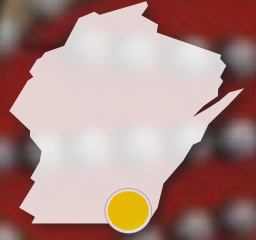




SPIRIT *of Geneva Lakes*



Vol. 27 No. 8

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AUGUST 2015



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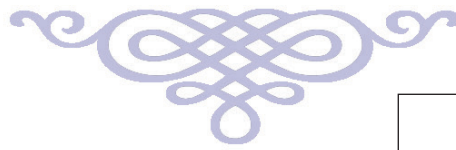
#1430449 – ELKHORN: 3 BD, 1.5 BA home w/ updated kitchen; separate dining area & a 12'x13' screened in porch. All appliances are included & very well maintained home.
\$155,000 Connie Poggensee 262-374-0772



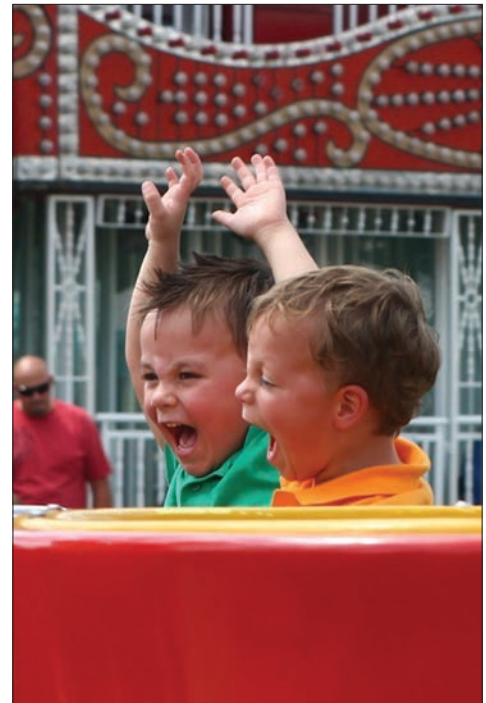
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All's fair

Carnival rides like this are just part of the fun during fair season in the Geneva Lakes area. The Kenosha County Fair is slated for Aug. 19 through 23 and the Walworth County Fair is set for Sept. 2-7. So grab a partner, pull on your boots and prepare to have some good old country fun at the fairgrounds in Wilmot and Elkhorn.

Photo by EARLENE FREDERICK



IT'S COMIN' UP

AUGUST EVENTS

1 Full Moon Four Miler Run and Half Moon Mini Miler in Waterford. Registration opens for Full Moon run at 6:30 p.m. and the race begins at Village Hall Park at 8:30 p.m. Mini Miler race for ages 2 to 12 check in is at the Waterford High School track field, 100 Field Drive, at 3 p.m. with the run beginning at 4 p.m. Info: www.waterford-wi.org

1-2 Madison Classic Car Show & Swap – spectators and vendors welcome. Cost is \$7. Event is from 6 a.m.-4 p.m. Aug. 1, and 6 a.m.-3 p.m. on Aug. 2, at the Walworth County Fairgrounds, Highway 11. (608) 244-8416 or www.madisonclassics.com

1-31 Game On! – 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Old World Wisconsin, S103 W37890 Highway 67, Eagle. Experience the games of the 1800s ranging from rounders, cricket, early soccer and croquet, to marbles and more. Playing field is large and so is the scope, ranging from indoor and outdoor games, early sports and board and card games. (262) 594-6300 or www.oldworldwisconsin.wisconsinhistory.org

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Walworth County farmers market – Veterans Park on the courthouse square, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. (262) 741-4961

7 Lutherdale Quilt Preview and Fish Fry – 4:30-8 p.m. at Lutherdale Camp, N7891 Highway 12, Elkhorn. Ticket cost for adults is \$12, \$7 for children 12 and younger. (262) 742-2352

8 Lutherdale Fest and Quilt Auction – from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., hand-made quilts and other items will be auctioned off to support summer camp, lunch at 11 a.m. at Lutherdale, N7891 Highway 12, Elkhorn. Event will also include children's programming and a men's lounge. (262) 742-2352

8-9 35th annual Art in the Park, Flat Iron Park, 201 Wrigley Drive, Lake Geneva. Juried show spotlights original fine art from more than 80 artists from

throughout the United States featuring paintings, photography, pottery, graphics, sculptures, jewelry and more. The event will also feature a silent auction, live entertainment, food and beverage and a children's activity tent. Sponsored by the Lake Geneva Arts Foundation. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Info: www.genevalakeart.org

9 Corn and Brat Fest – Knights of Columbus, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Echo Park, 589 Milwaukee Ave., Burlington. Corn, brats, hot dogs and hamburgers. There will also be soda, beer, and water. Come see arts and crafts and enter our raffle. Raffle drawing, 6 p.m. Info: (262) 763-8068

