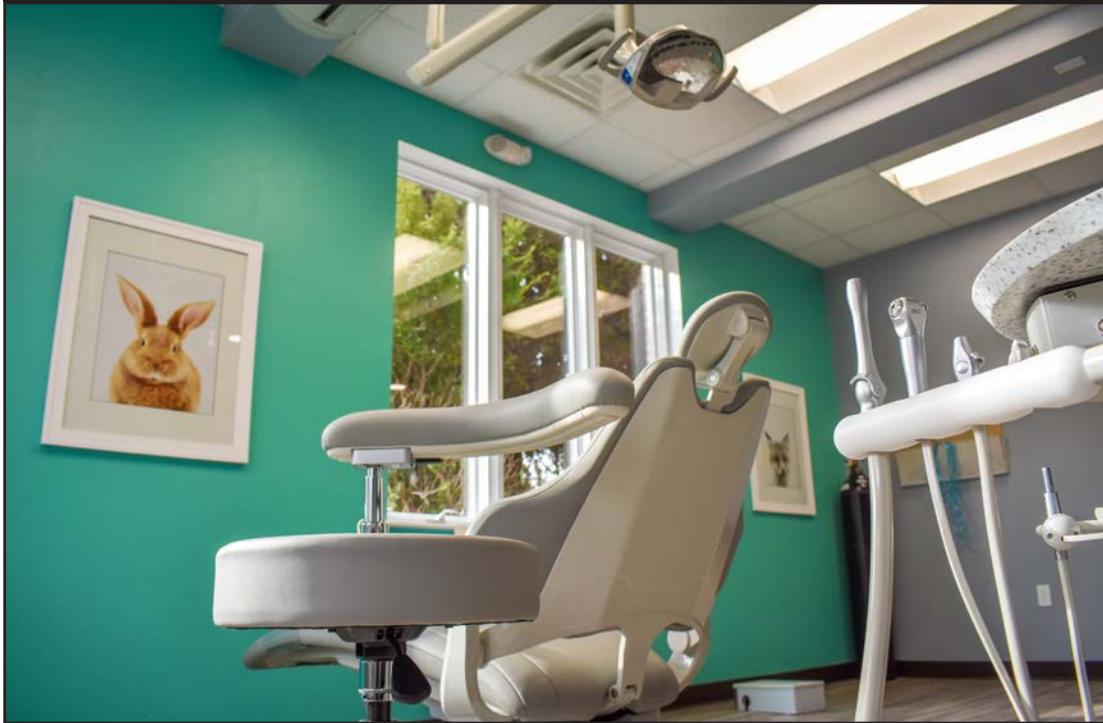
NOVEMBER WINNER



We've stumped you!

Answer: Hiett Hall,
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Little Critter is kid-focused, fun and vibrant. From infancy to adolescence, Little Critter Pediatric Dentistry provides oral health care throughout a child's development. Their kid-friendly office features pediatric tools and techniques to make dental visits an exciting experience.

Dr. Michaella "Keta" Heitzler is a Neenah native who dreamed of opening a practice in her hometown. "I've wanted to be a dentist since kindergarten," she says. "By high school, I either wanted to be a dentist or kindergarten teacher because of my love for kids. I discovered I could combine my passions in pediatric dentistry."

After completing her dental education at the University of Pennsylvania and pediatric specialty training at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Dr. Keta earned her board certification. She worked in Chicago for a handful of years before returning to the Fox Valley with her husband Matt, daughter Ahava and their Flemish giant bunny Gus Gus who loves to hop around the Little Critter office. Young patients love meeting Gus Gus, giving him snuggles and feeding him banana chips. At Little Critter Pediatric Dentistry, all kids are special.

The staff strives to provide comprehensive and compassionate care to set children at ease and promote lifelong healthy habits.

"So many people carry dental fear, either from their parents' trauma or their own trauma," Dr. Keta says. "We want to eliminate that. Sometimes things are really hard at the dentist, but my number one job is to take care of your child."



The philosophy of care at Little Critter is based on prevention and education. The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recommends children visit the dentist within six months after the first tooth appears or by their first birthday. Early introduction of dentistry as a routine part of health care allows children to become comfortable

at the dentist and provides parents with the necessary education on dental issues. To start children on the right path, Little Critter offers a free check-up for children under age 2.

As a pediatric dentist, Dr. Keta has specialty training in medically-complex, special needs and behaviorally-challenging patients. Nitrous oxide and general anesthesia are available, when extra help is needed, although she has extensive experience completing dental procedures on kids who need extra TLC.

Call 920-574-2577 to schedule an appointment or just stop by the office to meet Gus Gus. More information can be found at littlecritterpediatricdentistry.com.



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ARTS & PERFORMANCE

Art Garage Holiday Fair

December 7 & 8

Shop local artists selling handcrafted goods such as jewelry, fine art, leather crafts, glassware, soaps and more. With over 15 local artists and live music all day, this is sure to be the most fun way to get your holiday shopping done. 7, 5-9pm. 8, 12-4pm. The Art Garage, Green Bay. 448-6800.

Holiday Art Activity Day and Open House

December 8

Create your own fused-glass star as an ornament or window hanging. Free art projects also will be available throughout the museum along with sweets and treats. 10am-3pm. Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, Neenah. 751-4658.

A Charlie Brown Christmas

December 21

Join Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Lucy, Linus and the whole Peanuts gang as they put on their own Christmas play and ultimately discover the true meaning of the season. 7-8:20pm. Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, Green Bay. 465-2726.



FAMILY FUN

A Very Neenah Christmas

December 7

Experience a magical night featuring activities the entire family will enjoy! Activities include Rudolph Run, live mannequin window displays, Santa and Mrs. Claus, music and more. 6-8pm. Wisconsin Ave & Commercial St., Neenah. 722-1920.



Menasha Holiday Hayride

December 8

Take a ride through the beautifully decorated streets of the Menasha Island. Visit with Mr. and Mrs. Claus, view the reindeer and sample hot beverages and cookies. The first trip departs at 5pm and the last trip of the evening leaves at 8:40pm. Memorial Building, Menasha. 967-3640.

Downtown Appleton Holiday Fun Fest

December 15

Enjoy games and activities, cookie decorating with Mrs. Claus, visit with Santa and let your kids shop at the One Stop Elf Shop. Stop at the Holiday Handcrafted Gift Market inside City Center as a special feature of the farm market from 9am-1:30pm. Horse-drawn wagon rides offered behind City Center. 10:30am-2:30pm. Downtown Appleton. 954-9112.

Brunch with the Grinch

December 15

What's more fun than brunch and story time with the Grinch? Plus holiday themed activities and a Grinch themed photo booth. 9:15, 9:45, 11 and 11:30am; 12:45 and 1:15pm. The Building for Kids Children's Museum, Appleton. 734-3226.

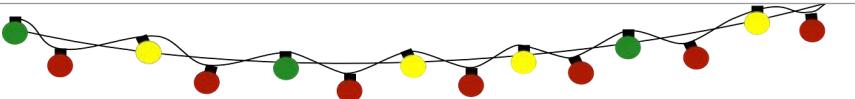


Noodles Around the World

December 31

Sample different noodle dishes from around the world, New Year's Eve ball drops, party favors and more. 11am-4pm. The Building for Kids Children's Museum, Appleton. 734-3226.

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



MUSIC

Christmas on The Avenue

December 6

Mile of Music fan favorite Dan Rodriguez and his band celebrate the season with a mix of his most popular songs, the holiday classics we all know and love, and a few original holiday tunes that Dan has penned! 7:30-9pm. Lawrence Memorial Chapel, Appleton. 832-6749.

Swing in the Holidays: Janet Planet and the UWO Jazz Ensemble

December 7

Join award-winning vocalist Janet Planet along with University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Marty Robinson, for an evening of jazzy holiday favorites. 7:30pm. The Grand Oshkosh. 424-2350.

All Hearts Come Home For Christmas

December 7

Get ready for a family friendly party for the senses celebrating the most important gift this Christmas: Jesus! The band Behind the Eyes will perform a blend of contemporary and classic Christmas favorites with a Trans-Siberian Orchestra feel. 7pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.

A Motown Christmas

December 11

The Motown Experience is a world-class vocal group assembled from past and present members of three of Motown's most legendary groups: The Temptations, The Miracles and The Capitols. A Motown Christmas is a powerful show combining Motown's greatest hits and everyone's favorite holiday classics. 7pm. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton. 730-3760.



Horns A Plenty Christmas Concert

December 15

Horns A Plenty Christmas is a charitable organization that offers horn players young and old the opportunity to come together and perform Christmas music for the general public. Free admission. 2:30pm. Fox Valley Lutheran High School, Appleton. 739-4441.

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Annual Christmas Dinner and Program

December 6

Architectural historian and preservation planner Anne Biebel will speak about influential women of our area, with focus on Menasha sculptor Jean Pond Miner Coburn. Hosted by Menasha Historical Society. 5-8pm. Waverly Beach Bar & Grille, Menasha. 840-4373.

Oshkosh Hmong New Year

December 8

The 35th annual Oshkosh Hmong New Year is hosted by the Hmong Service Center Inc. This year, experience the first dance and vocal competition, food, entertainment and performances. 7am-11pm. Sunnyview Expo Center, Oshkosh. 203-8665.

