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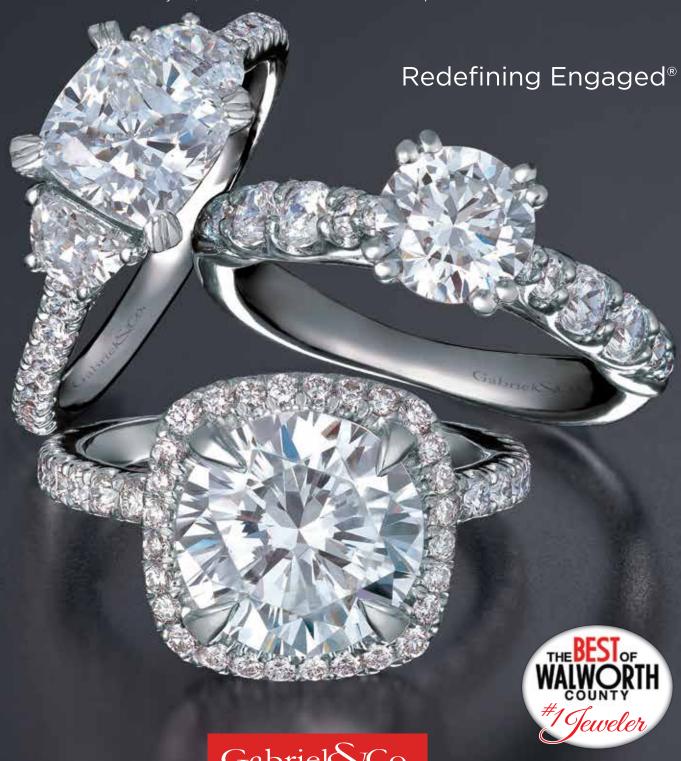
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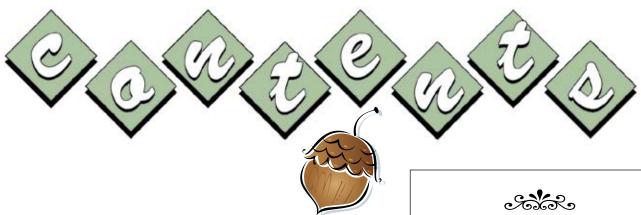
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Gabriel Co.





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THE COLORS OF AUTUMN

A bright orange pumpkin, a rusty tricycle and wildflowers expending a last gasp of color before a frost ends their summer holiday are but a few reminders that autumn is upon us in the Geneva Lakes area. It's a special season, marked by cool nights, sunny days and nature's spectacular fall palette of color. So what's the best way to enjoy these fleeting moments? Get out there – whether it's picking apples with the family, a hayride with your sweetie or special Oktoberfest brew at the local festival.

PHOTO BY ED NADOLSKI Spirit of Geneva Lakes



IT'S COMIN' UP

OCTOBER EVENTS

6-8 Fall Fest Barrel Racing, Walworth County Fairgrounds, 411 E. Court St., Elkhorn. walworthcountyfair.com (262) 723-3228.

6 Haunted Hayrides - Ghosts and ghouls will invade the Dan Patch Stables and woods, 7036 Grand Geneva Way, Lake Geneva, each Friday and Saturday in October from 6 p.m. to midnight. The Haunted Hayride will also run on Sunday, Oct. 8. \$15 ages 11 and older; \$8 ages

Death and Mourning in the Victorian Era – Victorian Americans embraced death as a cause for elaborate ritual. This program will feature a presentation on Victorian funeral and mourning customs, a first-floor house tour at Black Point Estate, and narrated lake boat tour of maritime mishaps on the Lake Geneva Cruise Line. For more information visit www. blackpointestate.org or call (262) 248-1888. Tickets are \$44 per person and include the cruise. To purchase tickets, visit the Lake Geneva Cruise Line at www.cruiselakegeneva. com or call (262) 248-6206.

7-8 Lake Geneva Oktoberfest – 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday on the 200 block of Broad Street and Flat Iron Park. There will be German food and craft booths in downtown Lake Geneva, as well as hayrides, pony rides, bounce houses and fall-themed activities. Shuttles will run from Home Depot and U.S. Bank.

6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28 Singing Pumpkins, 7 to 9 p.m., Edgewater Park, Williams Bay. (262) 245-2720, www. wbrecdept.com

7, 14, 21, 28 Walworth County farmers market – Veterans Park on the downtown square, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. (262) 723-7733.

7, 14, 21, 28 - Geneva Outdoor Market at the corner of highways H and NN, a mile from Lake Geneva. Local vendors selling produce, farm products and unique craft items. 8 a.m. to noon.

7, 14 Old World Wisconsin Autumn on the Farms events will feature different seasonal activities in October. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Check the Old World Wisconsin web site for information on each weekend's special activities. Adults (18-64) \$19; children (5-17) \$10; (children 4 and under are free); Senior citizens (65 and over) \$16. Fees include an all-day tram transportation pass. Parking is free.

13 Guided Hike at Kishwauketoe Nature Conservancy – Free guided hikes offered every Friday morning from 9 to 10:15 a.m. through October. Meet at the main entrance on Highway 67, Williams Bay.

21 Peoples Bank Oktoberfest 5K
Run, 2-mile walk, 8 to 11 a.m., Walworth
County Fairgrounds, 411 E. Court St., Elkhorn.
Registration includes long sleeve shirt, sports
pack, water bottle and a free drink ticket for
Elkhorn's Oktoberfest for participants 21 and
older. Register early for discounted price. Info:
Oktoberfest@peoplesbankwi.com

21 The 12th Annual Oktoberfest, a growing favorite event in the Elkhorn community that fills the town with fun. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit the more than 100 crafters and vendors showcasing handcrafted items, antiques, produce and plants in the downtown square. Stop by the north parking lot of the government center for the 5th Annual Oktoberfest Car Show, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Kids activities will include games, pumpkin decorating, a bounce house, slides and more. For food there will be a chili cook-off, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and a variety of food vendors. Adults are invited to stop inside Pocket Park for the wine and beer tasting between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Several live entertainment acts will perform. General admission is free; wine and beer tent is \$6 for tastings and \$12 to take home a commemorative Oktoberfest glass. (262) 723-5788 or info@elkhornchamber.com.

25 Legends and Love Songs at

Rosewood – Regular performers Mark, Gretch and Jo expand one of their most popular shows with guest artist, John "Ludy" Puleo performing hits of Elvis, Diana Ross, Tom Jones, Barbara Streisand, Barry Manilow, Aretha Franklin, Roy Orbison, Patsy Cline, Frank Sinatra, and Celine Dion and more. Ticket includes farm-totable, chef-attended dinner stations. 12:30 to 3 p.m. at Rosewood, 2484 Highway O South, Delavan.

27 Spooky Walk, 8 to 9 p.m., Kishwauketoe Nature Conservatory, Williams Bay. For those witches and werewolves who are looking for something scarier. (262) 245-2720, www. wbrecdept.com

28 Annual Scare on the Square, 2 to 4 p.m., Veterans Park in downtown Elkhorn. Fall fun for the entire family, featuring kids' activities, storytelling, a costume contest and more. Hosted by the Elkhorn Area Chamber of Commerce, the Elkhorn Recreation Department and Mercy Health System.

Although we strive to provide accurate information about area events, dates and times may change or events may be cancelled. Please call ahead to verify before making travel plans.





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← October 2017 −

From Jersey Boys to the Beatles and beyond

by Ryan Spoehr

STAFF WRITER

From "Jersey Boys" to the "Beatles Experience," the 2017-18 season at Young Auditorium at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater offers a musical and theater experience that pays tribute to some of the best performers in the music industry.

But the season doesn't stop there. From current affairs to opera for toddlers, the Young Auditorium covers a wide range of interests and ages.

The season continues this month with Pulitzer-prize winning journalist Paul Moses speaking about his award-winning book, "The Saint and The Sultan: The Crusades, Islam and Francis of Assisi's Mission of Peace." This free event on Monday, Oct. 2, at 7 p.m. is a kick-off for a program through Thursday, Oct. 5.

Beginning Oct. 3, the auditorium will host the movie premiere of "The Sultan and the Saint." The program is dedicated to the little-known episode in Francis of Assisi's life that illustrated his calling to peace. The film details a Muslim perspective of the time period.

A panel discussion will explore the issues facing Christian and Muslim cultures then and now.

It is a free event, but tickets are required.

A Beatles Experience

Next up for the Young Auditorium will be "Yesterday and Today: The Interactive Beatles Experience." In what is being billed as an interactive concert experience, patrons will be able to create the setlist.

As people enter the auditorium for the Oct. 14 event, they will be prompted to submit their favorite Beatles song and a reason for the selection. Responses will help determine which songs are to be performed by a band anchored by brothers Matthew, Billy and Ryan McGuigan.

Ticket prices for this event are \$30.50, \$25.50 and \$19.50.

'One Drop of Love'

An event that will be a part of the 2017 Campus Diversity Forum, "One Drop of Love" is a multimedia one-woman show exploring intersections of gender, class and race in a search of love, justice and truth.

The production is written and performed by Fanshen Cox DiGiovanni, and produced Ben Affleck and Matt Damon. This encourages audience interaction while Fanshen uses her family's search for identity to stimulate conversations about racial topics.

The event, Oct. 16 at 7 p.m., is appropriate for ages 12 and older. It is a free event, but tickets are required.

