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At The Lakes area magazine



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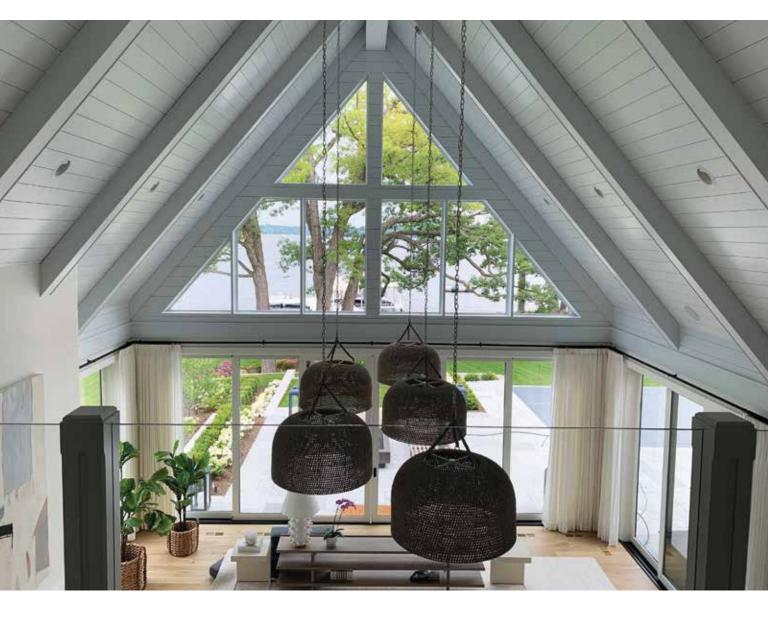
Meet the family behind Pesche's Greenhouse

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16TH ANNUAL AT HOME SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION





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// EDITOR'S PAGE //



Dear Readers,

Last spring, I was unloading groceries from my car when I heard a symphony of birds crying out against the cold, blue sky. I stood transfixed as hundreds of sandhill cranes filled the sky above me, throatily announcing themselves with their distinctive cries, making occasional slow circles over my head as they returned en masse from their annual winter sojourn to warmer climates. I have long been fascinated by these beautiful birds, so witnessing this sight felt like a rare and special gift.

Perhaps taking their cue from the cranes, many people begin to return to the Lake Geneva area from warmer climates at this time of year, engaging in their own annual spring traditions. So for our spring issue, we set out to provide some inspiration. On page 58, we gathered insider tips for spring cleaning and organization from some of the area's experts. And speaking of experts, the Pesche family has owned Lake Geneva's Pesche's Greenhouse for over 50 years. On page 26, meet the two generations running it today, and learn what they recommend as some of the best and most popular spring plants for this region. If a home renovation is on your radar this spring, turn to page 71 for our 16th annual At Home special advertising section, where you will learn about the local businesses that specialize in everything from luxury homebuilding to artisan marble and stone finishes to custom upholstery.

After what has been another challenging year for teachers, students and parents, we are also excited to shine a spotlight on some of the incredible educational resources in the area. On page 32, read about the history of an exemplary place of learning that draws students from throughout the state — the Wisconsin School for the Deaf celebrates 170 years in Delavan this April. And on page 120, meet some of the aspiring musicians at Lake Geneva's nonprofit Rock Central, which aims to teach not just music instruction but confidence as well. What better spring goal to strive for?

Anne Morrissy

Anne Morrissy, Editor



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FEATURES / SPRING 2022



26 **TAKING ROOT** BY AMANDA N. WEGNER Nick Pesche and his parents, Robert and Mary, share the multi-generational story of their family's beloved Lake Geneva greenhouse business

32 EXCEPTIONAL LEARNING

BY TASHA DOWNING Celebrating 170 years of the Wisconsin School for the Deaf in Delavan, a statewide paragon of deaf education and an invaluable resource for the deaf community

48 DELICIOUS NECTARS PHOTOS BY SHANNA WOLF Heidi Ferris of The

Hummingbird Bar shares her favorite recipes for colorful spring cocktails







58 BRINGING SPRING TO YOUR SPACE BY AMANDA N. WEGNER

Local organization experts reveal the best tricks to declutter and streamline your home's interiors this spring

98 BUZZ-WORTHY SIPS

BY MAURA KELLER Meet the local entrepreneurs behind Walworth County's burgeoning coffee culture



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71 **AT HOME** 16th Annual Special Advertising Section

110 WELL BEING: A WEEKEND FOR THE SOUL BY SHELBY DEERING Learn about the Lake Geneva

area's rising popularity as a destination for women's retreats



SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT: ROCK CENTRAL

120

BY RACHEL WISINSKI This nonprofit music school teaches the fundamentals of rock and roll to kids and adults



IN EVERY ISSUE

| EDITOR'S PAGE | 6 |
|--------------------|-----|
| CURRENTS | .20 |
| EMILY'S CORNER | .24 |
| DINING DIRECTORY | 128 |
| CALENDAR OF EVENTS | 134 |
| ADVERTISER INDEX | 137 |
| LIFE AT THE LAKE | 138 |

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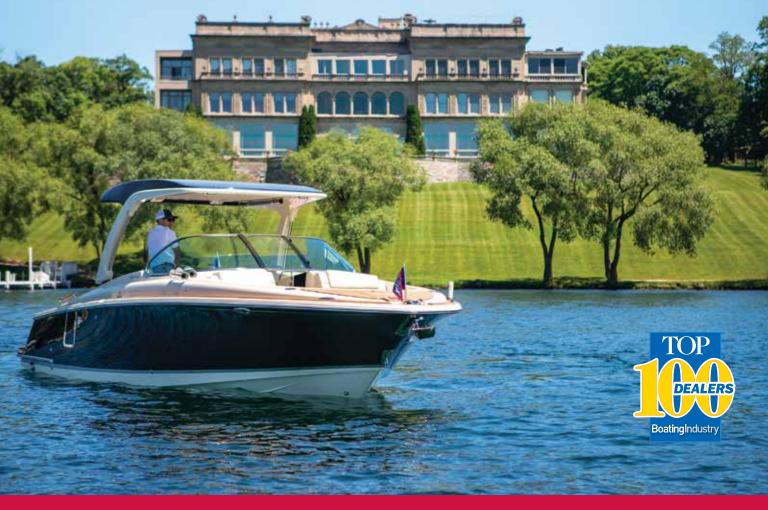
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PUBLISHER & EDITORIAL

PUBLISHER Barbara Krause bak@ntmediagroup.com

VICE PRESIDENT OF PUBLICATIONS Becky Peck bpeck@ntmediagroup.com

EDITOR Anne Morrissy anne@ntmediagroup.com

SENIOR GRAPHIC DESIGNER Lauren Harrigan lharrigan@ntmediagroup.com

PHOTOGRAPHER & IMAGE EDITOR Holly Leitner holly@ntmediagroup.com

DIGITAL DIRECTOR Kristen Rouse krouse@ntmediagroup.com

SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER Kristin Dvorak kdvorak@ntmediagroup.com

SALES

ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER Deann Hausner deann@ntmediagroup.com

ADVERTISING COORDINATOR Julie Schiller julie@ntmediagroup.com

ACCOUNTING Kristin Hovestol accounting@ntmediagroup.com

CIRCULATION Ray Konopka distribution@ntmediagroup.com

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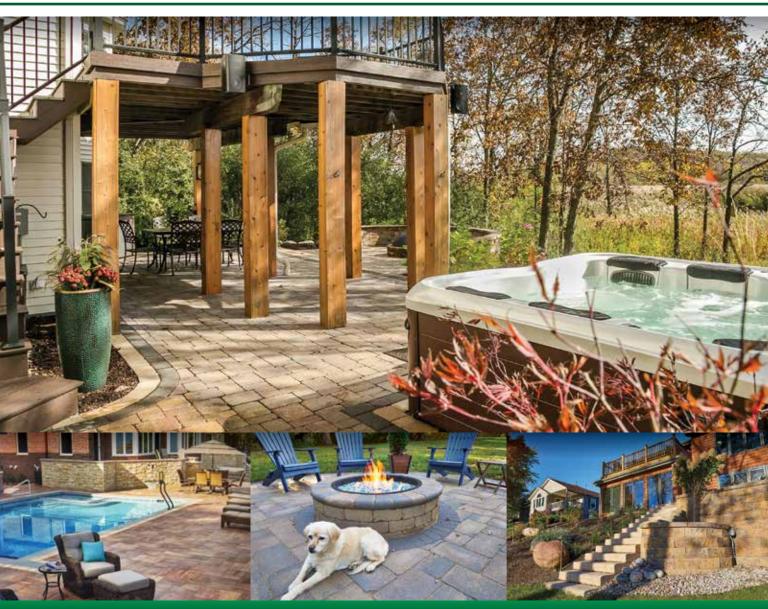
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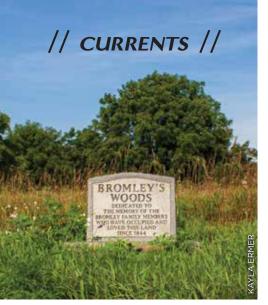
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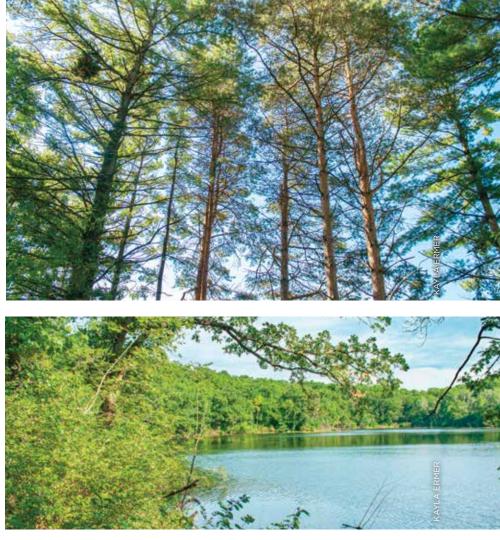


GENEVA LAKE CONSERVANCY ADDS MORE LAND TO BROMLEY WOODS SITE

Last November, the Geneva Lake Conservancy announced the acquisition of 20 additional acres of property that will expand the organization's existing Bromley Woods site, located adjacent to the Kettle Moraine State Forest on Greening Road in LaGrange. The acquisition was funded in part through the State of Wisconsin's Knowles-Nelson Stewardship program, which bestows matching grants to help nonprofit organizations throughout the state acquire and maintain parcels of land.

The additional acreage will allow the Conservancy to create a hiking trail around the preserve's 8-acre kettle pond and to protect oak and hickory trees that serve as important habitat for declining forest-interior bird species as well as other wildlife. "Oak woodlands are very efficient in absorbing carbon and are one of the landscapes we are seeking to protect in Walworth County because of their important role in slowing climate change," says Kevin Brunner, Conservancy chair.

The purchase brings the size of the Conservancy's Bromley Woods preserve to 60 acres. The Conservancy is currently fundraising to purchase an additional 23 acres by the end of this year. "As we move forward in our efforts to protect open lands, Bromley Woods serves a dual role of providing several miles of excellent recreational trails for hiking and wildlife viewing while also protecting important conservation



features essential to the ecological health of our region," Brunner says.

STUDIO M INTERIORS OPENS NEW SHOWROOM SPACE IN LAKE GENEVA

In December, Minnesota-based interior design firm Studio M Interiors celebrated the opening of its first satellite location with an open house at its 2,300-square-foot showroom at 300 Sage St., Lake Geneva. The new location will be managed by Studio M Interiors veteran Carly Loobeek, a native of nearby Burlington. Loobeek worked as a designer in the Minneapolis area flagship location for eight years before taking on her current role.

"It's so exciting to be opening the first Studio M Interiors outside of the Minneapolis area," she explains. "I couldn't be happier to bring my experience and passion to Lake Geneva."

According to Loobeek, Studio M Interiors specializes in interior design for both new construction and remodeled homes, and offers a range of services including interior space planning,



material selections and custom furnishings and décor. The Lake Geneva showroom carries a selection of carefully curated furniture, art and accessories.



GENEVA THEATER TO BECOME LIVE MUSIC VENUE AND TAP ROOM

Four years after the city of Lake Geneva approved the use of TIF funds to renovate the historic Geneva Theater, the city has approved zoning changes to allow the site to shift from a movie theater to a live music venue, tap room and beer garden. The developers for the project, Win Properties, LLC out of Burlington, presented the new plans to the Lake Geneva Plan Commission on Dec. 20 and Jan. 24.

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The Geneva Theater as it appeared in 2019.

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The return of the theater to a live entertainment venue echoes the way the building was used when it first opened in 1928 as a combination live theater and movie house. An article in the Lake Geneva Regional News on May 31, 1928, declared, "Now with the completion of the Geneva Theatre, Lake Geneva is second to none in this part of Wisconsin for a modern, up-to-date playhouse." More than 1,400 people attended the opening night program, which featured the screening of newsreels and cartoons as well as three live Vaudeville acts.

Under the new plans, the historic theater will be converted into a live music venue and tap room with a self-serve tap wall for beer and wine. The new space will also serve light food options like charcuterie boards, sandwiches and snacks. Zoning changes approved at the December meeting allow for the addition of

an outdoor beer garden with courtyard seating behind the theater, including a 6-foot fence on the perimeter. Two garage doors connecting the indoor and outdoor spaces have already been installed to allow natural light into the building. Additional plans for the exterior include a pergola attached to the building and a new concrete patio floor to allow for seating around tables with umbrellas.

YERKES OBSERVATORY TO RE-OPEN FOR PUBLIC TOURS

Dennis Kois, director of Yerkes Observatory, has announced that the internationally famous site in Williams Bay will re-open for public tours this spring following the successful completion of the first phase of a multimillion-dollar restoration and upgrade project.

The Observatory was built in 1895 by the University of Chicago as an extension of its newly formed department of astrophysics and remained under its stewardship until May of 2020, when the University sold the building, its contents and 50 acres of adjacent land to the nonprofit Yerkes Future Foundation. Since then, Kois says the Foundation has undertaken a massive restoration of the 125-year-old structure and grounds.

One of the first steps involved drying out and resealing the building's brick and stone exterior, which Kois says had "absorbed thousands and thousands of gallons of water over the years." To accomplish this huge feat, the Foundation engaged Chicago-based



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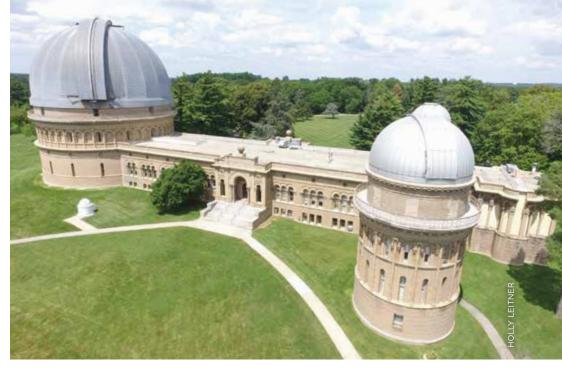
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Marion Restoration, a company that claims among its many projects the restoration of Chicago's Graceland Cemetery, the United States Courthouse and Federal Building in Milwaukee and the McHenry County Courthouse in Woodstock.

Other projects that the Foundation has tackled at Yerkes Observatory in this first phase include the cleaning and restoration of the building's ornate interior, including intricately tiled floors and thousands of square feet of

Carrara marble. Additionally, librarian Judy Bausch has undertaken the sorting and organization of the building's priceless science library, which includes 180,000 glass plate negatives of photos taken by the Observatory's telescopes over the years, which will remain in the University's collection, administered by the Yerkes Future Foundation.



Upgrades to maximize visitor experience when the Observatory reopens in the spring include the addition of a 50car parking lot on the east side of the building with charging stations for electric vehicles, charged by 83 solar panels installed on the building's roof. Kois says that visitor restroom updates are currently under way and will be completed before tours can resume. He says that everyone at the Foundation is excited to welcome the public back to see the progress that has been made. "This building is such a symbolic component of the landscape," he explains. "The full renovation will take many years, but we have the foremost experts in their fields working on it."



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Lake Geneva Public Library Director Emily Kornak shares some of her favorite spring reads with local interest.

GAME WIZARDS: THE EPIC BATTLE FOR DUNGEONS & DRAGONS **BY JON PETERSON**



Created here in 1973, fantasy role-playing game Dungeons & Dragons (D&D) remains one of Lake Geneva's enduring legacies. This nonfiction book

chronicles the history of company founders Gary Gygax and Dave Arneson; the early years of their Lake Geneva-based company, TSR; the meteoric success of D&D; and the corporate struggles that ensued. A detailed and fascinating read for local history fans and D&D players alike.

