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Dear Readers,

When I was in college, at the end of each school year, I would pack up my trusty Geo Prizm and drive home to Williams Bay to start the best summer job of all time: teaching swimming lessons in Geneva Lake for the Water Safety Patrol. Inevitably, at some point in the summer, I would find myself in the famous red suit standing on a pier, perhaps watching the beautiful excursion boats leaving the Riviera dock as the sun glittered on the water, and think to myself, "I can't believe I'm getting paid to be here right now."

I was reminded of this feeling recently as I got to tag along with one of our photographers, visiting some of my lifelong-favorite restaurants for our summer feature on the area's supper clubs. Getting a behind-the-scenes glimpse at everything that goes into the full dining experience at these timeless spots really made me appreciate the artistry involved: an expertly mixed cocktail, a perfectly cooked steak, a dessert beautifully plated. This attention to detail and artisan expertise became an unofficial theme of this issue of *At The Lake*: from our portfolio of the local companies keeping the craft of wooden boat building alive; to our feature on Camp Kettlewood, a former Girl Scout camp in East Troy (I was a camper there myself!), now given a fresh life as a laid-back glamping spot by the hard work of its creative new owners; to our profile of a local fly-fishing guide who is on a mission to share the soothing, analog joy of his sport with others.

Summer can get a little hectic in the Lake Geneva area, so this year I invite you to slow down and appreciate the handmade moments, the cooked-to-your-liking moments, the throw-an-extra-log-on-the-campfire moments, the sun-glittering-on-the-water moments. They are always too fleeting.

Anne Morrissy

Anne Morrissy, Editor



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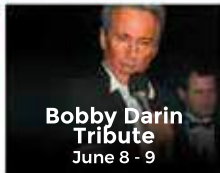
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June 10 - 11



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June 15 - 16



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June 17 - 18



The Buckinghams
June 22 - 23



Garth Brooks & Trisha Yearwood Tribute
June 24 - 25



Eagles Tribute
June 29 - July 2



ABBA Tribute
July 6 - 9



James Taylor Tribute
July 13 - 14



Earth, Wind, & Fire Tribute
July 15 - 16



Barbra Streisand Tribute
July 20 - 21



Beach Boys Tribute
July 22 - 23



Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young Tribute
July 27 - 28



Chicago Tribute
July 29 - 30



Neil Diamond Tribute
August 4 - 7



Neil Young Tribute
August 10 - 11



Journey Tribute
August 12 - 13



Carole King Tribute
August 17 - 18



Freddie Mercury Tribute
August 19 - 20



Johnny Cash Tribute
August 24 - 25



Buddy Holly Tribute
August 26 - 27



The Lovettes
August 31 - Sept. 1



Lance Lipinsky and The Lovers
September 2 - 4



Elvis to The Beatles Tribute
September 7 - 8



Doobie Brothers Tribute
September 9 - 10



Cher Tribute
September 14 - 15



Hall & Oates Tribute
September 16 - 17



George Michael Tribute
September 21 - 22



Eric Clapton Tribute
September 23 - 24



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September 28 - 29



CCR Tribute
September 30 - Oct. 1



Van Morrison Tribute
October 5 - 6



Franc D'Ambrosio
October 7 - 8



Paul McCartney Tribute
October 12 - 13



Ray Charles Tribute
October 14 - 15



Aretha Franklin Tribute
October 19 - 20



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October 21 - 22



Brooks & Dunn Tribute
October 26 - 27



ZZ Top Tribute
October 28 - 29



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November 4 - 5



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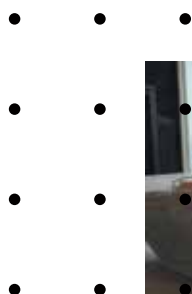
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LOCAL AUTHOR RELEASES LAKE GENEVA-THEMED CHILDREN'S BOOK

In May, local author Alicia Boemi released “The Mail Boat Dog,” the first installment in her new Lake Dog Adventure Series of children’s books set on Geneva Lake. The book, published by Boemi’s Lavender Lane Press, follows the exploits of an adventurous pup named Izzy and her brother Hudson, who love watching the mail jumpers on Lake Geneva Cruise Line’s Mail Boat tour. A press release announcing the book’s release explains that “Izzy’s thirst for adventure heightens as she comes up with the idea of becoming the first mail jumper dog... This brave canine is ready to prove that she has what it takes to beat the odds and officially become The Mail Boat Dog.”

Boemi is uniquely suited to writing a “Lake Dog” series. After earning a degree in English Writing from Drake University, she opened a pet-care business, and also serves as the social media manager for the Society of Children’s Book Writers & Illustrators. Now a resident of northern Illinois, Boemi grew up spending summers on Geneva Lake and says she was inspired to write the book during a boat ride on the lake. “My love for Lake Geneva runs deep, and I’m fortunate to have a lifetime of cherished memories on

the water. It has been a special place for my family for generations,” she explains. “I hope this book can be a fun and timeless piece of Lake Geneva that can be enjoyed by children and adults alike.”

To order signed hardcover copies, softcover copies or the e-book of “The Mail Boat Dog,” visit Boemi’s website at aliciaboemi.com.

LAKE GENEVA SCHOOL DISTRICT HIRES NEW SUPERINTENDENT



The Lake Geneva Joint 1 School Board of Education and Lake Geneva-Genoa City Union High School Board of Education announced this spring that Peter Wilson, Ph.D., will become the next Superintendent of Schools, replacing Dr. James Gottinger, who is retiring after 23 years of service to the district.

Wilson comes to Lake Geneva from the DeForest Area School District, near Madison, where he served as the Director of Administrative Services. He has also served as the Director of Student Services for the Stoughton Area School District, and as a middle school and elementary principal. Prior to his administrative roles, Wilson was a classroom teacher,

mentor and high school tennis coach. He holds a Ph.D. and M.S. degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in educational leadership and policy analysis, and he holds a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from Grand Valley State University.

“Dr. Wilson is a proven, skilled leader who places a high priority on student achievement,” said Lake Geneva-Genoa City Union High School Board President Patrick Sherman. “During the search process, he impressed us and quickly became the top candidate.”

The search for a new superintendent commenced last fall when Gottinger announced his intention to retire. In approving his retirement, the school board thanked the outgoing superintendent for his years of service to the district. “I have known Dr. Gottinger for 23 years, and there is no way we could ever thank him enough for the impact he has had on our districts,” Lake Geneva Joint 1 Board President Marcie Hollmann said. “He is a man of integrity and every decision he made was always about what was best for our students and staff.”

Wilson will take over his new role beginning July 1. “I am honored and thrilled to be [the] next Superintendent of Schools,” he said. “Throughout the interview process, I have learned that the tradition of excellence that exists in Lake Geneva Schools is due to the wonderful people of our community and the hard work of our students and staff. My mission as Superintendent is also my passion, and is the reason I do what I do.”

WALWORTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY REOPENS IN NEW, LARGER SPACE

The Walworth County Historical Society (WCHS) has once again reopened for research following the organization’s move into much a much larger space in the former City Hall municipal building on the square in downtown Elkhorn. The move to the new, permanent location was made possible through generous donations from Paul and Katherine Schmidt, Keefe Cares, the United Way and the Doris M. Reinke estate, as

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The new home of the Walworth County Historical Society is the former Elkhorn City Hall, an Art Deco municipal building on the square.

HOLLY LEITNER

well as an arrangement with the city of Elkhorn. Last October, the society reached an agreement with Elkhorn City Administrator Jim Heilman and members of the Elkhorn City Council to purchase the 90-year-old, landmark Art Deco building for a nominal fee plus the cost of renovating, restoring and bringing the building up to modern code requirements.

A multi-phase project will convert the building — which formerly contained the police and fire station, city hall offices and retail shop space — into a new county history center, which will include the Doris M. Reinke Research Center, the Paul and Katherine Schmidt Library, a genealogy center, two exhibition galleries, an auditorium, an “Exploratorium” for children and a print shop museum, as well as plenty of room for both rotating and permanent exhibits, and the future expansion of storage and work space.

The first phase of the project was completed in the spring, which included replacement of 25 of the building’s windows as well as the roof, the installation of new flooring, fresh painting of the walls and ceilings, the renovation of the street-level offices into a large storage and work space, the creation of a genealogy center and the purchase of new furniture, all of which were made possible by a generous donation from

the estate of the late Doris M. Reinke, for whom the Research Center is named. The donation from Paul and Katherine Schmidt allowed the society to create and improve an extensive historical library in the building, and a Keefe Kares grant enabled the purchase of new computers and other digital technology to keep the Research Center current.

Following the completion of Phase One of the project, the public was invited to tour the new space during an open house in March. Fundraising is currently under way for Phase Two, which will further develop the building to include two large exhibition galleries, and to renovate the historic Art Deco Auditorium on the second floor into a meeting and event space. “We are looking forward to involving the public in our planning

for exhibits and programs so that all county citizens can enjoy and take pride in the renovated facility, the ever-changing exhibits and the rich history of our county,” says Dan Richardson, past president and current board member of WCHS.

The Walworth County Historical Society was originally incorporated in 1904 by members of what was then called the Old Settlers’ Society — people who had arrived in Walworth County during its initial period of white settlement in the 1830s-1850s. As early as 1906, the WCHS operated as an auxiliary of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, with the stated

mission to amass “a great collection of books, pamphlets, circulars, maps, charts, diagrams, pictures, autograph letters, and relics of real interest” relating to the earliest history of the county, in order to “show how men, women and children of the nineteenth and first decade of the twentieth centuries lived, thought and acted.” Today, the society remains committed to its mission to “collect, preserve and share the rich history of Walworth County.”

BOXED AND BURLAP TO OPEN NEW COFFEESHOP AND ART STUDIO SPACE

John and Lindsay Neighbors, owners of the popular coffeeshop Boxed and Burlap, have announced plans to open a new location in downtown Delavan, in a space formerly occupied by the



The new Boxed and Burlap location under renovation at the intersection of East Walworth Avenue and South Third Street in downtown Delavan.

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Schultz Brothers five-and-dime store. More recently, the space was used as an antique mall. The new location will join the original Boxed and Burlap location at Highways 50 and 67 north of Williams Bay, as well as the coffeeshop's outpost in the Lake Geneva Piggly Wiggly. The new space in downtown Delavan will house the Boxed and Burlap roastery, in addition to cafe space, rentable event space and an art studio and gallery. The Neighbors say they are targeting a summer opening, pending final deliveries and inspections.



Interior renovations under way at the new Boxed and Burlap.



Midcentury details in progress at the new Boxed and Burlap.

Lindsay Neighbors worked as an art teacher at Lake Geneva's Badger High School for 13 years and says the new 15,500-square-foot space will allow the couple to combine their shared love of art with their successful coffee enterprise. The space will host classes in pottery, ceramics, painting and drawing, and provide studio space for artists to both create and display their work. The art studio and gallery space will be separated from the cafe space by a glass wall, so that those enjoying a cup of coffee can observe the artists and classes. "The goal

is to connect that creativity piece as an option for the public to participate by either taking a class or observing," Lindsay says. "We're excited about having the ability to host those two things on the same property."

John designed the interior renovation himself, drawing on the history of the space for his inspiration. "The building was built in 1956, so we used that as the inspiration, kind of a midcentury theme," John explains. "Certain elements are modern midcentury, and we'll be

tying our brand into a slightly different look. You'll feel like you're in a similar place [to the original location], but it gives it a midcentury feeling and creates an artistic element to the building."

Additional space in the building will be rentable for small events of up to 40 people, and the Neighbors say that the



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cafe will feature outdoor seating in addition to the indoor dining area. The new Boxed and Burlap location will serve a full coffee menu, using their in-house roasted coffee, as well as a limited food menu that will include breakfast offerings, grab-and-go items and lunch options that include sandwiches, soups and wraps.

Even before its opening, the new Boxed and Burlap is already attracting attention. Last September, the still-unfinished coffeshop was selected by internationally revered auction house Sotheby's as the location for a filmed interview between Simon Shaw and superstar American fashion designer Virgil Abloh, just two months before his death from a rare cancer. The Neighbors say they were honored to be chosen as the location for the interview. "The opportunity to host this interview [was] truly inspiring and is a moment we will cherish," they wrote on the Boxed and Burlap Instagram account.

LAKE GENEVA PUBLIC LIBRARY KICKS OFF PARTNERSHIP WITH STORYCORPS

In April, the newly renovated Lake Geneva Public Library announced a renewed partnership with StoryCorps, a national nonprofit organization "dedicated to recording, preserving and sharing the stories of Americans of all backgrounds and beliefs." StoryCorps partners with local groups around the country to create a national oral history



A StoryCorps volunteer records a conversation with a participant.

COURTESY OF STORYCORPS

project. As part of the partnership, StoryCorps will provide training to a group of volunteer interview facilitators at the Lake Geneva Public Library. Over the next year, these trained volunteers will record conversations with local residents for inclusion in the StoryCorps archive at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress. The public will also have access to the recordings at the library.

StoryCorps was founded in 2003 by Dave Isay, with the goal of creating a first-person historical record for future generations. To date, the organization has recorded the stories of more than 600,000 Americans, who use the opportunity of a 40-minute recording session to share whatever is most important to them. The

StoryCorps archive is one of the largest collections of human voices ever amassed. "Everyone has a story, and StoryCorps offers a way to share special moments with a family member or friends and save this experience for the future," explains Chris Brookes, project facilitator for the Lake Geneva Public Library StoryCorps partnership. "Lake Geneva, and this whole area, is rich in history, and has much to add to StoryCorps' unique historical record of our times."

The library's partnership with StoryCorps was originally scheduled to begin in March of 2020, but was postponed due to pandemic restrictions and the recent library renovations. Over the course of the next year, volunteers will seek local residents who are willing to participate in the program by sharing their stories. Visit the library website for more information.

GENEVA NATIONAL TO OPEN "THE DANCE FLOOR"

This summer, Destination Geneva National will debut The Dance Floor, a new entertainment playground, which will include a lighted, 27-hole, bentgrass putting course, as well as fire features, bocce ball, a surround-sound system and an on-site taco bar cantina. The space will be open to Destination Geneva National members and residents, as well



The newly renovated Lake Geneva Public Library.

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as the general public. The addition of the putting course aims to keep people golfing into the evening and welcome new players into the game, echoing a similar move by other top golf destinations around the United States.

The putting course was designed by Craig Haltom, a landscape architect and golf designer who trained in Edinburgh, Scotland, before returning to his home state of Wisconsin. Haltom positioned the putting course between the Geneva National Clubhouse, the 18th hole of the Arnold Palmer-designed course and the first hole of the Gary Player-designed course. The Dance Floor covers an entire acre overlooking Lake Como.

The on-site taco bar cantina will offer drinks and snacks for those enjoying the new putting course. The menu will be designed by Geneva National's in-house culinary team, led by Chef Ryne Harwick. The cantina will remain open to the public during all open hours, but the putting course can be reserved for private events of up to 100 people, all of whom can be playing the course at one



An artist's rendering of The Dance Floor, the new 27-hole putting course at Destination Geneva National.

COURTESY OF GENEVA NATIONAL RESORT & CLUB

time. Private rentals include putter rental and logoed golf balls, as well as private seating around three fire features, and use of the bocce court and corn hole games.

Destination Geneva National COO Glen Murray says he is excited about what The Dance Floor can offer. "Golf is booming over the last decade, but still, the game only attracts less than 10% of the U.S. population," he explained. "For

demand to grow, the definition of golf had to change — and it has. The new frontier of golf is to welcome everybody — to be more accessible and introduce alternative ways to have fun while playing golf." Murray says The Dance Floor aims to create that space for everyone to enjoy the sport. "Here, the name 'Dance Floor' means more than just golf slang for the green; it truly is a golf entertainment center for all ages." ▲



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EMILY'S CORNER

Lake Geneva Public Library Director Emily Kornak and her staff share their favorite reads about the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago

THE DEVIL IN THE WHITE CITY: MURDER, MAGIC, AND MADNESS AT THE FAIR THAT CHANGED AMERICA BY ERIK LARSON



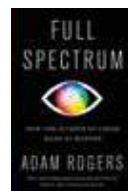
Larson's historical account of H. H. Holmes, the first modern serial killer, takes readers to the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago, where Daniel H. Burnham, the chief planner and architect for the exposition created a remarkable temporary "city" in just two years. This one is great for fans of true crime, Chicago history and architectural history.

SHELTER BAY BY PAMELA S. MEYERS



The second book in Meyers's Lake Geneva-set Newport of the West series, "Shelter Bay" takes readers to the shores of Lake Michigan and the 1893 Columbian Exposition. For those who like their romance with a dose of local and Midwest history, this book provides the perfect escape.

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COURTESY OF LESTER CRISMAN

Piloting ADVENTURE

Local kiteboarder and commercial airline pilot
Charlie Vogel soars on and off the water

BY AMANDA N. WEGNER

Charlie Vogel loves to fly, on and off the water.

Local residents may recognize Vogel from a distance — he's a regular on Geneva Lake, dancing and flying on the water with his kite and board. Now a corporate pilot and professional kiteboarder, the Lake Geneva area is where Vogel developed his love for the outdoors.

"I was raised in southern Wisconsin, which has cultivated my love for the outdoors, especially water and wind," says Vogel. "I was fortunate enough to grow up with Lake Geneva as my backyard playground. It was here I learned how to sail, windsurf and live life outside of the 'comfort zone.'"

STEERING BY THE WIND

Kiteboarding is an action sport where the sailor uses a controllable kite to harness the energy of the wind to ride the water on a board. "I always tell people to envision wakeboarding or waterskiing behind a helicopter," says Vogel. "That always raises an eyebrow."

Although the sport is relatively new, its basis is rooted in ancient technology: it is believed that kites were first invented by two Chinese philosophers in the 5th century B.C. Through the ages, kite design advanced, with kites eventually being used to help propel carts and small watercraft. It wasn't until 1977, however, that kitesurfing was first patented as a water sport, and it didn't immediately

gain widespread interest. In the following years, however, a pair of French brothers developed the first sport-specific kites, and through the 1980s and '90s, pioneers of the sport developed and refined kites to optimize speed and maneuverability. Kiteboarding initially gained traction in Hawaii, and the first competition was held in 1998.

Vogel came to the sport via windsurfing after discovering it with his brother Hans. "We were die-hard windsurfers," Vogel explains. "One day, we went to the windsurf store in Kenosha and the owner was playing a VHS tape of these guys catching huge air with kites while riding surfboards. My brother looked over at me and said, 'We need that!'"

The brothers initially tried to teach themselves how to kiteboard, which Vogel says, “led to our mom having to pick us up on every shoreline of Lake Geneva” before they learned to control the direction of the board. Ultimately, they signed up for a few lessons in Florida, which helped them learn kiting basics and gave them the foundational skills needed to kite in the Midwest.

In the intervening years, kiteboarding has become an important part of Vogel’s life. He’s been featured in “The Kiteboarder Magazine” and is a team affiliate for Duotone Kiteboarding, which he has represented at promotional events and competitions, providing media content for their advertising efforts. He explains that his attraction to the sport is twofold: “You don’t think about anything else when you are kiteboarding,” he says. “It’s a mind cleanse. Also, how you can use Mother Nature as your playground — it doesn’t get much better than that.”

Kiteboarding has taken Vogel around the globe; he’s harnessed the wind and hit the waves in Turks and Caicos, Greece,

the Middle East and off the California coast. “That’s the beautiful part about kiteboarding,” says Vogel. “It takes me to places in the world I never knew about. However, riding in my backyard of Lake Geneva is my favorite spot.” There are two popular places for kiteboarding in the area: the Fontana Beach and Lake Geneva’s Riviera Beach, though Vogel says it’s important to note that sometimes kiteboarding from the beach is restricted as it’s a popular and crowded destination in the summer.

The best place, he reports, depends on wind direction for the day. Fontana is the better choice if it’s a northeasterly wind, as Vogel notes the winds have a good “fetch” and are more organized. Lake Geneva is good if the winds are southwesterly. In the summer, launching from a boat in the middle of the lake is an option.

CRUISING ALTITUDE

In 2012, Vogel graduated from high school and took his passion for the outdoors and sport to Park City, Utah, where he worked in mountain operations

and taught skiing at Deer Valley Ski Resort. Utah is also where he built his skills and gained experience in other forms of flying.

“My goal was to become a helicopter pilot and aerial photographer,” says Vogel. “I started flying fixed-wing airplanes and tapped back into my love of flight. Because I love to teach, I worked toward my flight instructor certificate and started instructing college students to help them earn their wings.”

By 2018, Vogel had accrued 1,000 hours of flight time and accepted a First Officer position flying an Embraer E-175 airliner for American Eagle Airlines, based out of Chicago’s O’Hare International Airport, which brought him back to his Midwest roots. “It’s been a tough but beautiful journey that has shown me that anything is possible,” he says.

What Vogel loves about being a pilot is that it connects his passions. “I love being in the outdoors — being a pilot, sailing, kiteboarding. With all of it, you have to understand the weather, the



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wind and how those elements line up,” says Vogel. “There are no two flights that have ever been the same. It’s the same with kiteboarding. It’s always a new adventure, a new experience.”

Vogel says that working as a pilot and pursuing kiteboarding opportunities are complementary activities. Thanks to kiteboarding design that includes inflatable kites and a board that folds in half, he can fit everything he needs to hit the waves in a single backpack. “Recently, I had a flight to California with just my

backpack and everything I needed in it: my board, my kite, lines and a wetsuit. It’s better than any other type of wind sport because you don’t have to transport a bunch of stuff.”

While Vogel embraces his primary job of piloting commercial airliners, he also loves tapping into his creative side by photographing action sports — mostly sailors, kiteboarders and skiers. “This is my niche, as I’ve been on both sides of the camera and know how to capture the beauty of each action sport,” he

explains. “Balancing everything is tricky, but when you are truly passionate about work, hobby or sport, you make it happen. I love sharing my passion and the adventure of life with others. I’m on a constant grind to better myself and the communities I embody.”

