

WINTER 2024

At The Lake[®]

GENEVA LAKE AREA MAGAZINE

UP, UP *and Away*

Meet the woman behind
Lake Geneva's balloon
art installations

Staring Down the Slopes

A look back at the history of Alpine Valley as it
prepares to celebrate a landmark anniversary

GETTING MARRIED AT THE LAKE: OUR 14TH ANNUAL GUIDE



Photo by Josh Z Photography

BUILDING MEMORIES YOU CAN COME HOME TO



Lake Geneva Area Realty.com

262-249-3000



Walworth County's #1 Selling Team 2006-2022

FULL SERVICE +++ COMMISSION RATE

3% LAKEFRONTS
\$2 MILLION & UP

4% CO-BROKE of 4.8%
All Properties Over \$100,000

Lake Geneva Area Realty Offers You

- **A True Team Approach** - To achieve Total Customer Satisfaction the entire office at Lake Geneva Area Realty works hand-in-hand. We combine our Real Estate knowledge to sell your property or to help you find and purchase the right property.
- **Low Commission Rate** - NO additional charges for contracts, signs or marketing.
- **Extensive Marketing Plan** - Our Team utilizes a proven & effective web based approach including circulation on the IL and WI Multiple Listing Services (MLS).
- **Working Harder** - Available seven days a week + most Holidays. In this fast moving market we are available for your buyers when selling and for you when buying.

Call Our Award Winning Team For All Your Real Estate Needs







we call this *home*

TECHNICOLOR SKY

Finding the perfect home starts with a brokerage that knows the Southeastern Wisconsin lifestyle. We are the top choice for local homebuyers and sellers, and we're ready to put our local knowledge and expertise to work for you.

 **properties®**

CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

880 West Main Street, Lake Geneva



Dear readers,

Like many people who grow up in the Geneva Lake area, I learned to ski at such a young age that I don't even remember learning. I have deeply cherished memories of winter days spent soaring down the slopes with my friends and cousins, the rush of cold wind giving us the closest feeling we'd ever had to flying, all of us reaching the bottom and then scrambling for the rope tow or the chairlift to do it all over again.

For nearly 60 years, Alpine Valley Ski Resort has been helping people make memories just like these. In this issue, we decided to take a look back at the history of this iconic winter ski haven and the adjacent summer music venue that we're lucky enough to have in our own backyards (page 36). If you're new to the sport, we've also rounded up some of the local ski school options — there's something here for everyone, and people of all ages can get started making their own ski hill memories (page 106).

If indoor activities are more your speed this winter, check out our Out & About section, where we round up several fun and social indoor activities ... everything from painting classes to axe throwing (page 103). For those who will spend the season planning a wedding, don't miss our 14th annual special advertising section, Getting Married at the Lake, where you'll find the stories behind three real-life, local weddings and get additional tips, recommendations and ideas for a truly memorable day (page 63).

One more winter activity we'd recommend? Responding to our 2024 Reader's Survey! Tell us your favorite things about *At The Lake* and make suggestions for future topics you'd like to see us cover. You could win a \$50 gift card to Pier 290 for your efforts! Visit atthelakemagazine.com/reader-survey to respond — we can't wait to hear from you.

Anne Morrissy

Anne Morrissy
Editor
anne@ntmediagroup.com



A CUT ABOVE

Designer Michelle Miller knocked it out of the park with this gorgeous lakefront condo renovation, which gave me major kitchen envy (page 92).



COOKIE CUTENESS

This charming, seasonal cookie jar has me excited for holiday baking this year (page 90).

BRIGHT BALLOON

I loved the Big Balloon Build last spring, and I can't wait to see what our profile subject Sara Meyer has planned next (page 28)!



WE WANT YOUR
Feedback!

Complete our *At The Lake*
Reader's Survey and be entered for a
chance to win a \$50 Pier 290 Gift Card!

SCAN
ME



atthelakemagazine.com/reader-survey

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

At The Lake® magazine is published quarterly and available free of charge at select businesses and newsstands — a \$6 value per issue. Why not have it delivered to your door? For a one-year subscription (4 issues), send \$24.95 to Nei-Turner Media Group, 400 Broad St., Lake Geneva, WI 53147 or call 262-729-4471.



JANIS HARTLEY

At the Lake, on the Golf Course & in the Country CRS, ABR, RSPS

JANIS.HARTLEY@COMPASS.COM

262.745.3630 | SELLINGLAKEGENEVA.COM



\$70M+

2021-2022
SALES VOLUME

**#1 Geneva National
Sales Agent 2022**

**#2 Compass Wisconsin
Agent 2021**

**Ranked
Top 1.5% of Agents
Nationwide**

RealTrends 2022



W3668 Maple Lane

Lake Geneva

\$4,850,000 | 6 BD | 4 BA | 5,421 SF

Owned by the same family for almost 90 years and beloved for 4 generations, this 6 bedroom, 4 bath lakefront residence offers a private 1.3 acre setting and level lakeside yard with elevated views of Geneva Lake. Enjoy 106' of lake frontage with expansive views to the Narrows and west to Fontana. Photos have been virtual enhanced.

COMPASS

Janis Hartley is a real estate licensee affiliated with Compass, a licensed real estate broker and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws.





*Bailey
Estates*

**GERSTAD
BUILDERS**

ADDITIONAL QUALITY, CUSTOM HOME SUBDIVISIONS AVAILABLE TO YOU FROM GERSTAD BUILDERS

*Bailey
Estates*
Williams Bay, WI

**LIBERTY
TRAILS**
McHenry, IL

*The Pheasant
Ridge*
Richmond, IL

*The Trails of
DAWSON
Creek*
Poplar Grove, IL

WELCOME HOME TO BAILEY ESTATES — WILLIAMS BAY, WI

3 EASY STEPS:

1. Pick your lot and home design — ranch or two-story.
2. Visit the design center to pick the finish details.
3. Relax while we build your dream home.

THEN come to the closing table and MOVE IN!

- **NO CONSTRUCTION LOAN NEEDED**
- **BUILDER FINANCED UNTIL CLOSING**

**\$5,000 DOWN TO HOLD A SPECIFIC LOT
+**

\$20,000 DOWN TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION

\$25,000 TOTAL DOWN FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION

Lender pre-approval required at time of down payment.

See sales agent for lender recommendations.

Portion of options purchased due at pre-construction meeting

MAKE YOUR HOME EXACTLY WHAT YOU WANT — CALL TODAY!

CHRISTINE FOX & ASSOCIATES

The Team that Sells with Heart & Knowledge • 24/7/365

262.903.0717 cell 262.728.1013 direct
cfox@shorewest.com • christinefox.shorewest.com

CHRISTINE FOX IS RECOGNIZED AS

#1

Shorewest REALTORS® Walworth Cty. Dollar Volume Sold 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022

Shorewest REALTORS® Walworth Cty. Units Sold 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022

Shorewest REALTORS® Delavan Office Units Sold & Dollar Volume 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022

Shorewest REALTORS® Walworth Cty. Team 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022

Awarded RealTRENDS Top 1% of All Practicing Agents Nationwide 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022



EHO

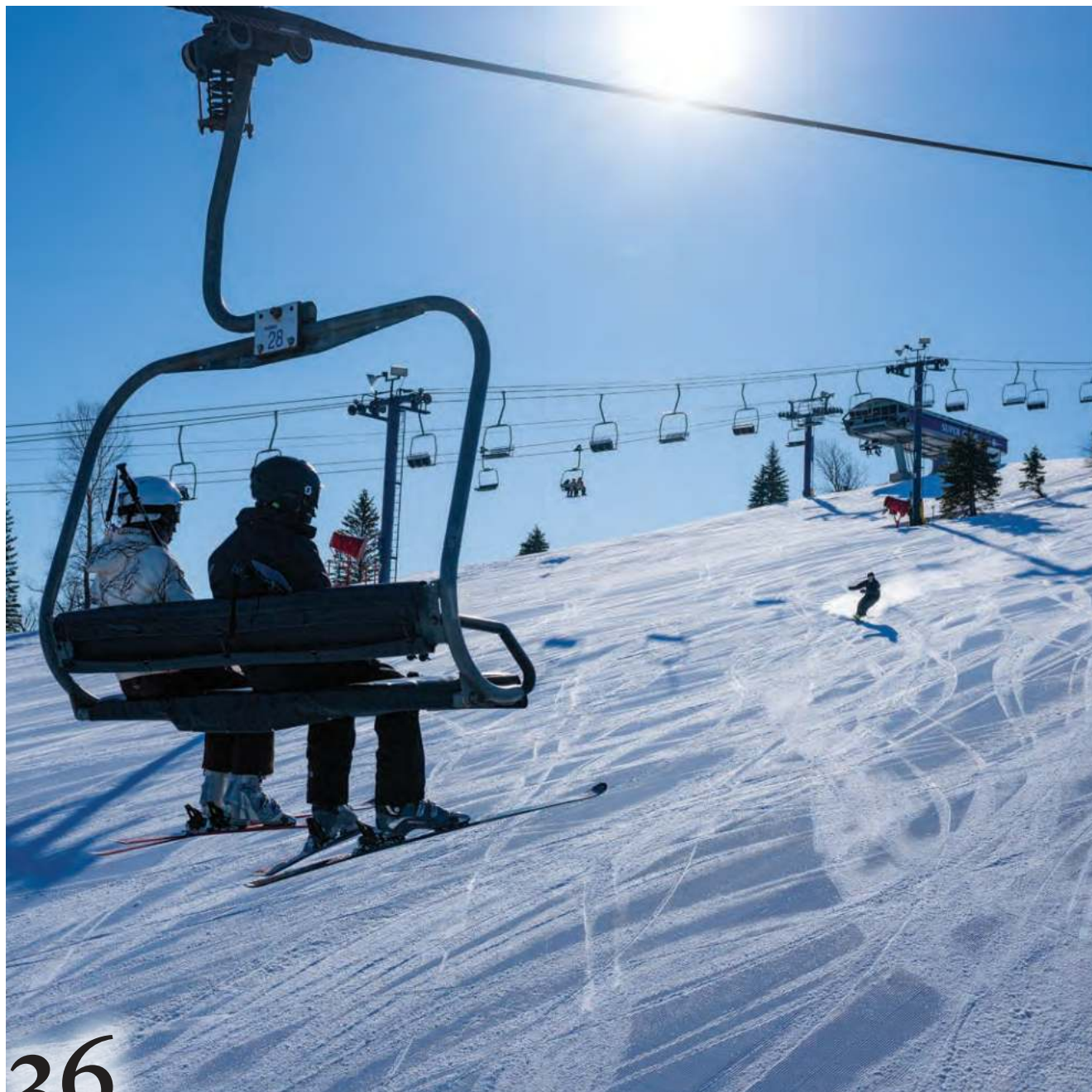
LAKE LIFE YOUR WAY



888.840.9947

www.matustikbuilders.com
info@matustikbuilders.com

features



36

Hitting the Slopes

A look back at the history of Alpine Valley Ski Resort and a glimpse of its future, as it prepares to celebrate a landmark anniversary.

By Kristine Hansen

28

Chasing the Rainbow

Meet balloon decor maven Sara Meyer and learn how she is enriching the community.
By Amanda N. Wegner

46

Signs of the Times

A photo portfolio of the area's iconic, midcentury vintage signs.
By Anne Morrissy

92

Truly Elegant Transformation

Tour this lakefront condo and learn the secrets of its dramatic makeover.
By Lauren Eve

JORNDT FAHEY LLC



DESIGN · BUILD · RENOVATE

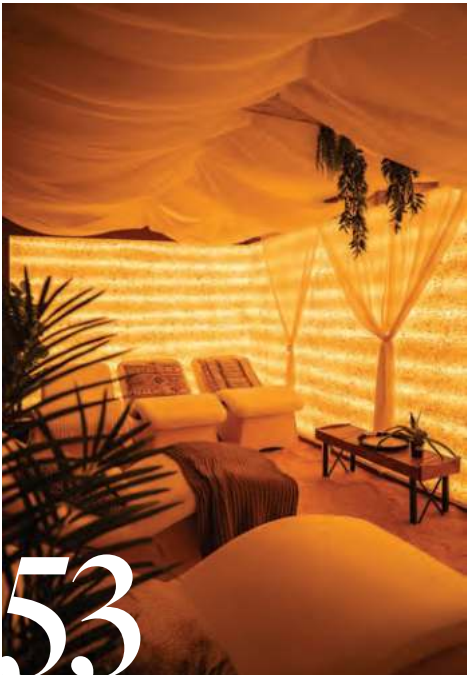
Our Mission is to build a Quality Home and to maintain an open line of communication with our client throughout the building process... from the initial design concept to its final and outstanding completion!

We focus on accountability, complete attention to detail and absolute client satisfaction.

262.607.6121 · jorndtfaheyllc.com

New Homes ~ Renovations ~ Additions

departments



better living

- 53 Serene Seasonal Healing
- 56 Take the Plunge
- 57 At The Library

sponsored content

- 58 Lakeshore Living: Stebnitz Builders
- 63 14th Annual Wedding Guide: Getting Married at the Lake

home & garden

- 87 Mail-Order Abode
- 90 Trending at the Lake

out & about

- 103 Adventures Indoors
- 106 All Downhill
- 108 Events at the Lake

food & drink

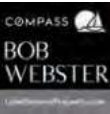
- 113 Cocktail Hour Reimagined
- 118 Dining at the Lake

in every issue

- 6 Editor's Page
- 21 Currents
- 122 Life at the Lake



digital partners



STUDIO M

INSPIRING DESIGN.
TRANSFORMING SPACES



Lake Geneva | 300 Sage Street
studiomdesigncenter.com
262.812.8052



Caravelle Lighting

Indoor • Outdoor Lighting
LEDs • Bulbs • Fans
Lamp Repairs • Shades

HINKLEY

Visit our *huge showroom* for personalized service
Shop with us online at caravellelight.com

9307 S RT 12, RICHMOND, IL • 815-678-4558
STORE HOURS: TUE 9AM-6PM • WED-FRI 9AM-5PM • SAT 10AM-2PM • CLOSED SUN-MON



*Come pour with us, enjoy a beverage and
create your own custom fragrance!*

*Our in-store candle bar is one of a
kind. Let our scent experts help you
design a blend of premium oils from
our selection of over 90 options.*

*Create a candle from our large jar selection or
craft a room spray, diffuser, or wax melt.*

262.203.5557

info@TheCandleMercantile.com

870 West Main Street
Lake Geneva



TheCandleMercantile.com



At The Lake®

GENEVA LAKE AREA MAGAZINE

PUBLISHER & EDITORIAL

PUBLISHER

Barbara Krause
bak@ntmediagroup.com

EDITOR

Anne Morrissey
anne@ntmediagroup.com

SENIOR GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Lauren Harrigan
lharrigan@ntmediagroup.com

PHOTOGRAPHER & IMAGE EDITOR

Holly Leitner
holly@ntmediagroup.com

DIGITAL DIRECTOR

Kristen Rouse
krouse@ntmediagroup.com

SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER

Cici Rindy
cici@ntmediagroup.com

SALES

ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER

Deann Hausner
deann@ntmediagroup.com

ADVERTISING COORDINATOR

Amy Jacobs
ads@ntmediagroup.com

SALES SUPPORT

Kaleigh Krause
ktk@ntmediagroup.com

CIRCULATION

Eric Johnson
eric@ntmediagroup.com

ON THE COVER



Skiers and
snowboarders
take the chairlift
to the top of
the hill at
Alpine Valley
Ski Resort in
East Troy.

*Photo by
Holly Leitner*

NEI-TURNER MEDIA GROUP

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

No portion of this magazine may be reproduced without prior written permission by the publisher. ©2023 Nei-Turner Media Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Prepress services and printing by Kodi Collective, Pontiac, IL.

Unsolicited material must be accompanied by return postage.
At The Lake® magazine assumes no liability for damage or loss.

INVEST • RENT • REPEAT

Grow Your Wealth with
Real Estate Ownership

- **LEVERAGE REAL ESTATE TO BUILD A SUSTAINABLE RENTAL INCOME**
- **REINVEST RENTAL INCOME INTO ACQUIRING ADDITIONAL PROPERTIES**
- **DIVERSIFY YOUR PORTFOLIO**



DONNA BRONGIEL
AT HOME



COMPASS

CALL DONNA • 262-581-6554



**NORTH BY NORTHWEST
STORAGE CONDOS**



Luxury Storage for your Boat, Car, and RV

1251 ARTHUR DR | MILTON, WI
4954 STATE ROAD 50 | DELAVAN, WI
Starting at \$145,000–\$165,000

UNITS INCLUDE

100 AMP Electric Service • Individual Gas and Electric Meters • Floor Drain and Hose Bib
5" Concrete Floors • XL Picture Window • 6" R-32 Ceiling and Exterior Wall Insulation • Modine Heater
Pedestrian Door • Ceiling Fan, LED Light Fixtures • Security Cameras • Community Bathroom

CUSTOMIZE YOUR OWN UNIT WITH THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:

Stubbed for Private Bath • 12'–14' Wide x 12'–14' High Garage Doors • 16'–18' Ceiling Height
1,000–1,500 sq. ft. • HVAC Furnace/Air Conditioner



FOR ALL OF YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS

Chris Jasser

Luxury Real Estate Advisor
262.492.6643 | cjasser@mahlersir.com

Mahler

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

© 2023 Sotheby's International Realty. All Rights Reserved. Sotheby's International Realty® is a registered trademark and used with permission. Each Sotheby's International Realty office is independently owned and operated. All offerings are subject to errors, omissions, changes including price or withdrawal without notice. Equal Housing Opportunity. Some photos have been virtually staged and enhanced.

NEWPORT WEST SHOPPES

Northeast Corner of Main & Cook Streets



- Bejeweled
- Cold Stone Creamery
- Egg Harbor Café
- Inspired Coffee
- Mahler Sotheby's International Realty
- Paws for Treats

Property managed by Inland Commercial Real Estate Services LLC
The Inland name and logo are registered trademarks being used under license.

- Perfect Petals
- Potbelly Sandwich Works
- Rock Garden for Lake Geneva
- SoHo Boutique





It's time for your place in paradise. NAPLES, FLORIDA

With miles of pristine beaches along the Gulf of Mexico, sprawling golf courses and a mild climate year round, we are consistently voted among the:

- ◆ Top 10 Beaches
- ◆ Top Places to Retire in the US
- ◆ Best Places to Live in the US
 - ◆ Best Beach Towns
 - ◆ Happiest Cities

LAURA MAGUIRE
BROKER ASSOCIATE

239.207.6418 ◆ laura@gcipropties.com



Gulf Coast
INTERNATIONAL PROPERTIES®

www.gcipropties.com





Winter
is better ^{at the}
Lake



LAKE LAWN
RESORT

This historic era landmark, set along over two miles of Delavan Lake's shoreline, is the ultimate destination for year-round getaways, retreats, weddings, meetings, and events. Located just minutes west of Lake Geneva, Lake Lawn Resort is a full-service resort offering spacious and freshly renovated guest rooms, 18-hole lakefront golf, boat and water sport rentals, lakeside bonfires, three pools, a marina, an award-winning spa, and multiple dining options, including our signature 1878 on the Lake.

LODGING | DINING | SPA | GOLF | MEETINGS

2400 GENEVA ST. DELAVAN, WI 53115 | 262.728.7950 | LAKELAWNRESORT.COM

LAKE GENEVA

... we love it, too!

NOW LISTED AT \$5,499,000!

W4321 N. Lake Shore Dr., Lake Geneva, WI 53147

Everything you want, everything you need, right on the water.



DAN HODGMAN
(630) 235-8478
dan@dawnmckennagroup.com

DAWN MCKENNA GROUP



ELLIE MONEY
(608) 449-7870
ellie@dawnmckennagroup.com

DMG

CHICAGO | HINSDALE | LAKE FOREST | LAKE GENEVA | NAPLES | NEW BUFFALO | PARK CITY | WINNETKA

WWW.DAWNMCKENNAGROUP.COM | @THEDAWNMCKENNAGROUP



COLDWELL BANKER

**REAL ESTATE
GROUP**

©2023 Coldwell Banker Real Estate Group. Real estate agent affiliated with Coldwell Banker Real Estate Group are independent contractor agents and are not employees. Coldwell Banker and the Coldwell Banker logos are trademarks of Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. Coldwell Banker Real Estate Group and Dawn McKenna Group fully support the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act. Independently owned and operated. Coldwell Banker, the Coldwell Banker Logo, Coldwell Banker Global Luxury and the Coldwell Banker Global Luxury logo are registered service marks owned by Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC.



The Ice Castle structure will remain one component of the newly conceived Winter Realms at Geneva National this winter.

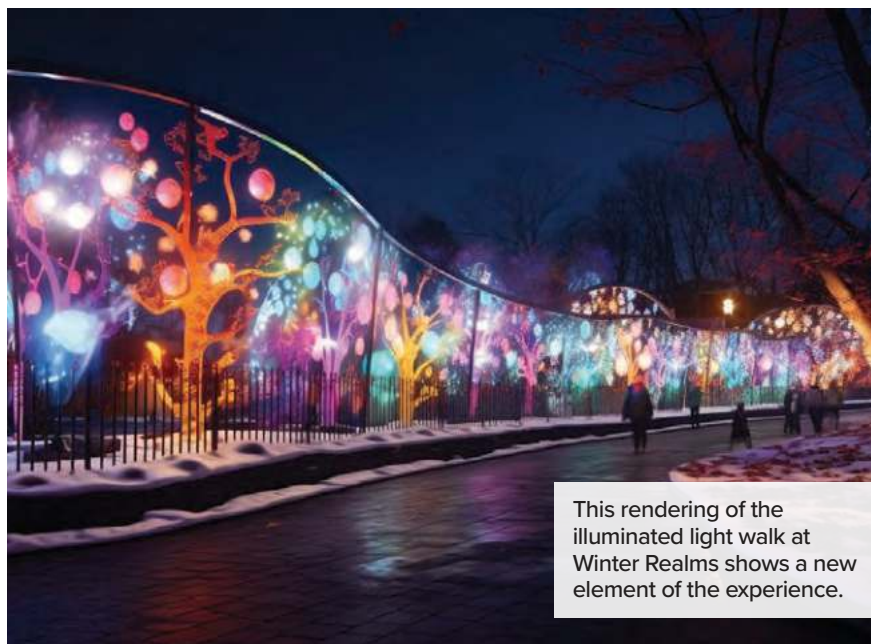
New Realms Ahead

Ice Castles re-brands, updates concept for 2024

BY ANNE MORRISSY

After a disappointing run of warm weather last winter that saw Ice Castles Lake Geneva open for just a handful of days, the massively popular winter tourist attraction will re-brand and update its concept for the 2024 season. Now known as Winter Realms, the experience will continue its partnership with Geneva National on Lake Como.

Ice Castles founder Brent Christensen says that the new concept will still include many of the traditional Ice Castles elements that visitors have loved in the past,



This rendering of the illuminated light walk at Winter Realms shows a new element of the experience.

including an ice castle structure, ice thrones and ice slides. Those elements will be open on a weather-dependent basis to ensure the safety of all guests. If it is too warm to safely use the ice structures, then that section of the experience will be unavailable that day. “We still are planning to build a fairly considerable portion of the feature in traditional ice castle construction,” Christensen explains. “That’s the most beautiful thing, and people love how natural it looks. Then we’ll lay out the design in such a way that if a portion of that is compromised by the weather, it can be bypassed.”