Worst Day of the Year Ride

December 21

It's the shortest and darkest day of the year, so grab your bikes because on the worst day of the year we ride! Ride is approx. 10 miles, stopping at Tanners Grill and Bar, rain or shine. Fat, mountain or CX bikes recommended, fat bikes available for rent. Afterwards hang out at the Drop Bar Cafe for warm drinks and libations. 6-8pm. Recyclist Bicycle Co., Kaukauna. 759-1200.

Menasha New Year's Eve Celebration

December 31

This 25th annual free event features live music, giveaways, midnight ball drop and fireworks with live TV coverage from Channel 5. 10pm-12:30am. Curtis Reed Square, Menasha. 967-3640.

EXHIBITS & TOURS

Grignon Mansion Christmas Tours

December 1-2 & 7-9

On Saturdays, Lamers Trolley will provide Christmas light tours. On Sundays, guests can take horse drawn wagon rides. There will also be crafts and cookie decorating for children. Sample Grignon family recipes, wassail (hot spiced cider) and milk punch (eggnog). 7, 5-8pm; 1 & 8, 11am-7pm; 2 & 9, 11am-5pm. Charles A. Grignon Mansion, Kaukauna. 766-6106.

WPS Garden of Lights

Thru December 30

For the 22nd year, experience the magic of WPS Garden of Lights, encompassed by more than 300,000 twinkling lights. You'll discover a spectacular array of botanical-themed light displays, featuring an enchanted icicle forest, glistening flowers, a dazzling 60-foot walk-through caterpillar and so much more. Times vary. Green Bay Botanical Garden. 490-9457.

Hearthstone Victorian Christmas

Thru January 13

Fill your senses with the sights, sounds, smells and textures of Christmas in a beautifully restored 1880s mansion. Special nighttime lighted tours with music and costumed characters on Friday evenings in December, 6-8pm. Th-Sa, 10am-3pm. Su, 1-3:30pm. Hearthstone Historic House Museum, Appleton. 730-8204.



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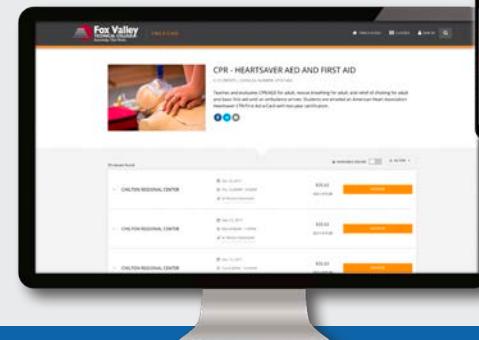
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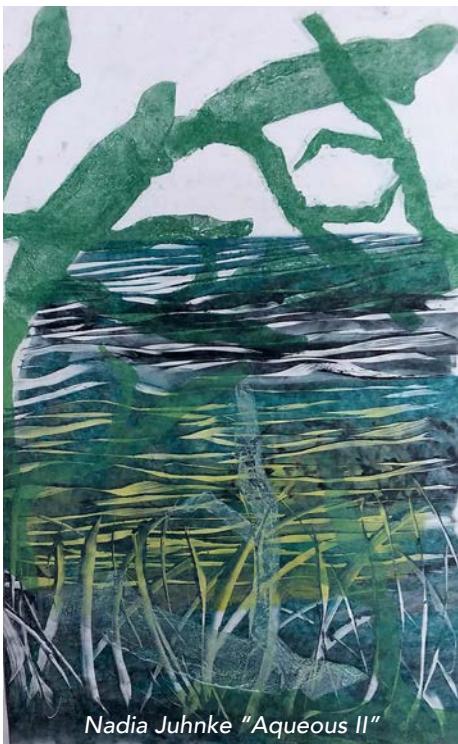
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Classes start as early as January 21.



 **Fox Valley
TECHNICAL COLLEGE**
Knowledge That Works





Nadia Juhnke "Aqueous II"

Art Focus: exterior • anterior • interior

Life is a constant state of transition. A new exhibit at the Feather & Bone Gallery in Appleton, titled "exterior • anterior • interior," celebrates this perpetual flux with work by artists Nadia Juhnke of Green Bay, Karla Lauden of Menasha and Devon Minor of Oshkosh.

The grouping of their work is a visual transition. Juhnke creates layered prints based out of abstraction. The large collaged paintings by Lauden are expressionistic, figurative pieces. Minor also works with figures in her drawings, but with a neoclassic approach. The harmony that their work creates is more complete than how it looks hanging next to one another on the gallery wall, however. Each artist makes a narrative statement on humanity through art.

"The motive for my process has helped me to bridge the gap between my personal life and my artistic life," Juhnke says. "It has also challenged me to continue to discover my own equilibrium through struggle, work and love to understand my interior life like a citadel."

Appleton artist Cristian Andersson curated the exhibit after years of familiarity with

the work of the three artists. It is an exhibition that not only highlights the talent of Juhnke, Minor and Lauden, but their willingness to conceptually describe how we often act and react within the transitions of our lives.

"I make art as an attempt to understand a little more about people by focusing on them in their imagined spaces," Minor says. "Many of the pieces have elements from my personal experience as I have used drawing in the past as a way to bypass heavy reactions and critically evaluate lingering thoughts and feelings from an experience, either good or bad."



Devon Minor "Anemone"

This introspective show is on exhibition at Appleton's Feather & Bone Gallery inside The Draw through December 14. For more information, visit the show's Facebook event page. – ACW

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A photograph of a man and a woman in a romantic embrace. They are standing in a grassy field with a house visible in the background. The man is wearing a red shirt, and the woman is wearing a patterned top. The image is part of an advertisement for East Wisconsin Savings Bank.

Congratulations
Fox Cities Magazine

35 YEARS
and growing...

"In the place we call
home."

Good Viewing | Two films and a natural wonder offer a visual delight

THE WAR TO BE HER

December 19

In Waziristan, Pakistan, Maria Toorpakai defies the Taliban and disguises herself as a boy so she can play sports. But when she becomes a rising star, her true identity is revealed and death threats force Maria to leave her country. Erin Heidenrich's documentary is shown in collaboration with the award-winning documentary series POV. 7pm. Neville Public Museum, Green Bay. 448-4460.

EAGLES ON THE FOX

December 26

Join the naturalists from 1000 Islands Environmental Center to learn about wintering bald eagles and head outside to watch for them along the Fox River as the sun sets. 3pm. Kaukauna Public Library. 766-4733.

MOVIE NIGHT: WONDER

December 30

Take a break and watch an amazing movie! Popcorn will be provided and feel free to bring other food or drinks. Chairs will be available; all are welcome to bring your blanket and pillow to get comfy. 4:30pm. Fox Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Appleton. 731-0849.

A woman with glasses playing a violin. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is dark with some text and diagrams related to hand and shoulder injuries. The text includes: Arthritis, Hand Pain, Cubital Tunnel, Mallet Finger, Tennis Elbow, Rotator Cuff Tear, FINGER, Shoulder, Fracture, Carpal Tunnel, Tendon Lac, ANGULATION CYST, HAND to SHOULDER CENTER, of Wisconsin, Tennis Elbow, Fractured, Complex Reconstruction Surgery, and Fracture. At the bottom right, the website HandtoShoulderWisconsin.com is displayed.

Sacred Sounds

NewVoices, a mixed-voice adult choir comprised of 80 volunteer singers, will present its popular Christmas at the Cathedral and Christmas at the Chapel concerts this month. Artistic director and conductor Dr. Philip A. Swan will lead the choir in their presentation of sacred hymns, carols and sing-alongs.

"People don't often have the opportunity to hear sacred music at Christmastime in a live setting," says Swan, who is also an associate professor of music and co-director of choral studies at Lawrence University.

Due to the popularity of the concerts, a second performance at Lawrence Chapel was added this year. Christmas at the Cathedral will take place on December 14 at 7:30 p.m. in Green Bay's St. Francis Xavier Cathedral. Christmas at the Chapel will take place on December 15 at the Lawrence University Chapel in Appleton with performances at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

The sacred settings enhance the experience for both audience and choir, Swan says.

"The cathedral is a sacred worship space, lots of marble and stained glass, chandeliers," he says. "The chapel [also] has an ambience of a sacred space, it's designed in the chapel style with the stained glass windows and decoration. It adds a lot to the overall feeling of the concert and the sense of being in a sacred environment."

At this year's concert, the repertoire of Christmas carols will include traditional choral music, new arrangements of familiar

songs as well as older, lesser known carols. The performances will also include choral sing-alongs where the audience is invited to participate. Katherine Handford will accompany the choir on the organ.

"We see a wide variety of people attending these concerts, it crosses all generations," Swan says. "I think there's a nostalgia factor for some older people, and younger people have heard the songs growing up as well and there's an interest on their part [to hear these carols]."