RIDING THE WAVES

From leisurely sailing to more thrill-seeking windsurfing and kiteboarding, the Lake Geneva area is a prime destination for watersports. “Geneva Lake can be a beautiful place to kiteboard with the right winds and experience level,” says Vogel. “We get amazing northeasterly and westerly winds that make for steady wind, which is great for kiting. The spring and fall are especially iconic times to kiteboard with the seasonal winds and the leaves changing colors.” Fall and spring are also good times for kiteboarding — often better than summer — because they are windier times in southern Wisconsin, reports Vogel. “It’s windy four to five times per week in the spring and fall. You can almost ride every day of the week if you’re willing to freeze,” he laughs. Last



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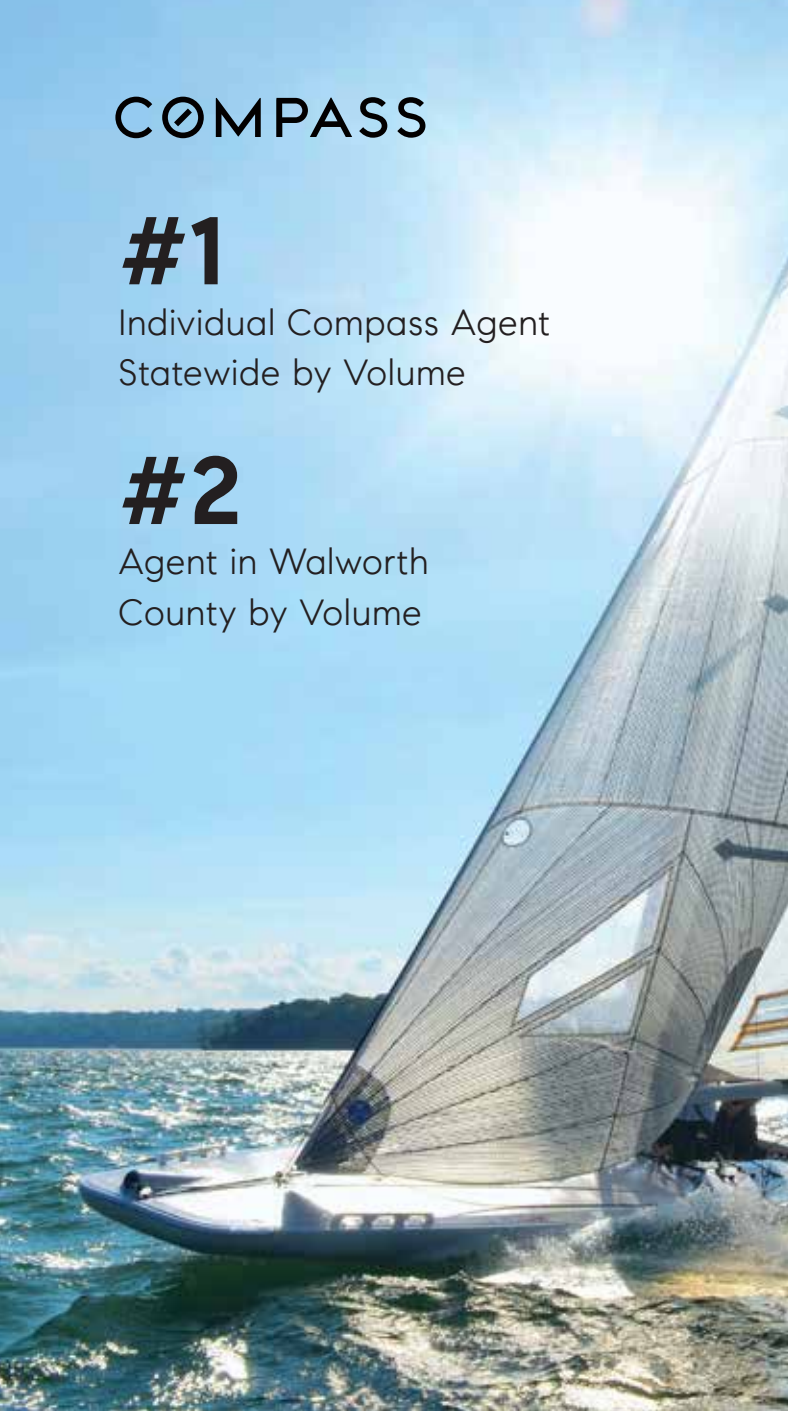
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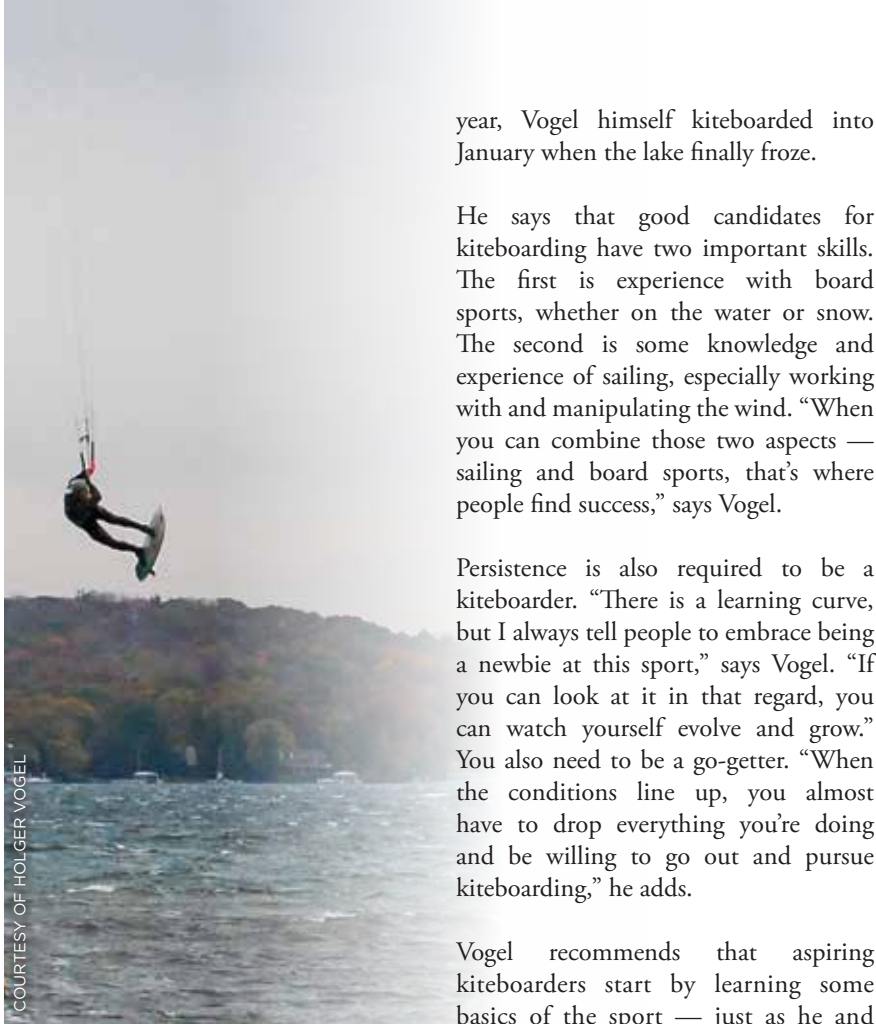


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COURTESY OF HOLGER VOGEL

year, Vogel himself kiteboarded into January when the lake finally froze.

He says that good candidates for kiteboarding have two important skills. The first is experience with board sports, whether on the water or snow. The second is some knowledge and experience of sailing, especially working with and manipulating the wind. “When you can combine those two aspects — sailing and board sports, that’s where people find success,” says Vogel.

Persistence is also required to be a kiteboarder. “There is a learning curve, but I always tell people to embrace being a newbie at this sport,” says Vogel. “If you can look at it in that regard, you can watch yourself evolve and grow.” You also need to be a go-getter. “When the conditions line up, you almost have to drop everything you’re doing and be willing to go out and pursue kiteboarding,” he adds.

Vogel recommends that aspiring kiteboarders start by learning some basics of the sport — just as he and

his brother did — before hitting the big lake. And since it’s best to learn in shallow waters, Vogel suggests connecting with Bob Cook of Kite Riders, LLC in the Madison area, who has been teaching the sport since the early days of kiteboarding. “It is important to be able to stand [in the water] while learning to control a kite,” he explains. “There are a few shallow lakes in the Madison area, which are ideal to learn on. Iron out the basics and then come back to the Lake Geneva area to explore our stunning lake!”

Asked for advice, Vogel encourages aspiring kiteboarders to explore all sailing opportunities on local lakes to help new learners build a solid foundation in wind sports. “While the barrier to entry and learning curve might seem steep, there are local camps, clubs and sailing schools that provide strong programs to get people out on the water. We live in a hidden gem of the world,” he says. “I love helping people get into the sport, as it is new and upcoming, and I want to help grow it here in southern Wisconsin.” ▲

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Glen Arden: Drawing On Its History

Inspired by their lakefront home's famous past, Allison and Michael Childers undertook a stunning historic reconstruction

BY ANNE MORRISSY
PHOTOGRAPHY BY SHANNA WOLF



Glen Arden's main living room features an impressive limestone fireplace and a wall of French doors that open to the front veranda (opposite page). The windows in the entry echo the distinctive diamond grid of architect Perkins' original design, and the balusters on the staircase were hand-cut to repeat a triplicate pattern (above). In the new version of Glen Arden, the kitchen was moved and expanded to suit modern tastes. For the windows throughout the home, the Childerses chose to reproduce the original in-swing French casements.



For many years, the historic turret room, where cartoonist Sidney Smith had once drawn his nationally famous Andy Gump comic strip, sat perfectly preserved on the lawn of his former estate on the south shore of Geneva Lake, waiting patiently for its second act. Glen Arden, the elegant, late Queen Anne-style home that Smith had purchased in 1922, dated to the late 19th century, its long, lake-facing open veranda recalling an era of women in straw hats and long, white dresses sipping iced tea on a hot summer day.

However, time had taken its toll on the beautiful house, and it was razed in 2004. Homeowners

Allison and Michael Childers engaged architects McCormack + Etten, along with Maddock Construction, to undertake a process that is known as “historic reconstruction.” This is a process in which the original building is demolished, but key architectural details are salvaged and the original footprint and general layout of the home is used to construct a new home that looks nearly identical to the original from the outside.

For the Childerses, one of the most important architectural features to preserve in its entirety was Glen Arden's distinctive, top-floor turret. The family hired a renowned expert to detach and carefully lower the entire turret to the ground — without a single book falling off the shelves! —



Today, Glen Arden's exterior is finished in classic white (top photo), but when it was first built, the home was finished in natural, weathered wood. The turret room is clearly visible in this side view from the early 20th century (above). In the modern iteration, the turret room contains a secret door to a "speakeasy" room for playing cards and other games (left).

where it remained for many years. That's when the real research began.

Allison Childers had lived in the home since she was a child, and always felt a deep connection to it. By undertaking an historic reconstruction of her beloved childhood home, she also discovered a true passion for its architectural history, conducting research at the Chicago History Museum and the Art Institute of Chicago, and staying up late into the night to source period-appropriate details like millwork, hardware, stair elements and molding. The more she learned, the more enthralled she became.



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MARY HAWES WILMARTH'S GLEN ARDEN

Glen Arden's history is, indeed, fascinating. The original house was built in 1893 by a wealthy Chicago widow named Mary Hawes Wilmarth. In the fall of 1892, Wilmarth purchased 10 acres on the newly developing south shore from Arthur Kaye for \$10,000, making it one of the priciest land purchases on the lake at that time. (She eventually acquired additional acreage and added 200 more feet of lake frontage to the property.)

To design a home where she and her daughter Anna could spend their summers, Wilmarth turned to a family friend, architect Dwight H. Perkins, who was at that time employed by the Chicago firm of Burnham & Root. Childers' research indicates that this might be one of the first, if not the first, residential project Perkins ever designed. In 1894, with Burnham's assistance, Perkins would strike out on his own and become well-known for his design of a large number of schools,

large public parks and other public buildings in Chicago and its suburbs. He only designed a few residences, all in what became known as the "Prairie Style."

The home that Perkins designed for Wilmarth combines elements of that style. But it also reveals the tastes of its owner, Wilmarth, who by all accounts was a strong-willed and decisive person. In an era in which women were expected to limit their interests to domestic life and philanthropy, Wilmarth was a true trailblazer. Born in 1837 in New Bedford, Massachusetts, Wilmarth was well educated and socially conscious. After marrying her husband Henry M. Wilmarth, a wealthy gas fixture manufacturer and founder of the First National Bank of Chicago, Mary Hawes Wilmarth moved to Chicago and became an active leader in the progressive social movements taking root there in the second half of the 19th century. Not long afterward, Wilmarth became a leading suffragist in Chicago, vigorously advocating for a woman's right to vote. She also championed causes that aimed to feed, clothe and employ disadvantaged women, and educate their children. She served as the President of the Illinois branch of the Consumers

League and supported the Legal Aid Society and the Women's Trade Union League. At the age of 73, Wilmarth marched in the 1910 garment workers' strike, and posted bond for those who were arrested. Wilmarth served as president of the exclusive women's club, the Fortnightly of Chicago, and was an active member of the Chicago Women's Club as well.



Allison Childers says she chose an elegant version of coastal decor for the main dining room (above). Even the hardware throughout the home was selected to provide historic character, as evidenced by the door between the dining room and the butler's pantry (above right). In the butler's pantry, "everyone's favorite room," according to Childers, some of the home's original leaded glass windows were repurposed as cabinet doors (right).





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During this later period in Wilmarth's life, one of her closest friends was Jane Addams, the internationally revered founder of Chicago's progressive settlement house, Hull House. Wilmarth had been a strong financial supporter of Hull House from its founding in 1889, and even served as the first president of its Board of Trustees. After Wilmarth moved into her Lake Geneva summer home in 1893, her philanthropy and activism expanded to this area as well. She and daughter Anna spent the summer season in Lake Geneva and maintained an active social and philanthropic life here. She was an early member of the Lake Geneva Country Club and a strong supporter of Holiday Home Camp and the Lake Geneva Public Library, later sponsoring presentations on women's suffrage for the Geneva Lake community. According to local Lake Geneva historian Chris Brookes, true to their convictions, Wilmarth and Anna also sponsored twice-yearly receptions at Glen Arden to honor and entertain the staff of the nearby estates. "Games, refreshments ... even the yacht



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In order to give each room a sense of character, Childers chose a distinct but harmonious molding design for each space. The floors throughout the house were custom milled from old-growth trees on the property (left). In the kitchen, modern appliances were cleverly integrated into Glen Arden's historic look through the use of custom cabinet facing (below).



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was available to all the workers,” Brookes explains in a video on the Wisconsin Historical Society website.

In September of 1911, Glen Arden served as the location of Anna’s wedding to Harold L. Ickes, a former Chicago journalist, attorney and active political reformer who would eventually go on to serve as the U.S. Secretary of the Interior under Franklin D. Roosevelt. The wedding, Anna’s second, was a small, private ceremony attended by “family and intimate friends” according to the Chicago Tribune, including Anna’s two children from her previous marriage, Wilmarth and Frances Thompson.

SIDNEY SMITH

Following her daughter’s marriage to Ickes, Mary Hawes Wilmarth continued



In the turret room, the Childerses added a fireplace to the space and repurposed the original dining room mantel (top left). The addition of an elevator is one of the modern upgrades to the home, featuring elaborate tile work on the floor in the monogram “GA” for Glen Arden (left). A first-floor powder room demonstrates the home’s unique blend of historic and modern accents (above).

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The primary bath features a luxurious copper soaking tub (above) and marble counters (above right). Childers says she chose the bathroom fixtures for their "living patina," a finish that will naturally age over time to provide even more character. The primary bedroom, like all of the upstairs bedrooms, boasts stunning views of the lake (opposite page).



and was carried by the newly formed Chicago Tribune New York News syndicate to reach a wide, national audience. The strip's popularity was unlike anything that had come before it. "The Gumps" was one of the first comic strips to feature an ongoing storyline from week to week, and as a result, the characters, including beleaguered, bombastic patriarch Andy Gump, became beloved pop culture icons whose exploits were even adapted into animated film shorts and radio programs.

In 1922, riding the comic strip's success, Smith signed a \$1 million contract to continue drawing "The Gumps," and that same year, he purchased Glen Arden,

to spend her summers on Geneva Lake until her death in 1919 at the age of 82. In her final days, Wilmarth sent for her good friend, Jane Addams, who arrived at Glen Arden in time to say her goodbyes. After Wilmarth's death, Anna and Harold Ickes inherited the home, but their lives had become increasingly demanding — Anna would eventually be elected one of the first women to serve in the Illinois State Legislature, and the couple had added two more children to their family.

So in 1922, Anna and Harold Ickes opted to sell Glen Arden to the famous cartoonist Sidney Smith, whose popular comic strip, "The Gumps," had debuted just five years earlier,

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renaming it Trudehurst. Two years later, Smith hosted an over-the-top, tongue-in-cheek reception to unveil a life-size bronze statue of Andy Gump at the entrance of the estate, the progenitor of the Andy Gump statue that today resides in Lake Geneva's Flat Iron Park. During his time at Trudehurst, Smith converted the turret room into his office and studio, where he drew each week's installment of "The Gumps." Childers points out that a large star painted on the turret's wooden floor may have been a clever nod to Andy Gump's profession: sheriff.

Smith owned Trudehurst until 1930, when he sold it to G.W. McKee of Rockford. Eventually, Childers' parents purchased the home in the 1960s, by which time some of the surrounding 30 acres had been sold for development. Childers describes the home at that time as a "classic lake home from another era."

REBUILDING HISTORY

When it came time to tackle the historic rebuilding of Glen Arden, the Childerses knew they wanted the exterior of the house to remain as similar to the original as possible, while updating the interior with modern amenities like an elevator,



an expanded kitchen, a garage, additional bathrooms and energy efficient doors and windows. Although they would be modernizing the interior, it was imperative to Allison that the inside of the home feel authentic to the historic period of Glen Arden's heyday in the late 1800s and early 1900s, including the obligatory squeak in the stair!

In order to ensure that Glen Arden retained a strong sense of character, Allison selected different ornate crown molding

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Off the turret room, a third-floor powder room features a pedestal sink that was salvaged from the original Glen Arden before the historic reconstruction.

for each room, as well as different tile patterns for each bathroom. She commissioned the reproduction of the original French-style casement windows, and for the grand staircase, she chose a repeating pattern of intricately hand-turned balusters installed in groups of three. The white oak floors throughout the kitchen, living and dining area were custom-milled from old-growth trees felled on the property — Michael proudly points out that the knots and slight imperfections tell the history of the tree. In the Butler's Pantry off the dining room, some of Glen Arden's original leaded windows were repurposed as cabinet doors. "You wouldn't guess it, but the Butler's Pantry is one of everyone's favorite rooms," says Allison.

Other salvaged parts of the original house include some of the newel posts (now repurposed as legs on the kitchen island), a handrailing to the basement and a pedestal sink in the third-floor powder room. In order to maintain the historic look of the home and make the incredible lake views the focal point of each room, modern conveniences like TVs, a surround sound system and some of the kitchen appliances have been cleverly hidden in architectural details or faced with vintage-style cabinetry. "The best compliment is when someone walks in and says they can't believe this is a new house," Allison explains.

But the showstopper of the historic reconstruction of Glen Arden is the turret room, now back in its place of honor atop the house. Allison explains that getting the original room back in place was a labor of love that required a complicated permitting process. Because of the height of the roof and finial on top of the turret, the Childerses and their architects had to submit a code variance request to the town

and county that necessitated written support from local residents. They set up a website to update the community supporters on the rebuilding process and to share the estate's history. "It truly was a community effort all the way through," Allison explains.

All of the hard work was worth it. "The day the crane operator arrived to lift the turret back into place, the *Lady of the Lake* halted its tour out in front of the house so everyone could watch it being reattached," she says.

Today, people walking the Shore Path between Linn Pier Road and Buttons Bay might never guess that Glen Arden had ever been demolished, and this is exactly the effect that Allison and Michael Childers hoped to accomplish when they set out on this project. Admiring the results of their hard work, Allison explains they are thrilled with the new chapter in Glen Arden's history. She says, "We believe that when you live in a house as historic and special as this one, you do not own it; you are its stewards." 🚤

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HAND-MADE MASTERPIECES: *Building Wooden Boats*

The Lake Geneva area boasts several builders of custom wooden boats, who are keeping this artisan tradition alive

STORY AND PHOTOS BY HOLLY LEITNER

With its alluring, nearly seven-mile-long stretch of deep, fresh water, Geneva Lake has been a mecca for wooden speedboat enthusiasts since these boats became widely available in the 1920s. Today, people's love and appreciation for these artisan-made boats has only intensified, and three prestigious craft boat builders call the area home: Streblov Custom Boats is celebrating its 72nd year in business; Bergersen Boat Co. builds custom Shepherd boats while also restoring classic wooden boats; and luxury wooden boat builder Grand Craft is new to the area, based in nearby Genoa City since 2021.

"There's a big heritage of wooden boats on Geneva Lake," explains Patrick Gallagher, owner of Grand Craft, and he says this makes for a natural habitat for wooden boat builders. The area's cottage speedboat-building industry dates back decades, to boat builders like Williams Bay's Globe Corporation and Gage Marine's midcentury





At Bergersen Boat Co., new Shepherd boats are built with white oak frames, seamless scarf joints and a double mahogany wood bottom.



(Photos this page) Boats under construction in the Streblow workshop in Lake Geneva.

partnership with Hacker Boat Company to build the Gage-Hacker model. Since then, the area has continued to foster a tight-knit community of vintage and wooden boat enthusiasts, and has garnered national attention thanks to the annual Geneva Lakes Antique & Classic Boat Show. In the summers, the busy lake demands strong boats to stand up to its wake, and many masterpieces of wooden boat building have called Geneva Lake home over the years.

STREBLOW CUSTOM BOATS

The local industry as we know it today really all started with one namesake boat builder many years ago: Larry Streblow, founder of Streblow Custom Boats. Founded in the 1950s, Streblow is one of the oldest continuously operating wooden sport boat makers in the United States. In 1987, Larry Streblow and his son Randy moved their small boat building operation from Kenosha to the Lake Geneva area in order to be closer to their customer base. Randy went on to become a leader in the local wooden boat building community here, and mentored many of today's current builders.

The signature Streblow design had first emerged in the early 1960s and remains nearly unchanged today. It features a V-drive with a wraparound interior



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configuration, a straight drive with the engine in the center, double-plank hull construction and a trademark white stripe on the side. The popular runabout has become an icon of Lake Geneva. Today, more than 100 Streblows grace Geneva Lake's waters, and there are more than 500 Streblows on waters nationwide.

Randy Streblow passed away in 2011, but his legacy survives. In fact, the Streblow community has joined together in two "Wake the Lake" events, where Streblow owners gathered in their boats at sunrise on the west end of Geneva Lake and paraded toward Lake Geneva in Randy Streblow's memory.

In 2020, Edward Cox took over ownership of the Lake Geneva business, keeping the local Streblow wooden boat building tradition alive. Several longtime Streblow craftsmen continue to restore vintage versions of the boat and build new Streblows. Cox says that each detail of both a new or restored Streblow custom boat is an artisan-crafted labor of love, carrying on the Streblow standard of perfection.



Streblow owners gathered on Geneva Lake in 2012 and 2021 for "Wake the Lake," an event to honor the memory of Randy Streblow.

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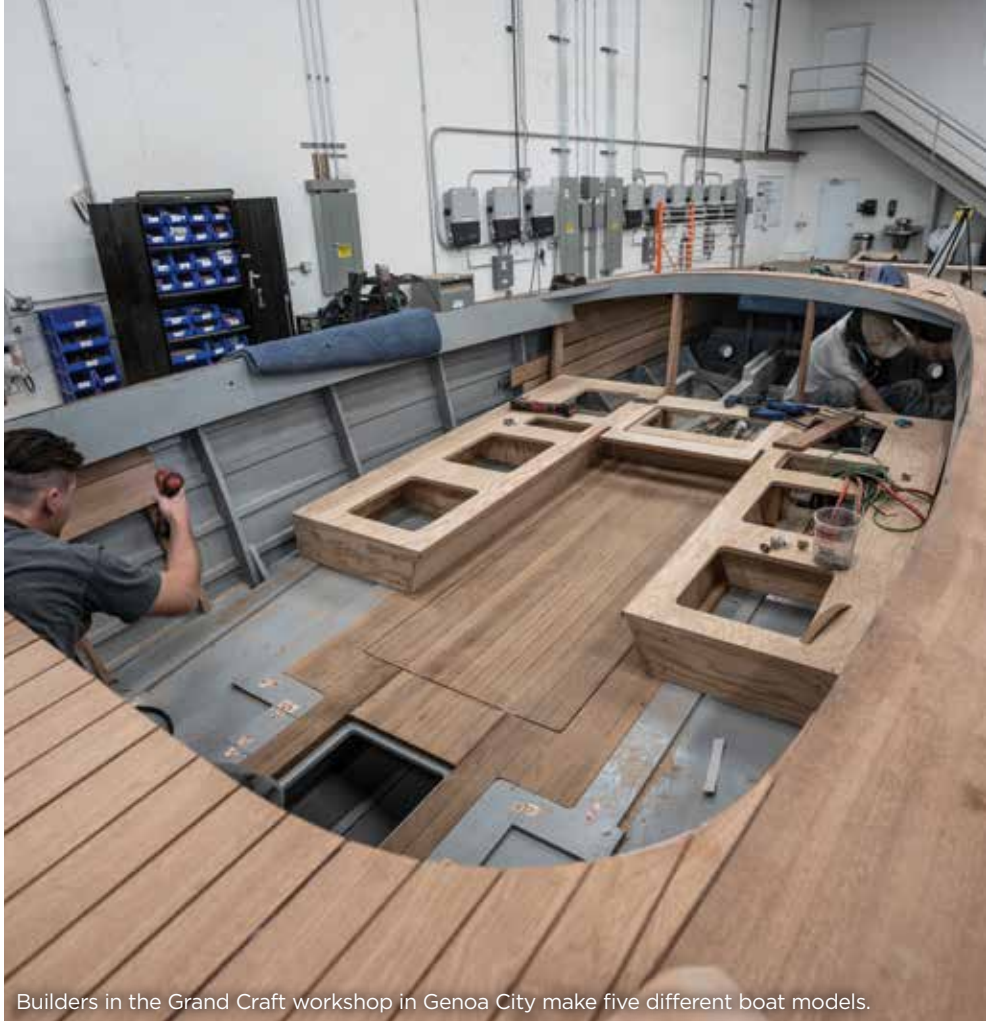
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GRAND CRAFT

In 2021, Patrick and Rose Gallagher acquired Grand Craft, a well-respected wooden boat building company out of Holland, Michigan, and relocated the company to Genoa City, 10 miles south of Lake Geneva. Patrick has lifelong ties to the area and felt it was the perfect place to expand Grand Craft's operations. "My goal is to maintain a high level of craftsmanship while also being a good business person," says Patrick.

Grand Craft has been in operation since 1979, and some of their top sales markets include Florida; upstate New York; Lake Minnetonka, Minnesota; and Minocqua, Wisconsin. Today, at the company's state-of-the-art factory in Genoa City, Grand Craft employs six craftsmen to build boats, all of which are individually handcrafted. The finishing process alone comprises 19 steps. The boat builders take great pride in their work, and have a motto in the shop: "They're our boats until somebody buys it."

Grand Craft offers five mahogany models: the Burnham, the Dearborn,



Builders in the Grand Craft workshop in Genoa City make five different boat models.