In addition to these traditional elements, Winter Realms will add features that do not rely on sub-freezing temperatures, to ensure that all guests can enjoy the experience regardless of weather. These elements include the Polar Pub, an ice bar that will offer concessions and refreshments, with a fire pit nearby for comfortable seating, as well as the Arctic Alcove, an enclosed VIP area where guests can rent their own space to enjoy with friends and family. Christensen says the Polar Pub will include several igloos created out of ice blocks and insulated with snow, and feature elaborate ice carvings created by two world-class ice carvers from Eastern Europe.

Another new element of the experience this year will be an illuminated light walk through a portion of the grounds of Geneva National. The light walk will incorporate freestanding elements as well as natural elements like trees and bushes to create an immersive outdoor experience for visitors. Sleigh or wagon rides will also be available as part of the Winter Realms experience, taking guests on a tour of a scenic, illuminated trail around the resort.

Christensen says this winter will mark the Ice Castles’ fifth year in Lake Geneva. The first year, the experience was constructed on Lake Geneva’s Riviera Beach. Since then, the event has partnered with Geneva National, increasing the amount of space

available and allowing the company to add elements each year, a practice which has culminated in the re-branding of the experience as Winter Realms.

Four additional sites in Colorado, Minnesota, Utah and New Hampshire host the original Ice Castles concept, but the only other Winter Realms site is located in Lake George in upstate New York. Christensen says the company is excited to expand its offerings in the Geneva Lake area, creating a more weather-resistant experience for the many people clamoring to visit. “The thing that brought us to Lake Geneva originally was the proximity to Chicago, Milwaukee, Madison ... it’s got a good population base within driving distance,” Christensen explains. “It was also just the vibe of the Lake Geneva area. It’s a very desirable area, people love going there. Last year the demand was high as ever.”

Winter Realms will open in January. Check icecastles.com for opening dates and ticket sales.

Fresh Brews

MashTun Brewing brings new microbrewery and taproom space to Lake Geneva

In September, a new microbrewery and taproom opened in Lake Geneva near the intersection of Edwards Boulevard and Veterans Parkway. MashTun



TOP: RENDERING COURTESY OF ICE CASTLES; BOTTOM: COURTESY OF MASHTUN BREWING

The
KRAUSE TEAM



— your new —
driveway

SOLD

N2384 Shore View Dr.
Lake Geneva - \$1,650,000



736 Upper Brookwood Dr.
Fontana - \$1,150,000

SOLD

W4298 Oriole Dr.
Lake Geneva - \$1,350,000

Life is Simple ... Just Add Water



204 Elmhurst Ct. 12
Williams Bay - \$349,900

SOLD

80 Jewell Dr.
Williams Bay - \$465,000



1255 Saratoga Ln.
Geneva National - \$725,000



- 20+ Years Top Producer
- @properties Outstanding Achievement Award 2018 - 2022
- Best of Zillow Award 2018 - 2022
- Prestigious Rolex Award
- Featured Agent House Hunters HGTV - Episode "Lake Dreams in Wisconsin"

KEVIN KRAUSE
262.745.1447

DIANE KRAUSE
262.215.4893

krauseteam@atproperties.com



CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE



Brewing and Social Taproom is the brainchild of Riccardo Kettle and his wife, Kristen, who have lived in Lake Geneva since 2016, following stints in Chicago and New Zealand.

The idea for the brewery came to the couple during COVID-19 lockdowns, when they found themselves sharing a beer with their neighbors over a fence on their properties (“sharing a fencie,” as they called it). “Instead of socializing over the fence, why not socialize around the mash tun?” they eventually suggested. (A mash tun is a large vessel where the mashing of malted barley, hops and yeast eventually leads to the creation of beer.)

Riccardo was a home brewer and had worked for a beverage distribution company in New Zealand. While there, he had collaborated with one of his company’s brands, leading a team which opened a brewery and tap room, so he knew what it would take to expand their neighborly happy hour to a wider audience. Working toward this goal, the Kettles further immersed themselves in the science of brewing and then purchased a small commercial brewing system and rented space for their new endeavor.

Using this equipment, MashTun Brewing makes several original beers. This fall, there were seven on tap and another seven in the works, with names like Lake Daze Mosaic Hazy IPA, Campfire Amber Ale and L8ke Life

Pilsener. Local response to the beers has been extremely positive: MashTun is now available on a rotating tap at Lake Geneva supper club Mars Resort, with plans to expand to other bars and restaurants in the coming months.

In addition to beer brewed on site, the taproom adjacent to the brewery serves cider and non-alcoholic drinks, plus pretzels, soup and several variations of grilled cheese sandwiches. Kristen Kettle says that, since opening in September, business has been “gangbusters”: “We already know that we need to expand,” she explained. “There are times when it’s standing-room only.” The taproom space is also available to rent for small events of up to 30 people. For hours and information, visit mashtunbrewing.com.

Celebrate in Style

New event venue opens in former Moose Creek space in Elkhorn

At *The Lake* Publisher Barb Krause and her husband Todd have recently opened The Todd Venue, a new event space just south of Elkhorn. Located on County Hwy. H in the former Moose Creek Bar & Grille building, the new venue offers seating for up to 110 guests in the main reception room. In addition, the building features a

separate bar area with three TVs, a fireplace and a Vestaboard, making it ideally suited to weddings, parties and corporate events.

In order to convert the former restaurant into a rentable event venue, Todd Krause undertook a massive renovation of the space, including the installation of new hardwood floors throughout and the construction of new bathrooms compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. An aluminum-wrapped bar with walnut trim, new ceilings with recessed lighting and freshly painted walls help to create a light and airy effect in the venue. The property also includes outdoor space with unobstructed sunset views, available for ceremonies or other outdoor event elements.

“After two years of remodeling, plus recovering from a tornado that hit the building this spring, we are finally ready to host events,” said Todd Krause, who will handle space reservations. “We are excited to offer a brand-new venue in the Geneva Lakes area. Moose Creek was one of our favorite restaurants nearly two decades ago, so it’s a bit nostalgic to now own the building and begin its next venture as an event space.” For more information, visit toddvenue.com. *—LH*



TOP: COURTESY OF MASHTUN BREWING; COURTESY OF THE TODD VENUE

Plan now to be
in your new home
by summer!

With over \$200 million in sales* the Martha Cucco Team is ready to help with any real estate needs in both Illinois and Wisconsin.



MARTHA CUCCO
BROKER ASSOCIATE
262.949.4493
martha@atproperties.com

MARTHA CUCCO
TEAM

LICENSED IN WISCONSIN & ILLINOIS



CHRISTOPHER MULKA
BROKER
708.738.9289
cmulka@atproperties.com

*MRED, LLC, based on closed sales data, 1/1/1989-9/15/2020.

Leading REAL ESTATE COMPANIES IN THE WORLD

atproperties.com



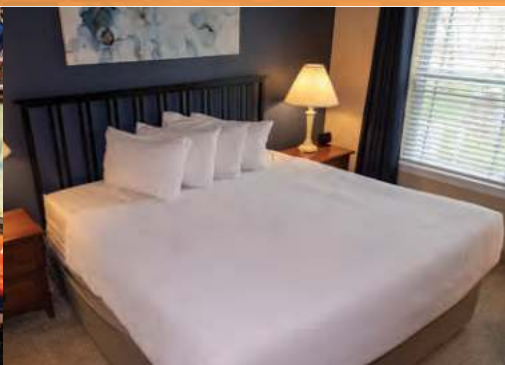
HOME OF
FONTANA C. FROG
Exclusive Fontana Frog Souvenirs



Furniture & Home Décor

543 VALLEY VIEW DR., FONTANA | (262) 394-5658

Experience More TOGETHER



Exclusive All-Suite Resort on Delavan Lake

Experience the beautiful sunset at Delavan Lake Resort. Featuring breathtaking lakefront views, Delavan Lake Resort has all you need to make your next getaway perfect. Located just minutes outside of downtown Lake Geneva, the beautiful all-suite resort is your year-round destination for lakeside fun!

These individually appointed one- and two-bedroom suites come complete with a fireplace, full kitchens, spacious living areas, and a private balcony or patio to enjoy during your stay.

Guests of the resort also receive:

- Complimentary local transportation
- Exclusive discounts on lake cruises
- Championship golf
- Award-winning spa treatments
- Signature dining
- Marina
- Watersports
- Recreational opportunities



LakeDelavanResort.com
262.728.2200

1505 South Shore Drive Delavan, WI 53115

– Managed by Delavan Lake Lawn Management, LLC

COMPASS

Linda Tonge
\$110M+ Sold 2021-23
25 Years of Experience



Recent Lakefront Sales...



N2010 700 Club Dr, Linn, WI

6 BD 5.5 BA \$8,285,000



464 Harvard Ave, Fontana, WI

5 BD 4.5 BA \$4,850,000



458 Harvard Ave, Fontana, WI

6 BD 7 BA \$3,750,000



1310 W Main St, Lake Geneva, WI

3 BD 3.5 BA \$4,520,000



Linda Tonge
COMPASS

Realtor®

M: 262.949.6419

linda.tonge@compass.com



Phil Lange

COMPASS

Team Member/Realtor®

M: 262.949.5152

phil.lange@compass.com

www.GenevaLakefronts.com

Linda Tonge & Phil Lange are real estate agents affiliated with Compass. Compass is a licensed real estate broker and abides by federal, state and local laws. Equal housing opportunity.



Chasing the RAINBOW

Lake Geneva's Sara Meyer is a tour de force in the balloon decor industry

BY AMANDA N. WEGNER



Sara Meyer, the creative force behind Lake Geneva's Wisconsin Balloon Décor, is taking the art of balloon decoration to new heights. With a blend of imagination, passion and innovation, Meyer's designs transform ordinary gatherings into unforgettable experiences through elaborate and whimsical displays of balloon art. Because of this, her company has become the go-to balloon decor outfitter for major companies and organizations like Kohl's, Summerfest, S.C. Johnson, the Milwaukee Bucks and others.

In addition to these custom installations for clients and corporations, Meyer has also leveraged her love of balloons into philanthropic ventures. Last year, Meyer brought a balloon decoration event called the Big Balloon Build to Lake Geneva, a massive collaborative undertaking that raised funds for local nonprofits Inspiration Ministries and Inspired Coffee. But Meyer isn't stopping there — she has plans in the works for another balloon decoration charity event in 2024, while continuing to focus on spreading joy through her balloon business.

BEYOND ARTS AND CRAFTS

Formerly an art teacher, Meyer has always loved trying new ideas and crafts. "As a young teacher, I had summers and weekends free, but that's not much fun when none of your friends have off," she says with a chuckle. "So I started face painting at a pumpkin patch."

To further her face-painting education, Meyer attended a convention in St. Louis where she took an "Intro to Balloons" course, where she learned the foundations of balloon decor. "That piqued my interest, and I began learning on my own and moved to a much higher level quickly," she explains.

Meyer, who lives in downtown Lake Geneva with her husband and daughter, started by designing balloon decorations for parties, but soon expanded to corporate parties and larger installations. Meyer first entered the world of balloon decor eight years ago, and transitioned to full-time four years ago, initially balancing her own business with her job as a promotions and events manager at a local college. In March of 2023, she transitioned away from her college position to focus exclusively on Wisconsin Balloon Décor.

"Before I knew it, I was working full-time in the balloon industry," she says. "It's so cool that it's something I get to do every day, all day. And it's fun to surprise people. People don't expect what we're bringing — vans full of fluffy balloons. It's fun to do, and I get to do it over and over and over again."

Today, much of Meyer's business comes from corporate events, focusing on Milwaukee, Waukesha and Walworth counties. (Last September, she completed a large installation for the Milwaukee Bucks.) However, she says she also does a lot of baby showers, weddings and wedding showers, especially in the Lake Geneva area. "There are tons of cool events we get to [decorate]," says Meyer. "And for many events, we get to be with people on some of the biggest days of their lives."



A HAPPY BUSINESS

Meyer's Lake Geneva shop features a rainbow wall of 50 different colors of balloons, making it a "very happy business," in her words, though she is quick to add that "it's happy but hard."

For installations, Meyer and her team pre-inflate all the balloons in her shop, then deliver the balloons to the site to build the installation. "We do all the busy work and take the hassle off the host," she says. "We inflate all week long and try to have everything ready so we can just come in and set up."

In a year, Meyer estimates she inflates around a million balloons. She says that the preparation is the most stressful part of the process, as the balloons can only be inflated a few days in advance. Most balloons are air-filled; to be part of a balloon structure, they don't need to float. Also, she says helium has become prohibitively expensive.

"You can have the best-laid plans, but then it comes down to those couple days before," says Meyer. "You're tying tons and tons of balloons, figuring out challenges, doing a lot of running around and lifting. And because it's usually an important day, there can be stress and managing expectations to pull it all off." Meyer says one of her most stressful but rewarding installations involved hanging huge, silver balloons, six feet

in diameter, from a ceiling. "It was a high-end job and really scary," says Meyer. "When it was done, it looked amazing and went off well. That felt satisfying, and it's great to say, 'We made that.'"

BRINGING THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER

One of the most rewarding events Meyer has had the privilege to be part of was last year's balloon decoration event for charity: the Big Balloon Build. At its core, the Big Balloon Build is a fundraising event that brings together dozens of balloon professionals to create a magical, immersive balloon wonderland. The international event partners with a local charitable cause that aims to promote the health and well-being of children who are underprivileged or living with disabilities.

In Vincennes, Indiana in 2021, Meyer participated in the first Big Balloon Build to ever take place in the United States. Following that experience, Meyer knew the event was the perfect match for Lake Geneva. "The goal of the Big Balloon Build is to show the community what we can do and achieve with these large builds ... for an amazing experience that goes to a great cause," says Meyer.

In March of 2023, the Jackson Family Activity Center gym at Lake Geneva's Covenant Harbor camp was transformed into a magical, immersive experience, decorated with over 100,000 balloons for the Big Balloon Build Lake Geneva. Proceeds from the ticket sales benefited Inspiration Ministries and Inspired Coffee, local nonprofits that support individuals living with disabilities. The Lake Geneva event was only the third time the Big Balloon Build was held in the United States.

The event took about 18 months of planning and preparation to bring the event to life, according to Meyer. "[After the Indiana event,] I wanted to jump in and throw my hat into the ring for Lake Geneva," she explains. "You have to make the case for your community, and the community did

not disappoint. It was great to have local businesses and organizations get on board."

Meyer's balloon community did not disappoint either — 75 fellow balloon artists from around the world descended on Lake Geneva to support Meyer at the 2023 event. "I am pretty involved in the balloon community as a whole, teaching and traveling, and I have a lot of friends in that part of my world," says Meyer. "They left their businesses, left their families, maybe took a working vacation, but they want to come here and be part of the build. It's a pretty amazing community."

The success of the 2023 event got Meyer thinking about ways she might maintain the energy of the Big Balloon Build and continue to support the local community. In 2024, Meyer will work with Williams Bay's Gage Marine to host another local balloon installation event for charity: the Balloon Adventure. "This will be a totally local event, our own event, and all the money will stay here," says Meyer, explaining that she has partnered with the Santa Cause, Inc., a super-charity that supports several nonprofits throughout Walworth County.

Inspired by the Big Balloon Build, the theme of the Balloon Adventure is "Follow the Yellow Brick Road." It is scheduled for April 10-15 at Pier 290's



PROUDLY SERVING *Southern WI & Northern IL* FOR OVER 35 YEARS



BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY
STARCK REAL ESTATE
KILKENNY GROUP

A member of the franchise system of BHH Affiliates, LLC



We have the experience to guide you in any market. Our team maintains the highest ethical standards in every transaction. We listen, we understand, and we provide tailored solutions to meet your unique goals. You always come first.

Kilkenny Group
TEAM@KILKENNYGRP.COM
KILKENNYGRP.COM
262.729.2500 | 815.337.8400

Navigate the real estate market with a local expert!

N2017 S Lakeshore Dr., Linn, WI
Listed at \$3.5 million



Beautiful lot on Lake Geneva with spectacular views and over 160 feet of lake frontage.

Lot 0 105th Ave., Pleasant Prairie, WI Listed at \$795,000



24 acres zoned R4
Plan your own estate compound nestled along the Des Plaines river side.

830 Pine Tree Ln., Lake Geneva, WI Listed at \$1.1 million



This is a fantastic location with close access to the lake path, lake rights included, and walking distance to town for everything Lake Geneva has to offer.

262.853.5576
MLarkin@StarckRE.com



MARK LARKIN



BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY
HOMESERVICES | STARCK REAL ESTATE

A member of the franchise system of BHH Affiliates, LLC

EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE
OUTSTANDING RESULTS

Boat Barn in Williams Bay. A ticketed event, all money raised will benefit the Santa Cause and its charities. Meyer explains that instead of having the support of the Big Balloon Build's international organization, for this year's event, she is working with Gage Marine, managing logistics and design herself and bringing in professionals to help with the build, which will take about a week. "It will be a lot of work, but Balloon Adventure will be another great event for the area," she says.

SPIRIT AND PASSION

The balloon decor industry is relatively young. Industry inventor Treb Heining first learned he had a knack and love for balloon decor while working as a balloon boy at Disneyland in the 1970s — and he is still active in the field today. Meyer notes that the industry initially evolved slowly, with people learning through magazines and word of mouth. The arrival of social media and online forums helped propel the industry to new heights.

In addition, Meyer says the pandemic further accelerated balloon decor, as individuals who were temporarily out of work sought out the industry, and the move to an increase in outdoor events expanded demand for balloon installations. "At that time, there were a lot [of new businesses] popping up," says Meyer. "It's easy to start but difficult to scale a balloon company. The small stuff one can figure out on their own, but once you start thinking about a warehouse, crew, van ... that's where it gets complicated."

To support others in the balloon decor business, Meyer also runs The Bright Balloon, a podcast and course store, where she teaches others how to succeed in the field.

"People in this field love what they do, and I'm glad to be part of it," says Meyer. "We are all pretty creative and excited to try new things. When a new color [balloon] comes out, the internet breaks for us. It's a sharing group of people — we don't keep secrets to ourselves."

That sense of community is part of what inspires Meyer. "I think the Big Balloon Build is proof of that [spirit]," she says. "We had 75 people, who were not compensated, come to Lake Geneva to help me and a local charity because they wanted to be involved. That's a good example of this community's giving spirit and passion."

Backed by her balloon community and supported by her staff, Meyer looks forward to the future of Wisconsin Balloon Décor, especially as she adds a new dynamic to the business — Meyer and her husband are expecting another baby in February. "Right now, I want to maintain and grow," says Meyer. "We have the right mix of clients who like our style and are excited to work with us."

And, of course, she looks forward to the Balloon Adventure in April: "I'm excited to see that come together and share the magic of balloons with the community once again." 🎈



LAKES BRICK & BLOCK

BLOCK
BRICK
STONE
FIREPLACES
OUTDOOR LIVING
GRILLS

W3751 Builders Ct.,
Zenda, WI

262.275.6611
LakesBrickandBlock.com



Bob Webster

Discover *Lakefront* Excellence.

An expert in the luxury, "second-home" market in southeastern Wisconsin, Bob Webster has been in the Lake Geneva real estate industry for over 40 years and is uniquely prepared to serve his clients looking to enjoy the "Lake Geneva lake life."

"I'm a seasoned professional who will leave no stone unturned and am willing to go the extra mile to do whatever it takes to get the job done for my clients," he says. "More wrinkles in the face means less wrinkles in the transaction."

COMPASS



GENEVA LAKE ACCESS **\$3,299,000**
W4271 The Lindens Linn



GENEVA LAKE ACCESS **\$2,295,000**
N1988 Birches Drive Linn



CLIFFS OF FONTANA **\$1,195,000**
108 Lake Vista Circle Fontana



COUNTRY CLUB ESTATES **\$845,000**
238 Castle Terrace Avenue Fontana



ABBAY SPRINGS **\$745,000**
1031 Briarwood Drive Fontana



ABBAY DOCKOMINIUM **\$364,900**
271 Fontana Boulevard, 609 Fontana



Searching for a lakefront property?

Scan the QR code to view my custom lakefront searches for area lakes.

262.949.1933 | Bob@LakeGenevaProperty.com | LakeGenevaProperty.com

Bob Webster is a real estate licensee affiliated with Compass, a licensed real estate broker and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws.



HOLIDAY PARTY

LET ALPINE VALLEY
RESORT HOST
YOUR COMPANY
HOLIDAY PARTY

December 4th

December 14th

January 11th

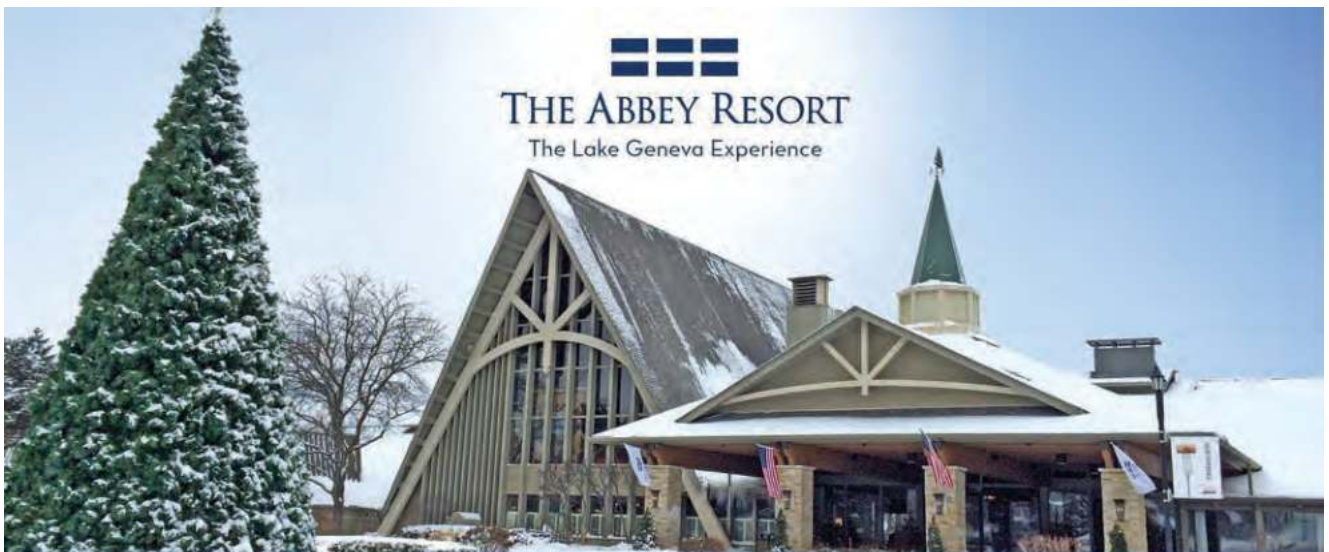
Contact events to
reserve your party

262-642-7374 ext 469

events@alpinevalleyresort.com



ALPINE VALLEY
EST. 1991



RELAXING SPA

HARBORSIDE DINING

ENDLESS ACTIVITIES



THEABBHEYRESORT.COM | 269 FONTANA BLVD. FONTANA, WI 53125 | (800) 709 - 1323

T|F

Tricia Forbeck

REAL ESTATE

OVER \$500 MILLION IN SALES



A Few Highlights Sold in 2023 by Tricia Forbeck



1100 South Lakeshore Drive, B Fontana
\$7,500,000



N2004 North Lake Shore Drive Walworth
\$2,450,000



432 Harvard Avenue, 1 Fontana
\$1,749,000



277 Waubun Drive Fontana
\$1,395,000



68 Saint Andrews Trail Fontana
\$1,380,000



1047 Briarwood Drive Fontana
\$1,375,000



W5488 Oak Bluff Road Walworth
\$1,244,000

TRICIA.FORBECK@COMPASS.COM
HOMESINLAKEGENEVA.COM
262.745.1145

COMPASS

Tricia's personality seamlessly infuses friendliness, humor, and humility along with responsiveness to your calls and questions as she tirelessly advocates for you as a valued client. She works hard to increase the strength and viability of Compass so it continues to serve as a beacon in the area for many years to come. She was just wonderful to us!

