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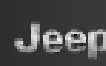
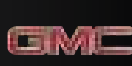


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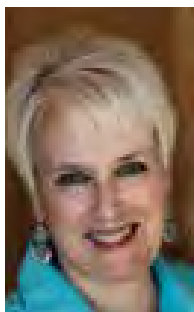


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Dear Readers,

Welcome to our winter issue and to winter. The mention of the season brings varying opinions — some embrace it, others detest it, while still others escape it. I'm somewhere in between. I still love the festive feel of the first snow, and I don't mind layering up with sweaters, scarves and boots to fend off the cold. However, I do have my limits: When the wind chill dips to -20, I begin to question whether my DNA resembles anything close to that of my hardy Norwegian ancestors.

This issue of *At The Lake* definitely gives you a taste of winter. Our beautifully photographed portfolio featuring Old World Wisconsin's Christmas celebration captures the holiday traditions of immigrant settlers to our state. In keeping with Christmas traditions, we asked our staff to share some of their favorite holiday cookie recipes. From chocolate cutouts to Oreo truffles, you'll find a variety of sweet treats presented in a mini-cookbook format just in time for a day of baking with family and friends.

Tradition is a theme that continues throughout this issue. As always, we offer a glimpse into our area's rich history. Beginning on page 26, Anne Morrissy takes a look at the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Lake Geneva Hotel and the city's early days as a vacation destination.

Finally, you won't want to miss our ninth annual wedding section, which has become a tradition in our winter issue, yet one that's becoming bigger and better every year! Its 28 pages are brimming with ideas and inspiration with photo galleries featuring five local weddings plus a complement of trusted resources for everything from desserts to décor. Even if a wedding isn't in your future, you'll want to browse the gorgeous photos highlighting some of last summer's most stunning celebrations.

Thanks, as always, for reading — and stay warm!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barb".

Barb Howell, Editor



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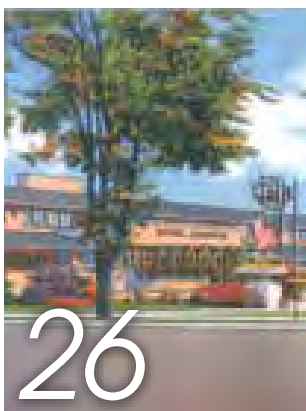


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At The Lake magazine is a publication of Nei-Turner Media Group, Inc. Gary E. Nei, Chairman; William Turner, President; Barbara Krause, Publisher. 400 Broad St., Lake Geneva, WI 53147.

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At The Lake® magazine is published quarterly by Nei-Turner Media Group, Inc., 400 Broad St., Unit D, Lake Geneva, WI 53147.

COMMENTS? We welcome your inquiries. Call us at 262-729-4471, ext. 103, or e-mail bak@ntmediagroup.com.

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November 24 7:00 pm
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ICY PARADISE COMING TO LAKE GENEVA

Experience a new type of winter wonderland this season as you explore a 30,000-square-foot “ice castle” on Lake Geneva’s Riviera Beach.

Officials expect the attraction to open in late December, and it will be a highlight of the city’s Winterfest celebration Jan. 26 to Feb. 3.

“Considering Lake Geneva is the place to go for winter fun, this is just another asset that reinforces our legacy as a vacation destination,” says Joe Tominaro, director of marketing and development for VISIT Lake Geneva.

The concept for Ice Castles was developed during the winter of 2010, when Brent Christensen returned to his native Utah and wanted his daughter to delight in the joys of winter. Christensen created his own version of a snow fort by running a hose over a swing set, which produced an ice cave. With a little ingenuity, he realized he could take it to another level.

Ice Castles LLC was established a year

later in Midway, Utah, and has emerged in four other locations: Lincoln, New Hampshire; Edmonton, Alberta; Dillon, Colorado; and Stillwater, Minnesota. Each location offers a one-of-a-kind experience comprised of thousands of icicles hand-placed by professional ice artists.

Anywhere from 20 to 40 “ice artisans” are involved in the process, which requires using racks that resemble dog crates to develop what Ice Castles Marketing Director Rachel Kahler calls “icicle farms.” She explains, “In essence, we’re harvesting icicles. The process of growing them can range from 5,000 to 12,000 icicles per day,” she adds.

According to Kahler, the intricately detailed structures each occupy about an acre and can reach heights of 20 to 30 feet. They can take about two months to construct and weigh more than 25 million pounds.

A self-proclaimed “ice junkie,” Kahler says the company is looking forward to expanding to Lake Geneva. “It’s always exciting to come into a new community,” Kahler says. “We have been so welcomed by businesses. They’re excited about us coming and bringing more visitors to the area.”

Christensen and a site manager started laying the foundation for Lake Geneva’s Ice Castles in October, including setting up water lines and electricity so they can freeze color-changing LED lights into the castle walls.

Water volume, wind conditions and other weather factors determine the exact structural balance of each castle, but the design ultimately comes down to Christensen’s vision, which is why no two structures are the same. The optimal lifespan of a castle, according to Kahler, is late December to early March.

Tickets will be sold according to arrival times, but once you enter the castle, there is no limit to your visit, says Kahler. Reserve a spot at icecastles.com/lake-geneva/.

LAKE DOGS LAUNCH A HIT!

The much-anticipated release of our newest book *Lake Dogs* occurred Nov. 1 with an official launch party at the Green Vine Dining Room in Williams Bay. Over 50 people joined us to celebrate this tribute to lake-loving dogs in the Geneva Lakes area. At *The Lake* magazine Digital

Editor Holly Leitner, who photographed over 100 area dogs for this project was on hand to sign copies.

Many thanks to those who brought donations to Lakeland Animal Shelter. In addition to dog and cat food, laundry detergent and other items, \$5 from every book sold during the party — a total of \$380 — was given to the shelter.

If interested in purchasing a copy of *Lake Dogs* (a great stocking stuffer!), visit atthelakemagazine.com or stop in at our downtown Lake Geneva location at 400 Broad Street.

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AT THE BELFRY

Ring in the holiday season with a special performance at the Belfry Music Theatre in Delavan. "Christmas at the Belfry" will offer shows on Friday and Saturday nights from Nov. 30 through Dec. 21.

"What we're doing is giving the community a space to enjoy live entertainment during the holidays," says James Fields, marketing



Chris Livieri, graphic designer; Holly Leitner, photographer; and Barb Howell, editor

director for the venue. According to Fields, the theater considers all feedback following performances, and based on recent success, officials decided expanding the season would add to the guest experience.

Three of the four acts will be returning

performers, but the Belfry also is excited to welcome Franc D'Ambrosio for the first time. D'Ambrosio is known for his decade-long Broadway role as the phantom in the *Phantom of the Opera*. His presentation of *Christmas in New York* will wrap up the Belfry's season until its 2019 lineup kicks off the second week in June.

For a complete list of performances and to purchase tickets, visit belfrymusictheatre.com.

NATIVE SON COOKING UP UNIQUE FARE

Miles Borghgraef first got a taste of the restaurant business as a dishwasher at the former Mia Bella Bistro, now the site of Lake Geneva's Sopra restaurant. Washing dishes gave him just enough of the food service industry's flavor to get hooked. "I fell in love with restaurants," the Lake Geneva native, says. "They made me feel at home."

Since then, he has bounced from job to job, working his way up in the industry and always looking for the next best thing. He thinks he might have found it with Birch

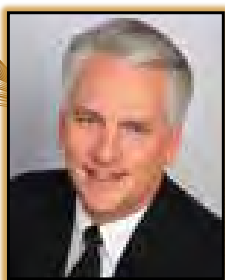


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and Butcher on Milwaukee's East Side.

Borghgraef, 33, the restaurant's head chef and owner, aims to change the narrative on restaurant dining. With Birch and Butcher, he looks to create a comfortable, Thanksgiving dinner-like atmosphere where guests can pass five to seven dishes around the table with family and friends.

"The vision for it is to make the most delicious food I can and not try to overcomplicate anything," he says.

That's the foundation on which he and his wife, Rebecca Zwiefelhofer, have built their restaurant, which opened in November 2017.

About 75 to 80 percent of the menu is cooked on an open-fire hearth, making it only one of about a dozen restaurants in the U.S. to use one, according to Borghgraef. "Flavors in the wood hearth are really familiar to everyone, whether you're barbecuing with family in your backyard or going camping," he says.

A lot of Borghgraef's success has come through trial and error, and although he never attended culinary school, he says, he received training from a number of chefs and business owners. "I want to continue to grow and get better and offer people and guests a unique dining experience, and hopefully combinations they've never tasted before," he says. 

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// PROFILE //



Still Searching

Patrick Quinn has made it his life's work
to piece together the past

BY LISA SCHMELZ | PHOTOGRAPHY BY HOLLY LEITNER

Patrick Quinn is seated inside Speedo's Harborside Pub & Grill in downtown Lake Geneva on a rainy Saturday morning. Just a few tables are occupied, and when a visitor enters, Quinn deftly makes introductions like he owns the place — only he doesn't. Such is the beauty of Patrick Quinn. His ease with people, with place, with the past and present, make him one of those people you want to know.

"Let's sit in the back," he says after pleasantries are exchanged between the visitor and the regulars. "We can talk better there."

A waitress brings coffee, but only the visitor orders breakfast. "I don't eat breakfast," explains Quinn. "I have coffee."

There is more percolating in Quinn than caffeine. A retired archivist for Northwestern University, where he spent over 30 years preserving the history of the esteemed college, he's also a published author whose curiosity hasn't diminished over his 76 years. The keeper of Lake Geneva's history, he's a reliable source for historical inquiries of all stripes.

"I liked history from the time I was a young elementary student," he says, his hands around his mug of just-freshened coffee. "I liked the idea of history."

His weekly column in the *Lake Geneva Regional News* for the last eight years is lively, informative and helps us remember what is easy to forget. He also serves on the boards of the Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission, the Friends of the Geneva Theater, the Geneva Lake Museum and the Walworth County Genealogical Society.

Rob Ireland is the general manager and editor of the *Lake Geneva Regional News*. He says community columnists like Quinn are rare in that Quinn provides a perspective that is both well-sourced and personal. "He grew up in Lake Geneva, so he really knows the city probably better than anyone," says Ireland. "He knows the history, and knows the people. He's the definition of a local guy, and I mean that in the best possible way."

"He grew up in Lake Geneva, so he really knows the city probably better than anyone. He knows the history, and knows the people. He's the definition of a local guy, and I mean that in the best possible way."

ROB IRELAND, GENERAL MANAGER
AND EDITOR OF THE LAKE GENEVA REGIONAL NEWS

A ROUGH BEGINNING

An only child, Patrick Quinn was born to Helen (Wardingle) and Bernard Quinn in 1942 at Lakeland Hospital in Elkhorn. After fighting in the Battle of the Bulge in World War II, his father returned home — but not for long. "He split," explains Quinn. "And I was always told he died in a car crash down in Illinois."

In 1945, Quinn lost his mother to pneumonia. Raised by his maternal grandparents, Thomas and Lillie Wilkinson, he thrived in local schools. His high school English teacher, Bruce Johnson, is 92 and can

still summon memories of his time with Quinn.

“He and his buddies, they were harmless folks,” says Johnson. “They loved to play little tricks, but they were harmless. What can you ask of teenage males? I was a little surprised when I learned he was an archivist because those weren’t his inclinations in high school.”

Fortunately, time is expansive and allows us to develop into what others, or we ourselves, couldn’t see earlier. For Quinn, that meant graduating from Badger High School in 1960 and heading to the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in English and then entered graduate school. But the civil rights movement and escalating war in Vietnam soon changed his focus.

LIVING HISTORY

“I dropped out of grad school ... I borrowed some money and took a bus to Montgomery, Alabama,” he remembers. “I was in the civil rights movement in Selma and was almost killed three times.

It was a very dangerous time with the Ku Klux Klan.”

Quinn was one of many who helped assemble the physical stage that civil rights leader, Martin Luther King Jr., would speak from following the historic march from Selma to Montgomery.

“The one thing I like to say is that I was the next speaker after Martin Luther King, but not as memorable,” he says.

So what were his words? “I told people where the buses were that they needed to get on.”

Not a dream-speech, but logistics matter in all movements.

When he returned to Wisconsin, he taught briefly at Racine Park High School. Then history knocked again. The father he thought “died in a car crash down in Illinois,” was alive and living in San Francisco. His father’s sister, Sister Mary Bernetta Quinn, a well-known Catholic nun and academic whose work in poetry

analysis is still lauded, thought the younger Quinn had a right to know the truth.

“She wrote me a letter in April of ‘65,” Quinn recalls, “and as soon as I got it, I drove out to the Bay Area in California.”

FOLLOWING THE CLUES

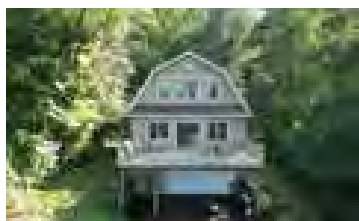
Joining him on the journey were two friends, one of whom owned the Volvo that powered their search before search engines like Google made such things possible from your sofa.

“We drove non-stop,” he remembers. “We made it in 30 hours from Madison to San Francisco. We stopped only to go to the bathroom and pick up beer.”

Remarkably, Quinn found his father in just two weeks. “It was difficult,” he says. “I found police records all over the place and rooming house records.”

Those records eventually led Quinn to an Alcoholics Anonymous Clubhouse in Alameda, east of San Francisco. “I’d been all over the place, so I went there, to this

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AA club, and there was this guy polishing the counter there, or making coffee, and I asked him ‘Do you know Bernard Quinn?’ and he shook his head no and then he asked ‘Who wants to know?’ and I said ‘I’m his son.’ And he said ‘Barry doesn’t have a son.’”

Things then got a wee bit physical, Quinn adds, and in a matter of minutes, anonymity clearly out the window, he had his father’s phone number and was dialing from a pay phone. His father picked up after a couple of rings.

“He said ‘I’ll be there in five minutes.’ Five minutes later, he pulls up in an old Buick and we went to a bar to talk,” recounts Quinn of their first conversation. “He drank orange juice and I drank beer.”

He would learn that his father had struggled with alcohol for decades, even before the war, but eventually found sobriety.

“I got to know him, and we kept in touch,” he says.

Quinn’s father died three years later at a veteran’s hospital in Martinez, California. When he wasn’t able to bury him in a veteran’s cemetery, Quinn had his body brought to Lake Geneva. “I had him buried next to my mother,” he explains.

BUILDING A LIFE AND PRESERVING THE PAST

In 1965, Quinn married his first wife, Martha “Marty” Miller. In 1966, he began working for the Wisconsin State Historical Society and remained there until 1971. The Quinns welcomed two daughters, Abra and Rachel, and remained committed to a life of academia and social justice. In 1972, Quinn joined the Archives Department at UW-Madison and then in 1974 he began his career with the Archives Department at Northwestern University.

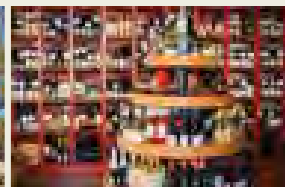
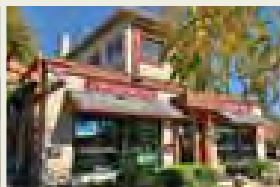
On his first day at Northwestern, there were just two, four-drawer filing cabinets of archived material. By the time he retired in 2008, the university archives featured nearly 1,000 collections of papers and records, and over 600,000 photographs and other artifacts.

By 1979, Quinn and Marty divorced, but remained on such good terms that he



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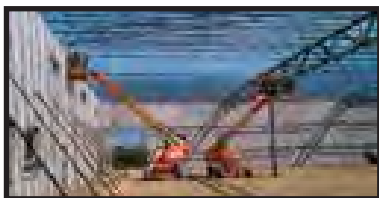
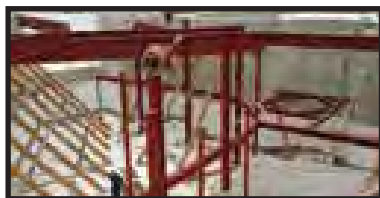
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penned her obituary when she died in June 2018.

Retirement certainly hasn't slowed Quinn down. Residing in the home he was raised in with his second wife, Mary (Janzen) Quinn, once the director of Public Programs at the Newberry Library in Chicago, he continues to vigorously remind us of the need to preserve the past. And when he publishes a new book, he makes his way over to his high school English teacher's house.

"Every time he has a new book," says Johnson, "he comes up meekly to my back door, I don't have a front door, and he just comes up meekly, which is not Pat, and says, 'I have this for you.' He's a good man. He's a very stalwart, forward-thinking guy."

