

WEDDINGS: ALL THINGS CONSIDERED

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Fox Cities couples are hitting some of the biggest wedding trends of the New Year.

Are you ready to take notes?

MEET THE BRIDES

Courtney Walker-Tessendorf imagines herself pulling up in a 1940s car. She steps out in her vintage gown, walks down the aisle amidst an intimate crowd gathered in Menasha's Smith Park. Groom Aaron Klatt and a small wedding party wait smiling, and the whole scene is somehow from another time.

"I love the style and look of that time period," the bride-to-be says wistfully. "Things were so elegant and classic."

Since December 2008, when the Neenah couple got engaged during the Christmas holiday, 24-year-old Walker-Tessendorf has wanted a vintage wedding, a concept local experts say is wildly popular right now.

With nearly two years to plan their August 2010 nuptials, she has capitalized on dozens of other trends that will save the budget-conscious couple a lot of money.

"I've been trying to think outside the box," she says. "I've enjoyed taking my time to plan things, do something here and there and not cram everything into a month and scramble around."

Another couple, Anniken Stavem-Mass and Barry Prossner, first rocked their way into love when she joined him in former musical outfit Beyond the Hollow. This winter, the Appleton couple is still singing harmony, and taking their time to plan a September 2010 wedding.

With their location secured, a guest list mounting and a hundred other details in the works, the pair is poised for an elegant, classy affair nestled in Neenah's popular Best Western Bridgewood Resort Hotel.

It's a day Stavem-Mass, 26, says will be unforgettable, without costing them a fortune.

"A wedding day is just one day," she says. "You don't need to spend a ton of money to make it special."

Experts say overspending is out. From alternative venues and off-peak dates to downsizing and customization, budget-savvy couples are embracing the freedom to get creative.

→ Read the rest: <https://foxcitiesmagazine.com/departments/weddings-all-things-considered/>

HAPPY HOUR: HORS D'OEUVRES EDITION

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We can thank Jimmy Buffet and Alan Jackson for the legendary revelation that points out, "it's 5 o'clock somewhere." But this notion isn't reserved for tropical getaways or weekends in Vegas. The happiest of hours in June can be spent in Wisconsin's lounges, outdoor patios, pubs, bars and waterfront decks. Here you can find savvy 9-5'ers, adventurous twenty-somethings and stay-at-homers flock to their favorite destinations for mouthwatering appetizers, a gourmet taco bar, succulent sushi and saucy Mexican eats.

SUSHI BLISS

With a happy hour fit for posh young professionals or a casual first date, Koko Sushi Bar & Lounge in Green Bay offers foodies an array of sushi plates at a mere \$3-\$7 each. Manager Michael Harrison says people come to grab a drink, gab and grab a bite. "It's an upscale, sophisticated style of happy hour," he says.

Nestle into the lounge from 4-6pm Monday through Thursday and choose from six different four-piece sushi rolls. Harrison suggests going for the best seller, Godzilla (Super White tuna maki tempura topped with mild spiced crab mixture, regularly \$10) or a delish California Roll (Kani-kama, avocado, cucumber, tobiko, regularly \$5).

Pair any roll with a discounted fresh-fruit mojito or glass of wine and you're on your way.

Another sushi bar that does "happy" right is Nakashima of Japan. With spreads in Appleton and Green Bay (including its sister restaurant Katsu-Ya located downtown Appleton), chances are this sweet spot is a convenient after-work respite.

Visit any location 4:30-6:30pm Monday through Thursday, plus Sunday at Katsu-Ya, to enjoy 30 percent off select sushi and \$1-off Saki samplers.

Manager Tim Nakashima says happy hour includes sushi rolls under "Veggie" and "Original" on Nakashima's take-out menu, such as the Veggie Curry Roll (cucumber, avocado, asparagus, cream cheese, cilantro, rolled in sesame and curry sauce) for just \$3.85, and the Negihamachi Roll (yellow tail, green onion, wasabi) at \$3.32.

→ Read the rest: <https://foxcitiesmagazine.com/departments/happy-hour-hors-doeuvres-edition/>

10 UNDER \$20

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When it comes to budgeting, often times 'dining out' is the first thing to get the boot from our list of indulgences. We don't blame you, fine dining adds up fast! Still, we all crave the company of friends and the tastes and textures of delectable foods.

From midweek deals to happy hour steals, we did the dirty work and uncovered 10 upscale establishments in the Fox Cities that offer sizable meals without sacrificing quality and quantity. The catch? We kept the bill under \$20 per person, not including tax or tip.

Trust us, these cost-effective comestibles will court your hard-earned cash!

THE SEASONS

Everyone knows what "TGIF" feels like. Any time you stop in The Seasons for Fabulous Friday, you can really let loose!