ANDREW

Tricia knows the market very well. Her familiarity with the Lake Geneva Area and knowledge of potential buyers in the market is incredible and was able to sell four properties for my family in two months!

CHRIS

Tricia has phenomenal market knowledge. She brought us a buyer on a property that we did not have actively listed because she knew that we had discussed selling it in the past. She's a true gem!

WILLIAM



HITTING THE SLOPES

The history of Alpine Valley Ski Resort and its plans for the future

BY KRISTINE HANSEN
PHOTOS BY HOLLY LEITNER



Harold Friestadt of Williams Bay is what you might call an “avid skier,” having inherited his love of the sport from his father, who was born in Norway. The 84-year-old is a prolific cross-country skier; he’s competed in the American Birkebeiner race 33 times, completing 28 of those attempts, and he’s even flown to Norway to compete in the Norwegian Birkebeiner. Closer to home, however, Friestadt’s passion is downhill skiing. Every morning in the winter, almost without fail, Friestadt is up early, hopping in his car (license plate: SNOW SKI) to head out for some early morning runs. His destination: Alpine Valley Ski Resort in East Troy.



The hills at Alpine Valley open at 9 a.m., and Friestadt says he's at the resort by 8 a.m., to ski a minimum of 23 runs per day. "I ski every day they're open," he explains, pointing out that the winter weather plays a role in the number of days he can downhill ski locally. In his most prolific season, he skied 100 days. During the 2022-2023 season, he skied 79 days. Friestadt has no intention of letting age slow him down. "I'll be 84 for the ski season this year," Friestadt said back in August, which is also the time of year he buys his annual Alpine Valley Ski Resort pass, to snag lower pre-season rates.

OUT OF THE GATE

With any mention of Alpine Valley, two images emerge: skiers and snowboarders cresting down white hills in the winter, or music fans rocking

out to concerts by internationally revered bands in the summer. Despite locals' familiarity with Alpine Valley Ski Resort and Alpine Valley Music Theatre, the history of this world-renowned spot remains lesser known. In December of 2024, Alpine Valley Ski Resort will officially celebrate its 60th anniversary, so we wanted to take a look back on how far this resort has come since its 1964 debut.

Ski and Snowboard Director Bruce Firestone has been involved with the ski resort since its early beginnings. He now manages it as a partner with Wisconsin Resorts, Inc., which today owns the ski resort side of the business. In fact, Firestone's uncles — Joseph Kosik and Willis Stoick — were the founders of Alpine Valley, but it didn't start out in Wisconsin. First,

Alpine Valley debuted in White Lake, Michigan, close to where the two men were born and raised.

One of Firestone's uncles had learned to ski while stationed at a United States Air Force base in Germany, and he longed to bring that sport to the Midwest. So he built a ski lodge near Detroit. "But he realized he wanted a bigger hill, and bought some other land in 1960 near Pontiac, Michigan, called Alpine Valley," explains Firestone. "It was a big hit outside of Detroit. He said, 'That formula's working. Why not bring this to the Chicago area?'"

That's when Firestone's uncles started looking for a Wisconsin location for Alpine Valley, convenient to the Chicago market. At first, they didn't know where exactly to expand in



Wisconsin. Fortunately, one of their suppliers had an idea. “My uncle was buying a chairlift and asked the company selling it where he could build a ski hill,” says Firestone.

With great nostalgia, Firestone recalls how the current site for Alpine Valley and its surrounding land used to look. “There were cows grazing,” he describes. “Nothing was really here other than the farms you see around it.” (The sloping shape of the land was formed by receding glaciers during the last Ice Age.)

The ski hill opened on Dec. 5, 1964, and was an almost immediate success. Two years after opening, the brothers added a 30-room resort and an 18-hole golf course to the property. “At the time they called [the Michigan resort] Alpine Valley East and this was Alpine Valley West,” says Firestone. Two years after that, Firestone’s uncles expanded their business again, this time opening a resort in the Madison market. “In 1968, [Alpine Valley Ski Resort] was so successful that they went up the road north of Madison and built another hill called Devil’s Head Resort,” Firestone explains. Devil’s Head Resort is still in business today and is now owned by the son of an original partner.



“THERE WERE COWS
GRAZING. NOTHING WAS
REALLY HERE OTHER
THAN THE FARMS.”

— Bruce Firestone

BARRELING FORWARD AT TOP SPEED

Firestone says he started working with his uncles at Mount Holly, one of their properties north of Detroit, in the early 1970s. By this time,

they had a thriving portfolio of ski hills across Michigan and Wisconsin. Then, in 1977, the brothers opened Alpine Valley Music Theatre on their property in East Troy. The seasonal, outdoor-music venue hosted 36 shows that summer, including Neil Diamond, Bob Seger, Neil Young and Linda Ronstadt, and was the country’s largest amphitheater at that time.

However, the wild success of the music venue created tension between the brothers, who disagreed about how — or if — to expand it. So in 1979, the brothers made a change in ownership. “One partner kept Alpine Valley in Michigan and Devil’s Head,” says Firestone. “The other partner kept Mount Holly in Michigan and Alpine Valley in Wisconsin.”

Eventually, the music venue became too unwieldy for the family-run business to continue operating. “We ran it for 10 years,” Firestone says. “I literally helped build it and run it. But that got sold in 1986. We got out of the music business.”

THE PERFECT POWDER

In the 1980s, Firestone became a partner in the family business by further developing a ski resort near Kalamazoo, Michigan. He also helped design and



procure a patent for a snow-making machine that was superior to others on the market. “It allowed us to make better snow, more cheaply, and open earlier,” he says. It was a defining moment for Alpine Valley, as many other midcentury-era ski resorts began to fold around the same time.

“Most of the ski stuff became very popular after World War II,” Firestone explains. “The GIs came back and had been exposed to more venues. At the same time, [people were] skiing in St. Moritz where the rich and famous could ski. [There was a need for] smaller places you could go and be glamorous in your backyard.” This led to a boom in demand for ski hills.

“There were a ton of ski hills in the mid ‘60s through the mid ‘70s,” Firestone continues. “Vail Ski Resort opened in 1962,” he adds, citing one of the greatest success stories of this era. (Today, Vail Resorts owns 41 ski resorts around the world and claims 32 percent of the market share.) However, many of these midcentury ski hills did not survive, struggling to keep up with changing technology and equipment improvements.

Today, most of Alpine Valley’s local competitors have closed or been sold off. Firestone says those operations didn’t have the funds or space to continue to improve by building additional infrastructure. “At

Majestic [Hills Ski Area], they didn’t have enough parking at the bottom, for example,” explains Firestone. “Hawks’ View was not as big a hill as Alpine. Wilmot Mountain is one of the oldest — they started in 1937, pre-World War II,” he says, but notes that Wilmot was acquired by Vail Resorts in January 2016.

Not far from Alpine Valley in rural Lyons Township, Grand Geneva Resort and Spa’s Mountain Top Ski and Adventure Center is today owned by the Marcus Corporation, but Firestone says that ski area was originally inspired by Alpine Valley. “Hugh Hefner wanted to come to this property when we started it [in the 1960s]. He wanted to build a hotel and make it a nightclub, plus skiing, because skiing was so popular then. Obviously, that didn’t happen here, but he built the Playboy Club with its own ski hill down the road, at what is now Grand Geneva.”

IT’S ONLY ROCK ‘N ROLL

After Firestone’s uncle sold Alpine Valley Music Theatre in 1986, the 240-acre venue went on to

greater and greater fame, becoming one of the best-known outdoor music venues in the country, as well as the site of a tragic helicopter accident that took the life of guitarist Stevie Ray Vaughan. “[It’s] changed hands four times and [is] now owned by a Florida-based investment group and operated by Live Nation,” says Firestone. The capacity has been expanded to accommodate around 37,000 people, making the economics of filling the seats more challenging. “Back in the day, when we ran it [as a smaller venue], we [had] shows every week. In today’s world, the theater seats almost 40,000 people. Today there’s very few groups that can even fill 30,000 seats.” Instead, today the venue hosts these larger (and more lucrative) concerts less frequently, averaging about three to five shows per summer since Live Nation took over.

One factor that has led to the amphitheater’s continued success is the booking of annually recurring shows. From the 1980s through the early 2000s, many rock bands would book several nights of shows at Alpine Valley, their fans traveling from around the Midwest and the





Mary Ochoa Petersen

**Lake & County
Real Estate Specialist**

20 + Years of Experience

COMPASS



**\$109M+
in Career Sales**

Mary is known in the real estate space as one of the most creative, innovative, and well-connected agents in the industry today. She has the experience, wisdom, personality, and passion. Her ability to be authentic comes naturally, which flows into her ability to work beautifully with clients who are selling or buying.

Mary Ochoa Petersen

262.770.7367

mary.opetersen@compass.com

Mary Ochoa Petersen is a real estate licensee affiliated with Compass, a licensed real estate broker and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. Keefe RE agents are now licensed with Compass. ©



**“THEY BY FAR
MAKE THE BEST
SNOW IN THE AREA.”**

— Harold Friestadt

United States to camp on the property and attend some or all of the shows. The Grateful Dead played at Alpine Valley 20 times between 1980 and 1989. Phish has performed 23 times. The Dave Matthews Band has frequently hosted two-night engagements at Alpine Valley, starting in 1999. On top of this, many bands have chosen to record concerts or music videos at Alpine Valley, including the Grateful Dead, Motley Crue, the Black Crowes and Korn.

ONWARD AND UPWARD

Firestone feels that selling the music venue allowed the partners to focus on making the ski hill the best it could be. He says that the same year that they sold the venue, “we put [additional] dirt on top of the hill to make it

bigger, and put in more lifts and more snow-making equipment to accommodate it. It went from [a height of] 260 feet to about 360 feet.” Today, the ski area boasts more than 100 skiable acres with

20 runs that range from beginner to expert, plus three terrain parks for snowboarders. To get guests back to the top of the hill, there are three high-speed quads, four triple chairlifts, two rope tows and five beginner “magic carpets,” plus a fun snow carousel for kids. In addition to Alpine Valley’s 110-room hotel (opening for the season this year at the end of December), the resort also offers multiple on-site dining options, including: an indoor café and coffee shop, the Valley View Lounge and the Alpine Bistro, a refined, indoor fireside dining experience.

So what’s next for Alpine Valley? “We’re always improving,” Firestone explains. “We built a new pavilion. We changed all of our carts to electric carts two years ago. There’s plans in





I LIVE HERE, I PLAY HERE, I SELL HERE



**“AMERICA’S BEST LIST” FOR TEAM VOLUME IN 2017, 2018, 2020, 2021, 2022 BY REAL TRENDS*
TEAM SALES OVER \$216M SINCE 2016****



STEPHANIE PARENT REALTOR®
MOBILE: 773.209.3465 | steph@atproperties.com

WWW.STEPHANIEPARENT.COM



Lake Geneva Residential Real Estate***

*Source Real Trends 2017-2022. **Source MLS Stephanie Parent At the Lake team sales volume 1/1/2016 to 10/3/2023. ***As ranked by Chicago Agent Magazine.


the works to remodel the hotel in the next two years.” A celebration of the 60th anniversary is also in the works for next winter.

Firestone notes how the sport of skiing has changed throughout Alpine Valley’s history, becoming faster and better, as well as safer. “At the original opening you had to strap on leather boots and you had to adjust each binding, which were spring-loaded,” he says. “Sometimes we did that inside, sometimes outside. There would be a lot of ankle and knee injuries because the release wasn’t very good. Over time, the industry has [made] better releasing equipment.”



Another change has taken place in the snow making, a necessity to keeping ski hills open reliably throughout a fickle Midwest winter. Originally, snow was created using air compressors, a process that took a long time and was very expensive. “You couldn’t depend on Mother Nature then and you still can’t,” explains Firestone. Today, the

technology to make snow has improved significantly, which enables the resort to maintain a consistent seasonal calendar. Another change involves the grooming of the hills, Firestone says. The hills used to be groomed with a bulldozer. Now there are high-tech machines that help achieve the perfect ski and snowboard conditions.

Listening to Firestone, it is clear that today at Alpine Valley Ski Resort, as it has been for the past 60 winters, the snow really is the star. Friestadt agrees. When asked what keeps him coming to Alpine Valley most mornings every winter, Friestadt has an easy answer. “They by far make the best snow in the area,” he says. 



MICK BALESTRIERI

Luxury Home Specialist
Lake | Country | Golf

Celebrating 30+ Years Award Winning Service
Top Lake Geneva Realtor with Over \$1/2 Billion Career Sales
750+ Lakefront Transactions

262.949.3996
Mick.B@Compass.com
LakeGenevaRealty.com

Mick Balestrieri is a real estate licensee affiliated with Compass, a licensed real estate broker and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. Keefe RE agents are now licensed with Compass.

CREATING
FUNCTIONAL
& BEAUTIFUL
SPACES IN
YOUR HOME,
TAILORED TO
YOUR DREAMS

*Cabinetry and design
specialists for your
kitchen, bathroom,
laundry, mudroom,
and home built-ins.*



Proudly represents

Wood·Mode
FINE CUSTOM CABINETRY

TAILORED *Spaces*

300 W. Front St., Suite 105A,
Harvard, IL 60033 (306 door)
815.770.0390 | tailoredspacesllc.com



Signs of the Times



BY ANNE MORRISSY | PHOTOS AS NOTED

The Geneva Lake area is home to several classic, midcentury vintage signs. These retro works of art immediately communicate a deep sense of place, representing the 20th century history of the towns these signs illuminate. In the case of many of these retro signs, the chosen medium is neon, an eye-catching lighting method that is quickly disappearing in an age of new technology.

In this photo portfolio, we celebrate the surviving historic signs that help to give Lake Geneva, Williams Bay, Fontana and Delavan a distinct sense of local character.

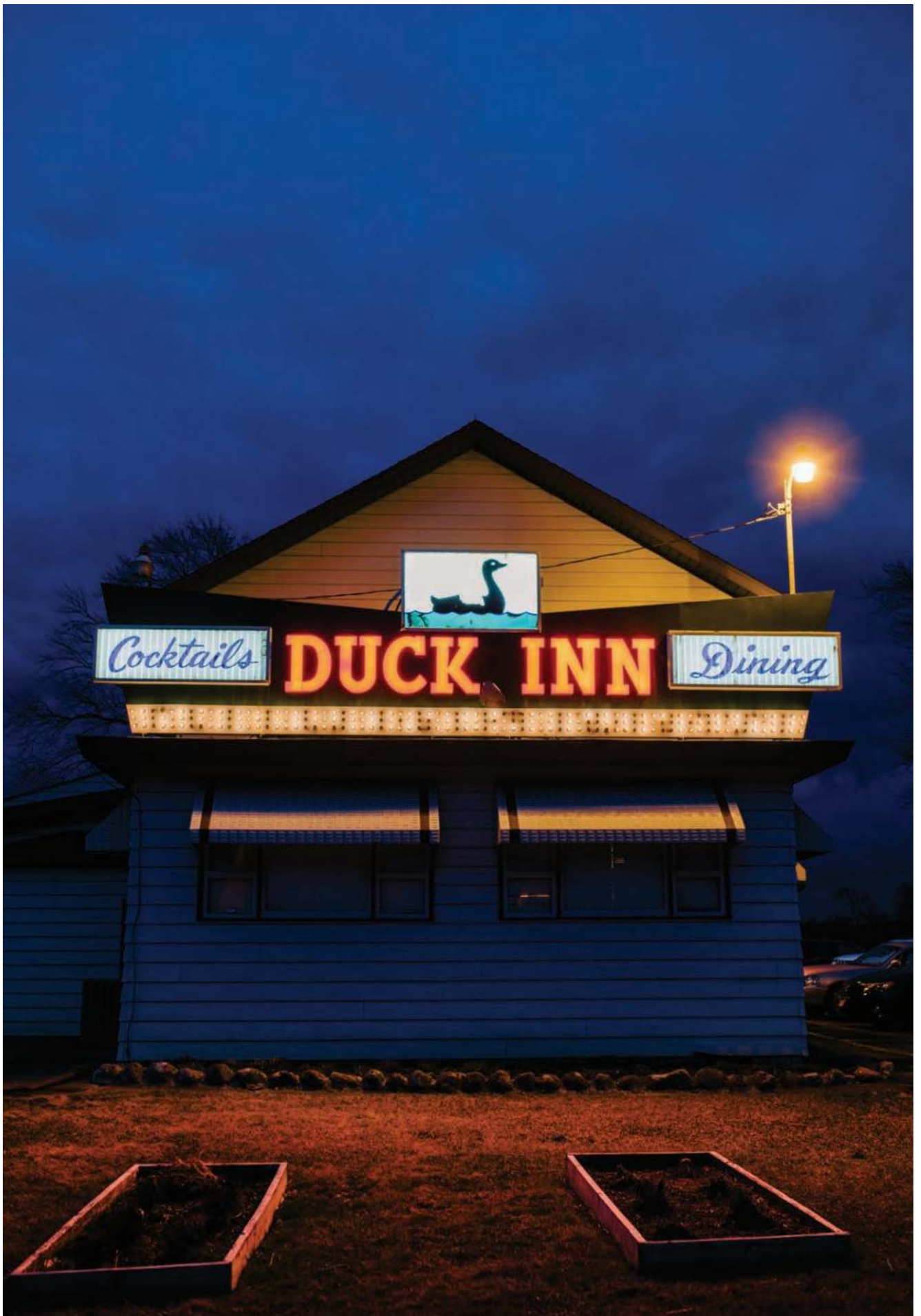




CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: LAUREN HARRIGAN, HOLLY LEITNER, ANNE MORRIS



LAUREN HARRIGAN



THIS PAGE: HILLARY SCHAVE; OPPOSITE: HOLLY LEITNER





SHANNON BLAY
REAL ESTATE

Your Lakes Area Expert



Shannon Blay
262.215.8120

shannon.blay@compass.com

COMPASS

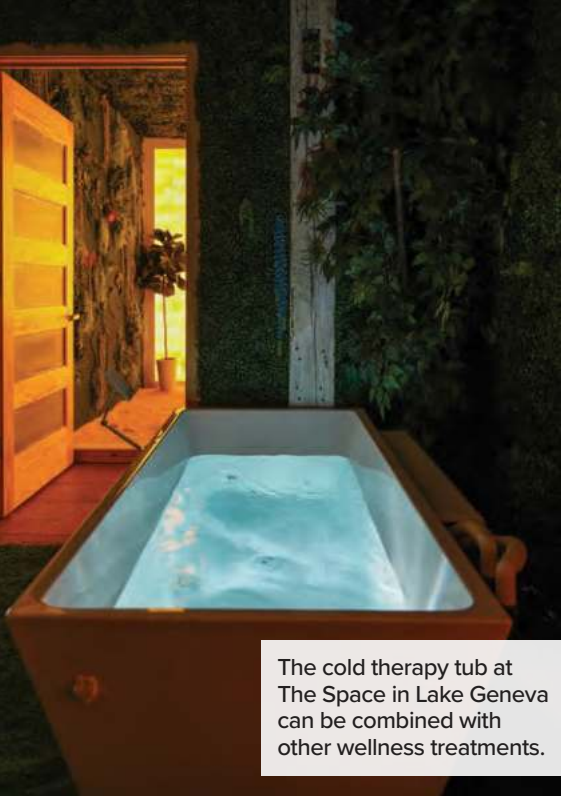


Serene Seasonal Healing

A guide to embracing alternative wellness treatments this winter

BY SARAH KOEHLER

A recent study by the University of Texas found that nearly 10 million Americans suffer from Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), a form of depression which affects people from mid- to late- fall through the early days of spring and is thought to be tied to lack of daylight. Luckily, the Lake Geneva area has plenty of options to keep you feeling healthy, peaceful and stress-free until summer arrives again.



The cold therapy tub at The Space in Lake Geneva can be combined with other wellness treatments.

At Lake Geneva's Element Massage Studio, therapists offer various massage options, including Swedish massage, CBD pain relief, couples massage, hot stone massages and cupping, but one of the most popular options for visitors is the 30-minute Reiki treatment. Originating in Japan in the early 20th century, Reiki is a form of healing based on the idea that all people possess unseen energy forces within themselves. By guiding that energy throughout the body in positive ways, a practitioner can "realign" the energy, thus promoting healing from within.

Dale Martin, owner of Element and a licensed massage therapist since 2000, says that it's not uncommon for Westerners to show initial skepticism about Reiki, but it's usually because they are unfamiliar with the techniques. "It's not hands-on like a massage," he explains. "It's using the universal energy around us."

Element massage therapist Angel Purgatorio specializes in Reiki healing. "It can help reduce stress and tension," she explains. "It can help with pain, fatigue, depression and anxiety ... it promotes relaxation, balances your chakras and lets good energy flow."

Element is not alone in merging Eastern and Western health practices. At The Space in downtown Lake Geneva, practitioners and fitness leaders routinely focus on this blend. In Eastern medicine, healing is often done from within, with patients focusing on their own body, mind and spirit.

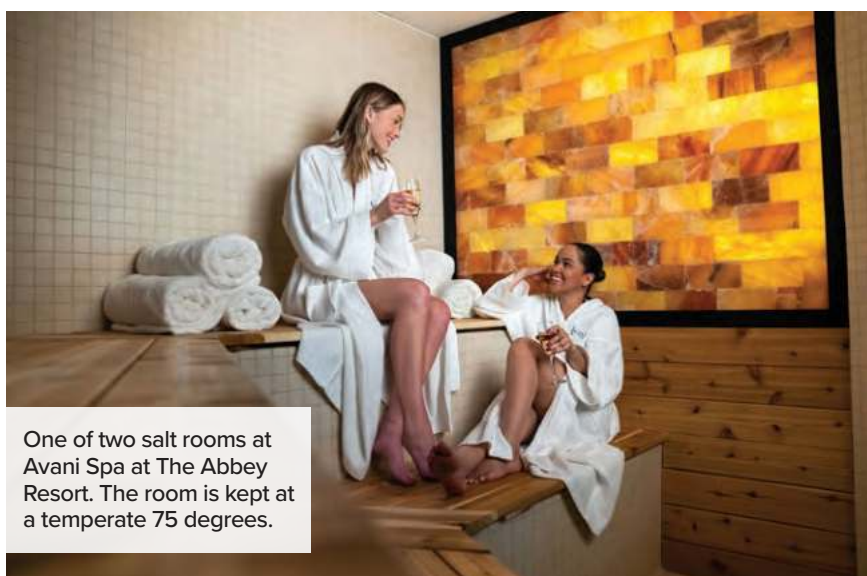
Methods such as yoga, Pilates and meditation have become more popular in the United States over the past few decades, but additional Eastern approaches are growing as well, and inspiring new approaches to wellness. The Space offers black-light spin classes approximately once a week, in which the room is illuminated only by black lights. This allows the class participants to focus less on those around them and focus instead on their own performance, thus removing the element of comparison or competition in the room.

Another service offered at The Space is chromotherapy. Similar to Reiki, chromotherapy is a non-contact form of healing which uses colored light to heal the physical, mental and spiritual imbalances that can occur within the human body. The Space features a chromotherapy sauna, in which clients can spend time allowing

the full spectrum of light to heal the body, which can then be followed by a dip in the cold therapy tub.