Midwestern Muse and Other Poems is his most recent work, and was published by Red Dawn Press in 2014. Vivid, personal and accessible, the collection of poems describes the pursuit of the answers that link us all. "Unmarked Graves" is just 54 words, and was penned following Quinn's search for his great-great-grandparents' final resting place in St. Francis de Sales Cemetery in Lake Geneva. It seems the flat stone markers of William and Rose Quinn's final resting places were buried by a century of sodden soil. So like he's done for over 50 years, Quinn dug — literally dug — until he found an answer, and with it, a precious realization:

Unmarked Graves

*I stood staring at the flat grassy plots
seeing nothing
astonished that there remained
no evidence
of the two lives that lay beneath me.*

*such an ignominious end
to a long journey
begun a century ago
an ocean across
But then the precious irony
came to mind:
It was I who was their stone.*

Quinn knows, though, that the past always remains partly hidden. Revealed in fragments, we rarely get to piece it together completely. "You never figure everything out," he says, "So I'm always still looking around for all kinds of stuff. You just keep looking." ▲



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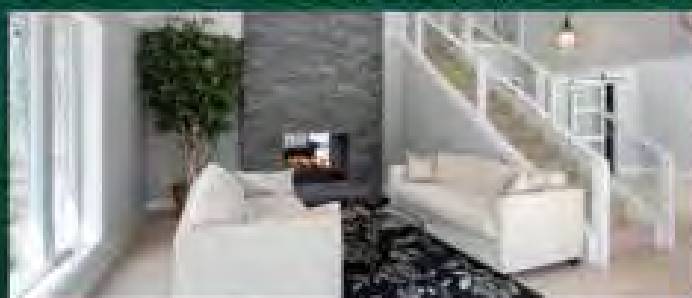
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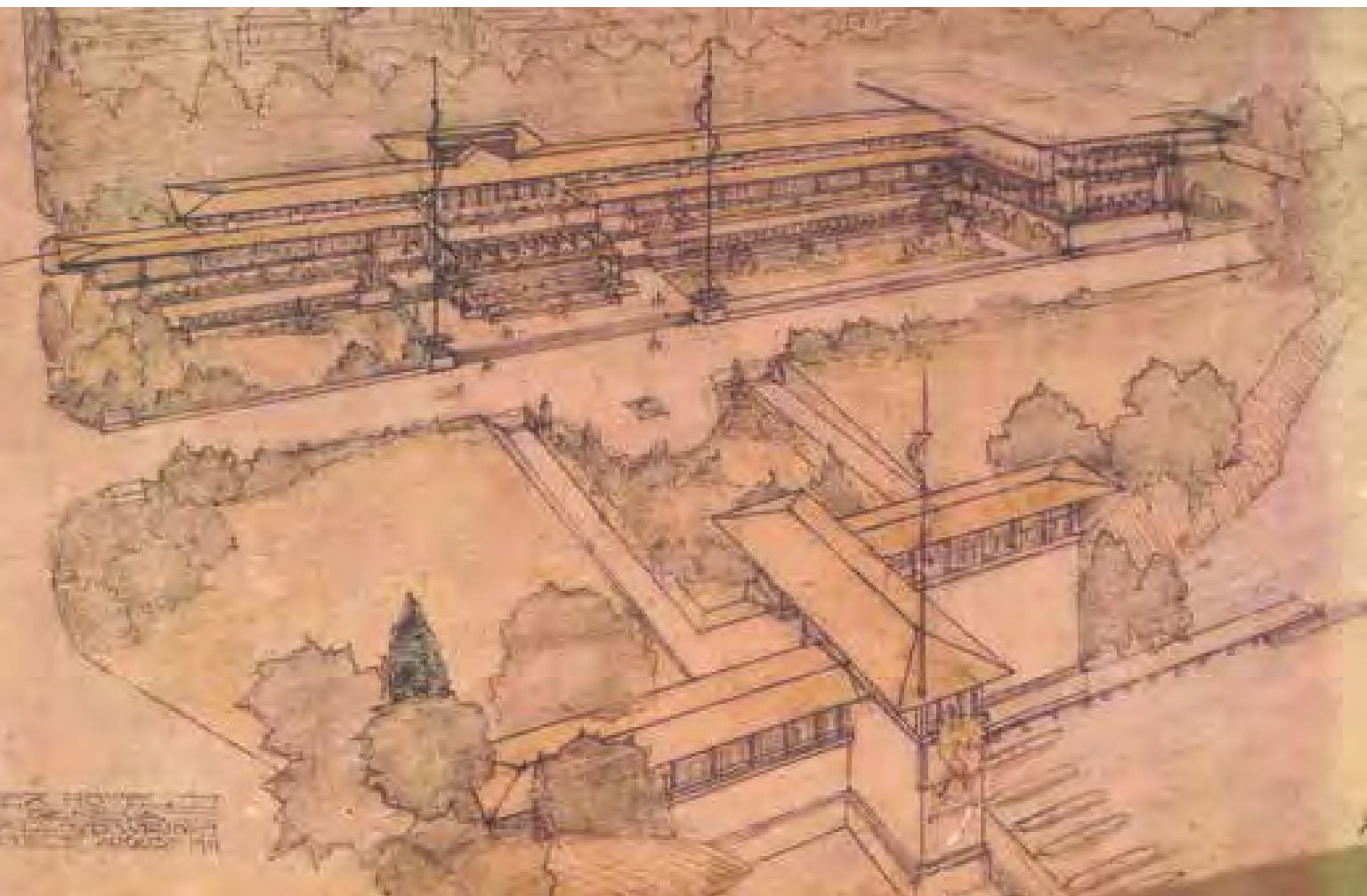
— LAKE GENEVA'S — LOST HOTEL

The Frank Lloyd Wright-designed property overlooked the lake
for more than 50 years

By Anne Morrissy | Historic Images Courtesy Lake Geneva Public Library



The Lake Geneva Hotel opened in 1912 and filled the entire block between Broad and Center streets on the site of the current Geneva Towers Condominiums. In the 1940s it would become known as the Hotel Geneva.



TOP: Frank Lloyd Wright's architectural drawings of the Lake Geneva Hotel incorporated his signature style, featuring a low, horizontal building designed to blend into the environment. The two-story hotel boasted more than 360 feet of water frontage with a wide, shaded piazza running the length of its front. RIGHT: Wright-designed, leaded "Tulip"-style windows are apparent in this close-up photo of the hotel.

On August 14, 1948, special investigators burst into the Cavern Bar, located in the basement of the Hotel Geneva in Lake Geneva, and announced a raid. An earlier raid the previous week had failed to turn up evidence of a rumored betting operation at the Cavern Bar; that

day, all the betting equipment had been moved out before investigators arrived. They suspected that the hotel's co-owner, Hobart Hermansen, had been tipped off. But on their second try, the investigators found more than 50 people engaged in illegal horse-race gambling, or "betting

on the book." Hermansen was the only one arrested that day, but he was quickly released and fined around \$800. The hotel and bar remained open throughout the legal proceedings. It almost had to. In 1948, the Hotel Geneva was the most famous hotel in Lake Geneva, and had been for more than 30 years.



A NEW HOTEL FOR A NEW ERA

The Hotel Geneva began its life as the Lake Geneva Hotel, and had been a point of community pride from its earliest days. In 1911, two entrepreneurial businessmen visiting the area, Arthur L. Richards and John J. Williams, looked at the vacant lot where the grand Whiting House Hotel had once stood (the site of the current Geneva Towers Condominiums), and hatched a business plan. The Whiting House had burned down in 1894, but plans to build a new hotel had stalled. Richards and Williams recognized a huge opportunity in the empty lot, so they



formed the Lake Geneva Hotel Company to sell stock subscriptions in a new hotel venture. Several Lake Geneva summer residents, tycoons of Chicago banking and business, helped to fund the project.

Richards and Williams envisioned an unparalleled year-round resort to rival the famous Tuxedo Club of Tuxedo Park, New York. An editorial in the *Lake Geneva Regional News* extolled the new hotel plan, enthusing that “beauty of design was the first thing considered.” To ensure that their new hotel was sufficiently beautiful, modern and memorable for visitors, Richards and Williams decided to hire an internationally famous architect with Wisconsin roots: Frank Lloyd Wright.

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT AND LAKE GENEVA

The year 1911 was a time of great change for Wright. The previous year, he had left his Oak Park studio, abandoning his wife and children, and departed for a year in Europe with his mistress. Upon his return, he began building a new home and studio for

himself in Spring Green, Wisconsin, which he would call Taliesin. The commission for the Lake Geneva Hotel came at a time when he needed to shore up his social reputation and earn more money to pay off his debts. Although he had designed five private residences and a yacht club on nearby Delavan Lake a decade earlier, the hotel was the first commission Wright received on Geneva Lake, and in fact it would remain the only Wright-designed building on the lake. Wright’s design for the hotel was a resounding application of his groundbreaking architectural philosophies, a low, horizontal building intended to blend into the natural environment.

To achieve this, Wright designed the Lake Geneva Hotel as a two-story structure filling the entire block between Broad and Center streets, with the front of the hotel facing the lagoon that flows into the White River. As designed by Wright, the hotel boasted 360 feet of water frontage with a wide, shaded piazza running the length of its front. Although stylistically, the hotel presaged the famous Imperial

Hotel Wright would design in Tokyo a few years later, the Lake Geneva Hotel is credited by some architectural historians as the prototype for a new kind of lodging that would proliferate in America a few decades later: the two-story motor hotel.

Construction began in May of 1912 and the hotel opened just three months later with 30 of its 70 total guest rooms ready for occupancy. The formal opening took place a month after that with a grand dinner in the new dining room. According to newspaper accounts at the time, the interior was finished in light-fumed oak and American gum-wood, and decorated in shades of green and brown. The ceilings in the lobby and dining room featured ornate art-glass skylights, which complemented the leaded “Tulip”-style windows for which Wright is now well known. A massive brick fireplace, one of Wright’s hallmarks, dominated the lobby. Custom-designed sconces and light fixtures throughout the hotel operated on electricity, the newest technology of the era.

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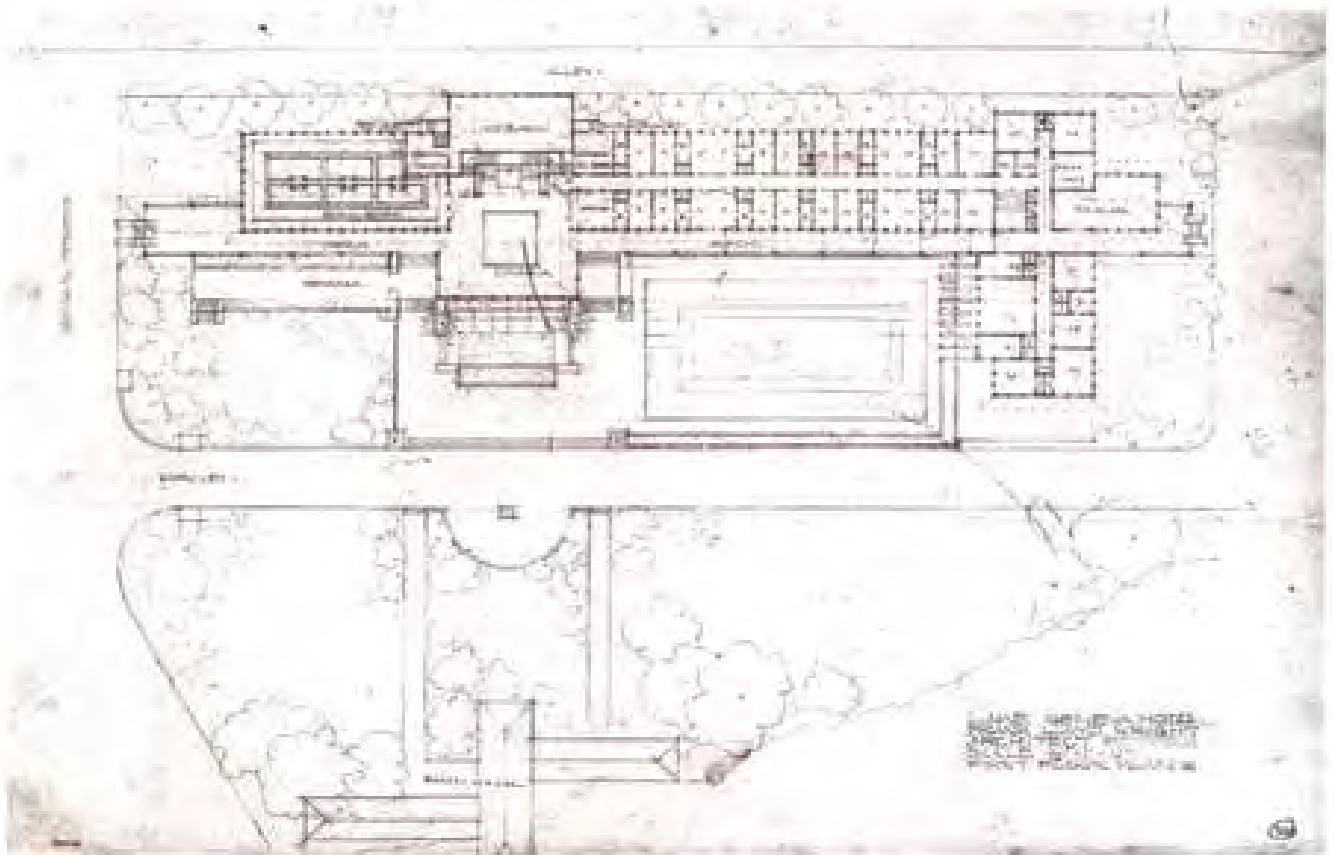


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Artifacts from the Lake Geneva Hotel are in possession of the Geneva Lake Museum and include these pieces of a silver service.

Lake Geneva High School. “I worked there every summer, because the hotel was strictly summer-only at that point,” he remembers. “The heating costs in the winter were just too high to keep it open. Every summer I did a little bit of anything

that needed to be done.” Allen says that his uncle Hobart recruited seasonal employees from a similar winter resort in Hot Springs, Arkansas. “He hired the chef, the bell captain and the maître ’d and told them they could bring their

own staff with them,” he explains. “They were impressively good at their jobs. I will never forget the sight of one man in his white jacket coming out of the kitchen with a flourish, one fully loaded tray up in

continued on page 36



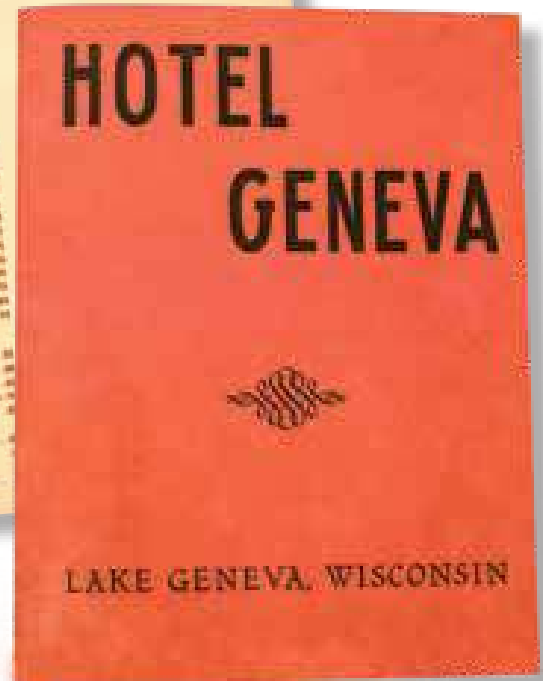
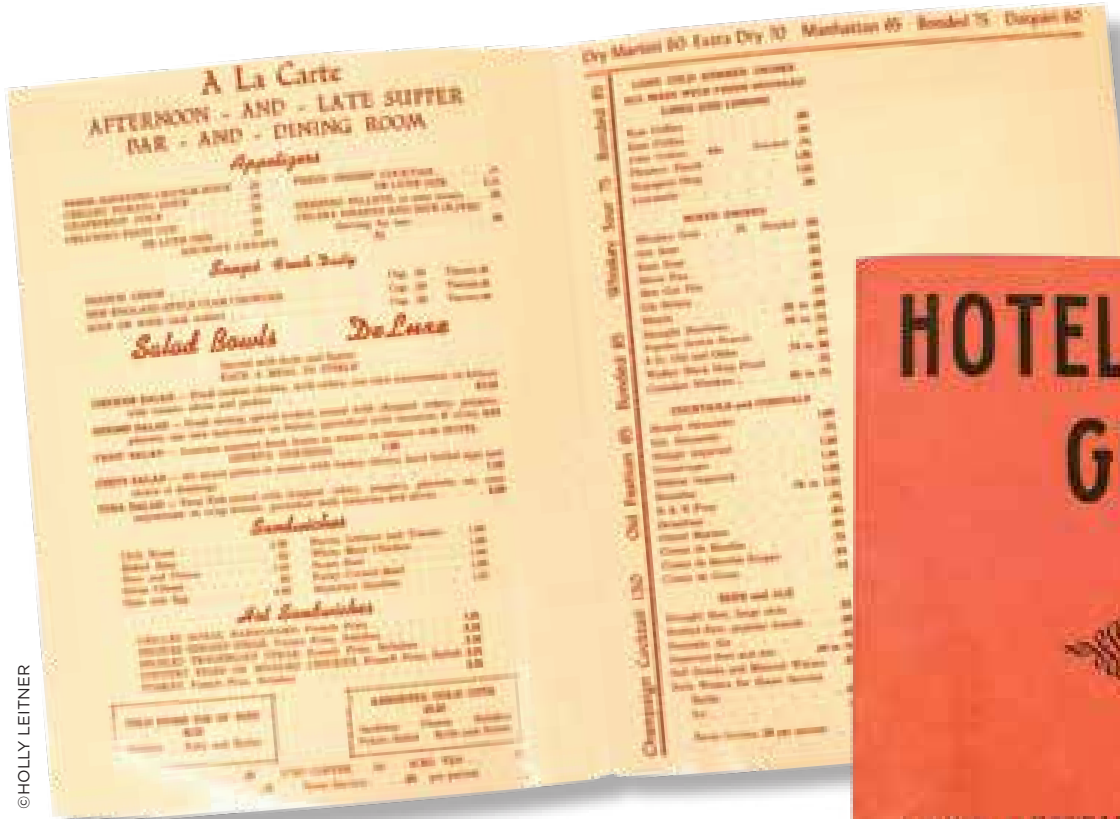
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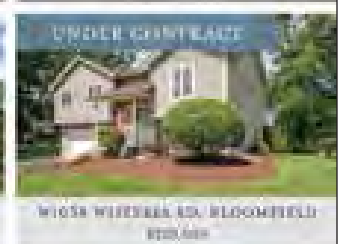
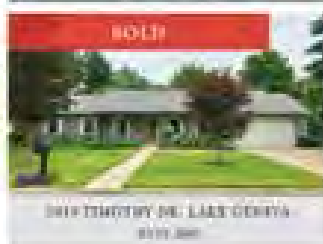
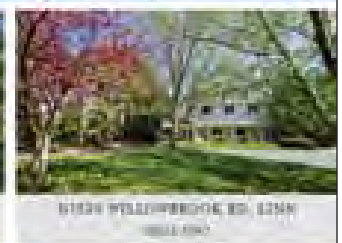
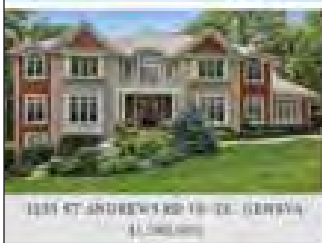
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A menu from the Hotel Geneva, found at the Geneva Lake Museum, reflects the range of items available from the dining room and bar. Note, a dry martini was priced at \$0.60, while an extra dry martini would set you back \$0.70.