Enjoy half-off bottles of wine, ranging from \$10–\$13. Savor tempura (or cocktail) shrimp at \$2 a piece. The Beef Carpaccio, Crab Cakes and Tuna Tacos are \$12 each. The chef-made Lobster Bisque soup goes for \$7.50.

Executive chef Dylan Maass gives us one heck of a vegetarian entrée worth experiencing: the Quorn 'Chicken.' Mocking chicken texture-wise, Quorn is made up of broken-down mushroom mycoproteins and has a chicken breast cutlet look to it. It's pan-seared and placed atop wild, Himalayan red rice with steamed haricot verts (French green beans) and finished with a crimini mushroom cream sauce that's simply irresistible (\$18).

KOREANA

A welcoming upscale restaurant, Koreana's colorful menu introduces beginner and veteran sushi lovers to a range of healthy foods made from authentic recipes.

Beginners can practice their chopstick maneuvers with the Sushi Roll Sampler (half of a salmon roll, half of a tuna roll and a California roll) for \$8.50.

Another sushi option that packs a flavorful punch and eases you into the cuisine is the TNT, comprised of shrimp tempura (batter-fried shrimp) and cucumber enveloped in tempura crunch, drizzled with special TNT sauce and topped with jalapenos and wasabi tobiko for \$8.

→ Read the rest: <https://foxcitiesmagazine.com/departments/10-under-20/>

MODERN MEDICINE

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This month, we bring to you the medical marvels making a marked impact in our community one patient, program or surgery at a time.

HYPOTHERMIA SAVING LIVES

Russell Sova remembers eating lunch with his family on August 4, 2010. Suddenly it's a day later and the 66-year-old Kaukauna man is lying in a hospital bed where he will soon learn that a medical miracle has saved his life.

"We were just talking, then my daughter said, 'What's wrong with Dad?'" remembers his wife, Deb Sova, 52. "She called 911, and I went over and shook him. He woke up at that time... then it happened again. His heart had stopped."

Russell—who has suffered from heart failure, or a weakened heart, for nearly four years—had what medical experts call sudden death.

It took a Kaukauna first responder and emergency medical technicians (EMTs) nearly 25 minutes to get a heartbeat, something doctors say normally causes serious neurological consequences. "The longer the time it takes to resuscitate, the worse the outcome," says Dr. Patrick Gregory, cardiologist with Affinity Medical Group, who had been treating Sova for his heart condition. "The part that's interesting is what took place next."

Gregory's colleague, Dr. Bradley Lauderdale, a pulmonary and internal medicine provider with Affinity, was on duty and instituted a cutting-edge hypothermia protocol on Sova that spared his neurological system.

By essentially inducing hypothermia for 12–24 hours in sudden-death victims, experts have found significant neurological improvement. Sova woke without injury, feeling mostly normal. Gregory says this is a prime example of a modern-day miracle, where every step of the way everyone did the right thing. First, Deb recognized her husband's condition and called 911; second, having a well-trained first responder who performed high-quality CPR; and lastly, the introduction of the hypothermia protocol.

"It's wonderful, the technology that they're learning nowadays," marvels Russell Sova, whose memory is still devoid of the event and who now has an Implantable Cardioverter-Defibrillator (ICD) that monitors his heart rhythm for signs of sudden death.

"This is helping a lot of people," he goes on about the hypothermia protocol. "For me, it really helped. If not for that, I might not be here right now."

→ Read the rest: <https://foxcitiesmagazine.com/departments/modern-medicine/>

Erstwhile & Everlasting OPERA HOUSES

By Sarah Owen

On any evening, sidewalks purr with pedestrian chatter. Friends meet, families gather and the velvet curtains rise inside the historic performing arts venues of our communities.

Since the late 1800s, these structural wonders have proved vital components in the cultural fabric of their Wisconsin communities. Venues like the Grand Opera House in Oshkosh and the Capitol Civic Center in Manitowoc give local talent a place to perform, non-profits a place to raise funds and residents a place to make memories that will still flicker a century from now.

Behind the curtains are some of the state's longest-operating, most beloved performing arts centers, with histories rich in community engagement, arts education and preservation.

Grand Opera House

In summer 2009, hundreds rallied along Algoma Boulevard to demand that the Oshkosh Common Council members vote to make emergency repairs to the 660-seat Grand Opera House's roof, trusses and attic floor system, and to get the valuable arts asset back up and running.

Through its evolution from movie house to adult-rated theater and back to performing arts center, the Grand has remained a supported, invaluable community resource in Oshkosh.



"One of my favorite things is that, 127 years after it was built, it is used much in the same way in which it was originally intended," says Joe Ferlo, executive director. "It was meant to be a place where the community came together, either as performers or to watch performances of the touring artists of the era."

