

## **BROWN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2011 HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS**



### **Old Ford Square, 421 George Street, De Pere**

This building, which was built in the late 1800s as a livery stable, was remodeled in the early 1900s as Toonen Ford Auto Garage. Prior to the 1920s, a second story was added for storage space which eventually was remodeled into apartments. The building was reconverted several times, as a liquor distributor in the 1940s, a vacuum and TV business in the 1980s, a drug store in the 1990s, and a package shipping business in the early 2000s. In 2007, Tony Gillis purchased the building for a commercial renovation. Interior partitions were removed to facilitate new spaces, structural framing was added to reinforce the uneven second floor, and an elevator was added for second floor egress. Original doors were re-used for the new offices. The building now houses new upscale tenants on both floors, including a wine bar, a clothing store, a hair salon, a therapy studio, and a photographer.



### **The ARTgarage, 1409 Main Street, Green Bay**

In 1907, the Zimonick family built the Green Bay Canning Company at “Three Corners”. For the next 80 years, they produced canned peas, beans, corn, and carrots for large food chains. In 1987, Stokley bought the cannery and continued production, even adding a frozen vegetable operation in 1989. In 1995, however, Stokley closed the plant and the buildings were abandoned. In 2000, the Creative Group, with Gary Van Sistine as one of the partners, purchased the building and planned a mixed use redevelopment. The cornerstone of that development was proposed by Gary’s artist wife, Sandi, who saw a need for support of the local art community. With spaces for individual studios, galleries, classes, and workshops, the ARTgarage also serves as an important outreach to NWTC, UWGB, and neighborhood schools.



### **Ashwaubenon Historical Society, 737 Cormier Road, Ashwaubenon**

In 1945 after WWII, the Fox River Heights Sanitary District was formed, and Well #1 drilled on Morris Avenue, to service the 85 customers in Ashwaubenon, mostly located along Ashland Avenue. As larger commercial and industrial plants were equipped with sprinkler systems, more water capacity was needed. Rather than turning to Green Bay for water, independent minded Ashwaubenon decided to drill Well #2 and build a new pump house on Cormier Avenue. This unassuming building, with its simple industrial style and little architectural ornament, embodied a commitment to development and set the stage for the village’s incredibly rapid growth in the 1960s-80s, with residential to the west, a shopping mall to the near south, and an industrial park to the far south. When Ashwaubenon moved out of the #2 Pump House around 1998, the Ashwaubenon Historical Society renovated the building for their offices and museum. In addition to a wonderful collection of Adolph Vandertie tramp art, the museum has several displays of Ashwaubenon agricultural and industrial history. The museum is an educational gem of local history.



### **Breakthrough Fuel, 400 South Washington Street, Green Bay**

In 1898, the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, and Pacific Railroad (The Milwaukee Road) built a new train depot on Washington Street to serve the businesses and residents of Green Bay’s east side (the two other railroad depots in town at that time were on the west side). The brick and stone masonry building was designed in the Flemish Renaissance Revival style by Charles Sumner Frost of Chicago. In 1957, the depot was abandoned and donated to the City of Green Bay, and turned over to be used by the Chamber of Commerce. In 2004, Breakthrough Fuel was founded as the industry’s first supply chain fuel management company. When the Chamber moved to a new building in 2008, Breakthrough Fuel purchased the building to serve as its new headquarters. The entire space was reconfigured into an ultra-modern office interior, while the historic exterior was preserved. It is fitting that a 21<sup>st</sup> century transportation consultant finds a home in a historic 19<sup>th</sup> century transportation building.



### **Kavarna Coffeehouse, 143 North Broadway, Green Bay**

Although the Egyptian Revival style started in the 1800s, it was reborn in the 1920s after the King Tut tomb was discovered. It was during this era that the Jones Motor Company built its auto garage on Broadway. With its decorative elements on a unique yellow and blue ceramic tile storefront, the building is a rare example of the style, striking with its use of color. A few years ago, John Meyer’s interest in old buildings led him to acquire the building, and Alex and Linda Galt’s interest in the unique façade and larger space convinced them to team with Meyer and create a new, larger location for their growing coffeehouse business. In addition to the Kavarna Coffeehouse vegetarian menu, the larger space allowed them to open Parisi’s Delicatessen, which specializes in gourmet sandwiches made with local artisanal cheeses and grass-fed meats. Their vibrant side-by-side businesses offer unique eating options in the Broadway District.