



One of Big Iron Horse's signature sandwiches is the 12-hour smoked and hand-pulled pork on a soft pretzel bread bun served with homemade potato chips. Chipotle Maple barbecue sauce is one of the custom-blended barbecue sauces available.



Hansen credits his staff, friends, family, and the community of Barrington for helping him succeed with his own venture. "All of this was possible because of their love and support," he says.

AND THE FOOD!

At Big Iron Horse, the secret behind Hansen's barbecue method is his creative, custom fragrant rubs for chicken, pork, and beef and then slow cooking to perfection. "We have a fusion-style of barbecue where you'll experience a custom blend of cayenne, chipotle, cumin, amongst other traditional spices," Hansen says. For the pulled pork sandwich, the meat is smoked onsite for a minimum of 12 hours and then hand-pulled. Placed in a soft pretzel bun and topped off with fresh cilantro garnish, the sandwich is served with homemade po-

Destination Barbecue

BIG IRON HORSE PUTS BARRINGTON ON THE BARBECUE MAP

YOU NO LONGER have to go to Texas, the Southwest, or America's Deep South to get authentic, mouth-watering smoked beef brisket or pulled pork perfection. Instead, head south on Hough Street just a few yards from Main, and you've arrived to your barbecue destination.

Big Iron Horse's owner Scott Hansen has re-invented his former pizza restaurant, Cooper's, into a foodie destination because, he says, people will travel a distance for great barbecue (he says bikers will travel 50 miles for his, drawing from Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin). Big Iron Horse and its blazing motorcycle logo welcome you into an industrial-styled eating space designed with steel, distressed wood, and architectural remnants.

Hansen's Big Iron Horse décor offers a cool

ambience to pair with the smoky flavors he serves. The large shadowbox frames on the walls are built with steel by an artist in Chicago. The wood tabletops are built from old, reclaimed railway crates and shipping containers, reminiscent of travels and days gone by. Hansen made sure to include a "community table" in his restaurant, as well as tables inside and out, for families and friends—weather permitting—and a long bar table facing Hough Street.

Big Iron Horse has an ambitious barbecue menu that is the result of years learning on the job both as cook and restaurant owner for Hansen, who worked his way up until he was comfortable to go out on his own. "I've worked in restaurants and resorts and with Italian-American and French cuisines," he said. "However, I've always found myself craving barbecue and Caribbean cuisine."



A signature item at Big Iron Horse is the baby back ribs served with a sweet cornbread muffin.



Above: Scott Hansen is the owner of Big Iron Horse BBQ. Left: Big Iron Horse manager Jo Taylor assists a customer with a takeout order.



This mellow, malty sweet and smoky ale sold at Big Iron Horse is a craft beer brewed by Scorched Earth Brewing Company, in Algonquin.



tato chips, natural cut fries, or sweet potato fries. The beef brisket sandwich has a hint of chipotle for heat and smokiness. Rib lovers can order the baby back ribs that are slow-baked and served with coleslaw and a sweet cornbread muffin.

Big Iron Horse salads hold up to the heat and smokiness of the barbecues with cool, fresh ingredients. The Granny's Apple salad is a customer favorite blended from Granny Smith apples, candied walnuts, dried cranberries, tortilla strips, grilled chicken, and a cilantro lime dressing. "People love the salad dressing so much they will get every drop from the bowl," Hansen says.

In addition to its signature sandwiches, Big Iron Horse offers a variety of wraps, burgers, and even BLTs. Burgers have robust flavors as their fun names suggest: Smokehouse Cheddar, Black & Blue, Texas Cowboy, Aloha 5-Oh!, and Route

"66". There are also plenty of appetizers including chicken wings, quesadillas, chips and salsa, and Lone-Star Chili. Hansen is also updating his menu with artisan pizzas (one with a gluten-free crust) and several new items are coming soon.

BARBECUE ENCOUNTERS

The delicious flavors and food of Big Iron Horse can be enjoyed in the restaurant or carried out. Hansen also cooks for local events, such as the recent Barrington Art Festival where he served fabulous Sangrias, the Let It Be Us fundraiser at Citizens Park, as well as catering large weddings, graduations, retirement, and corporate events.

"I've had an official barbecue judge from Missouri who stopped in, and while I didn't know who he was, he let me know his credentials and raved about our barbecue," Hansen said. Another time, a

Hall of Fame football player who is a well-known former Chicago Bear who had lived in Texas actually pursued Hansen right through the kitchen door, asking if he cooked all the food with amazement and then gave his hearty compliments to the chef.