Inside The Space is also the Ivy Hydration Bar, where Dr. Joe Danna and his daughter, physician's assistant Kate Ketterhagen, channel their traditional medical expertise into intravenous (IV) nutrition therapy, supplements and aesthetic Botox treatments. Both Danna and Ketterhagen come from backgrounds in emergency medicine, and now oversee a staff of licensed registered nurses who help clients customize their health and wellness goals, including options to help with energy, weight loss or other individual concerns — even hangovers! The Ivy Bar also offers injectable shots of vitamins such as B12, C and D, or minerals like Biotin and Zinc, which can be added to the IV treatments.

For those looking for a non-invasive wellness afternoon, Fontana's Avani Spa at the Abbey Resort also offers unique ways to improve health: two salt rooms, each kept at a temperate 75 degrees and incorporating Infrared Light Therapy. "Inhaling the salty air is equivalent to spending several days by the ocean, packed into a 20-minute experience," Spa Manager Ashley Van Asten explains. "The benefits can include clearer skin, reduction of congestion in both the



One of two salt rooms at Avani Spa at The Abbey Resort. The room is kept at a temperate 75 degrees.

sinuses and chest and supporting the immune system during the season from allergies, colds, flus and asthma. Salt therapy may also offer a quick and effective way to reduce inflammation.”

Just as the Vitamin D from the summer sunshine gives your skin a natural glow and boosts your mood, Infrared Light Therapy often has the same effect. Similar to the chromotherapy treatments available at The Space, the Infrared Light Therapy at Avani Spa may reduce inflammation for people with arthritis and orthopedic conditions, while helping to improve circulation and eliminate toxins from the body.

Delavan’s Calladora Spa at Lake Lawn Resort offers guests a similar effect with its eucalyptus steam room, where the moist air is infused with eucalyptus oil. The room is kept at a temperature more than 100 degrees and a humidity level near 100 percent. Even before


Once eucalyptus oils are added to the steam, the benefits multiply.

— Christine Showalter, Spa Manager, Calladora Spa, Lake Lawn Resort

adding the eucalyptus oil, steam rooms are known to have multiple health benefits, including lowering blood pressure and improving circulation, reducing stress, clearing congestion, promoting skin health and loosening stiff joints.

Spa Manager Christine Showalter explains that once the eucalyptus oils

are added to the steam, the benefits multiply. “Eucalyptus oil is known for its antibacterial, anti-inflammatory, decongestant, antiseptic and stimulating properties,” she says. “It reduces exhaustion and mental sluggishness, rejuvenates the body, helps eliminate lactic acid buildup and eases muscle tension and pain. It can also improve the immune system, and aid in the decrease of asthmatic conditions, removing mucus and toxins from the lungs. Plus, it smells good!”

Whatever your winter wellness goals this year, these experts make it clear that the Geneva Lake area offers a full menu of alternative wellness treatments, perfect for mixing and matching. By finding the right combination for your specific wellness path, you can banish the winter blahs and start fully embracing the coziest season of the year. 



LOVE THE SKIN YOU'RE IN BECAUSE YOU DESERVE IT

We specialize in holistic treatments that rejuvenate well-aged skin and freeze away inches, creating a natural, refreshed, and refined look.

Treatment Results are IMMEDIATE and PERMANENT

Plasma Fibroblast Treatments:

- ✓ Significantly tighten and repair skin with a **NON-SURGICAL SOLUTION.**
- ✓ **ELIMINATE** wrinkles, **TIGHTEN** skin and restore a youthful **GLOW.**

CryoSkin Treatments:

- ✓ **DESTROY FAT** and **LOSE INCHES** in a quick, comfortable 30-40 minute session.
- ✓ **LIFT and TIGHTEN** your face and body. Put your best self forward.



Our Newest Offering: Cool Jet Plasma Treatments
Book your free consultation today!

PlasmaLift
Skin Clinic

  @plasmaliftskinclinic
 www.plasmaliftskinclinic.com
 414 708 3347



Take the PLUNGE

A guide to the frigid fun
of polar plunges

BY SARAH KOEHLER

On most days, plunging into the icy waters around Geneva Lake would be the last thing on people's minds. But in some cases, brave residents and visitors are taking the plunge on purpose for a good cause: often to raise money for those in need, sometimes to build a sense of community. If you're looking to get in on the frigid fun, here are a few options for Polar Plunges in the area to consider:

Freezin' for a Reason (Dec. 2, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Pier 290, Williams Bay) – Gage Marine hosts this unique twist on a traditional polar plunge at their Winter Harbor location, Pier 290 bar and restaurant in Williams Bay. The event benefits the Santa Cause supercharity, which distributes funds to several local Walworth County nonprofit organizations. As part of the event, amateur water skiers, wakeboarders, wakesurfers and tubers can register to show off their skills while braving the cold water of Geneva Lake. In addition, professional water skiers and the Twin Lakes Aquanuts water ski team perform at the event. Spectators can also enjoy food and beverage specials, raffles and a live and silent auction. Last year, Freezin' for a Reason raised \$35,000 for the Santa Cause, and organizers aim to exceed that goal this year. For more info, visit freezinlakegeneva.org.

Williams Bay Community Polar Plunge (Jan. 1, noon, Williams Bay Beach, Williams Bay) – This community plunge gets more and more popular every winter! Join the masses and jump in the icy waters of Geneva Lake to ring in the new year. If the lake is frozen, the event moves to Pier 290, where a section of water is kept open year-round.

Last year, the air temperature hovered around 29 degrees as more than 100 people gathered on the shoreline to grill hot dogs, drink hot chocolate, tailgate and spend time with neighbors and friends. The Lady of the Lake tour boat brought a group of spectators out and gave the countdown for the plungers to run into the water. Some participants wore costumes, while others donned swimsuits or bathrobes and a few put on their wetsuits. Whatever the getup, the goal was the same: have fun with your neighbors, do something a little crazy, and start the year off in a memorable way.

"Dip for Dave" (Jan. 1, 10:30 a.m. registration, noon plunge, The Boat House Bar & Grill, Lake Geneva) – The annual "Dip for Dave" polar plunge is hosted at a popular bar and restaurant next to Big Foot Beach State Park. The event benefits "Kisses from Keegan & Friends," a pediatric cancer foundation, and is named in honor of Dave Mikrut, a dedicated board member of the charity who passed away in 2021.

Last year, the plunge raised about \$2,000 for the foundation, though participants were unable to jump into the water because Buttons Bay had frozen over. Event organizers are hoping the weather will cooperate this year. Visit kissesfromkeegan.org.

Walworth County Special Olympics (March 9, 9:30 a.m. registration, noon plunge, Whitewater Aquatic Center, Whitewater) – If jumping in a lake in the dead of winter is too adventurous, then mark your calendar for early March, when the Walworth County chapter of Special Olympics Wisconsin sponsors a polar plunge at the Whitewater Aquatic Center. The event is one of eight statewide polar plunges (plus a virtual plunge) that benefit the charity. Last year, the combined polar plunge events brought out more than 2,000 participants, raising nearly \$1.1 million for the cause, and this year, organizers hope to exceed that amount.

The Whitewater event aims to raise \$100,000 toward the overall goal. Plungers take a dip in a temporary outdoor pool that volunteers set up at the Whitewater Aquatic Center specifically for the event. Numerous police, fire and emergency medical personnel are on hand to ensure the safety of all participants. Registration is currently open, and the organization is actively seeking participants, sponsors, donors and spectators. For more info, visit polarplungewi.org.



At The LIBRARY

This winter, curl up under a blanket and enjoy these reads with regional interest, recommended by Lake Geneva Public Library Community Engagement Librarian Ellen Ward-Packard.

THE KINDRED SPIRITS SUPPER CLUB

BY AMY E. REICHERT



Ghosts! Romance! Supper clubs! Down-on-her-luck Sabrina returns to the Wisconsin Dells and the family curse that lets her communicate with needy spirits. Things start looking up when she connects with a cheese curd-obsessed supper club owner. Cute and quirky, this rom-com has a little bit of everything.

LIVING A COUNTRY YEAR: WIT AND WISDOM FROM THE GOOD OLD DAYS

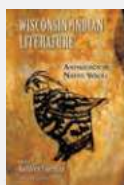
BY JERRY APPS



This memoir by the elder statesman of Wisconsin rural history is organized by the months of the year, and includes a memory, a recipe, and snippets of advice for each. Read it in one sitting, or let it guide you month by month.

WISCONSIN INDIAN LITERATURE: ANTHOLOGY OF NATIVE VOICES

EDITED BY KATHLEEN TIGERMAN

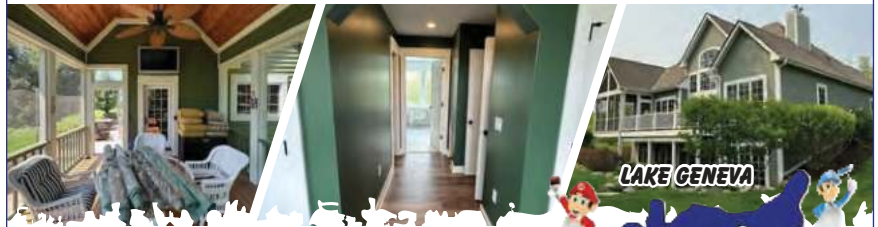


This anthology by a University of Wisconsin professor collects historical and contemporary works from members of the many tribes that make up the American Indian Nations of Wisconsin. Ranging from creation myths to environmental protest pieces, this book offers a chorus of often-excluded, Wisconsin native voices.

Lake Geneva Paint Pros offering **Winter Rates** on all Interior Projects

SERVING THE LAKES AREA, SE WI AND NE IL FOR OVER 16 YEARS.

Interior • Exterior • Residential • Commercial



Call for Snow Removal! 262.949.2260

LakeGenevaPaintPros@yahoo.com | lakegenevapaintpros.com



FIND US ON FACEBOOK FOR PROJECT PHOTOS, OFFERS AND MORE!

PETER MILLAR | JOHNNIE-O | SOUTHERN TIDE | TOMMY BAHAMA | 34 HERITAGE | STONE ROSE



Carrying the finest in men's clothing and accessories.

Spread the Warmth

253 Broad Street
Lake Geneva, Wisconsin
262.248.7700

haberdapper.com





FARMHOUSE CHARM MEETS MODERN AMENITIES

Stebnitz Builders helped one family achieve their perfect farmhouse kitchen through remodeling

To move or not to move — that is the question many homeowners face as they consider whether to upgrade their existing home or pack up and find a new one.

The team at Stebnitz Builders in Elkhorn understands that remodeling allows you to make a home fit your unique needs and lifestyle, as most remodeling projects are designed specifically for the owners' use, not built based on standard plans like new-build construction. For more than 50 years, the name Stebnitz Builders has been synonymous with exceptional remodeling within the Walworth County area. As an award-winning remodeling company, Stebnitz Builders brings a wealth of experience to each remodeling project, while taking pride in working in close partnership with each client, ensuring every facet of the project reflects the goals and visions that are unique to that homeowner's needs.



One area of home renovation that today's homeowners are embracing is kitchen redesign. Granite counters, commercial kitchen-style stoves and custom-built cabinets are high on many homeowners' wishlists, as they look to upgrade their kitchens with the latest features and comforts.

Recently, Stebnitz Builders undertook a kitchen remodeling project that had the goal of creating a more functional and free-flowing kitchen, while also incorporating modern updates. The result? A straightforward, well-designed kitchen that boasts significantly improved functionality for the homeowners.

Although the kitchen redesign incorporated state-of-the-art elements, the kitchen also stayed true to the homeowners' vision of maintaining a welcoming farmhouse appeal. When remodeling this 1950's-era home, the team

from Stebnitz Builders used their knowledge and expertise to renovate the kitchen, seamlessly matching its new improvements with the home's original charm.

Every good kitchen design needs to provide ample lighting for cooking, eating and entertaining. As Jeff "Chopper" Anderson, remodeling consultant at Stebnitz Builders, explains, some of the "must-haves" of this beautiful kitchen remodeling project included adding pendant, recessed and under-cabinet lighting to increase the amount of light in the space.

"We also removed the 1970s wood paneling, and replaced it with painted drywall to brighten the room and modernize the space," Anderson says. By rotating the pantry from its original location, Stebnitz Builders was able to create an inviting wet bar with a seating area, an ideal space where the homeowners can entertain family and friends. In addition, the newly redesigned pantry allowed for the kitchen to flow more naturally into the adjacent great room.





Kitchen flooring needs to be functional and durable, yet aesthetically pleasing. That's why the homeowners asked the Stebnitz Builders team to install rustic-style, luxury vinyl plank (LVP) flooring, which replaced the original carpeting in the new wet bar seating area as well as the rolled sheet vinyl flooring in the home's kitchen. Both durable and beautiful, the new LVP flooring provides the perfect foundation for the family's active lifestyle, while also continuing to pay homage to the kitchen's farmhouse design.

Stebnitz Builders recognizes that kitchens are traditionally considered to be the "heart of the home." That's why for this kitchen remodel, the Stebnitz team incorporated Shilow cabinetry in a warm Maple Acorn stain and mocha glaze in the kitchen. In the adjacent bar area, the cabinetry was highlighted with a Kodiak-style oak stain. To complete the transformation, the cabinetry was accented with solid quartz countertops.

As a final touch, the Stebnitz team included a peninsula as a central spot for family and friends to gather, reflecting the family's lifestyle.

"The center [peninsula] gave our clients two eating areas, one being their formal dining table and the other being the

STEBNITZ BUILDERS INC.

204 Commerce Ct., #3, Elkhorn, WI 53121

262-723-7232 | stebnitzbuilders.com

more efficient peninsula for a quick lunch before getting back to their farm chores," Anderson says. "It also expanded the kitchen workspace for preparing large meals. Specifically, they host their family Thanksgiving and Christmas get-togethers, so having the space to prepare an extended family dinner was a must."

This farmstead has housed four generations and has gone through many changes since its establishment in the 1950s. As such, the team from Stebnitz Builders was determined to incorporate unique design elements that provided a nod to the generations that planted their roots in this home.

"We repurposed the original kitchen cabinet doors to create the cabinet doors for their wet bar," Anderson says. "This touch allowed our clients to pay homage to the past while creating a space that can make more family memories for many years to come." 🍷

Your Day, Your Way

M
MAXWELL
MANSION
— LAKE GENEVA —

ELEGANT WEDDINGS & EVENTS

304 S WELLS ST - LAKE GENEVA - 262.248.9711 ASK FOR SALES
STAYMAXWELL.COM

14th Annual Wedding Guide

KRISTINA LORRAINE PHOTOGRAPHY



GETTING MARRIED *At The Lake*

**HOW TO
INCORPORATE ...
PERSONALIZATIONS,
KIDS, PETS**

Page 64

**TO HAVE
AND TO HOLD**

Page 70

**ON THE
MENU**

Page 73

**REAL
WEDDINGS**

Page 74

HOW to Incorporate

PERSONALIZATIONS, KIDS & PETS



HOW TO MAKE YOUR DAY TRULY YOUR OWN

BY ALEXANDRA DILLARD
AND ANNE MORRISSY

PERSONALIZATIONS

Your wedding day is a complete reflection of you and your partner. You put everything you love into this day. From including your best friends as your wedding attendants to crafting a menu of favorite dishes to marrying your favorite person in the world, your wedding is all about what you love most. So why not tie in a few truly personalized things that tell your love story as well?

- **Invitations, Stationery and Signage** – From the moment the save-the-date card arrives, you are communicating your wedding's distinct style to guests. Personalize your wedding stationery and signage further by incorporating hand-drawn illustrations of you and your partner, or maps with local recommendations and points

of interest to your love story. Table signage provides an excellent opportunity to tell your personalized story as well, whether through photos, treasured mementos, specific shared memories or other meaningful decorations.



- **Ceremony** – The ceremony itself is the most integral part of a wedding. It sets the tone for your marriage and communicates the basis of your commitment to all involved. Sometimes in the whirlwind of planning, the ceremony can get overlooked. But it provides an excellent opportunity to personalize your wedding through the incorporation of elements that are meaningful to you and your partner. A sand ceremony, an organized wildlife release or the shared planting of a plant or tree all symbolize unity, and provide an opportunity to personalize the ceremony and make a meaningful statement together.

- **Wedding Photos** – Maybe you spent your first date on a golf course or met as coworkers at a zoo. Maybe you share a love of boating or are strong supporters of an animal shelter or literacy organization. Incorporating these interests into your wedding photos in some way will enshrine them, and ensure that your photos are uniquely your own.

- **In Memoriam** – Remembering those friends and family members who are no longer with us is an integral part of many couples' wedding days. Incorporating their photos into a welcome table display or carrying a small charm or talisman that reminds you of the loved one (sometimes pinned to the bouquet) is a wonderful way to memorialize them and keep them close on your special day.

- **Menu & Cake** – One of the best ways to show love is to share food. Do you have a favorite food or type of cuisine? Is there a regional dish from a place that you have lived that is particularly meaningful to you? Incorporating these personalized foods into your menu will ensure a memorable night for your guests. Cake decoration



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: KRISTINA LORRAINE PHOTOGRAPHY, ANNA URBAN PHOTOGRAPHY, KRISTINA LORRAINE PHOTOGRAPHY, IDEAL IMPRESSIONS, WATT MASON PHOTOGRAPHY, KRISTINA LORRAINE PHOTOGRAPHY

CIGARS, SPIRITS AND CELEBRATIONS

YOUR SEAT AWAITS...



Indoor Smoking Lounge + Expansive Walk-In Humidor



2517 N. Shore Drive, Delavan, WI | churchillslounge.com

and cake toppers can be a great opportunity to further personalize your wedding, or for a less formal wedding, try personalized, decorated cookies or cupcakes instead.

- **Reception Entertainment** – While music is a common element of many weddings, more and more couples are opting for personalized entertainment options in addition to a DJ or live band. One option is live wedding painting, where an artist creates a painting of the event in real time. There is also live poetry, where a professional poet creates personalized poems for guests. From opting for a magician to a living statue or a mariachi band, these personalized wedding elements create unforgettable moments for guests.

KIDS

Whether you and your partner already have children together, have children from previous relationships or come from blended families with much younger siblings, it's important to include the kids most special to you on your wedding day. While the full roster of wedding events might not be thrilling to a little one, there are many ways to make sure all of your guests feel welcomed and ready to celebrate, no matter their age.

- **Cake Tasting** – This might be a kid's favorite part of the whole wedding process! Inviting them to your cake tasting will let them know they are involved in the wedding and that their opinions are valued in this marriage.
- **Decorators** – Don't be afraid to let the special kids in your life help with the decorating. This could mean giving them the task of sprinkling flower petals/confetti throughout the venue, or allowing them to get creative in outfitting the photo booth. Kids are great at thinking outside of the box, so tap into that creativity!
- **Ceremony Roles** – Depending on the child's personality and level



of extroversion, inviting them to participate in the ceremony can be a fun touch. While younger children often serve as a flower girl or ring bearer, older children can help walk mom down the aisle or read a poem or passage from Scripture at the ceremony.

- **“First Look” photos** – If your own children will attend the wedding, try a fun variation on the classic “First Look” photo, where each spouse reveals their wedding day look to their children first. This can also be a sweet opportunity to present your child with a small gift to honor their presence at such a momentous event.
- **Entertainment** – Let’s be honest, weddings can be dull and arduous for kids. Give the day some youthful fun by offering an area for games and activities. This can include wedding-themed coloring pages and word searches, an I-Spy Bingo board, kid-friendly snack packs or backyard games like jumbo Jenga.

PETS

Is your pet just as important to you as your significant other? For many couples, incorporating furry friends into their wedding day is a must. While pets might not make the invite list, they certainly deserve to be represented in the festivities.

- **Welcome Table and Bar** – Whiskers might not be in attendance, but his/her presence will be known! Include a photo or illustration of your beloved pet on the welcome table, or



WEDDING FLORIST

Customized Packages
One-on-One Design Process
Local Flower Farm Supplies
Vase & Decor Rentals
Theme Planning
Bridal Shower Gifts & More

(262) 812-4062 | 239 Cook St., Lake Geneva

PerfectPetalsByTali.com

perfect petals
FLORAL & GIFTS

f i p

524 Wells St., Lake Geneva • 262.248.3464
thelakegenevalodge.com

OPEN YEAR ROUND • NEWLY RENOVATED
LESS THAN A 10 MINUTE WALK TO THE LAKE, RESTAURANTS AND BARS

ROOMS • CABINS • FREE IN ROOM COFFEE • GOLF AND RESTAURANT NEXT DOOR • HEATED POOL • FREE PARKING
AIR CONDITIONING • REFRIGERATORS • MICROWAVES • BARBEQUE GRILLS • FREE WI-FI • FLAT SCREEN TV
FIREPLACE & WHIRLPOOL • ESPN & DISNEY • HAIRDRYER • IRON • IRONING BOARD

f t p

THE BEST OF
WALWORTH COUNTY
2022

:: WEDDINGS :: SENIORS :: FAMILY :: COMMERCIAL ::

MATT MASON
PHOTOGRAPHY

opt for a sign on your bar with a photo of the family pet. (Bonus, put “Sponsored By:” above their image.) This will get a chuckle out of guests while honoring your beloved four-legged friends.

- **Pet “First Look” Photo** – Maybe having your pet in attendance for the whole wedding isn’t the right fit. But one option is to coordinate with your pet sitter to bring them to your wedding during your scheduled photo time. Then, for a sweet photo opportunity, ask your photographer to take a “First Look” photo with your pet. (Bonus points for dressing Fido in a vest that says, “I loved her first.”) Having your pet in some of your wedding photos will be a priceless keepsake!
- **Custom Cookies** – What is cuter than a portrait of your pet on a delicious cookie? Include these sweet treats in your guests’ welcome bags, at the dessert table at the reception, or as a parting gift.



CLOCKWISE: IDEAL IMPRESSIONS, IDEAL IMPRESSIONS, MATT MASON PHOTOGRAPHY



experience lake geneva's finest photographers

PHOTOGRAPHY
IDEAL IMPRESSIONS
COMPANY

BEST ALBUM SELECTION ON THE PLANET
100% CUSTOMER SERVICE GUARANTEE
NAMED BEST PHOTOGRAPHERS IN WISCONSIN

WEDDINGS - EVENTS - PHOTOBOOTHS - VIDEO
idealimpressions.com • 262.729.3192

tuscan
Tavern & Grill
Lake Geneva

Lake Geneva's Finest...

Private party rooms for weddings + baby showers, wedding rehearsals, anniversary parties and pre/post wedding parties.



430 N. Broad St.
Downtown Lake Geneva
262.248.0888
TheTuscanTavernandGrill.com

- **Stationery Illustrations** – Make your stationery stand out with pet illustrations. This can add an artistic touch to your wedding invitations, save-the-dates and other paper goods.
- **Cake** – Cake decorators can incorporate man's best friend in several ways, from hiding a sweet frosting version of your pup in the decoration, to adding a canine cake topper to complement the traditional bride-and-groom topper set.
- **"Doggie Bag"** – As guests leave the wedding, invite them to take a "doggie bag" of cat or dog treats with them — a gift from your pet to theirs.
- **Ceremony Role** – With the right accessories, well-trained pets can make excellent stand-ins as ring bearers, or can help escort the bride down the aisle. ☺



Kristina Lorraine Photography
WWW.KRISTINALORRAINE.COM

Memorable Celebrations

The Lakeshore Room above Chuck's is ideal for hosting your special event.

Bridal Showers, Rehearsal Dinners,
Intimate Weddings & Post-Wedding Brunches

CHUCK'S
LAKESHORE INN

Beautiful seven-mile view of Geneva Lake.
Accommodates 25-55 guests comfortably.

