

Midwest Living

midwestliving.com

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THINK FRESH!

A better brunch

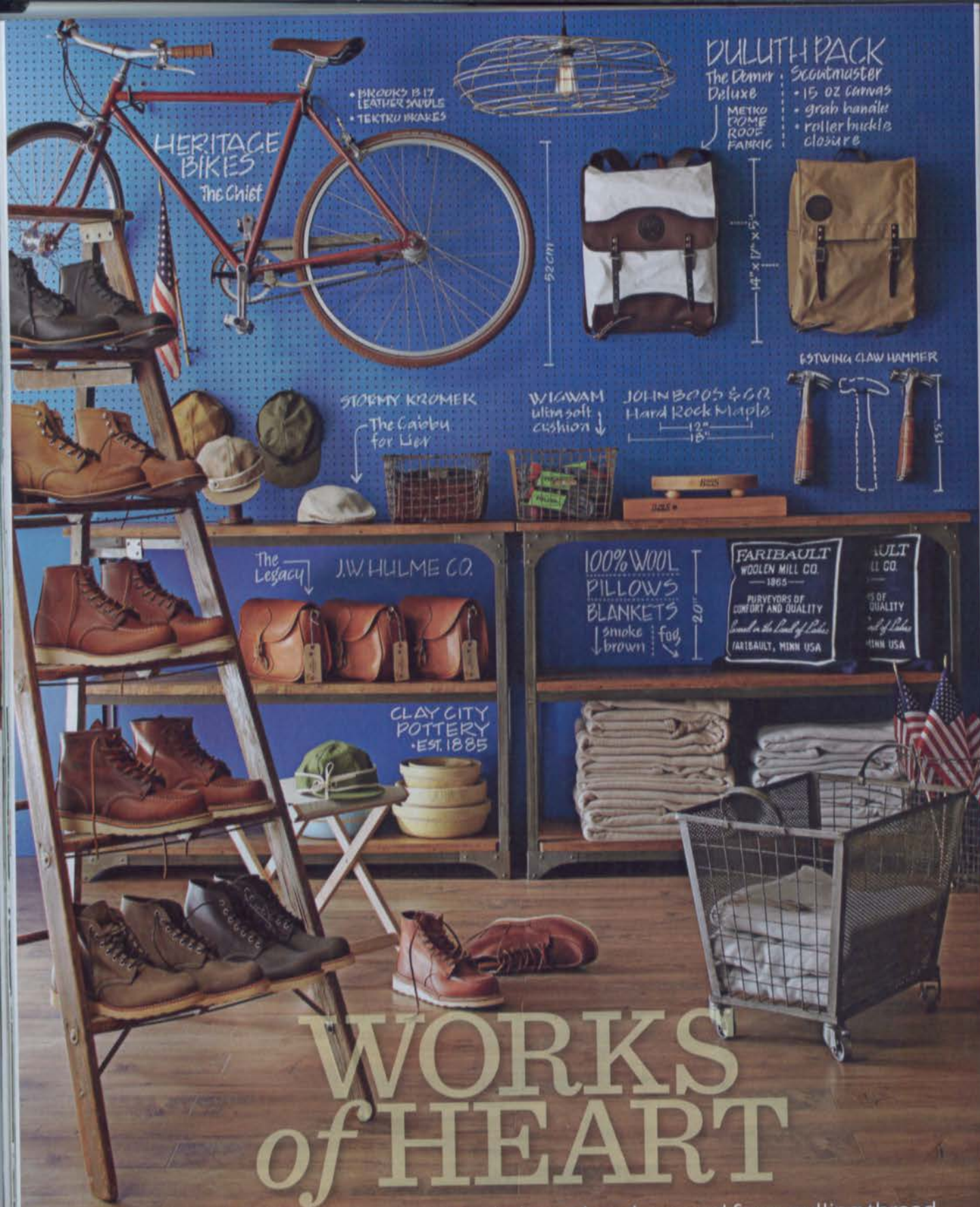
Crepes, kolaches and carrot cake pancakes