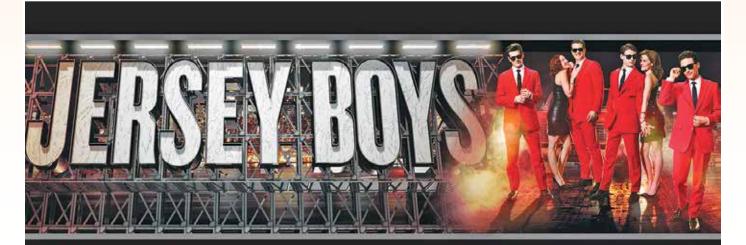
'It Gets Better'

The Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles will hit the stage at Young Auditorium as a part of the 2017 Campus Diversity Forum. Local choirs will also take the stage for a performance that will feature narratives of growing up gay.

"It Gets Better" starts at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 19. There will be a question-and-answer session following the performance.

Jersey Boys

Tony-award winning "Jersey Boys" will be up next to take



"Jersey Boys," the story of Frankie Valli and the Four Season is slated for Oct. 25 at 7 p.m.



"Yesterday & Today - The Interactive Beatles Experience," is slated for Oct. 14 at 7:30 p.m.

theatergoers behind the music and give them a look into the story Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons. The Best Musical winner at the Tony Awards provides a perspective on how the group became one of the most successful in pop music history.

The Jersey Boys musical is Oct. 25 at 7 p.m.

opera for toddiers

Billed as opera for toddlers, "Up in the Mountains" features an individual storyteller using song, gestures, video projection and expressive sounds to tell a fairy tale and entertain the young ones.

Each performance is about 20 minutes in length. The performances are on Nov. 3 at 10 a.m. and 11:15 a.m., and Nov. 4 at 1 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. They are free events, but tickets are required.



The children's show, "Opera for Toddlers - Up in the Mountains," features multiple performances on Nov. 3 and 4.

present its version of the Shakespeare classic "Hamlet" on Nov. 9 at 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices for the event are \$29.5

Ticket prices for the event are \$29.50, \$25.50 or \$19.50, or \$16 for students.

'Judy Blue Eyes' performs

Judy Collins, also known as "Judy Blue Eyes, has been singing on stages since the 1960s, and she will continue onto the Young Auditorium stage on Nov. 18 at 7:30.

Ticket prices are \$39.50, \$34.50 or \$29.50.

Authentic folk

The Tamburitzans, with their authentic folk dances, live music and costumes, will give the Young Auditorium audience a tour of European cultures when they perform on Nov. 20 at 7:30.

During the performance, The Tamburitzans will convey historic customs of Croatia, Germany, Slovakia, Russia and

other European nations.

Ticket prices for the event are \$29.50, \$24.50 or \$19.50.

U.S. Army Field BandJazz ambassadors of the

Jazz ambassadors of the United States Army Field Band will hit the stage on Nov. 5. A 19-member ensemble, the group features big band swing, bebop, Latin, contemporary jazz, standards, popular tunes, Dixieland, vocals and patriotic selections.

This free event is at 3 p.m. Nov. 5. Tickets are required.

'STOMP'ing to stage

The Broadway production, "STOMP," will make its way to the Young Auditorium with an eight-member troupe that uses anything except conventional percussion instruments. That list includes matchboxes, wooden poles, brooms, garbage cans, Zippo lighters and hubcaps.

The event is Nov. 7 at 7 p.m.

'Sense and Sensibility'

The Aquila Theatre Company adaptation of the Jane Austen novel "Sense and Sensibility" will bring its story of seduction, courtship, love, heartbreak and surprise to the Young Auditorium on Nov. 8. Ticket prices are \$29.50, \$25.50 or \$19.50, or \$16 for students.

Aquila adaptation of Shakespearean classic

The Aquila Theatre Company will return to the auditorium to

Fame and corruption

"Chicago: The Musical," will hit the Young Auditorium stage to tell a tale of fame and corruption through knockout dancing and song after song.

Set in Chicago during the roaring 20s, the story tells the tale of two rival vaudevillian murderesses both with tunnel vision on success in show business.

The event is Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. Ticket prices are \$55.50, \$45.50 or \$30.50.

Dance Factory's 'Nutcracker'

Dancers from The Dance Factory will perform its version of the holiday classic "The Nutcracker" before audiences at the auditorium at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Dec. 16.

Ticket prices are \$22.50, \$20.50 or \$15.50.

Sing-A-Long Sound of Music

Those who have wanted to sing along with a musical when they are in the audience are in luck, as a special presentation of The Sound of Music will give them that opportunity.

On Jan. 27 at 3 p.m., there will be a showing of The Sound of Music and people may sing along. A professional host will lead the way in the "Sing-A-Long Sound of Music" by showing audience members how to use a free interactive prop bag and suggesting appropriate heckles, including hissing the countess, barking at Rolf and cheering for Julie.

Lyrics for songs will be on the screen during the showing. Tickets are free for the event.

Country royalty tribute

Katie Deal and Obie award-winner Jason Petty will pay tribute to country music icons Hank Williams and Patsy Cline for the Young Auditorium audience on Feb. 10 at 7:30 p.m.

They will perform more than 20 chart-topping hits with a live band. Ticket prices are \$32.50, \$27.50 or \$22.50.

'A BUSY Bee'

The Florentine Opera will present a play as part of the "Never Too Young Series" on "A Busy Bee" named Bella. Based on a children's story, the production is about teamwork, respect and perseverance. Children will be seated on stage to give a unique, up-close perspective.

Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3 for ages 2 to 11 and free for those younger than 2. The performance is on Feb. 11 at 3 p.m.

'Hair and Other Stories'

The Urban Bush Women, a performing arts group that challenges long-held assumptions about women, people of color, body types, movement styles, society, history and appropriate stage content, will present "Hair and Other Stories" on Feb. 20 at 7:30 p.m., weaving contemporary dance, music and text with history culture and spiritual traditions of African-Americans and the African Diaspora, while exploring the transformation of struggle and suffering into the bittersweet joy of survival.

Missoula presents 'Jack and the Beanstalk'

Missoula Children's Theatre, the nation's largest touring children's theatre, will take its tour to the auditorium and integrate local children into a presentation of "Jack and the Beanstalk."

The theatre will host open auditions to cast 50-60 local students in the week leading up to the Feb. 24 performance at 2 p.m. The show is rehearsed throughout the week with a public performance on Saturday, Feb. 24 at 2 p.m. Tickets for the performance are \$14.50, \$12.50 or \$9.50, and \$9.50 for students.

Auditions will take place for children in kindergarten and grades one through 12 on Monday, Feb. 19 at 4 p.m. Call (262) 472-1432 for more information.

M5 Mexican Brass

Mixing music, energy and humor, the Latin American quintet M5 Mexican Brass will hit the Young Auditorium stage on Feb. 26 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$22.







Judy Collins will perform Nov. 18 at 7:30 p.m.

Rodgers and Hammerstein's 'Cinderella'

Rodgers and Hammerstein's 'Cinderella,' a Tony Award-winning Broadway musical, will present the classic tale with moments like the pumpkin, glass slipper, the masked ball and more, and some new twist snuck in here and there.

The event is March 4 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$53.50, \$43.50 or \$30.50.

2 nights of American Shakespeare Center

The American Shakespeare Center will have two straight nights of performances presenting its versions of two Shakespearean classics.

The first, "Taming of the Shrew," will be on March 13 at 7:30 p.m.

The second, "Macbeth," will hit the stage on March 14 at 7:30 p.m.

The ticket prices for the shows are \$26.50, \$20.50 or \$16.50, or \$16 for students.

Horizons Family Series has Dr. Seuss classic

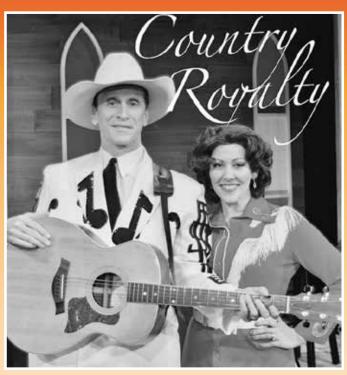
The Dr. Seuss classic "The Cat in the Hat" will be a part of a family show hitting the stage on April 8 at 3 p.m.

Tickets for the production are \$16.50, \$14.50 or \$9.50, or \$9.50 for students.

'A Space Odyssey'

The 2017-18 Young Auditorium season will conclude with a presentation of "Lightwire Theater – Moon Mouse: A Space Odyssey."

The event, April 27 at 7:30 p.m., will have electroluminescent technology to create glow-in-the-dark theatrical performance with colorful, vibrant lights helping tell the story of Marvin the mouse,



"Country Royalty" features Jason Petty and Katy Deal paying tribute to Hank WIlliams and Patsy Cline. The show is Feb. 10 at 7:30 p.m.

as he embarks on a space adventure.

Tickets are \$22.50, \$20.50 or \$15.50. Students may watch the presentation for free.







JASON ARNDT Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Flowers grown by Hafs Road Orchard co-owner Debbie Polansky and a pumpkin patch bring vivid autumn colors to the orchard in Genoa City.





Apple Barn Orchard, Elkhorn

The Apple Barn is an orchard owned by Steve and Judy Jacobson on land the family has owned since 1848. Visitors will usually find some members of the family present, whether Steve or Judy or one of their daughters and sometimes all of them.

Visitors will start by checking out all the available apples ready for purchase. But most will be sidetracked by the many baked goods, from pies to cobblers and muffins.

The Jacobsons added a tasting room several years ago that is used to sample their homemade fruit wines and ciders.