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The Geneva Lake Museum's collection of hotel artifacts includes this silver place setting as well as the Wright-designed wall sconce shown on page 38.

the air and another fully loaded tray down here ..." — indicating hip height — "It was quite a sight to behold."

SLOT MACHINES, PONY RIDES AND A SPECIAL VISITOR

According to Allen, his uncle Hobart — known in the local papers as the "Slot-Machine King of Walworth County" — managed an underground casino in the basement of the Hotel Geneva. This casino was the target of the 1948 raid, though federal investigators failed to uncover the full operation. (Local stories of tunnels dug from the basement of the Hotel Geneva to the basements of neighboring buildings for the purpose of rum-running during Prohibition may explain how Hobart Hermansen was able to remove the betting equipment without being detected.) "It was mostly an accepted thing back then," Allen explains. "You just paid a little money here and there to the right people and they'd let you keep running [the casino.]"

Not all of the activities at the Hotel Geneva during this time had to take place underground, however. The restaurant and bar proved popular with both tourists and locals. Brochures from the era advertised a wide range of entertainment available to hotel guests:

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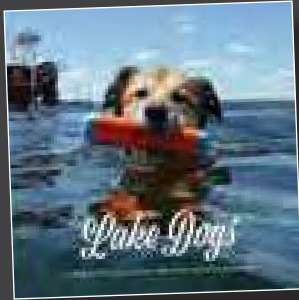


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swimming, dancing, golfing, boating, fishing, tennis, riding. Allen remembers that his father made an arrangement with a local stable to keep a few horses and ponies on the north side of the property. Guests could mount their rides at the Hotel Geneva and then follow a guide through downtown Lake Geneva, out to riding trails on Sheridan Springs Road. Children could take pony rides around Flat Iron Park. "I led the ponies one summer," Allen remembers with a laugh. Occasionally, he says his uncle Hobart would put sugar cubes in his pocket and entice a particularly tiny Shetland pony to follow him into the lobby of the hotel, much to the delight of the children staying there.

Following Harry Hermansen's death in the 1950s, Hobart took a larger role in the management of the hotel. One day in 1957, he gave a tour of the property to a very special visitor: Frank Lloyd Wright himself. The venerated architect was back in the area as a guest of Philip K. Wrigley and his wife. After touring the hotel he had designed 46 years earlier, Wright reportedly said that it seemed to be in good condition, and if he were designing it again, he would "make few changes."

A LANDMARK LOST TO CHANGING TASTES

By the 1960s, the Hotel Geneva faced increasing competition from new resorts like The Abbey in Fontana. Frank Lloyd Wright's architecture looked heavy and old-fashioned by comparison to the new, lighter midcentury style. The building remained costly to maintain and business had dropped. The Hermansens decided to sell the Hotel Geneva to a group of investors that included State Assemblyman George Borg and Majestic Hills Ski Area owner Bill Grunow. Borg and Grunow added a glassed-in swimming pool in front of the building, reconfigured the lobby to include a piano bar and changed the name to the Geneva Inn, hoping to reposition the property as a modern motor hotel.



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However, in 1969, Borg and Grunow sold the property again, this time to a Kenosha businessman with plans to raze the building. Some of the interior was salvaged — the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee received more than 100 panes of leaded art glass windows from the hotel, some of which are on long-term loan to the Lake Geneva Public Library. The Geneva Lake Museum also has a few window panes, as well as some of the Wright-designed wall sconces that once graced the hotel's walls. But over the winter of 1969-1970, the once-great, Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Hotel Geneva was reduced to a pile of rubble.

Williams Bay resident Tom Palmersheim remembers frequenting the Hotel Geneva and speaks for many local residents of the era when he describes the feeling of loss. "It was a different feeling walking into the place," he says. "It was very sad to see it get torn down. There was an aura about it. When you walked in the front door, it was like you walked into a completely different world." ▲



By the 1960s, the Hotel Geneva faced increasing competition from new resorts. New owners George Borg and Bill Grunow made changes to the property, trying to position it as a modern motor hotel, but in 1969 they sold the hotel to a Kenosha businessman, who razed the building.



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Old-Fashioned Christmas in the Country

Old World Wisconsin invites guests to
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Christmas traditions

By Anne Morrissy | Photography by Holly Leitner







No question about it: Old World Wisconsin is excited for Christmas. This year's holiday-themed weekends at the museum, known as "An Old World Christmas," promise to bring even more holiday cheer into the hearts of both young and old. "More' and 'better' are the plans this year," explains Anna Altschwager, assistant director of guest experiences at Old World Wisconsin in Eagle. The world-class living history museum, managed by the Wisconsin Historical Society, has been hosting Christmas activities for several years, and according to Altschwager, the holiday-themed weekends have only gotten more popular over time. So in the spirit of "more and better," this year the event has expanded from two weekends to three.

HOLIDAY TRADITIONS REVISITED

During "An Old World Christmas," guests are invited to explore the Crossroads Village area of the museum, which contains structures representing Yankee, English, Irish, Welsh, Norwegian and German immigrants, including the popular blacksmith's shop. Altschwager says several Christmas-themed guest experiences are planned, including horse-drawn rides, a brass band playing Christmas music, readings of Laura Ingalls Wilder's descriptions of pioneer Christmas traditions and even Christmas shopping in the general store (using a "time-travel token" system to maintain the historic experience.) And since no Christmas is complete without holiday treats, Altschwager says there will be plenty of food preparation and tasting taking place.

In fact, a majority of the guest experiences planned for the Christmas event seem to center around food and tradition. "For so many of our guests, their own personal holiday traditions are rooted in food," Altschwager says. "The holiday foods only happen once a year, so even if it's been 200

TOP LEFT: Guests can experience a Victorian holiday tradition known as a "cobweb party:" gifts are hidden around the house with yarn tied to them, leading guests on a scavenger hunt-like journey. To find the gift, follow the yarn. LEFT: Old World Wisconsin focuses on holiday foods with preparation and tastings an important part of the guest experience.





years, that's only 200 Christmases, and we find the traditions move a lot more slowly and are rooted in history." She says guests will have a chance to help make and taste Christmas foods like traditional cookies and candies, Czech braided bread and even Victorian savory puddings. "That's a great opportunity to be hands-on. We hope that if guests learn about one of our foods that we're making, then they will talk about their own traditions."

WISCONSIN'S SCANDINAVIAN PAST COMES TO LIFE

"An Old World Christmas" is also the only place you can see the world's largest yule goat — a larger-than-life-sized figure made out of straw, based on Scandinavian tradition. "The yule goat is a nod to the deep Scandinavian roots we have here in Wisconsin," Altschwager continues. "It's a tradition that has deep pagan roots, with the goat representing fertility and the new year. Today, people often see it in a little ornament or figurine. But traditionally they were these big figures in the center of the community, which you would have instead of a Christmas tree."



Altschwager is thrilled with the excitement people have shown for "An Old World Christmas" in the past, and is looking forward to expanding the experience. "Our stories here are almost all immigrant stories, centering around our shared immigrant past and what we celebrate today through the stories we share," she says. "We're hoping to give people a space to reflect on their own Christmas traditions and what they hope their children and grandchildren continue to do. We're happy to be the space where that happens."



"An Old World Christmas" will take place on the following weekends: Dec. 1-2, Dec. 8-9 and Dec. 15-16. The museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on both Saturdays and Sundays. For more information, visit oldworldwisconsin.wisconsinhistory.org ▲

LEFT: During the first three weekends in December, guests at Old World Wisconsin will learn about festive decorations, like the traditional Scandinavian yule goat plus enjoy concerts, caroling and horse-drawn carriage rides.



Bake Up Some Memories

Revel in the simplicity of each other's company this holiday season

By Barb Howell | Cookie photography by Holly Leitner

I'm guessing most of us, if we're lucky, have fond childhood memories of spending cold winter days in a warm kitchen, waiting in anticipation to help with holiday baking. Each Christmas, my brothers and I would position ourselves before a floured surface, cookie cutters in hand, ready to begin one of our family's annual traditions. Our festive cutouts were always less than perfect and maybe we scattered a little (well, more than a little) flour on the floor, but my mother encouraged our enthusiasm as she gingerly placed the cookies on a baking sheet and into the oven.

Memories, which evoke Norman Rockwell-like images, emerge easily, especially this time of year. They are centered in our very core and make us who we are. Chances are you've gathered your own children and perhaps grandchildren together to share your family's holiday baking traditions. Maybe you've even started brand new traditions, inviting friends to a baking party where recipes are swapped and a glass of holiday cheer is enjoyed.

The staff of *At The Lake* includes several very talented bakers. And our gift to you this holiday season is a collection of some of their favorite cookie recipes. We hope you take the time to try them and add them to your holiday baking traditions, building new memories along the way. Enjoy!

VANILLA SANDWICH COOKIES: KRISTINA HUGASIAN

INGREDIENTS:

Cookies

- ¾ cup sugar
- 1 stick unsalted butter, softened
- 1 stick vegetable shortening
- 2 ¾ cups all-purpose flour
- 2 egg yolks
- 2 packets vanilla sugar (found at European or specialty grocery stores)
- ½ tsp. salt
- zest of 1 lemon

Filling

- ½ cup jam or spreadable preserves (apricot or marmalade are traditional, but I've also used raspberry)

Topping

- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 cup sugar

DIRECTIONS:

1. In a large bowl, beat sugar, butter and vegetable shortening with a mixer until well blended. Add egg yolks, lemon zest and vanilla sugar. Beat until light and fluffy. Add flour and salt, mix well.
2. Chill dough in the refrigerator for one hour.
3. Preheat oven to 325 F and line a baking sheet with parchment paper.
4. On a flat, floured surface, roll out a section of dough to about a ¼" thickness. Using a small (approximately 1" to 1 ½" wide) cookie cutter, cut out circles and place on the prepared cookie sheet at least ½" apart. A shot glass works great.
5. Bake for 13 minutes, or until edges are just golden. Cookies will crumble apart if they're overdone. Cool completely.

6. Spread a thin layer of jam on the bottom of a cookie, then top it with another to create a sandwich.

7. Mix remaining sugar and powdered sugar in a small bowl. Gently roll sandwiched cookies in sugar, coat well. Store in an airtight container for 1-2 days before serving. If necessary, re-roll in sugar before presenting.



CHOCOLATE CUTOUT COOKIES: KRISTEN ROUSE

INGREDIENTS:

- ¾ cup unsalted butter, room temperature
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 ½ cups flour
- ¾ cup cocoa powder
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- ⅛ tsp. salt

DIRECTIONS:

1. Beat butter in mixer for 1 minute until smooth. Add sugar and beat until fluffy. Beat in egg and vanilla on high. Scrape bowl.
2. Sift flour and cocoa powder together. Whisk in baking powder and salt. On low, slowly mix in wet ingredients until combined.
3. Chill for at least an hour.
4. Preheat oven to 350 F. Roll and cut out dough. Bake for 10 minutes.





CHEWY MOLASSES COOKIES WITH A KICK: HOLLY LEITNER

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 ½ tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. ground cinnamon
- ½ tsp. ground nutmeg
- ¼ - ½ tsp. cayenne pepper (depending on your heat preference)
- ½ tsp. salt
- 1 ½ cups sugar
- ¾ cup (1 ½ sticks) unsalted butter, softened
- 1 large egg
- ¼ cup molasses

DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 350 F. In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, baking soda, cinnamon, nutmeg, cayenne pepper and salt. In a shallow bowl, place ½ cup sugar; set aside.
2. With an electric mixer, beat butter and remaining cup of sugar until combined. Beat in egg and then molasses until combined. Reduce speed to low; gradually mix in dry ingredients, just until dough forms.
3. Pinch off and roll dough into balls, each equal to 1 Tbsp.
4. Roll balls in reserved sugar to coat.
5. Arrange balls on baking sheets, about 3" apart. Bake, one sheet at a time, until edges of cookies are just firm, 10 to 15 minutes. (Cookies can be baked two sheets at a time, but they will not crackle uniformly).
6. Cool 1 minute on baking sheets; transfer to racks to cool completely.

Makes 36 cookies

MELTING MOMENTS: DEANN HAUSNER

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 cup butter, softened
- ⅓ cup powdered sugar
- ⅛ tsp. salt
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- ¾ cup cornstarch

DIRECTIONS:

1. In mixing bowl, cream butter, sugar and salt.
2. In separate bowl, combine flour and cornstarch, gradually add to creamed mixture. Shape into 1 ½-inch balls, chill for 1 hour.
3. Preheat oven to 350 F. Place dough balls on ungreased cookie sheets, let stand for 10 minutes.
4. Flatten slightly. Bake at 350 F for approx. 15 minutes or until bottoms are golden brown.
5. Cool on cookie sheets for 2 minutes, then transfer to wire racks to cool completely.
6. Spread with Icing.

Makes approximately 2 dozen.

ICING:

- 2 Tbsp. butter, softened
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 2 Tbsp. half-and-half
- 1 tsp. almond extract

DIRECTIONS:

In small bowl, beat butter, sugar, cream and extract until smooth.



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SITTIN' PRETTY PEANUT COOKIES: ASHLEY DUCHEMIN

INGREDIENTS:

½ cup butter, softened
 ¼ cup packed brown sugar
 1 egg, separated
 ½ tsp. vanilla extract
 1 cup all-purpose flour
 ¼ tsp. salt
 1 cup finely chopped peanuts, toasted
 ½ cup vanilla frosting
 Peanut M&Ms

DIRECTIONS:

1. In a bowl, cream butter and brown sugar. Beat in egg yolk and vanilla. Combine flour and salt; gradually add to creamed mixture. Cover and refrigerate for 2 hours.

2. Roll into 1" balls. In a small bowl, beat egg white. Dip balls into egg white, then roll in peanuts. Place 2" apart on ungreased baking sheets.

3. Bake at 350 F for 5 minutes. Remove from oven; using the end of a wooden spoon handle, make an indentation in the center of each.

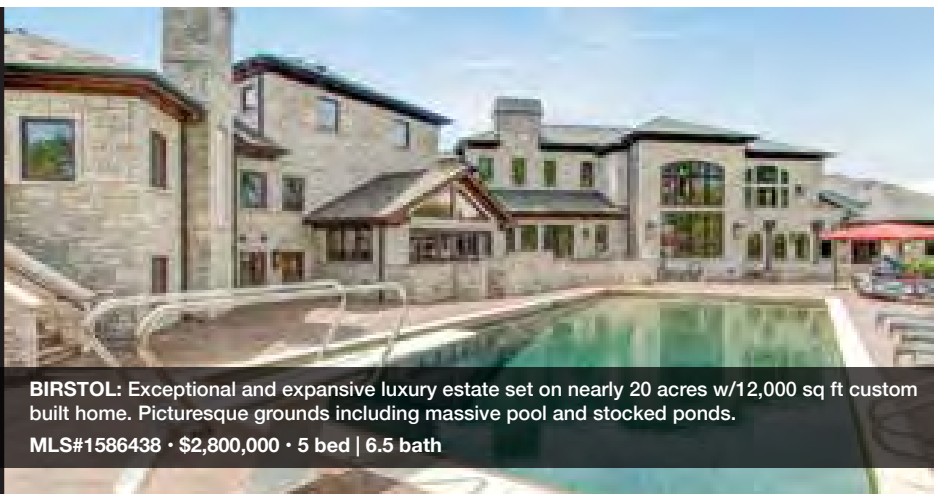
4. Bake 7-9 minutes longer or until firm. Remove to wire racks to cool. Fill centers with vanilla frosting and top with M&Ms.



MARK LARKIN
BROKER

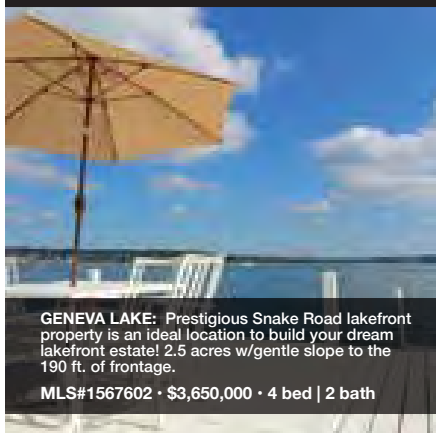
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EASY OREO TRUFFLES: CINDY SMITH

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 package Oreo cookies, crushed
(Reserve 4-6 cookies to crush for topping.)
- 1, 8 oz. package regular cream cheese, room temperature
- ½ lb. milk chocolate or white chocolate bark coating

DIRECTIONS:

1. Mix cream cheese and Oreo crumbs with mixer.
2. Roll into balls and place on parchment lined cookie sheet. Chill for 30-60 minutes.
3. When cookies have chilled, melt milk chocolate or white chocolate bark coating in the microwave or a double boiler.
4. Using 2 forks, dip the truffles in the melted coating and return to parchment lined pan.
5. Sprinkle with a few of the reserved crumbs for decoration.