For tickets, visit newvoiceschoir.org. – KY



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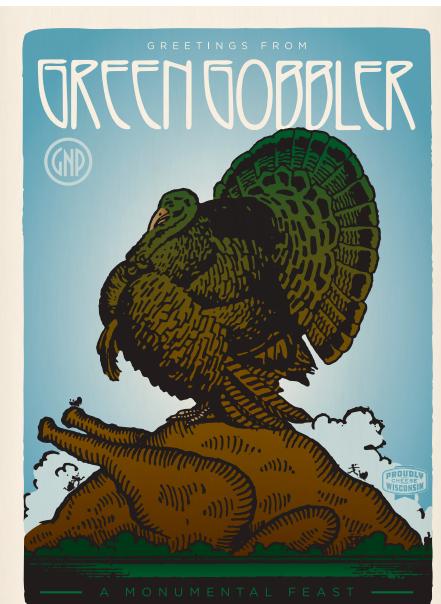
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December 23 at 4pm

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Five Must-See Exhibits

STORYTELLERS: WISCONSIN FIRST NATIONS PORTRAITS

Thru December 16

This exhibit features photographs of tribal leaders who were featured in Wisconsin Public Television's Tribal Histories project. These leaders were recorded in the regions that native people have called home for centuries, the programs feature rich retellings of the challenges, triumphs and time-honored traditions that have shaped their vibrant communities across generations. The Trout Museum of the Art, Appleton. 733-4089.



CARDBOARD: OUTSIDE THE BOX

Thru December 28

In this "Cardboard Kingdom," visitors can explore a variety of activities centered around cardboard. Use specially-designed tools to create art and 3D items that will be put on display for all to see. Paper Discovery Center, Appleton. 380-7491.

BLUE JAYS ART EXHIBIT

Thru December

The students of the Menasha High School art program will share their views and favorite pieces in a show with multiple techniques and themes. Menasha Public Library. 967-3690.

GODS & MONSTERS

December 4–January 30

This exhibit features comic book inspired artwork by Fox Valley artists. Opening reception on December 7 from 5-8pm. The artists will be present to discuss their work. Free admission. The Hang Up Gallery of Fine Art, Neenah. 722-0481.

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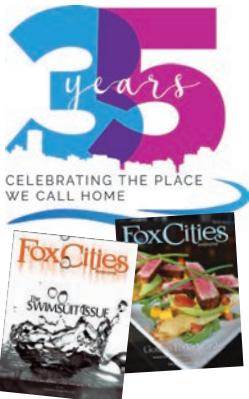
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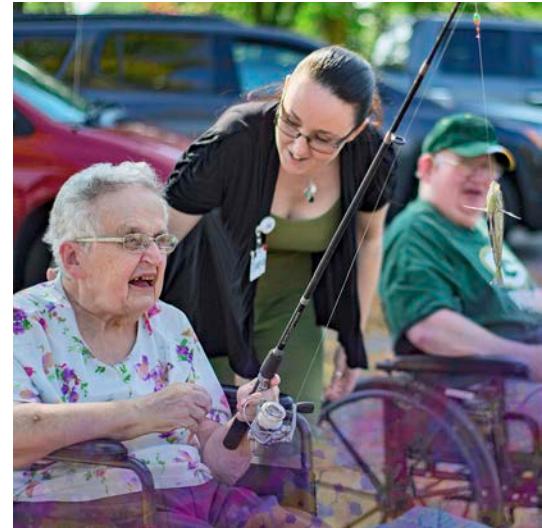
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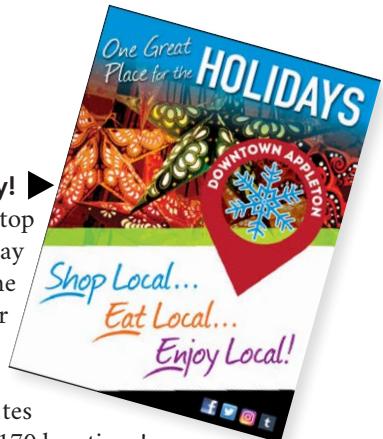
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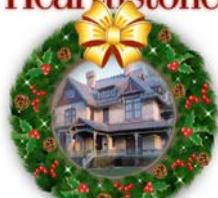
where the rooms will be lavishly decorated for the holidays. Guided tours daily Thursday-Sunday or see the mansion lit by the original electroliers and enjoy holiday music on Friday evenings from Nov. 30 -

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THIRTY-FIVE COMMUNITY LEADERS, ADVOCATES AND DISRUPTORS SHARE THEIR INSIGHTS ON THE FOX CITIES

Anniversaries are a time of reflection. As FOX CITIES Magazine celebrates its 35th year, we look to the community to provide thoughts, insights and hopes for the Fox Cities in the years to come.

Edited by Amelia Compton Wolff | Photography by Jordan Ashwood





Maria Van Laanen

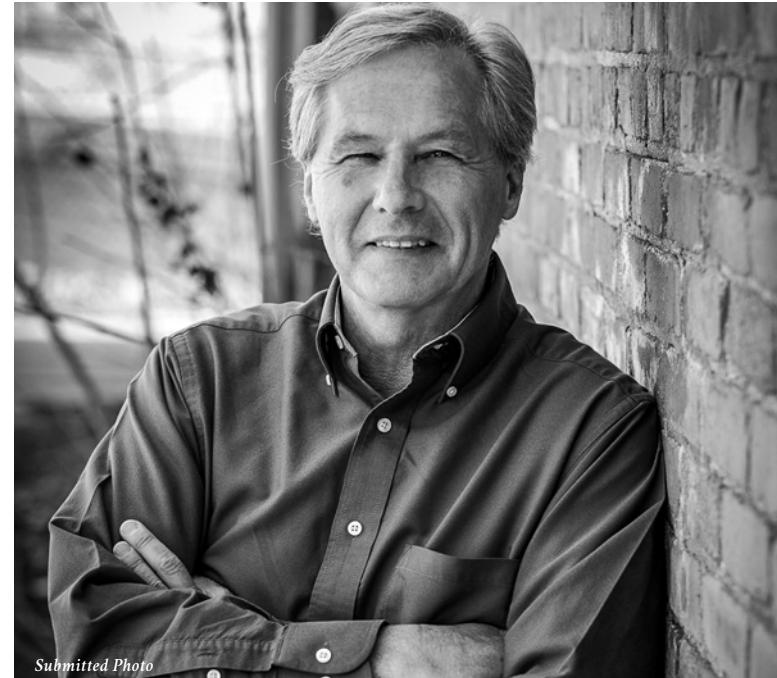
Executive Director,
Fox Cities Performing Arts Center

To me, the Fox Cities is such a wonderful place to call home because of all the right building blocks being in place. First, you have the quality education and the feeling of a safe community for your family. Then you have vibrant, dynamic arts and growing cultural amenities and activities. Finally, you have an incredible collaborative spirit that is pervasive throughout – everyone is willing to work together to continue to make this community great for all. People here understand and experience firsthand the impact of their involvement. This ability for one person to make a difference results in a greater commitment to making this the best possible place it can be for everyone – young, old, life-long resident or newcomer to the area. The Fox Cities have taught me the power of relentless pursuit of building a compassionate community for all to pursue their best selves.

Randy Stadtmueller

President/Principal,
Stadtmueller & Associates

From 1987 to 2008 I had the good fortune to work with the City of Neenah, Future Neenah, private investors and business owners to successfully facilitate, and/or invest in, seven building projects that either renovated key historic buildings or removed poor buildings creating a site for a new building. Together these projects, and the success of other projects in the area, have transformed North Commercial Street from what was once a shabby streetscape into a healthy link between downtown Neenah and downtown Menasha. The commitment of the community to invest in North Commercial Street (and in Menasha and in Appleton and in Kaukauna) represents the core of what makes the Fox Cities a great place to live, work and do business. This process of community investment is our strength and it is the basis for our continued growth as we transform the shores of the Fox River from industrial uses to recreational, residential and commercial uses. That transformation creates new opportunities throughout the Fox Cities as we continue to grow together, forming a vibrant single “city.”



Submitted Photo



Tim Hanna

Mayor, City of Appleton

In terms of physical growth, the biggest opportunity for the City of Appleton is increasing the density of our population, meaning creating opportunities for more people to live within our existing neighborhoods. I believe our biggest opportunity for community growth lies in our ability to blur the parochial political boundaries that exist in the region and find ways to start acting like the single community that we really are. Beginning in 2020, the federal government will look at the Fox Cities, including Oshkosh, as one economic region. Therefore it is in our best interest to start thinking and acting in ways that reflect the reality of our local economy. With all the different municipal and county governments as well as numerous school districts in the Fox Cities, at the end of the day, and in spite of our differences, we will strive to do what's best for the community.

John Schmidt

President/CEO, U.S. Venture, Inc

The most exciting recent development at U.S. Venture is our decision to build our new headquarters in downtown Appleton. It will give us the opportunity to integrate ourselves deeper into the nonprofit community, support downtown businesses, and has real potential to spur more incremental developments for the city. We need to create a collective vision of what we want our community to become - one that includes input from our diverse population base - and then provide policy and process to ensure we can achieve this vision. I'm always amazed by the generosity and compassion in this community. People in the Fox Cities possess a wonderful willingness to help others and support good causes. These strong core values have made the Fox Valley a great place for my wife and me to raise our five children.



Submitted Photo

Steve March-Tormé

Singer/songwriter/performer and radio host,
91.1 FM The Avenue

Having lived in New York and L.A. my whole life, my wife and I moved here to be near her family after our first daughter was born. What I knew about Appleton then was that it's an easy 45 minute drive from family, has an airport and a place for me to play tennis. It wasn't until we started becoming part of the community that I saw how much it truly offered in terms of arts programming, other opportunities, and how deep and diverse the talent pool is here. It was a pretty thrilling discovery. Ten years later, there are always new projects and collaborations to take on that are very gratifying. I get to work with artists, musicians, photographers, recording studios, writers and filmmakers here. Because of the roots my family has put down here in the Fox Cities, I feel that every time I travel to do a concert, I'm bringing some of my new hometown with me.