While most people have heard of a Black Cow, that iconic mixture of root beer and vanilla ice cream, at Apple Barn they offer a Cider Cow. It's a combination of fresh cider topped with vanilla gelato

Outside the store, visitors may enjoy the ambience of the comfortable lawn chairs and picnic tables and breathe in the fresh country air. Many of the visitors come from the Chicago area.

The Apple Barn is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Self-picking is allowed on weekends in October.

The Apple Barn is atW6384 Sugar Creek, Elkhorn. For more information, visit the website www.theapplebarnorchardandwinery. com or call (262) 728-3266 for information.



Brightonwoods Orchard, Burlington

Brightonwoods Orchard is owned by Judith and Bill Stone and Judith's sister Paula Duntenney and has evolved from a three-acre orchard purchased by Judith and Paula's parents as a weekend retreat in the 1950s. It has become an 18-acre orchard that produces 200 varieties of apples and 12 varieties of pears.

The orchard focuses on preserving heirloom varieties and

← October 2017 −

testing new experimental varieties along with growing standard commercial varieties.

Brightonwoods does not allow people to pick their own apples due to the large trees, but does allow visitors to walk through the orchard to view the various types of trees. Walking through the orchards is a peaceful experience and interesting to see the different ways the trees are planted. Samples are offered of the various apples to help customers make a choice.

Bill Stone, a retired physician, explained that his orchard uses four different methods of planting trees for maximum yield. The high-density method allows the planting of 600-700 trees per acre rather than the more traditional 100 trees. This method of planting allows higher yield and higher quality fruit.

Brightonwoods is also well known for its cider made on site using their apples. A free sample is offered to all visitors.

The orchard is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If you don't have the time to drive out to Brightonwoods, you have a chance to pick up their apples at nearby farmers markets through October. Check the website www.brightonwoodsorchard.com for market locations.

Brightonwoods Orchard is at 1072 288th Ave., Burlington. The telephone number is (262) 878-3000.



In operation since the 1930s when it had 400 trees, Hafs Road Orchard has expanded since Richard and Debbie Polansky bought the 14-acre plot in 1982.

The Polanskys, who acquired the land from the Hafs, went from 400 trees to 2,000, according to Debbie.

Instead of full-sized trees, they transitioned to dwarf trees, to allow them grow closer together.

While they have more than 40 varieties of apples, the honey crisp apple jump-started the operation in 1992, according to Richard Polansky.

The Honeycrisp was introduced at the University of Minnesota, and tested on the Hafs Road Orchard in 1992, starting with 60 trees as a trial.

Since then, they have nurtured more than 1,000 honey crisp trees on the property.

Honeycrisp, Richard states, is an apple that packs a punch, and leaves customers salivating for more.

"What is different about them, is the cells of a honey crisp apple are about twice the size of a normal apple, so they hold more juice," he said. "The texture of the honey crisp is a gamechanger in the apple industry."

As the Polanskys tout the honey crisp, their plot of land welcomes visitors with bright and vibrant flowers grown by Debbie, who was a longtime employee of the Burlington Garden Center.

Adding to the bountiful flowers are neatly stacked pumpkins, a crop the Polanskys pursued when they bought the land 34 years earlier.

Hafs Road Orchard is at W632 Hafs Rd., Genoa City. The telephone number is (262) 279-3638. In October, the orchard is open noon to 5 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekends.



FILE PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Some area apple orchards offer the options for visitors to pick their own fruit. Others offer fruit that has already been picked, but allow customers to stroll through the orchard and soak up sunny fall days.





Whether it's eating them right off the tree or using them in a favorite recipe, apples from sweet-to-sour remain a traditional fall-season treat.





Sordid and Scandalous

Walking tour to explore Lake Geneva's dark side

Just in time for Halloween, The Wisconsin Historical Society is offering its Sordid and Scandalous walking tour of Lake Geneva on three consecutive Saturdays in October.

The tour will highlight the historic gossip of the area, including the dish on a 1950s bank robbery, the town's tie to prohibition gangsters and tales of the Geneva Lake Sea Serpent.

The walking tour is Slated for Oct. 7, 14 and 21 beginning at 11 a.m. Participants gather in front of the Riviera building, 812 Wrigley Dr., Lake Geneva. The tour will cover roughly 1.5 miles over 90 minutes.

The tour grew out of the Legends and Landmarks walking tour, now in its third year. Both tours were developed by Wisconsin Historical Society staff working at Black Point Estate and Gardens.

"We offer a fairly traditional walking tour during the summers and while the emphasis is on architecture and history, our attendees really responded favorably to the stories of mobsters, speak-easies, the 1967 riots and bank robberies" said Black Point Director Dave Desimone.

This interest prompted the development of a "sordid" tour last year.

"We came up with the name Sordid and Scandalous before we completed the research. Had we waited to name the tour, a more appropriate title would have been Mobsters, Masked Men and Melting Ice!" Desimone said.

The melting ice is in reference to the 2015 Winterfest fiasco – where several cars sunk into the lake – that made international news.

Tickets for each date are limited to 40 people so reservations are recommended

To purchase tickets, call Black Point Estate and Gardens at (262) 248-1888.



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L, D, FF \$-\$\$ ₹ 😊

CHUCK'S LAKESHORE INN •

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Please contact individual restaurant
for more information.



B: Breakfast L: Lunch D: Dinner NC: No credit cards accepted \$: Mostly under \$10 \$\$: Mostly under \$20 \$\$\$: Mostly under \$30 FF: Fish Fry \$\mathbb{T}: Reservations requested \$\mathbb{T}: Alcohol served \$\mathbb{O}: Kids menu

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JOEY FARENCE Spirit of Geneva Lakes

State's only safari park celebrates one year

LAKE GENEVA RESERVE IS LIFELONG PLAN OF 'JUNGLE JAY'

by Vicky Wedig

STAFF WRITER

Jay Christie's childhood dream turned into Wisconsin's first and only safari park – a 75-acre preserve in the Village of Bloomfield where animals like camels, bison and longhorn cattle roam.

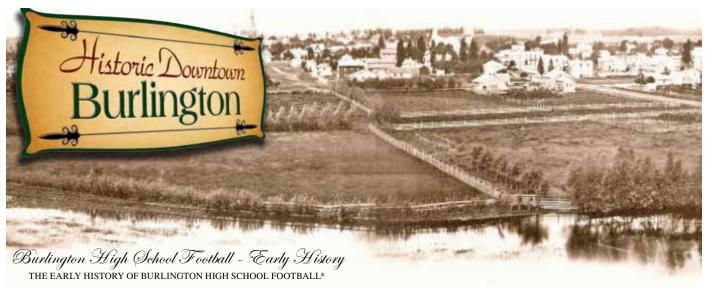
"I'd wanted to do this since I was about 10," said Christie, who opened Lake Geneva Safari one year ago Sunday.

The park celebrated its one-year anniversary in August on a rainy morning that gave way to sunshine by midday with \$1 off admission.

Christie said he was around zoos, animals and pets his whole life – most recently with the Racine Zoo – and always wanted to release the animals from their cages and allow them to roam in a vaster area than zoos permit.

"Couldn't you flip the zoo concept on its head ... and put people in the cage?" Christie said.

With that question in mind and a lifelong planning process through his work in zoos



In 1953, the Standard Democrat published a series of articles, prepared by Carl F. Treichel, long-time teacher and coach at Burlington high school, on the history of football at the school. The series covered the history from 1915 through 1952, the last year that Harry "Dinty" Moore coached football at BHS. The articles were accompanied by photos of several teams. Those photos, although of poor quality, are included with this series of articles, as are other photos from the collection of the Burlington Historical Society.

Standard Democrat, September 10, 1953 Colorful History of Football at Burlington High School Told; First Season Was Rough

Editor's Note: This is the first in a series on the football history of Burlington high school, prepared through the efforts of Carl Treichel.

Back in the days when one AKaiser Bill@ was trying to run the world, when Chief Beller was running our town almost singlehandedly, and our dear ladies thought they could run our country better if they only had the right to vote, a few boys who were not satisfied with the way Burlington high school athletics were run, ambled down to Supt. Witter=s office and asked his permission to start a football team. This was in 1915. Mr Witter consented, providing the boys raised their own funds needed to buy equipment.

Four teams of two boys each solicited the business places about town and collected around \$80 (about as much as two football uniforms cost today) (Historical Society note: 1953), which fund was enough to buy pants and helmets only. Football shoes were provided by

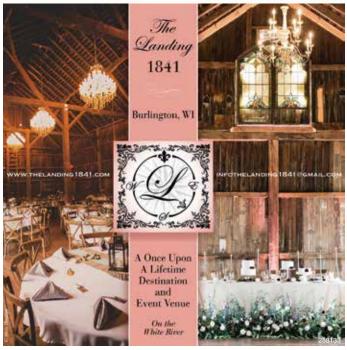
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the boys themselves. They merely took an old pair of high cut shoes such as were commonly worn in those days and had the cobbler nail leather cleats onto the soles and heels. The boys also provided their own socks (stockings) and shirts or jerseys, and in place of shoulder pads the lads had their mothers sew padding into the inside of the jerseys.

The squad was made up of about 25 candidates, which number dwindled to around 15. There were seldom two squads present, so the coach shifted one side of the line around in front of the other for scrimmage. Harry S. Young was the coach. Carl Beller was the first captain, and Ed Jahns was manager. Ed played center and was later replaced by APete@ Newbury as manager. Pete, it is told, presented the cheerleaders with a box of candy at the end of the season for their fine work at the games.