MARY TODD LINCOLN: A BIOGRAPHY **BY JEAN H. BAKER**



Did you know: in August of 1872, former First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln visited Lake Geneva? For an in-depth portrayal of her life, pick up this

biography to learn more about her time in the White House, her relationship with her husband and his colleagues, her reputation for obsessive shopping and her battles with her mental health.

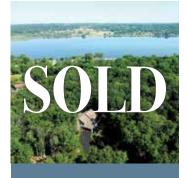
NO ONE IS TALKING ABOUT THIS **BY PATRICIA LOCKWOOD**



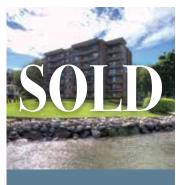
A debut novel from the internetfamous poet and author of the memoir "Priestdaddy," "No One Is Talking About This" asks: Is there life after the Internet?

Funny, topical, and sometimes devastating, the novel explores what it means to be "extremely online" in a time of constant existential crisis. Join the Lake Geneva Public Library's book discussion group in May at the Bottle Shop in Lake Geneva. Find library events at lglibrary.org.





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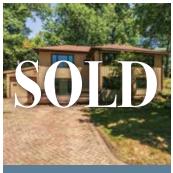
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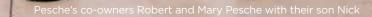


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Nick Pesche shares the multi-generational story of his family's beloved local greenhouse BY AMANDA N. WEGNER | PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANNA URBAN



If you garden, you know Pesche's — Pesche's Greenhouse, Floral Shop and Gift Barn has been a destination for Lake

Geneva residents for over 50 years. But the Pesche family's love for gardening goes back even further than that, stretching over several generations — three in Wisconsin and even more in the greater Chicago area, all the way to the country of Luxembourg. "It's in our blood," says fourth-generation co-owner Nick Pesche.

Pesche's Greenhouse offers Lake Geneva's largest selection of annuals and perennials, with more than 20 greenhouses across 10 acres on Highway 50, just west of downtown Lake Geneva. Open year-round, the full-service garden center transforms into a Christmas wonderland during the winter months. They also offer a floral shop and a popular gift shop with a robust selection of everything from seasonal tea towels to decorative pots to creative yard art. The unique mix of plants, flowers, gifts, and yard and garden art draws fans from throughout the Midwest.

THROUGH THE GENERATIONS

Nick Pesche's father, Robert, grew up managing the flower and garden side of the business, the third generation of the family to take up greenhouse work. "Our family started a garden center in the greater Chicago area," Nick explains, noting that it was his great-grandfather who opened that original location, which included a "gift shop, flower shop, liquor store, grocery, butcher ... it was a little of everything."

But as the story goes, there was tension over which family member would inherit the Chicago establishment. So instead of taking over the family business in Illinois, Nick says his grandfather, Fred Pesche, moved to the Lake Geneva area and opened Pesche's Greenhouse with his brother in 1970. Fred Pesche then sold the business to Nick's parents, Robert and Mary Pesche, in 1984.

In fact, the Pesche family's connections to the greenhouse industry extend well beyond the original Chicagoland business. Originally hailing from the small European country of Luxembourg, the Pesche family was well-known there for its greenhouse expertise, and continued to dominate the field after immigrating to America. In fact, a 2010 issue of Lawn & Landscape Magazine chronicled a visit the Luxembourg royal family made to Wisconsin in 2009 to celebrate the opening of the Luxembourg American Cultural Center, proclaiming the Pesche family one of "the most prominent Luxembourg-American greenhouse families."

When Nick's grandfather founded Pesche's Greenhouse in Lake Geneva in 1970, the business was limited strictly to greenhouse growing and focused primarily on selling to the wholesale market. When Nick's father, Robert, purchased the business, he drew on his own experiences and his degree in horticulture from the University of Illinois to turn Pesche's into a full-service garden center, and also added a floral shop.

The gift shop portion of Pesche's was brought to life around the same time





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ACRES OF PLANTS AND FLOWERS

Officially known today as Pesche's Greenhouse, Floral Shop and Gift Barn, the beloved local institution offers about 50,000 square feet of greenhouse space, approximately 10,000 square feet of retail, gift and floral space, as well as a few acres of outdoor retail space. The business is well-known for its hanging baskets, which Nick says are "gorgeous yet reasonably priced." He adds that they sell about 4,000 10-inch hanging baskets each year.

People also make Pesche's their destination for flats of annuals. "They are hard to find at the box stores," says Nick, who has a degree in horticulture from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. "Some of the landscapers and bigger homeowners want to fill in an area with a flat of flowers."

Nick and his staff grow most of their own annuals onsite, including the hanging baskets, flats and four- and six-inch pots. "I think one of our advantages is that because we grow our own, we have a lot more variety than a lot of garden centers and certainly the box stores," says Nick. "When I buy from a wholesaler, they don't have the variety we do because it's too hard; they have to carry the breadand-butter stuff because they sell to 1,000 different places, where I can offer variety and more specialty plants."

Nick says that May is the peak month at Pesche's, and he and Sanders work hard to offer products and plants that people will love, while continuously refreshing their offerings. For instance, Nick says they've seen a trend of people investing more time and money into their yards and gardens over the past two years because of the pandemic, which makes

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Brighten Up Your Yard or Garden

For spring and summer planting, Nick Pesche and Amy Sanders of Pesche's Greenhouse, Floral Shop and Gift Barn offer some of their personal favorites and customer trends:



Pulmonaria: Also called Lungworts, this herbaceous perennial is a good grower and bloomer and easy to grow, says Sanders. It's popular for its interesting foliage with spotted leaves, and does well in part sun or full shade.



Hellebores: Popular the last few seasons, this perennial is an early bloomer and will hold its flowers for months. It's a bit pricey, but it retains its color well over the winter, notes Sanders.



Lantana: A member of the verbena family, colorful lantanas are considered an annual here in the north. Lantanas are also a sun-loving plant and are particularly drought-tolerant, making for low maintenance.



Angelonia: Sometimes called summer snapdragons for their similarity to the summer favorite, Angelonia grows tall (about 18 inches), produces a nice fragrance and provides a lot of color variation, says Nick. He adds Angelonia prefers hot weather, is drought-tolerant, and is a good candidate for a container planting as it is "pretty forgiving."



Euphorbia: Also known as spurge, Pesche's offers many white varieties of this critter-proof perennial to give your garden and landscape a chic vibe.



Pollinators: Pollinators have been particularly popular the past few years as people seek ways to support the birds and bees. Pesche's offers many options; agastache and echinacea are just two options.



Lavender: Lavender, says Sanders, has had a "super surge" in popularity in recent years, but cautions that "it's not the easiest plant to grow for Midwesterners." Pesche's offers lavender available in many varieties and sizes, from starters to "giant ones for instant gratification."



Succulents: Requiring little work and maintenance, succulents – indoors and out – remain popular. "Succulents keep getting bigger and bigger and bigger," says Nick. If the term "succulent" has you thinking cactus or "something that bites," think again. Jades, sedums, agaves and aloes all fall into the succulent category. "There are so many different colors, textures and varieties, and you don't have to do anything, except [give them some] light and very occasionally water," Nick explains. "These are all things that are great in a container."

people want to stay close to home. "Garden art and garden gifts, which were always very popular, became even more popular since people were stuck at home, and they wanted their yard to be their retreat, their refuge," says Sanders.

"We have a terrific gift selection, a terrific plant selection," says Nick. "And we try to keep our prices as fair as possible."

GROWING A 'HAPPY PLACE'

For some, a visit to Pesche's brings a dose of plant-induced nirvana. "I hear on a daily basis that 'This is my happy place,' that people come here to feel good," says Sanders, who worked for Pesche's alongside her mother when she was younger and joined the staff full-time about 10 years ago.

For others, it's just a fun place to stop. "We try to make it a bit whimsical and fun," says Nick. "It's not a box store, it's not row after row of certain plants, certain pots. We don't have a pottery section, per sé, they're all just scattered. It keeps you wandering around, checking everything out. I feel like we have a pretty cool place."

In fact, Pesche's was "cool" enough to draw Nick back into the family business. "I did other things for a while, but then I realized I need to go back and work for the family business," he says. "There are a lot of independent garden centers we're not unique in that — but we have a lot to offer, and it's a special place for many people."

Today, while Nick handles much of the day-to-day operations, his dad, Robert, continues to stay engaged in the business. And one day, Nick hopes his children will follow in their footsteps and take the business into a fifth generation. "I hope it continues as a family business. I have two little boys, so they are [a long way from taking over], but I'll make the 8-year-old start working soon, just like my parents made me work. He can set up a little juice stand," Nick says with a chuckle.

"We're a family business, and everyone here works hard and tries hard to make everyone happy," Sanders explains. "It's really a wonderful place to work."

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The Wisconsin School for the Deaf celebrates 170 years in Delavan BY TASHA DOWNING





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A portrait of the first WSD school building as it looked when it was completed in 1867. This structure was destroyed by fire just 12 years later, but fortunately no one was injured. School leadership decided that the replacement construction should include multiple buildings, rather than housing every aspect of students' education and residential life under one roof.

CONTRACT OFFICE

Today, the WSD campus is made of several modern, bright buildings for eating, sleeping, learning and socializing. The school's halls are decorated with student artwork (below) and visually engaging educational materials (bottom photo).

n a normal school day, a visitor to the Wisconsin School for the Deaf (WSD) in Delavan might find a group of children preparing to dive into art projects, or a group of teens clad in red-and-white Firebirds attire milling about the school's historic halls. As the only school in the state of Wisconsin dedicated specifically to deaf education, the residential school operates under the direction of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and enrolls an average of about 100 students each year (though the COVID pandemic has periodically interrupted in-person learning and led to slightly reduced enrollment). Students at WSD range in age from 3 to 21, and most of them live on campus Monday through Friday during the school year. Students of WSD enjoy the freedom of learning in a typical classroom environment, created and optimized especially for them.

Today, there are around 100 residential or day schools for the deaf and hard of hearing across the country. But until the widespread establishment of these schools, members of the deaf community in the United States lived largely in isolation, unaware that there were so many others who shared the same







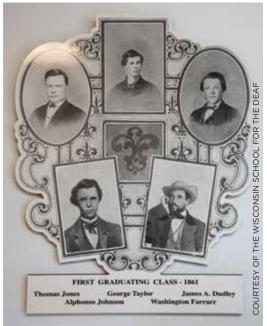


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In 1861, WSD celebrated its first official graduating class of five students. That same year, the state of Wisconsin posted flyers advertising the school's existence and imploring families with deaf children ages 12-25 to consider sending them to Delavan.



struggle to learn and to communicate. Barbara Hart grew up on the WSD campus, and both of her parents worked for the school. In an interview recorded in 2012, Hart explained that her mother, Selma Hart, became deaf at the age of 3 due to typhoid and scarlet fever. She described the lack of awareness surrounding deafness in the early 20th century. "My grandmother thought [that my mother] was the only deaf person in the world, because she had never seen or heard of a deaf person before," recalled Hart. By happenstance, a stranger informed Hart's grandmother about WSD, and Selma was sent there to attend school at the age of 9, remaining through high school graduation and going on to work at the school as an adult.

Hart's grandmother's confusion was not unusual, though schools dedicated to the education of deaf and hard-of-hearing students in the United States had been in existence since the early 1800s. In 1817, the first such school in the country opened in Hartford, Connecticut today it is the American School for the Deaf (ASD). Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet, a Yale graduate and minister from Pennsylvania, became inspired by a chance meeting with a young deaf girl, and traveled to Europe to learn more about deaf education. There he met Laurent Clerc, a deaf instructor at the groundbreaking National Institute for Deaf Children in Paris. The two men returned to Connecticut and founded ASD, advancing the course of history for America's deaf population. Both men would go on to leave an indelible mark on deaf education in the United States. Gallaudet's son, Edward Miner (E.M.) Gallaudet, opened the first deaf school of higher learning, Gallaudet University, in Washington, D.C., and the majority of today's modern American Sign Language (ASL) evolved from Clerc's teachings.

Thanks to the work of these two men, institutional progress addressing the longstanding educational needs of the deaf flourished in the middle of the 19th century. Between 1817 and Clerc's death in 1869, more than 30 specialized schools opened in the U.S., including one in the small town of Delavan, Wisconsin. The school's presence in Delavan is a credit to the dedication and persistence

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of one pioneer farming family, the Chesebros. Ebenezer Chesebro moved from New York state to a farm near the newly formed town of Delavan in 1839, bringing with him his wife and children, including his daughter Ariadna, who was deaf and had previously attended the New York Institute for the Deaf and Dumb.

"[The area] was of course very rural when Ebenezer first arrived," says Nell Fleming, current WSD librarian and archivist. "It was a wilderness, which appealed to the original families looking to establish a brand-new community based on their values: temperance and anti-slavery sentiments." To continue Ariadna's education, the Chesebros hired a series of tutors, who initially taught not only their daughter and a neighboring child who was hard of hearing, but also six other deaf or hard-of-hearing students. Recognizing a need for a deaf school in the area, in 1852, the Chesebro family enlisted the help of a local state assemblyman to petition the relatively new Wisconsin state legislature to establish a school for the deaf. With the Legislature's approval, WSD was founded on April 19, 1852, on a parcel of 12 acres of land west of downtown Delavan donated by Franklin K. Phoenix, son of Delavan co-founder Samuel Phoenix, and a good friend of the Chesebros. Today, Ariadna Princess Chesebro is known as "the face that launched WSD."











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During its earliest years, the school persevered through incredible obstacles: some of the earliest deaf pupils had to travel as many as 40 miles to campus over poor roads to receive their education; in 1858, shortly after its founding, a diphtheria epidemic swept through Delavan's population and claimed many lives, including the school's beloved Ariadna; and in 1879, the school's newly constructed main building burned down just 12 years after its completion. Despite these challenges, the school continued to grow its reputation as a respected and progressive institution with the admittance of its first African-American student in 1887, and a prestigious visit from E.M. Gallaudet for its 50th anniversary celebration in 1902.

Set against a lush, wooded landscape just west of Delavan's historic downtown, the school once grew much of its own food through the cultivation of onsite gardens and a campus farm. An entry from WSD student Earl Hinterthuer's journal dated May, 1915, described the idyllic setting: "The school is surrounded by a pond, forest trees and a creek on the top of the Institution Hill called 'Phoenix Green.'" He went on to list 11 buildings on campus at that time, including classroom buildings, boys' and girls' dormitories, a boys' gymnasium and a barn and cold storage building. Today, most of these buildings have been replaced by modern ones, though the campus still evokes an idyllic rural impression upon first arrival.

For today's WSD students, Huff Hall serves as a home-away-from-home. Students travel from all across Wisconsin to attend the school, and many of them live on the school's residential campus Monday through Friday. The Student Life staff of residential advisors encourages students to take on responsibilities and learn independence

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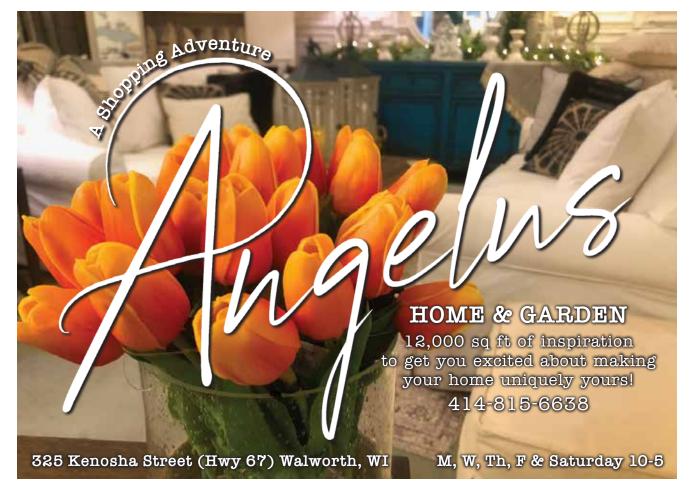
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while supporting and encouraging them in their schoolwork and extracurricular activities. In addition to the residential and academic buildings, students have access to the Cordano Track and Field, baseball diamonds, tennis courts and playgrounds to ensure opportunities for physical activity and social engagement.

