

M IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

BY JOAN ELOVITZ KAZAN | ILLUSTRATION BY STEPHANIE STEINHAUER

Thiensville



There's something special about a small-town holiday celebration, and Thiensville epitomizes small-town America, complete with cute shops, great restaurants and friendly people strolling down Main Street. Spending a day in Thiensville feels like stepping into a Norman Rockwell painting — but with cell phones and Wi-Fi.

SEE & DO

The holiday magic begins at the corner of Freistadt Road and Main Street — in the Walgreens parking lot, of course. On Friday, Dec. 1, from 6 to 7 p.m., the cookies and hot chocolate are free, Santa and Mrs. Claus are the guests of honor, and the **tree lighting** takes center stage.

Afterward, stroll down Main Street to check out the shops and restaurants. First, pop into **McNabb & Risley Fine Furniture and Interior Design** to browse the store's selection of seasonal décor, including home accents, accessories and gifts. 215 N. Main St., (262) 242-1000, mcnabbandrisley.com

If you practice the “new item in, old item out” rule of closet organization, **E-Collectique** should be on your radar. Drop off your best stuff for resale, then shop designer and luxury fashions and accessories. You might find a vintage Emilio Pucci dress, a coveted Louis Vuitton or Chanel handbag, or the perfect Nordstrom little black dress — at a much more perfect price. 174 S. Main St., (262) 242-2110, e-collectique.com

Channel your inner artist at **Glaze Pottery**, the hands-on mini studio where painting pottery, playing with clay, fusing glass and wine-glass painting are all on the menu. Prices range from \$5 to \$90, and include everything you need to

let your creativity shine. Pre- or post-art session snacks are served in The Purple Frog, the studio's colorful front room. Grab a Cedar Crest ice cream treat or a slice of gourmet toast (yep, it's a thing). Think basil pesto, tomato slices and melted cheese, a Nutella schmear, or Elvis' favorite: peanut butter and banana. 149 Green Bay Road, (262) 238-5456, glazepottery.com

Eat & Drink

Weekend crowds line up to savor the creative Nepalese food served at **The Cheel**. Jesse Daily and his charming wife, Barkha, (yes, the same duo on this month's cover) revived the equally charming first floor of a restored home on Main Street and opened this

unique restaurant three years ago. Expect exotic dishes, craft cocktails and live music, from soulful blues to upbeat jazz, on both Wednesday and Saturday nights. On a chilly day, try the ema dhatsi soup, a flavorful blend of brie cheese, potatoes and vegetables, served with a tingmo, a Tibetan steamed bun. 105 S. Main St., (262) 236-9463, thecheel.com

For more traditional American fare, check out **Remington's River Inn**, where burgers, thin-crust pizzas and an awesome Friday fish fry populate the menu. Start with the “moose chips” appetizer (deep-fried zucchini slices topped with Parmesan cheese), then move on to the tomato, bacon and jam meatloaf, and finish off with a decadent slice of chocolate lava cake. 130 S. Main St., (262) 238-2697, remingtonsriverinn.com

From elaborately decorated wedding and birthday cakes to old-fashioned coffee cakes and a great selection of gluten-free treats, **Mila's European Bakery** has developed a loyal following throughout its 35-plus years in business. 239 N. Main St., (262) 242-1404, milasbakery.com

STATS*

Population

3,203

93.8 percent white

3.2 percent Asian-American

1.4 percent African-American

1.2 percent Native American

0.3 percent Hispanic

*Statistics provided by the U.S. Census Bureau

DID YOU KNOW?

Thiensville puts the “small” in small town. It covers just one square mile, and according to Rob Kos, executive director of the Thiensville Business Association, it's the only completely landlocked town in America.