



THE SPIRIT of Geneva Lakes



Vol. 29 No. 9

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Fall's finest

Hearty breads, savory cheeses and perfectly paired wines are among the sublime joys of autumn. And lucky for you the Geneva Lakes area is flush with wineries and wine shops that make it easy to embrace the uncorked fermented fruits that hail from around the world and our neck of the woods. In this month's edition you'll also find plenty of fall activities and home improvement ideas to give you something to do in between your wine excursions.



IT'S COMIN' UP

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

1-4 Walworth County Fair, featuring shows, animal barns and auctions, food, games, crafts, a variety of contests and a midway. (262) 723-3228 or walworthcountyfair.com

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 East Troy Farmers Market, 2 to 6 p.m. on the East Troy Village Square Park. Vendors selling homegrown and local produce, specialty items, meats, baked goods, crafts, live music and activities. (262) 642-3770

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Walworth County farmers market, Veterans Park on the downtown square, 8 a.m. to noon (262) 723-7733

2 Paws for a Cause 5K, 10 a.m., Lake Lawn Resort, 2400 E. Geneva St., Delavan. Family friendly event to benefit the Southern Wisconsin Humane Society. Register at www.pawsforacause5k.run

9 1870s Base Ball game, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Old World Wisconsin, W372 S9727 Highway 67, Eagle. National Pastime as it existed just after the Civil War. (262) 594-6301

9 Taste of Lake Geneva, 2 to 5 p.m. Flat Iron Park, Lake Geneva. Samplings from area restaurants, live music at eighth annual event. (563) 589-4263

9-10 East Troy Bluegrass Festival, 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. each day on the downtown village square in East Troy. easttroy.org

9-10 Southern Wisconsin Buckskin Horse Show, Walworth County Fairgrounds, 411 E. Court St., Elkhorn. walworthcountyfair.com (262) 723-3228

10 Open tree climbing, 1 to 3 p.m., at House in the Wood, 3300 Bay Road, Delavan. Individuals and families are welcome to register for an open climb. Open climbs are \$30 per person. Participants must register at (262) 728-2752 by 5 p.m. the day before the climb.

16 Northwestern Military and Naval Academy exhibit grand opening, 4 to 6 p.m., Geneva Lake Museum, 255 Mill St., Lake Geneva. www.genevalakemuseum.org

16 Delavan Scarecrow Fest, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in downtown. Scarecrows will be displayed on the street posts throughout the downtown Delavan area. Activities in

Water Town Park include a craft fair and flea market.

16-17 Jericho Productions Open Horse Show, Walworth County Fairgrounds, 411 E. Court St., Elkhorn. walworthcountyfair.com (262) 723-3228.

22 Keefe Kares Fundraiser, Walworth County Fairgrounds, 411 E. Court St., Elkhorn. walworthcountyfair.com (262) 723-3228

23 Mud Run for Kid's Camp, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Army Lake Camp, N8725 Army Lake Road, East Troy. Run to help support Army Lake Camp's mission to bring more children to summer camp. www.armylakecamp.org

23 Lake Geneva Triathlon, 6:30 to 11 a.m., www.escapeseriestri.com/lake-geneva-escape

23 Milwaukee Day, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., East Troy Railroad museum depot, 2002 Church St. Featuring streetcars, trolleys and equipment that ran in the Milwaukee area 75 to 100 years ago. www.easttroyrr.org

23 Blackhawk Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boat Society boat show at the Abbey Marina, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days. www.blackhawkacbs.com

24 Antique Flea Market, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Walworth County Fairgrounds, 411 E. Court St., Elkhorn, featuring vendors offering a variety of treasures. Admission, \$5. (414) 525-0820 or nlpromotionsllc@gmail.com

24 Bridal Showcase, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Riviera Docks, Wrigley Drive in Lake Geneva. Information on ceremonies, receptions, rehearsal dinners, showers, bachelor (ette) parties, next-day brunch cruises. Free to attend. Register at www.cruiselakegeneva.com

29-Oct. 1 Wisconsin State Jayco Camping Rally, Walworth County Fairgrounds, 411 E. Court St., Elkhorn. walworthcountyfair.com (262) 723-3228

30 Whisker Walk, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Lakeland Animal Shelter, 3615 Highway 67, Delavan. www.lakelandanimalshelter.org

Although we attempt to provide accurate information regarding area events, dates and times may change or events may be cancelled. We suggest you verify details before you finalize your travel plans.

THE SPIRIT

IS A PUBLICATION OF



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Send all correspondence to:

THE SPIRIT

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Staller Estate Winery near Delavan produces several varieties of wine using grapes from its own vineyards.



Falling for Wine



Area
offers ample
opportunities
for great
glasses

September evenings often bring that first reminder of autumn's chill. And many times it's accompanied by warm thoughts of hearty breads, savory cheeses and variety of well-chosen wines to wash it down with...perhaps in front a fireplace with a special someone.

Wine and autumn go together like, well, crisp cool nights and warm, sunny days. When it comes to wine, a multitude of options exist in the Lake Geneva area, or within a short drive, for the wine connoisseur.

The patio at The Bottle Shop in Lake Geneva gets used year-round. You can tour the vineyard and production facilities at Staller Estates Winery in Delavan, or enjoy music, art, wine and more at Studio Winery in Lake Geneva.

Perry – a hard cider made from pears – is available at ÆppelTreow Winery and Distillery outside Burlington, and a mélange of fruit wines are ready to be tasted at Apple Barn Orchard and Winery in Elkhorn.

Looking for a little food with your wine? Barrique offers a full menu to complement its burgeoning selection.

What follows is just a small taste of the area's wine-centric businesses. It offers

plenty of opportunity for in-depth research on crisp autumn days.

Barrique

Barrique Wine and Brew Bar, 835 Wrigley Dr., Lake Geneva, is that special place to enjoy the best of wines and craft beers teamed with exceptional food. It is a place to sit and enjoy the view of Geneva Lake while having lunch, dinner, or just a glass of wine and an afternoon snack.

This small restaurant and bar provides a unique experience. Tom Trilla, owner of Barrique Wine and Brew Bar shared his vision of the bar and restaurant.

"We are focusing on fine wines produced by small family vineyards who use organic or other natural means to produce their grapes and wines," he said.

Approximately four years ago, Trilla opened Barrique Wine and Brew Bar. It was a career change, but not a big step away from the business he knew and loved – that of wine. Tom began his career more than 30 years ago when he worked in retail management for a family-owned chain of liquor stores.

As his wine expertise increased, Tom moved on to the distributorship end of the business where, based on his wine knowledge, he was very successful. He then moved on to the supply side of the wine industry as he accepted a regional sales position with California wineries and import companies.

Today all his wine knowledge is concentrated on providing the best wines for his customers at Barrique Wine and Brew Bar where he works on "blending people and wine."

The Bottle Shop

Wine can be enjoyed outside year-round at The Bottle Shop, 617 W. Main St., Lake Geneva. The airy patio defines the shop – and it is a shop and not a store, according to owner Elizabeth Tumas.

"I worked for a wine distributor for about 10 years, and watched a lot of stores and restaurants be successful," Tumas said. "I knew that someday I wanted my own business, but I didn't really know what."

"The opportunity presented itself – the former owner was a customer of mine – and he invited me to buy his store."

Tumas said she loves the building and location, and admits there



HEATHER RUENZ *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

Kathy and Doug Jackson, owners of Studio Winery in Lake Geneva, serve and sell only their wine. In addition to a sitting area and lounge inside, there is a large outdoor patio.

isn't enough space for all the wine she wants to carry. She knows wine through and through, and offers it in the forms and quantities people want.

"I've watched a lot of people be successful and not successful in my 10, now 11 years, of being in business," Tumas said. "The average consumer doesn't want to be geeked-out – they just want to enjoy the experience, (which is) why is why I chose the form of the shop I do today."

Studio Winery

It's tempting to think Studio Winery suffers an identity crisis. The venue offers music, art and wine, and doubles as a recording studio and gallery, and more.

In addition to making wine owner Doug Jackson is a self-described weekend warrior of a musician who plays keyboards.

Studio Winery is at 401 Sheridan Springs Road in Lake Geneva.

Regardless of everything else at Studio Winery, the wine plays center stage.

"Music studio, art studio, wine studio," Jackson said. "That's how we decided to put it together. Wine is job No. 1, but the art and music are definitely nice additions."

Quality will always trump quantity at Studio Winery. Jackson said his production will never hit that of some state wineries, but did say production is steadily increasing.

Jackson prefers wine produced in the French tradition. His Pinot Noir tastes less California and more provincial.

"I like the old world style," Jackson said. "It's very Burgundian in style. I like the way the French have been at it for over 800 years. It's very simple. It's elegant. It's light."

It is also one of the many wines available at Studio Winery – www.studiowinery.com

Staller Estate Winery

Wendy Staller, co-owner of Staller Estate Winery, jokes that her job affords her the opportunity to drink at work.

She set out to be a pharmacist when she went into the sciences – she double-majored in biology and chemistry at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater – but her career choice evolved. The dynamic nature of grapes keeps Staller interested in wine.



SUBMITTED PHOTO *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

The patio at The Bottle Shop in Lake Geneva is open year 'round for wine tasting and relaxing.

“The average consumer doesn't want to be geeked-out, they just want to enjoy the experience...”



SANDRA LANDEN MACHAJ *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

One of the specialties of Barrique is the Charcuterie board featuring a variety of cured meats and artisan cheeses with olives, seasonal jam, nuts and bread to enjoy while sipping a glass of wine.

"It's always going to be different," Staller said. "The wine is always going to change. You're never going to get the same growing season, there's always going to be a variety in how your wines are going to taste."

Staller Estate is at W8896 Highway A, Delavan.

Staller said she gets grapes from a number of locations, including on-site, and struggles against the upper Midwest's short growing season. Vintners get a growing season of about 12 weeks for grapes in this climate.

Staller produces more than a dozen varieties of wine and port using those grapes, and relishes every step.

"I enjoy everything," Staller said. "It doesn't matter whether we're picking grapes, bottling wines – I enjoy every aspect of it."

Apple Barn Orchard & Winery

Wisconsin gained statehood in 1848. The farm on which Apple Barn Orchard and Winery is located dates to 1846.

Apple Barn Orchard and Winery is at

W6384 Sugar Creek Road, Elkhorn. Apple Barn is 20 minutes west of Lake Geneva via Highway 12.

Judy and Steve Jacobson and vintner Jake Dreff eschew grapes and produce varieties of wines made from fruits and berries.

According to Apple Barn's web site –applebarnorchardandwinery.com – the winery produces apple, pear and strawberry wine, and variations from raspberries, cherries, blueberries rhubarb, blackberries and cranberries.

Judy said they typically produce between eight and 15 wines on a seasonal basis. Pear cider is also available, and plum wine might be making a return.

Steve noted that a lot of people make very good wines, but getting people through the door is the real test.

The farm schedule forces Apple Barn into a bit of a conundrum among its local competition.

"Most our wines are made in the winter months, before summer, and fall is labeling and bottling," Judy said. "We're the only winery that probably doesn't do wine tours."



SUBMITTED PHOTO *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

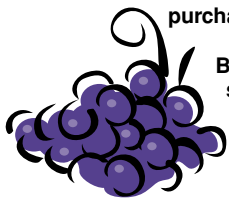
Apple blossoms like this yield the fruit that is turned into wine at Apple Barn Orchard and Winery in Elkhorn.

"The wine is always going to change. You're never going to get the same growing season..."





Visitors to Aepel Treow Winery (above) have a chance to visit the tasting room to sample the wines, hard cider, brandy and whiskey produced there. Up to five tastings are offered for free or customers may purchase a full line.



Buyers have a large selection of wines (right) from which to make a choice at Staller Estate Winery.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Aepel Treow Winery & Distillery

"Aepel Treow" is Old English, and is a play on words for "true to the apple" or "apple truth," according to owner Charles McGonegal. The name is pronounced "Apple true."

Aepel Treow is at 1072 288th Ave., Burlington, and is a 25-minute drive from downtown Lake Geneva. Aepel Treow is on the web at aepeltreow.com.

Aepel Treow is Wisconsin's only winery and distillery. It is well-known for producing perry, which is pear cider produced in the English tradition.

"I do very clean fermentations, and I have learned how to manage the pears," McGonegal said. "We're one of the few orchards in the country that grow old English perry pears."

The pears are specifically to be used for producing perry, and offer properties and flavors that can't be faked by using other pears.

McGonegal said he imagined Aepel Treow as a fruit winery, but the facility produces cider, perry and spirits.

"I think that Wisconsin can grow a better apple than it can a better grape," McGonegal said. "I admire the folks growing their own grapes, but I find through personal experience they make very good brandy."