HAWKINS HOLIDAY MORSELS: BARB KRAUSE

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 package chocolate chips
- 1 package butterscotch chips
- 1 ½ cups corn flakes
- 1 ½ cups peanuts

DIRECTIONS:

1. Microwave chocolate and butterscotch chips for 1 ½ minutes until melted.
2. Pour in corn flakes and peanuts.
3. Drop onto wax paper, cool in refrigerator or freezer.



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OUR GALLERY OF WEDDINGS WILL SPARK IDEAS AND OFFER INSPIRATION

You've said "Yes," now it's time to start planning! Maybe you've already spent hours on Instagram and Pinterest, checked out websites and magazines, attended bridal shows or met with a wedding planner or two. There are endless possibilities for your special day.

If you're considering getting married in the lakes area, check out the next 26 pages for ideas that just might spark that "Aha!" moment! Don't miss our guide that offers 10 ways to find your inspiration plus wedding planning do's and don'ts. In addition, you'll want to browse our photo galleries of five spectacular weddings showcasing everything from gowns and flowers to desserts and décor accompanied by helpful lists of each couple's vendors. Complementary display advertising throughout this section gives you even more local resources to consider.

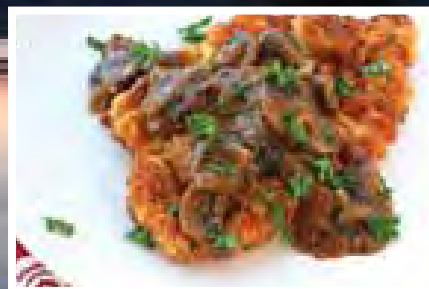
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Select your Style

Before you go all Pinterest crazy and the little green monster inside of you starts to take over, we want to give you a bit of guidance to make sure that during your wedding planning process, you stay true to you. We know on a regular basis we are plagued with an overwhelming urge to keep up with the Joneses and it can be especially difficult to fend off that urge when it comes to your wedding. Here, we've compiled some basic tips to help you identify your true style as a couple and arm you with the know-how you'll need to pull it all together.

10 WAYS TO FIND YOUR INSPIRATION



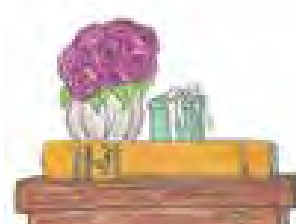
BE TRUE TO YOU

Ultimately, you know deep down inside what's truly important to you. Just know this: your wedding is the first big event you will host together as a couple so it's the first time to let your personalities truly shine in front of friends and family. Whatever your source of inspiration, make decisions that feel right to you, not what you've seen other couples do.



LOCATION

Your venue will have a great deal of impact on the environment of your wedding. If you opt for a barn, you'll likely want to go for a more rustic feel. Or, if you book the most prestigious hotel in town, a glamorous wedding for you it is! Don't overlook your biggest expense in the wedding as a possible source for your overall theme, too.



MUSE

Inspiration abounds from a myriad of places and a muse might be just the thing you center your wedding style around. Your favorite movie, color, flower, character, season or destination. Pick something near and dear to you and let it guide all of your style decisions.



PASSION

Everyone has a hobby, activity, cause or pledge they fully support and this may be just the place to draw inspiration from. Show off your priorities in life to your guests by finding inspiration from what your true passions are.



TIME OF THE DAY

Are you a morning person or night owl? Whatever your preference, the time of day you ultimately choose to host your wedding ceremony and reception will affect the feel of the event. If you and your fiancé are up and at 'em each day with a morning coffee, a brunch wedding just might be the thing for you. The possibilities are endless!



SCALE

When you put together your guest list you'll either be looking at a large event or intimate gathering. The amount of people you choose to invite will affect the environment so when looking for sources of inspiration, remember how big or intimate the event will feel with the amount of friends and family in attendance and work off of that.



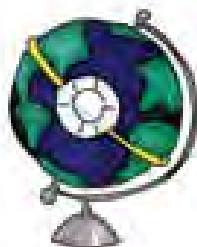
WEDDING PLANNING DO'S & DON'TS

- ✓ Be considerate of family traditions and wants but don't feel chained to them.
- ✓ Be authentic to YOUR true style.
- ✓ Create a budget, fine tune it and stick to it.
- ✓ Edit. Edit. Edit. Start with a big picture and bring it into focus from there.
- ✓ Manage the guest list... Don't feel obligated to invite everyone. This will help your budget too.
- ✗ Don't spend too much energy focusing on what others are doing.
- ✗ Don't let the party details outshine the magic of your marriage.
- ✗ Don't skimp on wedding vendors. Trust us ... you get what you pay for.
- ✗ Don't sweat the small stuff.



JOINT INTERESTS

Do you and your future spouse have a common interest that brought you together? Flying, skydiving, traveling or food? Whatever it is you spend your free time doing, consider letting it be the source of your wedding style. Golf anyone?



HERITAGE & HISTORY

Do you hail from a great land afar or find yourself among a long lineage of great folks? Then let your family history and heritage guide the style of your wedding and enjoy reminiscing with your parents and loved ones about your roots.



FORMALITY

If you're a Great Gatsby fan at heart, a formal setting just might be the style for you. But, if a laid back casual setting is for you, so be it. Consider your personal preferences on dressing down or up when identifying the style wedding you want.



CONSIDER THE SEASON

The time of the year could greatly affect the overall style of your wedding. Temperature and foliage are great places to find inspiration and build your wedding style around.

BRAND IT

Branding might be a term you've only thought to be relevant to marketing departments. When it comes to modern day weddings, branding on a personal level takes company logos and color combinations and transforms them into monograms, slogans and themes.

WHAT'S IN A PERSONAL BRAND?

Monograms, color preferences, favorite fonts and even paper weights are the essential tools-of-the-trade wedding stationers and designers use to make your personal style shine through to family and friends.

HOW & WHERE TO BRAND

If you want to create a custom wedding brand, your stationer is the go-to creative guru to turn to. They are the graphic designers behind all the great typography and scroll work you see in wedding magazines and blogs.

Here are several places we recommend you use your personal wedding brand:

- ☐ Save the Dates
- ☐ Invitations
- ☐ Napkins
- ☐ Coasters
- ☐ Directional Signage
- ☐ Menu Cards
- ☐ Escort Cards or Place Cards
- ☐ Bar Signs
- ☐ Drink Stirrers
- ☐ Thank You Cards
- ☐ Dance Floor Vinyl Covers
- ☐ Monogram Gobo Lighting
- ☐ Welcome Kits
- ☐ Party Favors
- ☐ Bridal Party Gifts

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Stephanie + Josh
JUNE 2, 2018





The Details

PHOTOGRAPHER: Jake Schnake,
Matt Mason Photography, Lake Geneva

CEREMONY: St. Thomas the Apostle Church,
Crystal Lake, IL

OFFICIANT: Monsignor Daniel Hermes,
St. Thomas the Apostle

RECEPTION: The Abbey Resort, Fontana

FLORAL DESIGNER: Frontier Flowers, Fontana

GOWN: Destiny's Bridal, Scottsdale, AZ

CATERER: The Abbey Resort, Fontana

CAKE: Julie Michelle Cakes, Harvard, IL

BEAUTY (MAKEUP/HAIR): Bella Bridal Hair &
Makeup Artistry, Woodstock, IL

EQUIPMENT RENTALS: A Personal Touch (DJ,
Lighting and Photo Booth), Oak Creek, WI; Frontier
Flowers (Décor), Fontana

WEDDING PLANNER: Graceful Events, Lake Geneva

GUEST ACCOMMODATIONS: The Abbey Resort,
Fontana

Stephanie's love of Lake Geneva found new meaning when a casual stroll on a pier in Fontana brought with it a proposal from her beloved Josh. As a girl growing up in Crystal Lake, Stephanie spent many summers at Geneva Lake and to share its beauty with Josh, a native of Washington state, was important to her. Although living far from the Midwest in Arizona, the couple selected The Abbey Resort for their special day and enlisted the help of a talented wedding planner and florist to bring their elegant yet rustic vision to life. From the blue and white décor to the floral center pieces filled with Juliet roses, Stephanie's favorite, the couple and their 260 guests celebrated their love and new life together.



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THE ABBEY RESORT

The Lake Geneva Experience



Michelle + Brian
JULY 7, 2018





The Details

PHOTOGRAPHER: Ryan Bensheimer,
Ideal Impressions Photography, Lake Geneva

CEREMONY & RECEPTION VENUES: Geneva
National Resort, Lake Geneva

OFFICIANT: Dr. Robert Moss, Brian's father

FLORAL DESIGNER: Crazy for You Florist,
Lake Geneva

GOWN: Doris Bridal Boutique, Highwood, IL

CATERER: Geneva National Resort, Lake Geneva

CAKE: Sweet Perfections Bake Shoppe, Waukesha

BEAUTY (MAKEUP/HAIR): Makeup - Alyssa
Lalagos - Alyssa Lynn Makeup, Chicago; Hair - Lauren
Campanile, LAC Hair & Makeup, Chicago, IL

ENTERTAINMENT: DJ - Kevin Barnett;
Band - The Lakeshore Encores, Chicago, IL

SPECIAL DÉCOR: Elegant Presentations,
St. Charles, IL and Lake Geneva

TRANSPORTATION: Jones Travel, Elkhorn

GUEST ACCOMMODATIONS: The Ridge Hotel,
Lake Geneva

Once Michelle and Brian toured Geneva National Resort, they knew they'd found the perfect setting for their wedding celebration. Although familiar with the lakes area, they were immediately attracted to the resort's meticulously landscaped grounds and sweeping views from the clubhouse. The busy Chicago couple also wanted their 270 guests to enjoy a weekend getaway with a destination that was close to home. The stunning outdoor ceremony officiated by Brian's father was followed by a beautifully appointed reception complete with cigar bar, sangria station and live entertainment.





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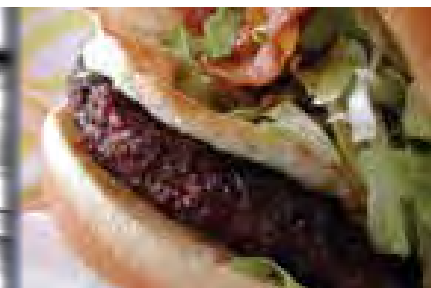
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Kristianne + Chad
JUNE 2, 2018





The Details

PHOTOGRAPHER: Ben Foster and Sarah Mack,
Matt Mason Photography, Lake Geneva

CEREMONY & RECEPTION VENUES: The Stenoien
Family Farm (Officially: River Ridge Farm)

FLORAL DESIGNER: Event Floral, Rockford, IL

GOWN: Simply Luxe, Algonquin, IL

CATERER: Cuisine America, Elgin, IL

CAKE: Sugar Jones, Rockford, IL

BEAUTY (MAKEUP/HAIR): Yes Ma'am, Warrenville, IL

EQUIPMENT RENTALS:
Marquee Rentals, McCook, IL

TRANSPORTATION:
Odyssey Transportation, Chicago, IL

WHITE HORSES:
Joanne Dickens Carriage Horses, Hebron IL

GUEST ACCOMMODATIONS:
Marriot, Hoffman Estates, IL

BRIDE & GROOM'S ACCOMMODATIONS:
The Geneva Inn, Lake Geneva



Kristianne, a girl with a love of her family's farm on the Illinois prairie found the love of her life, Chad, in America's West, where both were stationed at Utah's Hill Air Force Base. The commissioned officers found they had much in common, including their passion for archery, hunting, hiking and fly fishing. So when they decided to wed, it seemed only fitting they would say their vows outdoors at Kristianne's favorite place: on the family farm under the canopy of an age-old walnut tree. Arriving in a horse-drawn wagon, Kristianne in flowing gown and Swarovski Crystal Corral cowboy boots, met Chad as he stood under the enormous tree adorned with flowers and the couple's unity cross.



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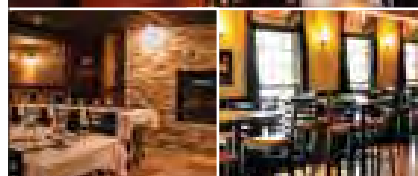


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Shannon + Drake

JULY 14, 2018





The Details

PHOTOGRAPHER: Ryan Bensheimer, Ideal Impressions Photography, Lake Geneva

CEREMONY & RECEPTION VENUES: Grand Geneva Resort & Spa, Lake Geneva

FLORAL DESIGNER: Lilypots, Lake Geneva

JEWELER: James Allen Online Retailer

GOWN: Genevieve's Bridal, South Barrington, IL

CATERER: Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva

BEAUTY (MAKEUP/HAIR): WELL Spa & Salon, Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva

EQUIPMENT RENTALS: A Personal Touch DJ, Oak Creek, WI

GUEST ACCOMMODATIONS: Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva

Shannon and Drake's wedding day dawned with special meaning. The two would join their lives as one, but more importantly they would form a new family of three as Shannon spoke her vows to Drake as well as her young stepdaughter.

Standing beneath an outdoor trellis, this suburban Chicago family surrounded by their 165 guests basked in the warmth of a perfect summer day and the beauty of the Wisconsin countryside.

Later, Grand Geneva's Ski Chalet served as an elegant venue with much of the décor created by Shannon, along with kid-friendly activities the couple insisted upon for their guests' children.



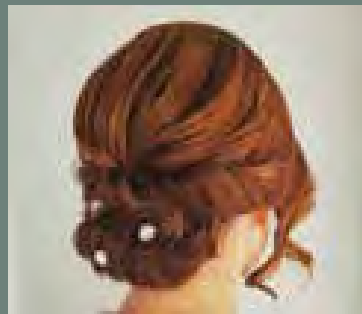
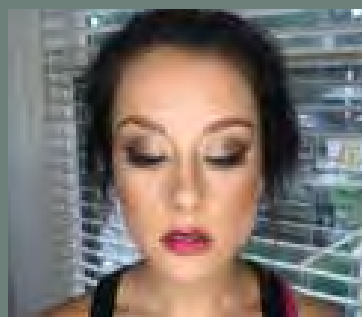
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Sara + Jake
SEPTEMBER 9, 2018





The Details

PHOTOGRAPHERS: Matt Mason Photography - Matt Mason, Sarah Mack, Ben Foster, Ben Hanson, Kerry Trampe; Kristina Lorraine Photography; Brian Slawson Photography; Big Foot Foto Company - Scottie Peterson

CEREMONY: The Landing 1841, Burlington

RECEPTION: Boxed and Burlap, Delavan

FLORAL DESIGNER: Frontier Flowers, Fontana

JEWELER: Her Rings: Robert J. Nuccio, Modesto, CA; His Ring: Studio 2015, Woodstock, IL

GOWN: Miss Ruby Boutique, Milwaukee

CATERER: Gooseberries Catering, Burlington

CAKE: Meegan, a personal friend; other desserts, Lake Geneva Pie Co., Lake Geneva and Royal Oaks Orchard, Harvard, IL

BEAUTY (MAKEUP/HAIR): Bride, Jillian Doherty (jilliandoherty.com); Bridesmaids: LUXE, traveling hair and make-up team, Lake Geneva

EQUIPMENT RENTALS: Lake Geneva Party Rental, Lake Geneva (Tables, chairs, linens)

TRANSPORTATION: Big Foot Foto Company, Lake Geneva

GUEST ACCOMMODATIONS: The Abbey, Fontana; The Ridge, Lake Geneva; Airbnb

Most would say the odds are stacked against any couple who meets online and is 2,000 miles apart. Not Jake and Sara. This California girl and Wisconsin guy spoke for the first time in July 2017, were engaged in April 2018 and married five months later on Sept. 9. Their connection was instant, their commitment life-long. Sara gave up California's sunshine and warmth to move to Wisconsin, where the couple planned their wedding celebration incorporating natural elements like fresh flowers, foods and a peaceful setting along the banks of White River. To the delight of their guests, the couple's "Just Married" exit featured a fun-filled cruise in Jake's grandfather's canoe and mini-bouquets of flowers as party favors.



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For Chris Stebnitz, third-generation owner and president of Stebnitz Builders, renovating, remodeling and building homes is the epitome of where form meets function. The company's services are wide-ranging from home improvements and remodeling to custom home design and construction, yet one commitment is the same: to ensure a long-term relationship with homeowners.

With a family tradition in construction dating back to the 1970s, this family-run business has mastered the challenge of remodeling projects earning the company awards and accolades aplenty. Based in Elkhorn, the company was founded in 1972 by Stan Stebnitz and was eventually purchased by his sons, Dave, Gary and Dan Stebnitz, in 1985. The tradition of family ownership continues into a third generation as Chris Stebnitz, Dave's son, purchased the company from his family in 2005.



Stebnitz Builders combined both beauty and function in this recently completed 3,364-square-foot home. Details like hand-scraped white oak floors and tongue and groove wood cathedral ceilings offer a cozy Northwoods vibe. Plus the clients' vision for a home to comfortably age in was met with a zero threshold floor plan, wider hallways and doorways as well as an elevator.

EXPERIENCE YOU CAN TRUST

Throughout its long history, Stebnitz Builders has efficiently managed complex construction while remaining sensitive to the human elements of designing and renovating a family's home. As a result of Stebnitz Builders' tremendous experience and industry know-how, customers have learned to trust in the company's focus and acute attention to detail.