Pam Seidl

Executive Director, Fox Cities Convention & Visitors Bureau

The Fox Cities regional approach to tackling big projects like the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Fox Cities Exhibition Center and Fox Cities Champion Center have all been signature projects that required multiple entities and municipalities to work together. I don't think people always understand how efforts like this don't just happen everywhere. The community's biggest growth opportunity lies in our innovative nature. Our manufacturing base has delivered so many patents and products. We take the "maker" mentality to a new level when you think about it from an industrial design standpoint. We can leverage our history of product innovation to support our future growth.

Dr. Susan May

President, Fox Valley Technical College

Living and working in the Fox Cities has taught me just how critical collaboration is to creating strong communities. The development of our Public Safety Training Center is probably the best example. This facility would not exist today without the expertise, passion and network that has been developed over decades by our faculty and staff, and the reputation we've built in this arena statewide and nationally. Nor could it have been accomplished without the support of residents from all across this region and key partners such as the public safety sector, Appleton International Airport, Oshkosh Corporation, Pierce Manufacturing and others. It represents a very unique convergence of expertise, partners and community support, as well as a tremendous economic asset for the Fox Cities. I've been inspired by the sheer will of community leaders over many decades to take initiative and accomplish so many great things that benefit our lives today, as well as future generations.



Michelle Schuler

Wisconsin TechSpark Manager, Microsoft

Launching Women in Technology Wisconsin Inc. (WIT Wisconsin) in the Fox Cities is one of my proudest accomplishments, and was the springboard for working with Microsoft on the TechSpark program to foster job creation and economic opportunity. With more than 7,000 technology jobs open in the state, and more than 3,000 of those in Northeast Wisconsin, there are opportunities for the next generation of workers. The region has an entrepreneurial spirit and that's a big competitive advantage. We have always been a community on the cutting edge of innovation and technology. That's why Microsoft has joined with the Packers to build a venture lab and business incubator outside of Lambeau, called TitleTownTech, and why we are working with the great staff at Appleton's Riverview Gardens to add technology efficiencies and help them reach more clients with job-training and placement. There are major investments being made in the entrepreneurial community here in Wisconsin, by universities and the private sector. The ecosystem is here and there is no time like the present to think big in the Fox Cities.

Tom Boldt

CEO, The Boldt Company

Many are thinking about what the "new" economy will look like. So, how do you predict the future? I want to believe there still is a big place for advanced manufacturing. It is along the lines of the early paper mill entrepreneurs who saw paper as their solution to the demise of milling. The global nature of business allows for high levels of sophistication. That exists in the Fox Cities. Today, you can grow here but you can also grow here and go anywhere. Living and working in the Fox Cities has taught me the importance of strong values and how that shapes how one behaves no matter where you are. This is a growing, exciting place with endless potential. Focus on the positives, because the Fox Cities has many assets that are under-appreciated.



Submitted Photo



John Brogan

CEO, Bank of Kaukauna

I am thrilled to see an expanding community of vibrant, young professionals in the Valley. Growing up, I think a lot of my generation felt like we had to leave the area to pursue opportunities; I believe we are now hitting a critical mass where young leaders are realizing that this is a great place "to come back to" and not just a great place "to be from." Growth is always driven by people and the creative tension that comes from engaging diverse points of view. In order to expand our talent pool, we need to continue to foster that diversity and inclusiveness. I love the creative spirit of our community and the generosity of the people who help encourage it. I stand on the shoulders of so many people who have helped me, and I try to be a good platform for others to grow and make our community stronger.

Brian Gottlieb

President, Tundraland Home Improvements

As a community, our biggest opportunity is creating business opportunities where those graduating college have a career path right here in the Fox Cities. Perhaps the greatest opportunity for any business is helping employees first realize, and then achieve, their full potential. My suggestion to anyone starting a business is this: be in the business of growing people. A couple of years ago I became aware of something that's provided absolute clarity to me as a business owner. We employ about 200 people in Northeast Wisconsin. When the employees of Tundraland are inspired to perform to their full potential, the business is at its best. When the business is at its best, so am I. Therefore, as a business owner, the path to me achieving my full potential lives and breathes in the process of helping my employees realize theirs. And for me, that's inspiring!



Dave Willems

President, Willems Marketing & Events, Inc.

I think there are a number of things we've accomplished at Willems Marketing over the years that are pretty unique to this area because it's so special, but the most recent and probably the most prominent that our team has created is Mile of Music. One area that we've always believed in at Willems Marketing & Events is the entertainment and leisure opportunity. [The Fox Cities] is a unique area because of its size and make-up. It fits that "middle" category in so many ways and that's a good thing when it comes to opportunity. Some things have been done or tried, but not all. Certain experiences exist, but not all. There are many opportunities and experiences that remain to be uncovered or tapped. One of the things I hope we've accomplished with Mile of Music has been to prove that big ideas can happen here if done right.

Barbara Webster

Public Relations Director, Oneida Nation

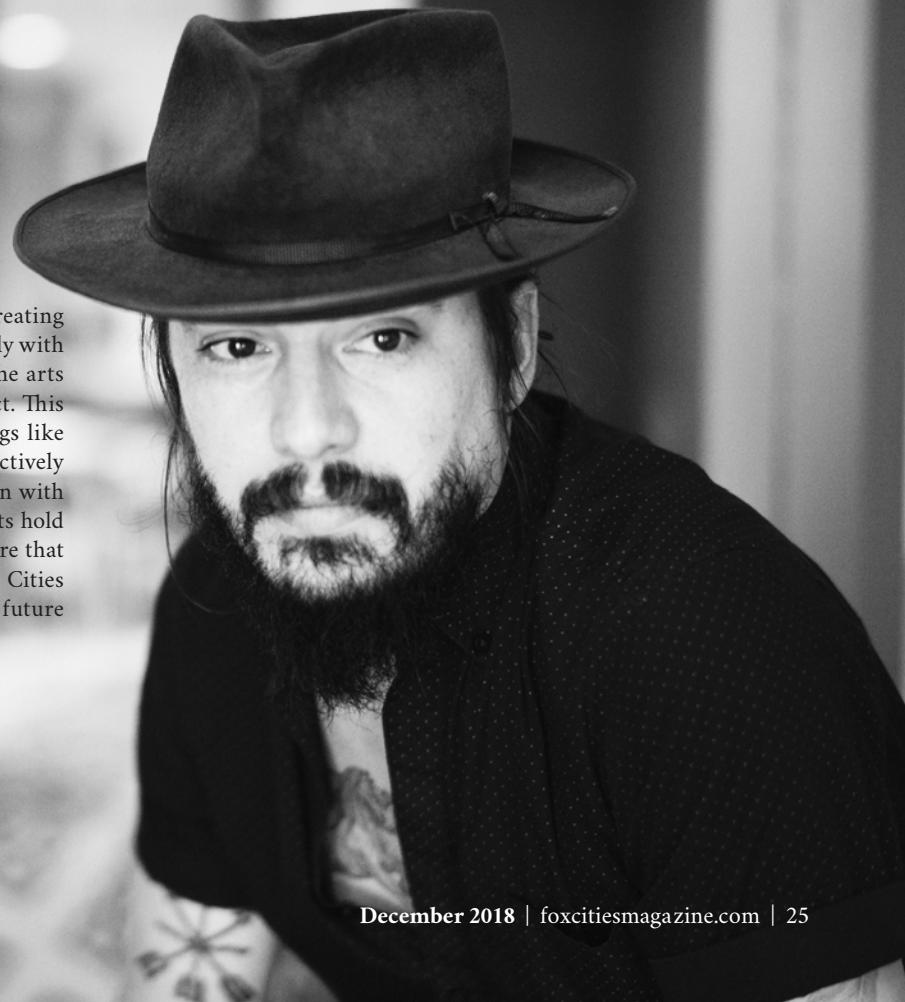
I am most proud of having an opportunity to contribute to building partnerships between the Oneida Nation and many other governments and businesses that have resulted in a better quality of life for our state, region and community. This area is where I have lived my entire life and the fact that most of my immediate family is within a 10-mile radius, makes this home. What I believe would be growth would be to turn our industry-minded businesses more green and environmentally safe for future generations. As technology changes so rapidly, we have to concentrate on how to manage in this world without consuming our natural resources to a point of degradation and depletion. Water is our life and we must take every opportunity to protect, preserve and sustain our natural water sources. Managing our water resources could be critical to the region in the future. The Great Lakes are a gift we need to be conscious of protecting and preserving.



Cory Chisel

Co-founder, Refuge Arts

The Fox Cities have allowed me to pursue not only my dreams of creating art, but also my dream about how the arts could interact differently with community itself. I've dreamed of an area in the world where the arts were there to heal and support as much as entertain and distract. This community has shared not only their joy in celebration of things like Mile of Music, but also the responsibility of our burdens we collectively share. I've spent many years pushing the idea that art hasn't been with us since the dawn of civilization because it's simply fun - the arts hold us together and heal us. This community has allowed us to explore that concept more than any other we've worked alongside. Our Fox Cities will grow at the rate to which our dreamers are supported. Our future relies on dreams that will at first seem impossible.