Mr. Young deserved credit for providing much of the drive and organization to get the game started. Practice was held on the Cooper schoolAflat,@ which at that time was covered largely with a surface layer of gravel and partly submerged boulders. At the beginning of each season Mr. Young organized a crew of boys with picks, shovels, and wheelbarrows, to remove the worst and largest stones. The team had only one ball and by the end of the season this ball was almost round and the ends were worn through. The games were played at ACentral park,@ which was a hayfield where the Elmhurst addition now is located. (Historical Society note: The Elmhurst addition, formerly the Charles Ball farm, is on the north side of W. State Street between Elmwood Avenue and N. Kendrick Avenue.)

*Article copied from website burlingtonhistory.org 294091







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JOEY FARENCE Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Layla the camel walks alongside the wagon as Jay Christie, "Jungle Jay," leads a tour at the Lake Geneva Safari.

and safari parks in the United States and Canada, Christie began researching site on which to open his own safari park.

He looked at more than 60 sites and settled on a 75-acre parcel on Litchfield Road in the Village of Bloomfield insulated by 800 acres of preserved forest land and less than five miles from downtown Lake Geneva. Christie said the site was unrivaled by anything else he looked at, and, a year after opening, he hasn't regretted his location choice for a moment.

Christie said he knew Chicago was the largest market in the United States that had nothing like the safari park near it, and he knew people were already coming to Lake Geneva. He said the location draws people from Chicago, Madison and Milwaukee, and the Lake Geneva address brings in visitors who Google "things to do in Lake Geneva."

"Clearly the majority find out through online searches," he said.

The park has more than 100 animals, mostly grazing creatures like camels, bison, cattle, goats and alpaca, who co-habitat on a portion of the park's 75 acres.

"They all get along well together," he

Christie procured the animals from zoos and other locations in the United States, and they were transported in livestock trailers to Lake Geneva.

Christie said not all of the safari's land is utilized, but he plans to expand in the future

and diversify the types of animals at the park.

The "cage" for people is a tractor-pulled wagon with benches that visitors ride through the animals' pastures. Camels, alpacas and longhorn cattle approach the wagon, and people feed them from cups of pellets. After a year at the park, "Big Hank," an American bison, has even gotten comfortable enough to approach the wagon for some food, Christie said.

Before boarding the wagon, visitors walk through an area where they can pet sheep and goats, and ducks wander around.

Jungle pets

"Jungle Jay," as Christie is known, leads the tour through the animals' pasture where guests are greeted by creatures of South America that many tourists don't recognize. A rhea, a large bird that looks somewhat ostrich-like, wanders among a herd of alpacas with a couple of llamas mixed in. Nilgai, the largest of the Asian antelope, and scimitar-horned oryx, the rarest of the animals at Lake Geneva Safari, were others guests couldn't put a name to.

Alpacas have been domesticated for thousands of years and are raised for their fiber, which is many times warmer than wool, Christie said.

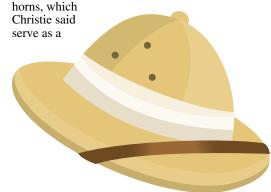
The scimitar-horned oryx was declared extinct in the wild in the late 1990s, but, thanks to their preservation in safari parks, they were bred and reintroduced into the

wild in October for the first time in 40 years, he said.

Miniature horses, bred to work in mines after using children was prohibited, longhorn cattle, camel, yaks and bison were among the animals spotted on the range. The watusi has the largest horns of any living animal, and a female watusi at Lake Geneva Safari is dominant and stands down only to Big Hank – a bison, the largest land animal indigenous to North America, Christie said. Guests on Sunday saw a 2 ½-day-old watusi calf – born smaller than a Holstein calf – given birth to at the reserve.

A couple of blackbuck from India are also in the mix as are Brahman cattle with their distinctive sagging ears.

Guests fed the camels – Layla, Mary and 10-month-old Samson – over the benches of the wagon, but were asked to feed the watusi from under the benches to avoid injury from their massive





Watusi calf

pasture with

nearby at the

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radiator system, helping regulate their body

Future plans

The safari park's goal is to preserve heritage breeds of livestock and poultry, and eventually bring in enough profit to invest in wildlife conservation elsewhere, Christie said.

The park is open from May 1 to Oct. 31 with tours every hour on the hour.

In its second year, beginning this fall, Lake Geneva will do year-round programming - from bringing animals to kids' birthday parties to making presentations about wildlife conservation in auditoriums, Christie said. He said he doesn't plan to take a bison into someone's living room for a birthday party, but will provide education through the use of reptiles, birds and small animals.

Christie has added some gift-shop items like sweatshirts and stuffed animals and plans to offer food in the future when the park begins to offer a bonafide half-day program. He said now visitors spend about 90 minutes at the park between walking among the domestic animals and touring the exotic animals' grounds.

The park also plans to add signs pointing the way to the site from County Road H and Litchfield Road.

He said the remote location through a residential area sometimes leaves guests wondering if they've "been sold a bill of goods" from people who've referred them to the park.

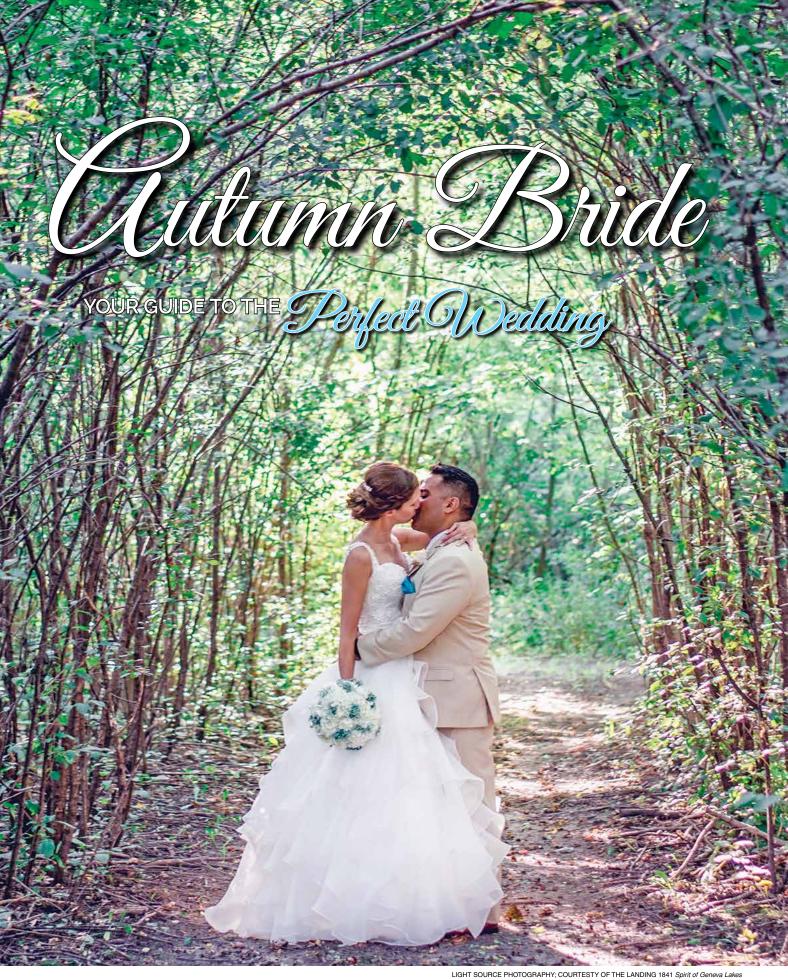
"Thanks to GPS, it's all worked out," he said, and the serene location makes the search through the country worthwhile.

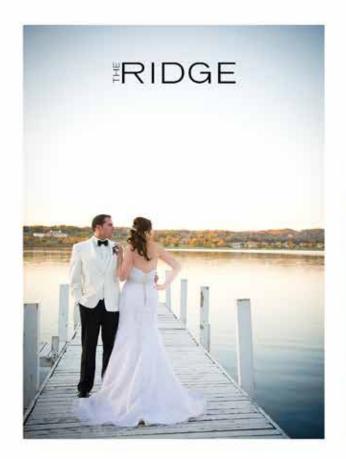
Christie also plans to accommodate more organized groups on weekdays in May, September and October when foot traffic is slower. He said the tour appeals to special needs groups because of the contained environment of the wagon and the therapeutic quality of animals and is accessible to people with disabilities.

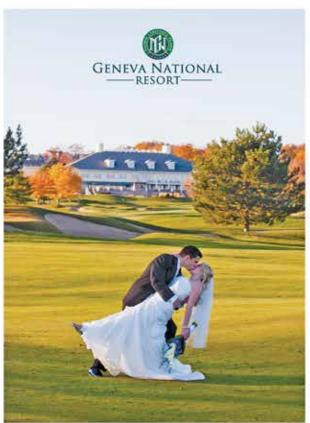
"Everyone has a good time, but there's a special appeal," Christie said.

The park's busiest times are weekends from July 4 to Labor Day. The venue can accommodate up to 40 people per hour and has had as many as 250 visitors in a day, he said.









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HISTORIC BARN VENUE **OFFERS PICTURESQUE** WEDDING

SETTING

by Sandra Landen Machaj

CORRESPONDENT

Nestled along the bank of the winding White River, a large barn with origins that

can be traced to 1897, is surrounded by trees that are as old as, if not older than the barn itself. The history of this picturesque property has taken it from its humble beginnings to an elegant and popular wedding venue.