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Geneva Lakes Antique & Classic Boat Show returns

The Abbey Resort in Fontana will host the annual Geneva Lakes Antique and Classic Boat Show on Sept. 23 and 24. The show features antique, classic and vintage boats from all over the country.

The Blackhawk Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boat Society will host a two-day boat show at the Abbey Resort and Abbey Marina in Fontana, on Geneva Lake.

The Geneva Lakes Antique and Classic Boat Show is set for Sept. 23 and 24. This year the show will feature antique, classic and vintage boats from all over the country. Boats are on display Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and viewing is free to the public.

Highlights of the show include boats ranging in style and age from 1900 to modern reproductions and local and regional artists will have their works for sale at the Artist's Fair.

Boats will be on exhibit all day Saturday and Sunday, beginning at 10 a.m.

The annual "starting of the engines" and boat parade is one of the highlights of the weekend. The parade travels through the marina and out of the harbor at 4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 23.

Local vendors will have items on

display, and the Blackhawk Chapter's tent will once again offer T-shirts, posters and other items.

Saturday evening's dinner will be held in the Ball Room at the Abbey Resort. Cash bar will open at 6 p.m., followed by a dinner at 7:30 p.m., cost is \$30 per person. Boat show awards will be presented at Saturday evening's dinner.

The People's Choice award will be presented at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 24. In an effort to honor the winners of the award categories, and recognize the owners, participants must register for the Saturday dinner and be in attendance in order to be qualified to win one of the show awards.

The Blackhawk Chapter has hosted the antique and classic boat show in northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin for more than 25 years. The chapter is involved with promoting boating education, safety, and restoration workshops open to the membership and the public.

Over the past 10 years the Blackhawk Chapter has donated more than \$50,000 to

IF YOU GO

WHAT: Blackhawk Chapter Geneva Lakes Boat Show

WHERE: The Abbey Resort, 269 Fontana Blvd, Fontana

WHEN: Sept. 23 and 24, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

INFO: www.genevalakesboatshow.com

local charities, education and conservation efforts.

For more information visit the Blackhawk website at: www.blackhawkacbs.com.

The mission of the Antique and Classic Boat Society is to bring together people with a common interest in antique boats to preserve them, restore them if necessary, and to promote a love and enjoyment of them.

For more information, visit www.genevalakesboatshow.com.

Straight FROM THE fields



SHOP THE LOCAL FARMERS MARKETS FOR THE FRESHEST PICKS

Fresh, locally grown produce, plants and products are available at weekly farmers markets throughout the area.

Here's a listing of the locations, dates and times for some of the markets in the area:

Burlington

The Burlington Farmers Market is from 3 to 7 p.m. on Thursdays at Wehmhoff Square, on the corner of Washington and Pine streets.

The market offers a large selection of produce and locally sourced items and the opportunity to interact with the producers. There is also live music.

For more information, visit www.burlingtonwifarmersmarket.com.

East Troy

The East Troy Farmers Market is every Friday, from 3 to 7 p.m. through early October, on the downtown village square. Vendors, fresh produce, live entertainment and more.



TOM GANSER Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Fresh produce is one of the big draws to the Whitewater City Market. As the harvest comes in, area farmers markets offer visitors the chance to pick up fresh-picked vegetables straight from the local farm fields.

Elkhorn

The Walworth County Farmers Market is every Saturday through Oct. 14, from 8 a.m. to noon, in Veterans Park, on the courthouse square in Elkhorn.

Kenosha

The Kenosha HarborMarket is from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Saturday, until Oct. 14. European-style mixed market with more than 150 vendors. Fresh organic vegetables, meats, cheeses, eggs and flowers, artisan bakery goods and handcrafted soaps, candles and all media of art and craft.

Live entertainment in three locations, chef demonstrations, educational booths and more.

Lake Geneva

The Lake Geneva Farmers Market is 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Thursday through October at Horticultural Hall, 330 Broad St.

Mukwonago

The Mukwonago Area Farmers Market is every Wednesday until Oct. 14 from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Field Park (highways 83 and NN.)

Whitewater

- The Whitewater Farmers' Market is every Saturday from 8 a.m. until sell out – generally around noon – through November, rain or shine, in the parking lot at the Winchester True Value Hardware, 1415 W. Main St. The market includes a variety of fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables, baked goods, honey and preserves, flowers, shrubs, birdhouses and jewelry.

- The Whitewater City Market is held every Tuesday from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m., through October at Cravath Lakefront Park. The market features locally-grown, fresh fruits and vegetables from area farmers, artisans, food carts, free music, kids' activities and more than 50 vendors, on average.

Union Grove

The Union Grove Farmers Market is from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesdays on the downtown village square.

Visitors will find seasonal fruits and vegetables, honey, kettle corn, crafters and non-profit bake sales.

For more information, visit www.uniongrovechamber.org.

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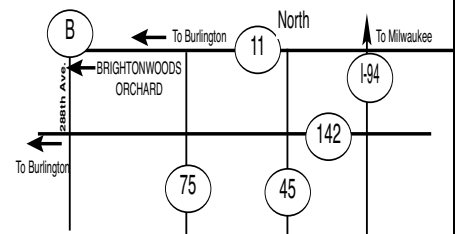
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SUBMITTED PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Above: The Pipe and Drum Corps playing in front of the main entrance to Davidson Hall in 1967. The Pipe and Drum Corps would go by boat across the lake to march in the Lake Geneva Memorial Day parade. Below: Harlan Page Davidson, the founder and first Superintendent of Northwestern Military and Naval Academy, opened the school in 1888.

Remembering the Academy

by **Sandra Landen Machaj**
CORRESPONDENT

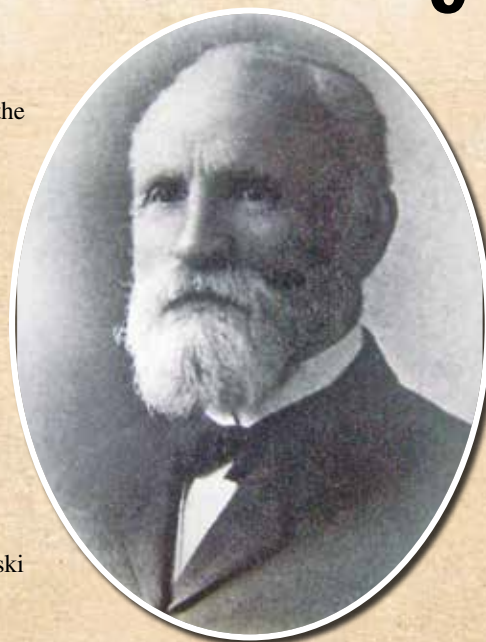
Northwestern
Military and
Naval Academy
permanent
exhibit to open
at Geneva Lake
Museum

For many residents around Geneva Lake, the sight of the Northwestern Military and Naval Academy on its southern lakeshore was a landmark. For 80 years, at this location, it provided a quality high school experience for boys focusing on excellent education, military discipline, and strong moral training.

Many of the area residents and visitors still miss its presence. For those with a history with the Academy and for those just interested in the Academy's history, the Geneva Lake Museum is opening a new, permanent exhibit about the school.

The Davidson Hall exhibit was designed by Dale Buelter, who replicated the entrance to the original building, only on a smaller scale. Taking his design, builder Larry Matelski brought the project to life.

Once the building of the exhibit was



completed, touches were added including replicas of famous paintings, and various items that were at home in the original Davidson Hall. Many items are on loan from individuals and from St. John's Northwestern Military Academy in Delafield.

For those familiar with the original Davidson Hall, a walk into the exhibit will be a journey into the past. On the walls on either side, as they were in the real Davidson Hall, are replicas of the gifts of the classes of 1939 and 1940.

The exhibit also has replicas of the 60-by-336-foot murals, depicting the John Kinzie party, and his first encounters with the Potawatomi Indians around the year 1831. The murals were painted by well-known Chicago artist Louis Grell.

As visitors walk through the exhibit, they will see sconces (a gift from the class of 1951), and another class gift, an oil painting of Mt. Vernon by John Ross Key, grandson of Francis Scott Key, and many other significant items from the school.

In 1915 Northwestern Military and Naval Academy made its permanent home on the shore of Geneva Lake, but its presence there was not the beginning of this famed private boys military style high school. The school was originally founded by Harlan Page Davidson in the town of Highland Park, Illinois, in 1888.

Davidson was born in New Hampshire in 1838 and began his working career as a farmer and stonemason, just as his father had made his living. At the age of 22, a serious accident made this type of work no longer a possibility so he enrolled in Norwich University, in neighboring Vermont, and began an education, which would lead him down the lane of teacher, headmaster and founder of the elite Northwestern Military Academy.

Because of limited financial resources, Davidson began to teach while attending college, requiring him to take time off from the university to earn the funds to continue. During one of these



SUBMITTED PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Royal Page Davidson, Harlan Page Davidson's only son, succeeded his father as the second superintendent of Northwestern Military and Naval Academy. Royal returned to the academy as an elocution teacher after one year of college at Amherst. He never returned to college but remained a member of the faculty at Northwestern Military and Naval Academy.



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breaks, Davidson learned of the destruction of the university by fire.

Having recently married Adelaide Ford and the subsequent birth of his two children, Alice and Royal, Davidson did not return to the university when it was rebuilt. He continued to teach and developed his own ideas of how a school could best educate.

After years of various positions in public and private schools, and two attempts at opening his own schools, which were academically if not financially successful, Davidson continued his work of encouraging successful military style schools eventually moving to the post of commandant at the Morgan Park Military Academy.

Under his leadership the school outgrew its facilities and when negotiations to expand and improve the school were unsuccessful, Maj. Davidson left to pursue an alternative site.

It was in 1888, in the town of Highland Park, that he found a three-story building that had been an unsuccessful hotel and a girls' school near the shores of Lake Michigan, which he purchased and restored.

The new Northwestern Military Academy opened its doors on Sept. 19, 1888. The school would follow the ideals of Davidson, "good education, military discipline, and moral training,"

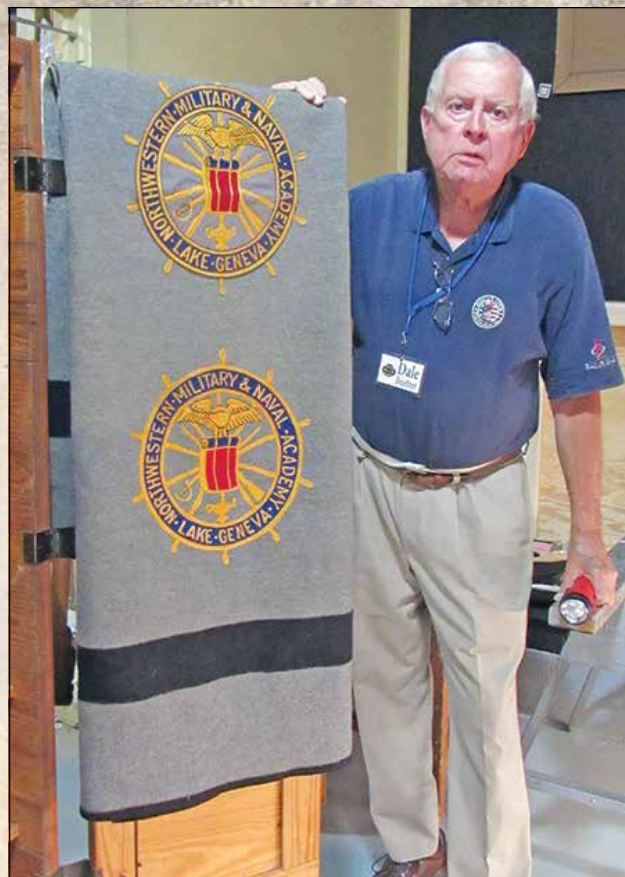
which continued throughout the life of the academy.

However, in spite of a strong beginning, the school had its share of problems from initial concern from the community, to the fire that burned down the building in November of 1888. The school was again struck with fire in May of 1915 but this time the school was not rebuilt on the same site.

Royal Page Davidson, Harlan's son, joined the faculty of the school after one year at Amherst College. His job was to teach elocution. He quickly added more responsibilities including overseeing some of the extracurricular activities, teaching other classes as needed, and becoming the quartermaster.

A variety of physical and mental activities were required of the cadets. From the bicycle club that traveled from Illinois to Washington, D.C., camping along the route, to the yearly week of camp first on Camp Lake the cadets were required to be resourceful and knowledgeable. The camp became a yearly event.

Originally held at Camp Lake in 1896 the cadets traveled by bicycle or train to the area, set up camp and used survival skills, including finding their own firewood and cooking their meals. In 1898, the school camped for the first time on the north shore of Geneva Lake. It was another 10



SANDRA LANDEN MACHAJ *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

Above:Dale Beulter displays a blanket with Northwestern Military and Naval Academy's insignia. The blankets were used by the cadets to ward off the cold winter nights at Geneva Lake.