The entire Stebnitz Builders team takes a great deal of pride in each and every project in which they are involved — trying to provide the very best service and give each customer a house they can uniquely call “home.” By meeting and exceeding industry quality assurance standards, as well as the expectations of customers, the Stebnitz Builders team can provide customers with the ultimate satisfaction of a great result and help them build instant equity with their home as soon as their project is complete.

DESIGN WITH A PURPOSE

Recently, Stebnitz Builders wrapped up construction of a stunning 3,364-square-foot gem, situated on a beautiful five-acre parcel near the Lulu Lake State Natural Area north of Troy Center. The sophisticated ranch-style home, located on a quiet cul-de-sac, boasts five bedrooms, four baths, a finished lower level, and a five-car garage.

“Prior to building this house, the homeowners were on a 20-acre parcel that required a lot more maintenance,” says Chris Stebnitz. “Our clients wanted to downsize from their existing home and build a new home that they could age comfortably in.”

To meet the homeowners' vision, one of the features Stebnitz Builders included throughout the entire house is a zero threshold floor plan, which means there are no steps to maneuver anywhere in the home. In addition, the Stebnitz team installed an elevator to reach the finished lower level.

“The hallways and doorways also are wider in the event that the homeowners need to use a wheelchair,” Stebnitz says. To further enhance the convenient amenities found throughout the home, a state-of-the-art central vacuum system was installed as well as lighting fixtures in every closet.

“The shower in the master bathroom has grab bars, a bench and threshold that is flush with the floor,” Stebnitz says. “These are all features we considered and discussed with the homeowner while designing the house. When looking at this house at first glance, one would not necessarily notice these subtle design features but they mean so much to the homeowner.”

BEAUTIFUL FINISHING TOUCHES

The flooring throughout the first floor of this stunning home features wide plank, rift sawn, hand-scraped white oak, which provides a gorgeous design underfoot. An open design concept in the kitchen and living areas, which includes stunning tongue and groove wood cathedral style ceilings, provides the ideal spot to relax or entertain.

To incorporate meaningful design elements throughout the home,



The ranch-style home boasts five bedrooms and four bathrooms on two levels. In keeping with the homeowners' desire to ensure the house will meet their long-term needs, the shower in the master bath has a threshold that is flush to the floor and is equipped with grab bars and features a bench. The exterior of the home is designed for maintenance-free living with a metal roof and composite deck materials. A landscape plan was chosen to accent the home and its five-acre setting with plants and shrubs that will require little attention.

the homeowners' niece, who is a glass artist, created a custom stained glass overlay for the great room windows and on the mirrors for the bathrooms.

WISH LIST FULFILLED

Building or remodeling a home of any size can be a complicated process requiring skill, experience, and a commitment to quality. Stebnitz Builders' team provides each client a full-service approach to create personal and unique homes of enduring quality and value. From site selection to the moment of groundbreaking to project completion, Stebnitz Builders works closely with clients, ensuring every facet of the project meets their goals.

For this particular project, the Stebnitz team listened intently to the homeowner's wish list upon initial consultation and designed the

entire house with the idea of the homeowners aging comfortably in their home.

In addition to extensive interior elements that met this goal, the home's exterior features were also taken into consideration as well. For example, the roof is a metal "forever" roof that requires no maintenance and the deck was constructed from composite material that also requires very little maintenance. Even some of the shrubs and plants used in the landscaping are low maintenance elements that grace the home's beautiful location.

While building and remodeling exceptionally designed homes is at the forefront of Stebnitz Builders, enjoying the relationships they build with each individual client is paramount. They strive to maintain strong relationships long after a client's dream home is complete. ▲



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// CUISINE //



Ultimate Breakfast Casseroles

Feeding a large crowd is as simple as a little prep the night before

By Bill Turner

It's easy to become grumpy in the wintertime. Sometimes the weather can get to you, especially due to the lack of sunlight. And as much as we look forward to the holidays, let's face it, they can be very stressful. We have a large family, so the holidays mean a lot of cooking. Sometimes I could easily stay in the kitchen all day. Breakfast can be especially trying as everyone chooses their own time to rise and still expects mom and dad to serve them something.

Tired of hours in the kitchen? Try some of these breakfast casseroles and life will get better quickly. All but one can be made the evening before and quickly slipped into the oven while you have your morning coffee and tell Alexa to play some quiet music. Here are some of my favorites:

THE BIG BREAKFAST CASSEROLE

Remember the McDonald's Big Breakfast? This recipe reminds me of that in an easy-to-serve casserole format. It is as complete a meal as you could want. And, when it comes out of the oven it is golden brown and puffy like a quiche. The crowd will go wild.

Servings: 12

Ingredients:

8 cups (loosely packed) brioche bread, cut into $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch cubes. (One loaf will give you more than enough)
3 Tbsp. olive oil
3 onions, thinly sliced
1 tsp. salt
 $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. sugar
1 lb. ham (thickly sliced), diced
12 eggs
3 cups whole milk
1 tsp. dry mustard
 $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. freshly grated nutmeg
4 tsp. fresh thyme leaves
2 cups grated Gruyère cheese (about 8 ounces)

Directions:

1. Prepare all of the ingredients so you will be able to quickly assemble the dish.
2. Grease a 10" x 14" baking dish and line with cubed bread.
3. Heat the olive oil in a skillet over medium to low heat. Add the onions, salt, and sugar. Sauté until they are lightly caramelized (a medium golden-brown color), about 15 minutes.
4. Add the ham and cook about 5 minutes more.
5. Spread onion and ham over the bread cubes and sprinkle the grated Gruyère on top.
6. Whisk together the eggs, milk, dry mustard, nutmeg, and thyme in a separate mixing bowl. Season with salt and pepper.
7. Pour the egg mixture over the bread, ham and onions.
8. Press down on the top gently, so that all the bread cubes get soaked with the egg mixture. Cover and refrigerate overnight.
9. In the morning, preheat the oven to 350 F. Take the casserole out of the fridge while the oven is preheating.
10. Bake, uncovered, for 50-60 minutes, or until the edges are bubbling, the top begins to brown, and the whole dish puffs up. Make sure the entire top is puffed up including the very middle.

Serve with some fresh fruit, or just a tall Bloody Mary.



SHANNON'S QUICHE CUPS

These little cups are extremely versatile. If you are having a fancy breakfast, they really fit the bill and you will get lots of compliments. Kids and grandkids also love them, and you can pop them into the oven whenever needed. They take a little more time to make, but they are worth the trouble.

Servings: 24, but some will easily eat two

Ingredients:

1 lb. breakfast sausage
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup onion, diced finely
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup green pepper, diced finely
2 Tbsp. olive oil
1 cup of white button mushrooms, sliced
10 eggs
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup milk
1 cup grated mozzarella cheese
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup scallions
Salt and pepper
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sour cream

The Gear:

Muffin tin
24 Muffin cup liners

Directions:

1. Put the liners in the muffin tin and spray the insides of the liners with non-stick cooking spray or rub with olive oil.
2. Sauté onion, pepper and mushrooms in olive oil, about 4 minutes.
3. Add sausage, salt and pepper and cook until done. Set aside to cool.
4. Whisk together eggs, milk, cheese and scallions.
5. Combine meat and egg mixtures and ladle into muffin cups. Store in the refrigerator until ready to use.
6. Preheat oven to 350 F. Let the tin warm to room temperature while the oven is preheating.
7. Bake for 20-25 minutes until golden brown. Cool, remove liner, and serve with a dollop of sour cream.



BISQUICK COFFEE CAKE

Sometimes we need something a little sweeter for breakfast and this casserole offers that and more. Even though you have to make it the same morning, it's quick and easy. This is a great dish to take to church or to a family brunch.

Servings: 12

Ingredients:

Dough:

4 cups Bisquick
1 cup milk
3 eggs
4 Tbsp. sugar

Topping:

1 cup Bisquick
1 cup brown sugar
1 tsp. cinnamon
4 oz. butter (one stick)
½ cup raspberry or blackberry jam
1 cup of raspberries or blackberries

Directions:

1. Pre-heat oven to 400 F.
2. Grease a 10"x 14" baking dish.
3. Mix the dough ingredients and pour into baking pan.
4. For the topping, cut the butter into very small pieces and cream

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- together with the Bisquick, brown sugar and cinnamon. Use your fingers or a fork and mix until it has texture like oatmeal.
5. Fold in the jam and spread topping mixture over the top of the dough with a rubber or silicone spatula.
 6. Use a butter knife to make a checkerboard pattern with 1" squares on the top. The objective is to push some of the topping down into the cake.
 7. Add the berries and press down into the top surface.
 8. Bake for 30 minutes or until done in the very center of the cake. Insert a table knife and if it comes out clean, the cake is done.

THE FRENCH TOAST CASSEROLE

So if you have tried the Big Breakfast Casserole and want to change it up a bit, here is a good alternative — the French Toast Casserole. Everyone has a version of this recipe, but there is a reason for that. It's very good and very easy to make.

Servings: 12

Ingredients:

- 1 baguette, sliced about ½" thick
- 8 eggs
- 1 ½ cups milk
- 1 cup half-and-half
- 2 Tbsp. sugar
- 1 Tbsp. vanilla extract
- 1 tsp. cinnamon

For the topping:

- ½ cup brown sugar
- ¼ cup flour
- ½ cup walnuts
- ½ cup golden raisins
- 4 Tbsp. butter

Directions:

1. Grease a 10" x 14" baking dish and carefully arrange the bread slices. You should be able to get two layers with one baguette.
2. Mix together eggs, milk, half-and-half, sugar, vanilla, and cinnamon. Pour over bread.
3. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 1 hour or overnight.
4. When ready to bake, preheat oven to 350 F. Let the dish warm to room temperature while the oven preheats.
5. To prepare the topping, combine the brown sugar and flour in a mixing bowl. Cut the butter into small pieces and add to the sugar-flour mixture. With your fingers or a fork, cream butter into the sugar-flour mixture until it resembles oatmeal. Mix in the walnuts and raisins and spread the topping over the bread and egg mixture.
6. Cover with foil and bake for 25 minutes. Uncover and bake for another 25 minutes or until golden brown and puffed up like a soufflé.
7. Serve with maple syrup, jam or marmalade. A cold glass of Sancerre can really add a pleasant touch. ▲



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BEYOND THE WINTER BLUES


Although winter can be fun and magical, many struggle with the lack of sunlight and experience Seasonal Affective Disorder

By Shelby Deering

Poet Anne Bradstreet once said, "If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant."

While that's certainly true, it's a safe bet that many of us would be willing to enjoy fall, skip winter completely and head directly into spring. Wouldn't it be pleasant to soak up Wisconsin's beauty without the icy roads, snow shoveling and frigid temperatures?





For some Midwesterners, these winter woes are mild inconveniences at best. They go about their days throughout each season with unchanged mood levels and a generally sunny outlook toward life.

And then there are those of us who experience winter in a dramatically different way. For some, feelings about winter go far beyond the standard “winter blues.” For 10 percent of Wisconsin residents, winter is when they endure a condition called Seasonal Affective Disorder or SAD.

The National Institute of Mental Health defines Seasonal Affective Disorder as “a type of depression that comes and goes with the seasons, typically starting in the late fall and early winter and going away during the spring and summer.” They go on to detail the symptoms of SAD, which can include anything from low energy to carbohydrate cravings.

We asked two mental health professionals to explain the ins and outs of SAD, and to share their best tips to improve symptoms.

THE BASICS OF SAD

Licensed Professional Counselor Joseph Fairbanks is the outpatient lead psychotherapist at Elkhorn’s Aurora Behavioral Health Center. Specializing in affective disorders and depression, he is well-versed in the lows that his patients experience during the winter months.

Fairbanks says, “We don’t know the exact causes of SAD, but it’s believed that it’s triggered by a decrease in sunlight, and the effect the decrease in sunlight has on a person’s biological clock or the production of hormones like serotonin or melatonin.”

Dr. Shilagh Mirgain, senior psychologist at Madison’s UW Health, adds that that SAD is “a form of Major Depressive Disorder,” and that the winter blues can be considered a less-serious version of SAD.

She says, “Many people find a lesser form of lower mood called the winter blues that isn’t an official diagnosis. They just feel more down, have less energy and less motivation, sleep more and crave carbohydrates, but the symptoms aren’t causing impairment or distress.”

For those whose moods turn upside-down every winter, SAD can wreak havoc on their daily lives, and they are in their very own category. Mirgain says that symptoms can include low mood, less enjoyment in activities, sleep disturbances, appetite changes, fatigue, moving more slowly, increased agitation and cognitive difficulties.

Beyond the physical effects, Mirgain says that SAD can contribute to becoming sedentary and socially isolated. Sufferers feel less motivated and have difficulty concentrating at work. They also tend to eat unhealthy food and want to sleep more frequently.

WHO IS AFFECTED?

Fairbanks says that about 4 to 6 percent of people have winter depression that peaks between December and February, and another 10 to 20 percent may deal with mild SAD symptoms. That’s across the country. Here in Wisconsin, those numbers are more concentrated.

“Because symptoms appear to be triggered by a decrease in sunlight, it’s more common in climates where there is less sunlight in winter months, like Wisconsin,” Fairbanks says, adding, “Up to 10 percent of Wisconsin residents deal with some sort of winter depression, according to a recent study.”

Mirgain shares that young people are more susceptible. She says, “The age group that is most vulnerable to depression is ages 18 to 29.”

And, women tend to be more affected by SAD than men. Fairbanks says, “Women tend to get the disorder much more than men, and usually, people first develop SAD in their 20s.”

Mirgain agrees, saying, “Women are at greater risk in general than men for developing depression, at a rate of 1.5 to 3 times higher.”

Lastly, Fairbanks says that family history also plays a role. “More than half of people with SAD have a close relative who suffers from severe depression,” he says.

BRIGHT IDEAS TO TREAT SAD

Luckily, there’s light at the end of the tunnel and there happen to be several treatment options available to those who deal with SAD.

Before setting out to alleviate your symptoms, you should first make an appointment with your doctor. As Fairbanks advises, “It’s always best to talk to your doctor about your symptoms before trying any treatment.” Mirgain says that if you’re especially struggling, talking to your physician about medication or psychotherapy can be helpful.

After discussing your options with your doctor, you can move forward into several directions when it comes to your treatment. Your first line of defense can be something called a light box.

Fairbanks explains, “Light therapy simulates natural sunlight exposure that you don’t get during the winter months. Patients who use bright light therapy for 30 minutes to two hours a day often start to feel better within a week. It is important to continue to use light therapy until the seasons change, or the depression may come back. An at-home light therapy kit can be purchased online or in many stores for anywhere from \$50 to \$200.”

Mirgain uses a light box, and she advises to make sure your light box has a minimum of 10,000 LUX, which is the

SAD-Busting Suggestions

- *Invest in a pair of snowshoes and hit the trails.*
- *Plan a pampering, healthy weekend at one of the area spas.*
- *Learn to love winter—and even revel in it—at Lake Geneva's Winterfest (Jan. 26 – Feb. 3).*
- *Get moving at an energizing Yoga class. Choose from many local studios.*
- *Pick up some organic, Vitamin D-rich foods.*
- *Attend a depression support group or take a class through Aurora Health Care or UW Health.*
- *Do some skiing or snowboarding at Alpine Valley Resort, Grand Geneva Resort or Wilmot Mountain.*



amount of light that the sun emits. She uses hers in the morning, since using it later in the day can impact sleep. She says, "Make sure not to stare directly into the light as it can damage the retina of the eye."

Vitamin D, otherwise known as the "sunshine vitamin," is also a powerful ally in the fight against SAD. Mirgain says, "Vitamin D3 supplements are a useful way to prevent the winter blues as those of us living in Wisconsin are not getting Vitamin D3 naturally as the sun's rays

aren't strong enough to give our body what we need. Mushrooms and fish contain natural forms of Vitamin D, so make sure to include these in your diet."

Last but not least — get outside, even if the weather is frightful.

Fairbanks says, "Winter is a good time to get outside and learn to enjoy winter sports with others. In Walworth

County, there are several cross-country ski trails, hiking trails, opportunities for ice skating and other winter sports."

Mirgain is on the same page, and says, "If it is a nice, warmer, sunny day, I always encourage people to get outside and have exposure to the sun."

And if all else fails, we can take comfort in knowing that seasons are temporary, and better days lie ahead when winter melts into spring. ▲

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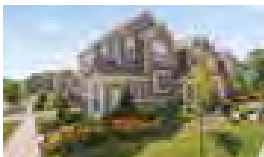
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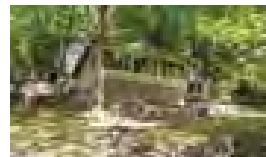
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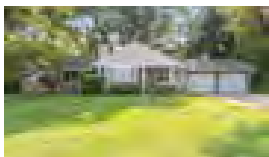
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Woman on a Mission

Founder of Walworth County
Adult Special Olympics
program dedicates life to
making a difference

By Rachel Wisinski

From the time she served as a candy striper at age 15, Betty Aguirre knew she wanted to help people. Years later, when she had a son with special needs, that fire inside her only grew.

One fateful day in July 1968 while attending the first international Special Olympics Games at Chicago's Soldier Field, Aguirre met Eunice Kennedy Shriver, the organization's founder, whose compassion for others was contagious.

Kennedy Shriver — the sister of President John F. Kennedy and Sen. Robert F. Kennedy — established "Camp Shriver" six years earlier as a way to provide organized physical activity for children with intellectual disabilities, and the concept quickly permeated across the world. Aguirre had followed Kennedy Shriver's work, and relished the opportunity to thank her role model that day.