While originally this site was a meeting place for the Native Americans who inhabited this region, it did not take long for the early settlers of the Burlington area to recognize the beauty of the land that by 1841 made its way into private ownership.

Purchased by True Worthy Durgin, a conductor on the Underground Railroad in the late 1800s, it was said to have become a hiding place for runaway

Above: With the sun peeking through the autumn canopy, the brick walkway provides a magical entryway to the Landing 1841. The traditional barn door remains open to welcome the guests.

slaves making their way north to Canada.

George Bieneman became owner of the farm in 1913 and became known for starting the first milk delivery route in Burlington. According to Renee Richter, who with her husband Tim are the current owners of the property, Bieneman was the longest owner of the property, so it is not surprising that the road that runs in front of it is named Bieneman Road. Bieneman sold a portion of the property in the 1950s for the construction of the Burlington Municipal Airport.



Ownership of the property changed again in 1972 when Paul Poberenzy, one of the founders of the Experimental Aircraft Association purchased it. His dream was that the airport could be expanded and the EAA would be headquartered in Burlington. Resistance from the community dampened Poberenzy's dream and the EAA made its headquarters in Oshkosh.

An artist's retreat

When Tim and Renee Richter first saw the property, it was being sold as part of the estate of artist Matt Lamb. Lamb was a successful businessman, artist, and peace activist, who after being diagnosed with a major health problem, sold his business and spent time painting and spreading his message of peace.

Lamb worked with children. He was commissioned by the Pentagon to work with the children of 9/11 victims by creating the program "Umbrellas for Peace." His works of art promote peace and he was responsible for opening 18 Museums for Peace around the world.

"When we purchased the property in 2015, there were over 9,000 paintings by Matt

Lamb stored on the property, and each canvas was huge," Renee Richter



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said. "Lamb had used the barn as his painting studio. It was one of seven studios he maintained for painting."

Having Lamb's estate remove these massive paintings was one of the first challenges in preparing the property for its new look.

Thus began the latest chapter in the life of what is now called The Landing 1841. The Richters began the massive job of turning this property into a wedding venue.

"It was a major undertaking to remodel the barn and the property for its next purpose," Renee said.

An accidental business

She said they did not seek to become owners of a wedding venue, rather it was a path that found them. Renee, who holds a degree in nuclear medicine technology, and Tim, a jet engine mechanic, began to make changes in their career paths. Tim moved on to starting a successful landscaping business, Granite Ridge Lawn and Landscape in 2002.

They unintentionally ventured into the wedding venue business in 2013 when a friend asked them to host a wedding on their property. The event was successful and soon other business found its way leading to the creation of The Rustic Barn at Prairie Gardens.

While looking for a second property that would allow Tim to expand his landscape business, a local realtor who was a friend teasingly sent the listing for this 50-acre property. Intrigued, Renee set up an appointment to view it and immediately fell in love.

She had always admired the property but on closer look, with its amazing setting on the White River and the unique historic barn, she realized that this was the opportunity they were meant to follow.

By mid-August 2016 the barn had been refurbished into a beautiful and elegant wedding venue. The Richters had a soft opening, hosting 11 events in those early months and have already held 59 events this year and are now open to bookings through 2019, although it is not too late to book 2018 events.

Breathtaking experience

A walk into the barn is a breathtaking experience. With its massive height, a crystal chandelier and a stained glass window on the far wall, it has the look of a fine wedding venue, yet still retains the rustic charm of an historical barn. Guests are able to wander out the French doors



CMAE DESIGN; COURTESY OF THE LANDING 1841 Spirit of Geneva Lakes

The Great Room, part of the original barn built in 1897, is prepared for a sit-down dinner. The room features three crystal chandeliers that add a soft light to enhance the atmosphere.



COURTESY OF THE LANDING 1841 Spirit of Geneva Lakes

The hand-crafted bar is located between each of the venue spaces making it convenient to obtain a beverage and return to either room or head out to the deck.



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and enjoy the large deck overlooking the beautiful lawns, majestic trees and the soft flow of the White River.

The Great Room, which is part of the original 1897 barn, is usually used for the wedding dinner. It will seat 200 comfortably. With its three large crystal chandeliers spreading a warm glow of light, guests will enjoy the ambience of the room.

There is a lot of flexibility when preparing for a wedding. Some parties prefer to have the dance floor in the great room and will remove some of the tables after dinner. Others prefer to have the dance floor in another space.

Food is provided by one of seven preferred caterers. The caterers include Gooseberries, Bubb's BBQ, Stowells, Zumpano's, Sophisticatering, The Smoke Shack, and Culinary Infusion. There are a variety of foods and food packages from complete sit-down dinners to buffets, stations and drop-off meals. Couples select the menu and caterer of choice for the perfect meal for their guests and budget.

Alcohol packages must be ordered from Drink, Inc. through the wedding venue. A variety of packages from open bar to a cash bar for individual drinks is available.

Music for weddings varies from live musicians to a D.J. playing popular music. "It is up to the couple to choose what music they desire and to hire their own musician or D.J."

Changing preferences

According to Renee there have been many changes in wedding preferences. There is no longer any one-size-fits-all event. The barn wedding has grown over the past several years and is one of the most popular choices. But a wedding in a barn does not necessarily mean straw, burlap, and gingham – but it could.

"People who are looking at the barnstyle wedding are looking for a more simple approach. People are becoming

more interested in organic and natural looks,"
Renee said.
But that does not mean that they don't want





COURTESY OF THE LANDING 1841 Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Upper photo (after renovation): The open back deck is a popular place to enjoy the cocktail hour or to just come out to enjoy the scenery. The deck is accessible from each of the inside areas through French doors. Above (before renovation): This is how the barn looked before it was renovated by Tim and Renee Richter in 2015.

elegance and a chic appearance.

Another change that has become more prevalent in the past few years is having the ceremony performed at the wedding venue where previously most wedding ceremonies were held in churches. Holding the ceremony at the venue means the couple will want to choose a venue that has a place that is appropriate for a meaningful ceremony – a picturesque setting indoors or out.

With 50 acres, and a river twisting its way through the property, the Landing has

picturesque spots for both the ceremony and the wedding photographs. "We have two bridal arches that can be placed at the ceremony site," said Renee.
"One is made of cedar, the other metal –
whichever fits the couple's style."

The arches may be decorated to fit the style of the wedding with flowers or tulle veiling or whatever creative touches the couple would like.

"There are two waterfront spots that are perfect for the ceremony. One of the favorite places for both the ceremony and some of the formal photos is under the large Willow tree on the river bank," said Renee.

Take it inside

If the weather is inclement, or if the couple would just prefer an indoor ceremony, that is easily arranged. In the barn – with the cathedral ceiling, the soft light from the chandelier and the presence of the stained glass window –the ceremony takes on an almost Church-like feeling.





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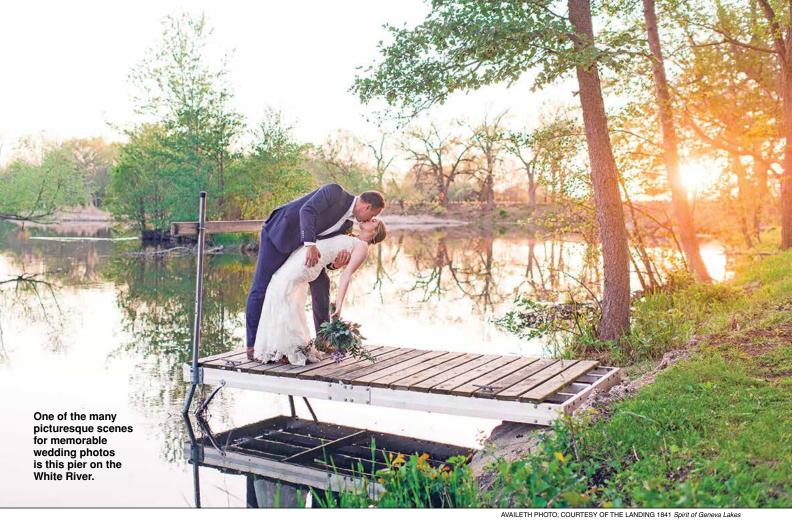
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The Landing also includes a unique addition that is not found at other wedding venues. The house adjacent to the barn is included for the day beginning at 10 a.m. This space is available for the bride and her party to relax and prepare for the wedding. In pale neutral tones it is a peaceful and relaxing space to calm those wedding day jitters.

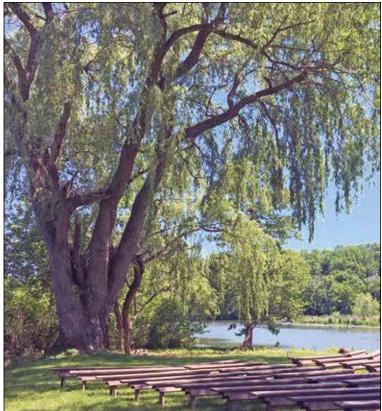
In addition to weddings, the venue is also available for family reunions and business events, and other gatherings.

If your goal is having your wedding or other event in a historical building, on picturesque site with strong historical significance, The Landing 1841 is the place that will suit your dreams.

Rental of the venue includes the bridal house, the barn, use of the grounds for pictures, bar glassware and tables and chairs. For a complete list of what is covered in the rental, visit their website www.thelanding1841.com or visit them on Facebook.

Contact the office to set appointments to view the venue at (262) 758-6611. The office is open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9 a.m. to 4p.m.