For the students and their school families. the often becomes a part of their lives beyond graduation. Casey Kelly works for WSD as an information technology and digital media specialist. He not only graduated from WSD but represents the fourth generation in his family to have attended the school. "I have three kids. The oldest two can hear, and the last child is deaf," he explains. "He is eighthgeneration deaf in our family." Kelly's great-grandmother, Ethel Cass Kelly, was the first member of the family to attend WSD, graduating in 1928.



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Kelly first entered the school at age 3, and says that the bonds formed as a student last a lifetime. He maintains a close friendship with a classmate he met during his first year there. Both Kelly's parents (married for 44 years) and his grandparents (who were married for 62 years) met at WSD. "School gives us that language access and allows for wider communication opportunities," Kelly explains. "At school, we learn the foundations of academic American Sign Language... [which] is monumental for students." Kelly says that all of the school staff at WSD, whether deaf or hearing, are all exceptional role models who are deeply committed to deaf education, and deliver not only a mastery of academics but also set a positive example for students to pursue continuing and higher education.

According to Kelly, deaf and hardof-hearing students in a traditional, mainstreamed school setting don't always have access to the full variety of incidental learning that hearing children do. "As a hearing child, you can overhear things in the hallway outside of your academic conversation that teach you things, but as a deaf student you often rely on the interpreter to learn," he says. By attending WSD, students have access to a full array of academic, social and extracurricular opportunities to enhance their learning.

During his time as a student, Kelly enjoyed playing for the WSD football team and competed in track and field. He says that activities like homecoming games and tournaments for various sports are a big deal for students, and the rivalries between WSD and other schools in their division are very competitive. Plus, these events provide an opportunity to engage with hearing peers over a shared activity. "Most of us really cared about the meets and games, hanging out with the other kids, meeting new kids. Being rivals but still coming together and socializing." In addition to sporting events and academic competitions, WSD students are encouraged to take field trips and walk to downtown Delavan in their free time. According to Kelly, this independence and organic interaction is all part of the learning process.



IT and Digital Media Specialist Casey Kelly is the fourth generation of his family to attend WSD. His greatgrandmother, Ethel Cass, was a 1928 graduate (pictured below). Additional members of his family who attended WSD posed for a photo on his first day of school in 1987. They include (back row, L to R): Kelly's parents Dean and Susie and his grandfather Guy; (front row, L to R): Kelly, his grandmother Betty, his brother Ryan and his greatgrandmother Ethel. Today, Kelly's son Koby is a student at WSD.





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The WSD campus houses the only library for the deaf in the state of Wisconsin. It has historically been an important gathering space for the deaf community.





Houry Left Market



To further augment the academic experience, WSD is part of the Wisconsin Educational Services Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (WESP-DHH) and works closely with deaf organizations in Wisconsin, like the Southern Lakes Association of the Deaf, to raise money and provide resources for community-building events. The WSD campus is also home to another major resource for the deaf and hard-of-hearing community — the Delavan campus houses the only library for the deaf in the state of Wisconsin. The materials in the WESP-DHH Educational Resource Library have been assembled specifically for Wisconsin residents who are deaf, hard of hearing or deafblind, and also for their families, students and professionals. "The library was built to be a central place of meeting in our school," says Fleming.

"It has historically been a place where students and staff enjoy coming together to share and enhance the learning experience."

This April, the Wisconsin School for the Deaf will celebrate 170 years of existence in Delavan, and it remains a paragon of deaf education in Wisconsin. As the school's modern promotional materials explain, WSD remains forever committed to "preparing students to achieve their maximum potential and become successful citizens of the future." As the tools, methods and activities continue to evolve with each new generation, the school remains, as ever, an extraordinary learning space and an environment designed to help the state's deaf community thrive.



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Delicious NECTARS

Heidi Ferris of the Hummingbird Bar shares some of her favorite spring cocktail recipes BY ANNE MORRISSY | PHOTOGRAPHY BY SHANNA WOLF







a brilliantly sunny day, Heidi Ferris and her partner, Ryan Jones, expertly maneuvered the Hummingbird Bar, a renovated 1964 Little Caesar vintage camper trailer, into position on the shore of Delavan Lake at Lake Lawn Resort. Ferris quickly set about staging the scene to serve a variety of brightly colored spring concoctions she had devised specifically for the day's event. According to Ferris, coming up with the menu and adding charming, themed details to the camper for each party is one of the best things about the Hummingbird Bar, and she works with hosts to get the perfect, Instagrammable look for each booking.

Ferris started the Hummingbird Bar in the Autumn of 2020, after sourcing the vintage camper online and then renovating it for its new role, a process she says was much more challenging than she anticipated. "Ignorance truly is bliss, and I thought, 'How hard can it be?'" she laughs. "I cut and measured and nailed and painted... like a happy puppy, I went to work." However, Ferris eventually found that the project exceeded her skill set, so Jones stepped in to assist with several of the renovations. "The Hummingbird Bar, I like to think, was a labor of love," she explains. "And he is just as proud of his work as I am."

Ferris says the idea for the mobile bar (which can also be staged as a dessert bar, non-alcoholic bar or charcuterie bar for everything from children's birthday parties to weddings or charity events) came to her when she moved back to her hometown of Williams Bay. This followed an exciting career in advertising and marketing in Chicago, where she worked at some of the biggest agencies before taking a position with Diageo, an international spirits beverage conglomerate that owns bigname brands like Guinness, Baileys and Jose Cuervo. She says that owning the Hummingbird Bar is the perfect blend of many of the skills she acquired in those roles, and it also allows her an opportunity to have fun at work while seeing many of the most beautiful places around the Lake Geneva area. Cheers to that!

To celebrate the thaw and welcome the blooms, we asked Ferris to share some of her favorite spring cocktail and mocktail recipes. Read on for all of her delectable ideas.

BUBBLY ORANGE BOURBON

SMASH

INGREDIENTS

- 3 Segments of an orange (about ³/₄ of an orange cut into equal pieces)
- 4 Fresh mint leaves, plus additional for garnish
- 2 oz. Bourbon
- ³⁄₄ oz. Maple syrup
- Ice
- Dry champagne
- 1 Orange slice for garnish

DIRECTIONS

KRIGBAUM

- 1. Cut orange into quarters and add three of the quarters to an open cocktail shaker. Add in the mint leaves and muddle well.
- 2. Add ice, bourbon and maple syrup to the cocktail shaker and shake vigorously to fully chill.
- 3. Add fresh ice to a rocks glass and strain the drink into the glass.

ESSENTIAL GOCKTAIL FORK

- 4. Top off the glass with champagne and stir.
- 5. Garnish with orange slice and fresh mint sprig.

ROSÉ LEMONADE ELDERFLOWER SANGRIA



INGREDIENTS

- 5 oz. Rosé wine
- 1 oz. Elderflower liqueur
- 1 oz. Freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 1 oz. Simple syrup
- Splash of seltzer water
- Sliced strawberries
- Lemon slices
- Fresh mint

- 1. Fill a glass with crushed ice. Add a lemon slice and a few strawberry slices.
- 2. Add the rosé, elderflower liqueur, lemon juice and simple syrup, and stir to combine.
- 3. Add a splash of seltzer and stir again.
- 4. Top with more sliced strawberries and mint.

LAVENDER MARGARITA

INGREDIENTS

- 2 oz. Blanco tequila
- 1 oz. Fresh lime juice
- 1 oz. Lavender syrup
- ½ oz. Crème de Violette
- Lime wedge
- Fresh lavender

- 1. Add fresh ice to a glass.
- 2. In a cocktail shaker, shake all ingredients together with ice.
- 3. Pour over ice and garnish with a lavender sprig and lime wedge.

RASPBERRY MULE

INGREDIENTS

- 2 oz. Raspberry vodka
- 4 oz. Ginger beer
- Fresh raspberries
- Lime wedge

- 1. Add ice to mug. Pour in raspberry vodka and then ginger beer.
- 2. Add raspberries and lime.

BLUEBERRY JAM SPRITZER Non-alcoholic MOCKTAIL INGREDIENTS • 2 Tbsp. Blueberry jam

- (best quality available)
- 1 oz. Fresh lemon juice
- 1 oz. Simple syrup or honey
- 4-5 oz. Seltzer water
- Fresh blueberries

- 1. Combine jam, lemon juice and simple syrup in a tall glass.
- 2. Add ice and seltzer. Combine well.
- 3. Garnish with blueberries.

LEMON LOVE MARTINI

INGREDIENTS

- 2 oz. Lemon vodka
- 1 oz. Lemon juice
- 1/2 oz. Limoncello liqueur
- Lemon slices
- Sugar

- Pour lemon vodka, lemon juice and limoncello into a shaker over ice. Shake until very well chilled.
- 2. To sugar the rim of a martini glass, rub a slice of lemon over rim and dip rim into a plate of sugar. Pour straight up from the shaker into the martini glass. Garnish with a lemon slice.





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Cleaning and organizing tips to start the season on the right foot BY AMANDA N. WEGNER Spring is a time of new beginnings, which is why it's also a time for cleaning house and getting organized. "The start of a new year, springtime or simply entering better weather, people have a new energy in them that sparks an interest in creating new habits and beginning new projects," says Shauna Opitz, owner of the organizational service SO Organized out of Twin Lakes. "This is why many people plan to start their cleaning projects around those times."

It's also a good time to give your home a deep clean to clear out the dust, drab and accumulated piles that come with being cooped up indoors through the winter months, letting go of all the associated stress. "Spring is one of our busiest times of the year because the cleanings booked are typically deep cleans," says Leah Egger, owner of North Shore Cleaning in Delavan. "They are essentially a fresh start on your home."

To help you give your home a spring refresh, we've asked three local cleaning and organizing professionals for their insight and pro tips.

START ON THE RIGHT FOOT

Barbara Schuld Adams is a licensed interior designer and the founder of Lake Geneva's Interior Concept Design. Before you start organizing your space, she says, you have to organize your mind. "If you organize your mind and envision what your tasks are, this helps you accomplish what you need to do without becoming overwhelmed, and prevents you from not knowing where to start," she explains. "It allows you to set your priorities."

With your mind organized, it's time to create a plan of attack by deciding which spaces you're going to tackle.

One of the tricks to staying organized throughout the year is to develop easily followed systems that are accessible to everyone in your household. Dedicated storage space in an entryway or mudroom for items like winter coats and boots, spring rain wear or summer beach gear will help keep these spaces organized yearround. Try adding shelving, hooks, baskets and cubbies personalized for the needs of each person in the home.





For maximum spring cleaning, a home's laundry and washing facilities can be utilized to clean rarely washed elements like slipcovers, drapes, throw rugs or fabric shower curtains.

To make laundry day easier, try implementing a sorting system for lights, darks, whites and bedding with hampers designated for each.







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A good closet storage system should include space for shoes. This can involve dedicated shelving, shoe racks or hanging shoe storage. Keep pairs of shoes together and spaced far enough apart that you can easily see your options.

The key to effective closet storage is to ensure that everything is easily visible and accessible. This can mean paring down and donating clothes you no longer wear; hanging shirts, pants and dresses on uniform hangers for equal distribution; and maximizing overhead space for larger accessories.

For

For those with large or walk-in closets, a portion of the storage space can be devoted to jewelry and hat storage. These storage solutions may include vertical hanging storage, specialized shelving or shallow drawers with jewelry storage insets.



Egger suggests starting in your most problematic areas, which for many people includes the kitchen, pantry, garage, basement or home office space.

Once you've started the cleaning and organizing process, Opitz recommends using the tried-and-true, three-pile approach: one pile each for things you want to keep, donate and toss. She suggests it's best to remove the "donate" and "trash" piles from your space as soon as you can.

Because there's no one way to organize a space, there are three tenets to bear in mind: First, keep like with like; this applies in every space. When you're cooking, all of the spices should be

One way to ensure peak kitchen organization is to dedicate a portion of the pantry storage to the creation of a "coffee nook" to store things like mugs, French presses, coffee accessories and even an automatic coffeemaker.





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together, for example. Second, place your most frequently used items in easily accessible and logical places. And third, create a system and stick to the system in order to prevent the disorganization from returning. Or, in other words: "Make your space work for you, not the other way around," says Opitz.

While some people take great joy in getting rid of stuff, it can be a challenge for others. If that is the case for you, Schuld Adams suggests a fourth pile: "Maybe," which you'll decide on later. "The 'Maybes' are things you're not ready to let go," suggests Schuld Adams. "Put them aside in a container and revisit in a week or month. You might find you love it, but you don't need it. Sometimes

◀

To keep the kitchen cupboards and shelves organized, store like with like: mixing bowls, bakeware, food storage, everyday dishes and drinkware should each have their own storage space optimized for their shape. small steps in a process are a little easier than giant steps."

To make the most of each space in your home, consider these tips:

Garage: Garage spaces benefit from seasonal rotation. Move the tools and gear for the new season to the most accessible place in the garage and relocate or store past seasons' items, suggests Opitz. In addition, Egger recommends investing in racks for shovels, brooms and rakes to get them off the ground. If you keep tools in your garage space, try using wire shelving units and peg boards to organize similar tools together.

Pantry: According to Schuld Adams, the first step in the pantry is to remove everything and thoroughly clean the shelves. Then, as you put items back in the pantry, Opitz offers two options for organizing. One is to organize by meal; place all breakfast items on one shelf and lunch items on another, for instance. The second option is to organize your pantry like the aisles of a grocery store with similar items together: canned veggies



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(Make your space work for you, not the other way around.

- Shauna Opitz, SO Organized

To make use of hard-to-reach or awkwardly placed cabinets, try vertical storage separators, or assign that space to rarely used or seasonal items.



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Even kitchen drawers need a good spring cleaning. Take drawer organization to the next level with the addition of drawer separators for flatware, cookware and knives.

and beans beside pastas, sauces, cereals, snacks, etc.

Egger recommends going through your pantry every few months. If you haven't used things, consider donating them to clear space. Depending on your pantry space, you may want to use baskets for noodles, soup cans, mashed potatoes and canned veggies, which are easy to pull out to find what you're looking for. Use clear containers for anything at eye level or higher. To keep the pantry space clean, try to get in the habit of wiping



down containers as you return them to the pantry.

Basement: Most basement organizing involves tackling the unfinished or storage portion of the basement, which can contain a treasure trove of items in boxes and bins, both remembered and forgotten.

The key to organizing the basement, says Opitz, is consistency in containers. "Having a number of different containers from different companies is a bad idea when storing items such as holiday decorations or out-of-season clothing," she says. She suggests using a single brand of container for each category of items you are storing. The benefit is that within a brand, there may be several different options and sizes, but they are often made to fit together and stack properly.

Also, utilize your vertical space, notes Egger. Either use clear containers so you can see into each one, or use a different colored container for each category you are storing. "To get the most of your basement, I cannot stress this enough — shelves and labeled totes!" she says. "Utilize that upward space. Not only will it be a lifesaver in the event of your basement flooding, but you will maximize space." She adds that when stacking containers on top of each other, remember to put the heaviest at the bottom and lightest on top.

Home office: The home office is often the most important space in need of organization as it is where bills are paid and important documents are retained. "It is key to be very methodical in this space," says Opitz.

To store and organize important papers, develop a filing system that is well labeled and color-coded — this may involve either a label maker or one person's clean handwriting. Color, notes Opitz, helps draw the eye to a particular category much quicker than a label alone can. The goal should be to organize your files in a way that, should something happen to you, others would easily be able to pick up where you left off. Keep regularly used items such as scissors, pens, etc., in easyto-reach places or drawers. Similarly, place





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items that aren't frequently used further away or in lower spaces not often accessed.

Kitchen: The kitchen is a space that has to work for your specific lifestyle. If you don't cook often, place cookware low in cupboards or high on shelves out of reach. If you are an avid home chef, place those items in places that are easy to access. Do the same with bakeware. When organizing cupboards, try putting daily dishware near the dishwasher or Pull-out organization solutions like spice rack pull-outs, bakeware pull-outs or garbage/recycle pullouts can free up storage space in the kitchen's prime real estate.

sink so you don't have to cross the kitchen to put them away, and place potholders near the stove.

When it comes to cleaning the kitchen, you should be deep-cleaning your appliances from time to time, no matter how often you use them. Do the same with cabinets, inside and out, says Egger. She also suggests putting a lemon or orange peel down the garbage disposal to clean it, and points out that half a lemon rubbed on stainless steel will also clean hard-water stains.