Amy Barker

Former Executive Director of Future Neenah/Vice President of Vision Architecture

I am absolutely inspired by the intelligent, good-hearted people we have living here. The sense that we are all in this together has provided a supportive environment to help new ideas both big and small come to fruition in our community. We need to be open to new ideas, new possibilities and an efficient process supportive of economic development in order to stay progressive in the Fox Cities. The Fox Cities has so many redevelopment opportunities ripe with potential, but these opportunities fall short when we don't create a good support system to progress development in a timely manner. As a community, we need to stay ahead by not waiting for opportunities to fall in our laps and instead create those opportunities by having a clear vision of what we are looking to attract. Don't be afraid to think big, but know that perseverance is what will make those ideas a reality.

Abe Weber

Airport Director, Appleton International Airport

My ability to elevate through the ranks at the airport, ultimately becoming the airport director, is a testament to the progressive leadership at the county. My age [35] was never viewed as a negative. Our county executive and county board took a chance on hiring me and I work every day hoping they feel their decision has paid off. From an airport perspective, we are seeing a once-in-a-generation growth opportunity for air service into Appleton. Coming on the heels of Bloomberg naming ATW the fourth fastest growing airport in the country, ATW will see 20 percent passenger growth in 2018. Growth of this magnitude sends a clear message to airline executives that our community is supportive of bigger airplanes and more nonstop destinations. As the community continues to fly our local airport more and more, we expect to continue our growth and see more air service.



Chris Mehring

Director of Media Relations/Radio Announcer, Wisconsin Timber Rattlers

I'm proud that I have been able to tell the stories of so many players that have made their way through the Fox Cities for the last 19 seasons. Some of those players have gone on to play in the Major Leagues. Some of those players have never played again after they were done in Wisconsin. I was born in Wisconsin and have lived in this state for my entire life. Wisconsin sports fans are so passionate about all of their teams. I grew up in the culture of supporting our teams and have been able to channel that passion into my broadcasts. My advice is love what you do, keep learning, keep evolving.

Larry Chomsisengphet

General Manager, Basil Café

The biggest growth opportunity for our community is diversity, race relations and understanding and support for other marginalized groups. We tend to think of Appleton as progressive and "One Great Place," but it's important to understand that many folks of color or other marginalized individuals don't necessarily feel comfortable here doing the many things that others may take for granted like attending Octoberfest or simply walking down College Ave. We have a wonderful community of people who, for the most part I feel, really care about one another and continue to want better for all of us and hold us as a community to a higher standard to better our city and area. It's these individuals who push, who fight, who resist, that we are inspired by and keep us pushing for more, so that we can continue to make Appleton and the surrounding areas truly "One Great Place" and inclusive for all folks.





Donna Gehl

President, Image Studios

I try to live my life without regrets. In business, almost everyone will experience success and failure and will have taken risks to accomplish their goals. All of the ups and downs is what gives you the grit you need to be strong in business. I believe that when you are successful in business you have an opportunity and privilege to contribute to the greater good and I see this in our community from large and small businesses, leaders, volunteers and nonprofits. I'm proud of our community leadership and their vision for the future. Our area continues to improve every day from better roads, more direct flights with an expanding airport, and more commercial and residential construction in every direction, however, I believe downtown Appleton has great potential for growth and more opportunity to live a downtown lifestyle.

Tim Rose

Board President, Fox River Navigational System Authority

The community effort to restore and operate the Fox River lock system has been one of the major historic accomplishments of the last 30 years. The locks were faced with closure in 1985, but thanks to a group of concerned citizens, we raised the money to restore and open the locks. The 10-year project was done for \$14.5 million with private, state and federal dollars invested in restoring the only hand-operated lock system in the nation. Responsible development of the riverfront is the biggest untapped economic and recreational opportunity. An independent economic impact statement indicated that the lock system could generate as much as \$290 million in total economic output over a 10 year period and generate as many as 6,300 additional jobs. We've already seen success with RiverHeath, Voyager Park in De Pere and the downtown Menasha Marina – imagine if developments like this happened up and down the Fox.



Mark Burstein

President, Lawrence University

I am moved every day by how civically-oriented people are in the Fox Cities. We care deeply about this place and trying to make it better. This care for community makes it so much easier to lead Lawrence. On any issue that faces the university, I know I can count on many other colleagues who have the same passion and interest for progress. We are very excited about efforts to deepen the education we offer. New colleagues have joined us to teach neuroscience, elementary education, development economics, data science and opera studies, among other disciplines. Talent is the critical constraint on our [community's] growth. We need to find ways to attract and retain more talent, especially those who are early in career. This demographic of employees wants more vibrant downtowns and more social options. Taking advantage of our location through additional trails along the river and out in nature would also make our community more attractive.



Wilson R. Jones

President & CEO, Oshkosh Corporation

We don't have extended family in Northeast Wisconsin, but I remember quickly feeling at home here. When we first moved to the area, I remember seeing many neighbors and friends in the backyards of our neighborhood. There were no fences and our neighbors were so welcoming. They quickly became family. After living in various parts of the United States, Northeast Wisconsin is home. We have amazing people, rich traditions, strong universities and colleges and booming industry. One of the biggest issues facing many companies and organizations in Northeast Wisconsin is access to labor. As a result, we need to keep training and educating young people about the many great opportunities right here within Northeast Wisconsin from manufacturing to marketing to engineering. Additionally, we have a huge opportunity to continue to market the Northeast Wisconsin region. There are many groups like New North that are doing great work around attracting new talented people to the area.

Submitted Photo



Brad Cebulski

President/Owner, BConnected, LLC

For me, personally, my career comes down to the sustainability of the business and the impact we have on others. With that being said, I'm proud of two different things. First, when our company hit our first \$1 million year, I felt the proudest of our company's sustainability and credibility. It felt like we had finally "made it" beyond just a good idea of mine. Second, earning the 2018 "Young Professional of the Year" recognition meant a ton to me. It reassured me that beyond business, our company is making a mark on the community around us. Never lose sight of solving problems and doing right by people who help you solve these problems. It doesn't matter if you are helping a non-profit or building a business. The success and growth of either of them rely on solving problems in a sustainable way.



David G. Voss, Jr.

President & CEO, Miron Construction Co., Inc.

The Fox Cities has granted [Miron] the opportunity to construct numerous facilities that have helped shape the landscape of our region. Our company was founded a century ago on North Story Street in Appleton, during the days when we could count the number of employees on two hands and annual revenue was a fraction of what it is today. The Fox Cities has been experiencing a simultaneous explosion of community engagement, entrepreneurial activity and resulting economic growth, which of course not only impacts our business, but richly enhances the lives of those of us who are lucky enough to live, work and play here. As long as our communities can continue to cultivate a culture that is family-oriented and forward-thinking, we're all poised for long-term success. My advice is never forget where you came from; there isn't a job too small for Miron, as those small jobs gave us our start and ultimately got us where we are today.

Jamie LaFreniere

Executive Director, Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra

When I moved to the area, I was amazed by not only the incredible variety of cultural events, but also by the amount of community support and engagement. Individuals, families and companies are all so invested in our groups and happy to show up at events and share in the celebration of the arts. That is rare and something to be cherished. Right now Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra is in the middle of our search for a new conductor. This person will lead our group and be a part of our community for years, and that spirit and level of engagement is very important for us when making our selection. We are delighted when we bring in our candidates and get to show off our friends and colleagues in the arts network here. Without exception, they have each mentioned they want to work with us because they love what they see happening in the Fox Cities and how the region is so innovative.



Submitted Photo



Jennifer Stephany

Executive Director, Appleton Downtown Inc.

We have the bones to become the Nashville or Austin of the Midwest. As efforts like Mile of Music and the Refuge continue to add opportunities for emerging artists to write, compose, record, create and perform their art form we will continue to attract visitors, and ultimately a new talent pool looking to live in a community that embraces an authentic urban experience – urban amenities in a place you can still call a neighborhood. Urban living is a huge growth area for Downtown Appleton. People want to live in a walkable and thriving neighborhood and we have that to offer. What's coming next is the inventory. We need market rate apartments downtown. When the community survey during the update to the Downtown plan indicated more than 50 percent of the 1,000-plus respondents wanted to live in or near downtown, we knew the environment was right for new residential development. We are gearing up to relocate the ADI office to the corner of the Red Lion Paper Valley Hotel and have plans to create a downtown visitor center.

Manny Vasquez

VP of Business Development, Pfefferle Companies, Inc.

As the region's leader in commercial real estate solutions, [Pfefferle Companies is] exploring the current inventory of vacant space in the Fox Cities (particularly industrial/warehouse) and trying to find creative ways to increase the availability of product. The hope is to have more suitable real estate options for local or outside companies looking to invest and grow in the area. We are in discussions with some of the region's largest employers regarding employer-led housing needs and options. Good-paying jobs and a healthy economy support our local businesses, schools, non-profits, as well the overall quality of life. Because a large percentage of jobs in the Fox Cities are created by existing employers, it is very important that local companies of all sizes and industries have access to the resources that they need to continue to grow and hire.





Submitted Photo

Kim Underhill

**Group Vice President,
Kimberly-Clark North America**

I was thrilled to move back to the Fox Cities this summer after being gone for nearly 10 years. I was asked to return to Kimberly-Clark to lead our North American business. Our teams are orchestrating a transformation of the North American business to get it back on a path of sustainable growth. Ensuring K-C is growing and investing is a critical part of our role as a key employer in the Fox Cities. As one of the largest employers in the area, we are a part of its fabric, both economically and philanthropically. After my short few months back in the area, I have been reminded of what a special place the Fox Valley really is. By getting involved in the needs of the community and following a passion of your choice, you will be able to see the instant impact.