9 Antique Flea Market – 7 a.m. at the Walworth County Fairgrounds, Highway 11, Cost is \$5. (414) 525-0820 www.nlpromotionsllc.com

19-23 Venetian Festival, Flat Iron Park, 201 Wrigley Drive, Lake Geneva. Carnival, craft fair, water ski show, musical entertainment, local cuisine and the festival's traditional lighted boat parade Sunday evening followed by a firework display high above Geneva Lake. Sponsored by The Lake Geneva Jaycees. Wednesday through Friday, 5 p.m. to midnight; Saturday and Sunday, noon to midnight. Fireworks Sunday, 9 p.m. See page 41. More info at: www.venetianfest.com

19-23 Kenosha County Fair, 30820 111th St, Wilmet www.kenoshacofair.com. See page 19 for full story.

28-30 Maxwell Street Days in downtown Lake Geneva. Info: www.lakegenewawi.com

Setting it straight

Due to an editing error, a story on Custom Craft Carpentry in the June edition of Spirit of Geneva Lakes included the wrong byline. The story was written by Correspondent Janet Deaver-Pack.

Although we strive to provide accurate information regarding area events, dates and times may change or events may be cancelled. We suggest you verify before you finalize your travel plans.

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THE SPIRIT

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SUBMITTED PHOTO *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

A dance floor and fountain under a transparent tent ceiling are set up for a gathering on the grounds of Stone Manor in Lake Geneva. The fountain is another option available to customers of AAA Tentmasters and WOW Event Design.

THE Party STARTER

AAA TENTMASTERS PROVIDES
THE TENTS & SUPPLIES
THAT MAKE OUTDOOR
GATHERINGS GREAT

by **Janet Deaver-Pack**

CORRESPONDENT

It's summer: time to celebrate all the activities associated with warm weather, including graduation parties, weddings, family reunions, retirements, after-soccer and baseball celebrations, and good old barbecues.

But what happens if the party overflows the host's house? Or what if the weather on the day of the festival forecasts storms?

That's when it's time to call AAA Tentmasters and Party Rentals in Kenosha, and Gurnee, Ill. This business has every size of tent available, from a 10-by-10 foot shelter to an 80-by-180 circus tent.

"Or we can go bigger by adding middle (sections)," said Jenni Riggen, who has been the administrative assistant for about eight years for owner Alan Nowakowski at the offices in both states. "It all depends what our

clients need. Our tents are industrial strength, vinyl and sunblocked. We customize every setup.”

Just how many tent rentals does it get during good weather? “This week we have 80 scheduled,” Rigen said. “Next week, it’s 100. It’s a little crazy around here right now. The bookings never stop.” This is a six-day-per-week job where the staff of about 30 people work hard from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

No wonder. AAA Tentmasters isn’t just about tents. The business also rents chairs, dance floors, tables, dishes, portable toilets, bounce houses, stages for festivals and music performances, portable bars, linens, and many other things that make gatherings both comfortable and special.

The Wisconsin office, located just east of the traffic circle at highways MB and C in Kenosha, has a small showroom, and a huge area for storage, cleaning, and delivery. The staff here follows the motto above the showroom’s displays: “It’s the Personal Touch that Makes the Difference.”

Custom setup

Eight trucks are packed with tents reserved for parties, weddings, or other gatherings, either late the day before or the morning of delivery. Employees of AAA Tentmasters take care of every aspect of the shelter’s construction to ensure it’s done right.

“Sometimes a tent requires an eight-hour setup,” Nowakowski said. “When that tent’s up, it’s not going anywhere.”

Some might think these are the canvas variety that flap and rip in the wind. Not so. Nowakowski’s shelters have withstood 60 to 100 mph winds.

“If we are unable to drive stakes into the ground at the location, the tents are anchored by 55 gallon drums full of water,” he explained. Those make excellent weights. They can also be “camouflaged” by fabric surrounds to hide them during special occasions like weddings. Because the tents are made of vinyl, they’re substantial.

“We had tents at Country Thunder in Twin Lakes during the microburst in 2001,”

Nowakowski said. “The stage collapsed, but our tents stayed up.”

Nowakowski originally worked with computers. Soon after starting that job, he found out he’d rather be outside than in a climate-controlled office without windows. His uncle got him into the rental business. Noticing a niche market for rentals of certain items when he lived in Waukegan, Ill., Nowakowski purchased some tents and began AAA Tentmasters from his garage in 1988. He also began Tent Master Supply (Your High Quality, American Made Tenting Supply Source) the same year. This second occupation specializes in sales of new and used tents. Success has required several expansions of both businesses. The last one moved AAA Tentmasters and Tent Master Supply into new quarters in Gurnee during 2011.