Smart kitchen

Waterfalls, history and awesome trails

Three-season blooms





HERITAGE BIKES
The Chief

• BROOKS B17 LEATHER SADDLE
• TEKTRU WHEELS

DULUTH PACK

The Demer Deluxe
Scoutmaster
• 15 oz canvas
• grab handle
• roller buckle closure

METKO COME ROOF FABRIC

52 CM

14" x 17" x 5"

ESTWING CLAW HAMMER

15.5"

STORMY KROMER
The Gaiety for Lier

WIGWAM ultra soft cushion

JOHN BOOS & CO
Hard Rock Maple
12"
18"

The Legacy

J.W. HULME CO.

100% WOOL PILLOWS
BLANKETS
smoke brown | fog

20"

FARIBAULT WOOLEN MILL CO.
— 1865 —
PURVEYORS OF COMFORT AND QUALITY
Special in the Land of Lakes
FARIBAULT, MINN USA

FARIBAULT WOOLEN MILL CO.
— 1865 —
OF QUALITY
Special in the Land of Lakes
MINN USA

CLAY CITY POTTERY
• EST. 1885

WORKS of HEART

How long has it been since you've shaken a hand creased from pulling thread or cutting leather? On these pages, you'll meet 19 Midwest companies keeping it classic—and many of them welcome you to come meet the craftspeople. Take some time to window shop. You're looking at future family heirlooms.



Companies about to light 100 candles

1 Four presidents have taken the oath of office wearing Wisconsin-made **Allen Edmonds** shoes since the company began in 1922. So you can count on them to add a little extra gravity to your presentation at the next sales meeting.

2 **Chippewa's** engineer boot became an icon for bikers in the 1950s. James Dean never really goes out of style, but just to prove they're in synch with current pop culture, the company founded in Wisconsin in 1901 (the boots are made in Missouri today) now makes a line for J. Crew, among others.

3 We can't promise an **Estwing** hammer will always dodge your thumb. But if any tool has the elegant heft and balance to make you work more smoothly, this one with the leather-wrapped handle from a company founded in Rockford, Illinois, in 1923 is it.

(CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP) Allen Edmonds shoes, Estwing hammer, Clay City Pottery bowl, J.W. Hulme wallets and bag, Wolverine boot, Columbus Washboard

ALLEN EDMONDS
The Park Avenue
• Bourbon
• Single Oak
Leather sole

SAMANTHA PLETT RIDING BOOT
Horween Leather

HORWEEN LEATHER

Each time you watch an NFL or NBA game, you're seeing Horween at work. Its leather stars in pro sports' game balls and many Major League Baseball gloves, plus luxury products from several companies in this story (including Allen Edmonds shoes and Defy bags). Sole survivor of Chicago's once-teeming tannery industry, the company has occupied the same building since 1920. Want proof of Horween's bona fides? Their leather chemist comes from a family with 400 years of industry experience. "The big guys do it cheaper, and the little guys do it better," says fourth-generation owner Skip Horween. "We're one of the little guys. Our customers appreciate what we do."



Clay City Pottery

Justin Lewicki... enough local clay... outlast his care... 100-300 new b... day. The sixth g... run the compar... (employee) wor... was on the plac... it in 1885. His t... \$22 cobalt blue... makes a great p...

Faribau Woolen

From World Wa... foxholes to fam... on the cabin por... have warmed th... plant along the C... see the process t... colorful blankets... more. Visitors to... creaky floors and... shop full of jazz... company lore. Fo... substitute for the... red blanket with...

The century club

BRANDS SEASONED WITH 100 YEARS OF KEEPING CUSTOMERS HAPPY.

Clay City Pottery

EST. 1885

CLAY CITY, IN

Justin Lewicki, only 27, figures he has enough local clay behind the shed to outlast his career, even as he hand-turns 100–300 new bowls and casseroles each day. The sixth generation of Griffiths to run the company (his mom is the other employee) works partly in a cabin that was on the place when his family bought it in 1885. His top seller? The 10-inch, \$22 cobalt blue pie plate. “People say it makes a great pie crust,” Justin says.