E-Ben Grisby

Co-Chair, Celebrate Diversity Fox Cities

Our biggest growth opportunity is the welcoming nature of entrepreneurship, especially for younger people, women and persons of color. As the communities that make up the Fox Cities become increasingly younger and browner, there is great need for networking opportunities to branch out, especially given the fewer roadblocks that exist here compared to many larger metropolitan areas. It seems that residents are more open to seeing success exist regardless of race, color, creed, ability, orientation or affiliation. In the first few years of living in this region, I did not know what to think as the Fox Cities area is the polar opposite of my life in New York City. In NYC, most opportunities are a short train ride away, yet some things, such as the arts, sports, fine dining and housing were great, yet financially out of reach to many residents. I enjoy the environmental infrastructure and cleanliness of our roads, highways and byways. I greatly appreciate the accessibility and affordability the Fox Cities have to offer.



Becky Boulanger

**Executive Director,
Women's Fund for the Fox Valley Region**

The Fox Cities really are a special place. We have local leadership that is open to innovation and new ideas, and serve as mentors and role models for others. I certainly have benefited from many women in the community being willing to meet with me and encourage me during my career. I believe if we want to maintain our great quality of life and grow our economy we need to address the lack of affordable housing and lack of affordable child care. There are more factors to a thriving community than a growing economy or the number of jobs. Working families are still experiencing homelessness because there isn't enough housing that is affordable to lower-income workers. Women are being kept out of the workforce because child care is too expensive or generally not available after 6 p.m. Often these issues are not the result of individual failing, but a community landscape that we can all work to improve.



Submitted Photo

Tim Bergstrom

President & Chief Operating Officer, Bergstrom Automotive

The Fox Cities is such a special place with amazing people who care and embody the definition of community. This makes for lasting change here in the Fox Cities and our team is proud they are making a difference. There are truly so many people in this community who care. These positive role models add so much to helping lift one up, hold you up or catch you when you stumble. In the U.S. today there is so much division, but here in the Fox Cities, if you look for it, you can truly find so much support and strength. Together, our Bergstrom Automotive teammates have really invested their time and efforts in making a difference. This past year we had record efforts and dollars contributed while reaching historical milestones for the local United Way, Make-A-Wish, Boys' and Girls' Clubs, The Fox Cities Performing Arts Center and Cancer Research to name some examples. We are fortunate to be part of such a special community.

Becky Bartoszek

President/CEO, Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce

Over the past 20 years, I have served as a long-time employee of CenturyTel and ALLTEL which helped bring me to the Fox Cities. In 2007, I created my own start-up business in Little Chute. Most recently, I represented AIA Corporation in Neenah. Having worked with so many of the businesses in this area, either directly or as a supporting business partner, you can imagine my excitement about a strong role working directly with the Fox Cities Chamber and making a positive impact in this business community. This region has had tremendous impact on my life and career. When seeking opportunities throughout the country, I chose the Fox Cities because of the quality of life and abundance of diverse opportunities. This region is a large community with a small town feel, the type of place I want to raise my family to ensure safety for my children.



Submitted Photo

Curt Detjen

President/CEO, Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region

Leading one of the top performing community foundations in the country has been a tremendous honor and source of pride. I am most proud of the growth of philanthropy in this region and the healthy spirit of generosity fostered in the Community Foundation to sustain and improve our region's quality of life. That thriving generosity is the best reflection of the way people feel about living, raising their families and building their businesses in the Fox Cities. Our donors contributed a record \$132 million to charitable funds within the Community Foundation this year, asking us to be their partner in giving to fulfill their individual aspirations to make this region's quality of life better. I believe that we live in the most generous region in the state, where people get involved and give their time and finances to benefit others.

Patti Habeck

President, Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin

This community has a history of inspiring people, stories and events. One of my favorites came from my work with Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin. We were setting up a mobile food pantry on a very cold February day. The wind was brutal, and I stood outside handing out numbers to the guests so they could go inside a warm building and have a cup of hot chocolate. A woman came to where I was standing and took a number. Instead of walking away, she took off her well-worn coat and handed it to me, telling me I needed it more than she did. Then she walked inside to wait for her number to be called. As I slipped on her coat over my own to fight the Wisconsin cold, I began to cry at the beauty and irony of the moment. I was there to help her – a woman in need. Instead, she gave me the little she had in order to bring comfort to me. This is what our community is about.



Submitted Photo

Cathie Tierney

President/CEO, Community First Credit Union

I have lived my entire life in the Fox Cities and, over the years, have come to appreciate this place I call home even more. It's not only the "where," but most certainly with whom – my family, my friends, my colleagues, my tribe. It's a place where I've experienced my most beautiful moments as well as my ugliest. But as Dorothy said, "There's no place like home!" I feel very blessed to have grown my career here in the Fox Cities with the opportunity to join a "start up" in 1976 as a teller, and be able to grow along with the credit union and eventually become the CEO of what is now a \$3 billion financial cooperative. Here, through community involvement, I've been able to work with and learn from some of the most successful business leaders in the country (Kimberly-Clark, Oshkosh Corp, Bergstrom, Gulfstream, Thrivent, etc.) and count them as friends. Not sure that could happen anywhere else.

Big Pot & Grill

A Unique Asian-Cajun Experience

The Fox Valley's first Viet-Cajun seafood boil and grill is now open in Appleton.

Owner Yee Lee Vue says the new full-service restaurant, named Big Pot & Grill, replaces FOB Seafood Shack which was previously owned by her brother, Lor Lee. Vue also owns Bowl Ninety-One in downtown Appleton with her husband Thong Vue.

Big Pot & Grill builds on Lor Lee's original vision of an Asian-Cajun seafood restaurant. The restaurant features dishes that combine traditional Vietnamese and Thai flavors with common Cajun spices and ingredients. The star of the menu is the seafood boil, prepared in a traditional Cajun style, but topped with a variety of Asian-inspired ingredients.

Vue says Asian-fusion seafood boils originated in Texas and she wanted to bring that trend to the Fox Cities. The trend started with the Vietnamese immigrant community in Houston when they introduced Asian herbs and spices into traditional Louisiana crawfish boils.

When ordering a seafood boil, customers at Big Pot & Grill can choose from either a half-pound seafood combo or one of their favorite seafood items such as crawfish, king crab legs, mussels, lobster tails and Dungeness crab. Once the seafood is boiled, it is topped with the spice of the customer's choosing. Options include a Vietnamese version with lemongrass, shallots and ginger, a spicy Thai version, a traditional Cajun style with garlic

butter and another traditional Cajun option featuring lemon pepper.

"The most important thing that people know is this is an experience. It's nothing like they will see in other restaurants," Vue says. "The seafood boil ingredients are mixed and then it gets taken out to your table. You can put on a bib and gloves while you're eating. It's a very different experience."



In addition to the seafood boil, there is a grill menu consisting of Hmong deli specialities such as grilled pork belly. Vue says the grill menu items make excellent side dishes to be ordered along with the seafood boil. Even with all the new dishes

and flavors, customers can expect to find some familiar favorites as well.

"We are also incorporating items that people in the community are already comfortable with like stir-fry noodles, fried rice and Pad Thai for non-seafood lovers who still want to come with their family and friends," Vue says.

Vue compares the restaurant's vibe to a laid-back sports bar, with an emphasis on good food, music and beer. The restaurant currently serves beer and wine, with plans to obtain a liquor license soon.

Big Pot & Grill is open Tuesday through Sunday. For daily specials and updates, visit Big Pot & Grill on Facebook.



W3192 County Rd KK, suite i
Appleton
(920) 939-2057
www.facebook.com/Big-Pot-Grill

BOWLED OVER

BY SARAH WELLS

Featuring ingredients conveniently nestled in the confines of a bowl, “bowl foods” are a hot dining trend. Bowl dishes offer both convenience and comfort, and they even made an appearance on the menu at the royal wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle. On this side of the pond, Fox Cities restaurants have gotten on the bowl train. Simply put, they are dishes that, for one reason or another, seem to taste better when eaten out of a bowl – think burrito, Buddha and smoothie bowls. Read on for five bowl dishes worth venturing out for in winter weather.



Ramen Bowl Bowl Ninety-One

One bowl dish that can be found on Appleton's College Avenue is Bowl Ninety-One's popular variety of ramen. These aren't like the packaged ramen seen in stores. Each ramen bowl has its own different twist with herbs and spices reflecting the restaurant's Asian cuisine influence incorporated in the broth, along with proteins and vegetables. Stepping into Bowl Ninety-One for a hot ramen bowl is sure to warm you up while it's cold outside. They are a comfort food in many Asian communities, which Bowl Ninety-One owner Yee Lee Vue wanted to bring to the Fox Cities culinary scene.



El Fresca Bowl Sangria's Mexican Grill

Sarah Gregory, general manager at Sangria's in Appleton, says "The co-owner at Sangria's, [originally from Veracruz, Mexico], is extremely talented with Mexican foods by bringing different ingredients together." This is exemplified in the el fresca bowl at Sangria's. Featuring Mexican flavors and ingredients, this bowl begins with a bed of poblano rice and chipotle-marinated seasoned meat of your choice. A taste of freshness can be found with the black bean and corn salsa, pico de gallo, fresh sliced avocado and spring greens, with bacon and cheese filling in the layers. Chipotle ranch tops off the bowl. Gluten free and vegetarian options are available as well. The blend of flavors and abundance of ingredients resembles an ample burrito, but without the tortilla.