Below:Cadets in their Naval uniforms can be seen on the grounds of the Northwestern Military and Naval Academy on this fine day in 1937.



SUBMITTED PHOTO *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

years before they returned to Geneva Lake, this time camping on the south shore on property known as Kaye's Park, a popular summer resort where many wealthy visitors stayed prior to building their own mansions on the lakeshore.

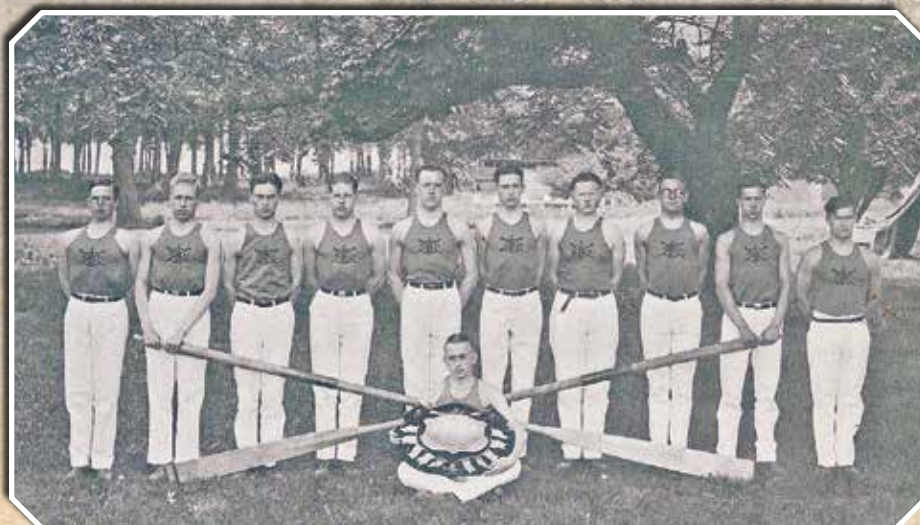
In 1915, when the school moved to the shores of Geneva Lake, its campus would be built along the lakeshore on the property that was Kaye's Park.

The new school was designed to be as fireproof as possible to hopefully prevent further fires. It became an impressive building that would stand the test of time. The long central building had two wings one at either side of the main rotunda. These wings housed the student cadets with one company in each wing.

The building itself was constructed of reinforced concrete and steel and covered externally by granite while the walls between the cadet's rooms were constructed of gypsum block.

The building remained a work in progress for many years as finances became available and the growth of the school dictated the needs for additional space. Buildings were available on campus to house the faculty and their families.

In 1911, the name of the school was officially changed to Northwestern Military



The Academy was proud of its cutter team. The 1923 B Company team is photographed after winning the Chapin Cutter Trophy.

and Naval Academy as naval maneuvers and a cutter fleet had been added to the curriculum. Popular with the cadets, many chose to wear the naval cadet's uniforms in place of the traditional military uniforms of the school.

Over the years, the sports teams of the academy students competed in golf, baseball, basketball, tennis and football in

the local smaller schools leagues.

As the school worked to become a part of the community, it participated in activities such as the Memorial Day parades. Crossing the lake by boat, members of the bagpipe band, dressed in their kilts displaying the Davidson tartan, arrived in Lake Geneva to march in the parade while playing military field music

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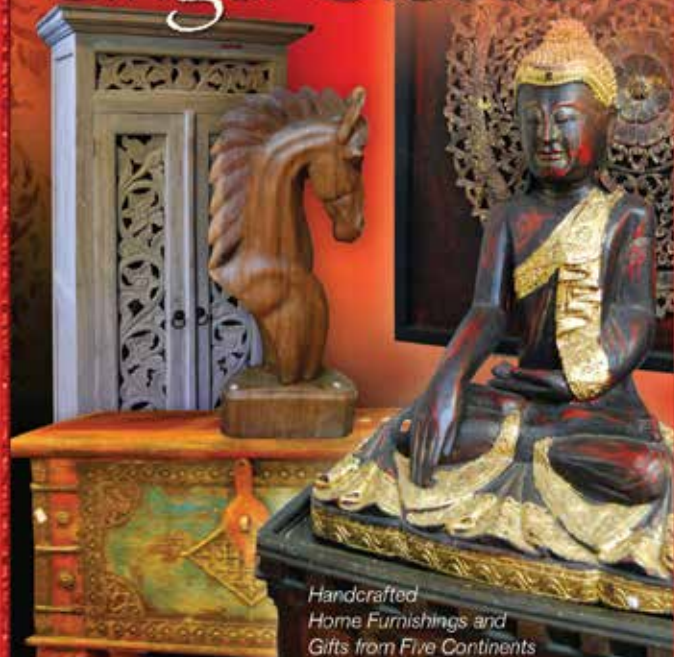
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on their bagpipes.

Founder Col. Harlan Page Davidson served as superintendent of the school from 1888 through 1911. He was followed by his son Col. Royal Page Davidson who had worked with his father from the earliest days of the school. Royal Davidson served as superintendent from 1911 to 1942. He was followed by Col. Albion B. Lewis, who served until 1944.

There was concern about the leadership of the school in the event of Royal Davidson's demise as he had no children to take over his position. It was decided by the board that the Episcopal church would take over the perpetuation of the school to be certain that the high moral and educational standards set by the Davidson family would continue.

The Rev. James Howard Jacobson was assigned to the school in 1942 as a priest and assistant headmaster. He became superintendent in 1944. Jacobson was awarded the honorary rank of colonel by the Wisconsin National Guard. He would continue to lead the school as superintendent until 1972. He married Shirlee Best, daughter of the mayor of Lake Geneva.

"We lived in Davidson Hall in an apartment until I was 7 years old. Then my brother was born and the apartment was not large enough so we moved to a house in town," Chris Jacobson Brookes, daughter of Rev. Jacobson, said.



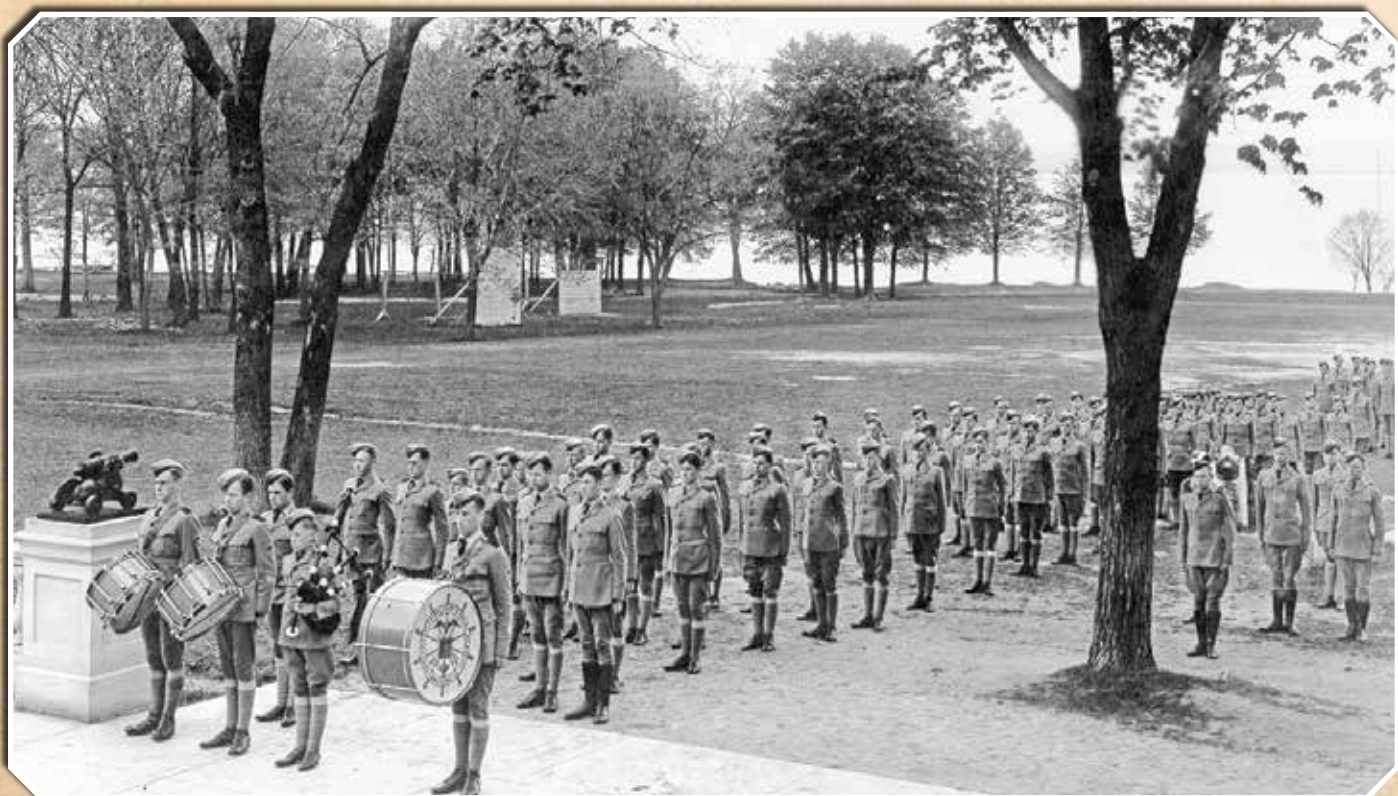
SUBMITTED PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

In full dress band uniform and with instruments at hand, this 1920s band poses on the steps of Davidson Hall. The school had fine quality bands, which often participated in community events such as the Memorial Day parade.

She recalls enjoying playing on the beautiful well-kept grounds and eating in the dining areas.

"Food was prepared under the direction of Chef Jens Jensen, a chef from Denmark," she said. "Even after we moved to our own house, we still came to the academy for dinner. The food was that good."

There was a wide variety of young men who came to Northwestern to prepare for college and their future life. Some of these students went on to become very successful. Spencer Tracy was one such student who came in 1919 for one year. Curtis Roosevelt, the eldest grandson of Franklin Delano and Eleanor Roosevelt,



SUBMITTED PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

The band in marching position stands in front of Davidson Hall. Geneva Lake can be seen in the background.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

The gate at the Northwestern Military and Naval Academy is adorned with the academy's seal. A replica of this gate can be found at the Geneva Lake Museum's exhibit of the academy.

went on to serve as the U.S. representative to the United Nations.

After more than 100 years as a premier military academy, the Northwestern Military and Naval Academy saw its enrollment declining. By 1995, the enrollment had decreased to the extent that it became necessary to merge with St. John's Military Academy in Delafield, forming St. John's Northwestern Military Academy.

The school moved to the St. John's campus in Delafield, leaving the property, which had stood proudly on the shore of Geneva Lake for 80 years, abandoned. It soon became the victim of vandalism. The property was sold to a real estate developer and Davidson Hall was demolished and high-end homes were built on the property.

This exhibit will keep the story of the Northwestern Military and Naval Academy and its importance to the Geneva Lake community alive. Many alumni have donated memorabilia and financial support to the exhibit. St. John's Military Academy in Delafield has also provided many important items (on loan) for the display. Financial support is still needed to complete the exhibit, according to a message to museum members from Ed Schwinn Jr.

On Sept. 16, the Northwestern Military and Naval Academy permanent exhibit will be unveiled with an official ribbon cutting and reception from 4 to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 16, at the Geneva Lake Museum, 255 Mill St., Lake Geneva.

The grand opening of the exhibit is open to all.

For more information about the Geneva Lake Museum and regular hours of operation, visit genevalakemuseum.org.

IF YOU GO

WHAT: Northwestern Military and Naval Academy permanent exhibit grand opening

WHERE: Geneva Lake Museum, 255 Mill St., Lake Geneva

WHEN: Saturday, Sept. 16, reception with ribbon cutting 4 to 6 p.m.

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Jammin' on the Square



ERIC KRAMER PHOTOS Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Above: The band Genesee Ridge performs at the band shell in Village Square Park in East Troy during the 2016 Bluegrass Festival. The festival, which is sponsored by the East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce, is celebrating its 24th year Sept. 9 and 10.

Left: Margaret Templeton plays the banjo during competition at the 2016 East Troy Bluegrass Festival.

East Troy's Bluegrass Festival is back for 24th year

The East Troy Bluegrass Festival returns to the East Troy village square Sept. 9 and 10, celebrating its 24th year with a weekend lineup that once again includes two of the industry's biggest names.

The Day 1 lineup will feature bluegrass all-star Larry Efaw and the Bluegrass Mountaineers.

Becky Buller, one of bluegrass music's most decorated performers, will take the stage with the Becky Buller Band on Day 2.