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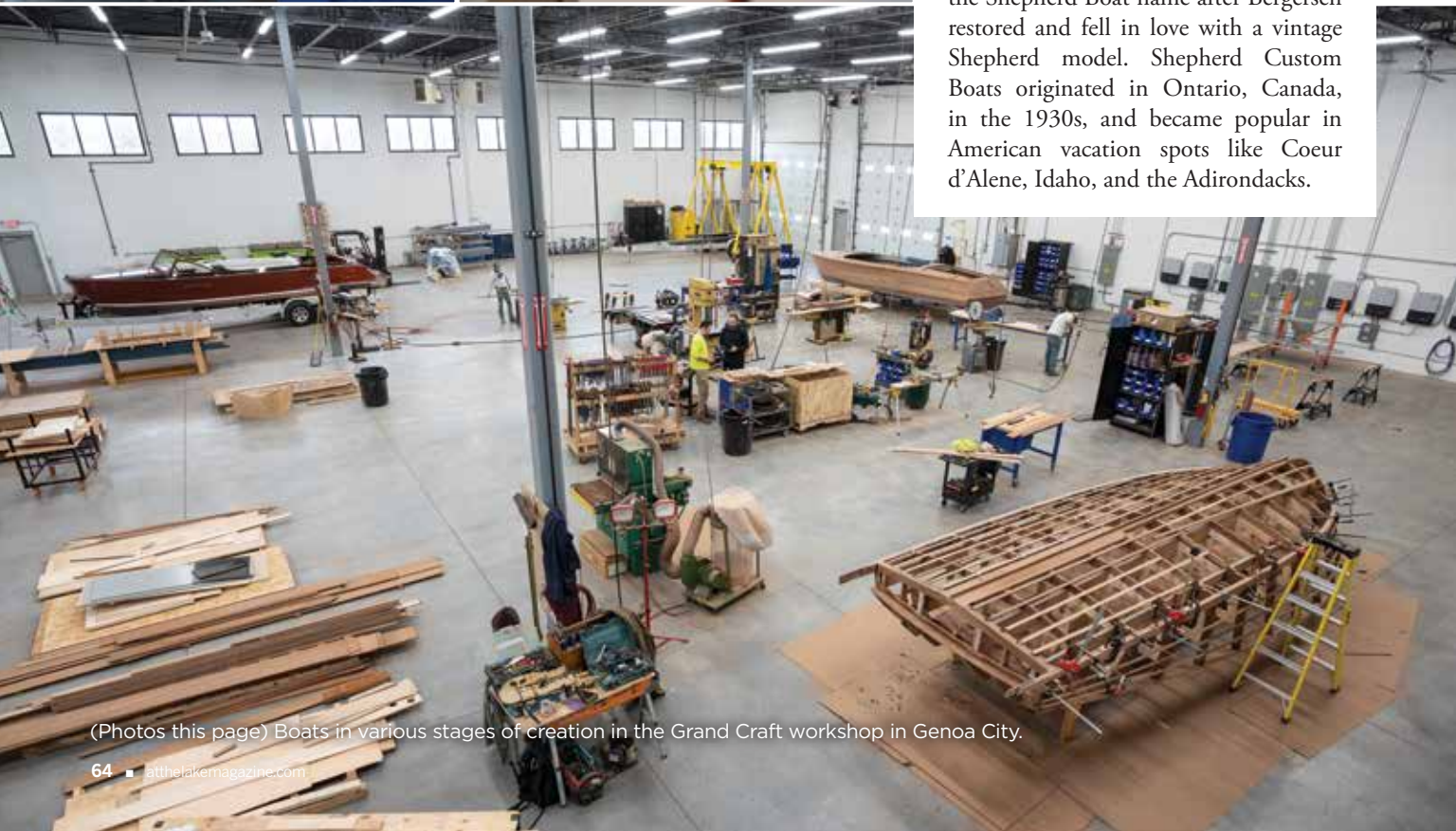
the Roosevelt, the Winchester and the Wrightwood. The Burnham, the company's flagship model, blends traditional art deco details with modern design features such as a steel-carved windshield, a swim platform and a 430-horsepower engine. Another model, the 36-foot Winchester, is often acquired by hotels and resorts as a shuttle boat or for evening charters, as it holds up to 26 people.

Because of the level of detail and the hours required to build these artisan wooden boats, Grand Craft boats are positioned at the luxury end of the price scale. A new Grand Craft boat in the 20-foot to 28-foot size will cost anywhere from \$300,000 to \$600,000, and a 30-foot custom model can range from \$750,000 to \$2 million.

BERGERSEN BOAT CO.

Lars Bergersen originally trained under Randy Streblow at Streblow Custom Boats, but today he owns and operates his own company in Lake Geneva, Bergersen Boat Co. Bergersen describes his training with Streblow as a "nothing less than perfection" mentorship, and says that he uses the knowledge he gained there daily.

In 2018, Bergersen Boat Co. acquired the Shepherd Boat name after Bergersen restored and fell in love with a vintage Shepherd model. Shepherd Custom Boats originated in Ontario, Canada, in the 1930s, and became popular in American vacation spots like Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, and the Adirondacks.



(Photos this page) Boats in various stages of creation in the Grand Craft workshop in Genoa City.



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(Photos this page and opposite) In addition to building new Shepherd boats, boat builders at Bergersen Boat Co. also restore vintage wooden boats.

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Today, Bergersen uses several of the building concepts he learned at Streblo to build new Shepherds. The boats are built with white oak frames, with seamless scarf joints and a double mahogany wood bottom. Bergersen weds the classic design of the Shepherd with modern luxury, such as custom wine holders, built-in coolers, swim platforms and easy walk-on entries similar to modern fiberglass boats. Yet from the outside, the new Shepherds that Bergersen builds look like a nostalgic relic from a bygone era. They range in price from \$250,000-\$800,000.

One of Bergersen's current projects is a custom Shepherd modeled after an Italian Riva Boat. As he explains it, classic Rivas are the Ferraris of wooden boats, known for their elegant curves and powerful engines.

Despite the march of time, interest in beautifully handcrafted wooden boats remains high, and thanks to the dedication and specialized training of these three local boat builders, the Lake Geneva area is an important center for the artisan craft of wooden boat building and a beloved destination for those who appreciate these beautiful, classic boats. 🚤

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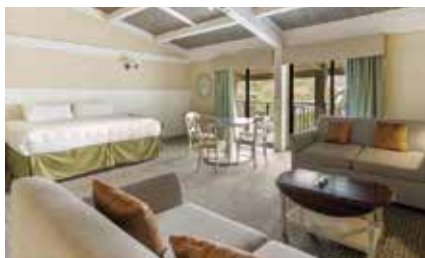
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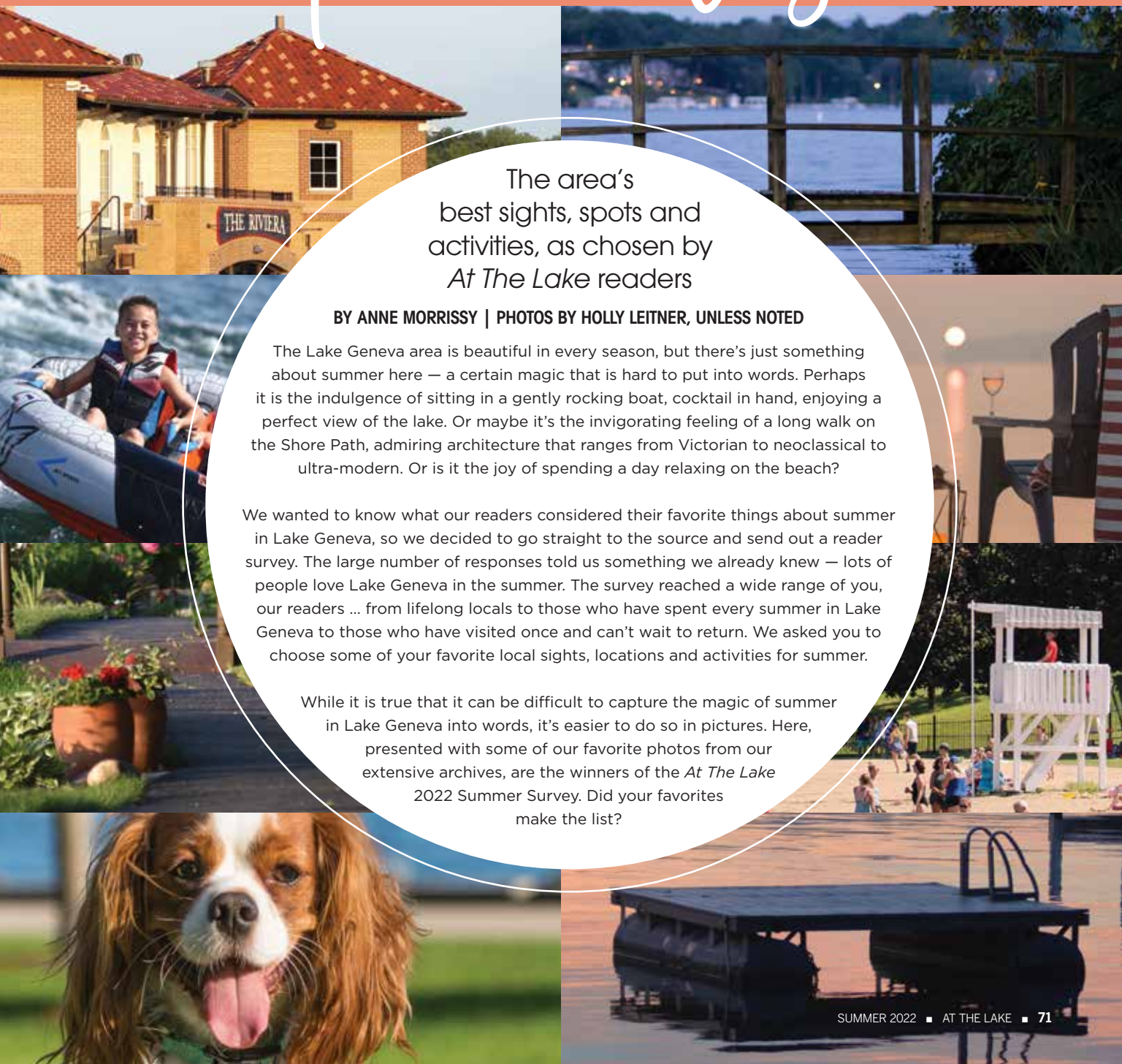
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BY ANNE MORRISSY | PHOTOS BY HOLLY LEITNER, UNLESS NOTED

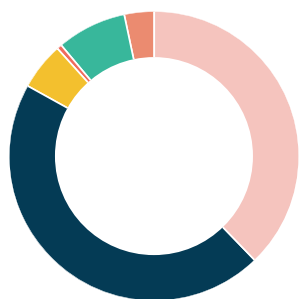
The Lake Geneva area is beautiful in every season, but there's just something about summer here — a certain magic that is hard to put into words. Perhaps it is the indulgence of sitting in a gently rocking boat, cocktail in hand, enjoying a perfect view of the lake. Or maybe it's the invigorating feeling of a long walk on the Shore Path, admiring architecture that ranges from Victorian to neoclassical to ultra-modern. Or is it the joy of spending a day relaxing on the beach?

We wanted to know what our readers considered their favorite things about summer in Lake Geneva, so we decided to go straight to the source and send out a reader survey. The large number of responses told us something we already knew — lots of people love Lake Geneva in the summer. The survey reached a wide range of you, our readers ... from lifelong locals to those who have spent every summer in Lake Geneva to those who have visited once and can't wait to return. We asked you to choose some of your favorite local sights, locations and activities for summer.

While it is true that it can be difficult to capture the magic of summer in Lake Geneva into words, it's easier to do so in pictures. Here, presented with some of our favorite photos from our extensive archives, are the winners of the *At The Lake* 2022 Summer Survey. Did your favorites make the list?



WHAT IS THE MOST ICONIC LAKE GENEVA LOCATION?



45.45%

The Riviera Ballroom

37.88% Yerkes Observatory

7.58% Black Point Estate

5.30% Wadsworth Hall
(formerly the
Driehaus Estate)

0.76% The windsurfing
sculpture at the
Fontana beach

3.03% Other

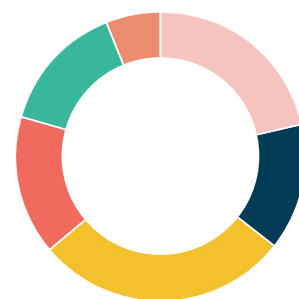
BEST WRITE-IN RESPONSE:

The Fontana Frog

Since 1932, this Mediterranean-inspired building has been synonymous with Lake Geneva. Standing sentinel over the east end of the public beach, the Riviera Ballroom has played host to generations of Lake Geneva residents and visitors, from its heyday as a Big Band ballroom to its current role as one of the most popular event venues in the area. A recently completed renovation has updated the space and restored some of architect James Roy Allen's original vision, while ensuring the Riviera will remain an iconic Lake Geneva landmark for years to come.



WHICH LAKE GENEVA SPOT HAS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL VIEWS?



28.41%
Williams Bay

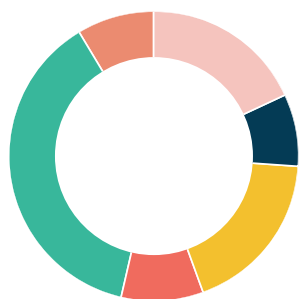
21.59% Geneva Bay
14.39% Fontana
15.53% Conference Point
14.02% Buttons Bay
6.06% Other

BEST WRITE-IN RESPONSE:

Maytag Point and Big Foot
Beach State Park

Williams Bay's downtown lake frontage was once owned by the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, but today it belongs to the village, reserved for public use. This ensures unobstructed views of the bay from every angle. Two small, spring-fed creeks empty into the lake from the nearby Kishwauketoe Nature Conservancy, and the bridges over these creeks provide a beautiful spot to take photos. Our readers know a good thing when they see it — plentiful parking, public restrooms, a large public park and a popular beach and boat launch make the Williams Bay lakefront an ideal place to take in lake views.

WHAT IS THE MOST THRILLING LAKE GENEVA ACTIVITY?



37.85% Tubing on the Lake

18.33% Hot air balloon rides

18.33% Other

9.16% Zip lining

8.37% Waverunning

7.97% Sailing on foils

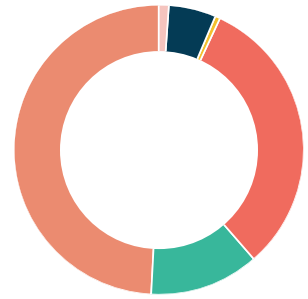
BEST WRITE-IN RESPONSE:

Water-skiing in the early morning

The Lake Geneva area has no shortage of exciting activities, but when it comes to experiencing thrills on the lake, tubing is a longstanding family favorite, so we weren't surprised that more than a third of our readers chose it as their favorite. Whatever your preferred brand of inflated towable, or how many riders it can safely hold, pulling kids around the lake behind a speedboat is sure to provide lots of laughter and thrills. Remember to brush up on your boating safety rules first and make sure each tuber is outfitted with a well-fitting, Coast Guard-approved life jacket. Then start your engines and hit the throttle!



WHAT IS THE MOST ROMANTIC DATE SPOT IN LAKE GENEVA?



49.05%
Watching the
sunset from the
end of a pier

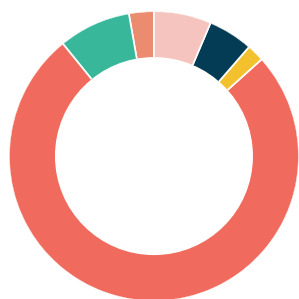
31.56% A ride on a vintage yacht
12.17% Drinks around a firepit
under the stars
5.32% A picnic on the lakefront
1.14% Other
0.76% A walk through
Kishwaukee Nature
Conservancy

BEST WRITE-IN RESPONSE:

Sharing ice cream at
Norman B. Barr Camp

There are more than 900 piers on Geneva Lake: private piers, subdivision piers, camp piers, public piers. For over 100 years, the vast majority of these piers have been custom built out of timber and then painted white, a local tradition that dates back to the 19th century. Watching a sunset from the end of one of these many Geneva Lake piers won our readers' hearts for the most romantic date spot. Grab a couple of glasses and a bottle of wine and snuggle up to watch the sun sink behind the tree line.

WHAT IS THE MOST RELAXING WELLNESS ACTIVITY?



75.95%

Walking the Shore Path

| | |
|-------|--------------------------|
| 8.02% | Kayaking |
| 6.49% | Sunrise yoga on the lake |
| 4.96% | Stand-up paddleboarding |
| 2.67% | Other |
| 1.91% | Cycling around the lake |

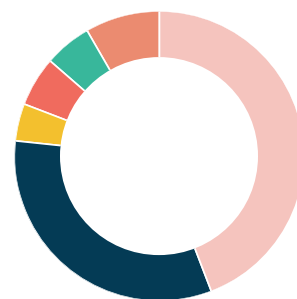
BEST WRITE-IN RESPONSE:

Golfing!

No contest here! *At The Lake* readers overwhelmingly chose a walk along the Shore Path as their favorite relaxing wellness activity. And how could they not? This footpath, originally created by Native Americans, extends around the perimeter of the lake for more than 20 miles, and offers not only stunning lake views but a front-row glimpse of some of the most luxurious homes in the state. Lace up your walking shoes and fill up your water bottle! The more adventurous can complete the entire path in a day's hike, or for those looking for lower intensity, try tackling the path in sections. With either option, it's a great way to get your fresh air and exercise while enjoying a truly one-of-its-kind hike.



WHAT IS THE MOST FUN LAKE GENEVA ACTIVITY FOR FAMILIES?



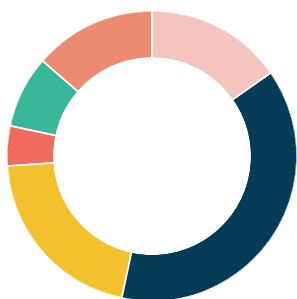
45.83%
Spending a day
at the beach

- 33.71% Watching fireworks over the lake
- 8.33% Other
- 5.68% Visiting Lake Geneva's historic downtown
- 5.68% Fishing
- 4.17% Sailing

BEST WRITE-IN RESPONSE:
A day on the lake in a ski boat!

Sunscreen? Check. Beach towels? Check. Cooler of snacks and cold drinks? Check. When it comes to family fun in the Lake Geneva area, nothing tops a day at the beach. Whether you're eating a hot dog at the Williams Bay beach, playing volleyball at the Fontana Beach, watching the historic excursion boats come and go from the Riviera Beach or wading in the shallow waters off Big Foot Beach, everyone is sure to have a fantastic day in the sun. Isn't that what summer is all about? Our readers sure think so.

WHAT IS THE MOST FUN THING TO DO WITH YOUR DOG?



38.06%

Take them to the park

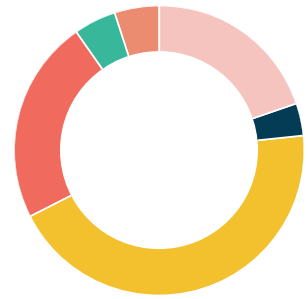
- 20.65% Take them to a dog-friendly public pier
- 15.38% Take them on a boat ride
- 13.36% Take them to a dog-friendly bar/restaurant patio
- 8.10% Other
- 4.45% Take them paddleboarding

BEST WRITE-IN RESPONSE:
Duck Pond in Fontana

There are plenty of fun things to do with man's best friend in the Lake Geneva area — which is why we choose a new cohort of "Lake Dogs" to feature every autumn in *At The Lake*! When it comes to our readers' favorite activity, however, a classic trip to the park won over man and pooch alike. For lake views, try Library Park in Lake Geneva, Edgewater Park in Williams Bay, Reid Park in Fontana or Big Foot Beach State Park. A little further inland, local dog parks in Lake Geneva, Williams Bay and Linn Township offer leash-free opportunities for dogs to roam.



WHAT IS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL TIME OF DAY TO VIEW THE LAKE?



45.83%

Sunset

23.48% Early evening

20.45% Sunrise

4.92% Nighttime

4.92% Other

3.79% Late morning/
Early afternoon

BEST WRITE-IN RESPONSE:

All of the above, but also when
a storm is brewing!

When you're in a place as naturally beautiful as the Lake Geneva area, it can be hard to choose a favorite time of day. Certain locations around the lake lend themselves to stunning sunrises, while others are perfectly situated to maximize the golden glow of early evening. When it comes to our readers' favorite time of day, however, sunset was tops. Whether you're taking in the scene from a boat, sitting outside at a local bar or restaurant or enjoying a view of the western sky from a park bench, our readers say you can't beat the late, lingering summer sunsets. 🌅



There's no better place to be in the summer than *Lake Geneva!*

Our family has been a part of the Lake Geneva community for almost 100 years. Come see why generation after generation we, along with many other families, have been called to the shores of Geneva Lake year after year!