"I wish I was a fraction of what that lady was," Aguirre says. "She had a dream and helped so many people, and her dream is still here and helping so many people today."

Meeting Kennedy Shriver sparked something in Aguirre that she couldn't ignore. A few years after that meeting, Aguirre began volunteering with a Special Olympics program in Illinois. She became a champion for her son and other individuals facing intellectual, physical, mental or emotional challenges. "I wanted Jamie to have different opportunities and said, 'Hey, I want others to have those opportunities, too,'" Aguirre says.

When Jamie graduated from the special education program at Lakeland School in Elkhorn, Aguirre was surprised by the lack of options for his future. “I thought, ‘Gosh, we’ve got to do something about this,’” Aguirre says.

With that in mind and almost 10 years of volunteering with Special Olympics already under her belt, Aguirre founded the Walworth County Adult Special Olympics program.

Since then, her efforts have only grown stronger.

BUILDING A FOUNDATION

Walworth County Adult Special Olympics is a branch under the Special Olympics of Wisconsin, but it does not receive funding or resources from the parent organization. Instead, Aguirre works tirelessly to raise money for equipment, transportation, uniforms and other expenses year-round.

She founded the nonprofit in 1986 with seven athletes, and today, more than 200 from the region participate.

Individuals can choose from eight seasonal sports: bowling — which is recreational, not competitive — and volleyball in the fall; basketball in the winter; aquatics and track and field in the spring; and bocce ball, softball and tennis in the summer.

Traditionally, the tennis season culminates with a competition in August. However, reduced practice time due to poor weather conditions this past year led Aguirre to seek use of the indoor courts at the Lake Geneva Tennis Club, and beginning this year, the club will offer skills training year-round at no cost to the nonprofit. “Tennis is wonderful for hand-eye coordination,” Aguirre says. “I asked Paul Lauterbach at the Tennis Club to help because I wanted to take the program to another level.”

Some individuals choose their favorite sport while others compete in one each season, and a handful are involved in everything they are eligible for, Aguirre says. However, bocce ball, bowling and basketball generally draw the most participation.

Beyond the physical benefits, according to Aguirre, the structure of learning a sport,



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©BETTY AGUIRRE

Betty Aguirre, left, founded the Walworth County Adult Special Olympics Program over 30 years ago. Today, there are more than 200 participants in eight seasonal sports.

attending practice and competing on select weekends applies a crucial lesson in responsibility. “When you see them going to practices and going to competitions, you see what it can do for an individual and how it changes their life,” Aguirre says.

Athletes also learn team work, accountability, respect and social skills — traits that might be hard to come by in other settings. “They reap so many benefits from this program,” Aguirre says.

While the international Special Olympics offers a program for young athletes, ages 3 to 8, Walworth County’s chapter accepts anyone who is 8 and older. Right now, the local program includes individuals ranging in age from 14 to 65.

However, Aguirre has begun working on incorporating a starter program for kids who are even younger. “They’re starting at 3 and 4 years of age, just getting a racket in their hand, learning how to bounce a ball, getting a ball over the net,” Aguirre says. “I think it can be very instrumental to so many people to come in at a young age.”

A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT

In addition to Lake Geneva Tennis Club offering its space, Badger High School allows local Special Olympians to practice basketball and softball at the school at no cost, and Elkhorn High School donates the use of its track. However, that’s far from the only support the program receives.

The Geneva Lakes Family YMCA holds “Y nights” for the athletes once a week to teach the importance of exercise. Aguirre also seeks donations from various organizations throughout the year and hosts two major fundraisers. Her pitch to new donors often includes the fact that transportation for the program alone costs \$9,000 annually.

“They always say, ‘What is it you need?’ and I’m not the person to say, ‘Give me \$500 or \$1,000,’” she says. “I say, ‘Whatever you want to give us, it is accepted.’”

In August, Aguirre hosts an informal pig roast and raffle at Lake Geneva’s Champs’ Sports Bar & Grill. When she began the fundraiser “many, many years” ago, it only brought in about \$200. This year, the event netted more than \$12,000.

Simple Café in Lake Geneva hosts the group’s second major fundraiser in October. During this campaign, Special Olympians take the spotlight to share with community members how the program has affected their lives, talk about state

competitions and show off their medals.

Aguirre says there’s always a full house, and the event gets a great response. “It’s heartwarming to know you have all of these people that want to see you succeed because they know it’s benefiting so many people,” she says.

Being part of a small, tight-knit community also helps, according to Aguirre. “You get to know a lot of people who know you by your first name,” she says. “It’s a wonderful spot to live in.”

UNSUNG HEROES

With such a demanding task at hand, Aguirre cannot run the program on her own. Across all sports, the Walworth County Adult Special Olympics program has about 15 to 20 rotating volunteers. But according to Aguirre, she’s always looking for more. “Volunteers are the backbone of any organization,” she says.

In some cases, for instance, Special Olympians may need one-on-one attention. Community members can

volunteer for a day — such as on-site the day of the bocce and basketball skills competitions at Badger High School — or they can become long-term volunteers who help at weekly practices.

“I’m just so indebted to these wonderful people who believe in this program and believe in these athletes,” Aguirre says. “That’s what makes it work. Those are the pillars of a great foundation, and it makes the lives of these individuals truly worthwhile.”

For the sake of the 200 athletes whose lives she touches on a weekly basis, Aguirre says she hopes the program continues forever.

She no longer worries about Jamie, who is 46 years old now and has worked at Grand Geneva Resort for about six years. For Aguirre, it’s humbling to see her hard work paying off.

“I’ve been volunteering with Special Olympics for 42 years,” she says. “You feel like everyone has a mission in life, and yep, this is mine.” ▲







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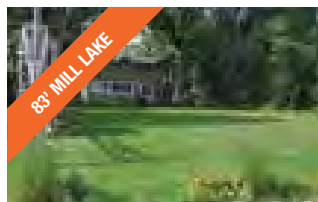
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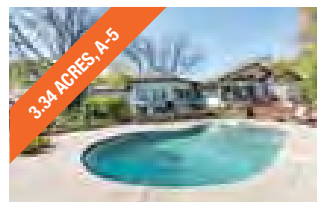
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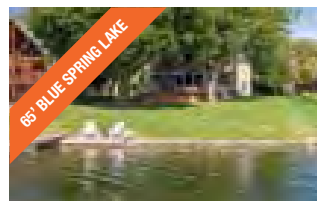
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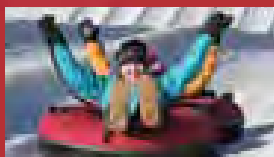
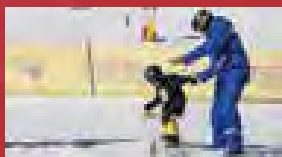
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B: Breakfast Br: Brunch L: Lunch D: Dinner NC: No Credit Cards Accepted \$: Mostly Under \$10
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THE BLACK SHEEP 210 W. Whitewater St., Whitewater; 262-458-4751. eatatblacksheep.com. Menu and specials are updated regularly to incorporate fresh, in-season, local foods presented in a delicious new way. Poultry, fish, pork, lamb, gluten-free, and vegetarian entrees. Closed Sun. L, D, \$-\$\$ F, R

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CRAFTED AMERICANA The Ridge Hotel, W4240 State Road 50, Lake Geneva; 262-249-3832. craftedamericana.com. Contemporary menu incorporates premium, locally sourced ingredients. B, L, D, \$-\$\$\$ F, R, LV, PR

THE DUCK INN N6214 Hwy. 89 (intersection of County Rd. A and Hwy 89), Delavan; 608-883-6988. duckinndelavan.com. Roast duck, filets, ribs. Closed Tues. D, \$-\$\$\$ F, R, LV

EGG HARBOR CAFÉ 827 Main St., Lake Geneva; 262-248-1207. eggharborcafe.com. Gourmet breakfast and lunch creations served from 6:30 a.m. daily. B, L, \$.

FORK IN THE ROAD 215 N. Rochester St., Mukwonago; 262-363-7849. forkintheroadrestaurant.com. A unique twist on American cuisine. Closed Sundays. L, D, \$-\$\$\$ F, R, LV, PR

FRONTIER RESTAURANT Lake Lawn Resort, 2400 E. Geneva St. (State Rd. 50), Delavan; 262-728-7950. lakelawnresort.com. Innovative American Heartland Cuisine served in the style of New American Cooking, which takes familiar comfort foods and adds sophisticated culinary twists. Our menu features only the finest regional ingredients from local Wisconsin farms including our own homegrown herbs and fresh honey. L, D, Br (Sunday only), \$-\$\$\$ F, R, LV, PR

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THE GRAND CAFÉ Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva; 262-249-4788. grandgeneva.com. Contemporary American cuisine in a casual setting. Breakfast buffet seasonally; Fri. & Sat. night prime rib and seafood buffet. B, L, D, \$-\$\$\$ F, R, LV, PR

NOVAK'S RESTAURANT 158 Fontana Blvd., Fontana; 262-275-1400. Our goal is to provide healthy, hearty, homemade food to our neighbors, family and friends. B, BR, L, \$ F, R, LV

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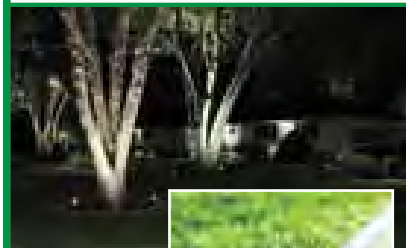


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SMOKEY'S BAR-B-QUE HOUSE Timber Ridge Lodge at Grand Geneva, State Rd. 50, Lake Geneva; 262-249-3400. grandgeneva.com. B, L, D (hours vary throughout the year), \$-\$\$. ¥ ☺

CASUAL/BURGERS

ALE STATION FOOD & BREW 2645 Main St., East Troy; 262-642-2739. alestation.com. (Formerly the Grist Mill.) Pub food with 32 beers on tap. L, D, \$-\$\$. ¥ ☹ ☹

ANNIE'S BURGER TOWN 645 N. Lincoln St., Elkhorn; 262-723-3250. anniesburgertown.com. Burgers, salads, sandwiches, appetizers, soups, ice cream. Local delivery. L, D, \$. ☹ ☹

BAR 55 The Ridge Hotel, W4240 State Road 50, Lake Geneva; 262-249-3800. ridgelake-geneva.com. Outdoor restaurant with fire feature overlooking Lake Como. Specialty sandwiches, appetizers, salads. Live entertainment on weekends. L, D, \$-\$\$. A ☹ ¥ J

BAR WEST The Abbey Resort, 269 Fontana Blvd., Fontana; 262-275-9034. theabbeyresort.com/dining. Featuring small plates, cocktails and musical entertainment Wed.-Sun. D, \$-\$\$. ¥ J

BARLEY'S HOPS AND MALTS N8720 County Road N, East Troy; 262-642-7811. Sandwiches, pizza. Open daily. L, D, \$. ¥ ☹ ☹

THE BIG HOUSE BAR AND GRILL N1320 S. Lake Shore Dr., Genoa City; 262-279-5700. thebighouselakegeneva.com. Burgers, wings, Italian beefs and more. L, D, \$. ¥ J

THE BOAT HOUSE BAR & GRILL 2062 S. Lakeshore Dr., Lake Geneva; 262-812-4126. theboathouselakegeneva.com. Classic American dishes including burgers, pizzas, wraps, salads and more. Wrap-around deck and boat access. \$\$\$, ☹ ¥ A ☹

BRASS RAIL 130 W. Main St., Whitewater; 262-473-4038. Bar and grill. L, D, NC, ATM, \$. ¥ ☹

BRUISER'S 689 Milwaukee Ave., Burlington; 262-763-6008. Subs, pizza, salads. L, D, NC, \$. ☹

CARVETTI'S 642 W. Main St., Lake Geneva; 262-248-9752. carvettis.com. L, D, \$. ¥ ☹ ☹

CHAMPS SPORTS BAR AND GRILL 747 W. Main St., Lake Geneva; 262-248-6008. champslake-geneva.com. L, D, \$. ¥ ☹ ☹

THE CHARCOAL GRILL AND ROTISSERIE 580 Milwaukee Ave., Burlington; 262-767-0000. charcoalgrill.com. L, D, \$. ¥ ☹ ☹ PR

CHUCK'S LAKESHORE INN 352 Lake St., Fontana; 262-275-3222. chuckslakeshoreinn.com. Open daily. Burgers and sandwiches.

Live entertainment some weekends. L, D, \$. ¥ ☹ ☹ ☹ ☹

COFFEE CUP CAFE 192 Baldwin St., Sharon; 262-736-4060. Broad menu, daily specials. B, L, D, \$. ☹ ☹

THE CORNER KITCHEN 100 Lake St., Twin Lakes; 262-877-2456. B, L, D, \$. ☹ ☹

COUNTRYSIDE W9695 Hwy. 14, Darien; 262-882-3224. B, L, D (Fri. only), \$. ☹

CRUISE-IN BAR & GRILL 107 Kenosha St., Walworth; 262-275-9191. Sandwiches, pizza. L, D, \$. ¥ ☹ ☹

DELANAN FAMILY RESTAURANT 505 S. 7th St., Delavan; 262-728-1715. B, L, D, \$. ☹ ☹

DJ'S IN THE DRINK W3860 North Lake Shore Dr., Lake Como; 262-248-8855. View of Lake Como. L, D, Visa or Cash accepted, \$. ATM, ¥ ☹ ☹ ☹

841 BREW HOUSE 841 E. Milwaukee St., Whitewater; 262-473-8000. 841brewhouse.com. Full microbrewery. Open daily \$-\$\$. ¥ ☹ ☹ PR

ELK RESTAURANT 13 W. Walworth St., Elkhorn; 262-723-4220. elkrestaurant.com. B, L, D, \$. ☹

THE END ZONE BAR & GRILL 4112 Blue Gill Rd., Delavan; 262-728-2420. Appetizers, burgers, sandwiches. L, D, \$. ¥ J ☹ ☹

EVERGREEN GOLF CLUB N6246 US-12, Elkhorn; 262-723-5722. Steaks, burgers, ribs. L, D, \$-\$\$. ¥ ☹ ☹

FIDDLESTICKS CAFE 101 Evergreen Pkwy, Suite 7, Elkhorn; 262-743-2233. B,L, \$. ☹ ☹ ☹



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FLIPPY'S 401 N. Pine St., Burlington; 262-763-6754. flippysfastfood.com. Casual fast food. L, D, \$. ☹☹☹

FORK IN THE ROAD 215 N. Rochester St., Mukwonago; 262-363-7849. forkintheroad-restaurant.com. A unique twist on American cuisine. Closed Sundays. L, D, \$-\$\$ ☹☹☹

FRED'S PARKVIEW 596 N. Pine St., Burlington; 262-763-8370. freds-burgers.com. Meat and buns fresh from local grocer Gooseberries every day. L, D, \$. ☹☹☹

GABBY'S PALACE 356 N. Pine St., Burlington; 262-763-4363. Sandwiches, daily specials. NC, \$. ☹☹☹ PR

GORDY'S BOAT HOUSE 336 Lake Ave., Fontana; 262-275-6800. gordysboats.com. Casual dining, Geneva Lake view. Steaks, pizza, seafood, sandwiches. Weekend Bloody Mary bar. Boat dock, valet parking. L, D, \$-\$\$ ☹☹☹ PR

THE GRAND CAFÉ Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva; 262-249-4788. grandgeneva.com. Contemporary American cuisine in a casual setting. Breakfast buffet seasonally; Fri. & Sat. night prime rib and seafood buffet. B, L, D, \$-\$\$ ☹☹☹ PR

GREENIE'S CLUBHOUSE 700 S. 2nd St., Delavan at Delbrook Golf Course; 262-728-1339. greeniesclubhouse.com. Pasta, steaks and sandwiches. ☹☹☹

HARBORSIDE CAFE 100 Broad St., Lake Geneva; 262-248-3835. Late night happy hour. B, L, D, \$\$ ☹☹☹

HARPOON WILLIE'S PUB & EATERY 10 E. Geneva St., Williams Bay; 262-245-6906. harpoonwillies.com. Sandwiches, salads and house-smoked meats. L, D, \$. ☹☹☹

HAWK'S VIEW GOLF CLUB W7377 Krueger Rd., Lake Geneva; 262-348-9900. hawkviewgolf-club.com. Sandwiches, homemade soups. L, D, \$-\$\$ ☹☹☹

HEART & SÓL CAFÉ 264 Center St., Lake Geneva; 262-812-4035. Specializes in organic, non-GMO, locally sourced food, drinks and smoothies. L, \$-\$\$ ☹☹☹

HOGS AND KISSES 149 Broad St., Lake Geneva; 262-248-7447. hogsandkisses.com. D.J. and dancing. Closed Mon. L, D, \$. ☹☹☹

INN BETWEEN 1522 Beckman Dr., Delavan; 262-728-9824. Open until 8 p.m. daily. L, \$. ☹☹☹

ISLE OF CAPRI CAFÉ Lake Lawn Resort, 2400 E. Geneva St., (State Rd. 50), Delavan; 262-728-7950. lakelawnresort.com. Choose from a variety of items including espresso drinks and made-from-scratch breakfast sandwiches in the morning, to gelato, Italian-inspired grilled sandwiches and sophisticated wood-fire pizzas into the evening. B, L, D, \$. ☹☹☹

JACKSON'S HOLE 1798 Genesee Rd., Springfield; 262-248-1995. Pizza, sandwiches, appetizers, entrées. L, D, NC, ATM, \$. ☹☹☹ PR

JO JO'S PIZZA & PASTA 308 State Road 50, Delavan; 262-728-5656. jojospizzadelavan.com L, D, \$-\$\$ ☹☹☹