Declutter the counter as much as possible, recommends Schuld Adams. When cooking, try to rinse and put dishes in the dishwasher as quickly as possible. This reduces clutter, is visually nicer and helps you feel less overwhelmed. "The counter is one of the first things you see in the morning, and if its cluttered, it starts your day with a more cluttered emotional feeling." Instead, consider adding an element of delight with fresh flowers, a plant or small lamps.

PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE

Spring cleaning, organizing, decluttering and downsizing can be daunting tasks, and the help of a professional can help lighten the load and reduce some of the stress these activities can bring.

"Sometimes we just need not only a knowledgeable professional, but a new friend who can work alongside you --someone who isn't biased and genuinely wants to help you succeed in an area that may not come easily to you," says Opitz.

Not only can these activities be physically and mentally tiring, but the process can stir up emotions as well. "Working with a professional makes it less daunting with a second set of hands," says Schuld Adams. "It helps you see the forest through the trees, and we provide an extra set of hands that are removed emotionally and can help you get to what you want to accomplish."





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More Cleaning/Organizing Tips

Take your organization to the next level

- Don't overlook the junk drawer and other "chaotic" areas.
- Every few months, go through your clothes, coats and shoes. If you haven't worn things, consider donating them.
- Try to keep as much off the floor as possible. It will help the home look and feel better.
- A few times each year, clean the fans, vents/registers, windowsills, floorboards, cabinet tops, tops of appliances and light fixtures these can accumulate a lot of dust, especially in homes with pets.





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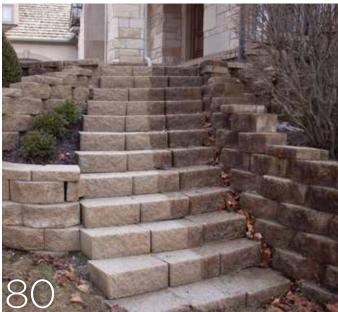


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MULTIPURPOSE SPACE

Flexibility continues to dominate home design today, especially in the kitchen. While open floorplans encourage fluid activity, intelligent cabinet design is responsible for keeping the countertops clutter-free and ready to use. The

kitchen island plays an essential role in this versatility as the main location for meal prep, work-at-home, casual dining and even social gatherings. Specialty zones feed into the plan with dedicated space for coffee bars, snack stations, cleaning and sanitizing.

COLOR STORY

Options make everyone happy, and the array of finishes offered by Geneva Cabinets include the latest trends and treasured classics. Forest Green and Deep Blue are favorites, along with a dash of serenity from natural elements. A mix and match attitude lends exclusive character to every room. The most cohesive approach allows a color story to evolve with interrelated finishes moving throughout the home.



Integrated technology in the kitchen is gaining traction. Smart appliances can communicate with phone apps to switch your oven from "bake" to "keep-warm," start the coffeemaker and conveniently track food expiration dates in the refrigerator. Originally considered a novelty, artificial intelligence is earning a place in today's kitchen.

AWARD-WINNING INTERIOR DESIGN

High-quality cabinetry is just the beginning of a well-designed plan. The certified designers at Geneva Cabinet Company consider every aspect of your lifestyle. They work with you and

> fully understand your wish list before creating the perfect solution for your kitchen, bath, office, playroom and even garage. Their designers have stunning solutions with user-friendly design.

> Geneva Cabinet Company has a reputation for providing an extraordinary customer experience. Their Lake Geneva showroom is well-appointed with displays from the finest manufacturers for cabinetry, countertops, hardware and luxurious plumbing fixtures. The team at Geneva Cabinet Company will place orders for every component of your project, including appliances. They track, schedule deliveries, inspect and install your complete design. Convenience doesn't cost more when you put every aspect of your project into their capable hands.

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For many homeowners, the kitchen is truly the heart of the home. While today's stainless steel appliances and gorgeous wood cabinetry enhance a kitchen's design, it is the countertop selection that often makes the most impact. That's where Marble Emporium Inc. comes in. The company has proven itself as the leading expert in natural stone fabrication and installation for both residential and commercial projects for over 30 years. In addition, the company was the first fabricator in the Midwest to become accredited by the Marble Institute of America (MIA).

Marble Emporium's MIA accreditation uniquely positions it in the industry. This recognition for natural stone fabricators and commercial contractors means it's an elite company that meets only the highest standards for technical expertise, business priorities and ethics, product knowledge, safety, finance, fabrication and installation.

Located on Chicago's North Shore in Northbrook, Illinois, Marble Emporium fabricates and installs natural stone as well as engineered stone (quartz). Their advanced, state-of-the-art equipment combined with hands-on artisan skills result in stunning design options for residential and commercial construction and renovation projects.



Marble Emporium's skilled processes mean the company can fabricate virtually any design concept — confidently, efficiently, accurately and on time while producing field installations without problems or delays.

And at Marble Emporium the term "custom" truly means "custom." Their designers' primary goal is to ensure that the stonework the company creates is a work of art for each client they serve. They recognize that choosing the ideal natural stone is an aesthetic and personal decision, much

> like selecting the perfect artwork for a space. Marble Emporium's designers are trained to assist in providing critical guidance in slab selection, and through knowledge and experience they can offer advice both artistically and technically, helping clients with each material's appropriate usage and budget. It's this attention to detail and dedication to customer satisfaction that is critical to the Marble Emporium mission.

> And while Marble Emporium provides a wealth of experience in natural stone fabrication and installation for kitchen and bathroom applications, the company also provides stone for custom fireplaces and other unique uses such as floors, staircases and walls.

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For over 30 years, Nick and Lidia Pastiu have been infusing style and beauty into homes throughout northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin through their businesses Nick's Upholstery & Lidia Design. After years of success in their Highland Park, Illinois, location, the couple opened a second location in Fontana in response to word-of-mouth referrals and demand for their work kept increasing. Their showroom, which also encompasses a home accessories and furniture store called Lake Home Living, is across from The Abbey Resort, next to the "big green frog," a Fontana landmark and community treasure, now in the care of its owners, the Pastius.

Lidia's passion and talent for interior design is matched by

her listening skills and attention to detail, while Nick, as a custom furniture maker and upholsterer, meticulously crafts each piece to his customers' specifications. Nick learned his trade in Romania under master craftsmen. He worked in shops throughout Europe, creating intricate pieces, including commissioned work for some of the royal families. Working as a team, Nick and Lidia transform their customers' needs into reality by creating custom furniture or reupholstered pieces that are not only stylish, but also structurally sound, comfortable and functional.

Nick builds each piece with quality materials, including solid wood frames and eight-way hand-tie springs, and only the finest padding. "Upholstery is a lost craft; no one teaches it anymore," Nick says. "Mass produced furniture is not built as it once used to be. Many pieces are made and assembled by machines, losing that unique and quality touch that only a craftsman can provide."

Nick's Upholstery customers can order new, quality pieces (sofas, chairs, etc.) that can be designed and created to fit customer specifications, comfort and scale to fit their home, or bring in existing furniture pieces to be reupholstered, updated and transformed. Nick's clients can enjoy the seasoned and inspired interior design services by Lidia Design as well. Lidia offers complete interior design services specializing in new-homes construction, kitchen and bath

design, material selections, paint finishes and wall coverings, window treatments, including window shades and motorized options, furnishings and fabric selection. Lidia Design partners together with Nick's to provide their customers with an enjoyable experience.

With the opening of the Fontana location seven years ago, Nick's Upholstery and Lidia Design have established their quality services in a shoppable environment that you can see and experience first-hand through Lake Home Living, offering high-end home furnishings, unique home décor and gifts/accessories to complete any space. Stop in and visit this one-of-a-kind home design center in Fontana today.







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Band completing large scale home remodeling projects in a similar fashion has quickly become what Balsitis Contracting is known for throughout southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois.

Upon its founding in 2017 by Joey Balsitis, president and CEO, the company decided it would operate in a unique manner. "We offer high-end construction services with total transparency — no hidden fees and completely open and clear communication," Joey Balsitis says. "Our clients see all invoices, live schedules of the building process are available through our online portal, and pictures and videos of project

progress are regularly provided. This enables our clients to know what will happen at each phase and step of the project."

Headquartered in Lake Geneva with an office in downtown Milwaukee, Balsitis Contracting serves Wisconsin and Illinois residents — from Madison to Chicago — and everywhere in between. The team of qualified experts, who have accumulated over 200 years of combined experience building custom homes and completing large scale remodeling projects, use a handson approach when designing and constructing a home or



completing a renovation project. This group is complemented by two, five-person carpentry crews who have long careers in the home construction and remodeling industry.

"For projects like a whole home renovation, addition or custom home design, it is imperative to work with a company in which you have the utmost confidence," Balsitis says. "We're dedicated to offering intense attention to detail and providing the finest product within the established budget based on honesty, integrity and trust, plus we'll keep the project on schedule. From start to finish, we ensure questions are answered, misunderstandings avoided and the home you desire is realized."

> Working as a partner with its clients is essential to the success of Balsitis Contracting. "By listening intently to our clients' ideas and understanding their needs and lifestyle, we are able to construct a home or complete a renovation that not only achieves, but surpasses, the objectives of the project," Balsitis says. "When we finish building a home, an addition, or complete a renovation, we find that our clients see us as friends and trusted advisors as they begin a fresh chapter of their life in a new home or remodeled space." 🛦

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Living in the Lakes area, it's easy to put home maintenance Lon the backburner, especially with the myriad of outdoor activities available. But the exterior components of your home, including your roof, siding, masonry and decking, play a vital role in keeping your home functional and looking its best. In fact, the level of dirt and grime plaguing your home's façade — especially when located on or near a lake — can seriously compromise your home's curb appeal and market valuation.

When it comes to understanding the exterior aesthetics of lakeside living, House Shampoo excels at revitalizing the wideranging features characteristic of these unique properties. With more than 40 years of expertise in the exterior trades, the staff at House Shampoo has built a reputation for excellence in the lakes area with property owners who really care about superior results.

"We understand all the elements of a home's exterior, which allows us to clean and restore every type of roofing and siding, including more delicate specialized components such as Dryvit," says Gary Rogers, general manager of House Shampoo.

House Shampoo also cleans a variety of hardscape materials

that grace large estate homes — from stone walls to walkway pavers to architectural details that may appear dirty or stained over time. In addition, the company's capabilities include cleaning boat houses and docks, ensuring these lakeside accoutrements are in step with the condition of the rest of the property.



House Shampoo's gentle, thorough, proprietary cleaning process allows the company to formulate customized, low- and high-pressure solutions that address each maintenance need. This process generates four to five times more effective results with none of the risks for damage to the object being cleaned or the surrounding landscaping.

It's important for all homeowners to understand that algae, lichen, moss and mold infestation not only damage the surface of exterior components making them look old, but they can also be tracked into a home's interior. "Our solution cleaning process cleans and sanitizes your home's exterior returning it to nearly new, while preventing the potential for health issues for residents," Rogers says.

For those Lakes-area homeowners who simply want to relax and unwind each weekend, rather than being tasked with ongoing exterior maintenance projects, House Shampoo completes the work during the week, allowing the homeowner to arrive to enjoy their lakeside respite each weekend. And when it comes time to sell, a House Shampoo cleaning will create a pristine exterior that increases the property's value, desirability and buyer confidence.

Rather than simply being an ordinary exterior home cleaner, House Shampoo is a unique, well-managed company with services that beautify, preserve and prolong every imaginable exterior property feature, with the added benefit of increasing a homeowner's enjoyment and pride of ownership for years to come.

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In recent years, business owners everywhere have had to reimagine and implement plans to keep their businesses alive and thriving under some incredibly difficult challenges. Perhaps no one has done it better than Thomas and Kathy George, owners of Brick & Mortar Home, the home furnishings and accessories store the Georges first opened in a historic Lake Geneva home at 832 Geneva St. in 2009.

After purchasing the historic home, which the Georges christened "The House," it was Kathy's dream to build it into a home-décor business inspired by a favorite retail shop in Geneva, Illinois. "We moved in and evolved, and it just got better and better," Thomas says. The Georges recently finished a major renovation on The House in 2021. "We really built something wonderful," Thomas says. "It has the feeling of a Chicago loft, but it's brighter, lighter and homier. We decorated it like we would our own home, and when people come in and say, 'I could live here,' there is no better compliment."

staple in the neighborhood, off the busy main street, where people can just sit, have a coffee and a bite to eat, drink a glass of wine or beer, and just enjoy the feel of Lake Geneva."

In addition to the changes at their location at 832 Geneva St., the Georges are expanding their footprint at their other Lake Geneva location, 222 Center St., a furniture and design showroom, expanding the business across the alley to a newly acquired property at 252 Center St. which they will call the "Lofts at Brick & Mortar." The new space will feature first-floor assembly space and a showroom for outdoor and specialty furniture, with a small retail storefront on Center St.

On the second floor of the new building, the Georges plan to add three short-term rental units, decorated with shoppable décor from Brick & Mortar Home. "Each unit will feature two bedrooms, a bathroom, a kitchenette, living area and 300-square-foot outdoor deck," Thomas explains.

In addition to the interior changes, the Georges have also partnered with a local café coffeeshop (details to be announced soon!) to feature a new seasonal patio seating area on the Geneva Street side of the building. "We want a place where people can slow down a bit," Thomas explains. "If they buy something from us, that's great too, but really, we want to just be a part of the community. We want to be a



The Georges are dedicated to remaining an integral part of the Lake Geneva community for a long time, and they also support area commerce by hiring all local contractors and workers for their spaces, both new and old. "We are very fortunate," Kathy says. "We have a wonderful staff of people and a team who really takes ownership and cares about their work."

IT TAKES HANDS TO BUILD A HOUSE, BUT ONLY HEARTS CAN BUILD A HOME.



BRICK & MORTAR HOME AND OUTDOOR 222 Center St • Lake Geneva, WI 53147

Y

6



BRICK & MORTAR HOME "The House" 832 Geneva St. • Lake Geneva, WI 53147

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brickandmortarhome.com

MATUSTIK BUILDERS



MATUSTIK BUILDERS • 672 W. MAIN ST., #533, LAKE GENEVA, WI 888-840-9947 • MATUSTIKBUILDERS.COM • INFO@MATUSTIKBUILDERS.COM

Composed of the finest architects, designers, subcontractors, suppliers, and other top professionals, the Matustik Builders team has been building high-quality custom homes in the Lake Geneva area for 30 years. The company is helmed by John Matustik, who has been pursuing his passion for homebuilding for decades, and understands how each home he builds is a dream of a client's imagination brought to fruition by his company.

The Matustiks are no strangers to the Lake Geneva area. John's family purchased a summer home in the area when he was a child, and his father owned rental properties, and working on these instilled in John a love of construction and building. After pursuing a degree in urban design and development, John met his wife, Kathy, in Fontana, and together they have loved working in the Lake Geneva area and the southeastern part of Wisconsin, designing and constructing custom homes that clients love.

When beginning a project, the Matustiks are dedicated to listening to their clients before anything else. "We talk about the clients' goals, their dreams and their visions for their new home," says John. "We get a feel for what the client is looking

for, and how we can best bring that vision to reality, and stay within their budget."

John says he likes to meet with clients before any plans are even drawn. He explains that each piece of property is unique, and it's important to design a home which maximizes views from that unique property and to create a oneof-a-kind residence that exemplifies the owner's lifestyle, while maximizing the



quality of the home and the products used within it. From there, Matustik Builders finds the perfect personnel needed to complete each distinct construction project, from architects to artisan craftsmen.

What often sets Matustik Builders apart from many other companies is John's direct involvement with projects. While some company owners will put projects in the hands of a superintendent after the initial meetings, John works with clients personally from the initial meeting through the completion of the project. "From the planning and design stages, through breaking ground, through the day-to-day construction, to the landscaping and delivery, and long after," he explains. "I love what I do and treat every home like it's my own," John says.

To make the process fun and transparent, Matustik Builders sets up a client portal on their website so that customers can see photos of the daily progress on their homes under construction. "This way, even clients who are out of state can watch their homes being built," John explains. "Our goal is to simplify the building process and exceed homeowner expectations by completing their home on time and on budget."

> Above all, Matustik Builders remains dedicated to making sure that every home they build receives their utmost time and attention, and that every homeowner can ultimately enjoy a stressfree construction process and a beautiful home. To see more of their work and get inspiration for your own home, visit the Matustik Builders project gallery at matustikbuilders.com.