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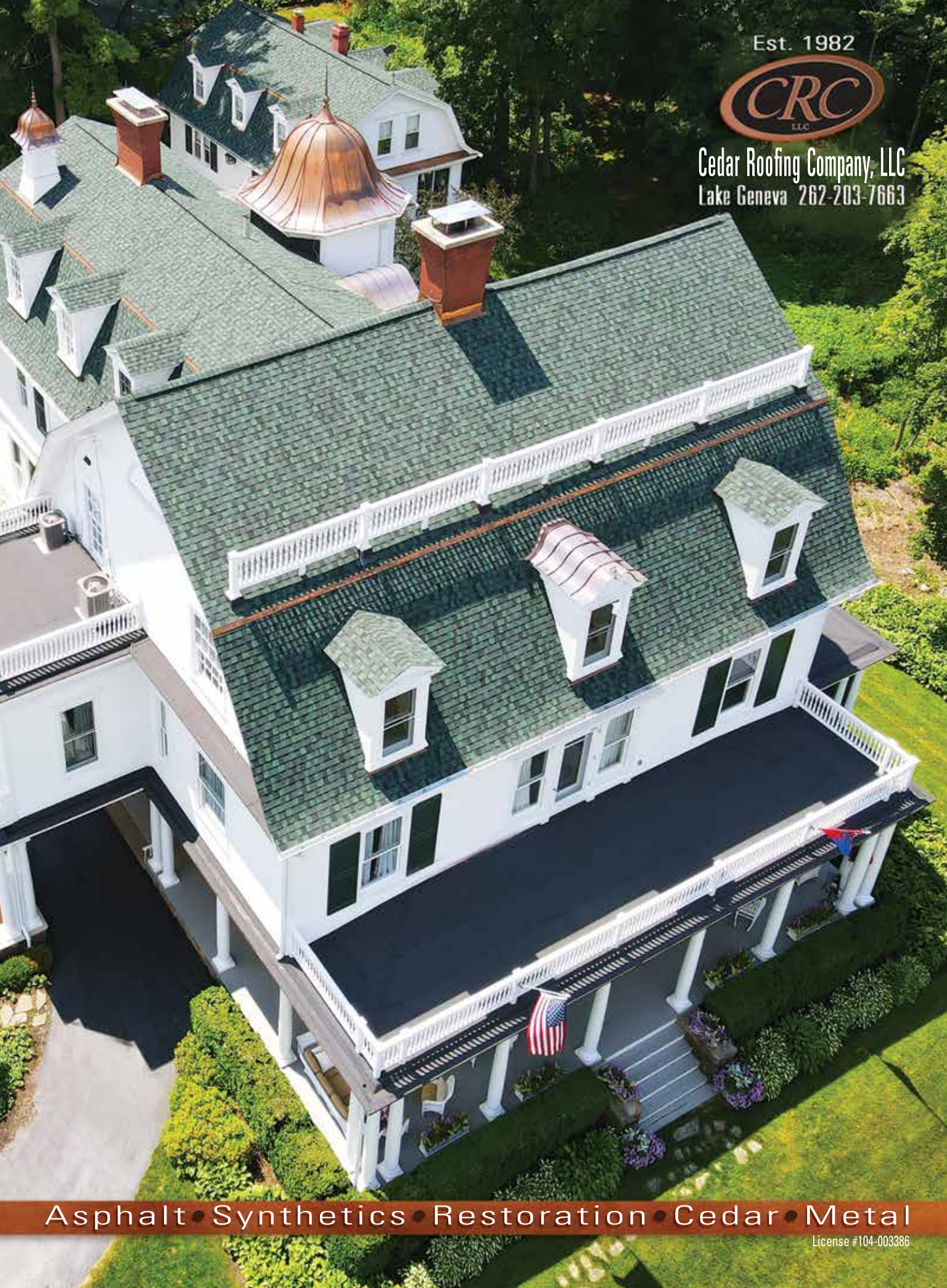
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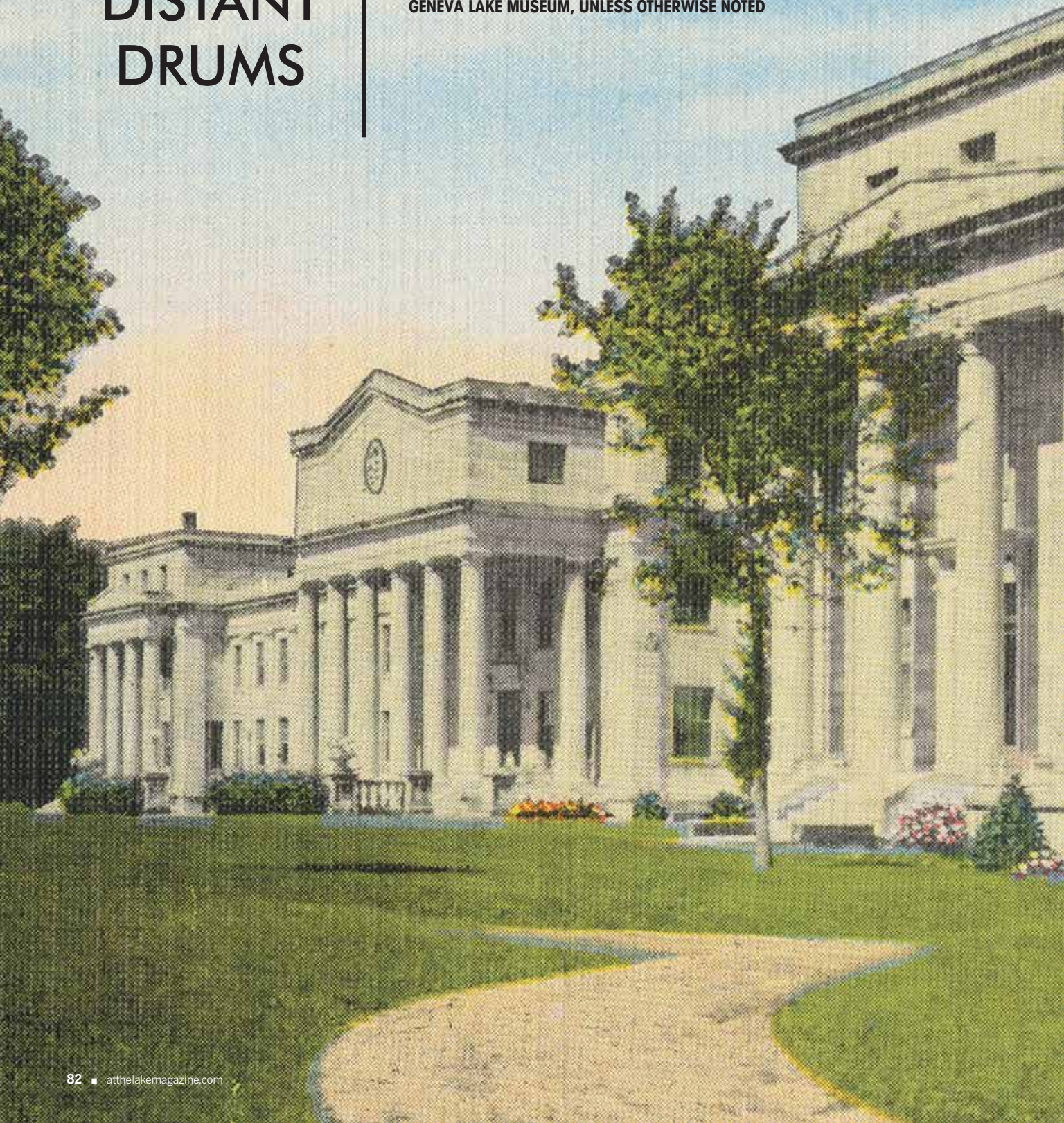
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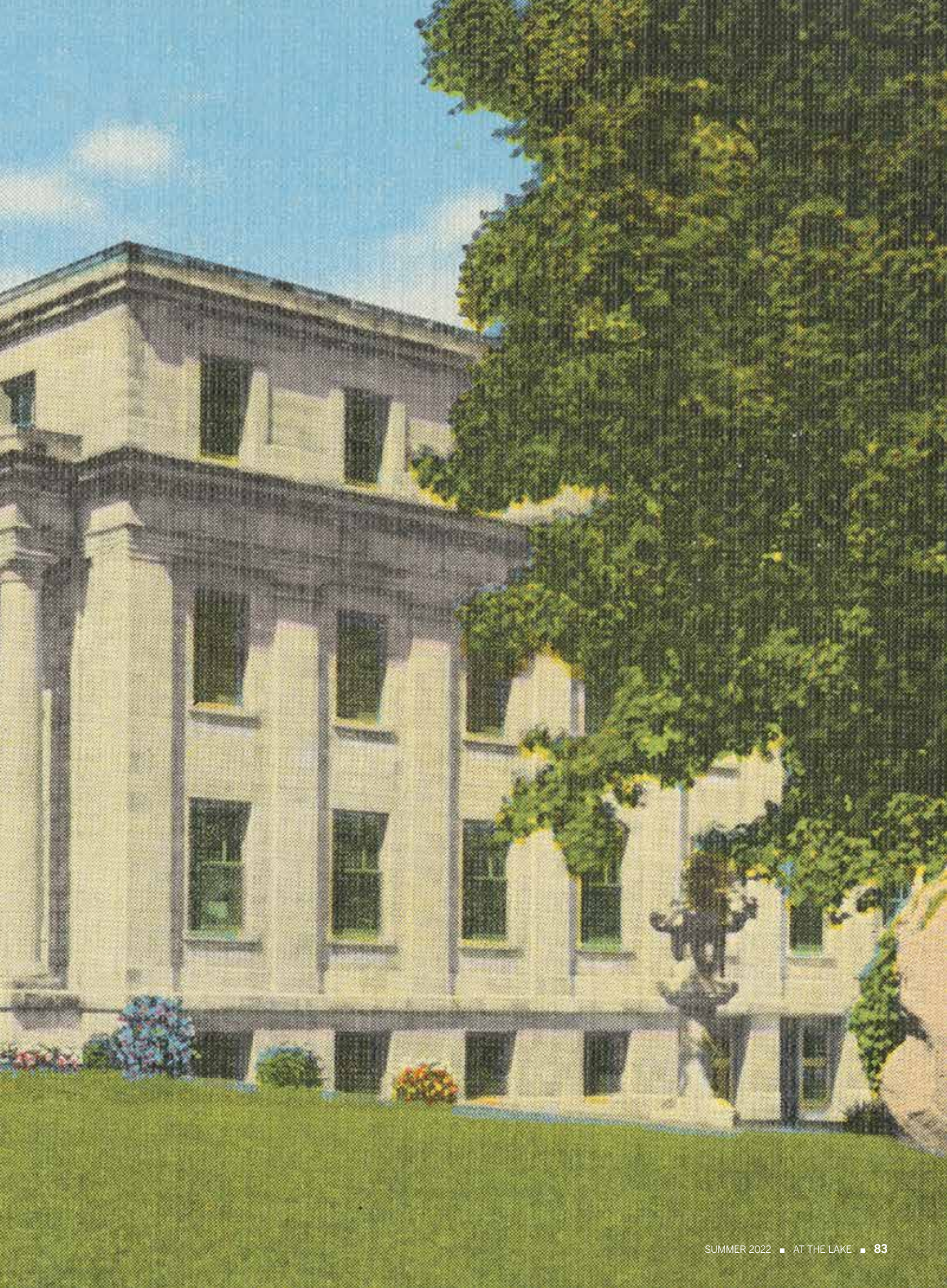
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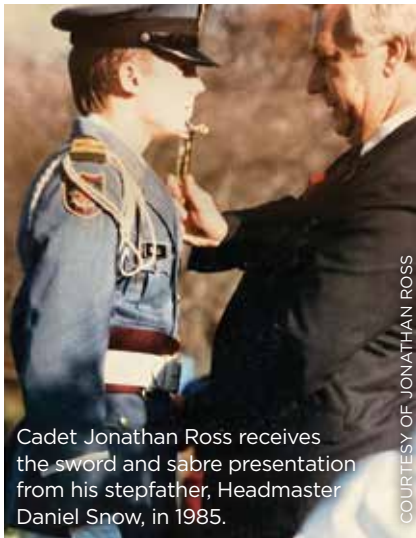
THE SOUND OF DISTANT DRUMS

Remembering Northwestern
Military & Naval Academy on
Geneva Lake's south shore

BY JIM MCCLURE | PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE
GENEVA LAKE MUSEUM, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED







Cadet Jonathan Ross receives the sword and sabre presentation from his stepfather, Headmaster Daniel Snow, in 1985.

COURTESY OF JONATHAN ROSS



The Northwestern Military & Naval Academy marching band on the steps of Davidson Hall, circa 1920.

For 80 years, sounds of a bugler's call at morning and evening, and the thundering, rhythmic sound of a military marching band could be heard emanating from the south shore of Geneva Lake in the Town of Linn. From 1915 to 1995, when it merged with St. John's Military Academy in Delafield, Wisconsin, the Northwestern Military & Naval Academy was a lakeside neighbor and a favorite site on Geneva Lake. NMNA, as alumni call it, had a profound impact on those who attended it, as well as those who worked and taught there.

Those booming drums were something of a recruiting tool to ear-witness Jon Ross, who grew up in the area and would hear the band practicing while attending nearby Reek Elementary School. "You could hear those drums from miles away," says Ross. "It was music to my ears."

Ross spent a lot of time on and around the NMNA campus. His stepfather served as the school's headmaster from 1972 to 1990, and his mother worked at the academy in an administrative role. So it was perhaps inevitable, that when it came time for Ross to enter high school, he would attend the college-preparatory academy, a proud cadet from 1982 to 1986. "I spent 10 years of my life there," Ross reflects. "Just to be on that property... it was a paradise."

A CAMPUS LIKE NO OTHER

NMNA's 42-acre campus featured a wide and long lawn — a parade ground, as the military would term it — that spread out between old-growth trees in front

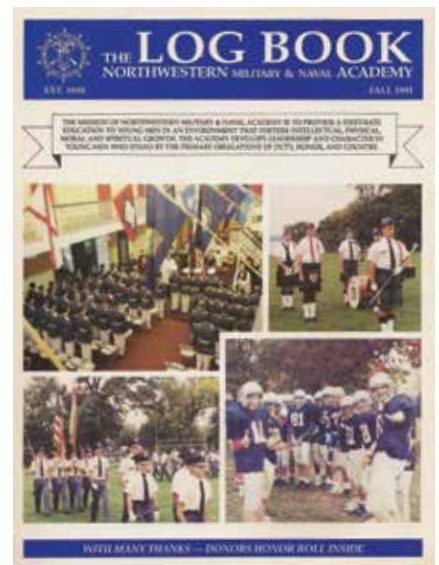


Cadet Doty Nash (left) with his mother Donna and Cadet Jonathan Ross during a Mother's Day event in 1984.

COURTESY OF JONATHAN ROSS

of Davidson Hall, a huge, neoclassical building that served as the epicenter of the institution. Looking not unlike the historic section of Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry, or an entrance wing of the Pentagon, Davidson Hall was built in 1915. The entrance featured tall columns and wide steps, while inside, the lobby boasted a cavernous octagonal rotunda with four giant fireplaces and several tall staircases rising dramatically from its main floor. The wings of the building housed between 100 and 200 "boarder" cadets, who lived on campus year-round, studying and learning alongside local day students.

The central building, named for the founder of the academy, Harlan Page Davidson, was more than just a place for academics and dormitory living, it was



The Fall 1991 issue of the "Log Book," the Northwestern Military & Naval Academy newsletter, highlighted campus activities.

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an elegant space designed specifically for the needs of the institution. The building contained a large library and classrooms, a dining or “mess” hall, a bank with a mini-post office, a barber shop, an infirmary for the sick and a dayroom for television viewing and playing pool. It was flanked by a chapel featuring a steam organ on the east end, and by a gym on the west end, which was added in 1959.

The NMNA campus was so grand and photogenic that eventually, even Hollywood took notice. In the 1970s, the academy served as the filming location for scenes from the horror movie “Damien, Omen II.”

A COMMUNITY MORE LIKE FAMILY

Among the cadets, instructors and administrators of NMNA, the word “family” is a common alumni description for the atmosphere on campus, despite the rigors of military discipline enforced there. “We were one big family,” says Lee Liddy, Jr., of the class of 1989, who rose to the top spot of Battalion Commander. He had



At the heart of Davidson Hall was the octagonal rotunda, a large multi-purpose space featuring impressive fireplaces.

found his place in that family when he first came to the campus six years earlier, and experienced a common emotion: homesickness. He credits the older cadets with giving him a boost. “The senior cadets were like a big brother and were there to help you out,” he explains.

Lake Geneva historian Christine Jacobson Brookes was literally born into the NMNA family. Her father, Episcopal priest James Howard Jacobson, served

as the fourth headmaster of the school from 1943 until 1972. Brookes says that when she was brought home from the hospital to the headmaster’s apartment suite in Davidson Hall, there were “180 big brothers” waiting to give her a unique initiation. “They insisted that the blanket be opened so they could see if I had big feet,” laughs Brookes, who says she considers herself an honorary member of the class of ’67. “Dad was known around the campus for his



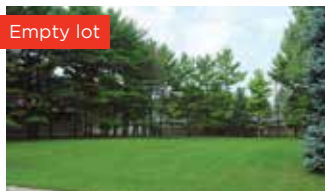
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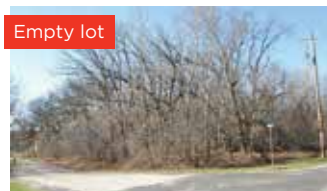
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big feet and they wanted to see if I inherited them.”

Living on campus with so many cadets far from their homes, Brookes says that her mother helped foster the sense of family and community on campus, and helped to reduce any longings from homesickness. “My mom was really a mom to the boys,” she says. That sense of family extended to the few girls who attended NMNA as well

— for a brief time in the 1970s, four female cadets attended the school, and one graduated.

A DAY IN THE LIFE

A typical day for a Northwestern cadet started in a way familiar to anyone who has served in the military: the bugling of “Reveille.” “Six a.m. on the dot every morning,” recalls Liddy. “You’d go and get showered, come back, get dressed for formation and inspection.”

Assuming all passed muster, the battalion of cadets would then march to breakfast in the dining hall. Next came classes from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., with a break for a noon meal. Class work covered a full college preparatory curriculum.

Susan Ballje worked at the school for many years, teaching literature, writing and journalism. Ballje says working at NMNA was pleasantly different from a typical high school teaching post. “I had far more academic freedom to teach what cadets needed for their future,” she remembers. Ballje says she felt her role was to make sure all the students had a broad perspective on the life that awaited graduates after high school or college, be it civilian or military.

“Once I realized I could allow these guys a respite from their stoicism, I could see that several realized, ‘I don’t always have to be military,’” Ballje says. She became a cadet-respected educator, partly for relaxing the rules slightly. “I would let them take their boots off



Cadets from Northwestern Military Academy visit the former site of Kaye’s Park prior to the construction of Davidson Hall, circa 1910.



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in class," she describes with a lowered voice, as if risking comeuppance from superiors even all these years later.

LEISURE TIME AND EXTRA-CURRICULARS

After classes ended at 3:30 p.m., the footwear changed from shined boots and laced Oxfords to cleats and tennis shoes. The ample lawn served as a

football field for both practice and games, and the grounds also contained four tennis courts. Competing under their mascot, the Falcons, the NMNA baseball, football, track and tennis teams proved formidable opponents to other local high school teams, who loved traveling to the lakeside campus to play a game under the beautiful fall foliage of the changing trees.



The elegant dining room at Kaye's Park could serve up to 1,000 guests a night.



Visitors arrive at the Kaye's Park grounds on the steam yacht *Arthur Kaye* in 1898.



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When sports practice and other extra-curriculars ended at 5 p.m., the cadets returned to formation inspection and a bugle call to dinner, followed by study time until 9 p.m. Then they had an hour of free time until 10 p.m., when one bugler inside and one bugler outside would sound “Taps,” the military signal that means the end to another day.

A PLACE WITH A RICH HISTORY

The academy was originally founded as Northwestern Military Academy in Highland Park, Illinois, in 1888. After suffering two devastating fires in its original location, the institution moved to the Geneva Lake site in 1915. The school’s mission, as described in the 1919 catalogue: “To graduate young men who, with sturdy physique, sound scholarship, refined tastes, high moral and spiritual ideals, will be best prepared to make good citizens.”

In the 19th century, the land where the academy made its home on Geneva Lake had originally been the home of Kaye’s Park, “the Famous Summer Resort,” as described in a 1900 advertising brochure.



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Beginning in 1873, visitors would come up from Chicago to enjoy full-amenity lakefront resort living in a variety of accommodations, from rustic tents to full-service cabins and lodge rooms, all with lavish hotel dining that could serve up to 1,000 guests a night. While there, vacationers could enjoy Kaye's Park's extensive slate of activities, including boating, fishing, bicycling, horseback riding, billiards, bowling, baseball, lawn tennis, a racetrack, a zoo, a dance hall, a gift shop and orchestral concerts.

Vacationers would reach Kaye's Park by taking a train first to Lake Geneva or eventually to its terminus at Williams Bay, and transferring to the passenger steamer *Arthur Kaye*, named for the owner and proprietor of Kaye's Park. The site remained a popular local resort from its founding in 1873 until 1901, when competition from more modern hotels and the death of Arthur Kaye led to its closure. The Kaye family sold off 42 acres of their expansive holdings to Northwestern Military Academy in 1911, and the property began a new life.



The Northwestern Military & Naval Academy exhibit at the Geneva Lake Museum features several artifacts, photographs and mementos from the former campus.

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FAMOUS CONNECTIONS AND TREASURED MEMORIES

From the first half of the 20th century to the school's merger with the Delafield academy (the newly formed school was renamed St. John's Northwestern Military Academy) the boys-only school was not entirely deprived of social activity or female attention. The administration would arrange to bus in girls from high schools throughout Walworth County for the regular events of dances, balls, cotillions and homecoming events. Many alumnae from local high schools have fond memories of attending these events in the grand Davidson Hall.

The academy also produced several accomplished and famous alumni who either matriculated or graduated from the school, including U.S. Army one-star brigadier general Douglas Ewing, the actor Spencer Tracy and Clarence John Boettiger, the oldest grandson of President Franklin D. Roosevelt and First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt. One historic photograph shows Cadet Boettiger in his NMNA dress uniform at the White House with his grandparents — the President and First Lady — and the extended Roosevelt clan. Another shows him escorting Eleanor on one of her visits to Northwestern Military & Naval Academy's Geneva Lake campus. He would graduate to become an army lieutenant colonel and a delegate to the United Nations.

Ewing's daughter, Geneva Lake Museum Director Janet Ewing, says the museum's permanent exhibit on NMNA, which houses an impressive collection of academy artifacts and memorabilia along with an extended slideshow of the institution's eight decades in the area, is popular with alumni. "A lot of the former cadets like to come here to reminisce," she explains.

Alum Ross says that to this day, he remembers the sign at the entrance to the gym that read "P.R.I.D.E." It stood for *Personal Appearance* — *Respect* — *Integrity* — *Dedication* — *Enthusiasm*, ideals that last longer than any concrete, brick or mortar. "To this day 'P.R.I.D.E.' is instilled in me to practice every day," he says. ▲



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Stebnitz Builders brought to life this client's vision of modernizing a 1940's ranch while preserving the view

Touring a 1940's ranch farmhouse on 7 acres in Elkhorn, Stebnitz Builders remodeling and design consultant Jeff Auberger was most inspired by the nearly 300-year-old oak trees on the property, which were impressive enough to convince him to restore the 1,100-square-foot home and adjacent outbuilding that sat undisturbed beneath their towering branches. Using the original footprint of the home, Auberger wanted to preserve the surrounding landscape while improving the design layout. With his plan in place and a strong desire to maintain the integrity of the property, Auberger felt that partnering with Stebnitz Builders was the logical choice for the project.



With each project, the Stebnitz team starts by applying intentional focus to understand a client's specific renovation aspirations. Stebnitz Builders is the remodeling industry leader in Walworth County and the surrounding areas. Chris Stebnitz, third-generation president of the company, says that Stebnitz Builders provides its clients a personal experience designing and remodeling the home of their dreams. "We've championed the Art of Listening to our clients," he explains. "Communication is our priority. The Stebnitz process is vital to achieve the desired outcome. Our projects are a deep reflection of ourselves, but more importantly, our clients."

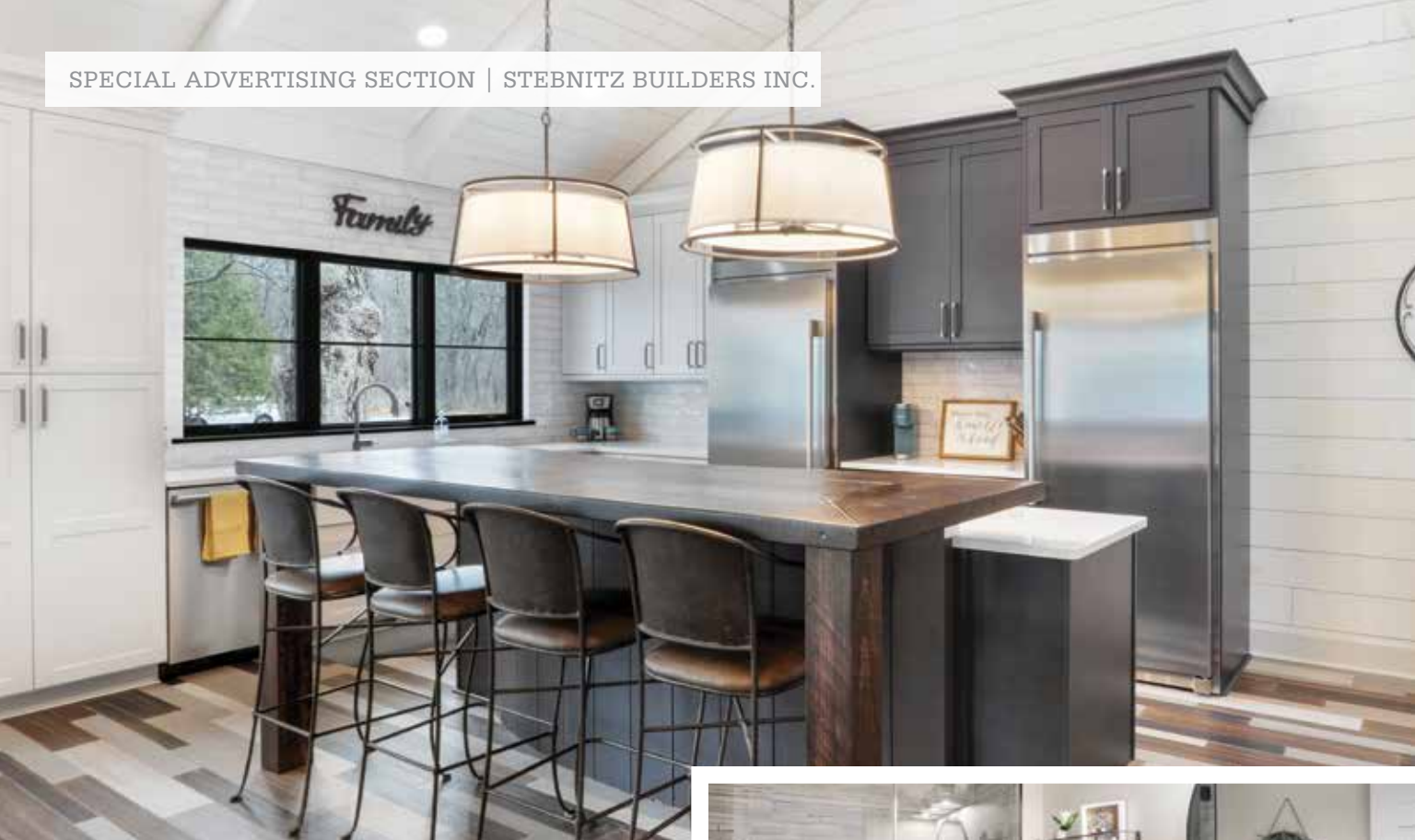


Since 1972, Stebnitz Builders' expertise has continued to evolve, but one thing has remained the same — their commitment to maintaining this quality by hiring and retaining the best people. This year, the company celebrates 50 years in business, and Stebnitz says they have flourished due to a strong investment in their employees. "We are a great team because of how we work together," he says. "Company values are enhanced by choosing and investing in the right people. We would not be where we are today without them."

One characteristic found in every member of the Stebnitz Builders' team is a strong commitment to giving back to the community. Partnering with the United Way of Walworth County and the many agencies they support, Stebnitz Builders matches 100% of all financial contributions made by its team and is always ready to serve the community through fundraisers, scholarships and building projects when asked. This commitment to community has earned the company several recognitions, including the David Bretl Community Betterment Award, the United Way of Walworth County's Vanguard Volunteer Award, Wisconsin Athletic Service Award for their work with youth sports and an annual recognition for their support of students participating in the Meat Animal Sale at the Walworth County Fair.