COURTESY OF THE LANDING 1841 Spirit of Geneva Lakes

A favorite spot for wedding ceremonies at the Landing is at the bank of the White River beneath this elegant Willow Tree.





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by Sandra Landen Machaj
CORRESPONDENT

or 80 years, Wilmot Mountain has been the home of downhill skiing, a place where local residents and visitors developed their skiing skills and their love of outdoor winter sports.

Today Wilmot is not just noted for skiing but as a unique space to hold weddings, banquets, conventions and other events where a beautiful setting and a large space are needed.

Recently purchased by Vail Resorts, the venue has undergone major remodeling. The restaurant and main lodge

have been transformed into an open and modern space that works well for the ski season and in summer is the perfect venue for wedding receptions and other types of business or family gatherings.

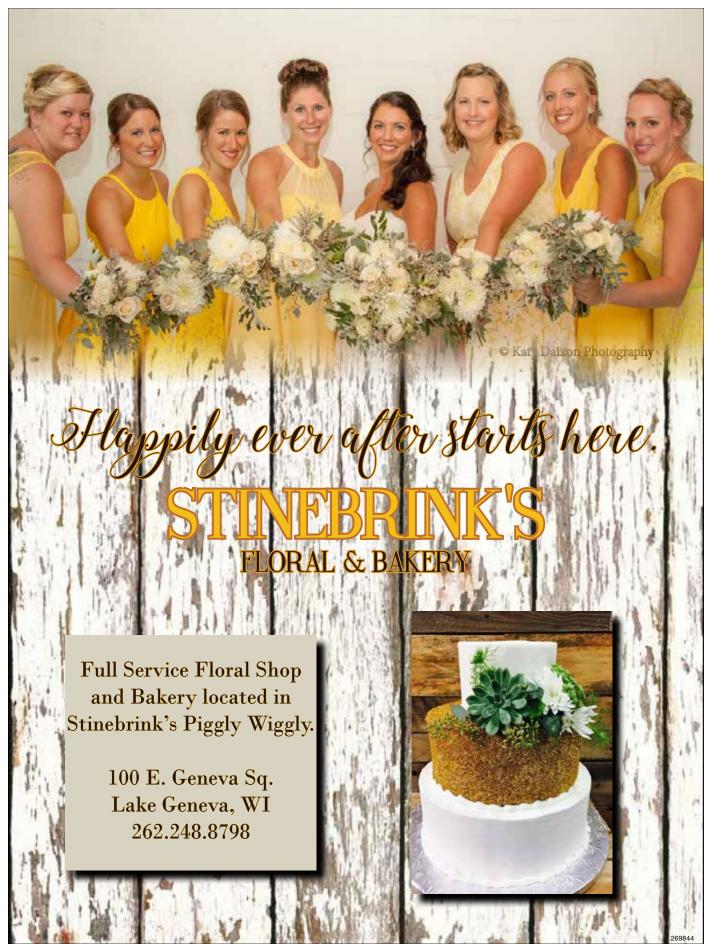
Many of today's bridal couples are no longer looking for the traditional banquet hall for their weddings and receptions. Many are looking for a special site that offers beautiful scenery, yet a less-traditional setting.

Wilmot, which is easily accessed from Chicago and Milwaukee, is a destination to consider for a popular destination wedding. Located not too far from home, it would



COURTESY OF VAIL RESORTS Spirit of Geneva Lakes

The hilly terrain surrounding Wilmot Mountain makes a picturesque spot for photos. The venue, now owned by Vail Resorts, hosts weddings and other events during the off-season.





With the ski hill as a backdrop, this wedding party strikes a playful pose.

not prevent invited guests from attending. No air flights necessary.

Wilmot Mountain offers newly designed indoor space and the use of the patio at the entrance of each facility.

"We began booking weddings and other events this year, and we are now open to booking for 2018 and 2019," said Rachael Muhlenbeck, marketing and public relations manager for Wilmot Mountain. "Weddings and other events can be booked from mid April through the end of October."

During the winter months, when ski season is in full swing, it is not possible to hold private events as the Lodge and Walt's Tavern are being used to accommodate the ski crowd

Stunning transformation ~

Those who are familiar with Wilmot Mountain will remember the restaurant, which was known as the Iron Kettle. It overlooked the mountain and made for a relaxing view while eating. Newly remodeled, the restaurant has been renamed Walt's Tavern. Walter Stopa was the founder of Wilmot Mountain, opening it for skiing in 1938.

Each venue has a new and distinct look. A walk through Walt's Tavern and the Main Lodge will provide a view of the style and spaciousness of each venue that will allow a couple to consider how they would use the space for their wedding reception.

Walt's Tavern is the smaller of the two venues available. "It comfortably will hold 150 to 160 guests, depending how the room is setup," Muhlenbeck said. "Facing the mountain, a wall of windows provides a beautiful view."

There is a fireplace façade along the wall, giving the area a warm glow. This area is often used for the dance floor because of its ambience.

"While there is not a bar built into the room, the knotwood desk used as the check in during ski season can be transformed into a bar," Muhlenbeck said.

The room has side alcoves with soft seating areas that lead to a small private deck and a large concrete patio equipped with a wood-burning fire pit. With rental, the patio area at the entrance to that facility is part of the space for the event. The larger patio and the fire pit complete with Adirondack chairs placed around can be added to the rental for an additional fee.

The staff dresses up the venue by using rods and drapes to cover such things as the self-serve drink machines and food distribution areas. It is up to the couple to decide how they wish to have the room draped.

Couples are advised to take photos while visiting the venue to make it easier to recall the unique features of each









The Main Lodge at Wilmot Mountain features a full bar and panoramic views of the ski hills.

COURTESY OF VAIL RESORTS Spirit of Geneva Lakes

space and to assist when drawing up plans for the room's set up.

Panoramic view ~

The Main Lodge is a much larger venue again with a wall of large glass windows to allow a view of the mountain. The sun sets behind the mountain making spectacular views when the weather cooperates.

"The lodge will accommodate up to 300 comfortably," Muhlenbeck said.

A full bar is situated in the center of the lodge making it a focal gathering point and convenient for all. Muhlenbeck said the space can hold close to 500 if farm-style tables are used.

The venue offers spaces to accommodate a dance floor and live band or DJ.

Rental fees charged for the use of the space includes setting up the tables and chairs to the couple's preference. Skirting will be placed on selected tables as needed. Each table will be covered with a white linen tablecloth and white napkins will be

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provided. If the bridal party chooses to have colored linens, they will be supplied for an additional fee.

Choosing the menu for a wedding is often one of the most difficult decisions to be made by the couple. The challenge is how to choose foods that will please your entire guest list. Weddings booked at Wilmot, offer an event menu package that includes a variety of foods that will please a variety of palates. After one peruses the private event menu, choices for the wedding will be made by the couple based on desires and budget. The Wilmot staff will also offer guidance in making choices. Buffet service is included as part of the rental fee. A wedding cake may be brought in from a baker of your choice.

Pick a package ~

Beverage packages also need to be ordered. The beverage packages range from top-of-the-line open bar to more limited





COURTESY OF VAIL RESORTS Spirit of Geneva Lak

Wilmot Mountain has always been a place for skiing but with its modern renovations by owner Vail Resorts it is now a venue for wedding receptions and other large gatherings.





choices and drink combinations. It is also possible to set up a cash bar where guests pay for their own drinks or a system known as a host bar. With the host bar a tab is kept for each drink ordered and the host is presented with the total at the end of the night.

Packages are also available for those who prefer just beer or beer and wine. There is also a soft drink and coffee package.

No wedding is complete without good music that appeals to the guests. To encourage the guests to get in the dancing spirit, couples are free to choose their own DJ or live entertainment. Wilmot Mountain welcomes these outside entertainment venues but they are required to meet with the management to coordinate set up.

Each couple has their own idea of the type of decorations

that are needed to make their wedding uniquely theirs. They are welcome to bring in decorations of their choice, subject to approval by Wilmot management.

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Area ski hill plans Epic Fall Fest

by Sandra Landen Machai

CORRESPONDENT

Throughout the fall there are a plethora of fesitvals focusing on various fall activities and in many different locations. This year a new fall fest has made its way into the fall schedule.

This festival is not held in a local park or on a farm, but at Wilmot Mountain, which is better known for winter ski activities.

Fall Fest will begin at 10 a.m. and continue until 5 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 8, at the ski hill, 11931 Fox River Rd, Wilmot.

Wilmot Mountain, as most area residents know, has been the place where people learn to ski and where they develop a love of skiing. For 80 years, since its establishment in 1938 by Walter Stopa, Wilmot Mountain has been a place for visitors from southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois, to feel the thrill of flying down the hill. Its centralized location allows easy access to skiing without the high cost of air flights. With this convenient location, residents could come for a day or a weekend.

According to Rachael Muhlenbeck, marketing and public relations manager at Wilmot Mountain, this Fall Fest will be a family friendly fest with activities intended to please all ages. It will introduce visitors to the changes and upgrades that have occurred at Wilmot.

A running start

"The day will begin with a 5K Mountain Run at 10 a.m., Muhlenbeck said. "Any one is able to participate. Walk or run at your own pace.

Those interested in the event must register at www.wilmotmountain. com/events/calendar/epic-fall-festival. There is a \$20 entry fee. Included in that entry fee is a race T-shirt and a finishers medal, which will be awarded to all participants who

CONTINUED ON PAGE 41



Elkhorn Oktoberfest adds (run, stein holding

Festivalgoers will be able to flex their muscles and work up a sweat at this year's Elkhorn Oktoberfest on Oct. 21 thanks to three new events.