CALL US AT 262.903.4432 FOR BOOKINGS OR MORE INFO.

352 Lake St., Fontana : fun@chuckslakeshoreinn.com : chuckslakeshoreinn.com



To Have To Hold

A BOUQUET STYLE GUIDE

BY ALEXANDRA DILLARD AND
ANNE MORRISSY

A talented florist will guide you to the perfect flower choices for your budget, season and style. But when it comes to bouquet size and structure selection, there are many options to consider.



ALL PHOTOS THIS PAGE: KRISTINA LORRAINE PHOTOGRAPHY



ASYMMETRICAL

As the name suggests, an asymmetrical bouquet will not look the same on both sides: one side of the arrangement may be significantly higher than the other, or one side may have a significant accent that the other side does not. The effect is a more natural, just-plucked look that mixes foliage and florals in a way that suggests no particular order.

GARDEN

The garden-style bouquet relies heavily on in-season blooms, taking a single, heavy flower as its focus. Garden bouquets are generally less structured than traditional posy or nosegay bouquets, but still retain the familiar oval shape.



PAGEANT BOUQUET

Also known as the presentation bouquet or arm sheath, the pageant bouquet is designed to be carried in the crook of the arm, almost like an infant. This creates a vintage and effortless look without being too dramatic.

POSY BOUQUET

A classic and timeless choice is the posy bouquet. Ever popular, this bouquet is small enough to be held with one hand and often incorporates more florals than filler foliage. The size also makes it great for wedding attendants, flower girls or petite soon-to-be-weds.



ROUND BOUQUET

Round bouquets are perfectly spherical orbs, oftentimes using a single type/color of flower in abundance. If using more than one type of flower, this style of bouquet still typically remains in a similar monochromatic color palette or texture. These bouquets are tightly structured and honor the natural splendor of circular-shaped flowers.

NOSEGAY

The nosegay is a traditional and popular bouquet option, consisting of a tightly packed bunch of flowers all cut to a uniform length and tied off with an accent wrap. The result is a chic, small and not overwhelming bouquet for a bride to hold. Typically, this bouquet style focuses on one flower or color, also possibly including a few more blooms to complement.



**THE
OPAL
MAN**
GALLERY OF
FINE OPAL
JEWELRY

**Ages old,
Beauty
untold.**

253 Center Street,
Suite 200
Lake Geneva, WI
(262) 812-4076

www.TheOpalMan.com

**NATURAL.
GENUINE.
PERFECTION.**



LAKEFRONT SHUTTLE

*Bringing you to
the best of the Lake
Geneva Area!*

Book your tour today!

- Country Thunder Shuttles
- Alpine Valley Concerts
- Area Concerts
- Weddings
- Bachelor/ Bachelorette Parties
- Private Tours
- Event Shuttle Service

lakefrontshuttle.com • 262.300.RIDE
info@lakefrontshuttle.com



CASCADE

As the name suggests, a cascade bouquet resembles a dripping waterfall,

typically with a focus

on florals in the center and tapering into greenery and foliage around the edges. Elongated and dramatic, this type of bouquet creates a drape down the front of the arrangement, often covering the holder's hands.

BOHO

Bohemian-style bouquets are becoming increasingly popular, often as a way to match a bride's bouquet to a wedding



designed with this same aesthetic. This bouquet style incorporates lots of dried components and long-lasting elements like pampas grass or raffia with more traditional florals. They often have a loose, asymmetrical shape, or may use structured natural materials as a background to display the floral arrangement. The garden-style bouquet is particularly popular for less formal weddings.

WAND POMANDER

The pomander bouquet, also known as the kissing ball bouquet, is a perennial favorite. It involves arranging the flowers and greenery on a circular hoop or ring to create a beautiful and unique floral display. Designed as a sphere, the pomander is then typically attached to a ribbon or chain. For a sweet variation, pomanders can be attached to a wand instead. This is an ideal

option for flower girls, who may find holding bouquets or baskets of petals too unwieldy for small hands. ☺



ON THE MENU

FOOD AND DRINK TRENDS WE'RE LOVING

BY ALEXANDRA DILLARD AND ANNE MORRISSY



CHAMPAGNE TOWERS

Champagne towers are a nod to the roaring '20s and an age of opulence and glamour. In addition to being a great photo opportunity, pouring the champagne together tests newlyweds' teamwork and makes for some good laughs!

CUSTOM NAPKINS

An amazing wedding is all in the details. Customized cocktail napkins are a great way to share a piece of your story, while stopping drips from drinks and small-bite dishes.



TASTY FAVORS

An edible, take-home wedding favor like a small jar of local honey is a good way to ensure guests will remember your special day and continue to enjoy it for weeks to come.



ICE CREAM BAR

For a fun twist on a dessert bar, offer your guests the ice cream bar of their dreams with multiple flavors of ice cream on offer, plus a full suite (sweet?) of toppings.



SNACK BOARD

After the ceremony or during cocktail hour, offer guests a little nibble in the form of a charcuterie board, cheese tray or other snack board featuring all of your favorites.



Boutique Hotel and Wedding Venue

Hosting Small Weddings for over 20 years!

Romantic Wedding Venue with up to 25 guests

Wedding Packages from the simple to extravagant

Budget Minded Options for the perfect day

Two Unique Properties in Lake Geneva & Fontana

Updated Rooms with Rustic Decor
& Modern Amenities: Fireplace Suites,
Whirlpool tub, Fridge, Microwave, Keurig,
Free Wi-Fi, Complimentary Breakfast

**Voted as #1 Couples Getaway
in Lake Geneva Area**



W4033 WI-50, Lake Geneva | 262.275.3322 | lazycloud.com



HANNAH + TUCKER

June 3, 2023 | Photography by Anna Urban Photography

Hannah and Tucker were classmates and fellow science majors at Middlebury College, a small, private liberal arts school in Vermont, but they didn't meet until their sophomore year, when they were set up by friends. Their first date took place at a party for the college ski patrol, which included Tucker among its membership. So it was fitting that nine years later, Tucker arranged for them to hike up the Middlebury Snow Bowl (the college's ski hill). When they reached the top of the hill and began putting on their skis for the trip back down, Hannah turned

around and discovered Tucker on one knee, asking for her hand in marriage.

For the wedding itself, Hannah says the couple wanted something "unique that very much captured who we are." Hannah is from a family of longtime summer residents on Geneva Lake, so the couple decided to hold an intimate ceremony on the lawn of her parents' house, which had once been her grandparents' house. "We could not think of a more special place to get married," she said. Hannah wore a white, twist-front, floor-length column gown with a subtle fishtail hemline and lace sleeves,

while Tucker wore a classic blue suit with a blush-colored tie. The couple wrote and read their own vows to ensure that the ceremony was deeply meaningful.

In a nod to their shared college experience, for the reception, Hannah and Tucker transformed the main dining room of the Lake Geneva Country Club into a Vermont-style, farm-to-table experience. Lorelai Bittner's Bakery in Lake Geneva provided a strawberry shortcake to cap off the meal. Following dinner, a DJ and musicians from Chicago's New Groove Fusion kept the party going late into the evening.



THE DETAILS

CEREMONY VENUE: Bride's parents' home

RECEPTION VENUE: Lake Geneva Country Club

EVENT PLANNER: Katie Ogrinc with Graceful Events

BRIDE'S GOWN: Alda gown by Alexandra Grecco

GROOM'S & GROOMSMEN'S FORMALWEAR: Generation Tux

HAIR & MAKEUP: Beaute Luxe

FLORAL & DÉCOR: Frontier Flowers of Fontana

CATERING & MENU: Lake Geneva Country Club

CAKE & SWEETS: Lorelei Bittner's Bakery

TRANSPORTATION: Lake Geneva Cruise Line and Midwest Transit System

ENTERTAINMENT: New Groove Fusion, Chicago



ALPINE VALLEY
RESORT

New 5000 sq ft Outdoor Wedding Pavilion for 300+ guests
Beautiful Ceremony and Reception Facilities
Professional, courteous staff for all your needs
Elegant Bridal Showers • Rehearsal Dinners

Contact our Event Coordinator at
(262) 684-2538
events@alpinevalleyresort.com
www.alpinevalleyresort.com

Lakeside Luxury
FOR YOUR WEDDING WEEKEND

REHEARSAL DINNER | COCKTAILS | RECEPTION
1 Liechty Drive, Williams Bay, WI | pier290.com

PIER 290

All Lockery Photography

Begin Forever by the Lake

DREAM WEDDINGS
ON THE SHORE OF LAKE GENEVA



Unrivalled elegance.
Exceptional moments.
Your dream wedding awaits
at The Abbey Resort
on Lake Geneva.


THE ABBEY RESORT
The Lake Geneva Experience

THEABBEYRESORT.COM | 269 FONTANA BLVD. FONTANA, WI 53125 | (800) 709 - 1323



ANTHONY + CHELSEA

June 3, 2023 | Photography by Matt Mason Photography

Anthony and Chelsea met as juniors at Boston College in 2011 and started officially dating the next year. Ten years after that first meeting, Anthony arranged an intimate, surprise proposal in the couple's shared Boston apartment. But when it came time to plan the wedding, this East Coast couple opted for a destination wedding in Wisconsin, choosing Lake Geneva as the ideal spot. Anthony was raised in the Midwest, and Lake Geneva had always been a special place for his family to visit. On Chelsea's first trip to the area, she also felt its magic pull, and so the

couple decided to host their wedding at Geneva National.

Anthony is an avid golfer, so in planning the wedding, the couple decided to build on the venue's setting (Geneva National is home to three celebrity-designed, world-renowned golf courses) by incorporating a few nods to the sport into their wedding details, including place cards on golf tees and an outdoor ceremony overlooking one of the courses, with Lake Como in the background. "Geneva National is stunning from the moment you turn onto their road and throughout their

entire property," Chelsea says.

Following the ceremony, the couple enjoyed a cocktail hour and dinner with gourmet options that represented the cuisine of both the Midwest and the East Coast. The dessert bar included monogrammed sugar cookies, macarons, cake pops and mini cupcakes. A live painter captured the event in real time as guests dined, enjoyed the 360-degree photo booth and danced to music provided by a DJ. One wedding detail Chelsea insisted upon? Guests were served a late-night snack of cheese curds, a perfect snack to end a perfect night.



THE DETAILS

CEREMONY & RECEPTION VENUE: Geneva National

ENGAGEMENT & WEDDING RINGS: Laura Preshong, Boston; Boston Ring and Gem

EVENT PLANNER: Sara Sekeres, Graceful Events

BRIDE'S GOWN: Vows Bridal, Boston

BRIDE'S SHOES: Kelly and Katie

BRIDE'S AND BRIDESMAIDS' JEWELRY: Olive & Piper

BRIDESMAIDS' DRESSES: Azazie

GROOM'S AND GROOMSMEN'S FORMALWEAR: Black Tux

HAIR: Tina Sciafani of Magnificent Brides

MAKEUP: Jen Flynn Beauty

INVITATIONS & STATIONERY: Minted

FLORAL: Cassandra Duda, Lilypots Event Floral

DECOR: Graceful Events, Lilypots Events

CATERING & MENU: Geneva National

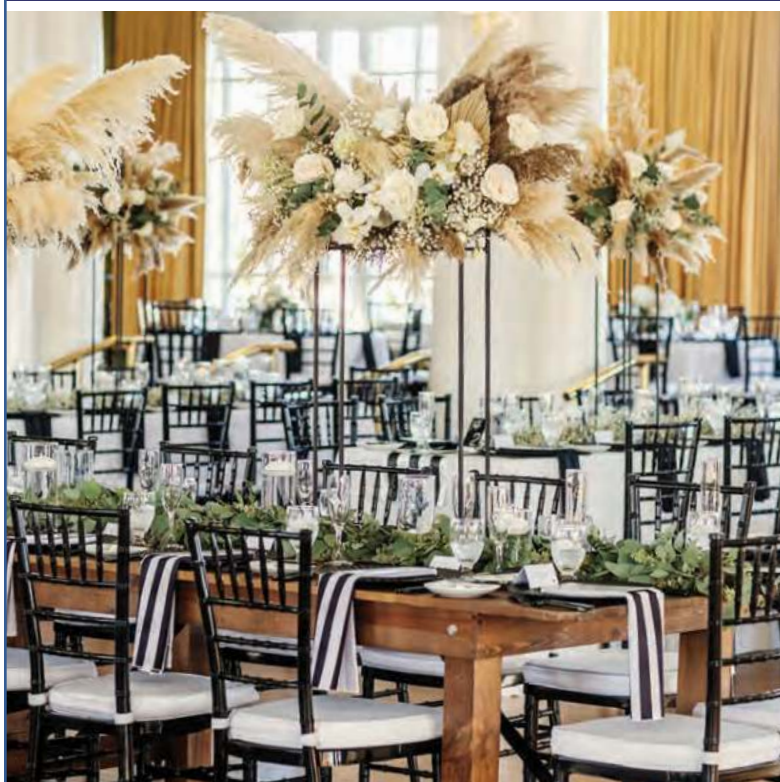
CAKE & SWEETS: Poppy Cakes

ENTERTAINMENT: DJ, Milwaukee Airwaves; Live Painter, Ivy's Illustrations; Photobooth, MKE360

TRANSPORTATION: Lake Geneva Party Bus



Timeless Traditions · Lakeside Charm
Simple Elegance



THE RIVIERA BALLROOM

LAKE GENEVA'S PREMIER
WEDDING & EVENT VENUE

812 WRIGLEY DRIVE, LAKE GENEVA, WI 53147
LAKEGENEVARIVIERA.COM
LAKEGENEVARIVIERA@GMAIL.COM

A TRUE *Lake Geneva Wedding*

GETS YOUR GUESTS ON THE WATER



EIGHT BEAUTIFUL BOATS FOR YOUR RECEPTION, REHEARSAL DINNER, COCKTAILS, & MORE
CRUISELAKEGENEVA.COM | 262.248.6206 | 812 WRIGLEY DRIVE, LAKE GENEVA



LAKE LAWN
RESORT

Marry Me

Experience the wedding of your dreams at Lake Lawn Resort, where breathtaking lake views and lush landscapes create an enchanting backdrop for your special day. From a simple ceremony to a lavish weekend wedding, Lake Lawn Resort's unique amenities have something for everyone.



Ashley Durham Photography



Sherah Grose Photography



CHRIS + ALISSA

July 9, 2023 | Photography by Kristina Lorraine Photography

Chris and Alissa were coworkers at Chicago's famed architecture firm, Studio Gang, but Alissa says it took a while before they "mustered up the courage" to finally go on a date. When they did, it turned out to be the first step of designing a new life together.

When it came to planning the wedding, the creative couple chose to be equally involved in planning the details. "We approached wedding planning as a shared creative project," Alissa explains. Chris had spent summers in Lake Geneva for the past 20 years at his family's home in

Geneva Bay Estates, so the couple set about planning the perfect Lake Geneva wedding weekend.

The festivities began on Friday night with a dinner and welcome reception at Pier 290's Upper Deck. On Saturday, guests boarded the *Duchess*, part of Lake Geneva Cruise Line's fleet, at the Riviera docks for the trip to the lakeside ceremony, which was performed by a close friend who customized the vows to include references to the couple's Lake Geneva connections.

Following the ceremony, everyone

boarded Lake Geneva Cruise Line's *Lady of the Lake* for photographs on the pier at Black Point Estate before arriving at the Riviera Ballroom, which was festooned for the reception in beautiful pink and blue florals. For their grand entrance, Chris and Alissa performed a choreographed dance to Frank Sinatra's "Luck be a Lady" before settling in with their guests for a dinner of beef filet, chicken or portobello ratatouille. A nine-piece band provided after-dinner entertainment. "It was so fun to hear them in the historic ballroom!" Alissa says.



THE DETAILS

CEREMONY & RECEPTION VENUE: Private park and The Riviera Ballroom

ENGAGEMENT & WEDDING RINGS: Groom's family heirloom; Tiffany's

BRIDE'S GOWN: Rue de Seine via Alice in Ivory, Chicago

BRIDE'S SHOES: Margaux

BRIDE'S ACCESSORIES: Jennifer Behr gold leaf headpiece

BRIDESMAIDS' DRESSES: Anthropologie

GROOM'S FORMALWEAR: Daniel George, Chicago

HAIR: Clear Waters Salon and Spa and Dave Keller at Barkers Barbershop, Chicago

EVENT PLANNER: Becky Dreyer of Something Blue

INVITATIONS & STATIONERY: Designed by groom; printed at MI-TE Printing, Glencoe

FLORAL & DECOR: Willrett Flower Company, Dekalb; Dish & Decor Vintage Rental, Algonquin; EP Event Rentals, St. Charles

CATERING, CAKE & SWEETS: Celebration on Wells

ENTERTAINMENT: Bluewater Kings Band, Chicago

TRANSPORTATION: Lake Geneva Cruise Line





INDOOR RECEPTION & CEREMONY VENUE

UP TO 200 GUESTS

Set against the stunning shoreline of Geneva Lake, The Cove of Lake Geneva is the ideal place to say "I Do." Plan a celebration that you will cherish forever!

BEST LOCATION
BIGGEST POOLS
LARGEST SUITES

One & Two Bedroom Condos
640 to 1290 sq. ft.



111 CENTER STREET LAKE GENEVA WI 53147 COVEOFLAKEGENEVA.COM (262) 249-9460



Experience the Natural Beauty of
Abbey Springs



262.275.6113

www.abbeysprings.org



Villa Renaissance

TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS

Our spectacular property in the Turks and Caicos Islands is reminiscent of the Grand Villas of the Italian and French Riviera.

We are located directly on the internationally renowned Grace Bay Beach in Providenciales. Villa Renaissance's Turks & Caicos boutique villas include 28 luxurious 1, 2 & 3 bedroom oceanfront suites, 8 poolside suites and a spectacular oceanfront 7 bedrooms, 7 1/2 bathrooms, 2 story, 6,000sq ft. villa.

Throughout our Villa Renaissance boutique villas, Italian style architecture inter-plays with the natural environment. The Pavilion and reception areas lead to the courtyard pool with its shady walkways, charming cottages and long, elegant and highly inviting mosaic pool/hot tub. A central archway within the center of the building emerges onto the beach boardwalk and endless splendor of Grace Bay Beach.

The suites in the main villa are housed in a 4 story building and each suite is accessible from semi-private elevators. All suites offer expansive ocean frontages from romantic Juliet balconies. Air conditioned interiors offer full modern kitchens featuring granite counter tops, stainless steel appliances, separate dining and living areas, Wi-Fi, US Cable TV, washer/dryer, telephones and Egyptian cotton linens.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (+1)800-234-0346 OR
VISIT WWW.VILLARENAISSANCETURKSANDCAICOS.COM**

Paper Dolls

Home Furnishings & Interior Design



*We have the Largest Selection of In-Stock
Home Furnishings & Accessories in the Area*

Interior Design Services – Custom Window Treatments, Blinds and Shades – Wallpaper

home & garden LIFESTYLE



This Maxwell Street home is suspected to be a Martha Washington model. The pillars were added later.

Mail-Order Abode

Many Sears houses, ordered through the famous catalog company, live on in Lake Geneva

BY ANNE MORRISSY

Imagine it is the 1920s and you live in Lake Geneva. Heading to your mailbox, you find the newest Sears Modern Homes catalog, a 60-plus-page catalog featuring illustrations, plans and specs for homes that you can order directly from the famous, Chicago-based catalog company. Flipping through the pages, you find a model you love, with a name like the Sunbeam, the Fairy or the Rembrandt. Several weeks after placing the order, your new home begins to arrive, in thousands of pieces, via freight shipping on the railroad. Many homeowners then used these “kits” of pre-



This Ardara model on Walker Street is the only Sears house that Chabot's research team has positively confirmed in Lake Geneva.

stylish, moderately sized homes for middle-class buyers. These mid-priced models generally cost between \$1,000-2,500 new, and contained two or three bedrooms, a bathroom, a kitchen and a living/dining room, sometimes with an added porch, sunroom or reception room. The homes were petite by today's standards, but very functional.

As of February 2023, Chabot's team had identified more than 16,000 Sears houses or probable Sears houses still standing, in 48 of 50 states, as well as Canada and the District of Columbia. (By Chabot's group's calculations, Wisconsin ranks 12th in the country for number of Sears houses still standing. Ohio takes the top spot with more than 3,400.) It is a testament to the timeless design and well-built construction that so many of these Sears houses still exist today. "They are strong and well-constructed and of good design," Chabot says. "Their designs were of the same kinds of styles as those that non-kit [builders] offered."

Because of this, however, it can be very difficult to know if your house is a Sears house, or just a lookalike. "Sears houses make up at most about 2 percent of the housing stock of their era, so most houses in any neighborhood are not Sears houses," Chabot points out. "They are pretty rare."



"We peruse the real estate listings pretty much daily. We look through historic newspapers and mortgage and deed books in county land record offices for mentions of building permits, mortgages and foreclosures related to houses that were mortgaged through Sears (though not all were), and try to track down the houses using the legal descriptions given." Using these methods, Chabot and her team have built a nationwide database of confirmed and suspected Sears houses. In Lake Geneva, they have identified 17 homes that are suspected Sears houses, and they have positively confirmed one more.

cut lumber, hardware, nails, asphalt shingles, flooring, decorative molding, bathroom and kitchen fixtures, light fixtures and other necessary homebuilding materials to build their homes themselves. Others hired professional builders to assemble them. Additional upgrades available through Sears offered the services of plumbers, electricians and other specialized tradesmen.

Between 1908 and 1940, Sears, Roebuck, & Co. sold between 70,000 and 75,000 homes in this manner. There is no complete record of where Sears houses were built, but Judith Chabot of *searshouses.com* works with a dedicated team of research historians. "Our research group finds houses through a number of methods," Chabot explains.

One place Chabot starts when looking for Sears houses is the exterior design of a house. Over more than three decades, Sears offered 447 different designs that ranged from elaborate, multi-story manses (The Magnolia, the Alhambra) to tiny cottages with no indoor plumbing marketed to vacationers (The Goldenrod). The vast majority of Sears homes, however, fell squarely in the middle — sturdy,



The first step to finding out if your home is a Sears house, says Chabot, is to find its exact match among the historic Sears Modern Homes catalog images. (Chabot's site features many of them.) "What we look for, from the outside, is that all of the doors and windows and bump-outs should be of the same number and location as what we see in the catalog image," she explains. If there is any variation, then it is likely that your home is a lookalike.

"It's not true to say that Sears kit houses were highly customizable," she continues. "You could pay extra to customize some things, but most people were looking for the convenience and cost savings of using a plan that Sears already had." Chabot says her group does field inquiries from homeowners who suspect they may live in a Sears house after completing this initial research, and her team can sometimes help with further authentication methods.

Today, more than 80-100 years after they were built, Sears houses continue to hold a certain fascination for historians and architecture buffs. "People are intrigued by Sears houses [for] the same reason that [our researchers] are drawn to them," Chabot explains. "It's an interesting part of Americana... to think that someone could order a house as a kit, from the same store that they used for


buying their Easter bonnets, back-to-school dresses, hunting rifles, bicycles, tools, buggies, toys and rugs." 