WOW Event Design

The new showroom at 887 S. Riverside Dr., Gurnee, actually houses two symbiotic businesses that refer clients to one another. Alan’s rental and tent service is in the lower



SUBMITTED PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

At a wedding reception, an unusual tent with a transparent vinyl ceiling allows the outside in with none of the difficulties of bugs or breezes interfering with the festivities.

level, and his wife Johnell Overgaauw's WOW Event Design is upstairs.

Her business provides spectacular ceiling and wall swags with decorative lights and a variety of chiffon fabrics, backdrops, balloon drops, custom party and wedding décor, centerpieces, and everything else that makes a memorable tent event even more memorable. WOW Event Design is, according to Riggen, a "partner décor company" to AAA Tentmasters.

Overgaauw customizes everything to a customer's budget. Clients literally get as much bang as she can squeeze out of the bucks available. Overgaauw relies on creativity to provide many options for whatever celebration her customers plan.

Nowakowski also decided to expand into Wisconsin around 2007, purchasing the property in Kenosha that had been a small bookbindery. "(This area) was very dim," Riggen said, gesturing to the attractive display of colorful napkins, chairs fashioned like bamboo painted various colors, and unusual rustic wooden dishware on a plank table.

"There were three rooms here with no windows," she said. "We upgraded to one showroom with a pale wooden floor and lots of windows. It's much friendlier."

There was also a barn on the property large enough to provide storage, as well as drying room for newly washed tents. Chandeliers, used tents for sale, hundreds of chairs, staging, dance floors, and other items are stored here. Room to grow was also an important consideration.

The mega washer

Nowakowski's business is now 27 years old. One way in which he's expanded it is with a most unusual machine.

"It's a tent washer," he explained. "It cost \$140,000, and is the only one in the region. Instead of having to clean our tents by hand like we used to do, now we let the machine do it."

Vinyl tents are heavy, and getting them clean, especially the ropes and webbing, has always been a concern.

"We wash every tent before it goes out again," Riggen said.

"They have to be perfectly white," Nowakowski affirmed. "This is part of our excellent customer service. Our prices can be few dollars higher than other tent rental companies, and this is part of the reason why."

The tent washer is housed in a workshop, and is specifically designed to clean large tents. Essentially, it's a huge washing machine. There is a furnace that heats recycled water pumped from a 4,000-gallon main tank.

Several employees put the tent in the



It all depends what our clients need. Our tents are industrial strength, vinyl and sunblocked. We customize every setup."



SUBMITTED PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Trendy black and white dinner settings with touches of bright colors and a spectacular ceiling light display are created in this tent supplied by AAA Tentmasters and decorated by WOW Event Design.

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This large vinyl tent is prepared for a daytime sit-down meal. The tent's walls may be unfurled from the upright posts in case of inclement weather.

washer's opening, and activate the system. Soap mixes with the hot water, and the tent is gently tumbled. When the process finishes, the tent is pulled out and transported outside, then spread to dry atop a large piece of water-absorbent fabric. Tents can otherwise be hung in the barn to dry.

The water drained from the machine's washing cycle is filtered. The clean liquid is sluiced into the main underground tank while the dirt and soap residue is sent to a holding tank. Contents of this last cistern are pumped out after 40 washes and taken to a nearby water treatment plant for proper disposal.

During winter months, the tent washer is kept busy cleaning boat sails. "This is another service we provide that keeps us going all year, Nowakowski said. "We also provide construction tents year-around to firms who need them." AAA Tentmasters travels beyond Wisconsin and Illinois to provide quality tenting for crews working at large construction sites.

Another machine that helps the business thrive is a chair washer. An employee feeds vinyl chairs turned on their sides one-by-one into its interior. The chairs are thoroughly scrubbed by a system of water sprays and spinning brushes. After a blast of air blows off most of the water, another employee removes the chairs from the washer. He inspects them for cleanliness, and then stands them vertically so they can dry further.

The final steps are opening the chairs to make certain they're thoroughly dry, and then closing them. They are then transported to a storage area until they're needed. The chair washer is capable of washing hundreds of vinyl chairs. The wooden chairs are hand-cleaned after each use.

Make it memorable

No part of the year offers down time for either Nowakowski's or his wife's business. "We go to winter wedding shows in Milwaukee and Chicago," Overgaww said. At the shows, both AAA Tentmasters and WOW Event Design share beautiful pictures of the tents and décor they've provided for weddings with prospective brides and grooms. The couple love pointing



SUBMITTED PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Lovely dinner settings and dance floors are among the items rented by AAA Tentmasters. This is just one option of the many sizes and configurations of tents, and various types of chairs, tables, and tableware the business offers.

out pictures of an extravagant wedding in Burlington where 450 guests were invited to a sit-down dinner after the ceremony.