One new event will be a steinholding competition, a Bavarian strength contest in which competitors hold a full one-liter stein of beer straight out in front of their bodies.

Other new attractions are a 5K run and a two-mile walk. These are meant to be for all levels of competitors.

The run and walk start at the Walworth County Fairgrounds, 411 E. Court St. After going through the fairgrounds, the run and walk will proceed to the Oktoberfest site in downtown Elkhorn.

Race day features include a longsleeved T-shirt, free admission to the Oktoberfest beer and wine tasting (root beer for those younger than 21), a goodie bag, kids activities, free onsite parking and shuttle service to, and from the Oktoberfest grounds. There will be awards for top finishers in each age group.

Octoberfest will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Veterans and Pocket parks in downtown Elkhorn.

Registration for the race starts at 9:30 a.m. It is \$25 for adults and \$15 for students in kindergarten and grades one through eight.

Online registration is available now

at www.Oktoberfest.5k.run.

OTHER EVENTS

The stein holding and the races are not the only competitions during Oktoberfest. Competitors will vie to be the best chili cooker in the annual chili cook-off.

The chili cook-off will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Entry forms must be submitted by Oct. 16 to the Elkhorn Chamber office, 203 E. Walworth St. Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third places. First place receives \$200, second place receives \$100 and third place receives \$50.

The event will also feature the eighth annual Oktoberfest Car Show in the north parking lot of the Government Center.

From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Pocket Park will have a wine and beer tasting for those who are 21 years old and older.

The entertainment stage will feature the Elkhorn Flying Dragons, Dreams Studio, Walworth County Cloggers, Toe to Toe Ballet and live music from Dog House Roses from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

There will be more than 100 crafters and vendors showcasing antiques, handcrafted items, produce and plants.

For more information on Oktoberfest, visit elkhornchamber.com/ pages/Oktoberfest.

Lake Geneva Oktoberfest is Oct. 7-8

The Annual Oktoberfest in Lake Geneva is planned for Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 7 and 8.

Events run from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday and will will take place on the 200 block of Broad Street and Flat Iron Park.

There will be food and craft booths

in downtown Lake Geneva, as well as hayrides, pony rides and bounce houses.

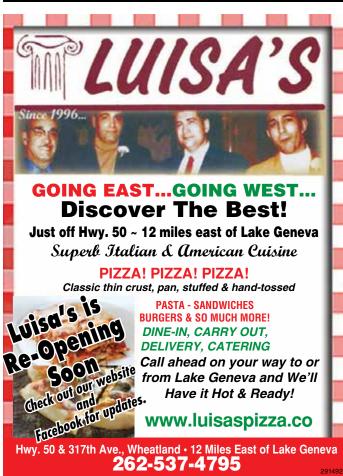
In addition, visitors can enjoy German music, children's performances, brats, potato pancakes, and cider donuts. There will be Scootoberfest games, a giant pumpkin weigh-in, and two

Sprechtoberfest beer tents.

Free shuttle service will be offered from two locations: the northeast corner of the Home Depot Parking lot, Highway 50 and Edwards Blvd.; and downtown at U.S. Bank, 303 Center St. The shuttles run continuously approximately every 20 minutes.











CONTINUED FROM PAGE 39

complete the course.

"In addition," Muhlenbeck said, "The top male and female finisher will receive a Wilmot Mountain season pass. The top male and female winner in each age category will receive a one-day lift pass." Second and third place finishers will receive a Wilmot Mountain Prize Pack.

Throughout the day there will be a variety of activities and demonstrations. With many activities to choose from it may be difficult to focus the children on what activity to enjoy first. Will it be the bouncy house, the pumpkin painting, the face painting, or the hayride?

Whatever choice they make, there is no wrong choice as the activities will be available all day. There are many choices in the Children's Area that allow kids to concentrate on their creative abilities.

PUMPKIN FUN

What fall festival could occur without pumpkins? After all pumpkins are the symbols of fall. We decorate them, we cook them into soups, bake them into muffins, breads and pumpkin pie. But in pumpkin painting area, visitors will use their artistic talents to decorate a pumpkin.

Face painting has been a popular festival activity for many years. Kids love to have a design painted on their face whether it be a

clown-like look, a scary Halloween mask or a simple flower on the cheek.

Music and food are necessary for any occasion and Wilmot Mountain's Fall Fest is no exception.

"On the patio Papa Cool, a local band which plays here in the ski season, will be performing," Muhlenbeck said.

Will you be drawn to the patio by the sound of the music or the aroma of the brats, hot dogs and other foods cooking on the grills? Visitors are encouraged to stop for lunch or a snack and relax on the deck between activities.

On the patio is a fire pit where s'mores – that hot gooey mix of chocolate and marshmallow held in place by graham



Christine, Max and Travis Clark, of Lake Geneva, decorate pumpkins with stickers at a booth at Elkhorn Oktoberfest in 2015.

This year's event is scheduled for Oct. 21.

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crackers – will be prepared.

When was the last time you went on a hayride? Remember the fun of sitting in the wagon amongst the hay bales while the horses clip clop along the rugged terrain? Take the hayride at the Fall Fest and enjoy the memories and share this experience with your children.

DREAMING OF SNOW

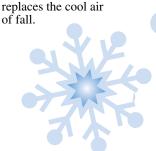
In addition to activities for the children, take the time to look around. Burton snowboards will be giving a demonstration on use of snowboards.

While many have learned to ski at Wilmot Mountain, they will be surprised to see the changes that have occurred since its purchase by Vail Resorts and the many improvements and updates that have been added. With a \$13 million investment, there are many improvements that have created an improved guest experience. Fall Fest visitors will also have a chance to purchase a season ski pass.

The Wilmot Mountain Ski and Snowboard School is offering a new program "Learn to Ride/Learn to Ski," which is aimed at introducing skiing and snowboarding to all. First time skiers 7 years of age and older over the course of the multi-week instructional program will learn the skills to safely head for the slopes. They will take home free skis and snowboards just for completing the course.

Private or group lessons are available in three- to sixweek packages. For more information visit http://www. wilmotmountain.com/lessons-racing

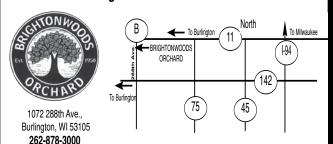
While enjoying the Fall Fest at Wilmot Mountain, visitors are encouraged to look around and imagine the scene in a few months when snow covers the hills and the crisp cold air of a Midwest winter replaces the cool air





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Lake Geneva Canopy Tours unveils welcome center

A new welcome center at Lake Geneva Canopy Tours is open for business.

The undertaking has been in the works for most of 2017.

"Having all our operations in one place will be extremely helpful in terms of logistics, staffing, and efficiency," said sales director Seth Elder. "The new welcome center affords us an opportunity to provide the absolute best in customer service and improves the guest experience."

Staff will greet guests as they enter the welcome center, which features a desk made from reclaimed materials, and a state-of-the-art audio-visual system.

The center is one of multiple improvements made this year. The front check-in spot opens to a common area fitted with contemporary couches, chairs and tables in a north woods lodge environment. The air-conditioned building features modern restrooms, a coffee area and a stone fireplace.

The area is ideal for group functions of up to 50 people and will accommodate on-site events such as the Pumpkin Drop and Fall

Festival, which takes place in late October. Participants will be able to warm up by the fireplace and indulge in a cup of cider before tossing a pumpkin at a target out on the zip line course.

"We're excited to show the building off," said General Manager Eric Wood. "Having our new space allows us to better facilitate groups. If it's really bad weather, we now have the space to accommodate our guests, which will be especially helpful over the colder months. This really completes the business."

A private conference room is also available for reservations of up to 12 people, providing an alternative venue for board meetings or business lunches. Catering options from several local restaurants are available for these functions.

The facility is equipped with free Wi-Fi, built-in smart phone chargers new merchandise including T-shirts, hats, sunglasses and paracord bracelets featuring a new logo design.

Lake Geneva Canopy Tours offers zip line canopy tours, high ropes excursions, hiking and biking trails and team-building programs.



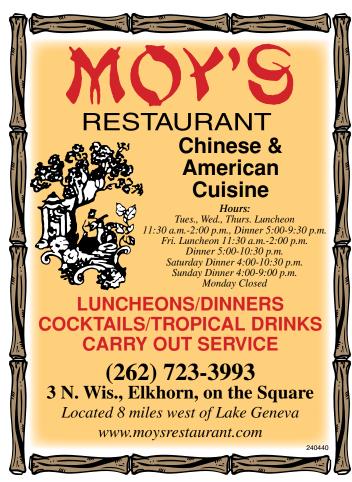
















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CHRIST CHRISTON Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Microbrewers keep customers in mind when determining what's on tap

by Dave Fidlin

CORRESPONDENT

For Kevin Bridleman, it started with a brewing kit at Christmastime.

Bridleman and his brother, Jeff, were intrigued by the science and process of making small batches of different types of beers. After plunking down about \$400 for equipment and other supplies at a home brewing store, the duo began making their concoctions.

The rest, as the old adage goes, is history.

"We were pleasantly surprised.

It actually turned out pretty good," Bridleman said. "It started a passion."

That unexpected passion led to R'Noggin Brewing Company, a Kenoshabased microbrewery celebrating its oneyear anniversary.