PHOTO: LAUREN HARRIGAN, ADVERTISEMENT; PUBLISHED COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT, HAGLEY MUSEUM AND LIBRARY








TIMELESS HOME FURNISHINGS, VINTAGE AND GIFTS

158 Fontana Blvd. ■ Fontana, WI 262-394-5088 ■ www.Fontana-Home.com

trending at the lake

Deck the halls this holiday season with festive decor from local shops

STYLING & PHOTOS BY HOLLY LEITNER



1



2



3



4



5

6



10

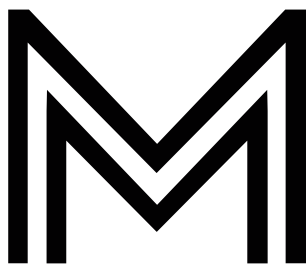


7

8

9

1 NUTCRACKER CHRISTMAS COOKIE JAR; \$50, Marigold, Lake Geneva | **2 ORNAMENTS**; Star \$3; Blue and White, \$4; Gold and White, \$12, Paper Dolls, Lake Geneva | **3 REINDEER**; \$165, Paper Dolls, Lake Geneva | **4 CHRISTMAS TREES**; Blue \$25; Large Gold \$59; Small Gold \$10, Paper Dolls, Lake Geneva | **5 CANDLES**; Gold \$44, Balsam & Cedar \$16, Brick & Mortar Home, Lake Geneva | **6 SIBERIAN FIR CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT CANDLE**; \$40, Marigold, Lake Geneva | **7 REINDEER PLATE**; \$24.95, Marigold, Lake Geneva | **8 SANTA MUG**; \$16, Brick & Mortar Home, Lake Geneva | **9 SNOWMAN MARSHMALLOWS**; \$12, Marigold, Lake Geneva | **10 JINGLE SIGN**; \$25, Paper Dolls, Lake Geneva



Michelle Miller Design
Dream • Design • Develop



designbymmmd@gmail.com | 847-372-0549 | @michellemillerdesign



Carpet & Rug Cleaning Specialists

CARPET. FURNITURE. AREA RUG WASHING.
SPOT & ODOR. TILE & GROUT. VCT & LINOLEUM.
LEATHER. FLOOD EXTRACTION. HARDWOOD.

"We clean it all, just call!"



Contact us today to get in our schedule.
(262) 248-8204 • ArtisticCleaners.net





Truly Elegant

Transformation

A lakefront condo gets a full makeover in record time

BY LAUREN EVE
PHOTOS BY SHANNA WOLF

Marilou Casey had been the longtime owner of a two-bedroom, two-bath condo at Bayshore Villas, a luxury condo development constructed over two decades ago on the site of the once-famous Bayshore Restaurant in Williams Bay. She loved the space, an upper unit with unobstructed lake views, but realized it was time for the condo to get an update. She wanted to give it a fresh, new look that not only highlighted the stunning views, but also made it a cozy space for hosting friends and family. She knew her biggest challenge in achieving these goals would be finding the right person to design and manage the entire renovation project while she was out of town.

She turned to Michelle Miller, owner of Michelle Miller Interior Design and General Contracting, for help with this significant renovation. Miller, known for her combination of innovative interior design and full-service general contracting services, was more than up for the challenge. “We love taking on full-scale projects like this because we provide both design and general contracting,” explains Miller. “This makes the entire renovation process much more streamlined for clients



because they only have one main point person to work with.”

After many discussions and visits together to the Williams Bay condo, Casey gave Miller the green light to complete the entire renovation project while she was out of town. “I ask lots of questions,” explains Miller. “I’m very candid. Honesty and communication go both ways for me and my clients.”

It was the first time Miller had done a renovation project remotely with a new client, but that didn’t phase her. She made sure Casey was always in the loop by communicating often over the phone, sharing pictures and making sure every step in the renovation project was approved. “I was excited to jump in [to this project] and give the condo the breath of fresh air it deserved,” says Miller.

The 1,500-square-foot condo spans two floors and features soaring vaulted ceilings, a loft and floor-to-ceiling windows that lead to a private balcony, providing beautiful views of Geneva Lake. Prior to the renovation, the condo was covered in wall-to-wall carpeting. The kitchen featured dark brown cabinets and outdated fixtures, and the condo’s



In the new kitchen layout, a large island with a built-in wine fridge provides plenty of prep space (top). The dining area includes HVL pendant lights hanging over a custom-built banquette, and RH dining chairs covered in Perennial fabric (above).



MADDOCK
CONSTRUCTION

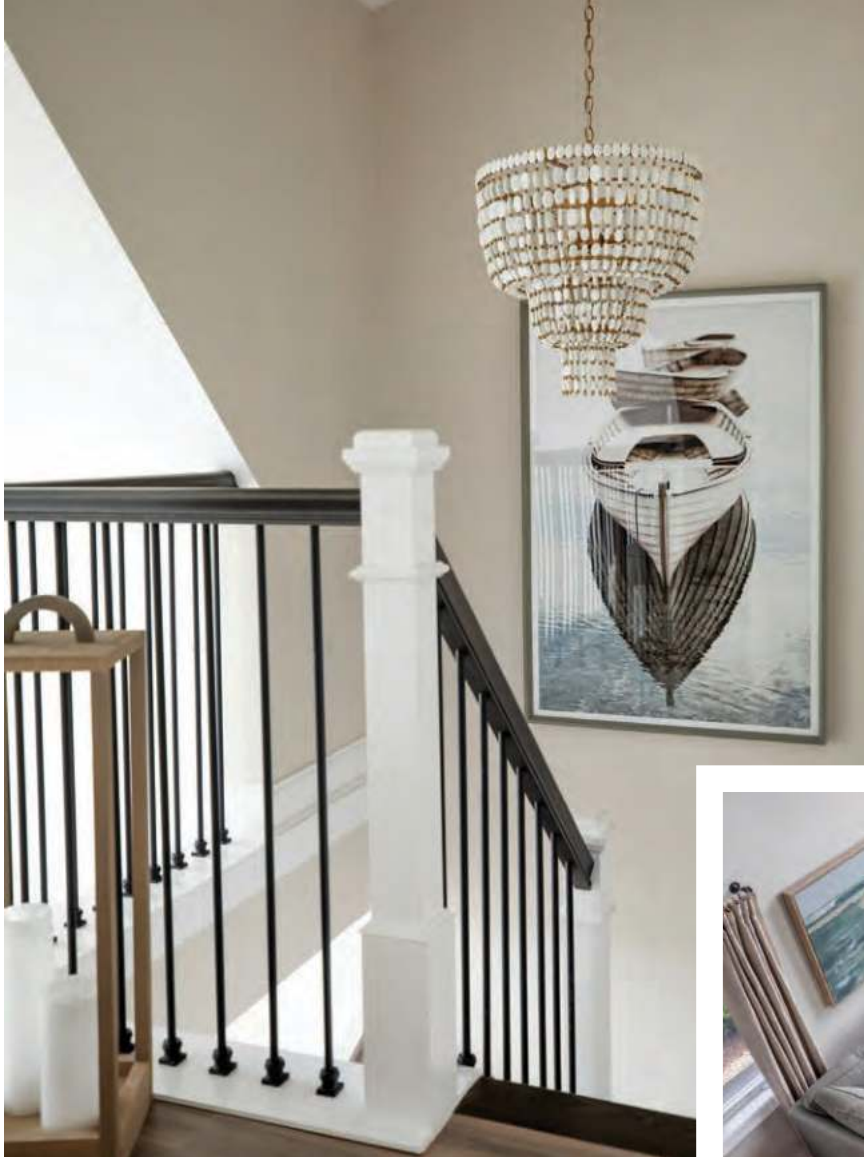
BUILDERS OF UNIQUE CUSTOM LAKE HOMES



262-203-8035

MADDOCKCONSTRUCTION.COM





A shell pendant provides lighting in the main stairway and illuminates the client's art (left). In the living room, a large Smith Brothers sectional faces the sliding glass doors to the private, lakefront balcony. A custom, steel-paneled fireplace by Lakeside Fireplace provides warmth and ambiance (below).



layout felt cramped, making it hard to move around freely. “While the space may have been outdated, I knew that the vaulted ceiling and those beautiful big windows would be the star of the renovation,” says Miller.

Starting on the main floor, Miller dramatically opened up the space by removing large ceiling soffits. She then replaced the tired carpet throughout the condo with Italian tile by Caesar Ceramics, a low-maintenance option that beautifully mimics wood, ideal for a wet and sandy lake life. The walls received a fresh coat of paint (Benjamin Moore’s Light Pewter), which Miller says instantly made the space feel inviting.

Next, Miller made the high, vaulted ceiling a focal point by adding a rustic wood beam and an elegant chandelier from Restoration Hardware. The living area received a makeover with

fresh furniture and decor that embraced the lakeside lifestyle and complemented the stunning floor-to-ceiling windows. “I try to do a deep dive on my clients’ likes/dislikes, how they entertain, how their family lives and what is important to them,” explains Miller. “In the end, it is imperative to me that my clients love their space.”

Flowing from the living area into the dining area, Miller transformed a previously underused corner into a cozy breakfast nook. She added a comfortable, upholstered banquette designed by Ackerman’s Refinishing, and included drawers underneath the seating for increased storage and functionality. Hudson Valley Lighting sconces from the Latham Collection were added above the banquette for elegant and efficient lighting. “The owner was looking forward to

entertaining, so we designed and built everything with guests in mind,” says Miller. “It was very important [to me] to make sure we paid attention to her lifestyle.”

Next, Miller redesigned the kitchen to make it more spacious and functional. She replaced the countertop peninsula with a larger, freestanding island and added seating in front of it. Two modern sconces by Restoration Hardware provide additional lighting. Miller upgraded the kitchen appliances and replaced the dark cabinets with blue-and-white Fieldstone cabinetry, which also offers extra storage space. Vicostone’s Misterio quartz countertops finish the space with a classic aesthetic.

Upstairs, Miller tackled the most complicated part of the renovation



B&J
TREE AND
LANDSCAPE
SERVICE, INC



**Landscape design and installation ~ Lawn Management ~ Retaining Walls
Stone and Brick Patios and Driveways ~ Tree Service with Certified Arborist
Residential and Commercial Snow Removal ~ Landscape Lighting**

W2795 Krueger Rd., Lake Geneva, WI 53147
www.bandjlandscape.com • 262-248-3653 • office@bandjtree.com



FOUR SEASONS
FLOORING
"WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED"

*Happy
Holidays*

from
Four Seasons Flooring

*Serving the lakes area
for 30 years.*

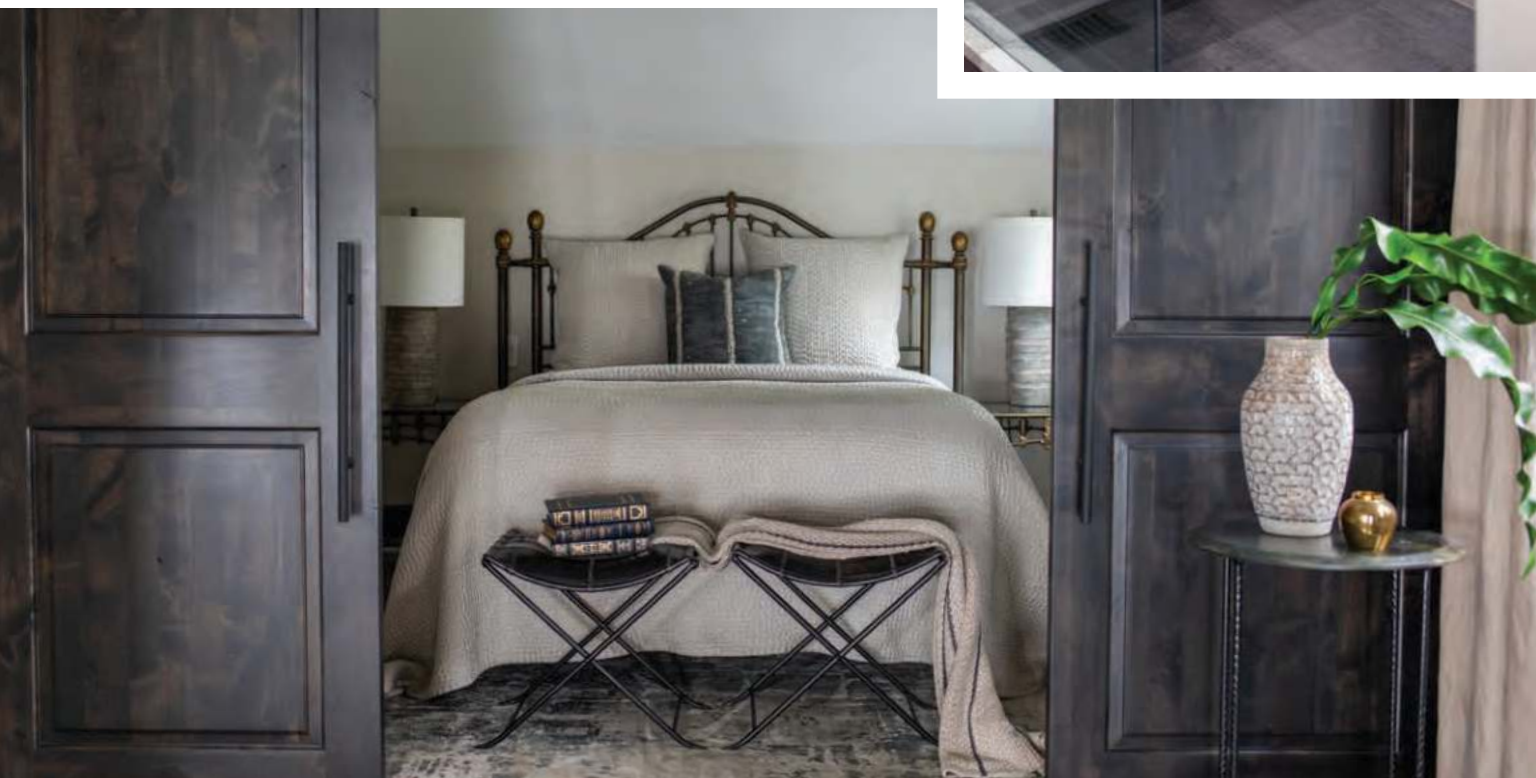
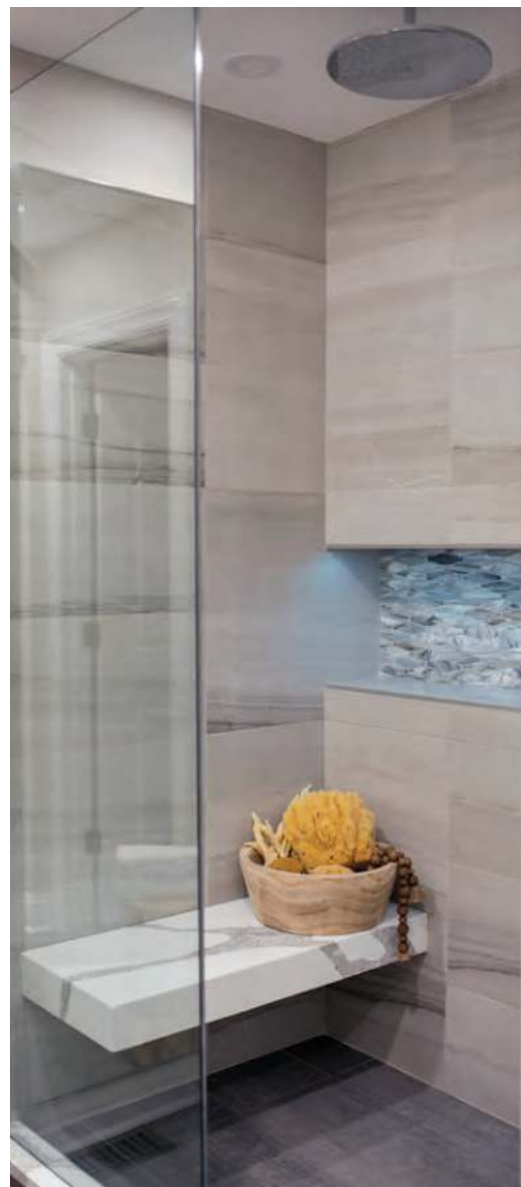
5530 State Rd. 50, Delavan • 262.728.6200 • fourseasonsflooringinc.com

project. In the original layout, the upstairs primary bathroom was not connected to the bedroom, and the bathroom sink and vanity were located outside in the hallway and visible from the main floor. Working closely with her construction team, Miller redesigned the space by extending the wall to the staircase, and then reconfiguring the legacy bathroom walls, which provided both an entryway into the bathroom from the primary bedroom and a water closet for privacy.

As a result, the primary bathroom underwent a remarkable transformation into a beautiful primary suite, featuring a new, glass-enclosed shower, a larger vanity with his-and-hers sinks and custom barn doors that lead to the primary bedroom. “While a project like this might seem like a challenge, I am also a general contractor [with a full construction team],” explains Miller. “We know how to take things all the way down to the studs.”

Outside the primary suite, the upstairs loft was transformed into an open, multi-purpose area, which serves as both a personal gym and a relaxing space to enjoy panoramic views of

The new bathroom configuration allowed for a luxurious shower alcove (right). A hanging rattan pendant by Crystorama and succulent wall panels add character to the entry stairs (below). Wooden barn doors finished in a dark gray stain provide privacy to the primary bedroom (bottom).





Jerry Kroupa, REALTOR®

262.949.3618

jerrykroupa@atproperties.com
102 N. Wisconsin St, Elkhorn, WI 53121

View additional photos at
www.lakehomeswi.com



Mill Lake

W5361 Lost Nation, Elkhorn
Offered at \$1,685,000



Pleasant Lake

N8115 Pleasant Lake Rd, East Troy
Offered at \$1,695,700



Middle Lake

N7729 Laura Ln, Elkhorn
Offered at \$3,499,700



Under Contract

W1306 S Shore Dr, Palmyra
Offered at \$2,795,700



Under Contract

W5187 Lauderdale Dr, Elkhorn
Offered at \$2,399,700



New Construction

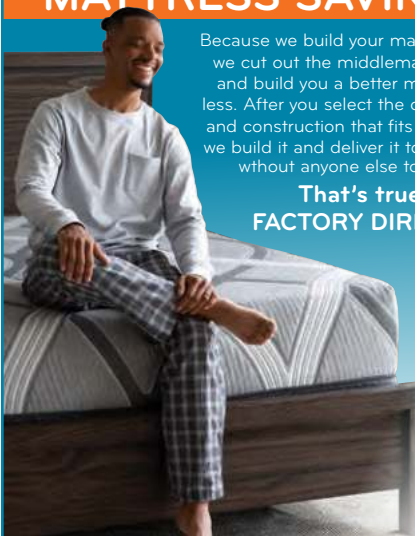
W5141 Plantation Rd, Elkhorn
Offered at \$864,900



atproperties.com

verlo
M A T T R E S S

**CUT OUT THE
MIDDLEMAN
MATTRESS SAVINGS!**



Because we build your mattress locally, we cut out the middleman mark up and build you a better mattress for less. After you select the comfort level and construction that fits your needs, we build it and deliver it to your home without anyone else touching.

**That's true
FACTORY DIRECT!**



v3 Mattress Collection
SAVE UP TO
\$100 OFF
v3 Set Purchase*



v5 Mattress Collection
SAVE UP TO
\$150 OFF
v5 Set Purchase*



v7 Mattress Collection
SAVE UP TO
\$200 OFF
v7 Set Purchase*



v9 Mattress Collection
SAVE UP TO
\$250 OFF
v9 Set Purchase*



v11 Mattress Collection
SAVE UP TO
\$300 OFF
v11 Set Purchase*



*Thank
You*

for continuously voting us
**One of the Best
Mattress Stores**

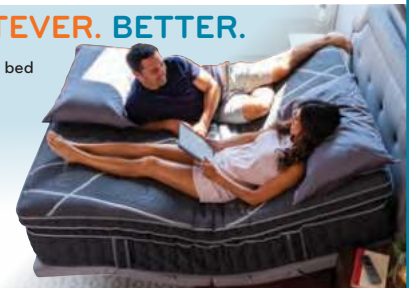
*On set purchase with factory select covers. Not applicable on previous purchases. One coupon per set purchase.

SLEEP. LOUNGE. WHATEVER. BETTER.

- Great for watching TV, working or reading in bed
- Reduces snoring & acid reflux effects
- Alleviates lower back, knee & leg pain
- Aids in circulation

Adjustable Bed Bases
Twin XL
Starting at **\$399****

**With Verlo mattress purchase. See store for details.



LAKE GENEVA

2462 Hwy 120 • 262.249.0420

CRYSTAL LAKE

5150 North West Hwy • 815.455.2570

McHENRY

3710 West Elm St. • 815.578.8375

verlo.com

800.224.VERLO



**LAKE GENEVA
BLIND CO**

GRABER.  

**LAKE GENEVA
BLIND CO**

**CUSTOM WINDOW
TREATMENTS
PLANTATION SHUTTERS
SHADES & BLINDS
MOTORIZATION
UPHOLSTERY**


LAKEGENEVBLENDS.COM

SCOT GRUNOW
262.903.9282

KIRSTEN LARSEN
262.203.1966

the lake and the first floor below. Miller, also made sure that the loft was designed as a place that could be used to host guests, and incorporated a space where Casey could add a sleeper sofa if desired.

Miller explains that she and her team were able to turn around the full renovation quickly thanks to her dual role as designer and contractor. "Having a single company handle the entire journey, from renovation to design, is a game-changer for our clients," says Miller. "I believe this approach made this project so much smoother and a big success."

After about four months of renovations, Casey returned to a newly transformed space after being away during the entire renovation. Miller says the reveal was nothing short of breathtaking for Casey. Her once-tired home was now a beautiful and refreshed space, custom designed for her lifestyle, just as she had envisioned. 



**S O B E R G
WINDOW
& DOOR
C O M P A N Y**

WALWORTH, WI

INFINITY
from **MARVIN**
REPLACEMENT WINDOWS
Built for life®

We have a very simple philosophy at Soberg Window and Door Company.
We do what we say we're going to do.



We Take The **Guesswork,**
Uncertainty & Worry Completely
Out of Window Replacement.

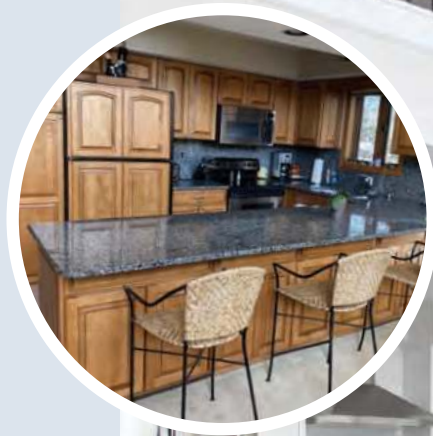
**SHOWROOM: W5820 COUNTY ROAD B, WALWORTH, WI 53184
(262) 275-2150 • SOBERGWINDOWS.COM**

Before & After

From outdated to outstanding, this condo's makeover brings the wow

While the layout remained mostly the same, this lakefront condo at Bayshore Villas in Williams Bay is almost unrecognizable today, following a complete renovation courtesy of Michelle Miller Design. The kitchen, once dominated by heavy brown cabinetry and a large, granite-topped peninsula, was transformed into a light and airy space by the addition of new white cabinets, elegant pendant lighting and a white, quartz-topped island that's perfect for food preparation and improves the general flow of traffic in the kitchen.

For more before-and-afters of this beautiful space, visit our website at atthelakemagazine.com/before-after-bayshore.



RESIDENTIAL,
COMMERCIAL,
AND INDUSTRIAL
ELECTRICIAN
**SERVING THE
GENEVA LAKES AREA**



**FOREMOST
ELECTRIC LLC**

Electrical Repair • New Construction & Remodel
Standby Generators • Trenching and Underground
Home Inspection Repairs • Service Upgrades
Hot Tub and Spa Electrical

262.442.2636 • www.foremost-electric.com

Catching Hearts

Since the 1950s



As the fourth generation of Streblow boaters, these girls prove that love for water runs deep. With Streblow custom-made mahogany boats, it's not just about exceptional craftsmanship and the ultimate boating experience – it's about creating lasting memories on the lake. Streblow... passionately crafted, endlessly loved.