Staying true to the festival's roots, local, emerging and popular regional bands will pepper each day's lineup.

The two-day East Troy Bluegrass Festival, presented by the East Troy Area

Chamber of Commerce, will take place Saturday, Sept. 9 and Sunday, Sept. 10 at East Troy Village Square Park, 2881 Main St.

The festival runs from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. each day.

In addition to the musical entertainment, other festival highlights include a popular food court featuring local fare and a Marketplace featuring local crafters, artisans and farmers market vendors.

Admission is \$10 per person. Children 15 and younger are admitted free.

Attendees should bring their own lawn chairs. No alcohol is allowed at this family event.

The rain location is East Troy Middle School, 3143 Graydon Ave.

For more information, call (262) 642-3770 or email vanessa@easttroy.org.

Meet the headliners

Larry Efaw and the Bluegrass Mountaineers will be on stage at 5 p.m. on Sept. 9.

The band tours widely throughout Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania, and can also be found at major festivals outside their home turf.

In a quest to carry on the traditional bluegrass sound, the Bluegrass Mountaineers combine old time claw hammering, classic

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Festival at a glance

SATURDAY, SEPT. 9

- 10 a.m. Open Stage (bands, duos, trios)
- 11:30 a.m. Fiddle Contest
- 1 p.m. Black Horse String Band
- 2 p.m. Brewtown Bluegrass
- 3 p.m. Band Scramble
- 4 p.m. Bluegrass All Stars
- 5 p.m. Larry Efaw and the Bluegrass Mountaineers

SUNDAY, SEPT. 10

- 10 a.m. Gospel Service featuring the Worthingtons
- 11:30 a.m. Banjo, Mandolin and Guitar Contests
- 1 p.m. Noah John and Ringing Iron
- 2 p.m. Sawdust Symphony
- 3 p.m. Soggy Prairie Boys
- 4 p.m. Windy City Bluegrass Band
- 5 p.m. Becky Buller Band



The Becky Buller Band will headline on Sept. 10 at the 24th annual East Troy Bluegrass Festival. Becky Buller one of bluegrass music's most decorated performers, and made bluegrass music history by becoming the first person ever to win in both instrumental and vocal categories at the International Bluegrass Music Association awards last year.

country yodeling and twin fiddles to showcase their unique style.

All members of the Bluegrass Mountaineers take turns demonstrating their vocal and instrumental abilities, including Larry Efaw on mandolin and vocals, Edward Efaw (Beanpole) on rhythm guitar and vocals, Stanley Efaw on fiddle and vocals, Christopher Wilcox, 8, on mandolin, Anthony Prater on upright bass, Tom Isaacs on banjo and vocals and John Bryan on guitar and vocals.

On Sept. 10, the Becky Buller band will

take the stage at 5 p.m., wrapping up the weekend's performance.

In 2016, Buller was chosen to make bluegrass music history by becoming the first person ever to win in both instrumental and vocal categories at the International Bluegrass Music Association awards.

Buller's is an overnight success story almost 20 years in the making. Her songs, on the lips of the industry's best, preceded this fiery-haired fiddling St. James, Minn., native to prominence in the acoustic music world.

Now audiences are connecting the composer with her compositions – to the tune of five IBMA awards in the last two years, including the 2016 Fiddler and Female Vocalist and 2015 Songwriter of The Year nods.

Since 2015, the Becky Buller Band has toured extensively throughout the United States and Canada. The group has an exciting 2017 planned, beginning with the release of Becky's fourth solo album on the Dark Shadow Recording label.



ERIC KRAMER Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Ernest Brusubardis IV (left) and Georgia Rae high-five each other after winning first place in the 2016 fiddle at last year's Bluegrass Festival.



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Old World Wisconsin in Eagle will host its annual Oktoberfest celebration from 4 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 16. Guests are invited to visit the German farms and learn about Wisconsin's brewing history through an historic beer brewing demonstration by members of the Museum of Beer and Brewing.

Raise your stein and toast to

Oktoberfest

Beer, brats and fun at Old World Wisconsin's autumn festival

Find good cheer and Gemutlichkeit at the third annual Oktoberfest fundraiser to benefit the historic brewing program at Old World Wisconsin.

The family friendly festivities, in the German farms area of the outdoor museum, will run from 4 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 16.

The evening kicks off with a traditional keg tapping from a firkin by Lakefront Brewery, entertainment by the Baboushka Babes and photo booth fun on the Visitor's Mall. Then, travel by tram to the German farms where guests can listen to traditional German music by the Plymouth High School German Band, watch the Pommersche Tanzdeel Freistadt German Dancers, and hear the sweet sounds of Kurt Von Eckroth playing the Zither.

Visitors to Oktoberfest can also ride a horse-drawn wagon, visit with docents in period costumes and learn about Wisconsin's brewing history through an historic beer brewing demonstration by members of the Museum of Beer and Brewing.

Beyond the entertainment, enjoy a German feast with brats by Lake Geneva Country Meats, German potatoes and dessert by Annie's Burger Town catering, and indulge with a giant, German-style pretzel.

Four craft breweries will be featured at Oktoberfest this year: Second Salem, MobCraft, City Lights Brewing and Sprecher's will be serving up their favorite fall beers in an Oktoberfest souvenir stein, included with each admittance. German wine will also be available, along with Sprecher's root beer.

Don't forget the raffle

Guest can win one of three destination prizes valued from \$350 to \$1,250. Raffle tickets are \$10 each or three for \$25 and can be purchased at both the Delavan and Elkhorn chamber of commerce locations. Drawing will take place at 6:45 p.m. on Sept. 16, at Old World Wisconsin. Participants do not need to be present to win.

Oktoberfest tickets are \$49, and include parking, 4 stages of entertainment, a full

German meal, three glasses of beer or wine and a souvenir stein. A \$29, non-alcoholic ticket is also available. Children 3 and younger are admitted free of charge.

The annual Oktoberfest fundraiser will benefit Old World Wisconsin's Historic Brewing Program. In the 1800s nearly every small village in Wisconsin had German-run breweries. Old World has re-created this important piece of Wisconsin history and is working to expand it.

Oktoberfest is a non-refundable event that will go on in the event of light rain. Call (262) 594-2922 to make reservations or order tickets online at www.friendsOWW.org.

This fundraiser is hosted by Old World Foundation, an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that supports projects and programs at OWW in Eagle. Old World Wisconsin is a 576-acre outdoor living history museum with 67 historic buildings, over 100 heritage breed animals, 24 heirloom gardens and 75 docents in historic clothing.



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While exploring Historic Downtown Burlington Wisconsin, enjoy a tour of the Chocolate Experience Museum and the Spinning Top Museum or shop at our Farmer's Market. Visit quaint restaurants where you will find a variety of food, including Irish, Italian, Mexican and Family Cuisine. Burlington is well known for its specialty custard, gourmet coffee and chocolate shoppes.

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B&J Tree and Landscape Service has served Lake Geneva area nearly six decades

It started with a simple premise of ensuring Lake Geneva-area property owners' homes and businesses gleamed with all their natural beauty.

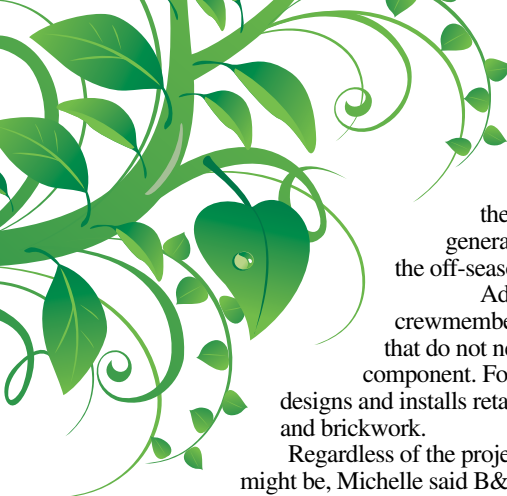
While much has changed since B&J Tree and Landscape Service first began serving the community 58 years ago, leaders within the long-lived family company say there has been one constant – a service-minded

by **Dave Fidlin**
CORRESPONDENT

commitment that has never wavered.

B&J's roots are in tree work. When the business began in 1959, workers focused most of their attention on the full spectrum of caring for and maintaining trees, including planting, trimming and removing various species.

"But over time, our services evolved into a landscape design and installation business," said Michelle Castleman, who is a co-owner of B&J and serves as



the company's office manager.

Today, B&J's menu of services runs the gamut and also includes general lawn maintenance and, in the off-season months, snow removal.

Additionally, B&J's crewmembers will tend to projects that do not necessarily have a natural component. For example, the company designs and installs retaining walls, patios, planters and brickwork.

Regardless of the project and how big or small it might be, Michelle said B&J offers free estimates, and the company is fully insured for its full menu of services.

Since the earliest seeds were planted nearly six decades ago, family ties have been a hallmark of B&J. Michelle's father-in-law, Bob Castleman, started the business. Bob's son (and Michelle's husband), Dale, was brought into the fold at an early age.

A number of members within the Castleman family also have rolled up their sleeves over the years and contributed to the business.

Some of B&J's staffers have gone on to achieve education and certification in specialized areas. Because of this, Michelle said the company holds a unique distinction in being able to offer in-house expertise.

The company, for example, employs a landscape designer with the know-how of designing and drawing up plans that are suitable for a specific client's budget.

Landscape designers, also referred to as landscape architects, hold specialized skill sets and work under the same premise of a building architect by drawing up plans and creating specs before a shovel touches the ground.

Also on the staff roster is an arborist who has a range of expertise,



This brick walkway was installed by B&J Tree and Landscape Service, along with the surrounding plants and trees. On the previous page, flagstones create the sidewalk and steps to the front door of the house and decorate the flowerbeds.

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including fertilization, techniques for transplanting trees and treating or removing trees plagued by diseases – including, but not limited to, emerald ash borer.

Michelle said customers have come to appreciate the expertise and know-how that comes with visits to a home or business. Highly technical issues, including tree disease management, can be an intimidating process, she points out.

"There's someone who got the education and the training and they

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SUBMITTED PHOTOS Spirit of Geneva Lakes

B&J Tree and Landscape Service can create custom landscapes that incorporate nature's natural beauty with colorful additions of annual and perennial flowers to brighten pathways and gardens.

can come to you," she said. "That means something."

While B&J's home base is in Lake Geneva, Michelle said the company offers up home and business visits throughout the Lakes Area. This includes properties in and near Delavan, Geneva, Lauderdale and Whitewater lakes.

Over the years, B&J's project portfolio has including work on a number of nearby notable properties, including the scenic Geneva National resort and golf course.

"But we do projects big and small," Michelle said. "We'll work with people. We take the time to understand what they need, and we do it, regardless of the size."

B&J has a variety of clients, Michelle said. In a testament to the company's commitment toward high-quality service, she points out many of the clientele are repeat customers – some with relationships forged three or more decades ago.

When asked about those long-lived relationships, Michelle gave a ready reason: "We stand by our work," she said.

"We've built up a lot of trust and loyalty over the years," Michelle added. "We also have a deep understanding of



Large slate-like pavers make up this creative walkway from the drive to the front door. B&J Tree and Landscape Service has designers available to help homeowners create unique landscape solutions to their homes.



“Customers have come to appreciate the expertise and know-how that comes with visits to a home or business.”

the area.”

In a sign of the company's commitment toward lawn care in all its forms, B&J holds memberships to a number of organizations, including the

Better Business Bureau, Lakeland Builders Association, Wisconsin Arborist Association and the Wisconsin Lakescape Contractors Association.

Lakescaping

Lakescaping is a newer buzzword within lawn care circles. The concept intermingles traditional landscaping and is worked into lakes and other bodies of water. Experts from all across the globe have hailed the technique because it assists in shoreline restoration.

The practice of lakescaping has proven effective over time because it works cohesively with existing vegetation and topography and minimizes soil disturbance. Additionally, it encourages a range of environmentally friendly practices, including infiltration and a reduction in runoff and erosion.

Lakescaping also has been touted for its ancillary affects, such as improvements in fish and wildlife habitats and decreasing the intensity of human interference in especially

sensitive shoreline areas.

Various plantings can be incorporated into a lakescaping design. The practice relies heavily on native species, which could include such varieties as bonesets, green bulrush, New England asters, spiderwort and swamp milkweed.

The various plantings and techniques used within lakescaping have, over time, shown to benefit property owners and four-footed critters alike in a variety of ways. Lakescaping has been credited with reducing noise, increasing privacy, restoring animals' habitats and addressing the growing, prevalent problem of the overcrowded geese population.

From the standpoint of lawn maintenance, lakescaping also been cited as a mechanism toward improving a property's curb appeal with attractive, yet environmentally sensitive and sensible, plantings.

Depending upon a property owner's specific circumstances, lakescaping also can correct drainage and erosion issues.