Microbreweries have been dotting the landscape at a growing clip in recent years as consumers have sought more authenticity in their dining options and entrepreneurs have been trying their hand at a sudsy staple that has long given Milwaukee global recognition.

The growth of craft brewing as a



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movement has grown in popularity in recent years, though the practice has been around close to half a century. Microbrewers in the United Kingdom began taking on the goliath companies in the 1970s, emphasizing quality over quantity.

"It became popular around here in the 1990s, but then it sort of fell off for a while," said Mark Strelow, brewmaster at 841 Brewhouse in Whitewater. "Now it's making a resurgence."

Tiny batches, big taste

841

Brewhouse

in Whitewater

While the Millers and Coors of this world create their yeastfilled concoctions in large batches, microbrewers unabashedly trumpet the fact they create theirs in much smaller quantities.

The artisan-minded practice means connoisseurs generally have an opportunity to enjoy a variety of beers that might not readily be available elsewhere in the marketplace.

Craft brewers across the Southern Lakes region have brought a variety of specialty drinks to the marketplace, and many of the offerings have been added to the menu after a battery of tests.

The Geneva Lake Brewing Company, for example, has on tap, year-round, an IPA-more formally known as India pale ale – under the moniker No Wake. Geneva

Lake co-owners Pat McIntosh and Jonathan McIntosh have described the beverage as a personal favorite.

Many of the area microbreweries



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have multiple brews on tap at any given time. Some are standbys offered throughout the year; others are offered seasonally — or on a trial basis to see how patrons respond.

In its young life, nearly 40 beers have been on tap at intermittent times at R'Noggin. For the Bridleman brothers, the vast variety is an outgrowth of their desire to tinker with different recipes and formulas,

"It's constantly evolving," Kevin Bridleman said when asked about the brews available in his establishment. "We usually have five tappers available – we always attempt to have that number."

For now, at least, Bridleman said he and his brother have no intention of impeding the pace of introducing new craft beers to the customers walking through R'Noggin's doors.

"I don't see it slowing down for us," he said.
"We're trying to help people experience the wide array of beer styles that are out there."

Quality is key

The kitchen experimentation has resulted in some interesting offerings this past year. One notable at R'Noggin has been a microbrew that incorporated blue raspberry Jolly Ranchers.

"We'll do everything, but we focus on good, quality beers. That's what's most important," Bridleman said. "We want to represent styles appropriately."

At any given time, the 841 Brewhouse has on tap six sudsy beverages, Strelow said, including four standbys – a wheat, amber, IPA and stout – in addition to two seasonal offerings that have included an Oktoberfest brew.

In the warm-weathered months, Strelow said 841 offered a new take on the summer shandy beverage, marrying together grapefruit and pineapple for a robust citrus flavor.

"It's turned out to be a good, crisp beer for summer," Strelow said. "We like to say that we have something on tap to suit just about anyone's tastes."

At the Second Salem microbrewery in Whitewater, brewmaster and operations manager Christ Christon and business manager Thayer Coburn take pride in naming concocted beverages after a piece of important history in their host community.

The Reaper Pale Wheat Ale is one example of a beverage intertwined with the story of the city's origins. Described by Christon and Coburn as "complex and satisfying," the ale is aimed at putting a new twist on traditional wheat ales by adding a citrus kick.

What's in a name?

Christon and Coburn, who grew up in Whitewater, said Second Salem is an opportunity to intermingle their loves of micro brewing and history in a truly unique way.

Whitewater might be best known today for hosting one of the University of Wisconsin system's four-year institutions, but centuries ago the city's storied history was fraught with





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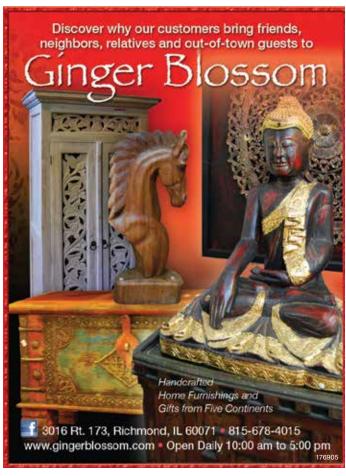
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tales of murderers, spirits and witches.

The community got the "second Salem" nickname from Salem, Mass., where trials against alleged witches took place in the late 1600s.

From Christon's vantage point, the nickname is something he has embraced because it makes Whitewater all the more unique.

"Thayer and I have a large connection to this town," Christon said. "We like to show it off and talk about its history."

Whenever possible, microbrewers elsewhere in the Southern Lakes regions also harness the opportunity to interject as much localism into the ambience and brews as well.

The 841 Brewhouse, for instance, brands its ale beverage as the Warhawk Wheat – a nod to UW-Whitewater's athletic teams.

The Geneva Lake Brewing Company, meanwhile, has a number of beverages on tap that point to Lake Geneva's landscape and legacy as a tourism magnet. Case in point: the Cedar Point amber ale serves as homage for the cedar-shaped shores on the northern side of Geneva Lake.

Bridleman said he and his brother have infused a touch of San Diego to his Kenosha establishment by bringing the laidback beach scene to the periphery of his establishment. Creativity, he said, is also at the heart of R'Noggin's branding efforts.

As fall progresses and Halloween imagery is bountiful, the microbrewery is offering such



COURTESY OF 841 BREWHOUSE Spirit of Geneva Lakes



beverages as an imperial red known as the Clown Casket. For patrons interested in specialty sodas, a butter beer-style beverage known as the Dark Mark is on tap.

Starting from scratch

Starting a business from scratch, naturally, is hard work. But each of the local microbrewers interviewed for this story emphatically say the blood, sweat and tears are more than worth the investment.

Christon, whose family has a history in the restaurant industry, said Second Salem is an ideal fit for Whitewater – a community that has long embraced entrepreneurial efforts and independently run establishments.

"Ît's certainly been rewarding," Christon said of running a microbrewery. "I get to go out of my comfort zone, and that's very satisfying."

Strelow said he feels privileged to be able to concoct different brews in a safe, nurturing environment.

In the road ahead, Strelow said he would like to expand even further on the establishment's offerings. Creating aged beers in wooden barrels and infusing beverages with bourbon are among some of the possibilities on the horizon.

"The end result is so satisfying. I

enjoy watching people enjoy our beers," Strelow said. "The sky really is the limit when it comes to beer."

In the same breath, however, Strelow offers a caveat to his statement: "It's great to try new beers, but ultimately it's about what people want."

For Bridleman, making craft beers is an opportunity to coalesce two starkly different schools of thought – creativity and science – in one setting.

"The creativity and the challenge are definitely things I like," Bridleman said. "But then there's the science side of it with the pH levels. I love digging into that. I really enjoy building something and designing the recipe."

While each of the local microbrewing establishments technically are competitors, Christon said he hesitates to use the word, instead favoring more of a friendly environment where entrepreneurs share ideas with one another.

"There are a lot of microbreweries making some damn good beer around here," Christon said. "We're all very locally oriented and are big into the concept of community. We're all happy to see where this goes and go along for the ride."

Speaking for himself, Christon said, "I'm really happy to be a part of this movement."



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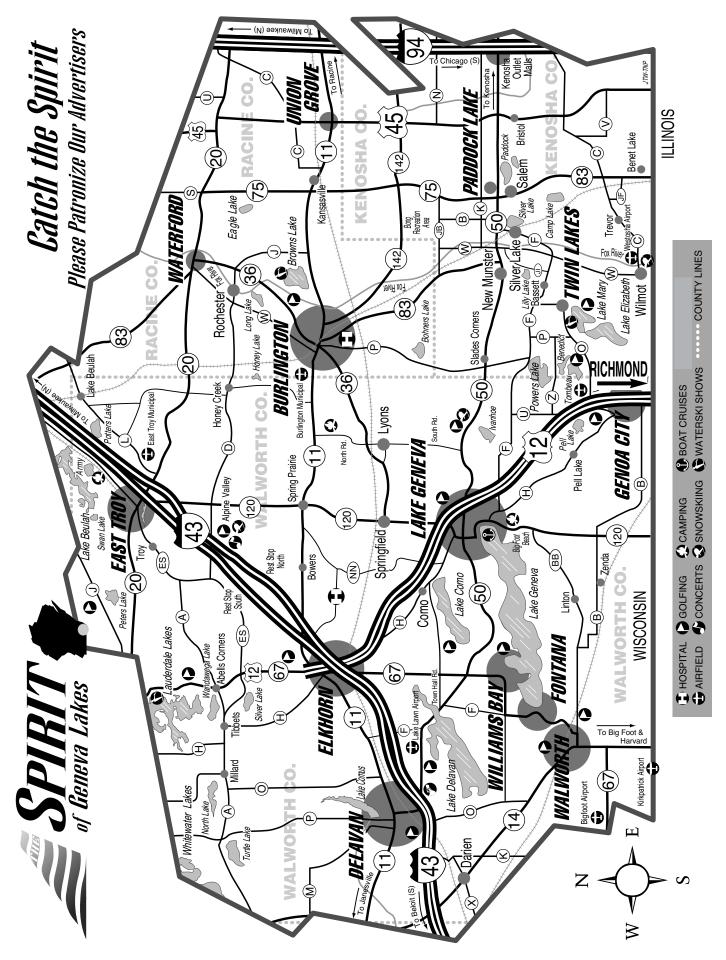
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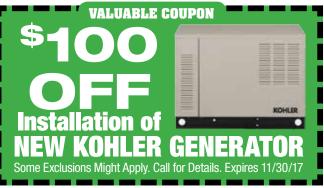
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