Streblow
CUSTOM BOATS

251 Host Dr., Lake Geneva, WI 53147 | 262.728.6898
streblowcustomboats.com



Adventures Indoors

For colder months, a guide to indoor fun in Lake Geneva

BY NAT WEXLER

Even though Lake Geneva's main draw is its gorgeous lake (it's in the name!), the colder weather of winter presents opportunities to discover the many fun indoor activities available here. While some winter days are perfect for skiing, sledding or ice skating, on the coldest days of the season, there are plenty of options to keep you and your friends and family engaged and amused. Whether you're looking to express your artistic side, challenge your brain or expand your palate,

several local Lake Geneva businesses offer a full range of activities for every interest.

LEARN TO MAKE A NEW DISH

Aspiring and experienced chefs alike will want to take a course at the **Lake Geneva School of Cooking**. Led by Chef John Bogan, each class includes hands-on cooking instruction centered around a certain theme and ends with students enjoying the fruits (and meats and breads) of their labors. Chef Bogan prides himself on the fact that the recipes are designed so that once the class is over, students will be able to recreate the dishes in their own home without the help of a professional chef. Winter is an ideal time to try a class, as Chef Bogan goes all out for the many holidays occurring during the season. Two of the biggest events of the year are the Christmas Candlelight Dinner (December 3rd, 10th, and 17th) and the New Year's Eve celebrations (December 27th-31st). Or opt for a Mardi Gras class (February 9th-10th and 13th), the Super Bowl sausage-making tailgate event (February 11th) or the Valentine's Day class (February 14th). Due to the popularity of the classes, advance online registration is required.



Chef John Bogan at the Lake Geneva School of Cooking offers many hands-on classes.



Lake Geneva's Board & Brush guides participants to create their own wooden sign decor for their homes.

TEAM UP TO SOLVE THE PUZZLE

Fans of "escape rooms" or puzzles will want to check out the **Lake Geneva Clue Room**. This exciting indoor activity offers rooms of varying difficulties and themes, where you and your team must solve clues in a set time period in order to complete the room. Room themes include a carnival-themed room, a lake-themed room and a gangster-themed room. The sports-themed room offers a competition element where two teams of up to five players can compete against each other in separate but identical rooms to see who finishes first. (The other three rooms are designed for up to eight players.) The key to successfully solving the clues and completing a room is effective communication and good organization, making this a great team-building opportunity in addition to a fun way to spend a cold day. Reservations are strongly recommended.

CREATE YOUR SIGNATURE SCENT

Looking for a relaxing and fun indoor activity you can share with friends? Head to **The Candle Mercantile**. At this pour-your-own candle bar, you will choose from dozens of fragrances and mix and match them to create your own signature scent, which is then added to a soy candle, room spray or a variety of other products.



The Candle Mercantile allows guests to create a signature scent.

This one-hour activity includes access to snacks and beverages, plus plenty of time to relax and catch up with friends. Once complete, your candles take 90 minutes to set. You can use that time to check out one of the many restaurants, cafes and shops lining the streets of downtown Lake Geneva. Reservations strongly recommended, particularly on weekends.

CHANNEL YOUR CRAFTY SIDE

Arts and crafts fans will want to book a class at **Board & Brush Creative Studio**. At Board & Brush, the talented staff will help you create a gorgeous wooden sign worthy of a prime spot on the wall of your home. For beginners, try one of the classes in which everyone makes the same sign; more experienced makers might

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: COURTESY OF BOARD & BRUSH; LAUREN HARRIGAN, COURTESY OF LAKE GENEVA SCHOOL OF COOKING



Studio Winery offers tastings, live music and monthly craft classes.

prefer one of the classes that allow you to choose from dozens of options. The studio offers hands-on instruction so everyone walks away with something they are proud of. During the holiday season, Board & Brush offers a variety of themed workshops to help you craft the perfect winter and holiday decor — keep it for yourself or gift it to someone special! Reservations strongly recommended.

EXPLORE NEW TASTES

Wine, music and craft fans should stop by **Studio Winery + Geneva Lake Distillery** for tastings, live music and a monthly craft class. The tasting room offers a chance to try an assortment of wines and spirits while enjoying tasty snacks. To enhance your wine-tasting experience, every Friday and Saturday evening, visitors can enjoy live music from local musicians. (Seating for live music is available on a first-come, first-served basis.) For an artistic twist on wine tasting, drop in on the third Sunday of every month, when Studio Winery offers a crafting class in which a local artist leads you through the steps of making a painting, a piece of jewelry or another fun craft.

PRACTICE YOUR AIM

Those looking for a thrill should visit **LG Axe Throwing** to try their hand(s) at this increasingly popular activity. The facility offers six lanes of axe throwing, each of which can accommodate groups of up to four people. For those who are new to the sport or just want a refresher, “axe coaches” are able to assist with technique so you can start hitting bullseyes in no time. To enhance your experience, enjoy a menu of tasty snacks and beverages including craft beers from Lake Geneva’s Topsy Turvy Brewery. Reservations strongly recommended. *adad*

COURTESY OF STUDIO WINERY + GENEVA LAKE DISTILLERY

At The Lake **STORE**

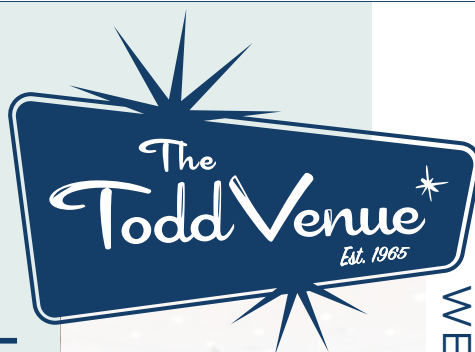
Local gifts for everyone on your holiday shopping list.



Scan here or visit atthelakemagazine.com/shop



THE LAKES AREA'S NEWEST EVENT VENUE



WEDDINGS | PARTIES | CORPORATE EVENTS

- Completely remodeled event space in the former Moose Creek Bar & Grille restaurant
- Seating for up to 110 guests in reception room
- Venue bar is a separate space and features 3 TVs, Vestaboard and fireplace
- Outdoor space available for ceremonies with beautiful sunset views
- 20 tables and 100 chairs included in rental package
- New ADA-compliant bathrooms
- Hardwood floors throughout
- Plenty of on-site parking



N4403 COUNTY ROAD H, ELKHORN
TODDVENUE.COM | 262.249.1112
HELLO@TODDVENUE.COM

Along the Nordic Track

Where to cross-country ski in the Geneva Lake area

Unlike downhill skiing, which relies on snow-making equipment for its daily conditions, cross-country skiing is dependent on each winter's natural snowfall. In snowy winters, the Geneva Lake area is a fantastic place to enjoy this winter workout.

- **Big Foot Beach State Park** – This state park in Lake Geneva offers 2.9 miles of groomed cross-country ski trails. Bring your own equipment; no rentals available. A state park annual vehicle sticker is required for entry to the park.
- **Grand Geneva Resort & Spa** – This AAA four-diamond resort maintains five miles of groomed trails on its 1,300-acre property along the White River. A trail pass is required and rentals are available.
- **Kettle Moraine Southern Unit, Nordic Trails** – In nearby LaGrange, enjoy seven different groomed, cross-country loops ranging from 1-7 miles in length. No rentals available; a state trail pass is required.



All Downhill

A quick-start guide to local options for downhill skiing, from beginners to experts

BY ANNE MORRISSY
PHOTOS BY HOLLY LEITNER

The Geneva Lake area's ski hills may be quite petite when compared to famous ski resorts in other parts of the country, but this actually makes them an ideal place for beginners to learn this fun winter sport. Whether you've never stepped into ski boots before or you're looking for a refresher course after a long hiatus from the sport, the area's local ski hills offer the perfect environment to get into downhill skiing. Local ski schools offer plenty of options for instructor-led lessons. There are

classes targeted to young children (as young as age 3) and middle-grade kids, as well as group lessons for adults. For those looking for more one-on-one attention, there are private and semi-private lessons available as well.

You'll start on flat ground where you'll learn the fundamentals: equipment tips, how to get in and out of your skis, how to fall safely, how to get back up if (when) you fall down and how to start and stop moving. From there, you'll transition to the "bunny hill," a gently sloping area close to the chalet, generally reached by skiing onto a moving "magic carpet" that takes you to the top. In no time, you'll find you're enjoying the sensation of cold wind on your face as you sail



to the bottom and start all over again. Eventually, you'll be ready to brave the chairlifts and ski the intermediate hills. Before you know it, you'll be hitting the advanced runs. Here's where to learn:

- **Alpine Valley Ski Resort, East Troy** – Alpine Valley's ski school offers everything from "Build-Your-Own, Friends-and-Family" lessons to Adult "Let's Get Social!" lessons that include a drink ticket for après-ski fun. There are "kinder-" lessons for kids ages 5-7 and Adventure Kids classes for ages 8-12. Whatever your ability level or age, you'll find a group lesson option for you.
- **Grand Geneva Resort & Spa's Mountain Top Ski Area, Lake Geneva** – Originally built as part of the Playboy Resort in 1968, Grand Geneva's ski area offers several lesson options. There are Snow Cubs classes for kids ages 3-6 and a Mountain Mites program for kids ages 7-13 which uses a progressive, specialized training system. Private lessons and beginner group lessons are offered for all ages. All lessons must be purchased at least 48 hours in advance.
- **Wilmot Mountain, Wilmot** – Now owned by Vail Resorts, Wilmot Mountain recently underwent major renovations. The resort offers a full slate of lesson options for skiers ages 3 to adult, and all classes are taught by world-class instructors. Opt for group or private lessons, but online registration is recommended as classes often fill up. 🎿



LAKE GENEVA WINDOW & DOOR

**REPLACEMENT
WINDOWS
&
DOORS**

**FREE
ESTIMATES**

**SISTER
COMPANY
OF
ACKMAN
GLASS
&
MIRROR**

202 N. ELKHORN RD. WILLIAMS BAY, WI 53191
262-245-6023 LAKEGENEVAWINDOWANDDOOR.COM



**LAKE GENEVA
WINDOW & DOOR**

MARVIN®



events at the lake



HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS AT OLD WORLD WISCONSIN

DEC. 2-3, 9-10, 16-17

Explore vibrant holiday traditions brought to Wisconsin by immigrant ancestors while creating new holiday memories. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Old World Wisconsin, Eagle; (608) 264-4848 or oldworldwisconsin.wisconsinhistory.org.

WORLD'S TALLEST GLASS TREE

DEC. 1-3, 8-10, 15-17

Rob Elliot and glass artist Jason Mack are set to return to once again build the World's Tallest Glass Tree using recycled glass bottles donated by the community. Fridays 4-7 p.m., Saturdays 12-7 p.m., Sundays 3-5 p.m. Free to attend; must park in Williams Bay High School parking lot. Yerkes Observatory, Williams Bay; worldstallestglasstree.com.



GENEVA LAKES FAMILY YMCA ANNUAL AUCTION

FEB. 17

This Las Vegas-themed charity event will raise funds for the Financial Assistance and Outreach programs at the YMCA. Featuring an open bar, plated dinner and a live and silent auction. Tickets available Dec. 1 at genevalakesymca.org/auction or (262) 248-6211.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: HOLLY LEITNER, COURTESY OF GENEVA LAKES FAMILY YMCA; COURTESY OF DRAGONFLY DRONE

DATES ARE WEATHER-DEPENDENT WINTER REALMS (FORMERLY ICE CASTLES)

An illuminated ice kingdom features frozen slides, crawl spaces and fountains built into a frozen outdoor landscape, plus the Polar Pub, the Arctic Alcove, sleigh or wagon rides and other winter activities. Destination Geneva National, Lake Geneva. Visit icecastles.com for tickets and up-to-the-minute opening details.

NOV. 2-DEC. 23 "SCROOGE THE MUSICAL" DINNER THEATER

A staged version of the beloved Christmas classic by Charles Dickens. Through Dec. 23. The Fireside Dinner Theatre, Fort Atkinson. Call (800) 477-5353 or visit firesidetheatre.com for tickets.

NOV. 18-DEC. 31 PARADE OF TREES

Admire Christmas trees decorated by local businesses and individuals while touring the museum. Geneva Lake Museum, Lake Geneva. Call (262) 248-6060 or visit genevalakemuseum.org/parade-of-trees.

NOV. 24-DEC. 30 SANTA CRUISE

Embark on a magical Christmas cruise to Santa's North Pole Hideaway. Along your lake tour, you will be enchanted by holiday lights and displays. Through Dec. 30. Lake Geneva Cruise Line, Gage Marine – Winter Harbor, 1 Liechty Dr., Williams Bay. Call (262) 248-6206 or visit santacruiselakegeneva.com for tickets.

NOV. 25, DEC. 3, 16 BREAKFAST WITH SANTA AT LAKE LAWN RESORT

Enjoy a fully stocked breakfast buffet, enjoy a wagon ride around the property and meet Santa himself. Tickets are \$27.50 for adults or \$14.25 for kids. Seatings at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., Lake Lawn Resort, Delavan. Call (262) 725-9214 for reservations.

NOV. 24-26, 30; DEC. 1-3, 7-10, 13, 15-17 CHRISTMAS TRAIN

Trips leave from the East Troy Railroad Depot, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Online advanced reservations required. East Troy Depot, East Troy; call (262) 642-3263 or visit easttroyrr.org.

NOV. 25 SANTA'S LIGHTING UP FONTANA

Experience the beginning of the Christmas season when Santa Claus lights up Fontana. The Abbey Resort, Fontana; (262) 275-9000 or theabbeyresort.com.

NOV. 26, DEC. 3, 10, 17, 24 BRUNCH WITH SANTA AT THE ABBAY RESORT

Meet the man himself and get a photo during Harborside Sunday Brunch a la Carte at 240 West. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., 240 West, The Abbey Resort, Fontana; (262) 275-9000 or theabbeyresort.com.

DEC. 1 BURLINGTON 41ST ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARADE AND TREE LIGHTING

Parade viewing from historic downtown Burlington and a tree lighting ceremony afterward. Santa and Mrs. Claus, caroling and music will accompany the tree lighting. Parade begins at 6:30 p.m. in downtown Burlington; tree lighting to follow in Wehmhoff Square Park; (262) 763-6044 or burlingtonchamber.com.

DEC. 1 OPEN ARMS FREE CLINIC BIRTHDAY GALA

A gala fundraiser event to support Walworth County's only free healthcare clinic for low-income families. 5-11 p.m., Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva. For tickets, visit openarmsfreeclinic.org/events.

DEC. 1 REPEAL DAY PROHIBITION PARTY

Enjoy pre-Prohibition style cocktails and exclusive spirit tastings while dressed in your best 1920s gear. 7 p.m., Maxwell Mansion, Lake Geneva. For tickets, call (262) 248-9711 or visit staymaxwell.com.

DEC. 1-3 FOURTH ANNUAL LET IT GLOW FESTIVAL

Free holiday festival, featuring whimsical light displays, Balsam Boulevard and Santa viewings. Friday 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Uncle Hunk's Junk Building & Park, 203 E. Walworth St., Elkhorn; (262) 723-5788 or elkhornchamber.com.

DEC. 2 48TH ANNUAL LAKE GENEVA ELECTRIC CHRISTMAS PARADE

Begins at 5 p.m., downtown Lake Geneva; (262) 248-4416 or visitleakegeneva.com.

DEC. 2 CHRISTMAS PARADE TRAIN

Mukwonago to East Troy. A holiday tradition dating back to 1972 — spectators can catch a glimpse of Santa from inside their heated vehicles along County Road ES. The parade train departs the Elegant Farmer at 5:05 p.m. and arrives at approximately 6:30 p.m. in East Troy. Call (262) 642-3263 or visit easttroyrr.org.

DEC. 2 ELKHORN ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CARD TOWN PARADE

Christmas decorated floats, novelty acts, music, animals and Santa and Mrs. Claus. 1:30 p.m., downtown Elkhorn; (262) 723-5788 or elkhornchamber.com.

DEC. 2 FREEZIN' FOR A REASON

This charity event features water skiers, wakeboarders, surfers and tubers braving the chilly waters of Geneva Lake to raise money for the Santa Cause Super Charity. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Pier 290, 1 Liechty Dr., Williams Bay; (262) 245-2100 or freezinlakegeneva.org.

DEC. 2-3 HOLIDAY CHORAL CONCERT

Saturday at 7:30 p.m., Sunday at 3 p.m. Malt House Theatre, Burlington; (262) 763-9873 or thehaylofters.com.

DEC. 2-31 EAST TROY LIGHTS

A holiday light show attraction timed to music to broadcast on 90.9FM. Shows begin on the hour from 5-9 p.m. nightly. Additional activities include the Candy Cane Adventure, light tunnels, and holiday performances. East Troy Square, downtown East Troy; visit easttroylights.com.

DEC. 8-10 "A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS"

Performed by the Haylofters. Friday at 7 p.m., Saturday at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Tickets are \$10. Malt House Theatre, Burlington; (262) 763-9873 or thehaylofters.com.

Why manage your vacation rental alone?

Lean on us to maximize revenue

Our full-service program includes:

- Locally owned and operated
- 24/7 homeowner and guest support
- Strategic pricing to optimize occupancy
- Guest marketing with national reach

FREE REVENUE PROJECTION



Property Management
you can trust



GRAND WELCOME
Lake Geneva

grandwelcome.com | (262) 214-6146

out & about *calendar of events*

DEC. 8-10, 15-17

"THE GAME'S AFOOT"

A mystery classic performed by the Lakeland Players. Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m., Sunday at 3 p.m. Historic Sprague Theater, 15 W. Walworth St., Elkhorn. For tickets, visit lakeland-players.org or call 262-441-3924.

DEC. 9

A COMEDY & DANCE HOLIDAY PARTY

Featuring comedians Denise Medina and Vince Maranto, with music and dance by Grand DJ. Featuring a cash bar, passed appetizers, a buffet dinner, a comedy show and dancing. 5-11 p.m., Evergreen Golf Club, N6246 US Hwy 12, Elkhorn; Visit evergreengolfclub.com/product-page/your-holiday-party for tickets.

DEC. 13

LAUREN JELENCOVICH: VERY MERRY AND BRIGHT

Vocal performance of holiday hits. 7 p.m. Young Auditorium, 930 W. Main St., Whitewater. Call (262) 472-4444 or visit uww.edu/youngauditorium for tickets.

JAN. 1

DIP FOR DAVE

This polar plunge raises funds for Kisses from Keegan, a pediatric cancer charity. Registration begins at 10:30 a.m., plunge is at noon. The Boat House Bar & Grill, N 2062 S. Lake Shore Dr., Lake Geneva.

JAN. 1

POLAR PLUNGE

Take part in an invigorating community plunge into Geneva Lake. Noon. Williams Bay Beach.

JAN. 4-FEB. 25

"JERSEY BOYS"

Dinner theater performances of the hit musical about Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons. The Fireside Dinner Theatre, Fort Atkinson. Call (800) 477-5353 or visit firesidetheatre.com for tickets.

JAN. 10

STOMP: THE INTERNATIONAL SENSATION

Percussion performance that has garnered armfuls of awards and rave reviews and has appeared on numerous national

KEEPING IT **LOCAL.** JUST LIKE YOU.

For more than 140 years, we've worked for the financial success of our neighbors, helping families grow and businesses gain new ground.

*Switching to First National Bank
and Trust is easy.*



Stop By
16 Local Branches



Call Us
800.667.4401



Visit Us Online
bankatfirstnational.com



**First National Bank
and Trust Company®**

Member FDIC

television shows. 7:30 p.m. Young Auditorium, 930 W. Main St., Whitewater. Call (262) 472-4444 or visit www.edu/youngauditorium for tickets.

JAN. 27

ABOMINABLE SNOW RACE

A 4-6 mile race featuring 25+ winter-themed obstacles. Compete for cash and prizes or run just for fun. All racers receive a finisher's medal, a t-shirt and a craft beer or hot chocolate. Lake Geneva Ziplines & Adventures, N3232 County Hwy H, Lake Geneva. To register, visit abominablesnowrace.com.

JAN. 31-FEB. 4

WINTERFEST & U.S. NATIONAL SNOW SCULPTING CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITION

The 29th annual National Snow Sculpting Competition, plus an ice sculpture tour, s'mores and bonfires on the beach, a cocoa crawl, a Fire & Ice bar, hovercraft rides and more. Downtown Lake Geneva; (262) 248-4416 or visitolakegeneva.com.

FEB. 2-11

"GILLIGAN'S ISLAND"

A stage version of the beloved 1960s sitcom. Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m., Sunday at 3 p.m. Historic Sprague Theater, 15 W. Walworth St., Elkhorn. For tickets, visit lakeland-players.org or call (262) 441-3924.

FEB. 9

RYAN AND RYAN

Dynamic father-son piano duo celebrates one of America's greatest composers in their "Going Gershwin" concert program. 7 p.m., Big Foot High School Auditorium, Walworth. For tickets, visit bigfootfinearts.com or call (262) 275-2117.

FEB. 10

LAKE GENEVA SYMPHONY GALA

An unforgettable evening of orchestral music, food, drinks, a live and silent auction and the LGSO Swing Band. Benefiting the Lake Geneva Symphony Orchestra. 6 p.m., The Abbey Resort, Fontana. Call (262) 359-9072 or visit lakegenevaorchestra.org for tickets.

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 email anne@ntmediagroup.com or submit it via our website: atthelakemagazine.com/submit-an-event. Submission deadline for the spring issue is Feb. 1. 🐾

Scan this QR code with your phone's camera app to view more winter events in the Geneva Lake area.



WHAT WE DO ▼

New & Used Boat Sales
Pier & Lift Services
Boat Club
Parts, Service & Storage

HOW WELL WE DO IT ▼

#1 Bennington Dealer in Wisconsin
#1 Inboard Dealer in the Midwest
#1 Nautique Dealer in Wisconsin
5 Star Certified Dealer by MRAA

SERVING THE LOCAL BOATING COMMUNITY FOR OVER 30 YEARS

LAKE GENEVA

N2062 S Lakeshore Drive, Lake Geneva, WI 53147 | BoatHouseH2o.com | 262-203-5293

NAUTIQUE

SPORTSMAN

BENNINGTON

CROWNLINE



REDEFINING LAKESIDE DINING

1878

ON THE LAKE



2400 EAST GENEVA STREET • DELAVAN
262.728.7950 • LAKELAWNRESORT.COM



LAKELAWN
RESORT



Cocktail Hour Reimagined

With ‘Dry January,’
alcohol-free cocktails
have become elevated

BY SHELBY DEERING
PHOTOS BY HOLLY LEITNER

There was a time not so long ago when those who didn’t partake in beer, wine or cocktails at a social gathering may have received some questioning glances. Today, however, more and more people are voluntarily cutting down on their alcohol consumption, thanks in part to movements like “Dry January,” a period after the holidays when many people give up alcohol for a month. To meet the demand for alcohol-free options, many bartenders are developing more and more complex



Garden Cucumber 8

Bartenders at 240 West at The Abbey share one of their favorite alcohol-free drinks to make at home

- 2 oz. Seedlip Garden 108
- 1 oz. cucumber juice, cucumber wheel for garnish
- ½ oz. fresh lime juice
- Soda
- Mint (shaken)
- ¼ oz. simple syrup

Combine and **shake** with ice: Garden 108, cucumber juice, fresh lime juice, simple syrup and mint.

Strain into Old-Fashioned glass. Top with soda water.