KC'S CLUBHOUSE W3731 Club House Dr., Lake Geneva; 262-203-5320. Appetizers, sandwiches, steaks, ribs, fish. L, D, \$\$ ☹☹☹

LAGRANGE GENERAL STORE W6098 U.S. Highway 12, Whitewater; 262-495-8600. Sandwiches, soups, salads, coffee, smoothies, ice cream. L, D, \$. ☹☹☹

LAKEHOUSE BREAKFAST BAR & GRILL N7073 State Highway 12/67, Elkhorn; 262-742-3300. lakehouseelkhorn.com. B, L, D, \$-\$\$ ☹☹☹

LAUDERDALE LANDING W5625 West Shore Dr., Elkhorn; 262-495-8727. lauderdalelanding.com. Beautiful lake views, Waterfront Tiki Bar serving weekends and holidays. Access the restaurant via boat. Serving homemade pizza, sandwiches and burgers. Open 11 a.m. daily. L, D, \$-\$\$ ☹☹☹

LEFTY'S CHICAGO-STYLE HOT DOGS N7033 U.S. Highway 12, Elkhorn; 262-215-8266. Hot dogs, beef, brats. Carry-out. L, D, NC, \$. ☹☹☹

LINDEY'S ON BEULAH W1340 Beach Rd., East Troy; 262-642-2600. Pub fare. D, \$. ☹☹☹ PR

LOOKOUT BAR & EATERY Lake Lawn Resort, 2400 E. Geneva St. (State Rd. 50), Delavan; 262-728-7950. lakelawnresort.com. Offering picturesque views of the lakefront, and serving classic pub fare in a relaxed atmosphere. L, D, \$-\$\$ ☹☹☹

LOPEZ'S ANCHOR INN 1325 Racine St., Delavan; 262-728-2391. Burgers, Mexican food, ice cream. Carry-out only. L, D, NC, \$. ☹☹☹

LUKE'S MARKET STREET ITALIAN SANDWICHES 117 W. Market St., Elkhorn; 262-723-4676. Sandwiches, shakes, burgers. L, D, \$. ☹☹☹

MAD DAN'S RESTAURANT 200 Main St., Twin Lakes; 262-877-2586. maddans.com. L (weekends), D, \$-\$\$ ☹☹☹

MANNY'S SNACK SHACK 404 S. Lake Ave., Twin Lakes; 262-877-4442. Sandwiches, burgers, salads. B, L, \$. ☹☹☹

MARS RESORT W4098 S. Shore Drive, off State Rd 50 on Lake Como, Lake Geneva; 262-245-5689. L, D, \$-\$\$ ☹☹☹

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OAKFIRE RESTAURANT & PIZZERIA 831 Wrigley Dr., Lake Geneva; 262-248-1111. oakfirelakegeneva.com. Specializing in wood-fired Neapolitan-style pizza. Also serving paninis, flatbreads and salads. B, L, D, \$-\$\$, ☀️🌊📞

PIER 290 1 Liechty Dr., Williams Bay; 262-245-2100. pier290.com. Focus on clean flavors and fresh ingredients. Heated indoor and outdoor bar. Accessible by land and water. Boat parking available. L, D, \$-\$\$, ¥📞🌙🌊☀️PR

POPEYE'S 811 Wrigley Dr., Lake Geneva; 262-248-4381. popeyeslk.com. Burgers, salads, ribs, chicken. Lobsters, steaks, sandwiches. L, D, \$-\$\$\$¥☀️🐟📞

RED DOGS 99 N. Walworth Ave., Williams Bay; 262-245-1330. Chicago style sandwich shop that is dog friendly — even offering a dog menu so your pet can eat with you on the deck. Open Wed-Sun 11 a.m. — 4 p.m. \$

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SECOND SALEM BREWING COMPANY 111 W. Whitewater St., Whitewater; 262-473-2920. sec-ondsalem.com. Brewery, full menu of appetizers and brew-house favorites. L, D, \$, ¥☹️🌙📞

SPERINO'S 720 N. Wisconsin St., Elkhorn; 262-723-2222. sperinos.com. Full bar, wine, beer, pizza, burgers, sandwiches, salads. L, D, \$-\$\$, ¥

SPRECHER'S RESTAURANT & PUB 111 Center St., Lake Geneva; 262-248-7047. sprecherspub.com. Steaks, sandwiches, salads, pastas. Happy hour specials. L, D, \$-\$\$¥☹️📞🌙🌊PR

SWEENEY'S PUB 103 Kenosha St., Walworth; 262-275-5560. Pub snacks. L, D, NC, \$, ¥

10 PIN PUB 121 Kenosha St., Walworth; 262-394-4300. 10pinpub.com/pub. Nostalgic 8-lane bowling alley with pub food and handmade pizza. Sat-Sun. L, D; Mon-Fri. D, Closed Wed. \$ ¥PR

2894 ON MAIN 2894 Main St., East Troy; 262-642-9600. 2894onmain.com. Farm-to-fork café. Also offers take out. B, L, D, \$-\$\$¥

TOUCH OF CLASS 121 S. Lake Ave., Twin Lakes; 262-877-3340. Sandwiches. L, D, \$, ¥📞🌙

TURTLE LAKE INN N6513 Anderson Dr., Delavan; 262-728-5311. Sandwiches, soups. L, D, NC, \$. ¥☹️🌙📞

UPPER CRUST PIZZERIA AND PUB N1070 County Rd. H, Pell Lake; 262-279-2233. Pizza, sandwiches, appetizers. Closed Mon.-Tues., L, D, NC, ATM, \$, ¥☹️

THE WATERFRONT The Abbey Resort, 269 Fontana Blvd., Fontana; 262-275-9034. theabbeyresort.com/dining. Casual/Burgers, BBQ. Live entertainment on weekends in the summer. Outdoor BBQ. Call for hours. L, D, \$-\$\$, ☹️📞🌙📞

WATERFRONT 408 State Rd. 50, Delavan; 262-728-4700. waterfrontdelavan.com. Burgers, flatbreads, pasta, steaks, seafood and salads. L, D, \$, ¥☹️🌙📞

COFFEE HOUSE

AVANT BICYCLE & CAFÉ 234 Broad St., Lake Geneva; 262-203-5141. Coffee bar with bakery items plus full-service boutique bicycle shop. Open daily, 6 a.m. — 8 p.m. \$.

BEAN & VINE COFFEE BAR The Ridge Hotel, W4240 State Road 50, Lake Geneva; 262-249-3800. ridgelakegeneva.com. Featuring coffee, tea, bakery treats, wine, beer and sandwiches. Open daily. B, L, D, \$-\$\$.

BOXED & BURLAP 2935 State Rd. 67, Delavan; 262-374-5497. boxedandburlap.com. Custom roasted coffee, espresso bar plus a selection of tea and pastry items. Open daily. \$.

CAFÉ GELATO Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva; 262-249-4788. grandgeneva.com. Serving Starbucks coffee, bakery treats and gelato. B, L, D, \$.

CAFÉ LATTE The Abbey Resort & Spa; 269 Fontana Blvd., Fontana; 262-275-6811. theabbeyresort.com. Starbucks coffee, breakfast treats and grab-and-go foods. B, L, \$.

COFFEE MILL 441 Mill St., Fontana; 262-275-0040. coffeemillfontana.com. Featuring Fair Trade certified Anodyne coffee, Rishi teas and baked goods from Swiss Maid Bakery in Harvard, IL. \$.

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STILLWATER COFFEE COMPANY 1560 N. Country Club Pkwy., Elkhorn; 262-723-2301. stillwater-coffeecompany.com. Fresh roasted coffee, sweet treats and savory bakery items plus other light menu choices. Open daily. \$

DINER

DADDY MAXWELL'S 150 Elkhorn Rd., Hwy. 67, Williams Bay; 262-245-5757. daddymaxwells.com. B, L, D (Fri.), Closed Tues., NC, \$, beer. ☞☞☞

ELIZABETH'S CAFE 322 E. Walworth Ave., Delavan; 262-728-3383. Steaks, salads, sandwiches. Breakfast served all day. B, L, D, \$, ☞☞☞

GUS'S DRIVE-IN 3131 Main St., East Troy; 262-642-2929. gussdrivein.com. Cruise night with classic cars. L, D, \$.

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JESSICA'S FAMILY RESTAURANT 140 W. Main St., Whitewater; 262-473-9890. Breakfast all day, daily specials. B, L, D, \$. ☞☞☞

LAKE AIRE RESTAURANT 804 W Main St., Lake Geneva; 262-248-9913. Breakfast all day. Beer and wine, good selection of desserts. L, D, \$. ☞☞☞

JONI'S DINER 111 Wells St., Lake Geneva; 262-348-9565. jonisdiner.com. Full breakfast menu plus soups, salads, sandwiches and burgers. B, L, \$. ☞☞☞

LUCKY STAR PUB AND EATERY 864 Milwaukee Ave., Burlington; 262-763-2155. eatatluckystar.com. American, Tex-Mex, Mexican and Italian food. B, L, D, \$-\$\$, ☞☞☞

OLYMPIC RESTAURANT 748 W. Main St., Lake Geneva; 262-248-6541. Open 24 hours Friday and Saturday. B, L, D, \$. ☞☞☞

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FRENCH

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BIG AL'S PIZZA 316 N. Lake Ave., Twin Lakes; 262-877-4655. Pizza, sandwiches. Carryout and delivery. Open at 4 p.m. daily.

CAFE CALAMARI 10 E. Geneva St., Williams Bay; 262-245-9665. cafecalamari.com. Up-scale Italian. Extensive wine list. D, \$\$-\$\$\$; dressy casual attire requested. ☞☞☞

CALI RISTORANTE ITALIANO 10 W. Evergreen Parkway, Elkhorn; 262-723-1430. caliristorante.wixsite.com. Traditional Italian cuisine. D, \$-\$\$ ☞☞☞

GENOA PIZZA 2678 E. Main St., East Troy; 262-642-9775. Dine-in, carryout, delivery. L, D, \$. ☞☞☞

GINO'S EAST 300 Wrigley Dr., Lake Geneva; 262-248-2525. ginoseastlakegeneva.com. Chicago's original deep dish pizza, Italian sandwiches, salads and entrees. L, D, \$-\$\$, ☞☞☞

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LUIS'S PIZZA W3410 S. Lakeshore Drive, Lake Geneva; 262-248-6810. luisspizza.com. Carry-out or delivery of pizza, Italian beef, burgers, wings, and more. Open 7 days a week. (Hours may vary in winter.) L, D, \$-\$\$

MAMA CIMINO'S 131 N. Wells St., Lake Geneva; 262-348-9077. mamaciminos.net. Pizza, pasta, sandwiches and wings. L, D, \$-\$\$, ¥

NAPOLI'S RESTAURANT 132 N. Pine St., Burlington; 262-763-8390. napoliburlington.com. Dine-in, carryout, delivery. L (Wed.-Fri.), D, \$-\$\$, ¥, F, O, PR

NEXT DOOR PUB 411 Interchange North (Hwy. 120), Lake Geneva; 262-248-9551. nextdoorpub.com. Pizza, burgers, sandwiches, salads, soups, pastas. Dine-in, carryout, delivery. L, D, \$, ¥, O, PR

OAKFIRE RESTAURANT & PIZZERIA 831 Wrigley Dr., Lake Geneva; 262-248-1111. oakfirelakegeneva.com. Specializing in wood-fired Neapolitan-style pizza. Also serving paninis, flatbreads and salads. B, L, D, \$-\$\$, ¥, F, O, PR

PASANO'S ON BROADWAY 5614 Broadway, Richmond, IL; 815-678-4500. pasanosonbroadway.com. Authentic Italian cuisine in a casual yet elegant bistro setting. Closed Mon. D, \$-\$\$, ¥, O

PAPA JOHN'S PIZZA 5576 Highway 50, Delavan; 262-728-8282. papajohns.com. Pizza, wings, poppers, desserts. Carryout or delivery. L, D, \$, ¥

PIE HIGH PIZZA 441 Mill St., Fontana; 262-275-1777. piehighpizza.com. Dine In. Carry Out. Delivery. Order online. \$-\$\$.

PINO'S LAST CALL 545 Kenosha St., Walworth; 262-275-6698. pinoslastcall.com. Pizza, pasta. Dine-in, carryout, delivery. L (Thurs-Sun), D, \$.

PIZZA RANCH 28 W. Hidden Trail, Elkhorn; 262-723-7880. pizzaranch.com. Our menu includes pizza, fried chicken, and a full buffet. L, D, \$.

RIGA-TONY'S 5576 State Rd. 50, Delavan; 262-740-2540. rigatonysdelavan.com. Pasta, sandwiches, soups, breads and desserts. Deli. Open Tues.-Sun. L, D, \$.

RISTORANTÉ BRISSAGO Grand Geneva Resort and Spa, Lake Geneva; 262-249-4788. grandgeneva.com. Upscale Italian. Extensive wine list. Open Tues.-Sat. D, \$-\$\$\$ ¥, O, PR

ROMA'S RISTORANTÉ N8416 County Rd. ES, East Troy; 262-642-5353. romaswi.com. Pizza and pastas. L, D, \$-\$\$, ¥, F, O, PR

ROSA'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT 180 W. Main St., Whitewater; 262-472-9857. eatrosas.com. Italian entrees, pizza. Carryout or delivery. D, \$, ¥

SOPRA: AN AMERICAN BISTRO 724 Main St., Lake Geneva; 262-249-0800. soprabistro.com. Contemporary American twist on Bistro classics. D, \$\$, ¥, F, O

SPERINO'S 720 N. Wisconsin Ave., Elkhorn; 262-723-2222. sperinos.com. Italian cuisine. Local delivery. L, D, \$, ¥, F, O, PR

SWEET AROMA RISTORANTÉ W7404 County Rd. X, Delavan; 262-728-6878. Authentic Italian cuisine. Closed Mon.-Tues., D, \$-\$\$\$ ¥, F

10 PIN PUB 121 Kenosha St., Walworth; 262-394-4300. 10pinpub.com/pub. Nostalgic 8-lane bowling alley with pub food and handmade pizza. Sat.-Sun. L, D; Mon.-Fri. D, Closed Wed. \$ ¥ PR

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LUCKE'S CANTINA 220 Elkhorn Rd., Williams Bay; 262-245-6666. luckescantina.com. Mexican cuisine. B, L, D, \$, ☺☺☺

PANCHO'S BURRITO VELOZ 206 Walworth St., Geneva City; 262-279-2449. panchosburritoveloz.com. Authentic Mexican cuisine. Closed Sunday. L, D, \$, ☺

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LAKELAND BAKERY 421 N. Wisconsin St., Elkhorn; 262-723-2923. lakelandbakery.com. A Walworth County favorite since 1957. Open Mon.-Fri. 6:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Sat. 6:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. \$.

RIVER VALLEY RANCH 39900 W. 60th Street, Burlington (State Rd 50 and County P); 888-711-7476. rivervalleykitchens.com. Pickled mushrooms, specialty sauces, and produce. Open daily.

SIMPLE BAKERY & MARKET 521 Broad St., Lake Geneva; 262-248-2190. simplebakeryandmarket.com. Fresh food and baked goods made with ingredients from local farmers. B, L, \$, ☺

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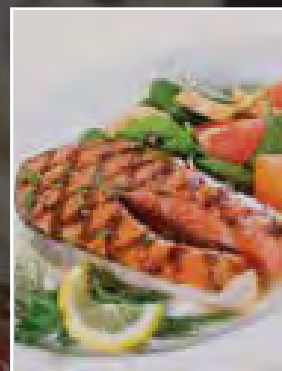
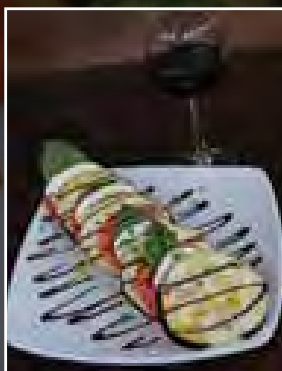
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While we do our best to ensure a comprehensive, accurate listing of events, we recommend that you contact each event host ahead of time. If you'd like to include an event in our upcoming calendar, please send the date, time, location and cost, along with a brief description and phone number to bhowell@ntmediagroup.com. Submission deadline for the winter edition is January 11, 2019.

ONGOING EVENTS

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA AT GRAND GENEVA

A delicious breakfast buffet and a visit with Santa, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. every Sat. and Sun. through December 23, Grand Geneva Resort & Spa, Lake Geneva; 262-248-8811 or grandgeneva.com.

CHRISTMAS IN THE COUNTRY

Through December 31 enjoy more than two million illuminated lights followed by a Grand Fireworks display. Or enjoy the lights and other festive happenings throughout the holiday season. Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva; 262-248-8811 or grandgeneva.com.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING AT NORTHWIND

Fresh greens, wreaths, garland, gifts and unusual ornaments. Open Friday through Monday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., through December 16. Northwind Perennial Farm, 7047 Hospital Rd., Burlington; 262-248-8229 or northwindperennialfarm.com.

GENEVA LAKE AREA MUSEUM

Learn more about the history of the Geneva Lake area at this informative museum. For more information, visit genevalakemuseum.org or call 262-248-6060. Open Tuesday, Friday – Sunday, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., November – February.

THE HOLIDAYS AT ROSEWOOD

Holiday-themed, cabaret-styled music productions with state-of-the-art sound, lights and video plus chef prepared, fresh farm-to-table cuisine. Shows run on select days through New Year's. Rosewood Dinner Theater, Cty. Hwy. O, Delavan; 262-725-7286 or rosewoodwi.com.