QUALITY IN EVERY DETAIL



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K10 EUROPEAN COLLECTION



K10 EUROPEAN COLLECTION • 847-828-8891 726 GENEVA ST., LAKE GENEVA, WI AND 2503 W. FULLERTON, CHICAGO, IL

What makes a room beautiful? From countertops to floors to wall tile and even appliances, the look and feel of a home can often be determined by the surfaces on display. A butcher-block wooden countertop might make a home feel more vintage or rustic, while natural stone makes it feel modern and luxurious, and changing the surfaces in a home can dramatically alter the overall look and feel of the space.

With more than 40 years of combined experience, K10 European Collection has been helping clients achieve the look in their homes they may have only dreamed about. What is truly unique about the company is their role in construction: as a supply provider, K10 works with several distributors and manufacturers to bring top-quality materials to contractors. Generally, a home under construction will display the name of the builder, but it's easy to forget that without these top-quality supplies to do the job, there wouldn't be much to work with.

The company initially started out sourcing surfaces, but has now expanded to include collections of custom cabinetry, LED

lighting, plumbing, aluminum windows and doors, custom interior doors and exterior/front doors, French Oak Hardwood plus kitchen hoods, and even a quartz and gemstone collection.

Whether working on a residential or commercial project, K10's mission is to help clients meet their ultimate design goals. Terry Goeke is an interior designer with K10 Collections. Headquartered



in Chicago, K10 works to procure materials from a variety of manufacturers from around the globe. "With the collections, we can assess a person's project and help determine if our products can be a great value for them," Goeke says. "Most of our product has custom flexibility as well, so we can guide the customer through many finishes and products for their projects. Our suppliers have multiple talents, from handcarving to metallic gloss finishes."

According to Goeke, one of the challenges of working in the Lake Geneva area is balancing the old-world feel of the homes with new and modern styles. Residents and visitors are frequently awed by the historic homes in the area, some of which date back to the mid-1800s. When trying to update these homes, it can be difficult to balance the original designs with newer materials, but this is often more achievable than homeowners might think.

While the company frequently completes projects in Wisconsin, Goeke and the K10 team have completed projects in 16 states,

> plus Canada and Mexico, and Goeke explains that they now have distributors throughout the U.S., with the main showroom and distribution center in Chicago. Goeke says that no matter where the project takes them, K10 is prepared to help the client achieve exactly what they want. "The preferred look today is often a meld of time-classic style and modern finishes," he explains. "We really are continuously evolving."



K10 European Collection offers unique design, quality and value sourced world wide to enhance any residential, commercial or hospitality project. A collection of cabinetry, gemstone, quartz, windows, doors, lighting, plumbing, and hardware is available.

> K10 European Collection • Unique Surface 726 Geneva St., Lake Geneva, WI 53147 www.k10euro.com

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HARDWOODS OF WISCONSIN



HARDWOODS OF WISCONSIN • 500 NATHAN LN., ELKHORN, WI 262-723-4515 • HARDWOODSOFWISCONSIN.COM • SALES@HARDWOODSOFWISCONSIN.COM

In 1955, in Dubuque, Iowa, a man named Marv Kahle opened a carpet store. It didn't take long for that small store to expand to the largest full service flooring store in Iowa. By the early 1990's, his son, Jeff, had moved a portion of the business across state lines into Wisconsin and found continued success. Today that flooring store has evolved into Hardwoods of Wisconsin, owned and operated by Marv's grandson, Josh Kahle, and his business partner, Kyle Jordan.

According to Josh, the company is most frequently asked about custom finishes, and they are happy to oblige. It is no small feat. In many cases, they search the globe for products, and import them to projects in the U.S., The company boasts an impressive resume. They have done custom work in both Chicago and New York, including a 19,000-square-foot rehab on the Chicago River, which features the company's end-grain block tiles. While every job makes Josh and his team proud, he admits that one of his favorite projects in recent history was creating the floors for the very first Harry Potter retail store in New York City's Times Square.

The staff at Hardwoods of Wisconsin prides itself on the versatility of its products. As more homeowners are choosing open floor plans for new construction and remodels, those plans often lend themselves to a single material being installed throughout the entire level, and hardwood flooring is often

everything from rustic reclaimed woods to formal French parquet flooring. Josh explains that in many cases, a customer will send Hardwoods of Wisconsin a piece of furniture or trim, and the team, led by Kyle, works to match the flooring to the piece. "By the time we are involved, the customer has their mind made up on what they are looking for," he says. And Hardwoods of Wisconsin rarely has trouble making those wishes come true.



the best fit for a consistent look. "It makes the space feel larger and more open, resulting in better visual flow," Josh explains.

Living the company motto — "From Forest to Floor" — Josh says that the company continues to grow and expand. Working closely with their clients and making sure their design goals are met, Hardwoods of Wisconsin in Elkhorn is sure to be a perfect partner in the design and creation of new or renovated spaces.



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STEBNITZ BUILDERS INC.



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In record numbers, homeowners are creating outdoor rooms, and for good reason. Everyone needs a getaway – a private retreat for entertainment, rest and relaxation. Although decks and patios serve a purpose, outdoor rooms offer so much more and have evolved into carefully planned focal points that truly extend the living space of any home.

Just ask the experts at Stebnitz Builders, who are working with homeowners to transform and remodel existing three-season rooms or build new spaces that blend seamlessly into their home's design and create a natural transition from indoor living

to outdoor entertaining on patios, decks or in backyards.

Screened rooms have always been inviting spaces that have been coveted by many homeowners. The need for additional space for families to stretch out is not uncommon, and screened rooms fit the bill nicely. As such, the Stebnitz Builders team is renovating and adding screened spaces that are exceedingly flexible and can be designed to meet a variety of needs and goals.

In a recent project in Fontana, Stebnitz Builders converted a former patio space into the perfect screened room, a space to enjoy a cup of coffee while listening to the birds and watching for deer in the morning, or ending a busy day of boating on the



lake in the evening. The Fontana project featured a beautiful fireplace as a focal point, as well as a dry bar and an attached paver patio with a built-in gas firepit.

Stebnitz strives to incorporate building materials that not only look great but are long-lasting and low maintenance. Composite decking materials, aluminum and glass railing, and natural and cultured stone materials are just a few examples of products that are easily integrated into any project.

For the Fontana project, the team at Stebnitz helped the

homeowners choose the right materials for this project, including travertine stone on the fireplace, shiplap walls and ceiling with exposed beams, granite countertops, white painted cabinets, LVP flooring and Sunspace vinyl sliding windows.

Using their 50 years of experience in the building and remodeling industry, Stebnitz Builders constructed a stunning screened room that creates the perfect transition between the home's indoor and outdoor living spaces. As with all of the projects that Stebnitz completes, the new room showcases state-of-the-art building materials and modern amenities to ensure the homeowners will enjoy hours in this peaceful, rustic sanctuary.



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LAKE GENEVA WINDOW & DOOR



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Choosing the right windows and doors can be a difficult task, but when you sit down with Jennifer Ackman at Lake Geneva Window & Door, this sometimes difficult task becomes an enjoyable journey. Lake Geneva Window & Door has partnered with the Marvin brand to supply its customers with the highest quality products available today. Marvin's industry leading innovations and quality control, along with its timely service, make them the perfect partner for Lake Geneva Window & Door.

"The excitement of working with a contractor or homeowner on their dream home is not lost on us at Lake Geneva Window & Door," says Ackman. "Our significant investment and constant updating of our showroom allows us to have the homeowner or contractor see firsthand the latest Marvin products."

"We're only as good as our suppliers," says Ackman, "but our relationship with Marvin takes all the guesswork out of it."

Lake Geneva Window & Door also has the ability to replace your

"Catalogs are great for ideas, but being able to open and close the window and door and feel the quality of the hardware that you will live with can only be accomplished in our showroom," she explains.

Lake Geneva Window & Door is a division of Ackman Glass, which will celebrate its 45th anniversary this year. In July 1977, Dick and Katie Ackman relocated from Illinois to start Ackman Glass, and today a third generation is operating the business. Their three grandchildren: Rick, Jennifer and Peter Ackman would make their grandparents proud due to their dedication to running the family business as well as transforming it into the wellrespected and diversified company it is today.



existing windows using the wide variety of Marvin brand windows.

"Our in-house carpenters will take your replacement job from start to finish, including the measuring of your custom windows to factory prefinishing to match your existing trim," says Ackman.

Putting customers' needs above all else is an integral part of the success of Lake Geneva Window & Door. It's the driving force behind the company, according to Ackman. And as stewards of the family business that their grandparents started over 45 years ago, they know the company's long-standing tradition of excellence is their mission to continue.

LAKE GENEVA WINDOW & DOOR

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STYLE EXTERIORS



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When you renovate your home's exterior, you start with dreams: clippings from home improvement magazines, designs sketched on dinner napkins, photos posted to Pinterest.

Who can help you make your dreams a reality? Turn to Style Exteriors in Lake Geneva and Wauconda, Illinois. As a family owned and operated full-service roofing, siding and exterior renovation contractor in Wisconsin and Illinois since 2004, Style Exteriors provides custom, quality home improvement services while always maintaining integrity and the highest standards of customer service.

"Every project we accept is designed specifically for the home it is to be installed on," says Jeremey Bates, owner of the company's Lake Geneva office. "Before our skilled installers can perform their craft, it is necessary for us to study the unique characteristics of the property to create a personalized design that complements the home's aesthetics."

Tim and Kelly Carden, founders of the company, see the Style

Exteriors team as a collaborator on each home project and recognize that the company's most important goal for every customer is to meet their expectations, and in most cases, exceed them.

"We go the extra mile by providing reliable performance and craftsmanship, and courteous trained team members dedicated to each and every project," Bates says.

So what makes Style Exteriors truly shine? Depending on the roofing system chosen to crown your home, the company has the ability



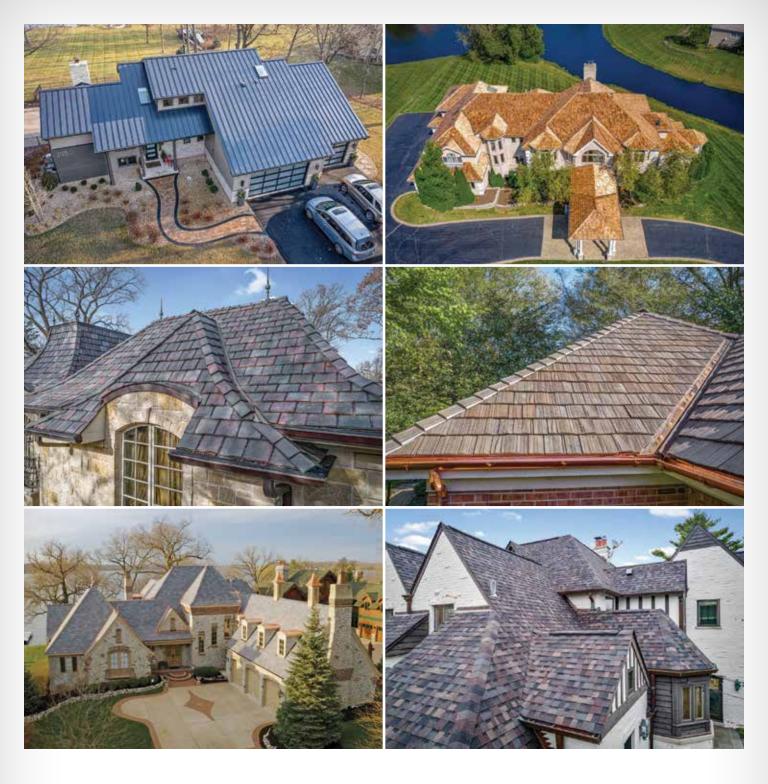
to offer manufacturers' warranties that 99% of contractors in North America can't provide.

Style Exteriors is an approved DaVinci Roofscapes "Masterpiece Contractor" as well as Brava Roof Tile "Preferred Contractor." They are the only company in the state of Wisconsin to receive the top certifications of these top two synthetic manufacturers in the country. Synthetic roofing materials have been trending in recent years due to their aesthetic beauty, durability and the fact that they are maintenance-free.

"These two manufacturers' materials have the most realistic look and feel of a hand split cedar shake, quarried slate or Spanish barrel tile, which makes it very difficult to tell the difference between a comparable roof and these synthetic options," Bates says. For clients that are looking for a beautiful, long lasting, authentic roof with no maintenance, the Style Exteriors team believes synthetic roofing materials like Brava Roof Tiles and DaVinci Roofscapes are the best option.

> Because of Style Exteriors' consistency in quality of craftsmanship, quality of products offered and exceptional customer service, the company has earned accolades aplenty from customers and industry professionals alike.

> "Entering into our 18th year of business has taught us that consistency is the key to growing our company's prestigious reputation in the region," Bates says. "We understand our clients' needs and execute on these standards. We treat our customers as family and their homes as our own."



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LOWELL CUSTOM HOMES



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F has reimagined the building and remodeling process to create a direct path to your dream home. Their enviable reputation for quality craftsmanship pairs with brilliant design as this Award-Winning company builds iconic homes in the Geneva Lake area. For the past 40 years, Lowell has placed their clients at the heart of every home they build.

FUNCTION FIRST

Scott Lowell's most valued advice is, "Build for 95% of your life, don't build for 5%." Versatility for special occasions

can be built into your design, but the focus of each space should be the pleasures of everyday living. Because each client is different, Lowell will never build the same home twice. A dedicated team works to thoroughly understand the functional needs of every homeowner and deliver a distinctive home.

DEFINED LIVING

Lowell predicted the new appreciation for private space and is already responding with smart solutions. While the open floorplan is not going away, Lowell enriches the athome experience with personalized areas. A quiet study, yoga studio, fashionista closet or beautifully organized laundry are all part of the new concept for luxury. Playrooms for young and old are popular again. Now, family members of all ages have a space to call their own.

COMFORT & WELLNESS

A sense of calm and wellness is at the core of Geneva Lake living and Lowell's homes beautifully reflect this attitude. Open spaces, charming vistas and sustainable materials all play a role in creating an interior sanctuary. Homes built by Lowell incorporate an abundance of natural light, high-performance air and water systems, and solid "old-school" construction to control noise in and around the home. Lowell homes are sustainable for generations.



BUILD WITH CONFIDENCE

"Always do the right thing" are words Scott Lowell lives by. His vision has empowered a talented team of tenured professionals to build to the highest standards. The Lowell process is stressfree for homeowners and delivers their ideal project on-schedule, and in-budget. An AIA architect, interior designer, superintendent and full office staff work closely together with each client. Every step of the way they attend to the most precise details, down to the last piece of hardware. Most significantly, Lowell Custom Homes never walks away from their homeowners. A support system is in place on move-in, and for years to come. After all, this is how they earned their reputation for treating homeowners like family.



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BUZZ-WORTHY SIPS

Local, independently owned coffeeshops offer something for every taste BY MAURA KELLER | PHOTOGRAPHY BY HOLLY LEITNER

Lake Geneva Coffee Roastery

hen you need a pick-me-up, nothing hits the spot like a cup of coffee, whether it's a classic drip, a perfect French press or a creamy latte. Achieving a truly great cup of coffee involves so much more than just the brewing process itself — it can include everything from perfectly roasted coffee beans to an artisan pour of steamed milk from a local dairy. At each step, you will find people who are passionate about their role in achieving the perfect cup.

The Lake Geneva area is home to many engaged coffee entrepreneurs, and boasts several independently owned cafés, coffeeshops and roasting operations specializing in providing a peak java experience. We decided to visit some of them and meet the people who are leading the charge to create a burgeoning coffee culture in Walworth County.

Keep reading for the all the buzz on local coffee.

Stillwater Coffee Company

You care't buy happiness but you care buy coffee A great cup of coffee Jeremiah Fox of Lake Geneva Coffee Roaster

LAKE GENEVA COFFEE ROASTERY LAKE GENEVA

Jeremiah Fox started out small, roasting his own coffee in his home for friends and family. It was such a popular venture that he decided to reserve a space at the Lake Geneva Farmer's Market for a couple of years to sell the beans locally, and found that demand for his product was high. So in 2016, Fox opened his own roastery and shop, and today, the Lake Geneva Coffee Roastery distributes beans to many local grocery stores, restaurants and coffeeshops in the area.

Fox is perhaps uniquely suited to the role of coffee roaster — he has been legally blind since he was a child. As a result, he uses his keen senses of smell, hearing and taste to create his roast profiles, using the adaptive assistance of talking timers and tactile points on his machines so he can adjust the temperature and air flow.

"Part of our mission has been to educate the public on the process of coffee roasting, and particularly educate youth with disabilities," Fox says. Fox is passionate about not just community outreach but also sustainability. He created his own vented, reusable bucket



system that saves a single coffeehouse 300 pounds of paper waste per year.