When asked what he hopes his guests will remember about a meal at Big Iron Horse, Hansen says that hopes people notice the care taken in how the meal is presented. "We often see our guests taking cell phone pictures of their plates," he says. "We offer casual dining with great food that is moderately priced, and close to home."

Big Iron Horse is located at 117 S. Hough Street in downtown Barrington. For more information and restaurant hours (closed on Mondays), visit www.bigironhorse.com.

Helping Our Military Heroes

YONAN CARPET ONE'S COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT THOSE WHO SERVE

HE'S WON MANY AWARDS in his career, testifying to the level of service and longtime commitment to the families and homes he's worked with. Most recently, Dave Yonan and his company, Yonan Carpet One, were recognized at the 2015 Chicago Flooring Association Awards Night as the 2015 Retailer of the Year.

But the honor that Yonan is most humbled by comes from his generous support of Building for America's Bravest (BFAB) program. The BFAB program is an outreach of Steven Stiller's Tunnel to Towers Foundation, an organization founded in the memory of fallen 9/11 Firefighter Steven Stiller. The Stiller family founded this organization to honor their brother and his firefighter brothers for their heroic attempt to help save those caught in the disaster of 9/11. Steven and his brothers from Engine Company 1 all perished that day.

Dave Yonan was recognized last July by the Steven Stiller Tower to Tunnels Foundation with their prestigious shadowbox containing hallowed 9/11 steel from Ground Zero. Ambassadors from the Fire Department of New York (FDNY) visited Yonan to personally present him with the award and thank him for his generous support of the Foundation's BFAB program.

Yonan was emotional when he received the

honor. "We are truly humbled and honored that the Tunnels to Towers Foundation and members of the FDNY—who were actually at Ground Zero on 9/11 and during its aftermath—are travelling all the way from their home base to visit us and express their gratitude to us," he said. "In fact, we are so thrilled to be a part of this impactful program that helps military heroes who have sustained the most devastating injuries."

The Building for America's Bravest program is designed to help the unique needs of each recipient. Each Smart Home has a host of special hi-tech features, such as automatic doors and lighting, doorways designed wider to accommodate wheelchairs, showers that accommodate wheelchairs, cabinets and counters that can be raised or lowered, and heating and cooling systems controlled by computers.

For years, Yonan Carpet One has been providing these Smart Homes with quality flooring, whether the design calls for carpet or hardwood or a combination of both, and the installation. Each home is designed specific for its recipient. Personally overseeing each project, he believes in helping these military heroes support their families and live the rest of their lives as independently as possible. Yonan stands by the organization's



Dave Yonan

motto: "They stood up for you—will you stand up for them?"

For more information on Yonan Carpet One and their exquisite line of flooring, visit www.YonanCarpetOne.com. The Steven Stiller Tunnel to Towers Foundation and their support of the Building for America's Bravest Foundation visit www.Tunnels2towers.org.

Cathy Vitale is a freelance writer who resides in the Western Suburbs.



Jane Heidkamp teaches flower arranging.

ON FRIDAY, MAY 6, Marsha Werner gathered women from the community for a lovely flower arranging presentation, luncheon, and opportunity to look into their financial futures. Werner, who is a vice president of investments with Raymond James, believes it's important to plan for the future, and offered "Aging and Its Financial Implications" to her guests, a take-home source guide covering perspective, research, and practical insights on the needs who will retire or are retired. The event was held as The Garlands of Barrington. To learn more about investing and retirement planning, contact Marsha Werner CFP®, Raymond James & Associates, Inc. by calling 844-542-1828, or visit www.BraeheadWealthAdvisors.com.



Jef Fitch, Marsha Werner, and Pam Appell

M. J. Miller Hosts Artist Reception



Dorothy McManus, Crystal Sculptor Florian Schluifer, and Brian McManus



The American Eagle is an example of the architectural art created by

second-generation Austrian artist Florian Schluifer. His sculptures are handmade, seamless fusions of light-penetrating colored crystal with rare natural materials, such as petrified swamp or other natural materials. www.schluifer.com

ON SUNDAY, MAY 22, Michael Miller and his staff entertained guests with an exclusive artist reception at his M. J. Miller Jewelry store. Guests mingled with artists and company representatives who displayed custom art—offering a view of wearable art, or beautiful investments for the home or office. Miller, who has entered his 47th year in business in Barrington, is respected as one of the top jewelers in the U.S. At the reception, guests were treated to a delicious spread of appetizers and a sip of a rare whiskey.