Faribault Woolen Mill

EST. 1865

FARIBAULT, MN

From World War II troops huddled in foxholes to families watching sunrises on the cabin porch, Faribault blankets have warmed them all. On tours of the plant along the Cannon River, visitors see the process that turns raw wool into colorful blankets, throws, scarves and more. Visitors touch the wool, walk the creaky floors and browse a sleek retail shop full of jazz music, artsy lighting and company lore. For our couch, there’s no substitute for the classic merino wool red blanket with black stripes (\$325).

Wolverine

EST. 1905
ROCKFORD, MI

A company throws down the gauntlet by naming its product “the 1000 mile boot.” But Wolverine’s signature line, introduced in 1914, proved as good as its title. A modern anniversary collection revives the original 1000-miler’s design in a variety of incarnations. The work boot version (\$360) keeps the original’s blue-collar cred rolling. But the lineup also includes choices like a wing tip and a ladies’ Oxford style that are all suitable even for those who don’t run a chainsaw or climb utility poles for a living.

John Boos & Co.

EST. 1887
EFFINGHAM, IL

Blacksmith Conrad Boos made a side business of cutting local sycamore at his Effingham shop. One day, he placed a piece of sycamore on three legs to absorb his hammerblows, inspiring a passing butcher to request his own. Conrad’s son, John, adapted the idea, and things went pretty well from there: If you spot a wooden butcher block in a home or magazine, you’ll probably find the Boos logo branded on it. You’ll get an instant dose of kitchen confidence just from working on a classic like the 18-inch round maple cutting board (\$70).

J.W. Hulme Co.

EST. 1905
SAINT PAUL

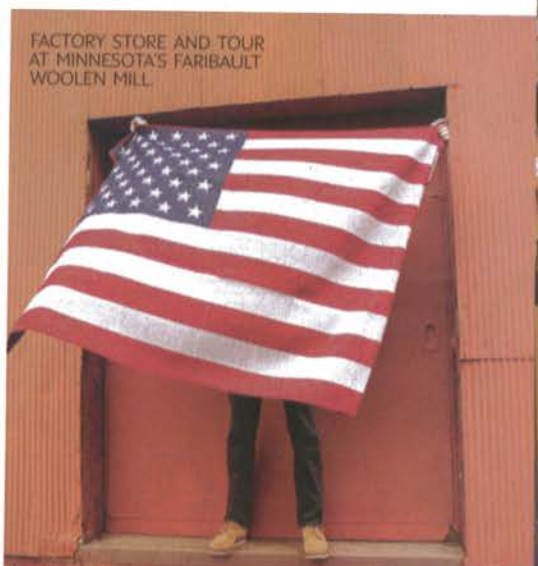
Students of Saint Paul history know that the awnings shading many of the city’s classic homes came from John Willis Hulme, a one-time titan of canvas. The company expanded into many types of bags over the years, but faced financial ruin during the 2008 recession. Down to four employees at one point, Hulme has bounced back and now has craftspeople from every continent but Antarctica at work in Saint Paul crafting briefcases, backpacks and handbags. For a classic look, try the large Legacy leather handbag (\$495; embossed initials at no extra charge).

Wigwam

EST. 1905
SHEBOYGAN, WI

If you’re looking for a sock to trust your feet to, polar explorers and professional distance runners seem like a good bunch to ask. Wigwam’s socks have proven favorites of soldiers, Ironman competitors and travelers who just want a comfy afternoon hike. (The company’s wool swimming suit, on the other hand, didn’t survive to the 21st century.) And who knew that this company gets the credit for adding colored seams to socks as a way of indicating sizes?

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FACTORY STORE AND TOUR AT MINNESOTA'S FARIBAULT WOOLEN MILL