The roastery's most popular products are its medium roast, called Artisan, and its dark and bold roast, Wake the Lake. These are commonly used by the many coffeeshops the company services in the area. "We also do have many singleorigins available for purchase on our website," he adds.

Why are Fox's roasts so popular in the Lake Geneva area? "Our coffee is unique because it is air-roasted, which is why our coffees are naturally sweet with a smooth finish and easier on your stomach," Fox explains. "People always ask me about how to make the perfect cup of coffee and I say it just needs to be perfect for you."

THE COFFEE MILL FONTANA

Maryann Bruss had talked about opening a coffeeshop for years. "As the years passed and my children grew, I realized they had nowhere on the west end of the lake to go with friends," Bruss explains. "That's when I began to think more along the lines of a sit-down coffeeshop."

Bruss opened The Coffee Mill in Fontana in 2012. After finding the perfect location, she knew she had to source a good coffee roaster. Bruss set her sights on Door County roaster Anodyne Coffee Roasting Company, a company that she says has turned into an incredibly supportive partner along the way.

"Making espresso at The Coffee Mill isn't as simple as pushing a button. Our espresso machine is a manual machine from Italy, and it takes extensive training to get the right grind and tamp to create the perfect shot of espresso," she







explains. No detail is overlooked. "Water quality is just as important as the coffee used to make the espresso. We have a reverse osmosis filtering system and use Anodyne's organic espresso, a great combination."

A customer-favorite espresso drink is the shop's Honey Bee, which is made with local honey, vanilla syrup, a shot of espresso and steamed milk. "We call it deliciousness in a cup," Bruss says. In addition to award-winning organic coffee and espresso, the shop's locally famous oatmeal bake is a crowd-pleaser.



"I went through a ton of batches before we came up with a healthy version that tastes great," Bruss says.

INSPIRED COFFEE CAFÉ LAKE GENEVA

Inspired Coffee Café launched in downtown Lake Geneva in June 2020, with a holistic mission that is an extension of Inspiration Ministries in nearby Walworth, a faith-based nonprofit organization dedicated to serving adults with disabilities. To further this mission, Inspired Coffee Café employs people with intellectual, developmental and physical disabilities, and provides a space where they are celebrated, and coached and trained for a specific job.

Merik Fell, vice president of advancement at Inspiration Ministries, explains that the coffee café trainees learn multiple skills that help them not only succeed at their jobs, but also interact with the community in ways that eventually translate to other meaningful work once completing the Inspired training program. The ultimate goal of the café is that each employee trainee will graduate from the program and place into a fully integrated work setting within the community.

Visitors to Inspired love the café's mission as well as its comfortable, homey environment. Customers enjoy Inspired's caramel macchiato, chai tea latte and the shop's frozen blended drinks during the warm summer months. Of course, coffee is king. "Our espresso is roasted by Lake Geneva Coffee Roastery utilizing a clean air method," Fell says. "This offers a unique taste to our lattes and espresso beverages — bold yet very smooth."

In Fell's view what makes the perfect cup of coffee? "A friendly face and a fresh roast," he says. "All of our beans, brewed coffee, espresso, and cold brew are all roasted fresh every week." But he says it's really the people that really make the difference. "The connection you make with those you share your coffee with is important to us."



"IT ALL STARTS WITH THE BEAN."

– Karen Sieger, Stillwater Coffee Company



AVANT CYCLE CAFÉ LAKE GENEVA

Avant Cycle Café combines two things people are often passionate about coffee and cycling - into a single coffeeshop experience in downtown Lake Geneva. The friendly and knowledgeable café team offers in-house roasted coffees and signature drinks in a comfortable environment, while the establishment's adjacent bike shop sells Trek, Bontrager, Pearl Izumi and Giant bicycles, and provides e-bike rentals on Trek bikes with route guidance.

This creative business venture greeted its first customers in April of 2018 and café manager Ann Esarco says they have been fortunate to find an avid customer base of coffee and bicycle enthusiasts. For coffee lovers, Avant Cycle Café serves coffee made from locally roasted and even in-house roasted beans. "A cup of coffee or tea needs to be made as if

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it is for yourself," Esarco says. "All of our ingredients are fresh and properly measured. And, of course, served with a smile."

One of the customer-favorite bike routes is the "Bay and Back," a 16-mile, roundtrip route between Lake Geneva and Williams Bay that skirts the shore of Lake Como. To fuel up for the journey, Esarco says the Honey Badger latte, infused with honey and cayenne pepper, is a "must have."

GREEN GROCER COFFEE SHOP (FORMERLY STEAMERS) WILLIAMS BAY

For more than 12 years, the Green Grocer in Williams Bay has been providing fresh organic deli and grocery options, as well as gluten-free specialties and vegan favorites to the Lake Geneva area. At the beginning of this year, the Green Grocer's owners, sisters Jennifer Veith and Jane Larson, also acquired the operations of the former Steamers coffeeshop space next door and changed the name to the Green Grocer Coffee Shop.



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THE DETAILS

Avant Cycle Café

- 234 Broad St., Lake Geneva, second location at W6098 US Hwy. 12 in LaGrange opening soon.
- (262) 203-5141
- avantcyclecafe.com

Adjacent bike shop and onsite bike rentals make this a popular place to stop before or after a cycling tour of the area.

Boxed and Burlap

- 2935 State Hwy. 67, Delavan (at the intersection of highways 50 and 67), and 100 E. Geneva Square, Lake Geneva (inside Piggly Wiggly)
- (262) 374-5497
- boxedandburlap.com

Menu at primary location includes assorted pastries. Charming indoor and outdoor seating areas plus an adjacent landscape center/event space make this a popular gathering place.

The Coffee Mill

- 441 Mill St., Fontana, and Coffee Mill by the Water, 329 Third Ave., Fontana (open seasonally)
- (262) 275-0040
- coffeemillfontana.com

Indoor and outdoor seating available. Menu includes breakfast and lunch options plus assorted pastries.

Green Grocer Coffee Shop

- 26 W. Geneva St., Williams Bay
- (262) 245-9077
- greengrocergenevalake.com

Menu includes soups and sandwiches from the Green Grocer Deli as well as muffins, smoothies, quick breads, freshpressed juices and more. Also serving beer, wine and cocktails.

Inspired Coffee Café

- 883 W. Main St., Lake Geneva
- (262) 683-8604
- inspiredcoffee.org

Full-service coffee shop in downtown Lake Geneva with a mission of empowering, training and employing people with disabilities. Menu includes pastries from Hummingbird Bake Shop. Mobile ordering and counter/curbside pickup available.

Lake Geneva Coffee Roastery

Shop online at Igcoffee.com.

Stillwater Coffee Company

- 1560 N. Country Club Parkway, Elkhorn
- (262) 723-2301
- stillwatercoffeecompany.com

Top-notch latte art. Menu includes breakfast, lunch and snack options in addition to assorted pastries.



Both Green Grocer businesses are located in Williams Bay's historic Lackey/ Granath building, which once housed a hardware store, dry goods store, post office and, appropriately, a grocery store. Today, the Green Grocer Coffee Shop boasts a warm, comfortable atmosphere in this vintage building, and provides a cozy sitting area with lots of natural light.



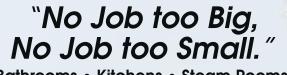
Veith and Larson say that they strive to support local farmers and vendors in both arms of the business. At the coffeeshop, customers can enjoy not only a great lavender latte or cup of drip, press or espresso, but also a sandwich, freshbaked organic muffin or bowl of soup from the Green Grocer Deli. Smoothies, quick breads, fresh pressed juices and gelato are also available. In addition, visitors can order a glass of wine, a cold beer or even a cocktail, making the Green Grocer Coffee Shop a true fullservice setting, unique among the area's coffeeshops.

STILLWATER COFFEE COMPANY ELKHORN

Karen Sieger had always dreamed of opening a coffeeshop and in May 2017, that dream became a reality when she opened Stillwater Coffee Company in Elkhorn. "I have always wanted to create a place where people could come and enjoy time with family and friends; a place to come and work remotely or have a business meeting; or a place to just get away and sit alone and read for the afternoon," Sieger says.







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Sieger is passionate about supporting other local and regional businesses. As a part of this goal, Stillwater Coffee Company serves Stone Creek Coffee, a craft coffee roaster founded in 1993 in Milwaukee. "Before opening my coffeeshop, I never realized how much that went into a good quality cup of coffee. It all starts with the bean," Sieger says. "Next is the perfect grind, extensively filtered water, good quality who take their job very seriously. They know that our customers appreciate the skills they put into each cup of coffee — whether it be a daily brew or the perfect latte."

Stillwater Coffee Company offers a full menu of coffee drinks, teas and blended drinks, and Sieger says the shop's baristas are always developing fun new drink recipes, including a customer-favorite white chocolate macadamia nut latte and a honey lavender latte. Guests will also find breakfast and lunch offerings, and all of the shop's bakery items are sourced from local bakeries. "A lot of my





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BOXED AND BURLAP

DELAVAN AND LAKE GENEVA

Since 2016, when husband-and-wife owners John and Lindsay Neighbors renovated a historic farmhouse at the intersection of highways 50 and 67 into a modern, bright coffeeshop and landscape center called Boxed and Burlap, visitors have been charmed by the light-filled space and top-notch coffee on offer. The coffeeshop became such a popular gathering point for the community that the Neighborses decided to convert a former barn on the property into a rentable event space, adding a weekly artisan and farmer's market and community yoga, among other activities. As the website explains, "...Boxed and Burlap is a feeling, fed to the soul with coffee, creative spaces and community."

At the core of the Boxed and Burlap experience is the coffee. To get the

ONETRE

perfect custom roast for Boxed and Burlap, John and Lindsay Neighbors connected with Brooklyn, New York-based bespoke coffee roaster Christopher Calkins, who apprenticed with Alfred Peet of Peet's coffee and worked with the co-founders of Starbucks. By collaborating with Calkins, the Neighborses chose a custom roast specific to Boxed and Burlap that is not available anywhere else in the Midwest, and they continue to roast the beans themselves on site.

The coffee at Boxed and Burlap proved so popular that a few years after opening their initial location, the Neighborses expanded, adding a Boxed and Burlap location inside the Lake Geneva Piggly Wiggly. But even as their footprint expands, Boxed and Burlap stays rooted in the community of Walworth County. As part of the Neighborses' faith-based mission, a portion of the proceeds of certain items sold at Boxed and Burlap support art therapy and mental health services in the local community.



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WELL BEING //

A Weekend for Body and Soul

For women feeling stressed and burned out, it might be time to hit the pause button during a women's retreat BY SHELBY DEERING

It's a fact: we all have stress in our lives. And over the past couple of years, we've had even more worries heaped on top of the usual life stressors (thanks, pandemic). Juggling ever-changing family and work schedules, life responsibilities and personal relationships can leave many people feeling overwhelmed, burned out and disconnected, and this may be even more true for women.

In fact, a study published in 2021 by the University of Chicago Medicine concluded that women in the United States experienced "alarmingly high rates" of mental health problems like depression and anxiety during the time period that correlated to the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. These findings corroborated earlier, pre-pandemic studies into women's mental health. According to a 2010 study from the American Psychological Association, women are more likely than men to report experiencing "a great deal of stress."



In general, women cite more family and work-related stress than men, and experience higher levels of anxiety.

The solution may be a women's retreat weekend. As these wellbeing getaways have become more prevalent nationwide, the Lake Geneva area has seen a rise in the number of retreats offered here. So we wanted to find out what a women's retreat weekend entails. Is it something that could help you or a loved one feel better and soothe away stress? What kinds of options are available locally?

WHAT EXACTLY IS A RETREAT?

Dr. Christine J. Quinn, Ph.D., CTPC, PCC, Leadership Coach and Higher Education Success Partner, is the owner of Lake Geneva Haven, a local vacation rental that also serves as a hub for women's weekends. Quinn considers a retreat weekend to be "a short, two- to four-day getaway that provides attendees space for rest, rejuvenation and a variety of wellness or creativity-infused activities to experience in the company of other like-minded women."

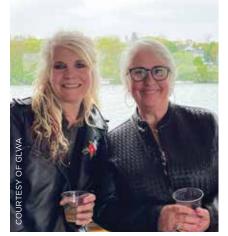
In the nearby Lake Country region of Waukesha County, nutritionist Abbie Steidl and health coach Kenzie Groh partnered to found Empowered Retreats, a company specializing in retreats that focus on "physical, mental and educational practices" designed to "help women build community and restore self love" in order to encourage "returning to... everyday life more present and mindful." They say that retreats allow participants to slow down and focus on themselves, something which can be hard to do in today's fastpaced society.

Elizabeth O'Connor Cole has grown up spending summers at her family's Geneva Lake home. Today she is an author, wellbeing educator and founder of Chicago's SALVEO Lifestyle, which leads retreats in the Lake Geneva area and beyond. She says that retreats allow participants to "learn tools and practices that you can incorporate into your life to support you in your journey to thrive."

In other words? A women's retreat is more than just a relaxing weekend away. It's an opportunity to gather wellbeing advice, develop new life skills and form connections with like-minded women, in order to feel more empowered in dayto-day life.

One notable retreat in the Lake Geneva area is the popular Women's Weekend Lake Geneva, now hosted by the Geneva Lake Women's Association (GLWA), which will be held this year, May 13-15, at a variety of locations. This marks the third year that GLWA has sponsored the retreat, with funds raised benefiting charitable organizations. (Before that, the event was managed by the Lake Geneva Rotary Club for 12 years in conjunction with the Lake Geneva BID.) "A retreat weekend can mean many things, from time set aside for quiet reflection or spiritual introspection, to wellness and educational development, to social connection and bonding," says Missy Sell, GLWA board member and chair of the Women's Weekend Committee. "Women's Weekend Lake Geneva combines many of these aspects."







at Pier 290 in Williams Bay.

Laurie Gianitsos and Kathy Papcke of the Geneva Lake Women's Association enjoy a boat cruise during Women's Weekend Lake Geneva (above). At a separate event, women enjoy networking opportunities at the Bottle Shop in Lake Geneva (right).

"It's been a tough couple of years. People have realized that they need to make time to take care of themselves."

- Elizabeth O'Connor Cole, SALVEO Lifestyle



WHY ARE RETREATS TRENDING?

Despite the challenges that the global pandemic has created in travel and event planning, women's retreat weekends have remained popular, partly because they can be scaled to a smaller size or organized among a group of friends or family members. And the pandemic's stresses make the need for just such a getaway more important than ever. "It's been a tough couple of years," O'Connor Cole points out. "People have realized that they need to make time to take care of themselves."

Quinn agrees, and says she believes that women's retreat weekends are trending in part because traveling during a pandemic has become complicated and limited. "Many women can't plan long-distance trips or vacations like they used to, or they don't want to be far from home in case they need to quarantine again," she says. "However, they still crave an opportunity to spend some time away so they can focus on their own needs, recharge and gain a fresh perspective on life."



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She adds that while many women may crave an entire week or more to get away, that amount of time can be impractical when you have a job, deadlines and a family to care for. "Thus, a weekend retreat becomes the perfect remedy, providing much-needed time and space for a brief, but regenerative, respite."

WHAT ACTIVITIES ARE **INCLUDED?**

Women's weekend retreats can include a variety of classes and activities, but generally focus on nourishing one's health and spirit while mixing in a healthy dose of fun. O'Connor Cole says that her SALVEO Lifestyle retreats can include daily meditation, yoga, exercise, time in nature, educational discussions, cooking classes, group activities and bonding opportunities.

Quinn's Lake Geneva Haven retreats focus on gentle movement, such as yoga, and vision exercises that help participants reflect on different areas of their lives "to determine what fulfillment looks like to them." This can even include sessions on design psychology to help participants









"A retreat can provide the opportunity to shine the light on yourself."

Missy Sell, Geneva Lake
 Women's Association

learn how to create a home environment that supports their wellbeing.

Steidl and Groh, who will host their next Empowered Retreat in the Lake Geneva area from April 1-3, often include sunrise yoga, breathwork, sound baths, hikes, cooking lessons and chefprepared meals.

And according to Sell at the GLWA, this year's Women's Weekend Lake Geneva will feature a "Roaring '20s" theme, starting with a kick-off party at the Riviera Ballroom. Throughout the weekend, the GLWA will sponsor a variety of related events that fall under four categories — Wellness, Education/Learning, Empowerment and Socializing — including yoga sessions, historic walking tours, wine and food tastings, history museum talks, creativity workshops, mixology demonstrations, aromatherapy sessions and flower arranging classes.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF A RETREAT?