LIVE MAGIC SHOWS

Enjoy 60 minutes of world-class magic, comedy and illusion at the Tristan Crist Magic Theatre in downtown Lake Geneva. Visit lakegenemagic.com or call 262-248-0505.

SANTA CRUISE

Through New Year's Eve embark on a magical Christmas cruise to Santa's North Pole Hideaway. Along your lake tour you will be enchanted by holiday lights and displays. Cruises depart on the hour beginning at 4:30 p.m. every evening with the exception of December 24 and 25. Lake Geneva Cruise Line, Gage Marine - Winter Harbor, 1 Liechty Dr., Williams Bay; 262-248-6206 or santacruiselakegeneva.com.

THE CHRISTMAS BARN

Shop for one-of-a-kind gifts made by local artists. Open Friday-Sunday through December 16. Located at N4403 Cty. Rd. H, Elkhorn. Visit christmasbarnlakegeneva.com for more information.

TUESDAYS @ TWO WORKSHOPS

Interesting and informative workshops based on the local history of the Geneva Lakes area. Held each Tuesday at 2 p.m. at the Geneva Lake Museum, Lake Geneva. For topics and reservations, call 262-248-6060 or email staff@genevalakemuseum.org.

WORKSHOPS & CLASSES

Geneva Lake Arts Foundation offers a series of workshops, classes and a gallery of exhibits. Gallery 223, 223 Broad St., Lake Geneva; 262-249-7988 or genevalakeartsfoundation.org.

DECEMBER

[1] CHRISTMAS CARD TOWN PARADE

37th annual event, 1:30 p.m., downtown Elkhorn. Visit elkhorn-wi.org.

[1] CLOSE TO YOU

A tribute to the music of The Carpenters with a special holiday show *A Carpenters Christmas*, 7 p.m., The Belfry Theatre, Hwy. 67, Delavan; 262-394-6460 or belfrymusictheatre.com.

[1] DESIGNING HOLIDAY CONTAINERS

Learn ideas for creating arrangements for holiday containers, 10:30 a.m., Northwind Perennial Farm, 7047 Hospital Rd., Burlington; 262-248-8229 or northwindperennialfarm.com.

[1] 43rd ANNUAL GREAT ELECTRIC CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARADE

5 p.m. downtown Lake Geneva; 262-248-4416 or visitlakegeneva.com.

[1] FREEZIN' FOR A REASON

Tube, wakeboard, surf or ski the frigid waters of Geneva Lake to raise money for several local charities in Walworth County. 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., Gage Marine, Williams Bay. Visit facebook.com/freezinforareasonandsantacause.

[1] HOLLY BALL

The Geneva Lake Conservancy's annual holiday celebration and fundraiser at Big Foot Country Club includes a live band, dinner, auction, and presentation of the Conservation Stewardship Award. For reservations, call 262-275-5700 or genevalakeconservancy.org.

[1] REINDEER RUN & GRINCH SPRINT

annual 5K run/walk or Grinch Sprint to benefit the Elkhorn Park Dedication Fund. 8 a.m. registration, Sunset Park, Elkhorn; 262-723-5788 or elkhorn-wi.org.

[1] SANTA ON THE SQUARE

Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive at 6:30 p.m. to light the Christmas tree on the square. Christmas carol sing-along, kids crafts, winter activities, holiday marketplace, professional photos with Santa and more; 262-642-3770 or easttroywi.org.

[1] VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Celebrate the season with entertainment and refreshments - fun for the whole family! 12-3 p.m., Geneva Lake Museum, Lake Geneva; 262-248-6060 or email staff@genevalakemuseum.org.

[1] WREATH WORKSHOP

Decorate a fresh 16" or 24" evergreen wreath and personalize it with pine cones, ornaments, ribbon, berries and more, 10 a.m., Burlington Garden Center, Burlington. To register call 262-763-2153.

[1-2] TOY CAMP

Lakeland Players performance directed by Josie Palmer. Sprague Theater, Elkhorn; 262-728-5578 or lakeland-players.org.

[1-2, 7-8] ETHNIC HOLIDAY DINNER

Take part in a celebration of Greek immigrants coming to Wisconsin with a four-course dinner, along with beverages, decorations and entertainment. Reservations required, Old World Wisconsin, Eagle; 262-594-2922 or oldworldfoundation.org.

[1-2, 8-9, 15-16] AN OLD WORLD CHRISTMAS

Explore how a rich mosaic of ethnic traditions continues to be a part of our contemporary holiday celebrations. Bake Vanocka — traditional braided bread — and have a family photo taken around the

largest Julbocken or Yule goat in North America. Meet the Juletomte, a traditional Finnish version of Santa. Guests of all ages will discover the vibrant holiday traditions brought to Wisconsin by immigrants. Old World Wisconsin, Eagle; 262-594-6301 or oldworldwisconsin.wisconsinhistory.org.

[1-2, 8-9, 15-16] CHRISTMAS EXPRESS

Ride the rails to Santa's workshop located at the Elegant Farmer, where children can have their picture taken with the jolly elf himself. Departures begin at 9 a.m., East Troy Electric Railroad, East Troy; 262-642-3263 or easttroyrr.org.

[1, 8, 15] SANTA IN LAKE GENEVA

Come see Santa, his elves and his reindeer in downtown Lake Geneva; visitlakegeneva.com.

[6-30] HOLIDAY LIGHT SHOW

Garden paths brought to life with animated displays, over a quarter-million lights, over 100 beautifully decorated trees, 2,000 luminaries, and 600 dangling icicle lights. Family-friendly activities, shopping and more. Select days, 4:30 – 8:30 p.m., Rotary Botanical Gardens, Janesville; 608-752-3885 or rotarybotanicalgardens.org.



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[7] BURLINGTON CHRISTMAS PARADE

This year's annual Christmas parade featuring a "Jingle All the Way" theme is followed by a Christmas tree lighting in Wehmhoff Square Park with Santa and his reindeer. 6:30 p.m., downtown Burlington; 262-763-6044 or burlingtonchamber.org

[7] OAFB BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Come celebrate the sixth anniversary of the opening of Open Arms Free Clinic, 6 p.m., The Abbey Resort, Fontana. For more information call 262-379-1401 or email events@openarmsfreeclinic.org.

[7] VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

Lighted horse drawn carriage parade, beautiful lighting displays and townspeople dressed in period costume, 5-9 p.m., Sharon; 262-736-6246 or historicdowntownsharon.com.

[7-8] THE FOUR C-NOTES

Tribute band to Frankie Valli singing all his greatest hits plus rock and roll Christmas classics., 7 p.m., The Belfry Theatre, Hwy. 67, Delavan; 262-394-6460 or belfrymusictheatre.com.

[7-8] TREES ON PARADE AND HOLIDAY SHOPPING

Twin Lakes; 262-877-2220 or twinlakeschamber.com.

[8] OLD TIME RADIO SHOW

WGTD of Kenosha, part of Wisconsin Public Radio, will broadcast *The Stagedoor Canteen*, a WWII-era radio show complete with actors and sound effects from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m., Lake Lawn Resort, Delavan; 262-728-7950 or lakelawnresort.com.

[8] THE NUTCRACKER

Tchaikovsky's most famous ballet, *The Nutcracker*, is performed by the accomplished dancers from The Dance Factory. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Young Auditorium, UW-Whitewater; 262-472-2222 or uww.edu.

[8] YULETIDE ARTISAN MARKET

Local artisans selling their creations throughout the store and in the greenhouse, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., Burlington Garden Center, Burlington; 262-763-2153 or burlingtongardencenter.com.

[8, 15] HOLIDAY COOKIE WORKSHOP

Learn how to bake classic cookies and biscotti from around the world, then take some home to enjoy with family and friends. 12 p.m., Lake Geneva School of Cooking, Lake Geneva; 262-248-3933 or lakegenevaschoolofcooking.com.

[14-15] THE BUCKINGHAMS

The original Buckingham's with some rock and roll twists on your favorite Christmas classics as well as some holiday originals written by The

Buckingham's very own Carl Giammarese, 7 p.m., The Belfry Theatre, Hwy. 67, Delavan; 262-394-6460 or belfrymusictheatre.com.

[16] BACH'S CHRISTMAS ORATORIO

Welcome the holiday season with the music of J. S. Bach, as performed by the Madison-based Wisconsin Chamber Choir along with a complete professional orchestra. 3 p.m., Young Auditorium, UW-Whitewater; 262-472-2222 or uww.edu.

[16] NUTCRACKER BALLET SUITE

Delightful vignettes from Tchaikovsky's most famous ballet feature gifted dancers from Delavan's Dance Factory, 2 p.m., Lake Lawn Resort, Delavan; 262-728-7950 or lakelawnresort.com.

[21-22] FRANC D'AMBROSIO - CHRISTMAS IN NEW YORK

Best known for more than 2,300 Broadway performances as the phantom in *The Phantom of the Opera*, Franc D'Ambrosio celebrates the magic of the Christmas season with favorite holiday standards, 7 p.m., The Belfry Theatre, Hwy. 67, Delavan; 262-394-6460 or belfrymusictheatre.com.

[22] BREAKFAST WITH SANTA AT LAKE LAWN

Breakfast, plus holiday-themed crafts as well as the chance to visit with Santa, 8:30 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. Lake Lawn Resort, Delavan; 262-728-7950 or lakelawnresort.com.

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[27-29] DUELING PIANO SHOW

N.E.W. Piano Guys, Wisconsin's premier dueling piano entertainers, will perform high-energy shows featuring music ranging from Billy Joel to Britney Spears to Bruno Mars, 8 p.m., Lake Lawn Resort, Delavan; 262-728-7950 or lakelawnresort.com.

[27-31] COUNTDOWN TO 2019

Hands-on cooking classes that focus on the world's cuisine, Lake Geneva School of Cooking, Lake Geneva; 262-248-3933 or lakegenevaschoolofcooking.com.

[28-29] KIDS HOLIDAY COOKING CLASS

Hands-on cooking class for kids, ages 4-18, where everyone enjoys a well-balanced holiday themed meal, 12-3 p.m., Lake Geneva School of Cooking, Lake Geneva; 262-248-3933 or lakegenevaschoolofcooking.com.

JANUARY

[1] POLAR PLUNGE

Take part in an invigorating plunge into Geneva Lake, 12 p.m., Williams Bay Beach, Williams Bay.

[3-4] WINTER DAY CAMP

Kids, grades K-6, can take advantage of their holiday break with fun-filled days of winter activities. Covenant Harbor, Lake Geneva; 262-248-3600 or covenantharbor.org.

[5] NIGHT HIKE AND COOKOUT

Ninth annual night hike and cookout plus a roaring bonfire to keep everyone warm, 5-8 p.m., Kishwaukee Nature Conservancy, Hwy. 67 Williams Bay; 266-903-3601 or kishwaukee.org.

[20] LGSO CHAMBER CONCERT

3 p.m., free admission, Immanuel Lutheran Church, 700 Bloomfield Rd., Lake Geneva. For details and ticket reservations, call 262-359-9072 or visit lakegenevaorchestra.org.

[23] NATIONAL PIE DAY CELEBRATION

Enjoy free tastings of pies and special pie pricing. The Elegant Farmer, Mukwonago; 262-363-6770 or elegantfarmer.com.

[26] SING-A-LONG FROZEN

Enjoy Disney's most successful movie musical of all time with the lyrics for all the songs on the screen, so everyone can sing along. 3 p.m., Young Auditorium, UW-Whitewater; 262-472-2222 or uww.edu.

[26-27] ARTIST AND AUTHOR VISITS

Meet artists and authors, including Stan E. Fairchild, a Fontana native, who will be autographing his debut novel, *Community of Marta*, on Saturday from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., Cornerstone Shop & Gallery, Lake Geneva; 262-248-6988 or cornerstoneshoppe.com.

[26-FEBRUARY 3] WINTERFEST & U. S. NATIONAL SNOW SCULPTING CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITION

National snow sculpting competition, plus human dog sled races, ice castle attraction, hovercraft competition, chili cook-off, music, refreshments, helicopter rides, shopping, dining and more. Downtown Lake Geneva; 262-248-4416 or visitlakegeneva.com.

[27] THE THREE LITTLE PIGS

The Florentine Opera presents this amazing children's opera based on the classic children's tale. Seating is directly on the stage, giving children a unique, up-close perspective. 3 p.m., Young Auditorium, UW-Whitewater; 262-472-2222 or uww.edu.

FEBRUARY

[2] AUTHOR-MEET-AND-GREET

Clyde Deighton, author of the fictional novel *Murder at the French Country Inn*, will share thoughts about his book, folklore about the gangsters who frequented Lake Geneva, and his years as innkeeper of the French Country Inn. Cornerstone Shop & Gallery, Lake Geneva; 262-248-6988 or cornerstoneshoppe.com.



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[2] U.S. SNOW SCULPTING CHAMPIONSHIP JUDGING

Voting for your favorite sculpture ends at 1 p.m. with the awards ceremony at 3 p.m. at the Riviera, Lake Geneva; 262-248-4416 or visitlakegeneva.com.

[2] WINTER CARNIVAL AT GRAND GENEVA

Carnival and fun and games in the snow plus torch light parade and fireworks, Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva; 262-248-8811 or grandgeneva.com.

[2, 9, 16, 23] ALL THINGS CHERRY

Enjoy tastings of a variety of delicious cherry treats and purchase cherry pie, cherry applesauce, yogurt covered cherries and more, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., Elegant Farmer, Mukwonago; 262-363-6770 or elegantfarmer.com.

[7] JERSEY BOYS

Broadway's Tony Award-winning Best Musical, takes you behind the music and inside the story of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons. 7 p.m., Young Auditorium, UW-Whitewater; 262-472-2222 or uww.edu.

[13] THE OK FACTOR

Classical crossover duo brings a creative, innovative style to traditional chamber music. 7:30 p.m., Young Auditorium, UW-Whitewater; 262-472-2222 or uww.edu.

[15-17] SKY CIRCUS ON ICE

Professional kite flyers put on a high-flying extravaganza over Delavan Lake. Other activities include ice and snow sculpting championships and much more, Lake Lawn Resort, Delavan; 262-728-5095 or visitdelavanwi.org.

[15-17, 22-24] THE UNDERPANTS

Lakeland Player's performance, Sprague Theater, Elkhorn; 262-728-5578 or lakeland-players.org.

[16] LGSO ANNUAL GALA

Annual event celebrates the Lake Geneva Symphony Orchestra, 7 p.m., Riviera Ballroom, Lake Geneva. For details and ticket reservations, call 262-359-9072 or visit lakegenevaorchestra.org.

[22] MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY

All active military personnel with ID get free lift tickets plus family members get half price tickets. Veterans are eligible for \$10 lift tickets and rentals, The Mountain Top at Grand Geneva Resort & Spa, Lake Geneva; 262-248-8811 or grandgeneva.com.

[23] SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS

The Missoula Children's Theatre auditions local students for this original adaptation of the classic tale. 2 p.m., Young Auditorium, UW-Whitewater; 262-472-2222 or uww.edu. 🏰



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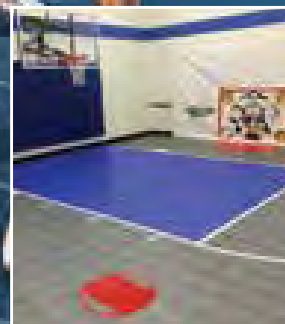
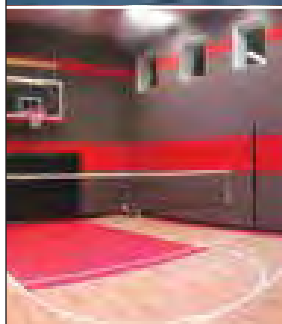
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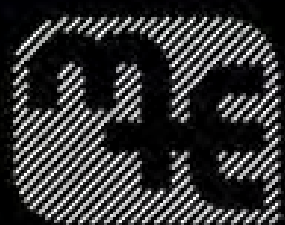
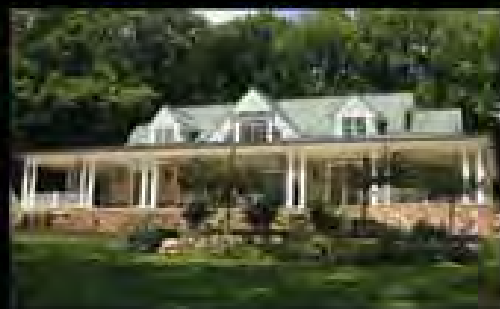


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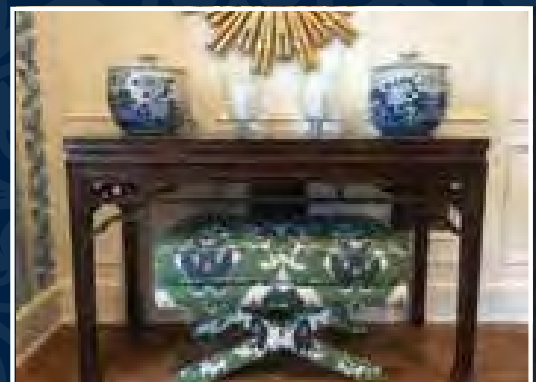
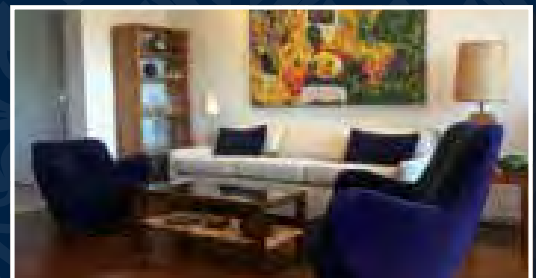
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