In tackling Auberger's remodel project, with strategic demolition complete, Stebnitz Builders began restoring the existing architecture, foundation and framing. These changes were followed by updating the exterior siding





and trim with white LP SmartSide siding paired with black H3 Series Sierra Pacific windows. These gave the home an updated and timeless aesthetic with the benefits of improved energy efficiency. Modifying the existing roof structure allowed the team to vault the ceilings to create more interior volume and visual space. An existing crawl space and partial basement were combined and expanded to create more space, which allowed for the addition of two bedrooms and a media entertainment room in the new lower level.

A new three-season room also includes two sides of floor-to-ceiling glass windows, as well as uninterrupted views of the serene landscape and the beautiful oak trees that inspired the project. A reclaimed brick fireplace adds a cozy, historic feel and allows Auberger to enjoy the breathtaking late-autumn sunsets comfortably. Extending from the three-season room, an outdoor patio features an outdoor kitchen and a fire pit for cooler nights.

Having worked many decades in the remodeling industry, Auberger admits this is the smallest home he's designed, but he says it is by far one of his favorites. "It's not always about the square footage of a home," he explains. "It's the quality



of life within the home. Good design and planning allow us to live large in a smaller space. We can choose to think differently and more strategically.”

The house was finished in modern farmhouse décor, including classic white shiplap, and hanging wooden barn doors. An array of locally harvested wood was used throughout the home to add warmth and texture. The new primary bedroom suite boasts custom built-ins with deep drawers to provide an abundance of excellent storage.

“With our clients in mind, we pay close attention to every detail, helping them achieve their objectives,” Stebnitz explains. “We recognize that every client’s needs are unique. We’re here to help understand those needs and ultimately create a home they love.” ▲

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Supper Club Spirit

In praise of the area's most timeless and popular dining spots

BY MARY BERGIN | PHOTOS BY HILLARY SCHAVE



Throughout the state of Wisconsin, you can find a distinctive local dining culture that dates to the Prohibition era and has changed only a little in the intervening years: the supper club. The Lake Geneva area is home to a beloved handful of these classic establishments, which have been enticing multiple generations of diners over many decades with expertly made cocktails and perfectly seasoned dishes, plus a dash of retro charm on the side.

What exactly defines a supper club? In her 2015 documentary “Old Fashioned: The Story of the Wisconsin Supper Club,” Madison filmmaker Holly de Ruyter explains that this can be a difficult question to answer, but there are a few elements she considers essential. A supper club, she says, is an owner-operated restaurant with a bar area and a dining area, where the menu focuses on classics like steak and seafood. A complimentary relish tray and/or bread basket is usually offered at the start of a meal. The architecture and the décor of the supper club should speak to the (generally rural) location, and of course, a supper club must offer



The bar at Mars Resort overlooking Lake Como.

a fish fry on Friday nights, with bonus points for prime rib on Saturdays and broasted chicken on Sundays.

A supper club will always be independently owned, sometimes staying in the same family for several generations, with the chefs cooking from scratch using longtime family recipes. Some owners live on the property. They work the bar, kitchen or cash register and know their most loyal customers by name. Reservations? Usually not accepted, especially on Fridays, but customers don't care because this is their singular stop for the night. They expect to linger. Supper clubs have a way of turning strangers into repeat visitors, then friends.

It is not unusual for the as-yet-uninitiated to question a supper club about its exclusivity. As in, "What is the membership fee?" Or, "If I'm not a member, can I still go in?" Supper club owners explain that, in fact, one thing



Server Madison Garland presents a meal at the Duck Inn.

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that distinguishes a good supper club is the feeling that everybody belongs.

The night typically involves cocktails that you might not drink at another time or place, perhaps starting with a pre-dinner Old Fashioned (brandy, especially Korbels, is most Wisconsinites' liquor of choice) and ending with a Grasshopper or other spiked ice cream drink for dessert. But don't mistake these little rituals for cookie-cutter dining. Supper clubs usually offer a balancing act between cherished traditions and the individual touches that reflect the personalities and preferences of each owner and chef.

For example, the Duck Inn, nine miles northwest of Delavan, began as a speakeasy that patrons visited during Prohibition. Today the supper club, surrounded by Wisconsin farmland, offers a deep dive into all things duck. The décor includes duck paintings and taxidermy, and the menu specializes

in — you guessed it — duck. Roast duck with wild rice, cashew-coated duck breast with an apricot drizzle and duck with an apple-brandy glaze served over spaetzle are some of the customer favorites.

“Now the kids of longtime customers are coming — a second generation, then a third.”

- Greg Condos, Anthony's

Jeff Karbash, owner since 1994, says the Duck Inn goes through eight to 16 cases of fresh duck per week, sometimes serving more than 250 duck dinners weekly. People return for the great food and the friendly, efficient service. “Your success depends on the people you work with,”

Karbash says. “You're only as good as the staff you can hire. The people make or break it.”

Scott Pohl, co-owner since 2016 of Mars Resort near Lake Geneva, would likely agree. It is not unusual for staff to stick with Mars for decades. That includes Carole Dornbusch, who worked there 54 years, until she lost a battle with Covid at age 81. Another, Connie Norton, has waitressed 25 years:



Carol Britten and Dan Goodlow make use of the piano bar at Mars, a popular spot for a drink before dinner.

“Guests come in just to sit in her section — they love her,” Pohl explains.

At Mars, barbecue ribs are a menu specialty, slathered in house-made barbecue sauce or served “Cisco style,” a dry rub with a proprietary seasoning





Classic banquette seating in the bar of the Duck Inn.



The Duck Inn as it appeared in 1944.



The main dining room at the Duck Inn.



Bartender Shannon McDonough serves a glass of wine and a plate of Mars' famous ribs.



Duck Inn owner Jeff Karbash makes a martini.

blend. Pohl says that in 2021, they sold more than 15 tons of ribs (that's 30,000 pounds).

Mars Resort's location on the south shore of Lake Como "opens the door to a lot more opportunities to entertain guests while they wait for a table," says Pohl, who partnered with the Arney Silvestri family to expand and update the 1923

restaurant "without losing the feel of an old-school supper club."

The bar and dining area at Mars have long been a favorite spot for stunning sunset views of the lake, and the décor features iconic, large-scale photoprints of the Lake Geneva area in the 1950s. On Fridays and Saturdays throughout the year, the bar hosts a piano player, and during the summer months, bands play outside on the beach for those enjoying the restaurant's outdoor seating.

In nearby rural Beloit, just 20 miles west of Fontana, you'll find another classic, local supper club: The Butterfly Club. Surrounded by beautiful farmland, the Butterfly Club offers a full menu of supper club staples and features a midcentury-style lounge and bar where resident entertainer Mike Williamson has performed on the weekends since the

1980s. Williamson says a big part of his job is to make people feel at home and have fun. He will leave the lounge's stage to mingle, using a cordless microphone to persuade the crowd to sing. The music, setting and mood are a cherished part of what makes this supper club authentic.

"You've got a lot of bars and restaurants around, but we are different," says Mike

**While supper clubs
are traditionally
associated with
Wisconsin, the
supper club spirit
drifts a little south of
the border as well.**



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Sala, co-owner of The Butterfly Club since 1999 with his brother Hektor, the primary chef. “We want people to feel comfortable here.” He calls it a dream-come-true business to operate, because his family — originally from the Mediterranean region — “grew up with the white tablecloths, music, good food and friendliness” of neighborhood restaurants.

This sense of connection between owners, chefs and diners helps distinguish supper clubs from other kinds of restaurants. Williamson says he met some of his best friends while working at The Butterfly Club. The restaurant “transcends the ages,” he explains.

Sala says that customers stay loyal because they crave the familiar and find it at the Butterfly Club, again and again. That might mean requesting a certain table in the dining room, enjoying the sweet cinnamon rolls in the complimentary bread basket or requesting a favorite song on a Friday. “I’m asked to sing ‘Sweet Caroline’ at least twice a night,” Williamson laughs.

A strong sense of familiarity is one of the keys to the decades-long success of Lake Geneva’s Anthony’s Steakhouse & Seafood as well. Greek immigrants Anthony and Goldie Condos opened Anthony’s in 1978, and remained active in its operation for decades. “My dad was still greeting customers at the door at age 87,” says current owner Greg Condos, the late couple’s son.

Since Anthony’s opened nearly 50 years ago, the menu has not changed much. The relish tray is one of the best in the area: customers enjoy a cheese spread, veggies and cherry peppers, along with crackers. Some of the popular menu items at Anthony’s include ribs, chops and steaks, but diners also get a hint of the owners’ Greek heritage in some of the offerings. The dressing on the house salad is a Greek vinaigrette with a special proprietary seasoning blend and feta cheese. One of the steak options is a Greek-style dry rub, a family recipe that includes garlic, oregano, white pepper and sea salt. For seafood entrees, a blend of lemon, oregano and garlic enhances the flavor.



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“When you’re good, you’re good,” Condos says of the longevity and numerous awards that Anthony’s Steakhouse and Seafood has won. “Now the kids of longtime customers are coming — a second generation, then a third.”

While supper clubs are traditionally associated with Wisconsin, the supper club spirit drifts a little south of the border as well. Crandall’s Restaurant in Hebron, Illinois, eight miles south of Lake Geneva, is a family endeavor for owners Dan and Judi Beck, whose son Dean is manager and daughter Lacy “can multi-task many jobs at once.”

The specialty at Crandall’s is broasted chicken, a cooking method that’s a cross between a pressure cooker and deep-fat fryer. Pork chops are prepared the same way. The result is a tasty dinner that keeps people coming back again and again. Another Crandall’s menu item with a long list of fans is the basket of cinnamon rolls, which are served with every dinner entree. For dessert, diners make sure to save room for the fruit and cream pies, made in house.

The Big Foot Inn is another Illinois supper club, within easy view of the “Welcome to Wisconsin” sign in nearby Big Foot, Illinois. After its longtime owners retired in 2019, Dominick and Maribel Armon took over the Big Foot Inn, and they aim to stay true to the restaurant’s beloved menu as well as its history — it originally opened in 1946 serving traditional supper club fare.

The Big Foot Inn is one of the few supper clubs that offers a weekend brunch, including lox and herring on the menu. The Tuesday night special of chicken and dumplings remains a favorite — Dominick says that one customer drives 20 miles to get it. And their Friday fish fry is one of the most popular in the area.

But the Armons have also introduced a few new menu items since taking over. As chef, Dominick added Italian entrees because that cuisine is his specialty. His signature dish is Rigatoni Country, a rigatoni pasta with Italian sausage, pancetta and plum tomato sauce. Maribel, as pastry chef, anchors the dessert menu with carrot cake



Dinner at a supper club often begins with a relish tray shared at the table.



Ice cream drinks like a Pink Squirrel are popular after-dinner indulgences at the Duck Inn.

cheesecake, tiramisu and chocolate cake, and she offers gluten-free options, too.

Since taking over, the Armons completed a few updates to the space, but have been careful to retain the restaurant's original look and feel. Longtime customers will still find a few video games in a bar alcove, as well as a piano player on Friday nights, a longstanding tradition. "We quickly established that the Big Foot Inn wasn't going anywhere," Dominick says.

Supper clubs are here to stay: it's a message that warms the hearts of the area's many supper club fans. 🚩

Longtime travel/food writer Mary Bergin of Madison is the author of "Wisconsin Supper Club Cookbook," in its ninth printing, and her upcoming book is "Exceptional Small Towns in Wisconsin."

On the Side

Recent documentaries, books, websites and advertising campaigns have propelled interest in Wisconsin supper clubs.

- New on the market is "The Wisconsin Supper Clubs Story: An Illustrated History, with Relish" (Agate Midway) by Ron Faiola of Milwaukee, whose filmmaking work includes "Wisconsin Supper Club Movie." Faiola has written three supper club books, and he maintains a list of 260-plus supper clubs at wisconsinsupperclubs.com.
- The group Wisconsin Supper Club Enthusiasts on Facebook has more than 60,000 members. Members find each other at supper clubs by placing on their table a little orange cone. Shawn and Ellen Niemann of Kewaunee County formed the group after watching filmmaker Holly De Ruyter's "Old Fashioned: The Story of the Wisconsin Supper Club" on PBS. Check oldfashionedthemovie.com for details.
- Search "supper club" at travelwisconsin.com, Wisconsin's official tourism website, for dozens of ideas about where to dine. Stephanie Klett, current director of VISIT Lake Geneva and former Wisconsin tourism secretary, also used billboards, television ad spots and themed sports venue concession stands to spread the word about supper club dining.

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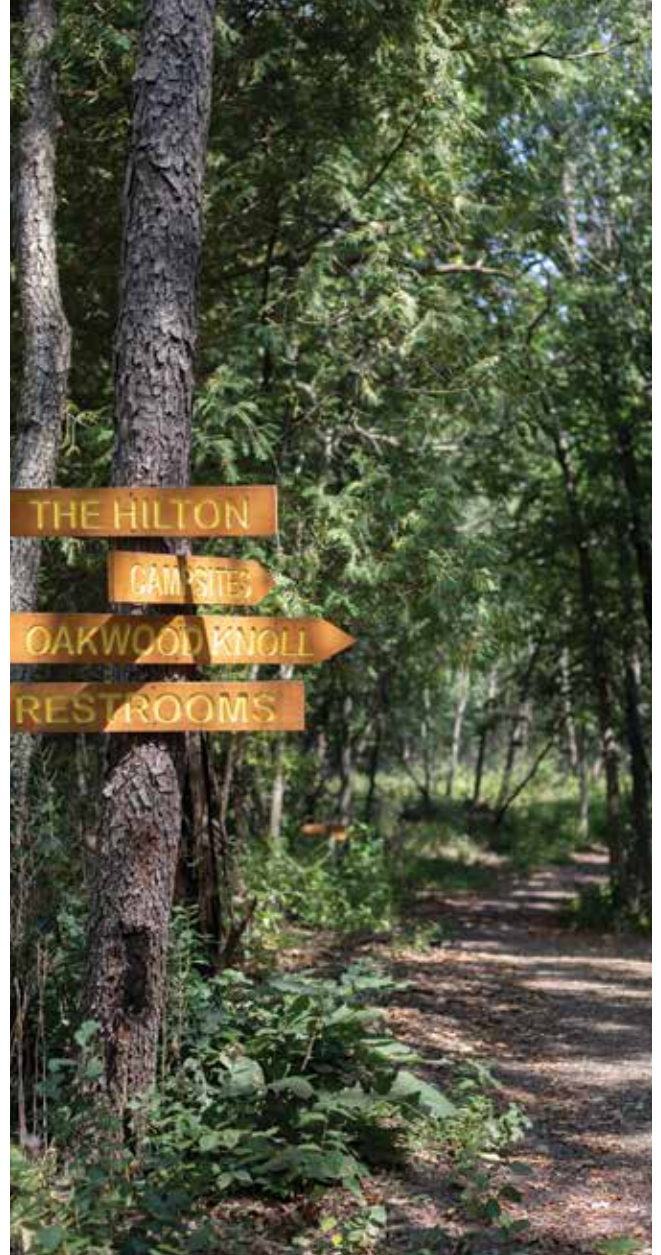
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HAPPY CAMPERs

How a creative couple transformed Camp Kettlewood from a former Girl Scout camp into a laid-back glamping spot

BY KRISTINE HANSEN | PHOTOS BY SHANNA WOLF, UNLESS NOTED



Simona and Jeremy Ebner didn't set out to create a cool glamping spot. In their nearly two-year search, they merely yearned for a property to satisfy two wish-list items: a place to live and an eventual "side hustle," or way to earn some additional income.

More than ready to uproot from their Milwaukee digs in a high-rise building, not yet clear about what that side hustle might be but knowing it would produce rental income in some way, they scoured rural land in counties within driving distance of Milwaukee. Relocating to the country became an intrinsic goal. "We were looking for some acreage to live on," says Jeremy, "and room to stretch our legs."

Finally, they stumbled upon their own version of utopia at a decommissioned Girl Scout camp in East Troy, formerly known as Oakwood Knoll, located along Wisconsin Highway 20. They discovered the property by accident, when Simona happened to drive by the property on her commute to her day job in Whitewater. She especially noted the old-growth forest on the property. "In all of our searches, we hadn't seen anything like it," says Jeremy. A walk-through of the 80-acre site sealed the deal.

The couple — who met while attending the University of Wisconsin-Madison — already considered themselves "old souls," enamored by antiques, flea markets, history and repurposing, as well as the great outdoors and camping. "Bringing something new back to life is an innate passion," says Jeremy. A dilapidated camp that had been dormant for several years didn't scare them at all. Quite the opposite: the prospect invigorated them.

The idea of restoring the Girl Scout camp grew into Camp Kettlewood, a place where campers of all ages don't have to give up little luxuries — like a real bed — and can pack only the essentials: their toothbrush, towel, clothes, a swimsuit, food and drinks. Simona and Jeremy hosted their first overnight guests in 2020, with a goal to make camping accessible and far from frightening or overwhelming for those new to it. By





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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2022



JUL 16 (Saturday) – Summer event at Windwood with Speaker Jeff Epping, Director of Horticulture, Olbrich Botanical Gardens.

AUG/SEP – Heritage Oak Contest & Oak Tree Sales.

AUG 5 (Friday) – Education Day at White River County Park.

AUG 13 (Saturday) – Family Day at Helen Rohner Children's Fishing Park.

AUG 25 (Thursday) – Small Nature Photo Contest reception at Green Grocer.

SEP 9 (Friday) – Guided Nature Hike at Wallace E. Zabler Nature Preserve, 9 am.

SEP 23 (Friday) – Guided Nature Hike at Bromley Woods, 9 am.

SEP 24 (Saturday) – Join GLC and Kettle Moraine Land Trust volunteers to pick seeds at Wisconsin's Hackmatack Turner Tract preserve near Genoa City.

SEP 30 (Friday) – Work Day at White River County Park.

OCT 1 (Saturday) – GLC 3rd Annual Road Rally featuring Cimeley Woods Preserve and other protected properties.

NOV 5 – Work Day at Hansen Preserve along Sugar Creek in Elkhorn to remove invasive species; Bring water and work gloves, 9 am - noon.

DEC 3 (Saturday) – Holly Ball.

DEC 10 (Saturday) – GLC Annual Meeting.

DEC 21 (Wednesday) – Winter Solstice Celebration at White River County Park.

MAR 4 (Friday) – Work Day at Bromley Woods to remove invasive species, 10 am – 2 pm.

APR 5 (Tuesday) – Conservation@Home presentation at Geneva Lake Museum's Tuesday @ 2.

APR 6 (Wednesday) – Night Hike and Stargazing with GLAS at Helen Rohner Children's Fishing Park, 6:30 pm.

APR 22 (Friday) – EARTH DAY activities! Join volunteers for a Work Day at Bromley Woods, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; or join a small group planting native wildflowers at White River County Park and our nature preserves; Earth Day coloring contest for area schools.

MAY 6 (Friday) – Guided Nature Hike at Bromley Woods, 9 am; Native Plant Sale pickup at the Mill House.

MAY 6 (Friday) – Yerkes Olmsted event with speaker Laurence Cotton.

MAY 27 (Friday) – Guided Nature Hike at Cimeley Woods Preserve and Hermansen Woods, 9 am.

JUN – Opening Reception of Oak Tree exhibit at the Geneva Lake Museum.

JUN 3 (Friday) – Conservation@Home Kickoff with tour of a certified property.

JUN/AUG – Helen Rohner Children's Fishing Park Classes

- Fishing classes (Tuesdays)
- Story time classes (Wednesdays)
- Nature classes (Fridays)

JUL 1 (Friday) – The Beauty of Birds! Family Day at Helen Rohner Children's Fishing Park; Small Nature Photo Contest opens, entry deadline August.

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providing most of what one needs to camp — and removing the option to pitch your own tent — they hope that time in the woods suddenly seems liberating. Access to board games and craft kits, which the Ebners either supply or sell, makes any camper feel like a scout again.

The Girl Scouts of Wisconsin-Badgerland Council owned the property from 1967 to 2018. Under the Ebners' restoration, those original platform tents that once hosted generations of scouts sit on their own campsite near restored vintage trailers and Airstreams throughout the property, all of which are open for nightly rentals between Memorial Day weekend and the first weekend in October. An additional campsite is named Oakwood Knoll, a nod to the camp's history. That rentable site offers accommodations in a vintage 1957 Holly trailer with a kitchenette, banquettes for the dining area, and bunk beds with enough sleeping space for two people, or two adults and a small child. Keeping with the 1950's theme, aqua-blue is the dominant color inside the trailer, right on down to the coffee pot.

At another site on the property, Mushroom Gulch is a veritable trailer village: three "canned ham"-style trailers accommodate two campers in each. Each boasts a different exterior color scheme, making it feel like its own little neighborhood. Blue-striped awnings in front of Last Resort, a 1977 Airstream Land Yacht, provide shade

from the sun and enough room to eat at a cherry-red dining set beneath. Up to four people can sleep inside, on beds covered in buffalo-check blankets.

Groups of friends traveling together tend to book the ironically named “Hilton” group site, home to five private platform tents original to Camp Oakwood Knoll. Each is outfitted with antique furnishings, vintage plaid and striped wool blankets, and mosquito netting to ward off bug bites. Four tents are for sleeping accommodations and one is designated for socializing, especially important should rain occur. Up to eight people can sleep at the Hilton site — on cushy mattresses, of course.

Each campsite has its own fire pit (with bundles of firewood provided), propane grill, outdoor chairs and charmingly strung fairy lights. Despite the seclusion, there are opportunities to make new friends at the other campsites while hiking the trails on property or enjoying the views of the pond. Communal bathhouses feature flush toilets, modern plumbing and electricity. Soon the




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Ebners hope to host events on the grass valley, which has already functioned as a rustic wedding venue.

“We saw the potential,” says Jeremy, thinking back to their first visit to the property. “It’s been really rewarding to bring something back to into use that had, for lack of a better word, been forgotten.”

Naming their venture and new lifestyle Camp Kettlewood wasn’t an instinctive choice. The process took 18 months. First, the couple looked at indigenous and native names to honor the land’s roots, but nothing felt right. Then, they investigated the question of what the place means to them. Gazing out at the land revealed their answer. “The wetlands on the property are [called] kettles,” says Simona, referencing the geographical name for a portion of the glacial topography of the property. They decided to weave kettles into the new name.

The Ebners chose to source the trailers already restored, making a conscious decision to leave the refurbishing to

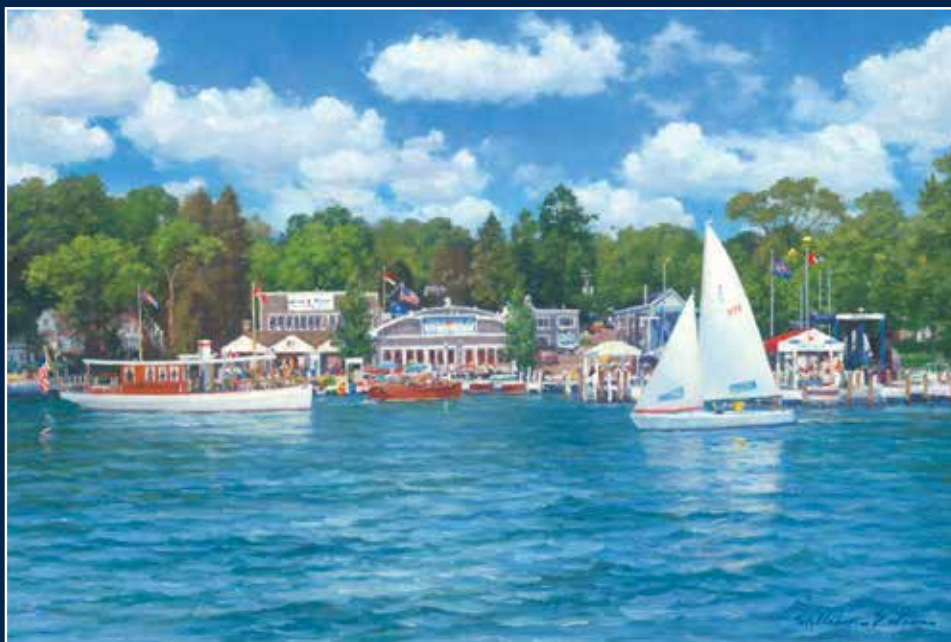
the pros. Finding the right options has been an epic journey. The Ebners say they often find the trailers through Facebook Marketplace and Craigslist, and not always within a short drive. Sometimes it requires them to make a decision on whether to purchase the trailers within a day, just as with any used item for sale where there are no multiples. Three trailers were ready for bookings during the 2020-2021 season and others are in the process of being prepped.

“I flew out to Los Angeles to get one of the trailers (a 1951 Empire) and drive it back,” says Jeremy. Another came from northern Wisconsin. “That one was completely dilapidated and we bought it from a gentleman who restores them.”