We asked our retreat organizers to share the top benefits that women experience during and after retreat weekends. These include:

- Dedicated time for relaxation and an opportunity to pause everyday life
- Self-betterment tools and practices to take home
- Increased sense of empowerment
- The opportunity to become part of a supportive community
- Space for self-discovery and a boosted sense of self love
- Guidance on developing good habits and creating a plan of action that supports life goals
- Improved overall health and the opportunity to create new memories

"One of the most beneficial aspects of self-care is taking time to check in with yourself," Sell of the GLWA explains. "Psychologists recommend people check in with themselves often, to ensure they are grounded and aware of their own feelings and needs. But with our busy lives, it's not always easy to

START YOUR SPRING FROM WITHIN





exercise that habit. A retreat can provide the opportunity to shine the light on yourself, to see how you are doing, where you are with your goals and what you need to find joy."

Mackenzie Bestold, a Lake Geneva Haven retreat participant, echoes this sentiment. "My biggest takeaway was that sometimes we all need a little time to ourselves to recharge and reflect," she explains. "I walked away feeling energized and empowered after spending time with other inspiring women and participating in the retreat activities. I learned that investing in oneself is never a bad investment. It was money and time well spent." She's now a marketing director and empowerment coach for the retreats.

Shawna Huffman Owen has attended several SALVEO Lifestyle retreats and says that

the experiences have made "a difference in the way I love my life."

WHY LAKE GENEVA?

Women's retreats may be happening all over the country, but these organizers believe that Lake Geneva is a particularly idyllic place to hold them, due to the beautiful natural setting, supportive local community and convenient geographic location.

"Lake Geneva is a gorgeous setting and an easy getaway from... Chicago," O'Connor Cole of Chicago's SALVEO Lifestyle says. "It is a lovely place to reconnect with nature, which helps you reconnect with yourself. The natural beauty of the lake itself is so special — anytime you're near water, it is a great time to be reflective. I find that the lake stirs my soul and encourages me to look within."

Quinn feels that Lake Geneva provides a variety of unique spaces where retreats and activities can be held, and that the local business community is particularly encouraging. "There are more local, women-owned businesses and leaders coming together to create these offerings because the need for them is felt on a deeply intuitive level," she says. "People are starting to realize that these weekends can be more than shopping and restaurants. Women supporting women is happening in the Lakes area, and it's a matter of finding the right retreat for you."

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Hitting the



Rock Central offers musicians of all ages a chance in the spotlight

BY RACHEL WISINSKI | PHOTOGRAPHY BY HOLLY LEITNER



everal years ago, Tommy McEneany saw the beloved, 2003 cult classic "School of Rock," and was inspired. The then-10-year-old decided to ask his parents for a guitar for Christmas. After some hesitation, Mike and Susan McEneany agreed on one condition: Tommy take lessons rather than let the guitar gather dust in the corner of his room.

Susan searched for a place for lessons and stumbled upon Rock Central, a Lake Geneva-based music school that "aims to enrich the quality of life for children and adults of all ages through music education and experiences." It was a serendipitous find — Rock Central was originally known as the School of Rock, just like the movie that Tommy loved so much. And like the plot of the movie, part of Rock Central's mission is accessibility; the nonprofit school runs on donations and aims to make music lessons available to anyone who is interested in learning.

It turned out to be a great fit for the McEneany family. Participants in Rock Central's programs learn music theory, receive weekly one-on-one lessons, take part in group rehearsals and perform quarterly throughout the year to showcase what they've learned and help raise money for the school. The program has been in existence for about 12 years, moving from Williams Bay to Lake Geneva nine years ago, according to manager Rickie Wetzel. Rickie's husband, well-known local musician "Big Al" Wetzel, is one of nine people currently teaching at Rock Central.

Rickie says the program is open to anyone with the drive to learn and perform. Students can choose to learn the guitar, bass guitar, drums or keyboard, or they can sing. After a free trial lesson, students are placed in a group according to their ability level, which generally coincides with age: 5- to 8-year-olds, 8- to 12-yearolds, 12- to 17-year-olds and an adult program. Rock Central also features a House Band, whose members receive their spots via an audition process. The House Band performs about once a month and can be hired for special events.

"Something instantly clicked in me." - Tommy McEneany

ROCK CENTRAL

Other and Annie McEneary

Teachers at Rock Central all have different musical backgrounds — some studied music theory in college while some learned their instrument by playing in bands. Rickie says this helps diversify the education they provide. "I think it's great that we're teaching kids the history of rock 'n' roll," Rickie says. "In this day and age of social media, they wouldn't really learn about these artists anywhere else."

THE SETLIST

While growing up, Tommy, now 17, and his sister Annie, 15, always heard their friends talking about the hottest new songs. However, the pair had a slightly different playlist, immersing themselves in classic rock: Led Zeppelin, Rush, The Who. "We grew up with a different taste in music than everyone else," Annie says, crediting their influences to the music they heard their parents playing around the house.

About one year after Tommy began guitar lessons, Annie began playing the keyboards at Rock Central. She has also now eased her way into singing and performs as a vocalist. Both McEneany siblings are in the 12- to 17-year old group, called Show Rockers, as well as Rock Central's House Band. The self-proclaimed "twins" practice in their basement at home, which Mike and Susan have



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transformed into a kind of music studio. "I keep kind of putting fuel on the fire to see where this thing goes," Mike says. "I think it's just like any parent would have, whether their son or daughter is in a sport and there's that moment of pride to see how well they're doing, or if they're in the theater, to see them deliver their lines."

In fact, both Annie and Tommy participate in musical theater as well, and they feel that Rock Central is a good place to combine their love of classic rock and performing. Since beginning lessons at age 8, Tommy has seen his skill level on the guitar take off. However, at first, he says he encountered some difficulty learning the pentatonic scales and questioned whether he wanted to continue. "I was sitting around one day practicing it and I got the first half down," he says. "Then I'm like, 'OK, try to get the second half,' and something instantly clicked in me."

Rehearsals at Rock Central generally revolve around a specific genre, theme or artist, though sometimes the setlist



is hand-selected by the musicians themselves in what the school calls "students' choice." Mike says that's one of the biggest perks at Rock Central: Students get to play songs they want to play. In their time there, Tommy and Annie have played all eras of rock music, from The Rolling Stones and Supertramp to Green Day, Phish and The Dave Matthews Band. "It's cool to get them turned on to this stuff," Mike says.

Just giving Tommy and Annie the opportunity to perform in a band has been a game-changer, Mike says. Not only have they made friends at Rock Central, but they're learning the power of playing their role as one piece of the puzzle. "It's like a big melting pot," Tommy says. "Everyone has to do their part to make the soup taste good."

HIDDEN TALENT

A father of four, Mike says that he didn't initially have expectations for Tommy's guitar lessons, noting he wouldn't have been surprised if Tommy lost interest after a year. "Lo and behold, it's been one of those things he really gravitated toward," Mike says. "Over time, his playing has become quite exceptional, to the point where he's being asked to play with other bands." When the pandemic put Rock Central shows on hold for a few months, Tommy started playing with a band called Gravity of Youth in Lake



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Geneva. Mike says that people who hear Tommy play often express disbelief that he is only a teenager.

Rickie says that Rock Central students have performed locally at the Abbey Resort in Fontana, the Ridge Hotel in Lake Geneva and Endzone Sports Bar & Grill in Delavan, and the Show Rockers group played at Venetian Fest in Lake Geneva last summer. "The main objective is to go out into the community so these kids can learn the gig of going out and playing in front of strangers and all that comes with learning that confidence," she says.

Mike marvels at the growth his kids have showcased during their time at Rock Central. Although it's impossible to pinpoint when he realized Tommy had a special talent, there's one moment he remembers vividly. At some point during the pandemic, Mike was in the kitchen and heard a song with a heavy guitar presence from the basement. He says he thought it was a record, but when he went downstairs and peeked around the corner, he found Tommy, with guitar in hand. "You could have sworn you were at a happy hour," Mike says. "That's when I realized, somehow he had gotten really good."

For Annie, growing up and performing with the same people throughout her time at Rock Central has been an occasionally intimidating experience. She started participating in the Show Rockers group in seventh grade, when everyone else in the group was in high school. (Her older sister, Molly, was a singer at the time.) "I was terrified," Annie says. "It didn't feel right at first, but once I started playing, it just clicked."



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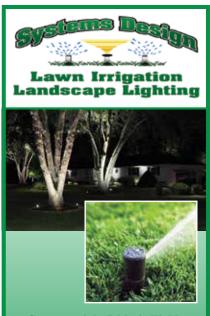


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Less than a year later, she auditioned for the House Band. When she was told she got a singing role, she thought it was a joke. But fostering a sense of self-assurance is a key objective of the Rock Central program, according to Rickie. "Every time they do a show, it's really emotional," she says. "We get to see kids who didn't have a lot of confidence, who were really shy or sometimes struggling with things outside of the school, and we see the transformation in their performance."



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Asked what it's like performing with each other, Tommy and Annie say it works to their advantage. "When you're related it's like, 'Let's just have a good time," Tommy says. Even though they've performed in musical theater and choir together, Annie says, Rock Central is a different experience.

"It's almost calming because I know how Tommy normally plays," she says. "It's easy because when

we're playing a song and he's soloing, I know when he's going to transition. It's like twin telepathy; I already know what's going to happen because we're close, and I think Rock Central has made us closer."

FUTURE HITS

Tommy says his experiences at Rock Central have significantly influenced his career plans. One of his Christmas presents this year was a five-day trip to the Berklee College of Music in Boston, where he'll play guitar and learn things such as the history of the instrument and how to pick patterns. When he graduates high school, Tommy hopes to continue his studies at Berklee, a college attended by countless famous musicians and guitarists. "It's my passion to be doing something with music," Tommy says, "whether it's music therapy or becoming a professional musician or a music teacher."

As a high school sophomore with an interest in business, Annie says she hasn't thought that far ahead, but she is passionate about music and performing and could see herself continuing with it, whether on Broadway or in a band. Susan says regardless of what Tommy and Annie choose to do full-time, the pair will always be able to pick up their talent wherever they left off. Annie agrees: "I think it's a really good experience, and everyone should try it out," she says.

Starting this year, more people will get the chance, as Rock Central will introduce a tots program for 2- to 4-yearolds. The program will teach toddlers the fundamentals of music. Rickie says demand for such a program is high. It will differ from others offered at Rock Central in that it will only involve a weekly group class and no individual lessons. She hopes the new group will provide even more opportunities for people to experience Rock Central.

"It's one of those things that you don't realize how much you're changing kids' lives, but I hear that from parents and it's so rewarding," Rickie says. "Everyone has stuff going on in their personal life, and this isn't just about the music, it's about teaching them how to be an adult and how to deal with life. It gives them an outlet and helps them grow." And Rickie points out that it's not just kids who benefit from Rock Central's programs. "A lot of people say they wish they had this as a kid," Rickie says. "I hear that all the time, but it's never too late to start."



Tommy and Annie McEneany during a rehearsal of the Rock Central House Band.

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INSPIRED COFFEE COFFEE HOUSE (S)

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KILWINS CHOCOLATE AND ICE CREAM SHOP

ICE CREAM/CONFECTIONS (5) 772 W. Main St., Lake Geneva; 262-248-4400 *kilwins.com/lakegeneva*

LAKE-AIRE RESTAURANT

804 W. Main St., Lake Geneva; 262-248-9913 *lakeairelg.com*

LAKE CITY SOCIAL CASUAL SS

111 Center St., Lake Geneva; 262-248-7047 *lakecitysocialwi.com/lake-geneva*

LAKE GENEVA PIE COMPANY BAKERY/CAFE (S-(S)(S)

150 E. Geneva Square, Lake Geneva; 262-248-5100 Igpie.com

LINKS BAR & GRILL

CASUAL ()-() Grand Geneva, Lake Geneva; 262-249-4788 grandgeneva.com/restaurants/ links-bar-grill

LORELEI BITTNER'S BAKERY BAKERY

495 Interchange N. (Hwy. 120), Lake Geneva; 262-248-2330 *loreleibittnersbakery.com* LUIS'S PIZZA CASUAL/ITALIAN G-GG W3410 S. Lake Shore Dr., Lake Geneva; 262-248-6810 *luisspizza.com*

MAGPIE'S DEN & PEN CASUAL © 642 W. Main St., Lake Geneva; 262-249-2302 magpiesIg.com

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715 Hunt Club Dr., Unit C, Lake Geneva; 262-581-6800 *nichelg.com*

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748 W. Main St., Lake Geneva; 262-248-6541 olympicrestaurantlakegeneva.com

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Timber Ridge Lodge at Grand Geneva, State Hwy. 50, Lake Geneva; 262-249-3400 timberridgelodge.com/eat/ smokeys

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724 Main St., Lake Geneva; 262-249-0800 soprabistro.com

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743 North St., Lake Geneva; 262-248-1178 suwinglg.com

TAIL FEATHERS CASUAL (3-(3)(5)

Hawk's View Golf Club, W7377 Krueger Rd., Lake Geneva; 262-348-9900 hawksviewgolfclub.com

TAQUERIA EL GALLO DEL ORO MEXICAN (S)

820 Williams St., Lake Geneva; 262-729-4055 taquerialg.com

TOPSY TURVY BREWERY BREWERY (5)

727 Geneva St., Lake Geneva; 262-812-8323 topsyturvybrewery.com

TURF. SMOKEHOUSE

Geneva National, Lake Geneva; 262-245-7042 genevanationalresort.com/turf

TUSCAN TAVERN AND GRILL AMERICAN/ITALIAN (3-(3))

430 Broad St., Lake Geneva; 262-248-0888 tuscanlg.com

YOGEEZE FROZEN YOGURT FROZEN YOGURT (5)

253 Center St., #300, Lake Geneva; 262-203-5550 *yogeeze.com*

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BRUISER'S CASUAL (5) 689 Milwaukee Ave., Burlington; 262-763-6008

THE CHARCOAL GRILL AND ROTISSERIE CASUAL ⑤ 580 Milwaukee Ave., Burlington; 262-767-0000

FLIPPY'S CASUAL S 401 N. Pine St., Burlington; 262-763-6754 flippysfastfood.com

charcoalgrill.com

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GABBY'S PALACE CASUAL ③ 356 N. Pine St., Burlington; 262-763-4363

LOS COMPADRES MEXICAN (S) 725 N. Milwaukee Ave., Burlington; 262-763-6018 loscompadreswi.com

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BOXED & BURLAP COFFEE HOUSE (S) 2935 State Hwy. 67 (intersection of highways 50 and 67), Delavan; 262-374-5497 boxedandburlap.com

CHINA GARDEN ASIAN ③ 136 E. Walworth Ave., Delavan; 262-749-3111 chinagardendelavan.com

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ELIZABETH'S CAFE DINER ③ 322 E. Walworth Ave., Delavan; 262-728-3383

THE END ZONE BAR & GRILL CASUAL © 4112 Blue Gill Rd., Delavan; 262-728-2420

FIRE2FORK AMERICAN 69-665

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HERNANDEZ EL SARAPE MEXICAN (S) 212 S. 7th St., Delavan;

262-728-6443 hernandez-restaurant.com

INN BETWEEN CASUAL ③ 1522 Beckman Dr., Delavan; 262-728-9824

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JONATHAN'S ON BRICK STREET AMERICAN ().