Repairs also include new roof shingles, a smoke detection system, copper rain gutters and emergency lighting system. The opera house is slated to re-open in September.

ON STAGE AT THE GRAND

Wisconsin's oldest-operating theater is home to Water City Chamber Orchestra, Eclectic Arts/Oshkosh Community Players, high school and community theater groups, educational programs, art walks, weddings, "Top 100 Preview Night" and outdoor events like "Movies in the Park." More at www.grandoperahouse.org

Meyer Theatre

On a frigid Valentine's Day afternoon in 1930, more than 5,000 theatergoers lined Washington Avenue in downtown Green Bay to be the first to glimpse the new Fox Theatre, as Meyer Theatre was originally named.

The grand-opening gala featured footage of



Green Bay Packer game victories, a recital on a prized Wurlitzer pipe organ, a feature film and cartoon.

Before the Depression bankrupted the owner of Fox Theatres Inc., the first few golden years brought Hollywood to Green Bay. On the silver screen, patrons fell in love with actresses like Sidney Fox in "Strictly Dishonorable."

After the venue re-opened in 1933 as the Bay Theatre, guests enjoyed live performances by Louie Armstrong, Donald O'Connor and Dale Evans.

After a \$5.5 million renovation to restore its original Spanish atmospheric structure, the restored Meyer Theatre boasts a star-lit ceiling, the original Wurlitzer organ and a full season of live performances.

Let Me Be Frank Productions became the main tenant four years ago and has performed 102 dates per year to 20,000 guests.

"It was like giving me the key to the golden city," says Frank Herman, Let Me Be Frank founder. "It is a landmark, first of all, because it's the former Fox Theater; second, it supports the community."

Terry Charles, of managing group PMI, says Meyer is essential to economic and cultural stimulation in Green Bay.

"If you ask anybody who has anything to do with downtown Green Bay, they will tell you the Meyer has become the catalyst for bringing people downtown," Charles says.



ON STAGE AT MEYER

The non-profit theater gives Green Bay Civic Symphony, Allouez Village Band, Barb's Center for Dance and other local groups a place to perform. More: www.meyertheatre.org

Capitol Civic Center

After 90 years as an arts anchor in Manitowoc, it's hard to believe Capitol Civic Center was nearly razed. Local arts advocates spent five years creating a nonprofit, Society to Preserve the Capitol, to save the facility.

"The vision was to have a home for the local arts organizations in Manitowoc, and that's very robust especially for a town of its size," executive director Jim Kreutzberg says of the renewed vision for the Capitol at re-opening in 1987.

Recently designated for economic development, downtown Manitowoc is a focal point for culture. The Capitol, and all who perform there, are key to that cultural development, Kreutzberg says.

"Giving an opportunity for local people to perform is an important function," Kreutzberg says. "When it comes down to it the more of that kind of activity there is, the richer everybody's life is in the community."

ON STAGE AT THE CAPITOL

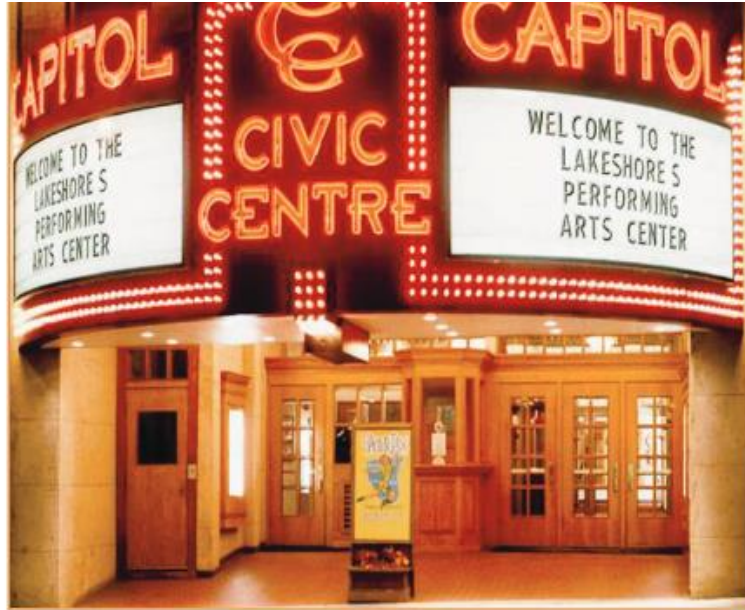
Local dance company shows, Clipper City Cordsmen concerts, community events, youth programs, children's choirs and holiday celebrations make for busy seasons at Capitol Civic Center today. More at www.cccshows.org

The Grand Theater

Margie Brown led the crew that prevented New London's Grand Theater from becoming a parking lot.