Whether campers are first-timers or seasoned pros, the Ebners strive to make them feel welcome. It’s also important to the couple that the vibe at the camp feel unpretentious,



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not wanting to emulate some pricey glamping spots across the country, which may charge as much as \$1,000 per night to sleep under the stars. Yes, there may be nice platform tents, but there are no concierges other than Jeremy and Simona, who are happy to share favorite local hiking spots (like the 22,000-acre Southern Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest, a 10-minute drive away) and restaurants, or help you get a fire started.

“We really didn’t want it to become that high-end glamping resort where there’s

room service, chocolate and wine,” says Jeremy. “Some of our sites are a good intro for first-time campers,” Simona adds. “Or, if you want your own corner of the woods, you’ve got that.”

Next up at Camp Kettlewood, the Ebners will add a collection of cabins from another decommissioned Girl Scout camp nearby, Camp Pottawatomie Hills on Pleasant Lake, which closed in 2020. The cabins date back to the 1940s and were relocated to Camp Kettlewood for the cost of a song, working with a building mover in East Troy.

“We worked out a deal where we bought eight cabins,” says Jeremy. “We’ve got a ton of excitement from people who used to go to camp there.” They never questioned leaving the interior graffiti untouched although they did remove any unsavory scrawls

and doodles, of course. “Someone could build a new cabin for sure,” says Jeremy, “but they’ll never have the history that these do.”

Restoring the original main camp lodge into their personal residence was another labor of love. Throughout the process, they were committed to retaining the original charm, keeping the floor plan open and the floor-to-ceiling brick fireplace untouched. Fresh coats of white paint — even on the beams — transformed the building from a rustic, woodsy lodge into a more modern farmhouse. White shiplap walls completed the look, along with a nod to new and old in every room, like a clawfoot tub beneath a chandelier in the bath. The Ebners say that cooking their meals with cast-iron pots and pans scored from flea markets reminds them of the camp’s vintage past.





Visiting antiques stores and flea markets in Wisconsin and Minnesota, including the Elkhorn Antique Flea Market, keeps their journey to restore the camp humming along. They are continually on the hunt for more interior décor that's campy, vintage and, well, "them." "We're always on the lookout for that one missing piece," says Simona.

The couple's career backgrounds have served them well. Simona has worked in marketing for a decade and knows how to make things look appropriately on-brand. She and Jeremy's sister Jessie designed Camp Kettlewood's logo and Simona handles its social media, website and search engine optimization. With her help, swag like beer-can cozies and enamel camp mugs depicting the camp's logo are for sale. On the analog side, both Simona and Jeremy stage and decorate each of the cabins, trailers and tents. Jeremy is handy with construction and has worked in jobs with a focus on developing and creating new products and solutions. "I love creating something from nothing," he says.

That mantra — to find beauty in decay and utility in abandonment — guides nearly everything the Ebners do at Camp Kettlewood, as they invite campers into the woods to dial it back a few decades, turn off their phones, and connect with nature and each other. ▲



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A person is shown from the waist up, holding a fly fishing rod and reel. They are wearing a light blue long-sleeved shirt. The background is a river with a rocky bank and tall, dry reeds. The water is calm and reflects the light. The title 'Casting Away' is written in a large, white, cursive font across the middle of the image.

Casting Away

Lake Geneva fly fishing guide
George Kaider hopes to introduce
more people to this serene sport

BY MAURA KELLER | PHOTOS BY LIZ HOFFMAN



In the now classic 1992 film “A River Runs Through It,” a young Brad Pitt stands up to his waist amidst the cascading water of the flowing river rapids, effortlessly fly fishing. For many people, the movie was their introduction to elegant serenity of the sport of fly fishing, which today continues to attract anglers who are drawn to a fishing alternative. However, while the Lake Geneva area has long been a popular destination for traditional lake fishing, the area’s rivers and streams remained less well-known, despite the fact that when it comes to fly fishing, the region is an angler’s variety pack. Here you can catch Northern pike, panfish, musky, salmon, smallmouth and largemouth

bass, and perch in the numerous inland streams and rivers dotting the region.

George Kaider, owner of In the Flow Fly Fishing Guide Service in Lake Geneva, wants to spread the word about the area's fly fishing opportunities. He has been a fisherman since he was a young boy, when his grandmother taught him how to fish in a pond behind her home in Florida, but it wasn't until many years later that he discovered the joys of fly fishing. "When I was in college, my mother-in-law lived in Cross Plains, just northwest of Madison, near a famous trout stream called Black Earth Creek," Kaider says. "While I was out there casting little spinners, I saw some fly fishermen casting, and immediately said to myself, 'I want to do that.' It looked so graceful and beautiful to watch — I was immediately intrigued." Kaider says he bought a cheap fly rod, a reel and some basic gear, and attempted to teach

himself how to fly fish. It did not go well.

"I could not execute a cast, lost most of my flies, and my leader was tangled in a mess," he says with a smile. "I put down the fly rod and returned to traditional fishing due to the frustration." Giving it a second chance a few years later, Kaider took up the fly fishing rod again and learned everything he could about the sport, and from that moment forward, he was hooked.

Today, as a fly fishing guide throughout the Lake Geneva area, he assists other fly fishing aspirants and shares his vast knowledge of how to catch the best fish.

Along his journey to become a fly fishing guide, Kaider says the sport has taken him to some of the most beautiful places on earth and helped him to meet incredible people. It has been a powerful force for personal growth. "Tying flies, targeting different species, the constant

movement and exploring new rivers and streams," Kaider says. "I keep learning so much about the sport that is intriguing. There is always something new to learn, but the repetitive motion of casting while alone on a river is a spiritual experience for me."

As Kaider explains, most fly fishing is done on rivers and streams, but fly fishing can be enjoyed on lakes as well. The difference between fly fishing and traditional fishing is that the fly fisherman has total control over the fly, the cast and the retrieve. "In conventional fishing, the lure and reel do all the work," he explains. "But in fly fishing, the angler ties the fly, builds the leaders and has to learn many different casts and retrieves."

GATHERING THE RIGHT SUPPLIES

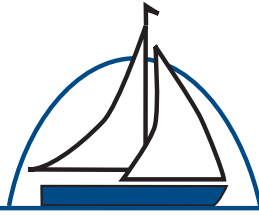
As Kaider makes clear, when it comes to fly fishing, the equipment is an extremely important part of the process. To get started fly fishing, an angler will need a fly rod, fly reel, fly line, leader and a fly. However, part of the challenge is that the size of the fly rod needs to match the reel and the fly line, so different rod setups are needed to target different species.



Kaider, center, gives advice and support to Matt and Mary Huml on a spring fly fishing excursion.

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How to Prepare Freshly Caught Fish

While Kaider rarely keeps fish for consumption, preferring to practice catch-and-release to help maintain a productive fishery, he says that he will occasionally keep trout or salmon to serve on the dinner table. His favorite recipe is very simple: trout fried in a skillet with butter and garlic, stuffed with tomato and fresh spinach. For those wanting to make their own fish fry, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources offers their “Famous Triple Dip Fish Fry” recipe.

Ingredients:

- 1 pound fish fillets
- 1 cup flour
- 1/4 teaspoon ground pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon paprika
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 egg
- 1/8 cup water
- 1 to 1 1/2 cups bread or cracker crumbs
- Cooking oil

Instructions:

1. Pat fish dry with paper towels and set aside.
2. In a shallow dish, mix flour, pepper, paprika and salt.
3. In another shallow dish, beat egg together with water to make an egg wash.
4. In a third shallow dish, place the crushed crumbs of your choice.
5. Pick up a fillet and dip it in the first bowl until coated with flour. Next dip the fillet in the egg wash, then transfer it to the third dish and pat the crumbs evenly over the entire fish. Do this for each fillet, separating them with aluminum foil on a plate.
6. There are two cooking options.
To fry: Heat 1/4-inch of cooking oil in a heavy skillet. When a pinch of flour sizzles in the pan, it's hot enough for the fish. Cook a few fillets at a time until the fish are brown and crispy.
To bake: Coat a pan with cooking oil and place it in the oven, empty. Heat oven to 450°F. Place fillets on the heated pan and cook about 6 to 7 minutes on each side, until flaky and crispy.



Kaider, right, demonstrates casting technique to Matt Huml.

“There are many different types of fly rods that have different actions, so it’s important to match the rod to your casting style,” Kaider says. “It’s not complicated, but it’s important to have a good understanding of the right gear for the application.” And to stay dry and warm, Kaider recommends waders and wader boots for all but the warmest fishing days.

With fly fishing, the tying of the flies themselves is a key component for many anglers. Kaider says he always wanted to learn to tie flies but initially stayed away from it because he was just too intimidated by the process. However, he eventually decided to jump head-first into fly tying. “I bought books and DVDs and spent countless hours watching experts on YouTube,” he explains. “I watched the construction of everything from tiny dry flies and nymphs to massive streamers, and everything in between. I wanted to learn it all — I began by just watching and reading.”

The first fly Kaider tied was a type known as a black wooly buggie, which is a common fly for beginners since it uses many basic principles of tying. “It’s fascinating for me to think that a hook, thread and feathers are all independent materials from each other, however, when combined with skill and imagination, a fly develops right in front of my eyes,” Kaider says. “The art of fly tying is unlimited, and that, too, allows my imagination to create anything I think a fish will eat. The thought of creating an imitation of a bug, crayfish or a baitfish that will trick a fish into eating it keeps me coming back... this is the art of fly tying.”

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

While the rapid-flowing rivers of the western United States provide some of the best fly-fishing opportunities, Kaider says the Lake Geneva region and Wisconsin in general offer plenty of spots for a good catch. The best locations depend on what type of fish

you are hoping to catch. Most people only associate fly fishing with trout and mountain streams, but almost any fish can be snared by a fly rod.

Kaider personally fishes and guides for a variety of species depending on the river, time of year and the fly-fishing technique he wants to use. During the summer months, most of his time is spent fishing for smallmouth bass and pike. In the fall, he turns his action toward musky, salmon and brown trout. During the winter, he primarily targets pike since they are one of the few species still actively eating at that time. In March and April, Kaider targets steelhead in the Lake Michigan tributaries and also trout in the Driftless Region of southwestern Wisconsin.

“Water temperature, barometric pressure and water levels can have a huge impact on fishing so I usually don’t know what river I will be guiding on until a few days before,” Kaider says. “I spend a lot of time studying the weather and water flows, and researching new rivers. It’s a fun and necessary part of having a guide business.” 🚣

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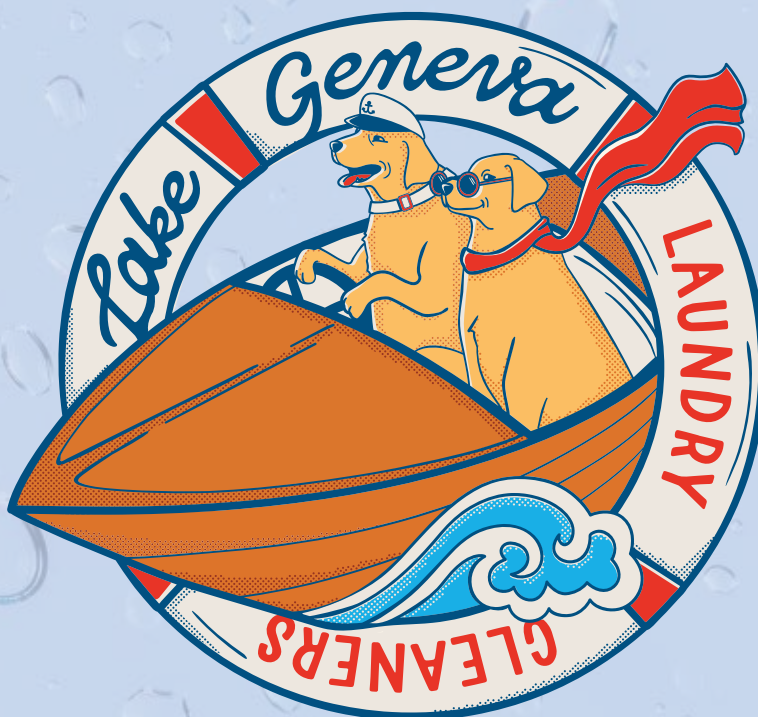
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GROW A *Greener* GARDEN

Whether you're a longtime gardener or a first-time green thumb, try your hand at organic gardening at home for tastier and more natural vegetables and herbs

BY SHELBY DEERING



Oglesby (left) consults with a garden design client.

SONYA KAMMES COURTESY OF KATIE OGLESBY



SONYA KAMMES COURTESY OF KATIE OGLESBY

Picture a beautiful summer day. Your pasta sauce is simmering, and your noodles are al dente. Everything smells amazing, but your meal seems to be missing something. That's when you walk out to your organic garden to pluck some fresh basil and oregano. You drop the herbs into your pasta, and ... perfection.

If this sounds like a lovely way to add flavor to your dinner, you can make this a reality, even if you're not an experienced gardener. An organic garden in the backyard is a great alternative to high-priced groceries that feel like they just get more expensive every day. And it's an opportunity to include lots of healthy, organic produce on your dining table throughout the growing season.

These are some of the reasons that home gardening is trending, and that more and more people are gravitating toward organic gardening. But what exactly is organic gardening? What makes something organic?



Oglesby gathers vegetables and herbs from her garden.

SONYA KAMMES COURTESY OF KATIE OGLESBY

"Organic farming prioritizes healthy soil, healthy plants and a healthy environment to produce the healthiest food," explains Katie Oglesby, a Lake Geneva-based garden designer and certified health coach. "Organic practices differ from conventional growing practices by eliminating synthetic chemical pesticides and herbicides, and utilizing more natural products that are lower in toxicity."

Soil is also a big priority when it comes to organic gardening. Oglesby says that

the soil helps to start plants and seeds off in the healthiest environment possible, which will lead to the best results.

THE APPEAL OF ORGANIC GARDENING

Since the start of the pandemic, home gardening has grown in popularity more than ever. Herb and vegetable company Bonnie Plants reported that in 2020, 20 million novices started their first-ever gardens. And the trend continues to gain steam.

The Best Starter Plants

Whether you've grown your fair share of produce or are thinking about starting a garden for the very first time, you should know that Wisconsin is actually a fantastic place for home gardens. Jeanne and Verdant Nolan say that despite our long, cold winters, the Midwest has a fairly long growing season that provides plenty of time to nurture a wide range of crops.



With that in mind, our gardening experts share their favorite starter plants for newbies. "Great entry-level or starter plants to grow are herbs and greens," Lake Geneva-based garden designer Katie Oglesby says. "They are the easiest to grow and can be grown in small spaces." After that, she says that the next level would be fruiting plants, which include beans, cucumbers and tomatoes. And for fruit? "Strawberries would be an easy start for fruit plants," she adds.

Also consider:

- Arugula
- Lettuce
- Edamame
- Basil
- Beets
- Kale
- Onions
- Peas
- Potatoes
- Radishes
- Spinach
- Squash
- Zucchini
- Chamomile
- Chives
- Dill
- Mint
(place in containers to prevent unwanted spread)
- Rosemary
- Sage
- Thyme
- Flowers like cosmos, geraniums, lavender, marigolds, nasturtiums and sunflowers



"The pandemic has forced us all to change how we live," says Lis Friemoth of The Garden Hoe. The Walworth County-based garden consultant says that green plants, food plants and flowering plants all add quality to our home lives.

"I think people are starting to realize that food is medicine," Oglesby says, citing her own experience suffering from a health crisis, which inspired her to better understand the food system and make sure that she was eating the healthiest food she could find and grow.

"Increasing food costs have also caused people to look at our food supply chain," she says. "Families are putting an emphasis on raising their children to understand how and where their food comes from. Gardening has become a family affair, both outside in the vegetable patch, and then also bringing that bounty into the kitchen and making a meal out of it, and sharing food around the dinner table."

WHAT ARE THE HEALTH BENEFITS OF EATING ORGANIC PRODUCE?

Jeanne Nolan is an organic gardening consultant and author of the book "From the Ground Up." She and her husband Verdant co-own The Organic Gardener, a gardening consulting firm in Northbrook, Illinois, and have consulted on projects in the Lake Geneva area. Both agree that two of the

primary benefits to organic gardening are health and taste.

The Nolans explain their organic gardening philosophy: "More nutrient-dense than conventional produce, homegrown fruits and vegetables can improve the eating habits of adults and children, and can offer an unparalleled taste experience: juicy, crisp, with a great depth of flavor and intensity."

Organic produce can be healthier than conventional produce because, as Oglesby points out, on average, our food travels over 1,200 miles to reach us, which can obscure the processes used in the growing cycle. She says that when you grow your own produce, you know exactly where it came from, how it was cared for, and that it was harvested and enjoyed at its peak nutrition value.

There are also benefits to be found in the act of gardening itself. "Growing food offers an accessible way to connect with the natural world," the Nolans explain. "Working in a garden is an antidote to the sedentary, indoor lifestyles that are becoming increasingly prevalent in a technology-driven world."

In addition to these personal benefits, organic farming can be much gentler on the environment, because it decreases the amount of chemicals leaching into the soil or air as a result of toxic pesticides, Oglesby explains.



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ERIC KELLY COURTESY OF KATIE OGLESBY

you want to grow,” the Nolans suggest. “An ideal garden space will receive 6 to 8 hours of full sun per day and have healthy soil full of microbial life.”

If you decide to go with a container garden, Friemoth says that you can purchase a 10" container. Just make sure that it's clean and disease- and insect-free before filling it with potting soil.

Or you might decide to just go with a very small plot in your backyard. “You can start as small as a 4-foot-by-4-foot salad garden or culinary herb garden and enjoy greens for months,” Oglesby says. “Many of my clients start at around 64 square feet for a great entry-size garden.” However, she points out that the bigger the plant size and the more varieties you want to plant, the more space you'll need.

After you've chosen a space and mapped out your garden, you'll need to gather supplies.



COURTESY OF KATIE OGLESBY

GETTING STARTED

Starting an organic garden may seem daunting if it's something you've never done before, so our experts recommend you break it down into steps.

“Start by setting your goals,” the Nolans advise. “Why do you want to grow a garden? How much food do you want to grow? Once you have a sense of what size garden you want, choose a spot with adequate sunlight and good soil quality, and create a simple plan in which you map out where you want to put paths and rows and the rough location of each crop.”

Oglesby says that raised beds or containers are the quickest and easiest ways to get started, since these are lower maintenance options than in-ground gardening. “You have control of your soil from the start,” she says.

SUNNY SPACE AND THE RIGHT SUPPLIES

“How much space you need for an organic garden depends on how much produce

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TIPS AND TRICKS

Each gardening pro has plenty of words of wisdom to share for first-time organic gardeners.

The Nolans encourage beginners to be adventurous and add a vegetable you've never eaten before to your crop list. Add flowers for color and texture alongside your herbs and veggies. And most importantly, stay on top of your weeding.

Friemoth emphasizes the benefits of seeking advice from your neighbors who garden successfully. "They have spent years learning what works in your area," she says. She also points out that local garden centers have decades of experience in growing all manner of plants. "Take advantage of their expertise," she recommends.

Oglesby says that it can be helpful to focus on maintenance of the garden. "Learn the best preservation practices for the varieties of plants you choose to grow," she advises. This involves monitoring your garden to identify any pests or disease issues — the earlier, the better. "Being proactive in the garden is key to success," she says. "Being a gardener is being a forever learner. Embrace the wins and the losses."

Friemoth point out that the rewards you can reap from organic gardening are abundant. "Gardening takes a bit of physical work," she says. "The rewards — fresh air, sunshine, beauty and homegrown food — make it a worthwhile endeavor. Adding organic to the mix encourages you to incorporate contemplation of the surrounding environment, to use best practices when working with Momma Nature and ultimately, gives you a sense of where you fit into the world. Not a bad return for the price of an organic seed packet." 🚶



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CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL

Fellow Mortals wildlife rehabilitation takes in sick or injured animals, saving members of vulnerable species

BY RACHEL WISINSKI | PHOTOS BY HOLLY LEITNER

Yvonne Wallace Blaine can pinpoint the exact moment her life changed course. While pursuing her dream to attend law school, Yvonne and her husband Steven Blaine co-managed a mobile home park near Delavan. One day, they accidentally mowed over a nest of rabbits. Frantically, they searched for help, but they soon realized that wildlife rehabilitation centers didn't really exist in the area. Ultimately, the couple was told to "let nature take its course."

"I hate that saying," Yvonne says. "It's not natural to mow over a nest. So we took care of them." From there, the pair began caring for more injured wild animals, until they received a visit from the county humane society and were told they needed a license to continue.



"We saw there was a need, and we saw a lot of people like us," Yvonne says. "So I quit my job in 1991, and we decided we were going to do this full time."

She and Steven built an animal hospital and founded Fellow Mortals, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit wildlife rescue and rehabilitation center in Elkhorn that serves southeastern Wisconsin and northern Illinois. Fellow Mortals began in the young couple's home until the space became practically unlivable. After the mobile home park was sold, they decided to look for a larger property in the area, ultimately



settling on land on Palmer Road between Williams Bay and Elkhorn. The old house on the property was burned out after a fire, and Steven spent about six months making it habitable.

Then, Yvonne and Steven bought a trailer, so the animals had their own space. In the winter of 1991, they encountered their first challenge as a young organization when they began caring for geese with lead poisoning. They worked with the Fish and Wildlife Service, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and local conservation groups to collect evidence for an investigation that led to the removal of 28,000 tons of harmful soil and sediment on property outside of Lake Geneva that had once belonged to the Playboy Club-Hotel.

Around the same time, Fellow Mortals began seeking donations to support its operations. People in the community united to support them and business surged, going from a capacity of caring for 100 animals per year to more than 600. Next, Fellow Mortals took on its first intern, which made Yvonne realize the benefits of having more hands. The nonprofit started an internship program, which eventually grew into a full-time staff of wildlife rehabilitators.

With 15,000 square feet under one roof, comprising a hospital, quarantine space and X-ray rooms, Fellow Mortals now helps about 2,000 animals annually and has rehabilitated over 60,000 since its inception. The property also features pool habitats, a water fowl flight area and two eagle flights, each over 100 feet long. "We feel very, very blessed that we've been able to do the best we can for the animals, and it's because of community support," Yvonne says.

HANDLING THE DEMANDS

Animal rehabilitation is unique because it goes beyond volunteerism,

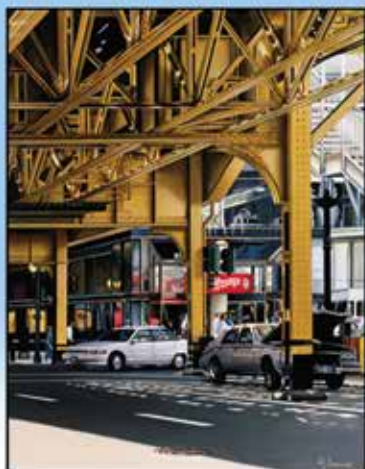
according to Yvonne. With rehabilitation, centers that use volunteers may have up to 20 people assigned to the care and feeding of a single animal. This makes it difficult to follow the animal's progress and creates a more stressful environment for everyone, Yvonne says. For this reason, Fellow Mortals provides one-on-one, round-the-clock care to sick and injured animals in its care. Rehabilitators work 14-hour days, five days a week, beginning around 7:30 a.m. and finishing after 10 p.m. "You really have to have an appreciation for wildlife and make it your career," Yvonne says.

The rehabilitation process begins with a phone call, during which Yvonne or other staffers ask numerous questions to ensure an animal requires help and makes a good candidate for Fellow Mortals' services. Yvonne says people often think a young animal is distressed because the



mother won't return, but that's not true. If an animal isn't injured, a process called re-nesting or reuniting takes place. Above all, the nonprofit aims to keep healthy animals with their parents.

Generally, Fellow Mortals is able to help any species of wild bird and most non-predatory wild mammals. Fellow Mortals has cared for egrets, herons, cormorants, ducks, geese, squirrels, woodchucks, opossums, deer and more. It's the only place in the state of Wisconsin that works with beavers, according to Yvonne. Notably, the DNR restricts Fellow Mortals from working with skunks, bats, mink or badgers, and the nonprofit has never worked with raccoons, fox, coyotes, reptiles or amphibians. Of all the calls for help that Fellow Mortals responds to, about half are situations where an animal is brought to their care by a concerned citizen. The center had a 73% survival rate in 2021. Fellow Mortals helps the most animals in the spring and summer, with October



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through March being classified as “quieter” months, Yvonne says. Not all animals that Fellow Mortals cares for are released back into the wild, but most are.

Yvonne and her staff work hard to educate the public about rehabilitation, which she says is not well understood and is comparable to calling the doctor. “You’re not going to set an arm yourself or tube feed a person,” she says. “We’re trying to get that information out to people because it means the animal they find has a better chance at survival.”