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Fall Home IMPROVEMENT

Lawns

In a sign of its well of in-house expertise, B&J also showcases a number of other general, practical lawn care tips on its website.

One of the most granular acts of maintaining a lawn – cutting the grass – might seem simple on the surface, but B&J's experts encourage property owners to consider several techniques to ensure lawns are lush, green and free of unwanted weeds and other invasive plantings.

"The most important requirement for proper mowing is a sharp mower blade," B&J's experts wrote on the Helpful Tips tab of the company website. "A dull blade rips and shreds the grass, instead of cutting it."

Additionally, "Mowing with a dull blade also makes the plants susceptible to other problems, like brown leaf tips and disease infestation."

Sod, of course, is one of the most efficient methods of laying new turf on a property. But it requires a significant amount of care and attention – particularly in its earliest days of adapting to its new environment.

"Generally, sod should be mowed every 7 to 10 days, depending on sod type and time of season," B&J's experts wrote. "Best results are noticed if you mow a little shorter in the spring, then a little taller in the summer. This will help insulate the sod during the summer and fall, promoting new growth in the spring and early summer."

Additionally, the company's experts



Backyard living spaces are all the rage right now. This patio was installed by B&J Tree and Landscape Service to give the homeowner a large space to entertain guests.

wrote, "Do not mow if the ground is too wet. It is a good idea to follow the general rule of thumb of never mowing more than one-third inch of the leaf blade at any one time."

In addition to being mindful of how sod should be maintained in its earliest stages, B&J's team also offers hearty advice on other aspects of a freshly landscaped lawn.

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SUBMITTED PHOTOS Spirit of Geneva Lakes



“Too much activity on your newly seeded lawn can interfere with good germination,” according to the experts at the company. “For the first two to three weeks, we suggest limiting the amount of activity on your lawn as much as possible.”

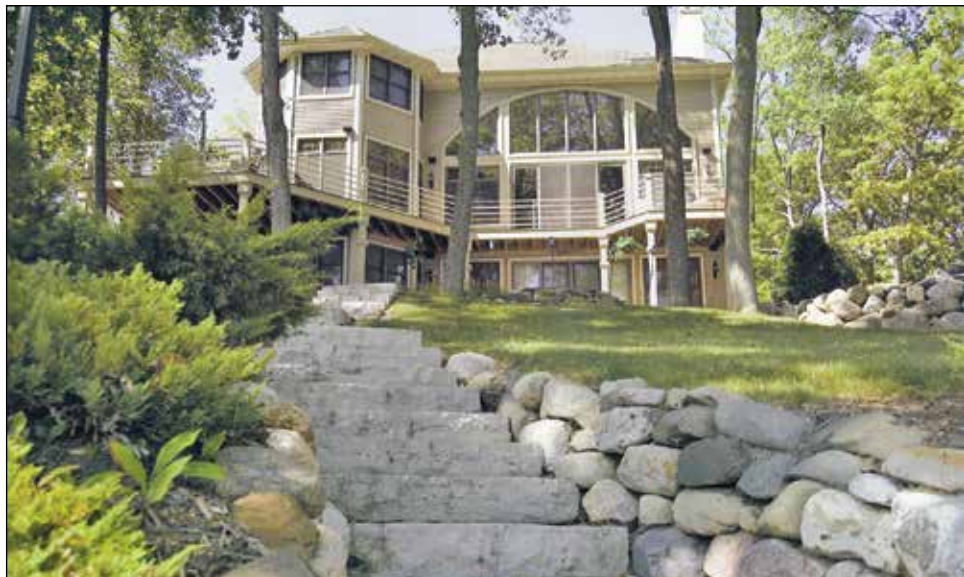
While damage can be unsightly to what could be a sparkling new exterior showplace, other unintended consequences could also result from negligence.

“Wear and tear from people, pets and bikes can create ruts and holes that could ruin the terrain and cause drainage problems,” the experts wrote. “Pampering your new lawn by keeping people and pets off for just a few weeks in the beginning helps ensure the quality and beauty you’re looking for in the end.”

Plants

As for plants, the company recommends a ramped up watering schedule the first few weeks after installation.

“Newly installed plants should be watered thoroughly two to three times per week, for the first three to four weeks,” according to the company.



Enhancing nature is the theme for this landscape project by B&J Tree and Landscape Service. Natural stone and evergreen plantings look right at home in this backyard.

“Then water thoroughly, once per week thereafter, for two months.”

While this has been a wetter summer than usual, images of droughts are fresh in the minds of most people who can recall the natural phenomenon occurring in not-too-distant years past.

“Be concerned during the drought months of July and August for the first couple of years,”

the experts wrote. “Rainstorms help, but do not be fooled – they do not penetrate the ground, unless we have over an inch of rain.”

B&J Tree and Landscape Service is at W2795 Krueger Road, Lake Geneva. Their office is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. For more details, visit the service’s website at www.bandjlandscape.com, call (262) 248-0340 or email bj.tree@att.net.



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Separating fact from fiction

Fall Home
IMPROVEMENT

A closer look at American hardwoods

As home improvement projects take center stage, the search is on for products that will enhance, rather than jeopardize the health and well-being of our families and loved ones. Products made from American hardwoods have been the natural choice for healthy home and work environments for generations. Today is no different.

With so many options available in the current marketplace, Linda Jovanovich of the American Hardwood Information Center, www.HardwoodInfo.com, suggests a little more research, in order to separate product fact from fiction. "Health-conscious and environmentally responsible consumers are challenged to recognize products and materials that are both aesthetically appealing and safe," she says. "I encourage taking a closer look at U.S. products – especially flooring and cabinetry, furniture and moulding – made from American hardwoods. They're uniquely beautiful, safe and a friend to the environment. And they have the credentials to prove it."

Treasured for generations, and forever fresh

Enhancing our surroundings with products made from American hardwoods is a wise choice and a sound investment. In the kitchen or the bath, over the fireplace or on the floor, the sheer beauty, durability and timeless appeal of the products make a lasting statement everywhere. So paint it; stain it; repair it; refinish it; walk on it; restore it; love it; refresh it. The possibilities are endless.

Made in the USA

There is much to consider before making a purchase in today's marketplace. What's the product's origin? Is it made of natural materials or is it a



FILE PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

American Hardwood products are uniquely beautiful, responsibly manufactured, and conducive to good health. Surround yourself with them.

synthetic product steeped with chemicals and potential carcinogens? What health and/or environmental implications will its manufacturing process have?

In the United States, quality standards and manufacturing practices are regulated and monitored by U.S. agencies and associations. Consumers can confidently choose products made from all natural American hardwoods knowing that the hardwood has been responsibly harvested and that manufacturing quality control standards have been met.

A friend to the environment

Flash back to seventh grade biology for a memory refresher about photosynthesis and long-term carbon sequestration.

- Growing trees remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, separate the carbon and oxygen atoms, then return the oxygen to the air; and

- They use just the right amount of carbon to grow trunk, branches and leaves, and store or sequester the unused carbon for the life of the tree or the products made thereof.

That means using all natural American

hardwoods for products like flooring and cabinetry, furniture and moulding contributes to the long-term sequestration of carbon.

Sustainability

For centuries, products made from American hardwoods have been providing lasting beauty, warmth and functional value to our homes and countless structures everywhere. Future generations can expect the same. The U.S. Forest Service reports that the volume of hardwoods in American forests today is 131 percent greater than it was in 1953 because more than twice as much hardwood grows each year as is harvested. That's sustainability in a nutshell. We are not running out of trees – hardwoods are an abundant, renewing and sustainable resource.

Step into the world of American Hardwoods, www.HardwoodInfo.com, and take a closer look at the myriad of products made from this natural and healthy, uniquely beautiful, responsibly harvested and more-abundant-than-ever resource.

(BPT)



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Fall Home IMPROVEMENT

To really achieve the full effect that a modern media room can offer, tear down the walls and start at the studs. The right drywall is as important as the right speaker.

FILE PHOTO
Spirit of Geneva Lakes

For entertainment purposes

Award-winning interior designer reveals 5 ways to a must-have media room

It's hard to believe that at one time, Americans watched television by huddling around a small box with poor picture quality and sound. Even nicer televisions were tucked in the corner of living rooms where noise from the kitchen, kids running around the house and other distractions constantly interfered.

How we watch television and movies at home has greatly changed in the past decade. Today's consumer-grade audiovisual technology is a full-body, multi-sensory experience. The sound, visuals and comfortable seating achieved in home theaters rival, and sometimes exceed, that of movie theaters.

Media rooms are no longer the luxury of the wealthy. They have become a standard in many middle class households throughout the country, and are on the top of the list for many people remodeling their homes. Today, the media room has become a multipurpose space where families can watch a movie together, kids can play their video games or friends can congregate to watch the big game.

Whatever your interest, a newly renovated media room can provide the right space for

your gathering. But to achieve the ultimate experience, there's more than just the latest digital gadgets and comfy seating to consider. To design the proper media room, TV personality and award-winning interior designer Anitra Mecadon offers the following tips:

Start at the studs

You'll probably spend the majority of your time deciding what kind of screen and speaker components to install, but no matter how cutting edge your audiovisual equipment is, you have to properly house it in order to realize its full potential.

For this, your media room needs the right walls. Just like Ultra High Definition technology represents how far televisions have come, PURPLE SoundBreak XP drywall made by National Gypsum represents how far drywall technology has advanced. This revolutionary drywall reduces the noise heard between rooms. This means you won't be disturbed by the dishwasher or washing machine while watching your favorite movies. And likewise, people in other rooms won't hear those powerful speakers.

Hire an expert

Even if you're savvy with electronics and have set up speakers and receivers in the past, play it safe and hire an expert to properly install all the components in your media room. You might need more powerful circuits installed, or an expert's touch to perfectly

balance and sync the sound between your television, speaker and receiver. Plus, they'll know how to conceal wires and give your room that clean look.

Protect your investment

Many media rooms are in a basement where mold and moisture are a constant threat. The space needs to remain dry to provide a healthy environment. To keep your family and valuable electronics safe, it's a wise idea to put up drywall that can actively guard against these dangers. PURPLE XP drywall made by National Gypsum is mold and moisture resistant, providing added protection for your investment.

Buy a television

Because you want more of a movie theater feel, you may be tempted to buy a projector and a screen. But most people who do this end up replacing it with a television. Why? A high resolution smart TV ultimately provides more clarity, better picture and 3D.

Make sure you have the right lighting. From color-changing LED lightbulbs to dimmers on sound bars, there is no end to how creative you can get with the lighting in your media room. No matter what you do, be sure you can control the light in order to accommodate a variety of situations: dark for the dramatic scenes and just enough light for when the pizza arrives.

To learn more, visit www.askforpurple.com.

(BPT)

Renovating? Why to consider a fireplace

When considering home renovations, it's important to be choosy, as some projects can end up costing you a pretty penny with little return on investment.

Some fast facts can provide answers to this age-old consideration. Here are three compelling reasons to think fireplace.

- A gas fireplace will add \$2,950 to \$5,900 to a home's value, according to the "Marshall & Swift Residential Cost Handbook."

- New homebuyers rank fireplaces as the number one most desired decorative appearance product in a new home, according to the National Association of Home Builders.

- Today, homeowners have an opportunity to differentiate their homes with a fireplace in different ways. Both traditional and modern fireplaces are now offered with innovative technologies that push the boundaries of where fire can go and how it can look. Consider brands that designers, architects, builders, and remodelers trust, such as Heat & Glo, which leads the industry in design and innovative technology.

More information about how a fireplace can improve home value and differentiate spaces is available at www.heatnglo.com.

(STATEPOINT)



FILE PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

For those looking to renovate, a fireplace presents an attractive choice – whether a sale is in the cards or you simply want to enhance appeal and comfort.

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Reduce seasonal allergies and improve your home's air quality

Affecting almost 50 million people in the United States, seasonal allergies like hay fever primarily start to escalate as fall progresses, according to the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology. Now is the perfect time to start to take measures to reduce and potentially eliminate additional airborne triggers, such as ragweed, which often worsen symptoms.

Instead of moving to a new climate to avoid allergies, take a few quick and easy steps to significantly reduce indoor air pollutants, which can heighten the effects of allergic reactions.



Manage your home's cleanliness

Even though it's hard to defend against the pollen and other allergy spikes that occur during the changing of seasons, there are many different steps you can take in your home to limit the impact of airborne pollutants.

Regulate dust

Control dust mites by using anti-dust mite covers and washing sheets in hot water about once a week.

Avoid smoke

Avoid non-ventilated and smoky rooms that could increase nose, throat and eye irritation.

Improve the air inside your home

As the weather continues to get colder around the country, people will be spending more time indoors with the windows closed. Lack of ventilation can often cause buildup of particles in the air.