Brown says that in its heyday, the theater housed minstrel and vaudeville shows and was most known as the community's gathering place. "It was called Grand Opera House," she says. "There were town dances and the prom was held there for several years."

After former owners "let it go," a nonprofit called Friends of the Grand was



formed to save the theater. Led by Brown, they found Rogers Cinema, an ally in the Wisconsin theater chain. It's now New London's prime movie house, showing films on four screens.

It has yet to rediscover its early history as a live performance venue.

"I would like to pull the movies into three screens and use the Grand as more a civic center for entertainment," Brown says. "It's my dream."

rethread the projector," executive director Roby Irvin explains. "Everyone went across the street and got their mail and opened it as they got ready to watch the second half of the movie."

The only theater around with removable seating, the Thrasher was a bustling center for dances, school plays, even basketball games and proms—until the 1940s, when Fabrico turned the venue into a sewing factory to manufacture bags and gloves. It became a boat warehouse in the mid-1960s.

"That's basically what it was—an eye sore and place filled with trash—until 1996," Irvin says.

With oil stains removed, the Thrasher was restored and re-opened in 1997 after 50 years of no shows.

Unique removable seating makes for a coveted locale for jazz, bands, community theatre, visual art, weddings and more.

"We see ourselves as an anchor, not only bringing arts to locals but bringing tourists into town to help our businesses in the community," Irvin says.

ON STAGE AT THRASHER

Find out what's abuzz online at www.thrasheroperahouse.com



Thrasher Opera House

When electricity became available in 1912, the Thrasher Opera House purchased a projection system and began showing silent movies. Tickets were 25 cents and wooden kitchen chairs were arranged in groups of five. Townspeople walked or traveled miles by horse and buggy to the Green Lake venue to see films.

Unlike movies today, 20 to 30-minute intermissions were the norm. "Between the first and second reel, they had to shut down and

Windhover Center for the Arts

Fond du Lac makes a destination of its city with irresistible restaurants, art galleries, local retail and a historic Masonic temple, which was transformed into the Windhover Center for the Arts.

"We're a center point in the community, and we're leading the change in the arts district," executive director Kevin Miller says.

Opening again in 2000 after a \$2.2-million restoration, Windhover now helps youth programs help fill gaps in school arts programs and, as a quality-of-life venue, it draws new business talent to the area.

ON STAGE AT WINDHOVER

Home to the Fond du Lac Arts Council and Children's Chorale; Foot of the Lake Poetry collective. More at www.windhovercenter.org

Donna Theater/Third Avenue Playhouse

The 500-seat Donna Theater opened in 1950, constructed out of an early 20th century feed store building along Third Avenue in Sturgeon Bay.

It remained a downtown attraction in the heart of the community until the late 1990s when it succumbed to competition from a new multiplex in Egg Harbor.

Around the same time, a small group of local arts advocates were looking to establish a performing arts center.

"The locals had great affection for the Donna and certainly didn't want to see it become just this big, vacant eye sore," says Jude Drew, executive director of Third Avenue Playhouse (TAP), which has operated out of the old Donna since 2000.

After TAP took ownership of the building in 2005, the group redid the roof, reupholstered seats, installed a film screen and preserved structural integrity of the building. It's since become a place to see live community theater, local music and attend events by nonprofit and civic groups.

"There's a great deal of ownership in the community for TAP," Drew says. "This is the place their friends and children perform."

ON STAGE AT THE DONNA

See what's on stage at www.thirdavenueplayhouse.com

George Gerold Opera House

Well-to-do farmer George Gerold built Weyauwega's only opera house in 1915 for \$15,000.

From the time that Gerold was fitted with a movie screen in the early 1920s, the opera house was a hot spot for movie dates and community events. The Jungle Room, a prohibition-era speakeasy, also operated out of the building's downstairs area.

With various changes in ownership between 1930-1960s, the Gerold remained a community theater, a place for high school dances and campaigning politicians to deliver their speeches.

The building officially closed in 1993, sitting empty until Ian Teal and Kathy Fehl created the Weyauwega Arts Organization, a nonprofit that resurrected the theater.



"We want to engage the community, but also a big part is to educate kids and get them involved in the arts," Teal says. "The goal is to get the arts out there for the community because you've got to be creative to make changes in the world."



ON STAGE AT THE GEROLD

Part of arts advocacy group Arts Wisconsin, the Gerold hosts live concerts, dinner-and-film evenings, features an art gallery next door and has made a documentary with local students called "Getting to the Bottom of Lake Weyauwega." More at www.wegaarts.org

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More on the Web

Read more about our local opera houses and theater groups! Go to foxcitiesmagazine.com and click on arts & culture.