Taking that effort one step further, the children’s program “Into the Outdoors” on PBS featured an episode on Fellow Mortals as a means of educating people about what to do if they find an injured animal.

ANIMALS AND GLOBAL HEALTH

As Fellow Mortals continues to evolve, Yvonne says the job has become more complicated due to emerging diseases. The nonprofit first encountered West Nile virus in birds in 2000, which she says changed a lot of things because it was unknown how the virus was transferred. “We really had to think about biosecurity for the first time,” she says. In 2003, chronic wasting disease was discovered in Walworth County, putting the rehabilitation of deer on pause. Within the past couple of years, SARS-CoV-2 was discovered in white tail deer. A significant



Intern Danielle Keerbs hand-feeds an injured squirrel.



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WHAT TO DO IF YOU FIND AN INJURED ANIMAL

It's important to know whether it's a species that Fellow Mortals can help. If it is, or if you're unsure, follow these steps:

1. Call Fellow Mortals at 262-248-5055 and leave a message. Director Yvonne Wallace Blaine says you'll always get a recording, but staff checks the messages every 30 minutes or so.
2. Cover the animal with a laundry basket or similar object so it can't get away. Weigh down the basket so nothing else can get in.
3. Be patient and don't panic. Fellow Mortals will call. Wallace Blaine says it's extremely important people don't drop in without an appointment.
4. Don't try to feed the animal! Wild animals fed prior to arriving at the center tend to have worse outcomes, Wallace Blaine says.
5. Fellow Mortals will ask several questions to determine where the animal was found and what condition it's in. Answer these questions to the best of your ability, giving all possible details.
6. If the animal is a good candidate for rehabilitation, you'll be asked to transport the animal to the center.

If you find a species Fellow Mortals cannot assist with, call the DNR tip line for information about another rehabilitator or find a list of rehabilitators at dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/wildlifehabitat/orphan.

avian flu outbreak in the spring further complicated the landscape.

Now, Fellow Mortals must think about how it can help animals despite the unknowns, according to Yvonne. If the nonprofit takes in an infected bird, a virus could spread and kill all birds under its care. Therefore, Fellow Mortals is working with epidemiologists to find a solution. "We've got a really complicated landscape in rehabilitation in 2022, and we're still trying to figure out if we'll be able to work with deer or birds," she says.

CELEBRATING REHABILITATION SUCCESSES

Despite all the trials, Yvonne is also able to revel in their success stories. Last year, Fellow Mortals cared for an eagle that had contracted lead poisoning, releasing it back into the wild after rehabilitation. The raptor had been sitting quiet and depressed on a woman's porch. Yvonne says Fellow Mortals treated the bird for several weeks before he was transferred to one of the eagle flights to test whether a release was feasible. About two months



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after being brought in, the eagle was released at Big Foot Country Club in Fontana.

During an average year, Fellow Mortals sees plenty of rabbits, squirrels and water fowl. Raptors are less common, while gray herons and egrets are rare. In 1996, the center helped rehabilitate the first pelican in the state of Wisconsin. “You never know exactly what the year is going to look like,” Yvonne says.

Recently, a Fellow Mortals staffer responded to a snowy owl in distress. The bird had two broken wings and a broken leg and was trying to remove itself from the road on its good leg, according to Yvonne. She says the owl, believed to be female, probably won’t be released back into the wild, but if it can adapt to captivity, the center will keep it for educational purposes. “She’s a stinker. She has an attitude,” Yvonne says. “She is hopping up and can get around a little. But the fact that she has an attitude, that’s great. That’s what a bird needs to handle captivity.”

FIGHTING FOR THE FUTURE

From their earliest days founding Fellow Mortals, Yvonne and her husband Steven have worked to improve the world of wildlife rehabilitation. Yvonne served as president of the Wisconsin Wildlife Rehabilitators Association and sat on the advisory board of the now-defunct Illinois Wildlife Rehabilitators Association. While she was at the helm, the state of Wisconsin adopted the Captive Wildlife Safety Act in 2004, making rehabilitation a legal activity. Yvonne also served as chair of the Wildlife Rehabilitation Advisory Council to the Wisconsin DNR from 2013 to 2019. She and Steven have learned that rehabilitation requires training, and training requires qualified people to learn from.

Despite working about 70 hours a week, Yvonne is happy with her decision to skip law school. She says having another attorney in the world wouldn’t have made a difference, but Fellow Mortals



allows her to advocate for animals and give them a second chance at life. “I wake up excited every day about what’s going to happen, and I think the fact that I’m not bored ever — how many people can say they still have that feeling after doing it as long as I have?” Yvonne says.

Looking forward, she and Steven plan to expand the Fellow Mortals facility,

and they are seeking contributions for this effort through Team Hope, an initiative through which donors make a monthly financial commitment. Above all, Yvonne wants people to be more compassionate toward nonhuman beings. She encourages everyone to be more mindful, thinking about the fact that animals have families and “deserve to live among us.”

“We all share this space, and it’s getting harder and harder as we make things more convenient for humans,” she says. ▲

A photograph of a modern kitchen with white cabinetry, a dark countertop, and large windows. Overlaid on the image are three yellow hexagonal callouts. The top left callout says "REPLACEMENT WINDOWS & DOORS". The top right callout says "FREE ESTIMATES" with a star icon. The bottom right callout says "SISTER COMPANY OF ACKMAN GLASS & MIRROR". At the bottom of the image, the address and phone number are listed: "202 N. ELKHORN RD. WILLIAMS BAY, WI 53191" and "262-245-6023 LAKEGENEVAWINDOWANDDOOR.COM".

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HOLLY LEITNER

Information is subject to change. Please contact individual restaurants for hours of operation. Inclusion in this directory should not be considered an endorsement by *At The Lake*. Visit atthelakemagazine.com to browse this directory online and to view locator maps for each restaurant.

LAKE GENEVA

ANTHONY'S STEAK AND SEAFOOD HOUSE STEAKHOUSE/SUPPER CLUB

\$\$\$
W3354 State Hwy. 50,
Lake Geneva; 262-248-1818
anthonysssteakhouse.com

AVANT CYCLE CAFÉ COFFEE HOUSE

\$
234 Broad St., Lake Geneva;
262-203-5141
avantcyclecafe.com

THE BAKER HOUSE AMERICAN

\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$
327 Wrigley Dr.,
Lake Geneva; 262-248-4700
bakerhouse1885.com/restaurant

BARRIQUE BISTRO & WINE BAR SPECIALTY

\$\$\$
835 Wrigley Dr., Lake Geneva;
262-248-1948
barriquewinebar.com

THE BOAT HOUSE BAR & GRILL CASUAL

\$\$
2062 S. Lake Shore Dr.,
Lake Geneva; 262-812-4126
theboathouselakegeneva.com

THE BOTTLE SHOP WINE BAR

\$
617 W. Main St., Lake Geneva;
262-348-9463
thebottleshoplakegeneva.com

CHAMPS SPORTS BAR AND GRILL CASUAL

\$
747 W. Main St., Lake Geneva;
262-248-6008
champslakegeneva.com

CLOCK TOWER PIZZA/FRANK'S CASUAL/ITALIAN

\$
272 Broad St., Lake Geneva;
262-203-5092
clocktowerpizza.com

COLD STONE CREAMERY ICE CREAM

\$
859 W. Main St., Lake Geneva;
262-248-4900
coldstonecreamery.com

CONSTANT CRAVINGS CONFECTIONS

\$
152 Broad St., Lake Geneva;
262-248-8450
constantcravings.net

THE DECK BAR AMERICAN

\$\$\$
The Ridge Hotel, W4240 State
Hwy. 50, Lake Geneva;
262-249-3800
ridgelakegeneva.com/deck-bar

DRAGON CITY ASIAN

\$
98 E. Geneva Square,
Lake Geneva; 262-249-8867

EGG HARBOR CAFÉ AMERICAN

\$
827 Main St., Lake Geneva;
262-248-1207
eggharborcafe.com

FLAT IRON TAP CASUAL

\$\$\$
150 Center St., Lake Geneva;
262-812-4064
flatirontap.com

FOLEY'S BAR & GRILL IRISH

\$\$\$
W3905 State Hwy. 50 (at
Hwy. 50 and Chapin Rd.),
Lake Geneva; 262-245-6966

GENEVA CHOPHOUSE STEAKHOUSE

\$\$\$
Grand Geneva Resort,
Lake Geneva; 262-249-4788
grandgeneva.com/restaurants/geneva-chophouse

GINO'S EAST CASUAL/ITALIAN

\$\$\$
300 Wrigley Dr., Lake Geneva;
262-248-2525
ginoseast.com/lake-geneva

THE GRAND CAFÉ AMERICAN/CASUAL

\$\$\$
Grand Geneva Resort,
Lake Geneva; 262-249-4788
grandgeneva.com/restaurants/grand-cafe

GRANDMA VICKIE'S CAFÉ DINER

\$
522 Broad St., Lake Geneva;
262-249-0301

THE GRANDVIEW RESTAURANT AMERICAN

\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$
N2009 S. Lake Shore Dr.,
Lake Geneva; 262-248-5690
thegrandviewrestaurant.com

HEART & SÓL CAFÉ CASUAL

\$\$\$
264 Center St., Lake Geneva;
262-812-4035
heartsolcafe.business.site

HOGS & KISSES CASUAL

\$
149 Broad St., Lake Geneva;
262-248-7447
hogsandkisses.com

THE HUNT CLUB STEAKHOUSE AT GENEVA NATIONAL STEAKHOUSE

\$\$\$
555 Hunt Club Ct., Lake Geneva;
262-245-7200
huntclubsteakhouse.com

INSPIRED COFFEE COFFEE HOUSE

\$
883 W. Main St., Lake Geneva;
262-683-8604
inspiredcoffee.org

JACKSON'S HOLE CASUAL

\$
1798 Genesee St., Lake Geneva;
262-248-1995

JONI'S DINER DINER

\$
111 Wells St., Lake Geneva;
262-348-9565
jonisdiner.com

KILWINS CHOCOLATE AND ICE CREAM SHOP ICE CREAM/CONFECTIONS

\$
772 W. Main St., Lake Geneva;
262-248-4400
kilwins.com/lakegeneva



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Delavan, WI 53115
262.725.7388

Fire2Fork.com

**LAKE-AIRE RESTAURANT
DINER \$**

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

**LAKE CITY SOCIAL
CASUAL \$\$**

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

**LAKE GENEVA
PIE COMPANY****BAKERY/CAFE \$\$\$**

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

LUIS'S PIZZA**CASUAL/ITALIAN \$-\$\$**

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
magpieslg.com

MAMA CIMINO'S**CASUAL/ITALIAN \$-\$\$**

131 N. Wells St., Lake Geneva;
262-348-9077
mamaciminoslkg.com

**NEXT DOOR PUB
& PIZZERIA****AMERICAN/CASUAL/ITALIAN \$**

411 Interchange North (Hwy. 120),
Lake Geneva; 262-248-9551
nextdoorpub.com

NICHE**COFFEESHOP/WINE BAR
\$-\$\$**

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

**OAKFIRE RESTAURANT
& PIZZERIA****CASUAL/ITALIAN \$-\$\$**

831 Wrigley Dr., Lake Geneva;
262-812-8007
oakfire.pizza

**OLYMPIC RESTAURANT
DINER \$**

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

**PEDAL AND CUP
COFFEE HOUSE \$**

1722 N. State Hwy. 120,
Lake Geneva; 262-249-1111
pedalandcup.com

POPEYE'S**CASUAL \$-\$\$\$**

811 Wrigley Dr., Lake Geneva;
262-248-4381
popeyeslkg.com

**POPPY CAKES
BAKERY \$-\$\$**

526 S. Wells St., Lake Geneva;
262-729-4023
poppycakeslg.com

**RISTORANTÉ BRISSAGO
ITALIAN \$\$\$-\$\$\$**

Grand Geneva Resort and Spa,
Lake Geneva; 262-249-4788
grandgeneva.com/restaurants/ristorante-brissago

**SABAI, SABAI
ASIAN \$\$\$**

306 Center St., Lake Geneva;
262-812-4114
sabaisabailakegeneva.com

**SCOOPS ICE CREAM
ICE CREAM \$**

101 Broad St., Lake Geneva;
262-203-5193

SIMPLE CAFÉ**AMERICAN/BAKERY \$-\$\$**

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262-248-3556
simplelakegeneva.com

**SMOKEY'S BAR-B-QUE HOUSE
BARBECUE \$-\$\$**

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

SOPRA: AN**AMERICAN BISTRO****AMERICAN/FRENCH
\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

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

**SPEEDO'S HARBORSIDE
CAFÉ****CASUAL \$**

100 Broad St., Lake Geneva;
262-248-3835
speedosharborside.com

**SU-WING'S CHINESE
RESTAURANT****ASIAN \$-\$\$\$**

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

TAIL FEATHERS**CASUAL \$-\$\$**

Hawk's View Golf Club,
W7377 Krueger Rd.,
Lake Geneva; 262-348-9900
hawksviewgolfclub.com/clubhouse/tail-feathers-bar-and-grill

**TAQUERIA EL GALLO
DEL ORO****MEXICAN \$**

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

**TOPSY TURVY BREWERY
BREWERY \$**

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

**TURF. SMOKEHOUSE
BARBECUE \$\$**

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

**TUSCAN TAVERN
AND GRILL****AMERICAN/ITALIAN \$-\$\$**

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

YOGEEZE FROZEN YOGURT**FROZEN YOGURT \$**

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

**ZAAB CORNER BISTRO
STEAK/SEAFOOD/BBQ
\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

501 Broad St., Lake Geneva;
262-203-5434
zaabcorner.com

BURLINGTON**ADRIAN'S****FROZEN CUSTARD \$**

572 Bridge St., Burlington;
262-763-8562

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\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

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262-758-6112
bjwentkers.com

BEIJING GARDEN**ASIAN \$**

464 S. Pine St., Burlington;
262-767-1188

BRUISER'S**CASUAL \$**

689 Milwaukee Ave., Burlington;
262-763-6008

**THE CHARCOAL GRILL
AND ROTISSERIE****CASUAL \$**

580 Milwaukee Ave., Burlington;
262-767-0000
charcoalgrill.com

FLIPPY'S**CASUAL \$**

401 N. Pine St., Burlington;
262-763-6754
flippysfastfood.com

FRED'S**CASUAL \$**

596 N. Pine St., Burlington;
262-763-8370
freds-burgers.com

GABBY'S PALACE**CASUAL \$**

356 N. Pine St., Burlington;
262-763-4363

LOS COMPADRES**MEXICAN \$**

725 N. Milwaukee Ave.,
Burlington; 262-763-6018
loscompadreswi.com

**LUCKY STAR PUB
AND EATERY****DINER \$-\$\$**

864 Milwaukee Ave., Burlington;
262-763-2155
eatatluckystar.com

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132 N. Pine St., Burlington;
262-763-8390
napoliburlington.com

**RUSTIC ROOTS
AMERICAN \$\$**

597 N. Pine St., Burlington;
262-661-4653
rusticrootsburlington.com

**ZUMPANO'S RISTORANTE
& PIZZERIA****ITALIAN \$\$\$**

180 E. Chestnut St., Burlington;
262-767-0581
zumpanospizza.com

DARIEN**COUNTRYSIDE****CASUAL \$**

W9695 U.S. Hwy. 14, Darien;
262-882-3224

**DARIEN ICE CREAM
SHOPPE****ICE CREAM \$**

30 W. Beloit St., Darien;
262-882-5060

**LEON'S SPORTS BAR
& GRILL****CASUAL \$-\$\$**

10 N. Walworth St., Darien;
262-724-7215

**WEST WIND DINER
DINER \$**

620 N. Walworth St., Darien;
262-882-5515

DELANAV**ARANDAS MEXICAN GRILL
MEXICAN \$**

322 S. 7th St., Delavan;
262-725-6518
arandas-mexican-grill.business.site

**ARCADIA BAR AND GRILL
CASUAL \$**

215 E. Walworth Ave., Delavan;
262-267-8973
arcadiabarandgrill.com

**BOXED & BURLAP
COFFEE HOUSE \$**

2935 State Hwy. 67 (intersection
of highways 50 and 67), Delavan;
262-374-5497
boxedandburlap.com

CHINA GARDEN**ASIAN \$**

136 E. Walworth Ave., Delavan;
262-749-3111
chinagardendelavan.com

**DELANAV FAMILY
RESTAURANT****CASUAL \$**

505 S. 7th St., Delavan;
262-728-1715

**THE DUCK INN
SUPPER CLUB \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

N6214 State Hwy. 89
(intersection of County Rd. A
and State Hwy. 89), Delavan;
608-883-6988
duckinnelavan.com

**ELIZABETH'S CAFE
DINER** \$

322 E. Walworth Ave., Delavan;
262-728-3383

**THE ENDZONE BAR
& GRILL**
CASUAL \$

4112 Blue Gill Rd., Delavan;
262-728-2420

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2484 S. County Rd. O, Delavan;
262-725-7388
fire2fork.com

GREENIE'S CLUBHOUSE
CASUAL \$

At Delbrook Golf Course, 700 S.
2nd St., Delavan; 262-728-1339
greeniesclubhouse.com

HERNANDEZ EL SARAPE
MEXICAN \$

212 S. 7th St., Delavan;
262-728-6443
hernandez-restaurant.com

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CASUAL \$

1522 Beckman Dr., Delavan;
262-728-9824

ISLE OF CAPRI CAFÉ
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262-728-7950
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308 State Hwy. 50, Delavan;
262-728-5656
jojospizzadelavan.com

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

LA GUANAJUATO
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MEXICAN \$

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262-728-8615

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MEXICAN \$

239 E. Walworth Ave., Delavan;
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Lake Lawn Resort, 2400
E. Geneva St. (State Hwy. 50),
Delavan; 262-728-7950
lakelawnresort.com/dining/lookout-bar-eater

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CASUAL \$

1325 Racine St., Delavan;
262-728-2391

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MEXICAN \$

401 E. Walworth Ave., Delavan;
262-728-4039
losagavesmexicanfood.com

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CASUAL \$

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262-725-6000

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BELFRY HOUSE**
FRENCH \$\$\$\$

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262-394-3939
dineopus.com

PAPA'S BBQ PIT STOP
BARBECUE \$-\$\$

502 Borg Rd., Delavan;
262-725-2389
papasbbqpitstop.com

RIGA-TONY'S
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5576 State Hwy. 50, Delavan;
262-740-2540
rigatonysdelavan.com

SWEET AROMA
RISTORANTÉ
ITALIAN \$\$-\$\$\$

W7404 County Rd. X, Delavan;
262-728-6878
sweetaromaristorante.com

SUNMIST CAFÉ
CASUAL \$

319 E. Walworth Ave., Delavan;
262-740-9050
sunmistcafe.com

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CASUAL/ITALIAN \$

617 E. Washington St., Delavan;
262-740-1762
delavanpizza.com

WATERFRONT
CASUAL \$

408 State Hwy. 50, Delavan;
262-728-4700
waterfrontdelavan.com

**YO-SHI JAPANESE
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1823 E. Geneva St. (State Hwy.
50), Delavan; 262-740-2223

EAST TROY

2894 ON MAIN
COFFEE/CASUAL \$-\$\$

2894 Main St., East Troy;
262-642-9600
2894onmain.com

BARLEY'S HOPS AND MALT
CASUAL \$

N8720 County Rd. N., East Troy;
262-642-7811

DOS AMIGOS 2
MEXICAN \$

2678 E. Main St., East Troy;
262-642-6446
dosamigos2llc.com

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262-642-5518
goldendragoneasttroywi.com**GUS'S DRIVE-IN****DINER** \$3131 Main St., East Troy;
262-642-2929
gussdrivein.com**J. LAUBER'S ICE CREAM PARLOR****ICE CREAM** \$2010 Church St., East Troy;
262-642-3679
jlaubers.com**LD'S BBQ****BARBECUE** \$-\$\$\$2511 Main St., East Troy;
414-610-7675
ldsbbq.com**LINDEY'S ON BEULAH****CASUAL** \$W1340 Beach Rd., East Troy;
262-642-2600**PRINCESS CAFÉ****DINER** \$2695 Main St., East Troy;
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W2501 County Rd. D, Elkhorn;
262-642-7374
alpinevalleyresort.com**ANNIE'S BURGER TOWN****CASUAL** \$645 N. Lincoln St., Elkhorn;
262-723-3250
anniesburgertown.com**CALABRIA FAMILY RESTAURANT****CASUAL** \$1 N. Lincoln St., Elkhorn;
262-723-1599**ELK RESTAURANT****CASUAL** \$13 W. Walworth St., Elkhorn;
262-723-4220
elkrestaurant.com**ENZO'S PIZZA****CASUAL/ITALIAN** \$464 E. Geneva St., Elkhorn;
262-379-2022**FIDDLESTICKS BISTRO****AMERICAN** \$-\$\$\$101 W. Evergreen Pkwy., Ste. 7,
Elkhorn; 262-743-2233
fiddlesticksbistro.com**HOLI CANNOLI****ITALIAN** \$-\$\$\$N7065 U.S. Hwy. 12, Elkhorn;
262-742-2500
holicannoli.com**LAKEHOUSE BREAKFAST BAR & GRILL****CASUAL** \$-\$\$\$N7073 State Hwy. 12/67,
Elkhorn; 262-742-3300
lakehousebreakfastbarandgrill.godaddysites.com**LARDUCCI PIZZERIA****ITALIAN** \$-\$\$\$20 S. Washington St., Elkhorn;
262-723-6668
larducci.com**LAUDERDALE LANDING****CASUAL** \$-\$\$\$W5625 West Shore Dr., Elkhorn;
262-495-8727**LEFTY'S CHICAGO-STYLE****HOT DOGS****CASUAL** \$N7033 U.S. Hwy. 12, Elkhorn;
262-215-8266**LOS TRES HERMANOS****MEXICAN** \$\$\$31 N. Wisconsin St., Elkhorn;
262-379-1658
lostreshermanoswi.com**LUKE'S MARKET STREET****ITALIAN SANDWICHES****CASUAL** \$117 W. Market St., Elkhorn;
262-723-4676**MOY'S RESTAURANT****ASIAN** \$3 N. Wisconsin St., Elkhorn;
262-723-3993
moysrestaurant.carry-out.com**PERKUP****COFFEE HOUSE** \$27 N. Wisconsin St., Elkhorn;
262-723-1287
perkupekhorn.com**PIZZA ALLEY****CASUAL/ITALIAN** \$30 S. Wisconsin St., Elkhorn;
262-723-1900**THE PUB AT EVERGREEN GOLF CLUB****CASUAL** \$N6246 U.S. Hwy. 12, Elkhorn;
262-723-5722
evergreengolf.com/the-pub**SOMEPLACE ELSE****AMERICAN** \$1 W. Walworth St., Elkhorn;
262-723-3111
someplaceelserestaurant.com**SPERINO'S****CASUAL/ITALIAN** \$-\$\$\$720 N. Wisconsin St., Elkhorn;
262-723-2222
sperinos.com**STILLWATER COFFEE COMPANY****COFFEE HOUSE** \$1560 N. Country Club Pkwy.,
Elkhorn; 262-723-2301
stillwatercoffeecompany.com**VASILIS CORNER CAFÉ****DINER** \$26 E. Walworth St., Elkhorn;
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CASUAL \$-\$\$

The Abbey Resort, 269
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262-275-9034
theabbeyresort.com/dining

BLUE HEAVEN

ICE CREAM \$

105 W. Main St., Fontana;
970-219-8911

CAFÉ LATTE

COFFEE HOUSE \$

The Abbey Resort & Spa;
269 Fontana Blvd., Fontana;
262-275-6811
theabbeyresort.com

CHUCK'S

**LAKESHORE INN
CASUAL \$**

352 Lake St., Fontana;
262-275-3222
chucksakeshoreinn.com

COFFEE MILL

COFFEE HOUSE \$

441 Mill St., Fontana;
262-275-0040
coffeemillfontana.com

COFFEE MILL BY THE WATER

COFFEE HOUSE \$

329 Third Ave., Fontana;
262-275-0040
coffeemillfontana.com

FONTANA KRINGLE COMPANY

BAKERY/CAFE \$\$\$

W4724 S. Lake Shore Dr.,
Fontana; 262-394-5888
welovekringle.com

GORDY'S BOAT HOUSE

CASUAL \$\$\$

336 Lake Ave., Fontana;
262-275-6800
gordysboats.com

THYME ON GENEVA LAKE

SPECIALTY \$\$\$

106 W. Main St., Fontana;
262-394-5292
thymeonthelake.com

THE WATERFRONT AMERICAN/CASUAL

\$\$\$

The Abbey Resort,
269 Fontana Blvd.,
Fontana; 262-275-9034
theabbeyresort.com/dining

GENOA CITY

FITZGERALD'S GENOA JUNCTION

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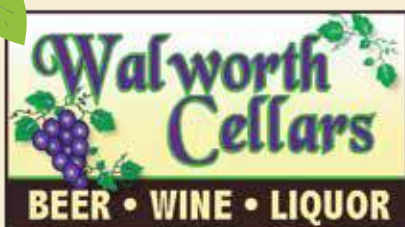


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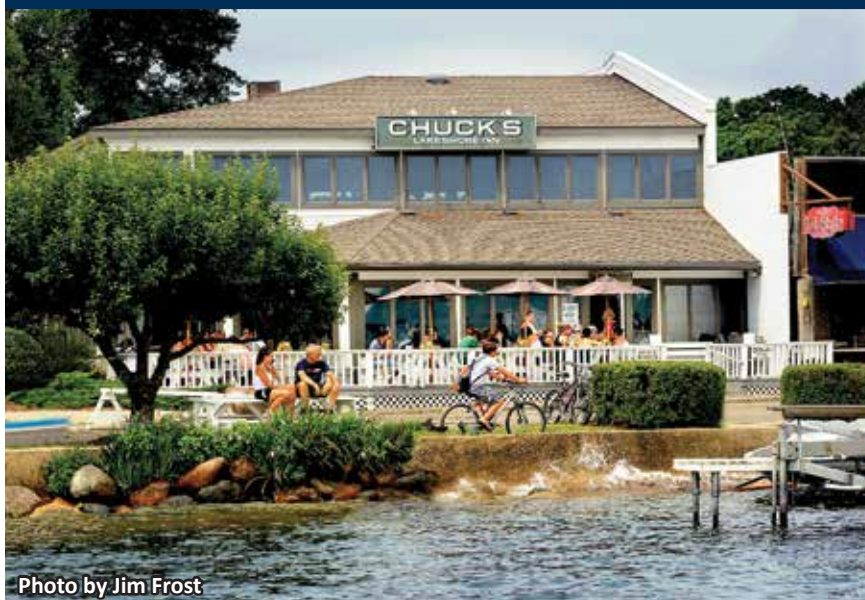


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The Lake Geneva Jaycees' Venetian Fest fireworks will take place Sunday, Aug. 21.