Filter first

Help reduce these irritants by installing an AccuClean Whole-Home Filtration

Fall Home IMPROVEMENT



System from American Standard Heating & Air Conditioning. The revolutionary system is 100 times more

effective than a standard 1-inch throwaway filter, removing up to 99.98 percent of allergens from the air.

Control moisture

Keeping your home's humidity between 30-60 percent will help prevent the gathering of dust mites. Simple actions like turning on a fan when bathing or cooking, using a dehumidifier, and not overwatering plants are all quick ways to keep the humidity levels down.

Avoid pollutants during home renovation projects

Being cooped up during colder weather is often a time to work on the home renovation projects that have been put off while you were enjoying the warm summer sun. Before these projects kick off, keep a few things in mind to help reduce in-home air pollutants.

Cover up

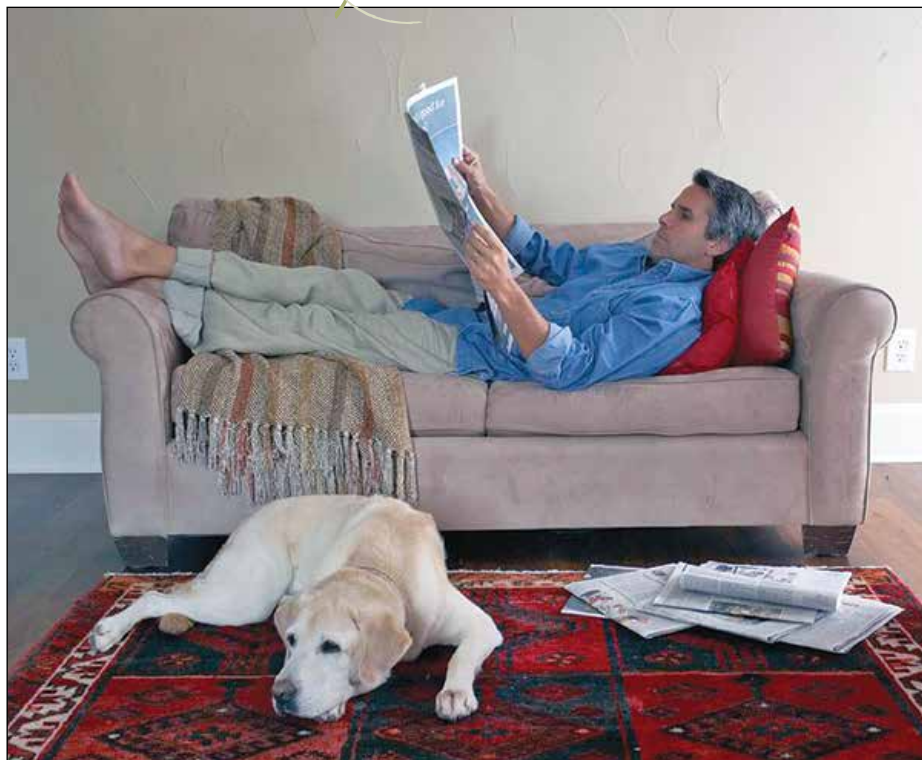
When tearing down or putting up drywall, ensure the room is sealed off from the rest of house by putting up plastic sheets over doors and closing vents. Sealing the room will minimize the spread of dust and other particles from entering the rest of the home.



Paint responsibly

If you're adding a splash of color to a room or simply restoring an old piece of furniture with a new paint job, select a low VOC paint (VOCs are solvents that get released into the air as the paint dries). Breathing in high levels of VOCs can lead to worsened asthma symptoms, headaches, throat irritation and more, according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

(BPT)



FILE PHOTO: Spirit of Geneva Lakes

If possible, keep pets off of furniture and out of the bedroom and bathroom to reduce the spread of their dander.

What to look for in a

New Roof

Between strong winds, heavy rains, and threats like fire and natural disaster, simply having a roof over one's head is not always enough.

When choosing a strong roof designed to protect your home and its occupants, here are some things to consider:

Fire prevention

Real wood shake roofs can be extremely combustible and serve as kindling for wildfires. If you live in an area with even a remote possibility of wildfires, consider investing in a roof that resists flame spread. While no roof will resist a "ground up" fire that engulfs the entire home, polymer roofing tiles that are installed with proper underlayments can help protect a home from wind-driven embers that can ignite the roof.

Impact resistance

Whether you live in an area prone to direct or indirect threats of tornadoes or hurricanes, or you simply live in a region that experiences strong storms, take note – flying debris associated with severe weather can become dangerous in high winds. Damage from airborne tree branches and flying loose items can be devastating to a roof not equipped for impact. Having a synthetic roof

that has achieved the highest ratings on impact resistance tests can help protect your property.

"Even if your roof has stood up to strong weather conditions in the past, it's important to make sure it's still in shape before the next round of bad weather hits," says Mark Hansen, vice president of sales and marketing for DaVinci Roofscapes, which makes high-performing polymer roofing products that have achieved the highest grades possible on multiple industry tests.

Examine the roof yourself or have a professional roofer assess for damage you may not be able to see from the ground. They can make repairs or recommend a new roof replacement.

Durability

No matter where you live, it's important that roof tiles can handle wear and tear. Ideally, roof tiles should resist curling, fading, cracking, mold, algae, fungus and insects. Roofing products that come with a strong warranty can offer you peace of mind.

Other considerations

Protecting your home and family should be your number one consideration. Luckily, durable synthetic roofing options abound



FILE PHOTO: Spirit of Geneva Lakes

For an important, lasting home project, evaluate your roof and consider making an upgrade that will protect your house from everyday wear and tear, as well as the worst case scenario.

that offer the authentic look of real wood or slate beauty, as well as environmental sustainability. For the benefits of an eco-friendly roof, it's a good idea to seek out products that are completely recyclable and meet standards set by organizations like the Cool Roof Rating Council and the U.S. Green Building Council.

For a complete free guide on upgrading roofing to protect a home long term, visit ThisOldHouse.netline.com. (STATEPOINT)

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COURTESY OF NIPPERSINK GOLF RESORT *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

Planning an outdoor wedding ceremony? Consider the gazebo on the shores of Tombeau Lake at the Nippersink Golf Resort for a beautiful setting. White chairs are set up for wedding guests.

Restoring Nippersink to its former glory

New owners in process
of renovating resort

by **Sandra Landen Machaj**
CORRESPONDENT

Recent visitors to the Nippersink Resort and Golf Course may have noticed a bevy of activity buzzing around both the golf course and the many buildings on the property.

In June a change of ownership occurred when the 171-acre property that is the home of Nippersink Country Club and Lodge was purchased by Dennis and Chris Holian.

Chris and Dennis are full-time residents of the area, living in nearby Richmond.

"We were interested in the property as a good investment. When we heard it was for sale we pursued purchasing it," Chris Holian said. "But we were too late. Someone else had already put in an offer that had been accepted. Later we heard he had backed out of the deal and we made an offer. It was accepted and on June 26, 2017, we took over ownership of the property."

Having lived in the area, Chris and Dennis were aware of the long history

of this property and its prominence from the 1940s through the 1970s. Over the years the property was not well cared for and lost much of its popularity as the place to spend summer days and evenings.

"We knew the property had been neglected and are prepared to restore it to its former glory," Chris said.

The Nippersink Resort and Golf Club has a long history, which began in 1918 when a 500-acre farm parcel was purchased by Ernest Shimmer, a wealthy meat packer from Chicago. Shimmer, who was impressed by the Lake Geneva lifestyle, had visions of developing the property into a fine country club and lodge that would attract visitors to this area. In addition to building a lodge he envisioned a golf course that would attract golfers from the area.

Shimmer hired professional golfer, James Foulis Jr, who was born in St. Andrews, Scotland, where golf is the most important industry. Considering his birthplace, it was not surprising that Foulis would become a golfer.



SANDRA LANDEN MACHAJ *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

Chris Holian, who with her husband Dennis, purchased the Nippersink Resort and Golf Club takes a short break to share the many changes and updates planned for the Nippersink in the next two years.

Foulis won the U.S. Open in 1896, which was held in Shinnecock Hills, Long Island, New York. With his golfing experience, Foulis was able to transform this open land with many Oak Trees, and hills and valleys, into an interesting and challenging course for the average golfer.

While the course was designed for the average golfer it also provides a serious challenge when played from the championship tees.

The resort, which included a hotel along the shores of Lake Tombeau and numerous cottages for rent, was a popular summer vacation spot through the 1970s. It is said that entertainers such as Frank Sinatra appearing in Chicago in the 1940s and 1950s would come out for a day or weekend of golf. At one time plays, picnics and summer camps were held on the property making it a true family gathering place.

In Lake Tombeau there



COURTESY OF NIPPERSINK GOLF RESORT *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

A foursome of golfers gather around the green to putt in their final shots at the Nippersink Golf Club. Restoring the golf course was one of the first things new owners, Chris and Dennis Holian, got to work on after purchasing the resort.

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was an island connected to shore by a bridge. On the island according to Chris was a swimming pool.

“The pool is no longer there,” Chris said. “But it’s something that we would like to see replaced in the future.”

Over the years, the property changed hands several times. It was last owned by a Greek organization in Chicago. They hired a management group to run the resort but were not too concerned about maintaining it to its previous status.

Even the golf course, which was still attracting golfers, lost some of its luster as the turf was not maintained to golf course perfection and some dead trees were not removed.

“Our first job was to begin a turf management system and to trim or remove dead or damaged trees,” Chris said.

The golf course is a popular spot with golf leagues scheduled Monday through Thursdays, but there is still space for individual golfers prior to and after completion of the league schedules.

For Chris, who has taken on the responsibility of running the resort with the help of Kevin Krause, the weeks since the purchase have been a blur of meetings. Prioritizing work and meeting with contractors takes much of both her and Kevin’s day.

Recently, crews were applying seal coating to the various parking areas and splashes of sample color could be seen on some buildings, checking out the look of



SANDRA LANDEN MACHAJ *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

This gentleman spends some time perfecting his putting before starting a round of golf on a recent sunny day at the Nippersink Resort and Golf Club in Genoa City. The golf course hosts multiple leagues and is open to the public.



COURTESY OF NIPPERSINK GOLF RESORT *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

Carts of golfers line up ready to begin their rounds during a large golf outing at Nippersink Resort and Golf Club. With its newly restored greens and buildings, Nippersink is once again taking its place among the desired spots for a round of golf.



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One of the banquet rooms at the Nippersink Resort and Golf Club is dressed for a wedding. The banquet rooms are able to accommodate 150 or 325 participants for weddings, family reunions, business functions or other activities. A third banquet room is in the process of being remodeled. It will accommodate up to 400 guests.

COURTESY OF NIPPERSINK GOLF RESORT *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

the chosen color to be applied.

"The buildings are all going to be repainted in blue," Chris said.

While Dennis will be involved he is also one of the owners of the family-owned insulating firm that does work with major commercial buildings such as Wrigley Field in Chicago and is a Deacon at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in McHenry, Illinois.

Together Chris and Dennis are the parents of seven children and grandparents to 13. They are both very involved with family.

Recently, Chris was juggling Nippersink meetings, other meetings, and time at the McHenry County Fair where her grandchildren were showing cattle.

"Life is always busy," Chris said.

The banquet halls

Chris said they are looking at a two-year plan to complete all the updating they have planned for the resort. One of the items high on the priority list is to refurbish the largest of the banquet halls. There are three banquet halls on the premises. The largest space which has a high ceiling, a somewhat barn appearance, will be remodeled to project that look, Chris said.

Today the barn look is very popular with wedding parties making it the perfect venue for a large wedding. The building will easily accommodate 400 guests.

"We plan to have this completed by next year," Chris said.

For wedding ceremonies held on the premises, there is a gazebo along the



SANDRA LANDEN MACHAJ *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

The clubhouse at Nippersink is the place to gather for an after-golf drink and lunch. A small pro shop is also located on site.

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4 *A Summit of Faith* - Panel Discussion
5 The Rose Ensemble - *Il Poverello*
14 *Yesterday & Today - The Interactive Beatles Experience*
16 *One Drop of Love*
19 Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles - *It Gets Better*
25 *Jersey Boys*

NOVEMBER

3 & 4 Opera for Toddlers *Up in the Mountains*
5 U.S. Army Jazz Ambassadors
8 *Sense & Sensibility* - Aquila Theatre Company
9 *Hamlet* - Aquila Theatre Company
11 Truly Remarkable Loon
13 *Stomp*
18 Judy Collins
20 The Tamburitians

DECEMBER

9 *Chicago*
16 *The Nutcracker* - The Dance Factory

JANUARY

27 Sing-A-Long Sound of Music

FEBRUARY

10 *Country Royalty* - Tribute to Hank Williams & Patsy Cline
11 *A Busy Bee* - Florentine Opera
20 Urban Bush Women
24 Missoula Children's Theatre - *Jack and the Beanstalk*
26 M5 Mexican Brass

MARCH

4 *Rodgers + Hammerstein's CINDERELLA*
13 *Taming of the Shrew* - American Shakespeare Center
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8 *The Cat in the Hat*
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lakeshore that makes a beautiful setting. Chairs are arranged on the patio in front of the gazebo making for comfortable seating with a fantastic view of both the ceremony and the lake in the background for the guests. If inclement weather arrives the ceremony can be conducted inside the banquet facility.