Teriyaki Beef Bowl

Fox River Brewing Co.

Fox River Brewing Co. added two bowl dishes to their menu specifically because the items were trending. Scott Roekle, director of operations for Supple Group, says, "No question that they weren't [trending]. We saw a need to sell them after researching markets outside of Wisconsin." The teriyaki beef bowl is packed with full flavor, containing steak cuts seared with sesame oil and garlic. It is then mixed in with udon noodles, broccoli, peppers, red onion, carrots and sesame seeds. The key ingredient is the teriyaki glaze, which when heated up, adds a caramelization to the udon noodles. This bowl can make for a quick meal without skimping on the size or flavor.



ask Chef JEFF

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



Q. What has been your biggest culinary disaster? — Calvin, Kaukauna

A. While minor mishaps in the kitchen are pretty common for all cooks, even professionals, I haven't had too many actual culinary disasters. The most recent one I can remember actually happened just last December when I smoked two crown roasts of pork we specially fabricated for our student culinary club's annual Christmas party. I had the crown roasts in the smoker for about two hours at 225° F and they were coming along just fine. My goal was to cook them to about 140° F and let carry-over cooking take them to a perfect 145° F and then carve them as the centerpiece for the meal. I took an internal temperature and in two different places got a reading of 139° F so I rested them and thought they would be perfect. Well, either I put the probe in a bad place or my thermometer was off, whatever the reason, when I went to slice the pork it was grossly undercooked. Oh, perfect – epic failure. I had no choice but to put them back in the oven and let them finish cooking. Not my proudest moment, and I made sure to let my students know and took full responsibility. Hopefully it was a lesson learned for all of us!

To read more Chef Jeff and find recipes, go to foxcitiesmagazine.com and click "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.





Customize-A-Bowl

GingeRootz Asian Grille



day. "It's a good time to eat spice when it's cold outside," says Ginge-

Rootz co-owner Dale Chu. "Eating spices raises the metabolism, so it's like exercise." Lastly, choose your favorite vegetables and protein, tofu included.

The variety of options available allows you to create a new bowl with your favorite foods each time you visit.

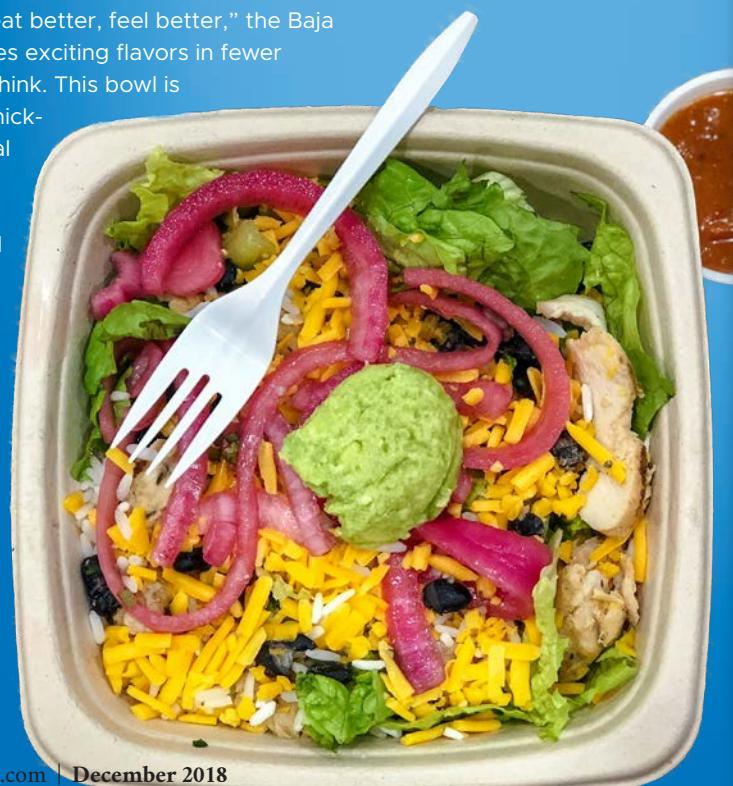
If you're a traditionalist who sticks to your usual choices at restaurants, GingeRootz's customize-a-bowl option is for you. It gives you the freedom to choose your favorite ingredients and create a bowl that's specified to your taste. Start by selecting from five types of noodles, which includes a gluten free option, or rice as your base. Next pick any one of the made-from-scratch sauces ranging from sweet Japanese teriyaki to spicy Thai yellow curry. These sauces can pick you up on a chilly winter

Baja Chicken Bowl

Tropical Smoothie Cafe



Looking for a healthier alternative during the holiday season? Find it in Appleton's City Center at Tropical Smoothie Cafe. Supporting the franchise's slogan "eat better, feel better," the Baja chicken bowl provides exciting flavors in fewer calories than you'd think. This bowl is based on the Baja chicken salad that Tropical Smoothie replaced with its bowl. While it has the usual salad ingredients such as romaine lettuce, avocado, black beans, cheddar cheese and chicken, it provides a more plentiful and surprising taste than a salad with the addition of white rice, pickled red onion and roasted tomato salsa.



Bowl Ninety-One

100 E College Ave., Appleton 815-3184

Taking on new twists in cross-cultural fine dining, Bowl Ninety-One presents cuisine that is innovative, experimental and flavorful. The restaurant is named to honor 1991, the year owner Yee Lee and her family arrived in the United States as refugees. Bowl Ninety-One, which was named runner-up for Best New Restaurant in the 2018 Golden Fork Awards, features dishes that fuse a variety of ingredients and flavors from Asia. The menu includes a selection of appetizers, curries, ramen and signature dishes. Open Monday-Friday, 11am-2pm & 5-9pm. Saturday, 11am-9pm. bowl91.com

Carmella's: an Italian Bistro

716 N. Casaloma Dr., Appleton 882-4044

Experience authentic Italian cuisine in a European-style setting with a lively atmosphere and knowledgeable, welcoming staff. Select from pastas, entrées, appetizers, salads and sandwiches any time of day. Our divine desserts are all made in-house by our pastry chef. During warmer months, our secluded patio offers an al fresco dining experience unlike any other. We also offer a private dining area for small groups, and off-site catering. Winner of six 2016 FOX CITIES Magazine Golden Fork Awards, including Best Overall. Hours: Su, Tu-Th, 11am-9pm; F & Sa, 11am-10pm. Reservations accepted for parties of six or more. carmellasbistro.com.

Copper Rock Coffee

210 W College Ave, Appleton 882-9462

1835 E Edgewood Dr, Appleton 730-2177
Celebrating our 15th year in business with yet another Golden Fork Award for "Best Cup of Coffee," Copper Rock is THE place to meet in DT Appleton. Our family-owned café roasts all its own coffee at our Appleton roasting facility and offers a multitude of espresso drinks, smoothies, fresh bakery, dessert items and more. Our menu includes soups, salads, panini sandwiches, wraps and Italian gelato, crafted in-house. Catering services are also available. Visit our Gallery or Boardroom, both which can be rented out for your next meeting or event!

Cozy Corner

111 N. Walnut Street, Appleton 364-9563

107 E. 2nd. Street, Kaukauna 462-4186
BBQ ribs, pulled pork, catfish, chicken & waffles, okra and collard greens— Cozy Corner serves up down-home, finger-licking good flavors of the South using owner Natasha Banks' family recipes. Voted Best Homestyle/Comfort food in FOX CITIES Magazine's Golden Fork Awards, Cozy Corner treats you like family. Now offering catering and banquet space for up to 100 at their remodelled Kaukauna venue— great for graduation parties, award banquets, holiday get-togethers or "Soul Train" parties! Restaurant Hours Tue-Sat 11:30am - 9pm; Sun 11:30am-8pm. Call for catering options.

Electric City Gastro Pub

136 W. Wisconsin Ave., Kaukauna 450-8157

Kaukauna's newest gastropub and social destination is now open! The full-service restaurant's seasonal menu highlights pasta, gourmet sandwiches and burgers, as well as a selection of wine, beer and classic cocktails. For a unique bowling experience, Electric City Lanes offers eight lanes and has a custom fireplace lounge perfect for team-building events, group gatherings or a casual meet up with friends. Bar open Sun-Thur, 11am-11pm; Fr & Sa, 11-12am. Food, Sun-Thur, 11am-9pm; Fr & Sa, 11am-10pm. electriccitylanes.com.

The Flagstone

2820W. Prospect Ave., Appleton 734-6832

The Flagstone offers an easygoing atmosphere with daily food and drink specials! The menu includes homemade pizzas, wings, broasted chicken, burgers and much more! Breakfast is served F-Su along with a double bubble special from 6-7am on M-F. The Flagstone also has a full-service covered patio, along with a dj that will mix it up for you as well as Bogo

WHERE TO DINE

bottles until 8am, follow us on Facebook for the dates! Visit ubereats.com for our delivery menu! M-F, 6am-2am; Sa & Su, 8am-2am. theflagstone.com.