116 E. Walworth Ave., Delavan; 262-725-7715 jonathansonbrickstreet.com

LOOKOUT BAR & EATERY AMERICAN/CASUAL S Lake Lawn Resort, 2400 E. Geneva St. (State Hwy. 50), Delavan; 262-728-7950 *lakelawnresort.com*

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645 N. Lincoln St., Elkhorn; 262-723-3250 anniesburgertown.com

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LARDUCCI PIZZERIA ITALIAN O-OO 20 S. Washington St., Elkhorn; 262-723-6668 larducci.com

LAUDERDALE LANDING CASUAL O-OO W5625 West Shore Dr., Elkhorn; 262-495-8727

LOS TRES HERMANOS MEXICAN 66 31 N. Wisconsin St. Elkhorn; 262-379-1658 lostreshermanoswi.com

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PIZZA RANCH CASUAL/ITALIAN S 28 W. Hidden Trail, Elkhorn; 262-723-7883 pizzaranch.com

THE PUB AT EVERGREEN GOLE CLUB CASUAL S

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262-723-2222 sperinos com

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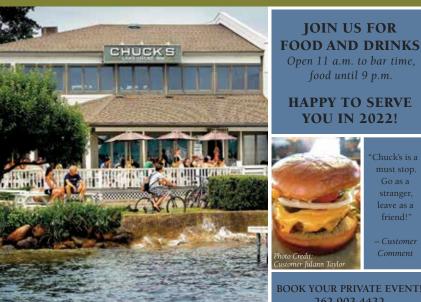
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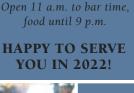
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262-279-5200 fitzgeraldsfishboil.com

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CASUAL S N1070 County Rd. H, Pell Lake; 262-279-2233 uppercrustpizzeriapub.com

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BRASS RAIL

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150 Elkhorn Rd./State Hwy. 67, Williams Bay; 262-245-5757 daddymaxwells.com

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220 Elkhorn Rd., Williams Bay; 262-245-6666 *luckescantina.com*

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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 contact phone number, to *anne@ntmediagroup.com*. Submission deadline for the summer issue is April 8.

ONGOING EVENTS ART WORKSHOPS AND CLASSES

Geneva Lake Arts Foundation offers a series of workshops, classes and a gallery of exhibits. Gallery 223, Downtown Lake Geneva. Contact (262) 249-7988 or genevalakeartsfoundation.org.

GENEVA LAKE BOAT TOURS

Choose from a variety of tours on Lake Geneva Cruise Line's fleet of historic ride boats. Tours resume mid-April and leave from the Riviera Docks, 812 Wrigley Drive, Lake Geneva. 262-248-6206 or cruiselakegeneva.com

GENEVA LAKE AREA MUSEUM OF HISTORY

Learn more about the history of the Geneva Lake area at this informative museum. Call (262) 248-6060 or visit genevalakemuseum.org.

LIVE MAGIC SHOWS

Enjoy 60 minutes of world-class magic, comedy and illusion at the Tristan Crist Magic Theatre in Lake Geneva. Call (262) 325-5567 or visit lakegenevamagic.com.

TUESDAYS @ TWO LECTURE SERIES

Informative lecture series chronicling the history of the Lake Geneva area. Geneva Lake Museum, Lake Geneva. For topics and reservations, call (262) 248-6060 or email staff@genevalakemuseum.org.

WINE-Y WEDNESDAYS

Drink specials and activities every Wednesday. The Bottle Shop, 617 W. Main St., Lake Geneva; (262) 348-9463 or thebottleshoplakegeneva.com

WORKSHOPS AND CLASSES

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Board and Brush Lake Geneva, 262 Center St., Lake Geneva; (262) 409-1639 or boardandbrush.com.

MARCH

4: BOBBY HORTON: SONGS & STORIES OF THE CIVIL WAR

Dressed as a 19th century performer, using musical instruments of the period, Horton explores the stories of both the North and the South. 7 p.m., Big Foot High School, Walworth; bigfootfinearts.org.

6: 2022 GENEVA LAKES BRIDAL SHOWCASE

Over 40 local wedding vendors displaying their goods and services. Free admission. The Ridge Hotel, W4240 Hwy 50, Lake Geneva; (262) 249-3800 or ridgelakegeneva.com.

12: SPRING WINE TRAIL

Sample 30 wines while strolling in downtown Burlington. Tickets are \$45. 1-5 p.m., check in at 225 E. Jefferson St., Burlington; for tickets, visit 2fanciegals.com.

12-14: NATIONAL PI (PIE) DAY CELEBRATION

Celebrate National PI Day with a 3-day pie sale. Exclusively in the market, get \$3.14 off any of eight Pies Baked in a Paper Bag. The Elegant Farmer, highways ES and J, 1545 Main St., Mukwonago; (262) 363-2770 or elegantfarmer.com

18-20: AMSOIL SNOCROSS NATIONAL

See high-flying snowmobile action as the top professional Snocross racers and leading freestyle athletes compete on the track on Grand Geneva's Mountain Top ski hill. Races start on Friday morning; the official opening ceremony is at 7 p.m. on Friday. Saturday racing starts at 9:15 a.m. with pro races from 6-10 p.m. Sunday events start at 8:20 a.m. and the final pro races run from noon to 3 p.m. Grand Geneva, 7036 Grand Geneva Way, Lake Geneva; (262) 248-8811 or grandgeneva.com.

19: LITTLE MONSTERS: A LADY GAGA TRIBUTE

Cynthia Starich stars as Lady Gaga in the Midwest's only tribute to this iconic performer. The Lady Gaga Tribute Act features live vocals, dancers and dramatic costumes. Tickets are \$25. Doors open at 7 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m. Lake Lawn Resort, 2400 E. Geneva St., Delavan. (262) 728-7950 or lakelawnresort.com.

26: DANCING QUEEN: AN ABBA SALUTE

An ABBA experience that won't soon be forgotten. The music of one of the greatest pop bands in history comes to life in a Las Vegas-style show. Tickets are \$25. Doors open at 7 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m. Lake Lawn Resort, 2400 E. Geneva St., Delavan. (262) 728-7950 or lakelawnresort.com.

31: RED HOT CHILI PIPERS BAGPIPE BAND PERFORMANCE

7:30 p.m., Young Auditorium, UW-Whitewater; (262) 472-2222 or uww.edu/youngauditorium for tickets.

APRIL

1: MURDER MYSTERY DINNER: I LOVE THE 80'S TO DEATH"

Bring your appetite for a three-course dinner and break out the neon and leg warmers to get in on the fun. 7-9:30 p.m. The Abbey Resort and Spa, 269 Fontana Blvd., Fontana. Visit theabbeyresort.com to reserve a spot.

2: APOLLO CHORUS PERFORMANCE

One of the oldest choral societies in the country. This auditioned, volunteer choir celebrates its 150th anniversary with a Broadway music-themed program. 7 p.m., Big Foot High School, Walworth; bigfootfinearts.org.

9-10, 16: CHEEP, CHEEP EASTER CELEBRATION

Buy special Easter baskets and all your favorite Easter foods, plus get your picture taken with the Easter Bunny. The Elegant Farmer, highways ES and J, 1545 Main St., Mukwonago; 262-363-6770 or elegantfarmer.com.

9-10, 16: EAST TROY ELECTRIC RAILROAD BUNNY TRAIN

Ride aboard a historic train to the Elegant Farmer. During the ride, there will be coloring activities and a scavenger hunt out your window, and on the return trip, get your picture taken with the Easter Bunny. Advance reservations required. East Troy Depot, 2002 Church St., East Troy; 262-642-3263 or easttroyrr.org.

10: "THAT GOLDEN GIRLS SHOW! A PUPPET PARODY"

One of Off-Broadway's smash hits. 7:30 p.m., Young Auditorium, UW-Whitewater; (262) 472-2222 or uww.edu/youngauditorium for tickets.

12: BOREALIS DANCE COMPANY: ID.EGO PERFORMANCE

Exploring the faces of mental health and the human psyche. 7:30 p.m., Young Auditorium, UW-Whitewater; (262) 472-2222 or for tickets, uww.edu/youngauditorium.



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14: FLASHLIGHT EGG HUNT

Ages 8 to 14. Cost is \$5 per child. Pre-registrations only; no on-site registrations. Bring your own basket and flashlight. Begins at dusk in Sunset Park, Elkhorn. Visit elkhornwirec.recdesk.com for registration.

16: EASTER EGG HUNT

Rain, snow or shine. Celebrate spring with a traditional egg hunt. Bring your own basket. Starts promptly at 10 a.m. Duck Pond, Fontana; (262) 275-2117 or bigfootrecreation.org.

16: LAKE GENEVA JAYCEES'

ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT Seminary Park, Lake Geneva. The egg hunt will begin promptly at 10:30 a.m. Age groups are 0-2, 3-4, 5-7 and 8-10. Event includes a raffle for baskets at the end of the hunt, plus visits from McGruff the Crime Dog and the Easter Bunny. Visit facebook.com/LakeGenevaJaycees.

17: EGG HUNT AND EASTER **BUNNY VISIT**

Community-wide Easter egg hunt sponsored by the Delavan Chamber of Commerce. 9:45 a.m., Phoenix Park, Delavan; (262) 728-5095 or delavanwi.org.

19: NATIONAL PLAYERS

THEATRE PRESENTS "A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM" 7:30 p.m., Young Auditorium,

UW-Whitewater; (262) 472-2222 or uww.edu/youngauditorium for tickets.

20: NATIONAL PLAYERS THEATRE PRESENTS "A RAISIN IN THE SUN"

7:30 p.m., Young Auditorium, UW-Whitewater; (262) 472-2222 or uww.edu/youngauditorium for tickets.

27-30: SPRING FASHION WEEK

Check out the newest spring fashions throughout downtown Lake Geneva's shops. Downtown Lake Geneva; streetsoflakegeneva.com

30: THE HIT MEN: LEGENDARY ROCK SUPERGROUP PERFORMANCE

Featuring Hall of Fame-honoree sidemen. 7:30 p.m., Young Auditorium, UW-Whitewater; (262) 472-2222 or uww.edu/youngauditorium for tickets.

MAY

1: BURGER THROWDOWN Custom burger samples designed by over 10 area chefs. Proceeds benefit the Badger High School Culinary ProStart Program. VIP Admission starts at 11:30 a.m., general admission 12:30-3 p.m. Advanced tickets required. The Ridge Hotel, W4240 Hwy 50, Lake Geneva. Visit vancoevents.com for tickets.

11: ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Welcoming golfers of all skill levels to play in an 18-hole scramble and enjoy networking

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with area business owners and community members. Includes lunch and 18 holes of golf, followed by a steak cook-out. Evergreen Country Club, Elkhorn; (262) 723-5788 or elkhornchamber.com.

13: DADDY/DAUGHTER DANCE

Fathers enjoy a wonderful evening with their daughters; event includes dinner, refreshments, dessert and dancing. A professional photographer will be present. 6-9 p.m., The Abbey Resort, 269 Fontana Blvd., Fontana. Register at visitdelavan.com/events.

13-15: WOMEN'S WEEKEND LAKE GENEVA

Kickoff party on Friday night at the Riviera Ballroom opens a weekend of events and activities centered around wellness, education/learning, empowerment and socializing. Sponsored by the Geneva Lake Women's Association. Multiple locations throughout Lake Geneva. Register at lakegenevawomensweekend.com.

13-15, 20-22: "ALL SHOOK UP"

The Lakeland Players will perform this tribute to the music of Elvis Presley. Walworth County Performing Arts Center, Elkhorn; (262) 728-5578 or lakeland-players.org.

14-15: BACONFEST

Featuring live music and unique bacon creations made available for sale from local restaurants and chefs. Tickets are \$5. Flat Iron Park, 201 Wrigley Dr., Lake Geneva; baconfestwi.com.

15: ELKHORN ANTIQUE FLEA MARKET Over 500 dealers both inside and outside.

Free parking, \$5 admission. Opens at 7 a.m., Walworth County Fairgrounds, 411 E. Court St., Elkhorn; walworthcountyfair.com.

21: SPRING FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL

Featuring 20+ food trucks, plus games and live music. Veterans Park, Elkhorn; (262) 723-5788 or elkhornchamber.com.

21-22: STREETS OF LAKE GENEVA WINE WALK

Sample wines while exploring the shops of downtown Lake Geneva. 1-4 p.m. Registration required. Downtown Lake Geneva; streetsoflakegeneva.com

30: MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Followed by a special service in Veterans Park. 10:30 a.m. Downtown Elkhorn; (262) 723-5788 or elkhornchamber.com.

For more information and the most up-to-date calendar listings for the Lake Geneva area, scan this QR code in your phone's camera app.



ADVERTISER INDEX

| @properties 4-5 |
|-------------------------------|
| @properties |
| Martha Cucco22 |
| Diane Krause25 |
| Jerry Kroupa124 |
| Stephanie Parent |
| The Abbey Resort117 |
| Abbey Springs114 |
| Angelus |
| Artisan Molding24 |
| Artistic Cleaners6 |
| The Baker House18 |
| Balsitis Contracting Inc78-79 |
| Belfry Music Theatre11 |
| The Boat House135 |
| Brick & Mortar Home |
| Bruno's Liquors131 |
| Budget Blinds of |
| Walworth County61 |
| Caravelle Lighting 14 |
| Cedar Roofing Company3 |
| Chuck's Lakeshore Inn131 |
| Compass 41 |
| Compass |
| Mick Balestrieri123 |
| Donna Brongiel15 |
| Tricia Forbeck67 |
| |

| Janis Hartley7 |
|--------------------------------|
| Mark Larkin 108 |
| Linda Tonge31 |
| Bob Webster21 |
| The Cove of Lake Geneva 113 |
| Creative Edge |
| Landscapes LLC97 |
| Daleen Restoration |
| & Remediation68 |
| Delavan Lake Resort23 |
| D & K Painting70 |
| Elegant Farmer |
| Emagine Theatre |
| First National Bank & Trust 47 |
| Flat Iron Tap133 |
| Fontana Harbor |
| Building Vacation Rentals 119 |
| Fontana Home118 |
| Foremost Electric LLC |
| Four Seasons Flooring |
| Gage Marine13 |
| Geneva Cabinet |
| Company |
| Geneva Lakes |
| Burger Throwdown |
| Gino's East |
| Goldeneye Club |
| |

| Haberdapper103 |
|-------------------------------|
| Hardwoods of Wisconsin88-89 |
| High Prairie |
| Landscape Supply64 |
| House Shampoo |
| Jerry's Majestic Marine37 |
| K10 European Collection 86-87 |
| Knoll Crane Inc |
| Knoll Steel Inc103 |
| Lakefront Shuttle14 |
| Lake Geneva Blind Company66 |
| Lake Geneva |
| Laundry Cleaners |
| Lake Geneva Lodge44 |
| Lake Geneva Window |
| & Door92-93 |
| Lake Home Living76-77 |
| Lake Lawn Resort17 |
| Lakes Brick & Block101 |
| Le Roux Construction107 |
| Lowell Custom Homes2, 96 |
| Marble Emporium Inc74-75 |
| Matustik Builders |
| McCormack & |
| Etten Architects |
| Munson Ski & Marine140 |
| Newport West Shoppes19 |

| Nick's Upholstery |
|--------------------------------|
| & Lidia Design76-77 |
| Paper Dolls |
| Pier 29040 |
| The Reesman Company16 |
| ReGenos 115 |
| Rooftop on Main |
| Shodeen Homes LLC44 |
| Shorewest Realtors 127 |
| Shorewest Realtors |
| Christine Fox8 |
| SkyRun Lake Geneva118 |
| Stateline Surface Solutions137 |
| Stebnitz Builders |
| Stonetree Landscapes Inc 109 |
| Streblow Custom Boats |
| Studio M Interiors9 |
| Studio Winery + Geneva |
| Lake Distilling116 |
| Style Exteriors94-95 |
| Sunrise Gardens LLC105 |
| System Design Ltd |
| |





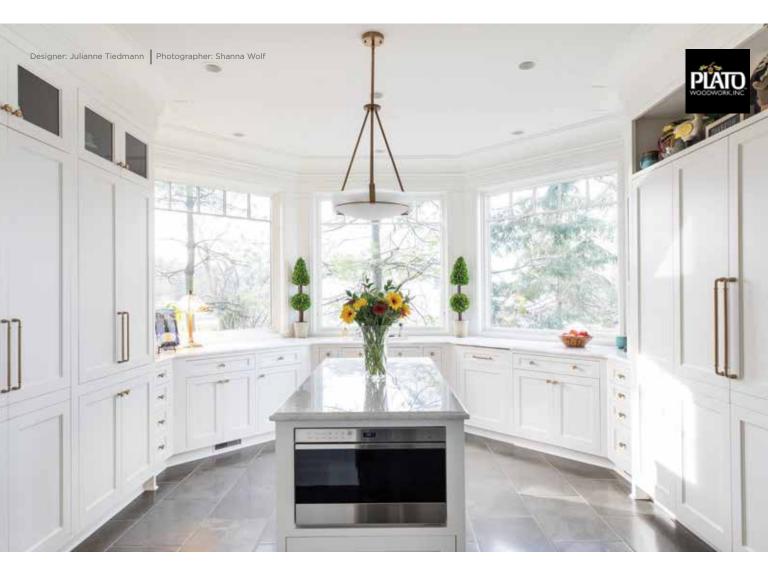
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L.M. Montgomery

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