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 autumn issue is July 1.

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.

BELFRY MUSIC THEATRE

Enjoy a full line-up of live music and performers throughout the summer at the Belfry Music Theatre, located between Williams Bay and Lake Geneva. To purchase tickets, visit belfrymusictheatre.com.

BLACK POINT ESTATE TOUR

Explore the elegant Victorian Queen Anne estate built by Chicago beer baron Conrad Seipp, now a historic site owned and operated by the Wisconsin Historical Society. Tours depart daily from the Riviera Dock in Lake Geneva. For tickets, visit cruiselakegeneva.com or call (262) 248-6206.

CUSTOM SCENT EXPERIENCE

Create a signature scent for candles, room sprays, body sprays, diffusers or wax tarts while socializing with friends and patrons. Reservations strongly recommended. The Candle Mercantile, 870 W. Main St., Lake Geneva; (262) 203-5557 or thecandlemercantile.com.

DANCING HORSES SHOW

Las Vegas-style show featuring riders and

acrobats on elaborately trained horses. Dancing Horses Theatre, 5065 State Hwy. 50, Delavan. Call (262) 728-8200 or visit thedancinghorses.com for tickets.

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.

KAYAK AND STAND-UP PADDLEBOARD RENTALS

Available daily through the Williams Bay Rec Department, Williams Bay lakefront office near Edgewater Park. Call (262) 686-8001 or visit wbrecdept.com.

KISHWAUKETOE NATURE CONSERVANCY EVENTS

Hiking trails through a three-acre nature conservancy consisting of a mix of prairie, wetland, forest and oak savanna. Events scheduled throughout the summer. Kishwaukee Nature Conservancy, Williams Bay; kishwaukee.org.

LAKE GENEVA AREA GOLF TRAIL

Enjoy more than 240 holes at 19 courses located at nine golf clubs throughout Walworth County. Golf Trail Passports include golf details as well as special offers for lodging, dining, shopping and attractions. Visit lakegenevagolftrail.com.

LAKE LAWN QUEEN BOAT TOURS

Enjoy a 1.5-hour tour of Delavan Lake. Concessions are available. Tours include morning, afternoon, sunset and evening options. Lake Lawn Resort, 2400 E. Geneva St., Delavan; 262-728-7950 or lakelawnresort.com/events.

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. Tuesdays, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Geneva Lake Museum, Lake Geneva. For topics and reservations, call (262) 248-6060 or email staff@genevalakemuseum.org.

THURSDAY NIGHT TRIVIA

Teams of up to six people compete for bragging rights and to win a \$20 gift card. 7 p.m. on Thursdays, The Hive Taproom, W2463 County Road E5, East Troy. (262) 684-5400 or thehivetaproom.com.

WORKSHOPS AND CLASSES

Design and create a personalized wood sign while socializing with family and friends. Board and Brush Lake Geneva, 262 Center St., Lake Geneva; (262) 409-1639 or boardandbrush.com.

FARMERS' MARKETS

BURLINGTON: Thursdays, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Wemhoff Square, Burlington; (262) 210-6360 or burlingtonwifarmersmarket.com.

DELAVAN'S FRESH MARKET: Thursdays, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Historic Downtown Delavan; (262) 728-5095 or visitdelavan.com

ELKHORN: Saturdays on the Square, featuring local handmade products, fresh locally grown produce and food vendors. Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Veteran's Park, Elkhorn; elkhornchamber.com.

GENEVA OUTDOOR MARKET: Farm-fresh produce and handcrafted gifts and crafts. Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 3252 County Road H, Lake Geneva. (262) 215-6139 or genevaoutdoormarket.com.

LAKE GENEVA FARMERS' MARKET: Local farmers and vendors offer local produce, flowers and goods. Thursdays, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Horticultural Hall; (262) 745-9341 or horticulturalhall.com.

WHITEWATER CITY MARKET: Tuesdays, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Historic Train Depot, Whitewater; downtownwhitewater.com.

WILLIAMS BAY FARMERS' MARKET: Fridays, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Edgewater Park; (262) 475-6333.

WOODSTOCK FARMERS' MARKET: A producers-only market, everything available for sale is grown or produced directly by the vendor. Tuesdays, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Historic Woodstock Square, Woodstock, Illinois; woodstockfarmersmarket.org.

WATER SKI SHOWS

BROWN'S LAKE AQUADUCKS: Brown's Lake. Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. Viewing from Fischer Park, Burlington; aquaducks.org.

SOUTHERN WAKES UNITED: SWU is a merger of the Lauderdale Aqua Skiers and the Whitewater Lake Sports Club (Minneiska). Performance sites: Elkhorn Lake, Whitewater Lake and Middle Lake (Lauderdale Lakes). Visit southernwakesunited.com for show times and locations.

TWIN LAKES AQUANUTS: Every Wednesday and Saturday, 6 p.m., Twin Lakes. Viewing from Lance Memorial Park, Twin Lakes; aquanutwatershows.com.

MAY

27-28: WILLIAMS BAY COMMUNITY WIDE GARAGE SALE
8 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days. Multiple private garage and estate sales. Pick up a map at the Rec Department's waterfront office near Edgewater Park. Call (262) 686-8001 or visit wbrecdept.com.

28: FARMHOUSE TO BREWHOUSE: SEASONAL BEER DINNER FEATURING WISCONSIN BREWERIES
Celebrate the opening of Old World Wisconsin's new Brewhouse by tasting some of the first beer made on site, and a four-course meal. 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., Old World Wisconsin, Eagle; call (608) 264-4848 or email boxoffice@wisconsinhistory.org for tickets.

28, JUNE 25, JULY 30, AUG. 27: VALLEY OF THE KINGS TOUR
VOTK in Sharon provides refuge for abused, abandoned or retired lions, tigers, wolves and other animals and is not normally open to the public. Tours are rain or shine, advanced registration required; call (262) 275-2117 or visit bigfootrecreation.org.

JUNE

4: DINNER TRAIN
Enjoy gourmet mac 'n cheese on a two-hour train ride. Paid reservations required. Check-in begins at 5 p.m. and train leaves at 5:30 p.m. East Troy Railroad Depot, 2002 Church St., East Troy; (262) 642-3263 or easttroyrr.org.

4: KNOTFEST ROADSHOW FEATURING SLIPKNOT, CYPRESS HILL AND HO9909 AT ALPINE VALLEY MUSIC THEATRE
The "biggest and only traveling freakshow of everything metal" makes a stop at the famous outdoor music venue. 6:30 p.m. Alpine Valley Music Theatre, East Troy; (262) 642-4400 or alpinevalleymusictheatre.org for tickets.

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4-5: BLUE RIBBON CHEESE SALE

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4-5: FOR LIBERTY AND UNION: THE 15TH WISCONSIN SCANDINAVIAN IMMIGRANT REGIMENT

Learn the stories of the 15th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Old World Wisconsin, Eagle; (262) 594-6301 or oldworldwisconsin.wisconsinhistory.org.

5: MODEL A DAY

Enjoy antique Model As, a variety of vendors, live music and a pig roast. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Downtown Sharon; (262) 736-6246 or historicdowntownsharon.com.

7: NINTH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING
SUPPORTING OPEN ARMS FREE CLINIC
Participants will golf 18 holes with a cart, plus receive lunch, a 19th hole reception and VIP access to on-course games. Lunch and registration opens at 10 a.m., noon shotgun start, 5:30 p.m. cash bar for cocktails and

6:30 p.m. dinner and awards. Hawk's View Golf Course, 7377 Krueger Rd., Lake Geneva; (262) 379-1401 or email events@openarmsfreeclinic.org to register.

9-JULY 24: "WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS"

Dinner theater performances. Steve Watts and the celebrated Fireside Band pay tribute to many legendary Vegas performers, from Frank Sinatra to Cher, Garth Brooks to Lady Gaga. Show dates and times vary. The Fireside Dinner Theatre, 1131 Janesville Ave., Fort Atkinson; (800) 477-9505 or firesidetheatre.com.

10, 24; JULY 8, 22; AUG. 5, 19: MOVIES UNDER THE STARS

Join the Big Foot Recreation Department for screenings of popular family-friendly movies. Admission is \$1 per person and concessions will be sold. 8:30 to 10:30 p.m., Fontana Beach, Fontana; call (262) 275-2117 or visit bigfootrecreation.org.

11: TREASURES AND TRIUMPHS: A WALKING TOUR OF LAKE GENEVA

Learn about Lake Geneva's famously designed buildings as well as the colorful past of the downtown and the historic Maple Park neighborhoods. 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Leave from the Riviera Building, 812 Wrigley Dr., Lake Geneva. For tickets, call (608) 264-4848 or email boxoffice@wisconsinhistory.org.

17: FATHER'S DAY BBQ COOKOUT
Chef Billings is manning the grill for the

ultimate Father's Day barbecue bash at Lake Lawn Resort. Enjoy carved smoked brisket, kielbasa sausage, St. Louis ribs, and Boston-cut New York strip topped off with Chef's award-winning BBQ sauce. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$60 for adults, \$22 for kids. Call 262-728-7950 or lakelawnresort.com/events.

18, JULY 16, AUGUST 13 : BEER BARONS OF LAKE GENEVA

Enjoy an afternoon cruising Geneva Lake while learning about the history of the beer barons that vacationed and lived along its shores. Beer tastings, snacks and a souvenir brewery memento included. 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Price is \$68 per person. Cruises leave from the Riviera docks, Lake Geneva. Call (262) 248-6206 for tickets.

18: FATHER'S DAY DINNER TRAIN

Indulge in a four-course meal on a 2.5-hour train ride. Adults only; paid reservations required. Check-in begins at 5 p.m. and train leaves at 5:30 p.m. East Troy Railroad Depot, 2002 Church St., East Troy; (262) 642-3263 or easttroyrr.org.

18: WALWORTH COUNTY FARM BUREAU DAIRY BREAKFAST

Celebrate the tradition of family-owned dairy farms in Walworth County at this breakfast event open to the public. Walworth County Fairground, 411 E. Court St., Elkhorn; for tickets, visit walworthcountyfair.com.



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21, JUL. 19, AUG. 23: BLACK POINT BIKE RIDE & TOUR

All ages bike ride from Big Foot High School to Black Point Estate and back, for a total of 14 miles. Participants will get a quick tour of Black Point and a stop for ice cream before riding back. Advanced registration required. Fee is \$8 for adults, \$2 for children (route is very hilly). Call (262) 275-2117 or visit bigfootrecreation.org.

22: PORK CHOP COOKOUT

4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Walworth County Fairgrounds, 411 E. Court St., Elkhorn; for tickets, visit walworthcountyfair.com.

25: AN EVENING WITH AGATHA CHRISTIE

Local historian Chris Brookes brings the best-selling author of all time, Agatha Christie, back to life for an intimate evening of mystery and conversation. 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Black Point Estate & Gardens, W4270 Southland Rd., Lake Geneva; call (262) 248-1888 for tickets.

25: HUNTER'S THIRD ANNUAL GOLF OUTING TO BENEFIT LAKELAND SCHOOL

Cost to participate is \$100 per golfer and includes 18 holes of golf and cart, a free golf towel, two drink tickets, plus breakfast and dinner. Delbrook Golf Course, 700 S. 2nd St., Delavan; visit df4cg.org/events to register.

25: INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION WITH FIREWORKS

Community Park, 1220 South Shore Dr., Delavan. (262) 728-3471 or townofdelavan.com.

25: RAILFAN DAY

Enjoy a fun and informative day at the East Troy Railroad Museum. All operating equipment will be out and on display, and a different train runs every hour. First ride departs at 10 a.m.; last train departs at 3 p.m. Also enjoy face painting, model railroad displays, free popcorn, ham radio demonstrations and more. East Troy Railroad Depot, 2002 Church St., East Troy; (262) 642-3263 or easttroyrr.org.

26, AUGUST 14: 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.

26, JULY 3, AUG. 14, 28: SOCIAL PADDLE CLUB

Join like-minded kayaking enthusiasts and enjoy the outdoors. Some paddles just require cursory skills, other paddles will challenge your skills. No paddles exceed class II rapids and are around 2 hours. Beginners are encouraged to take the Kayaking 101 class. Times and locations vary. Cost including rental is \$20/single or \$30/tandem. Advance registration required. Call (262) 275-2117 or visit bigfootrecreation.org.

30-JULY 3, JULY 7-10: A GENTLEMAN'S GUIDE TO LOVE AND MURDER

The Haylofters present this wacky murder mystery. Thursdays through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. Malt House

Theater, Burlington. (262) 763-9873 or thehaylofters.com.

JULY

1: FOURTH OF JULY FIREWORKS

9:30 p.m. Sunset Park, Elkhorn.

2: FOURTH OF JULY FIREWORKS

9:30 p.m. Don Jean Bay, Lauderdale Lakes.

2-3: DAVE MATTHEWS BAND AT ALPINE VALLEY MUSIC THEATRE

The multi-platinum jam band performs a two-night engagement at this famous outdoor music venue. 7 p.m. Alpine Valley Music Theatre, East Troy; 262-642-4400 or alpinevalleymusictheatre.org for tickets.

4: FOURTH OF JULY FIREWORKS

Dusk. Fontana Beach, Fontana.

9: RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE WITH RUN THE JEWELS AT ALPINE VALLEY MUSIC THEATRE

Metal and rap innovators perform at the famous outdoor music venue. 8 p.m. Alpine Valley Music Theatre, East Troy; (262) 642-4400 or alpinevalleymusictheatre.org for tickets.

9: STARS & STRIPES DINNER TRAIN

Indulge in a four-course meal on a 2.5-hour train ride. Adults only; paid reservations required. Check-in begins at 5 p.m. and train leaves at 5:30 p.m. East Troy Railroad Depot, 2002 Church St., East Troy; (262) 642-3263 or easttroyrr.org.

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9: TREASURES AND TRIUMPHS: A WALKING TOUR OF LAKE GENEVA

Learn about Lake Geneva's famously designed buildings as well as the colorful past of the downtown and the historic Maple Park neighborhoods. 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Leave from the Riviera Building, 812 Wrigley Dr., Lake Geneva. For tickets, call (608) 264-4848 or email boxoffice@wisconsinhistory.org.

13-17: ELKHORN RIBFEST

The National Rib Competition returns to the Walworth County Fairgrounds. Sample a wide array of barbecue offerings and enjoy great entertainment, carnival rides and an artisan village. Walworth County Fairgrounds, 411 E. Court St., Elkhorn; (262) 723-3228 or wisconsinribfest.com

16: KRISTIN CHENOWETH IN CONCERT: FOR THE GIRLS

Emmy and Tony Award-winning actress, singer and best-selling author. 7:30 p.m. George Williams College of Aurora University. 350 Constance Blvd., Williams Bay. For tickets, call (262) 245-8501 or visit musicbythelake.com.

17: JOFFREY ACADEMY OF DANCE, "RITA FINDS HOME"

This original work focuses on a young girl struggling to redefine her sense of self. 4 p.m. George Williams College of Aurora University. 350 Constance Blvd., Williams Bay. For tickets, call (262) 245-8501 or visit musicbythelake.com.

FREE MUSIC ALL SUMMER

a sampling:

Gimme Skynyrd- Sat. May 28
7th Heaven- Sat. June 11
Dancing Queen- Sat. June 25
Captain Fantastic- Sun. July 2
Take It Easy- Sat. July 23
Tony Rocker- Sat. July 30
The Britins- Sat. August 6
Soul Sacrifice- Sat. August 20
Hypnotized- Sat. August 27
The Prince Experience- Sat. Sept. 3

Friends of Phoenix Park Bandshell



Cruisin' Car Show
Sun. June 26 - 1pm to 4pm
Do-Wa-Wa - 1pm

Celebration of
Freedom- Mon. July 4
Fresh Horses - 6pm

Scarecrow Fest
Sept. 17- 7pm
Strutter

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21-24: COUNTRY THUNDER FESTIVAL

This four-day country music festival brings some of the top country music talent in the country to Twin Lakes, including Morgan Wallen, Florida Georgia Line, Chris Young and Lee Brice. Camping and multi-day passes available. 2305 Lance Dr., Twin Lakes; visit countrythunder.com.

21-24, 28-31: GREASE!

The Haylofters present the beloved musical. Thursdays through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. Malt House Theater, Burlington; (262) 763-9873 or thehaylofters.com.

23: BEER AND BRATS WITH CONRAD SEIPP

Enjoy a picnic dinner and conversation with a 19th century Chicago beer baron. 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Price is \$30 per person. Black Point Estate & Gardens, W4270 Southland Rd., Lake Geneva; call (262) 248-1888 for tickets.

23: JIMMY BUFFETT AT ALPINE VALLEY MUSIC THEATRE

The world-famous musician and his band make a stop in Walworth County on their "Life on the Flip Side Redux" tour. 8 p.m. Alpine Valley Music Theatre East Troy; (262) 642-4400 or alpinevalleymusictheatre.org.

17: THE IRISH TENORS WITH THE CHICAGO PHILHARMONIC

The famed trio, always thrilling audiences worldwide with their enchanting Irish repertoire, teams up with some of the highest-level classical musicians performing in the Chicago area. 4 p.m. George Williams College of Aurora University. 350 Constance Blvd., Williams Bay. For tickets, call (262) 245-8501 or visit musicbythelake.com.

28-SEPT. 11: "THE WIZARD OF OZ"

Dinner theater performances of the classic movie musical. Show dates and times vary. The Fireside Dinner Theatre, 1131 Janesville Ave., Fort Atkinson; (800) 477-9505 or firesidetheatre.com.

30: BIG FOOT LIONS CLUB LOBSTER BOIL & STEAK FRY

Enjoy fresh lobster and steak at this beloved annual festival featuring live music. Advance orders required to guarantee a lobster dinner. Reid Park, Fontana; visit bigfootlionsclub.org.

30: ELKHORN TRUCK & SHUCK

Celebrate Elkhorn's Corn & Brat days as it transforms into a new Saturday-only food truck event, including a fleet of food trucks, live music and craft vendors. 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Veterans Park, Elkhorn; (262) 723-5788 or elkhornchamber.com.

30: GET HAPPY: MICHAEL FEINSTEIN CELEBRATES THE JUDY GARLAND CENTENNIAL

The ambassador of the Great American Songbook pays tribute to the unparalleled talent and charisma of the legendary Judy Garland in this, her 100th birthday year. 7:30 p.m. George Williams College of Aurora

University. 350 Constance Blvd., Williams Bay. For tickets, call (262) 245-8501 or visit musicbythelake.com.

30-31: WILLIAMS BAY FINE ART & CRAFT FEST

Juried show featuring artists from Wisconsin and Illinois. Edgewater Park, Williams Bay; visit wbcaa.net.

AUGUST

5-7: DAS FEST USA

Enjoy three days of German beer, food, shops and 3 stages of entertainment including Grammy-nominated Alex Meixner, Wisconsin's own Copper Box, and German rock band Gerhard Albinus. Stein hoisting competitions, dachshund and corgi races, bingo, the Original Live Glockenspiel, 5K run, carnival and more. Free admission; Walworth County Fairgrounds, 411 E. Court St., Elkhorn; 262-675-3335 or dasfestusa.com.

6: AN EVENING WITH AIR SUPPLY

Now in their 47th year, the much-loved Australian-English soft rock duo continues to tour worldwide, performing chart-topping hits "All Out of Love," "Even the Nights are Better" and countless others. 7:30 p.m. George Williams College of Aurora University. 350 Constance Blvd., Williams Bay. For tickets, call (262) 245-8501 or visit musicbythelake.com.

6: GENEVA LAKE WEST ROTARY CLUB CORN AND BRATWURST FESTIVAL

Featuring live entertainment, corn and brat meals, and a drive-thru option. Devil's Lane Park, Walworth.

12-14: PHISH AT ALPINE VALLEY MUSIC THEATRE

The multi-platinum jam band performs a three-night engagement at this famous outdoor music venue. Three-day passes available. 7 p.m. Alpine Valley Music Theatre, East Troy; (262) 642-4400 or alpinevalleymusictheatre.org for tickets.

12-14: WILLIAMS BAY LIONS CLUB CORN & BRAT FESTIVAL

Enjoy delicious brats and fresh-roasted corn, as well as live music on Friday and Saturday night, and fireworks on Saturday. Edgewater Park, Williams Bay.

13: CHICAGO DAY

Celebrate Chicago's railway history with a revival of the Chicago, South Shore & South Bend railroad of 90 years ago. National Park rangers from Indiana Dunes State Park will be on hand to explain the history of the South Shore Line and the connection to the museum's collection of the line's cars from the 1920s. Trains run on the hour from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. East Troy Railroad Depot, 2002 Church St., East Troy; (262) 642-3263 or easttroyrr.org.

13: LYONS RIVERFEST

A small-town festival featuring duck races, a craft fair, bag toss tournaments, kid's activities, a petting zoo, barrel train rides, kickball, bounce house, dunk

tank, raffles, live music and food trucks. Throughout downtown Lyons; visit lyonsforabetterneighborhood.com.

13: SURF 'N TURF DINNER TRAIN

Indulge in a four-course, surf 'n turf meal on a 2.5-hour train ride. Adults only; paid reservations required. Check-in begins at 5 p.m. and train leaves at 5:30 p.m. East Troy Railroad Depot, 2002 Church St., East Troy; (262) 642-3263 or easttroyrr.org.

13: TREASURES AND TRIUMPHS: A WALKING TOUR OF LAKE GENEVA

Learn about Lake Geneva's famously designed buildings as well as the colorful past of the downtown and the historic Maple Park neighborhoods. 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Leave from the Riviera Building, 812 Wrigley Dr., Lake Geneva. For tickets, call (608) 264-4848 or email boxoffice@wisconsinhistory.org.

13-14: ART IN THE PARK

Juried fine art show featuring more than 80 artists, sponsored by the Geneva Lake Arts Foundation. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Flat Iron Park, Lake Geneva. Visit genevalakeartsfoundation.org/art-in-the-park.

17-21: LAKE GENEVA JAYCEES VENETIAN FESTIVAL

This five-day festival in downtown Lake Geneva features carnival rides, live music nightly, food vendors, and a lighted boat parade and fireworks display on Sunday night. Flat Iron Park, Lake Geneva.

20: ROUN'DA MANURE BICYCLE TOUR

Choose from four different loops. Registration takes place from 6:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. in Goodland Park, Sharon; (262) 736-6246 or roundamanurebicycletour.com.

26-28: MAXWELL STREET DAYS

Enjoy sidewalk sales and special in-store shopping experiences during Lake Geneva's annual Maxwell Street Days celebration. Throughout downtown Lake Geneva; visit streetsoflakegeneva.com.

27: MEET THE WHEELMEN

Explore the early history of cycling in Wisconsin and test your peddling prowess at this special meeting of the Wheelmen. Old World Wisconsin, Eagle; (262) 594-6301 or oldworldwisconsin.wisconsinhistory.org. ▲

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.

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