

Clearly Kosciusko Podcast Series

A PODCAST THAT CELEBRATES WHAT IS UNIQUE, WHAT IS SPECIAL, WHAT IS...CLEARLY KOSCIUSKO

Powered and produced by KEDCO with co-host J.C. Innovations LLC

Episode 32: Stefan King – HopLore Brewing Co. and how beer and community go hand in hand

- Stefan King, is co-owner and brewer of [HopLore Brewing Co.](#) which has two locations in the county, the original located at “[The Mill](#)” in Leesburg, which was formerly a grain mill, and its second location is on [Market Street](#) in Warsaw.
- HopLore is more than great craft beer and food. Stefan said, “Breweries have an opportunity to bring communities together.”
- Along with its must-try craft beer and food, HopLore hosts events, offers trivia nights, games and more, to bring people together. [Learn more.](#)
- HopLore tries to meet the needs of beer drinkers who like their “go-to” brew, and those explorers who want to try something new. HopLore typically keeps 4-5 of their “staple” beers consistently on tap, and rotates specialty brews like their pastry-inspired line. Check out the [menu.](#)
- Stefan shared that as a business owner, “You have to have a good perspective, and check your own ego sometimes.” As a reminder, he keeps a 4-pack of beer he brewed and dumped (didn’t end up adding to the menu) as a reminder to never get to the point where he believes, “Everything I make is good because I made it.”
- Want to learn more about Kosciusko County and connect with new people? Check out KEDCO’s “Outside the Fishbowl” [monthly meetups](#) for newcomers. If you’ve never been to Kosciusko County, and might consider a move in the future, contact KEDCO for a customized [community tour.](#)

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Episode 33: Michael Pahl – Entrepreneurship, outdoor opportunities, and a community with open arms

- Michael Pahl is the founder and owner of [Winona IT](#), an IT consulting, support and software development company.
- He was born and raised outside Philadelphia, then lived several years in Switzerland. His family regularly visited Winona Lake during the summertime, which is what brought him back after graduating high school.
- Winona IT prides itself on operating outside that typical “break-fix” relationship with customers. The team broadens their approach by understanding the big-picture needs of the business to serve in more ways than one may typically think an IT company might do.
- Michael attended [Grace College](#) where he met his now wife, who also moved to the area from Alaska.
- After experiencing a great college internship with [Silveus Insurance](#), where he worked for 10 years, Michael became passionate about offering similar opportunities to interns at Winona IT.
- “This community is extremely generous...people will go out of their way to help you, meet with you and support you,” Michael said.
- Michael appreciates the contrast he’s able to experience by living life in Kosciusko County. As an outdoorsman who enjoys fishing, hunting and hiking, and as an entrepreneur, he can be a business leader and IT pro by day, and enjoy a sunrise or sunset from a tree stand.
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Episode 34: Lakesha Green – Pursuing the arts and finding her peace and calm in Indiana

- Lakesha Green has worked in the arts for the past 25 years. She recently journeyed to Kosciusko County, Indiana from New York, and serves as the new Executive Director for the [Wagon Wheel Center for the Arts](#) in Warsaw.
- Lakesha said she quickly learned that, “The Wagon Wheel is a part of everyone’s story [here].”
- When asked about the quality of the shows at The Wagon Wheel Lakesha said, “We bring Broadway here. There’s not a show on Broadway that a Wagon Wheel alum haven’t touched.” Actors come from all over to audition for the Wagon Wheel.
- With the unique asset of being a round theatre, and with only 12 rows of seats, guests are truly a part of and immersed in every show.
- When Lakesha pursued the executive director opening, and first visited the community she knew it was the right fit. “Everybody was so welcoming! “It just blew me away...the community did.”
- As a resident now of Winona Lake, Lakesha highly recommends [Cerulean Restaurant](#) and [Light Rail Café and Roaster](#) in the [Village at Winona](#).
- Lakesha said, “Coming from New York and coming here, was the best transition for me because it’s where the peace is.”
- Be sure to check out [upcoming events and shows](#) at The Wagon Wheel!
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Episode 35: Orville Haney – Real estate, agriculture and the power of listening to others

- Orville Haney is a 6th generation dairy farmer “turned realtor” with [Home, Land & Lakes Realty](#).
- As a testament to the business-friendly climate and entrepreneurial environment, Orville said, “Kosciusko County wants your business. Kosciusko County has people in place to not only listen to your needs, but to try to help you find a spot—they want to see you succeed. There’s not a lack of people lined up to help somebody stake a claim here and start up a business here.”
- Orville mentioned more than once, the value he’s found in simply listening to the needs of others in business, building community, and relationships.
- Orville believes the people here are a big part of what makes Kosciusko County feel like *home*. He said, “I have had the opportunity to see a good share of this world, I have seen this country...there is nowhere else I want to be than Kosciusko County.”
- Orville emphasized the variety of offerings in Kosciusko County. Whether you’re seeking outdoor adventures or something indoors with the family in the winter, the community has a variety of offerings—oftentimes for free. Orville and his family enjoy the ample rivers, lakes and trails.
- “We’re [Kosciusko County] big enough to have everything of being big, but still small enough to have a heart.”
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