The other two banquet facilities are up and running. From weddings to Richmond PTA activities and rotary club functions and other business meetings, the sounds of people enjoying their time together resonates throughout the buildings. The larger of the two banquet halls that are running is a flat ceiling room that will hold 325 people. It is perfect not only for weddings but as a conference room for business meetings.

The smaller of the two halls is one with a cathedral ceiling, which will seat up to 150 guests. This room is suitable for the smaller, more intimate wedding, bridal showers, family reunions, business meetings, retirement parties or any other gathering.

Chris said a variety of food packages are available for weddings. Most of them offer a four-hour open bar with various choices of liquor depending on the package chosen. A choice of a plated dinner or a buffet style offering is available. All packages include the wedding cake. Dinners are all prepared under the direction of Chef Ken Cox.



SANDRA LANDEN MACHAJ *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

The Nippersink Lodge and Hotel is on the shore of Lake Tombeau. It is being updated by the new owners, as part of the renovation of the Nippersink properties.

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The hotel

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the shore of the lake, provides overnight lodging. This gives visitors the chance to turn the wedding or family reunion into a weekend getaway.

"The hotel is up and running but we are still in the process of upgrading the units. As they are now, they are old but clean and comfortable for a weekend stay and are



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reasonably priced at \$70 a night," Chris said.

Involved in the heavy job of restoring this resort is Kevin Krause, operating manager, who lives in Burlington but spends more time at Nippersink than he does at home.

"There are several cottages that I am working on restoring as we want to get them ready for spring," Kevin said. "We will be restoring as many structures as possible but those that are not restorable will be torn down."

When employees of the resort, some of them longtime, heard that the resort was up for sale and rumor had it that the property was going to be converted to condominiums, they were heartbroken. Many had worked here for years, and even though the quality of the resort had declined, it was still important to them.

"When we came in and assured them that we were not going to do that but that we planned to restore Nippersink to its former glory, they were excited. Many of them have remained on staff," Chris said.

Located at the gateway to Wisconsin, Nippersink is only 15 minutes away from Lake Geneva attractions but away from the hustle and bustle of downtown Lake Geneva. Anyone looking for a quiet or romantic getaway but would still enjoy some of the activities that Lake Geneva has to offer, should enjoy a stay at Nippersink.

Nippersink Resort and Golf Club is at N1055 Tombeau Road, Genoa City. The golf course is open daily weekdays from 7 a.m. to sunset. On weekends the opening is at 6:30 a.m.

For more information contact Nippersink at www.nippersinkresort.com or call (262) 279-6311 for information, reservations and fee schedules.

Three Paloma properties garner Trip Advisor accolades

Three of Paloma Resort Properties – The Inns of Geneva National, Hunt Club Steakhouse and The Ridge Hotel – received the 2017 TripAdvisor certificates of excellence. Now in its seventh year, the achievement celebrates hotels, restaurants and attractions that have consistently received top traveler reviews on TripAdvisor over the past year.

"Paloma Resorts is honored that multiple properties received the certificate of excellence this year, an award based on customer experience and input," said GL Chambers, president of Paloma Resort Properties. "Our collective goal has been to raise the bar by delivering exceptional service, and this achievement validates that we are hitting the mark. Of course, such consistently strong praise and ratings wouldn't be possible without our associates' continued commitment to service excellence and success, so this

reward also celebrates them."

After undergoing a multi-million-dollar redesign in spring 2016, The Ridge Hotel collects its first certificate of excellence. This is the second time Geneva National's boutique villas – The Inns of Geneva National – have received the award and the fourth time for the Hunt Club Steakhouse, which has been recognized annually since 2014. To qualify for the certificate of excellence, a business must maintain an overall TripAdvisor bubble rating of at least four out of five, be listed on TripAdvisor for at least a year and have a minimum number of quality reviews over a 12-month period.

"This recognition allows us to publicly honor businesses that are actively engaging with customers and using feedback to help travelers identify and confidently book the perfect trip," said Heather Leisman, vice president of industry marketing at TripAdvisor.

UWW Theater/Dance department announces 2017-18 schedule

Tickets are on sale for the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater's Theater/Dance Department season lineup.

Tickets for six shows will be available Aug. 9 for the season beginning on Oct. 9. The first show of the season will be "Toil and Trouble" by award-winning playwright Lauren Gunderson and directed by Angela Iannone. It is a comic rewrite of Shakespeare's "Macbeth." The showings for "Toil and Trouble" will be Oct. 9 through 14 at 7:30 p.m. and Oct. 15 at 2 p.m. in Hicklin Studio Theatre.

The second show, "The Emperor's New Clothes" by Hans Christian Andersen, adapted for the stage by Max Bush and directed by Bruce Cohen, will be shown on Oct. 28 at 1 p.m. in the Barnett Theatre before the cast and crew take it on tour for a week. "The Emperor's New Clothes" is a classic children's tale about two weavers tricking a vain king with invisible clothes.

"1959 Pink Thunderbird," a production by James McLure and directed by Kymberly Mellen, will be Dec. 4 through 8 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 9 at 2 p.m. in the Barnett Theatre. "1959 Pink Thunderbird"

is a presentation of two one-act plays about man's life post-Vietnam.

The department will follow with "Street Scene," a production written by Langston Hughes and directed by Mellen, with music by Kurt Weill and music direction by Robert Gehrenbeck. It is a jazz-inspired opera that explores jealousy, infatuation, lust and love in 1930s New York City. The production starts Feb. 25 and runs through March 3 at 2 p.m. There will also be showings Feb. 27 and March 1 at 7:30 p.m. in the Barnett Theatre.

The next show, "DanceScapes '18," will hit the stage March 17 and 18 at 2 p.m., and March 19 and 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the Barnett Theatre. The show, directed by Amy Slater, showcases the choreography of faculty, students and UW-Whitewater guest artists. The production will feature Joe Chvala of the Flying Foot Forum in Minneapolis,



Minn.

The final show of the season will be "Strong Poison," which is based on the novel by Dorothy L. Sayers, adapted for stage by Frances Linoncelli and directed by Iannone. It centers around famed detective Lord Peter Wimsey as he falls head over heels for accused poisoner Harriet Vane. "Strong Poison" hits the stage April 25 through 28 at 7:30 p.m. and April 29 at 2 p.m. in Hicklin Studio Theatre.

Order tickets on phone at (262) 472-2222 or online at tickets.uww.edu.

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Above: Bluegrass group Whiskey Shivers engages a crowd of fans at the 2016 Labor of Love Music Festival at New Munster Ball Park.

Below: Just Live Inc. Board Member Janet Geller-Lesko addresses attendees at the seventh annual Labor of Love Music Festival held at New Munster Ball Park Sunday.



A family's Labor of Love

Festival raises awareness for the suicide epidemic

by **Jason Arndt**
STAFF WRITER

On the surface, someone suffering from depression and anxiety often shows a full and beaming life, but beneath the surface lies a person struggling to seek help.

When the pain becomes insurmountable, they chose a permanent solution to a temporary problem, which is suicide.

Since 2009, the number of people enduring the pain that have succumbed to suicide or attempted suicide continues to rise, the Centers for Disease Control reports.

From 1999 through 2014, the CDC reported a 24 percent increase in suicides, with a higher rate starting in 2006.

The CDC reports 42,000 suicide deaths occurred in 2014, up from 41,000 in 2013. In a similar study in 2010, the CDC noted 38,000 suicides.

While suicides among young adults is on the rise, the same has applied to middle-aged adults, the CDC states.

Suicide also affects an array of ethnic backgrounds, men and women, and does not discriminate, regardless of how a person presents themselves in public.

The epidemic has affected one local family, the Wilsons, of the Town of Wheatland.

Jamie Leigh Wilson, daughter of Kelly, had a beaming smile and showed it until the 21-year-old took her life in 2009.

Brian Wood, a friend of the family for 42 years,

If you go...

WHAT: Labor of Love Music Festival

WHEN: Sunday, Sept. 3, 11:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

WHERE: New Munster Ball Field, 34315 Geneva Rd., New Munster.

THE LOWDOWN: Food, games, raffles and live blue grass music to celebrate the short life of Jamie Wilson and raise funds for suicide awareness. Admission is free.

saw Jamie Leigh as a bright and loving woman.

"Jamie Leigh was a sweet girl, went to school to be a massage therapist, had a job in Lake Geneva as a massage therapist," said Wood, who always remembered Jamie for never leaving the side of her puppy she called "Peanut."

Since the death of Jamie, the family decided to raise awareness of mental illness, creating Just Live, Inc. an organization that consists of several unpaid volunteers who have been affected by suicide or depression.

With Just Live, Inc., the volunteers developed the annual Labor of Love Music Festival,

which enters its eighth year on Sept. 3 at New Munster Ball Park.

Through the annual music festival, board member Janet Geller-Lesko hopes to increase awareness, and offer resources for those suffering from the mental illness and members of their family.

"We believe there is much more awareness for the need to support mental health awareness, depression and unfortunately, that which leads to suicide," Geller-Lesko said.

At the Labor of Love Music Festival, organizers plan to offer exhibits and materials related to suicide prevention, and some social workers expect to stand by to help anyone in need.

The organization decided to feature bluegrass bands, which were Jamie's favorite genre of music, Wood said.

"She loved bluegrass and went to quite a few bluegrass events with her mother," said Wood, who remembered Jamie attending similar events focused on other causes, including the American Cancer Society.

Unlike previous years, when Labor of Love was held for seven hours and featured three bands, organizers added more to the lineup in 2017.

"We have four bluegrass bands versus the three of recent years," said Geller-Lesko, who added the festival extended the event by one hour, starting from 11:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m.

Bands expected to take the stage are Horseshoes and Hand Grenades, Split Lip Rayfield, Dead Horses and Charlie Parr.

The Labor of Love Festival is the organization's chief fundraiser of the year, and would not have been possible without the support of the community.

Community members have donated raffle items, including a camping/kayaking package, an assortment of restaurant gift certificates, a weekend outing to Chicago, a cycling package, among other prizes.

The camping/kayaking package, according to organizers, is special considering Jamie also had a passion for the great outdoors.

Labor of Love has also received the support of the Town of Wheatland Volunteer Fire Department, which plans to fire up the grill, and offer other food services.

While guests vie for raffle prizes, enjoy bluegrass music and savor food hot off the grill, there are activities for children.

Fun for the kids includes face painting, magic displays, crafts they can take home, and games.

The most pivotal moment of the festival is the presentation of colors by the Great Lakes Honor Guard, along with a singing of "May the Circle Be Unbroken" by the Jon Dowley family as attendees come together on a united front.

Another poignant moment occurs when organizers release Doves into the air, with the number 13 chosen because a suicide occurs every 13 seconds.

Proceeds from the event go to organizations with a mission



EARLENE FREDERICK *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

Labor of Love Music Festival attendees check out the offerings at the silent auction during the 2016 event.

to help those who need it and reduce the stigma associated with mental illness.

Beneficiaries of the 2017 event have not been formally confirmed, said Geller-Lesko, who plans to meet with other board members of the nonprofit organization.

Last year, Just Live, Inc. donated \$40,000 to Marquette University's school of Integrative Neuroscience Research Center, which is using the funds to conduct clinical research to determine biological causes of mental illness.

Another past beneficiary includes a fairly new initiative called Hopeline, a text-messaging service, which allows those suffering from depression and suicidal thoughts another opportunity to seek help.

Hopeline, presented by the Center for Suicide Awareness, is a 24-hour-a-day text service with live help.

The text service, a first in Wisconsin, allows people to receive help via any electronic device, including a computer, laptop, tablet, cellular phone and an iPad.

Other supportive outlets include Question, Persuade and Refer, or QPR.

QPR is a free suicide prevention program for people who hope to save the life of someone who attempted suicide or has suicidal thoughts.

Part of the program includes the recognition of warning signs, how to approach someone, and persuade them to seek help.


Along with QPR, Just Live has continued to train officials at multiple levels, including law enforcement, emergency personnel and school officials.

Like the festival, the QPR program is free for anyone who wants to help reduce the risks.

Who to call...

