

The Buzz: New coffeehouse coming to Appleton

Maureen Wallenfang, USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin 9:49 a.m. CDT August 8, 2016



(Photo: Courtesy of Michele Witchell)

RiverHeath residents have been asking for a good cup of coffee for a long time.

As of early November, they'll be able to get one.

Tempest Coffee Collective – or just Tempest for short – is a new coffeehouse coming to the new Prairie apartment building. It will serve both residents and the general public.

RiverHeath is a residential/commercial mixed-use development on the Fox River in Appleton between the Banta Bowl and Telulah Park. Its first apartment building, Evergreen, houses the Mr. Brew's Taphouse burger restaurant.

Tempest is a new independent venture not affiliated with any chains or other businesses. Its ownership group, made up of members of two local families, signed the lease Wednesday.

They'll put the 70-seat coffeehouse on the building's boardwalk level, on the side facing the river, and will have seasonal outdoor seating.

Stephan Witchell, 28, is the full-time operating partner. The Appleton native learned his coffee skills at an early age, as a teen working at Pilgrim's Cafe on College Avenue. He rose in the coffee ranks and managed both independent and Starbucks coffee shops.

"I fell in love with the experience and the connections I made with people through the medium of coffee," he said. Besides carrying Spyhouse Coffee, he'll roast beans on-site.

The coffee shop will be a family affair. Witchell's wife Chrissy will work part-time. His mother, Michele, designed the logo, will do the baking and is creating bakery, breakfast and lunch menus.

Larry and Lucy Lonadier, and their son Tyler, are financial partners. Tyler Lonadier is currently a barista at Seth's drive-thru in Appleton and will work at Tempest.

Witchell estimated the contemporary/industrial interior design and startup costs at about \$120,000 to \$150,000.

The name, by the way, has nothing to do with Shakespeare. He said it's more of a metaphor.

"I came up with the name through a conversation with my mom in a coffeeshop. I was expressing my understanding of life and myself in the sea of life. I said, 'most times, life feels like a tempest because you're at the mercy of the wind, the waves and the sea.' She said if I ever opened a coffeeshop, I should call it Tempest."



RiverHeath - B5

NW Perspective, Design View
Scale: N.T.S.

Enduser: Anderson Project No.: 071711.14

(Photo: Courtesy of Mark Geall)

More RiverHeath additions

•RiverHeath's new Prairie apartment building will have a novel feature in its commercial space: offices for lease that overlook the river.

The new open-concept office space is called Menlo Park, a nod to Thomas Edison's research lab in Menlo Park, as well as to Edison Elementary School across the river. It will have both open work areas and private offices. Amenities and prices are detailed at the [Menlo Park](http://riverheath.com/menlopark.php) (<http://riverheath.com/menlopark.php>) tab at riverheath.com or call 920-209-5051.

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•More progress has been made toward the start of construction on the new Courtyard by Marriott on the far north end of the RiverHeath property.

"The city just approved the site plan for the hotel this morning," developer Mark Geall said on Wednesday. "We should be starting work within a few weeks."

The new hotel's opening is penciled in for June or July 2017. It's a \$12 million building that will have 95 rooms.

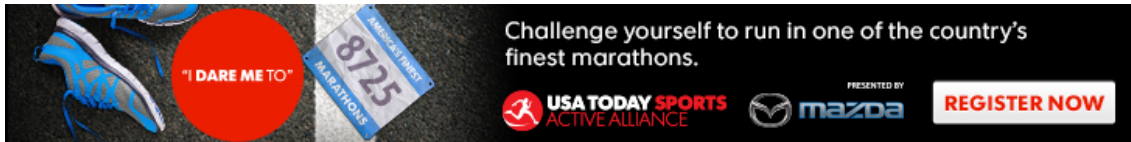



RIVERHEATH
 MASTER PLAN
 2.1.16
 May 25, 2016
 Planning Reference Project No. 070753

(Photo: Courtesy of Mark Geall)


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