The Glass Nickel Pizza Co.®

2120 W. College Ave., Appleton 734-4000
Your new favorite pizza and hangout! Featuring the best pizza in Appleton, along with salads, sandwiches, pasta and more. Make sure you try our Nickel Nuggets signature appetizer! We use fresh ingredients and feature Boar's Head brand meats, so you know it's going to be good! Professional delivery, carry-out, dine-in, full bar and catering services. You can even place your order online and while you're on our website, sign up for Glass Nickel PizzaMail™ to receive special offers, birthday treats and other goodies once a month! Thursday karaoke. Happy hour specials. Open seven days a week, 10:30am-12:30am, Su-W; 10:30am-2am, Th-Sa. glassnickelpizza.com.

Houdini's Escape Gastropub

1216 S. Oneida St., Appleton 574-2616
From the beautiful brick patio with glowing fire tables, to the spotless open concept kitchen, Houdini's offers a magical dining experience unlike anywhere in the Fox Valley. A selection of more than 160 local, craft, and microbrew beers, and a rotating wine list complement our seasonal food offerings and daily chef's specials. Unexpected menu items aren't the only things mesmerizing guests — enjoy a special plated brunch menu on Sundays or sip on a craft cocktail while watching the chefs work their magic. Open M-Sa at 11am, Su at 9am. houdinisescape.com.

Jaripeo Mexican Grill

3401 E. Evergreen Dr., Appleton 733-7330
W6482 Greenville Dr., Greenville 757-6119
Celebrating its 6th Anniversary in Greenville this month with music, food & drink specials and lots of fun. See FB page for all the info. Remember Jaripeo's serves only truly authentic, made-from-scratch Mexican food made one-at-a-time with the very freshest of ingredients. Whether it's the sizzle of Oskar's fajitas or the sauciness of his enchiladas, you'll find what your tastebuds are craving in a beautiful, fun and colorful atmosphere. The expansive banquet room turns any party into a Fiesta! Open 7 days a week, 11am-10pm. Happy Hour from 3-6pm every day. And, don't forget the 2 for 1 Margaritas on Tuesdays and Thursdays!

Java Warung

1915 N Richmond St, Appleton 997-1648
The only Indonesian/Malaysian cuisine in Wisconsin! Providing non-GMO food free of antibiotics, hormones and preservatives, chef/owner Enny Pickett simply serves meals crafted from old family recipes and made from fresh ingredients and herbs. The Tu-Sa buffet has become a popular Fox Valley lunch destination. The a la carte evening menu comes with complimentary soup and egg roll. A 2017 CNN Poll reported Indonesian/Malaysian Rendang as the world's #1 best food. Definitely a must try! Visit Java Warung on Facebook and Instagram @java.warung. Open Tu-Sa, 11am-2pm & 5-9pm; Su, 11am-9pm. javawarung.com.

Little Chicago

W9650 Friendship Dr, Kaukauna 462-4393
Looking for a great night out or planning a special event? We'll make your time with us exactly that, special! The well-rounded menu features the best in steaks, seafood, pastas, chicken and more. And, you'll love our full salad bar. Our secluded dining/meeting room will comfortably accommodate up to 150 people for rehearsal dinners, showers, holiday parties, league banquets, meetings, seminars, etc. Choose from family-style or plated dinners, sandwich buffets or a customized menu. Ask about our group pricing. Open Tues. through Sun. at 3:30 pm. Sunday brunch 9:30 am-1:30 pm. littlechicago.org.

Little Diner Xpress

1939 N. Richmond St., Appleton 734-9962
Awarded FOX CITIES Magazine's Golden Fork for Best Diner/Café four years running, Little Diner Xpress is Open 24 Hours Wednesday-Saturday and 6am-10

pm Sunday-Tuesday for your enjoyment. This affordable little gem offers a great build-your-own craft burger menu including an organic grass-fed burger option and fantastic breakfast items like indulgent cookies and cream stuffed french toast. Organic coffee and espresso drinks, reduced GMO foods, locally-sourced ingredients and healthier options set this diner apart. Relax in the cozy atmosphere and enjoy a great meal. Featuring a late night menu!

Muncheez Pizzeria

600 W. College Ave., Appleton 749-1111
5 time FOX CITIES MAGAZINE GOLDEN FORK AWARD WINNER for Best Pizza and/or Best Non-Chain Late-Night Dining 2014-2018! Delicious pizzas, subs, salads, wings and desserts, including the best gluten-free crust around. Pizza lounge with free tv, movies, Wi-Fi and computer. High-quality ingredients — including hand-chopped veggies and fresh Italian sausage. Large selection of Wisconsin beers and ciders. Free Cheezy-Breadsticks with any 14- or 16-inch pizza, free delivery, specials, and menu at www.MuncheezPizzeria.com. Open late 11am-3am 365 days a year!



New York Deli

1853 N. Casaloma Dr., Grand Chute 734-3354
Winner of the Golden Fork Award for Best Dine-in Deli, New York Deli offers gourmet sandwiches, grilled paninis, subs, wraps and salads made to order. We use the highest quality ingredients including Boar's Head brand meats and cheeses, and our soups and pasta salads are made in-house. We also offer catering services. Hours: M-F 9am - 3pm. Saturday 10am - 3pm.

Sai Ram Indian Cuisine

253 W. Northland Ave., Appleton 733-3003
One of the finest Authentic Indian restaurant in the Midwest and winner of 16 FOX CITIES Magazine Golden Fork Awards. We offer a menu of options from vegetarian and vegan to chicken, lamb, seafood and beef. All dishes are prepared fresh to suit your taste. We also offer variety of best Indian appetizers, famous Tandoori and Biriyani Dishes. Lunch: M-Sa, 11am-2pm. Dinner: M-Sa, 4:30-9pm. Sairamcuisine.com.

SAP

708 N. Casaloma Drive, Appleton 257-2194
SAP offers breakfast and lunch classics any time of the day! We use locally sourced eggs from organic-fed chickens in all of our dishes, and our pork is from a farm down the road. Stop in for a coffee or espresso drink and a from-scratch pastry or dessert from our bakery case. Our deli case is full of artisan Wisconsin cheeses and meats, organic rotisserie chickens and house-made favorites. No time to sit down? Order to go! On warmer days, we'll open the garage doors on our four-seasons patio. Winner of the 2017 FOX CITIES Magazine Golden Fork Awards for Best Breakfast/Brunch and Best Dessert. Tu-Su, 8am-8pm. sapbrunch.com.

Spats Food and Spirits

733 W College Ave, Appleton 738-7171
Dating back to the Prohibition era, Spats' historic building is where the locals come to mingle and dine. With nine Wisconsin craft beers on tap, a carefully selected wine list and a full bar, Spats offers a tasty selection of cocktails. Warm up with a Spats Coffee, Tom and Jerry or a spiked apple cider! Locally owned and operated for more than 95 years. Serving burgers, sandwiches, steaks, seafood and the Fox Valley's best fish fry. Sunday brunch, 10am-2pm.

Stone Arch Brewpub

1004 S. Olde Oneida St., Appleton 731-3322
Located in the Between the Locks building, a historic 1858 brewery building with an old world atmosphere. We feature a complete bar also offering our award-winning beers. The menu has extensive choices accenting local, sustainable and organic foods including vegetarian and gluten free options. Our tap room features 24 beers and live music every Tuesday night or enjoy our outdoor beer garden. We are community strong and offer "Brewpub fare with a flair!" Stonearchbrewpub.com

Stone Toad Bar & Grill

1109 Oneida St, Menasha 882-3900
Now under new management, Stone Toad Bar & Grill revamped its menu with items like build-your-own burgers, macaroni and cheese and seafood tacos. Check out the new happy hour two-for-one specials Monday through Thursday from 11am-6pm. Live music is offered every Friday and Saturday September through May and on Sundays following the Packer season. Open daily at 11am. stonetoadbarandgrill.com.

Vince Lombardi's Steakhouse

333 W. College Ave., Appleton 733-8000
Located inside the Red Lion Hotel Paper Valley. 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.

Wooden Nickel Sports Bar & Grill

217 E College Ave, Appleton 735-0661
Appleton's original sports bar features a rustic decor with modern amenities such as 10 televisions for watching the game! Known on the Avenue for its sports menu & tasty appetizers, The Nickel keeps the lunch crowds happy with its famous charbroiled burgers and specialty sandwiches, including steak, ham, elk, perch & cod, fully-loaded! Try the chicken baskets & savor the tender chicken breast served several ways. Also enjoy NTN Trivia here! Open daily from 11am-2am, serving until 1am. Every night 10pm-1am, half price appetizers.

Zuppas – Market, Café & Catering

1540 S. Commercial St., Neenah 720-5045
Our top-flight chef team led by Chef Peter Kuenzi, urban cafeteria setting and penchant for local ingredients, ensure that your food is creative, fresh and ready fast. For breakfast, lunch and dinner, Zuppas Café offers chef-prepared soups, sandwiches, salads and more. Enjoy handcrafted pastries and desserts with coffee or take home a variety of fresh prepared salads and entrees from our deli. Our Green Room is perfect for your personal or business gathering. M-F, 8am-8pm; Sa, 11am-3pm; closed Su. Visit zuppas.com for daily specials.

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the place we call home

Four limestone columns were salvaged from the former First National Bank building on Main Street in downtown Menasha before it was demolished in 2014. The century-old columns have been repurposed at a waterfront park on Menasha's Mill Street. Tom Lange took this photo of the park on New Year's night in 2018 as the much-touted Super Moon rose in the background above the Racine Street bridge. "I especially like how the columns in their new location, and in this photo, look both ancient and new again at the same time," he says.



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