IF YOU, OR SOMEONE YOU LOVE IS IN CRISIS, HELP IS AVAILABLE BY CALLING THE FOLLOWING RESOURCES:

- National Suicide Hotline - (800) 273-8258
- Kenosha County Crisis Center - (800) 236-7188
- Racine County Crisis Services - (262) 638-6741
- Walworth County Crisis Services - (800) 365-1587
- Hopeline - Text "Hopeline" to 741741



While the Lake Geneva Shore Path has been around for about 2,000 years, some homeowners who live along the lakeshore are looking to tighten the guidelines of how the path is used and by whom.

Rules for prosperity

Lake homeowner says protecting shore path from abuse will keep trail open in future

by **Vicky Wedig**

STAFF WRITER

The existence of the Lake Geneva Shore Path precedes today's lake homeowners by a couple of millennia.

American Indians created the path around Geneva Lake about 2,000 years ago to get from camps on the east side of the lake to camps on the west side, said Dick Malmin, a year-round Town of Linn lake resident who is urging today's stewards of the lake path to adopt stricter rules to preserve the path's existence.

"I'm a lake homeowner who wants to keep the path, but doesn't want the path abused," he said. When the colonialists settled along the lakeshore, they continued the path so that people could get to town, Malmin said. Few roads existed then, and the path allowed construction crews to get back and forth with materials to build the large lake homes and facilitated residents traveling to Lake Geneva, he said. The formal organization of the path started in the late 1800s, and, when covenants for the lake were written in 1910, the path was included, Malmin said.

About 50 families lived around the lake at that time and decided what they wanted for the future of the lake, which included maintaining the path for members of the public but now allowing commercialization, he said.

"Of course, that's what made the lake so great," he said. "It's part of our legacy. It's something to be proud of."

EVENTS THWARTED

In keeping with that legacy, the 21-mile path around the lake – through the private properties of lakefront homeowners – has been

kept open to the public. But, Malmin said, organizations that want to use the path for public events threaten its existence. Malmin and a group of about 10 other homeowners successfully thwarted the plans of My Team Triumph, a Green Bay-based organization that wanted to host its Muck Suck Race on the shore path earlier this year. The group raises funds for non-profit organizations to buy equipment for handicapped people and planned to have about 300 runners race along the path, Malmin said.

"They just thought the path would be a real good venue for a run," he said. "It isn't because it isn't made for that. It isn't intended for that."

"Our big issue to be honest is there are a number of lakeshore owners who want to get rid of the path. They want that to be closed. We don't want that. We want it to be maintained."

The organizer of the event, Christian Jensen, voluntarily cancelled the event out of respect for the feelings of lake residents that the path is not a tourist attraction.

"The shore path wasn't just a sidewalk or some alley way around the lake to be used heedlessly or an advertising ploy to attract tourists," Malmin wrote in a memo. "It truly was a jewel and a treasure that the community was passionate to defend."

After heading off the Muck Suck Race, the group's next mission was to prevent the Veterans Outpost's walk planned for June 10. About 250 veterans were expected to walk the entire 21-mile path, and Malmin contacted organizer Danny Zientek to express his concerns.

Zientek went ahead with



the walk, but accommodated some of Malmin's requests, which included not walking the path "en masse."

"Go out in smaller groups, so people don't have the feeling they're being invaded," he said.

Zientek came with about 75 people and was determined to honor the path and the homeowners, Malmin said.

"Their only complaint was the lawn sprinklers they believed the home owners were using as an attack on them," he

reported. Malmin said the group has been put on notice not to repeat the event but is not confident the request will be heeded.

"I'm sure they'll have the event in the future, and it'll create problems in the future," he said.

He said no public events should be allowed on the path whether they're hosted by for-profit or non-profit groups including the Alzheimer's Walk coming up in September.

"Once you allow it, you open the door to everyone else," he said.

RULES NEEDED

Malmin said additional rules are needed,

not to shut down the path but to keep it open. He has suggested the Geneva Lake Association, which is the steward of the path, add rules to existing guidelines, he said.

"Rules have been posted on the path for the past 50 years," Malmin said.

Jack Goggin, president of the Geneva Lake Association, said the organization has guidelines, not rules, posted on 25 signs around the lake reminding walkers they are entering private property and outlining the behavior expected. He said GLA is not considering new guidelines but wants to tighten up existing language and ask the five municipalities on the lake path to adopt the language to add some enforcement to the

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guidelines. The path runs through the Town of Linn, Williams Bay, Lake Geneva, Fontana and five homes in the Town of Walworth, Goggin said. But despite the guidelines, not all path users are respectful, Malmin said. One of the rules he has suggested to the GLA is closing the path at night.

"There's no reason the path should be used in the evening," he said. "People use that dark time opportunity to sabotage and do some deleterious things to property."

Goggin said the nature of the trail prohibits things like bicycles and strollers and nighttime use, and daytime walking is already suggested in the GLA's guidelines.

"There are places where it's very difficult to navigate the path," he said. "It's basically there for daylight walking. There's no lighting on the path. I don't know why anybody would be out there walking."

'OURS' VS. ALTRUISM

Malmin said residents who own property

along the lake are faced with the paradox of wanting privacy and protecting their property rights vs. the principle of sharing the gem of a lake with others.

"Each landowner realized that by allowing the path, you're giving up some of your property rights," he said. "We sacrifice that for the good of the whole community so that others can walk the path, enjoy the lake, the ambiance of the lake and all that has. We're not so selfish." However, he said, property owners sometimes feel users of the path take advantage of the privilege and leave messes, urinate along the path or wander off the path on to private property.

"There are some who feel abused because they are abused," he said. "Not everybody who walks the path has the feelings of the owners in mind. They think, 'They're rich,' and 'Let them clean up our mess.'"

Malmin said property owners are pressured into keeping the path open and maintaining an image of generosity and

giving.

"We almost force the people on the lake to at least consent to an open path because otherwise they look greedy and selfish, but, deep in their hearts, I think there would be more people who would want to have it closed."

Goggin said the GLA has not heard from a single homeowner who wants the path shut down. They welcome church groups or school groups to walk along the path, but not organized commercial events.

"We heard nothing from any of the lakefront owners that anyone wanted to close it down," he said. "Everyone is very welcoming to people. They just don't want any commercial usage."

He said some owners even offer walkers water, they just don't want the empty bottles thrown on their lawns.



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by **Ryan Spoehr**

STAFF WRITER

An upcoming East Troy event is set to capture the ambience of an old-fashioned train ride and the social setting of a beer tasting.

The East Troy Railroad and the Lake Geneva-based Black Point Estate have teamed up to offer a beer tasting session, adding to the list of themed attractions on the railroad.

On Sept. 9, people will be able to taste test weissbiers, lagers, ales and steam beers and learn about the local history of beer on the train.

Michael Rehberg, the lead interpreter at Black Point Estate who is also a trained expert on types of beers, will lead the tasting and discussion.

"We will talk about Milwaukee, but mostly about Chicago brewers," Rehberg said.

The discussion will also include some talking points on Conrad Seipp, who built the Black Point Estate.

"After I started at Black Point Estate, it was interesting to find out that Conrad Seipp was actually one of the biggest brewers in Chicago," Rehberg said.



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Seipp was a 19th century brewer, and there will be discussion on beer and brewing in that time period as well, Rehberg said.

"Beer was actually seen as healthy in those days. People would not get drunk or sick from it. It was seen as an alternative to whiskey, and healthier than whiskey," Rehberg said.

Rehberg said he will talk about Salvator brand beer, pilsner beers, craft beers and wheat beers.

"People will get a perspective on what a wheat beer is," Rehberg said.

This is the first time the railroad and the estate have worked with each other on an event like this.

"We've done tastings in other venues, but not on a train," Rehberg said.

Black Point Estate has done tastings on boats on Geneva Lake in the past and has partnered with the Lake Geneva Sprecher location for events.

"It's a way for us at Black Point Estate to branch out and offer more events throughout the entire year," Rehberg said.

People at Black Point Estate reached out to the East Troy Electric Railroad to create a working partnership, which was something that people at East Troy Electric Railroad were looking for as well.

"I've been working to find ways to work with state historical societies to partner on events for a while now. We have Black Point Estate nearby and we have Old World Wisconsin up the road, so it's something I've wanted to do," East Troy Railroad Marketing Chairman Steve Thomas. "We were eager to work together. We hope this is the first of many times working together."

Organizers at Black Point Estate have worked to reach out to communities to tell the estate's history not just during tours at the museum, but year round, especially since it was initially built as a summer cottage and is not open for tours during the winter.

"It's a part of this idea that Black Point is trying to not be just this place that opens its doors in April," Rehberg said.

"It's a way to keep the Black Point legacy alive and give back to the community as well," Rehberg added.

The train will depart from the East Troy Train Depot at 2002 Church Street at 5 p.m. Check-in and boarding start at 4:30 p.m.

The tasting will be limited to 50 people. They must register to be a part of the event. For tickets, go to easttroyrr.org/themed-trains. Tickets may also be bought in person at the depot during operating hours or over the phone at (262) 642-3263. Tickets are \$65.

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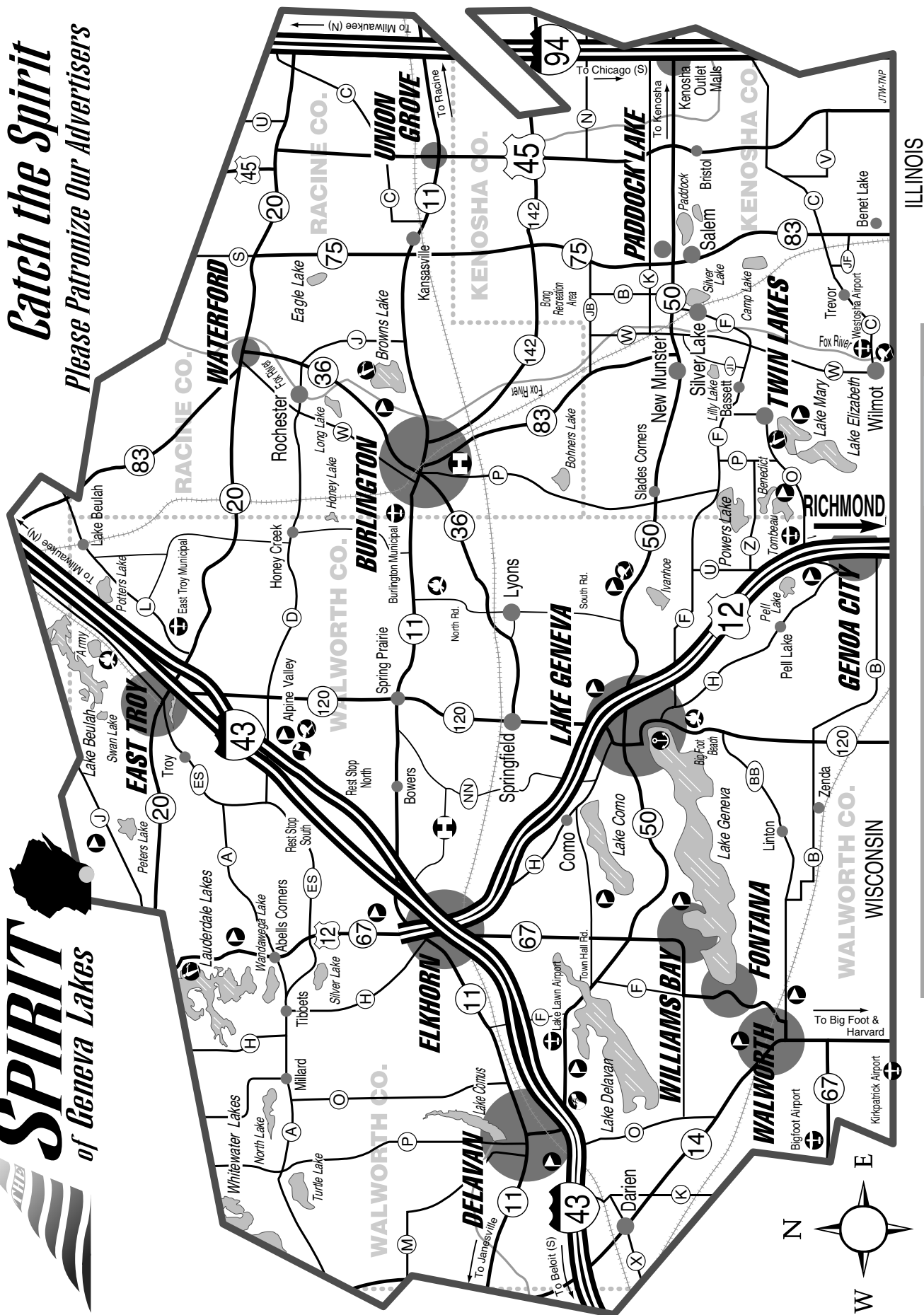
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