Garnish with cucumber wheel.



mocktail creations. But what exactly is a mocktail?

“It’s a non-alcoholic version of a drink designed to mimic the look and taste of a counterpart drink that contains alcohol, like a cocktail,” says Michael Seaver, Director of Food & Beverage at The Abbey Resort in Fontana.

Juan Barbosa, Lead Mixologist at the Maxwell Mansion’s Apothecary Bar, goes on to explain that today’s mocktails are designed to taste delicious and feel elevated while omitting the alcohol.

“It usually consists of fruit juices like citrus, as well as non-alcoholic spirits, homemade syrups, vinegar shrubs or flavored vinegars in general,” he says. “Mocktails are meant to be shaken and stirred just as other cocktails are with alcohol included. You still get the show and presentation.”

Megan Trainor, Bar Manager at Cafe Calamari and Harpoon Willie’s in Williams Bay, says that the influx of new, non-alcoholic spirits on the market have allowed bartenders to create “dry” versions of customers’ favorite cocktails.

The rise in brands specializing in alcohol-free spirits has coincided with the public’s increased interest in reducing alcohol consumption, not just in the United States but internationally as well. The concept of “Dry January” began in Great Britain about 10 years ago as a way to start the new year fresh, catering to those aiming to consume less alcohol, or perhaps to cut alcohol from their lives altogether.

The Washington Post reported in 2022 that “Dry January” participants often experience increased energy, improved sleep, reduced weight and a



fuller wallet by the end of the month. Researchers have found that these benefits can last beyond the month as well.

Going dry, whether for a set period of time or as a general lifestyle choice, is increasingly common, especially among younger demographics. “Studies are showing that millennials and Gen Z are drinking significantly less than their older counterparts,” Trainor explains. She adds that a robust mocktail menu, like the one found at Cafe Calamari, allows people to go out to a bar or restaurant, socialize with friends and still feel good about their health.

Trainor credits the increased interest in forgoing alcohol among the younger set to both health concerns and the power of social media. “There have been a growing number of celebrities who are sober, and TikTok exposes a whole [landscape] of mocktails people can make at home,” she explains.



“There is something to simply holding a tasty drink in a fancy glass and being [fully] present that I think the current generation finds much more appealing than previous generations.”

In addition to those health boosts, the Apothecary Bar’s Barbosa believes that establishments are trying to be more inclusive to those who are sober, pregnant or abstain from alcohol for religious reasons. “Those guests are

starting to realize they can have fun and be included in a bar or restaurant with alcohol around without needing to partake in drinking,” he observes.

It’s a trend that has definitely made its way to the Geneva Lake area. Seaver says The Abbey has recently experienced an uptick in mocktail requests as the popularity of alcohol-free options has become more mainstream.

150 CENTER ST.
LAKE GENEVA, WI 53147
262.812.4064


flatirontaplg.com
flatirontap@gmail.com

Local Farm to Table
Live Music Thursday Nights
Late Night Menu on Friday & Saturday

food & drink *alcohol-free spirits*

Barbosa says that Maxwell Mansion has been working on refining its mocktails. “We continue to expand our menu as the interest continues to grow,” he explains, adding that mocktails can inspire creativity among bartenders.

Trainor says that there has been a lot of positive feedback to Cafe Calamari’s mocktail menu, which includes seasonal options and classics. “A lot of people have seemed pleasantly surprised that our mocktail list offers well-balanced options,” she says.

“There are so many different directions you can go with mocktails ... you can have fun with them, play around and learn a lot about new flavor profiles and combinations,” Barbosa says. “It’s exciting to watch someone come into the Apothecary and realize we have mocktail options and get excited to try new drinks. One of our favorite things to see is when a couple comes in and the pregnant spouse sits on the side just patiently waiting for their significant other to get their drink and we let them know we have great options for them to try some fun drinks. Their eyes light up and get so excited that they don’t have to just drink water or juice all night. They can have a fancy glass and sip all night on tasty drinks, too.” 



MAKING Spirits Bright

Crafted Onsite At Lake Geneva's
Only Winery & Distillery

Also Offering
Wine & Spirits
Tastings

Cocktails

Craft Beer

Light Bites

Live Music

Art Workshops

Outdoor Seating

Carryout Wine & Spirits

Geneva Lake Distilling   **STUDIO WINERY**

Fri & Sat 2-10 with live music 5-9 all year around, Sun 12-4, Mon 2-6, Thurs 2-6 from Jun through Oct - Thurs by appointment Nov through May
401 Sheridan Springs Road . Lake Geneva . www.StudioWinery.com . 262-348-9100

WE WANT
YOUR

Feedback!

Complete our *At The Lake*
Reader Survey and be
entered for a chance to **win a**
\$50 Pier 290 Gift Card!



Use your smartphone or tablet to scan the
QR code or visit our website at:



atthelakemagazine.com/reader-survey

**We have something
for everyone.**

Wine, Whiskey &
Tequila Flights
Craft Beer & Spirits



Retail Store

Wines, Beer, Craft
Spirits & Gift Items

Lounge and Patio

Relax in our comfortable
seating with two fireplaces.
Patio (*weather permitting*)
Dog Friendly

Event Room/Theater

Hold Your Event Here!

Events

Stand-up Comedy Shows,
Live Music & More!



262.348.9463

617 W. Main St., Lake Geneva
TheBottleShopLakeGeneva.com

tuscan

Tavern & Grill
Lake Geneva

SPECIALIZING IN ITALIAN CLASSICS AND DELICIOUS STEAKS & SEAFOOD



HOST YOUR SPECIAL OCCASION IN ONE OF OUR PRIVATE ROOMS • GLUTEN FREE MENU
WE ACCOMMODATE LARGE GROUPS

430 N. BROAD STREET • DOWNTOWN LAKE GENEVA • 262-248-0888

TheTuscanTavernAndGrill.com

dining at the lake

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 view the full directory online.

Scan this QR code with your phone's camera app to see our full list of Geneva Lake-area dining options.



Crème brûlée at Fire2Fork.

LAKE GENEVA

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

CONSTANT CRAVINGS CONFECTIONS ☹

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

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/lake-geneva

FLAT IRON TAP CASUAL ☹☹☹

150 Center St., Lake Geneva;
262-812-4064
flatirontaplbg.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

GUAC STAR MEXICAN ☹

120 Broad St., Lake Geneva;
262-203-5084

HEART & SÓL CAFÉ CASUAL ☹☹☹

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

HILL VALLEY CHEESE SHOP & BAR

CASUAL 🍷
510-512 Broad St., Lake Geneva;
262-684-9542
hillvalleydairy.com

HOGS & KISSES

CASUAL 🍷
149 Broad St., Lake Geneva;
262-248-7447
hogsandkisses.com

HOUSE OF BOGINI

CASUAL 🍷
152 Center St., Lake Geneva;
262-903-8003

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

KILWINS CHOCOLATE AND ICE CREAM SHOP

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

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

LORELEI BITTNER'S BAKERY

BAKERY 🍷
495 Interchange N. (Hwy. 120),
Lake Geneva; 262-248-2330
loreliebittnersbakery.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
ciminoslakegeneva.com

MEDUSA GELATERIA & KOUZINA

CASUAL/ICE CREAM 🍷
272 Broad St., Lake Geneva
medusagelato.com

NEXT DOOR PUB & PIZZERIA

AMERICAN/CASUAL/ITALIAN 🍷
411 Interchange N. (Hwy. 120),
Lake Geneva; 262-248-9551
nextdoorpub.com

NICHE

COFFEESHOP/WINE BAR 🍷🍷🍷
715 Hunt Club Dr., Unit C,
Lake Geneva; 262-581-6800
nichehg.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

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

SIMPLE CAFÉ

AMERICAN/BAKERY 🍷🍷🍷
525 Broad St., Lake Geneva;
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
hawkviewgolfclub.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
destinationgn.com/turf

TUSCAN TAVERN AND GRILL

AMERICAN/ITALIAN 🍷🍷🍷
430 Broad St., Lake Geneva;
262-248-0888
tuscanlg.com

ZAAB CORNER BISTRO

STEAK/SEAFOOD/BBQ 🍷🍷🍷🍷
501 Broad St., Lake Geneva;
262-203-5434
zaabcornerlg.com

DELAVAN

1878 ON THE LAKE

AMERICAN 🍷🍷🍷🍷
Lake Lawn Resort, 2400 E. Geneva St.
(State Hwy. 50), Delavan; 262-728-7950
lakelawnresort.com/dining/1878-on-the-lake

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 and
230 E. Walworth Ave., Delavan;
262-374-5497
boxedandburlap.com

CHINA GARDEN

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

CLOCK TOWER PIZZA/FRANK'S

CASUAL/ITALIAN 🍷
5576 State Road 50, Delavan;
262-203-5092
clocktowerpizza.com

DELAVAN FAMILY RESTAURANT

CASUAL 🍷
505 S. 7th St., Delavan; 262-728-1715
delavanfamilyrestaurant.com

THE DUCK INN

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

ELIZABETH'S CAFE

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

THE END ZONE BAR & GRILL

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

FIRE2FORK

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

INN BETWEEN

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

JAIME'S CAFE

CASUAL 🍷
239 E. Walworth Ave., Delavan;
262-749-3107

JO JO'S PIZZA & PASTA

CASUAL 🍷🍷🍷
308 State Hwy. 50, Delavan;
262-728-5656
jojospizzadelavan.net

JONATHAN'S ON

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

LA GUANAJUATO

MEXICAN RESTAURANT
MEXICAN 🍷
233 E. Walworth Ave., Delavan;
262-728-8615

LOS AGAVES RESTAURANT

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

OL' WISCO BAR AND GRILL

CASUAL 🍷
328 E. Walworth Ave., Delavan;
262-725-6000

OPUS AT THE BELFRY HOUSE
FRENCH \$\$\$

3601 State Hwy. 67, Delavan;
262-394-3939
dineopus.com

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

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

RIGA-TONY'S
CASUAL/ITALIAN \$

5576 State Hwy. 50, Delavan;
262-740-2540
rigatonydelavan.com

SPICE OF INDIA
INDIAN \$

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

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

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

WATERFRONT PUB & GRILL
CASUAL \$

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

YO-SHI JAPANESE
RESTAURANT

ASIAN \$\$
1823 E. Geneva St. (State Hwy. 50),
Delavan; 262-740-2223

ELKHORN

ALPINE BISTRO AT ALPINE
VALLEY RESORT
AMERICAN/CONTEMPORARY
\$\$\$-\$\$\$

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

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.godaddy.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
leftysdogs.com

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

PEPPERONI PUB
CASUAL/ITALIAN \$

627 S. Second St., Elkhorn; 262-723-2222
sperinos.com/pepperoni-pub

PERKUP
COFFEE HOUSE \$

27 N. Wisconsin St., Elkhorn; 262-723-1287
perkupelkhorn.com

THE PUB AT EVERGREEN
GOLF CLUB
CASUAL \$

N6246 U.S. Hwy. 12, Elkhorn;
262-723-5722
evergreengolf.com/the-pub

ROOTS & ROCKS
AMERICAN \$

20 S. Wisconsin St., Elkhorn;
262-723-8021
roots-rocks.com

SOMEPLACE ELSE
AMERICAN \$

1 W. Walworth St., Elkhorn; 262-723-3111
someplaceelserestaurant.com

STILLWATER COFFEE
COMPANY
COFFEE HOUSE \$

1560 N. Country Club Pkwy., Elkhorn;
262-723-2301
stillwatercoffeecompany.com

FONTANA

240° WEST
AMERICAN/CASUAL/STEAKHOUSE
\$\$\$-\$\$\$

The Abbey Resort, 269 Fontana Blvd.,
Fontana; 262-275-9034
theabbeyresort.com/lake-geneva-restaurants/240-west

BAR WEST
CASUAL \$-\$\$\$

The Abbey Resort, 269 Fontana Blvd.,
Fontana; 262-275-9034
theabbeyresort.com/lake-geneva-restaurants/bar-west

CAFÉ LATTE
COFFEE HOUSE \$

The Abbey Resort & Spa; 269 Fontana
Blvd., Fontana; 262-275-6811
theabbeyresort.com/lake-geneva-restaurants/cafe-latte

CHUCK'S LAKESHORE INN
CASUAL \$

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

COFFEE MILL
COFFEE HOUSE \$

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

LITTLE BAR
PIZZA \$\$\$

138 Fontana Blvd. Fontana;
262-755-0335
littlebarfontana.com

THE WATERFRONT
AMERICAN/CASUAL \$\$\$

The Abbey Resort, 269 Fontana Blvd.,
Fontana; 262-275-9034
theabbeyresort.com/lake-geneva-restaurants/the-waterfront

LAKE COMO

CRAFTED ITALIA
ITALIAN \$\$\$-\$\$\$

The Ridge Hotel, W4240 State
Hwy. 50, Lake Geneva; 262-249-3832
craftedlakegeneva.com

DJ'S IN THE DRINK
CASUAL \$

W3860 Lake Shore Dr.,
Lake Como; 262-248-8855
djsinthedrink.com

THE GETAWAY ON LAKE COMO
CASUAL \$-\$\$

4190 West End Rd., Lake Geneva;
262-686-3456
thegatewayrestaurant.com

LEGENDS FOOD & SPIRITS
CASUAL \$

W3731 Club House Dr.,
Lake Geneva; 262-203-5474
legendsfoodandspirits.com

MARS RESORT
STEAKHOUSE/SUPPER CLUB \$\$\$

W4098 S. Shore Drive
(off State Hwy. 50 on Lake Como),
Lake Geneva; 262-245-5689
mars-resort.com

NEXT DOOR PUB LAKESIDE
PIZZA \$

W4118 Lake Shore Dr., Lake Geneva;
262-249-6311
nextdoorpublakeside.com

PAPA'S BLUE SPRUCE
CASUAL \$

W4086 Lake Shore Dr.,
Lake Geneva; 262-729-4126
papasbluespruce.com

WALWORTH

10 PIN PUB
CASUAL/ITALIAN \$

121 Kenosha St., Walworth;
262-394-4300
10pinpub.com

KING DRAGON
ASIAN \$

101 Kenosha St., Walworth;
262-275-3309
kingdragonwa.com

SAMMY'S ON THE SQUARE
CASUAL \$

105 Madison St., Walworth;
262-275-3739
sammysonthesquare.com

SIEMER'S CRUISE-IN
BAR & GRILL
CASUAL \$

107 Kenosha St., Walworth;
262-275-9191
siemerscruisein.com

TWO SISTERS THAI
RESTAURANT

ASIAN \$
207 N. Main St., Walworth;
262-394-5700

WILLIAMS BAY

BAY COOKS
CASUAL \$

99 N. Walworth Ave., Williams Bay;
262-607-6024
baycooksrestaurant.com

CAFÉ CALAMARI
ITALIAN \$\$\$-\$\$\$

10 E. Geneva St., Williams Bay;
262-245-9665
cafecalamari.com

GRACIE'S KITCHEN
CAFÉ \$

150 Elkhorn Rd., Williams Bay;
262-308-5484

GREEN GROCER DELI
AND COFFEE SHOP
CAFÉ \$

24 W. Geneva St., Williams Bay;
262-245-9077
greengrocergenevalake.com

HARPOON WILLIE'S PUB
& EATERY
CASUAL \$

8 E. Geneva St., Williams Bay;
262-245-6906
harpoonwillies.com

LUCKE'S CANTINA
MEXICAN \$

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

PIER 290
AMERICAN/CASUAL \$\$\$

1 Liechty Dr., Williams Bay;
262-245-2100
pier290.com

1878 on the Lake.....112	Shannon Blay.....52	Lake Geneva Lodge.....67	Stebnitz Builders.....58-61
@properties.....4-5	Donna Brongiel.....15	Lake Geneva Paint Pros.....57	Streblov Custom Boats.....102
Martha Cucco.....25	Tricia Forbeck.....35	Lake Geneva Window & Door.....107	Studio M Interiors.....13
Diane Krause.....23	Janis Hartley.....7	Lake Home Living.....25	Studio Winery + Geneva Lake Distilling.....116
Jerry Kroupa.....99	Mary Ochoa-Petersen.....41	Lake Lawn Resort.....19, 81	Tailored Spaces.....45
Stephanie Parent.....43	Linda Tonge.....27	Lakes Brick & Block.....32	The Todd Venue.....105
The Abbey Resort.....34, 77	Bob Webster.....33	Lazy Cloud Lodge.....73	Tuscan Tavern & Grill.....68, 117
Abbey Springs.....84	The Cove.....84	Lowell Custom Homes.....2	Verlo Mattress.....99
Alpine Valley Resort.....34, 76	Delavan Lake Resort.....26	Maddock Construction.....95	Villa Renaissance.....85
Anna Urban Photography.....72	Imagine Theater.....121	Mahler Sotheby's International Realty Chris Jasser.....16	
Artistic Cleaners.....91	First National Bank.....110	Matt Mason Photography.....67	
Balsitis Contracting Inc.....124	Flat Iron Tap.....115	Matustik Builders.....9	
Berkshire Hathaway Kilkenny Group.....31	Fontana Home.....89	Maxwell Mansion.....62	
Mark Larkin.....31	Foremost Electric.....101	Michelle Miller Design.....91	
B&J Tree Landscape.....97	Four Seasons Flooring.....97	Newport West Shoppes.....17	
The Boat House of Lake Geneva.....111	Geneva Cabinet Company.....123	The Opal Man.....71	
The Bottle Shop.....117	Geneva Lake Cruise Line.....80	Paper Dolls.....86	
The Candle Mercantile.....14	Grand Welcome of Lake Geneva.....110	Perfect Petals by Tali.....67	
Caravelle Lighting.....14	Gulf Coast International Properties...18	Pier 290.....76	
Chuck's Lakeshore Inn.....69	Haberdapper.....57	Plasma Lift.....55	
Churchill's Lounge.....65	Ideal Impressions.....68	The Riviera Ballroom.....80	
Coldwell Banker Dawn McKenna Group.....20	Jorndt Fahey LLC.....11	The Santa Cause.....107	
Compass Mick Balestrieri.....44	Kristina Lorraine Photography.....69	Shorewest Christine Fox.....8	
	Lakefront Shuttle.....72	Soberg Window & Door Co.....100	
	Lake Geneva Area Realty Inc.....3		
	Lake Geneva Blind Co.....100		

ADVERTISING THAT WORKS!



At The Lake
magazine Sales
Executive Deann
Hausner can help you grow
your business through a
variety of print and digital
marketing opportunities.
Reach out to learn more!

atthelakemagazine.com
deann@ntmediagroup.com
262.903.9000 (cell)

EXPERIENCE THE MAGIC OF MOVIES & MORE

EMAG/NE GENEVA LAKES

2565 WI-120 | Lake Geneva, WI 53147 | 262-475-2300 | www.emagine-entertainment.com

LUXURIOUS RECLINERS

CRAFT BEER, WINE & COCKTAILS

EMAGINE REWARDS

EXCLUSIVE REWARDS PROGRAM

“New beautiful things
come in the first spit of snow
on the northwest wind.”

— Carl Sandburg

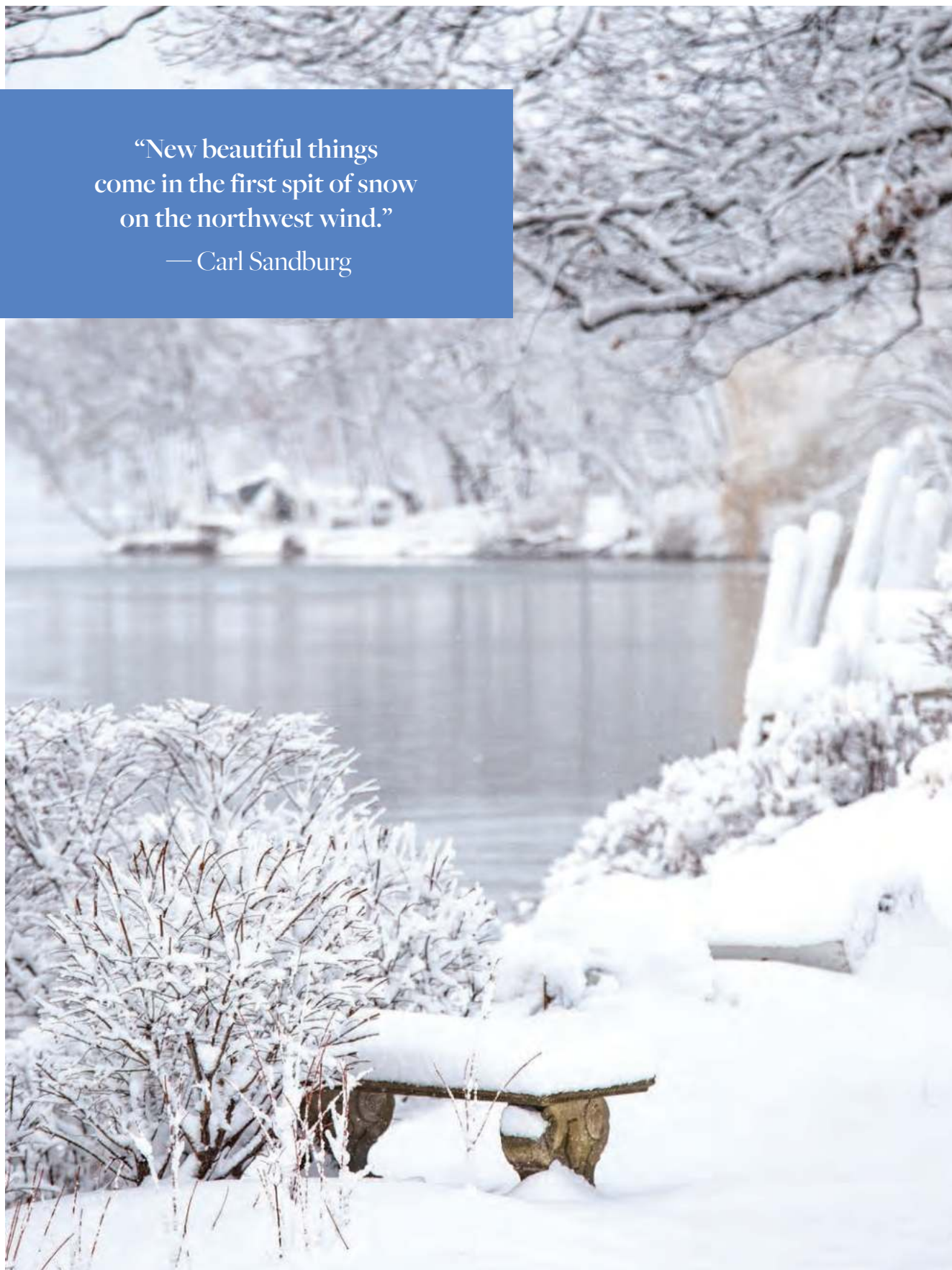
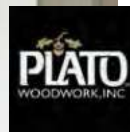


photo by lauren harrigan

Designed by Joyce Zuelke, CKBD | Photography by Shanna Wolf



VISIT OUR SHOWROOM TODAY & BE INSPIRED FOR TOMORROW

SHOWROOM HOURS Mon–Fri: 9am–4pm

201 Geneva National Ave. S, Lake Geneva, WI
www.genevacabinet.com | 262.245.9600



GENEVA
CABINETS



BALSITIS

CUSTOM HOMES • RENOVATION • CONTRACTING

1021 PROCTOR DRIVE, ELKHORN, WI 53121

CUSTOM & LAKE HOME BUILDERS LUXURY HOME REMODELS ADDITIONS KITCHENS BATHROOMS PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

BALSITISCONTRACTING.COM

262-203-3952