Here, meet the artists, art businesses, and one-of-a-kind creations. To learn more, visit M. J. Miller Jewelers at 123 W. Main in Barrington, or call 847-381-7900.



Albina Ledanski visits with Setaré representative Brandon Benilevi.



David Mor's vision is to approach the handcrafting of fine jewelry as an art form, like this stunning blue sapphire with diamonds. Mor showcases the entirety of the spectrum in its rarest, most spectacular forms: white diamonds, rubies, emeralds, sapphires, and the beauty of colored diamonds. www.setarediamonds.com



Wally Legat and Michael Miller



David Cohen demonstrates a William Henry pocket knife to Lynnette Soloman.

William Henry pocket knives transform the archetype of all tools into a superb piece of functional art. William Henry pocket knives have details with prehistoric materials such as dinosaur bone and woolly mammoth tusk, as well as hand-engraved blades. Fans include Zac Brown. www.williamhenry.com.



Rick Mariani, Geoffrey Roth of Geoffrey Roth Watch Engineering, and Michael Miller.

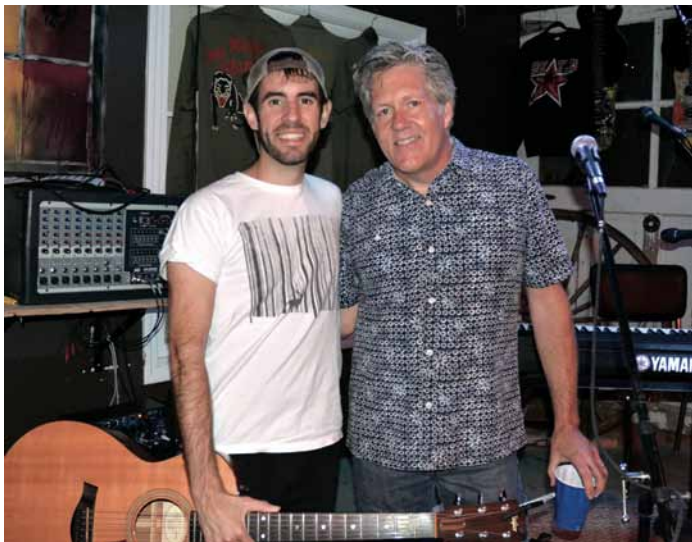
Geoffrey Roth makes time beautiful with his precision-made watches built on top-of-the-line Swiss movements. A self-taught artist and machinist, Roth only hand-produces 20 timepieces per year, including models for men and women. Everything he makes is meant to last a lifetime. www.geoffreyrothwatchengineering.com.



Lari White Takes the Stage at Grassroots

AWARD-WINNING recording artist, hit singer/songwriter, producer, and actress Lari White took the stage at Grassroots for a stunning musical performance. Guests were treated to White's range of music including country, folk, gospel, and much more. White is currently producing a new album and also producing albums for top country music artists in Nashville, where she lives.

To learn more about Lari White, visit www.lariwhite.com.



Mike Mentz with Curt Behrens at Grassroots June 18 performance.

Grassroots Performer Mike Mentz to Appear on "The Song"

MIKE MENTZ, who joined Lari White for a few songs at the June 18 Grassroots showcase, will be appearing on "The Song", a reality network TV show premiering this fall. The show will feature artists and songwriters performing their original music. Mentz shared these comments about his recent visit to Barrington with QB:

"I'm a big fan of Grassroots. I've played a whole lot of places in my career, and Grassroots is truly a special room. You can tell by the string of phenomenal artists they're lining up to play there. They understand what a listening room should be, and they're delivering it with a flavor of authenticity that is rare and refreshing. I very much look forward to the next time I play there. And yes, indeed, it does look like I'll be on a television near you this Fall. "The Song" is a brand new reality television competition for songwriters.

Grassroots Concert Series

Grassroots is located at 211 Park Avenue in downtown Barrington.



Chris Duarte
 August 18 at 8 p.m.
 For tickets: <https://grassrootsconcerts.ticketleap.com/chris-duarte-grassroots-concert-series/>



David Prusina and the Cryin' Side of Town
 August 13
 Tickets available at the door.



Andy Suzuki and the Method
 September 15 at 8 p.m.
 Grassroots Concert Series
 For tickets: <https://grassrootsconcerts.ticketleap.com/admin/events/modify/andy-suzuki--the-method/>