“We put up an 80-by-150 foot tent for that,” Overgaauw said, “and a custom-painted dance floor, a separate prep kitchen area, a 40-by-60 tent that was used as a day care for kids’ activities, and another tent for the night club and the rock and roll club. There was bull riding, games of all sorts, a dove release, and a petting zoo.”

It took a lot of coordination, but everything went off without a problem. The guests and the wedding couple had a great time.

“We’re always updating,” Overgaauw said. New decorating schemes come into play on a regular basis for WOW Event Design and for some of AAA Tentmasters’ rental items, such as tableware, draping fabric, napkin colors, and some chairs. “Things like color preferences change every year,” she added. “The showrooms always need to reflect those preferences, so we redo them regularly.”

There truly is a tent for everything here, and, except for people, all the things that go under it.

AAA Tentmasters is in Wisconsin at (262) 857-8368, or fax them at (262) 857-2269. The company’s tents are beautifully decorated by WOW Event Design, and worth a look at www.aaatentmasters.com. For the Gurnee, Ill., office, call (847) 367-8368, or fax (847) 367-8413. WOW Event Design may be reached at (888) 819-9698, or through its own website at events@letmewowu.com.

For new and used tent sales, Tent Master Supply’s contact is www.TentMasterSupply.com.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

AAA Tentmaster employees (top photo) spread out a tent to dry in the sun on moisture-absorbing fabric. Employees (at right) load a large vinyl tent into the tent washer. AAA Tentmasters (above) is just east of the intersection of Highways C and MB in Kenosha.



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Brent and Beckie Janusczewski make the most of a summer day by visiting Lucke's Cantina, Williams Bay, to enjoy a Perfect Margarita on the deck.

LUCKE'S CANTINA



Come
for the
margaritas,
stay for
the food

by **Sandra Landen Machaj**
CORRESPONDENT

Eating out seems to be the pastime of many of us as we spend the warm days of summer meeting up with friends, traveling or just going for a relaxing dinner after a difficult workday.

Many of us tire of the usual places and with the summer weather look for new and interesting places to meet with friends and family. Often people look for a place that is friendly, welcoming and known for its excellent food – preferably food that is created on site and not just reheated from a frozen state.

One such place that attracts local residents and visitors to the Williams Bay area is Lucke's Cantina on Highway 67. Lucke's specializes in food found south of America but is not limited to Mexican foods. The restaurant also features foods found in the

Caribbean, and Central America.

The atmosphere is just as one would expect to find in these more laid-back countries. The décor is simple: tile floors and soft-colored murals painted by artist Chip Rosenthal, which depict the sea as it looks on the island of Belize. The mural emphasizes the blue and orange colors seen in the sea and in the skies. A small sailboat in the distance encourages dreams of being taken away from the pressures of everyday life.

Lights strung across the ceiling add a festive glow. Another mural leading down a short hallway gives visitors the impression they are walking down the street of a Caribbean village with its brightly colored houses. In the distance a stairway stands out that appears to be leading one to the second floor. But for those who have tried to climb it, they literally hit the wall for it is a painting on a flat wall.





The U-shaped bar is a popular place to meet with friends. Throughout the day customers stop for lunch, an afternoon beverage, or dinner.

SANDRA LANDEN MACHAJ Spirit of Geneva Lakes



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Come for the food

What sets Lucke's apart is the food. Everything is made from scratch in-house. The tortilla chips come hot, cooked just prior to being served. The guacamole, which has a well-deserved reputation for being the best around, is made to order so it's always fresh and flavorful. It is a chunky style with tomatoes. If you prefer it a little spicier, add some of the hot sauce, also made in house.

Dipping those warm tortilla chips into the chunky style guacamole while enjoying a favorite beverage can't be beat. While it may be difficult to make a dinner or lunch selection from the many different items available, there are really no bad choices.

The chimichangas, burritos, and soft tacos each offer a special taste treat. The soft fish tacos are a break from the ordinary. What diners don't choose this time will be there for the next visit – and there will surely be a next visit.

While the guacamole is special, it is not the only choice for an appetizer to share with friends. Other appetizers found on the menu that are also excellent, including wings with habanera mango sauce, loaded fries and nachos with or without meat.

On a recent warm afternoon Brent and Beckie Januszewski were on the patio at Lucke's enjoying an afternoon margarita. The Januszewskis are regular customers of the Cantina.

"The food is excellent. It is the best Mexican food around," Brent Januszewski said.

He went on to say that in addition to the Mexican foods his favorite selection here is the ribs. "It is surprising that a restaurant known for Mexican foods produces the best ribs in town," he added. The ribs are on the menu and are described as award winning.

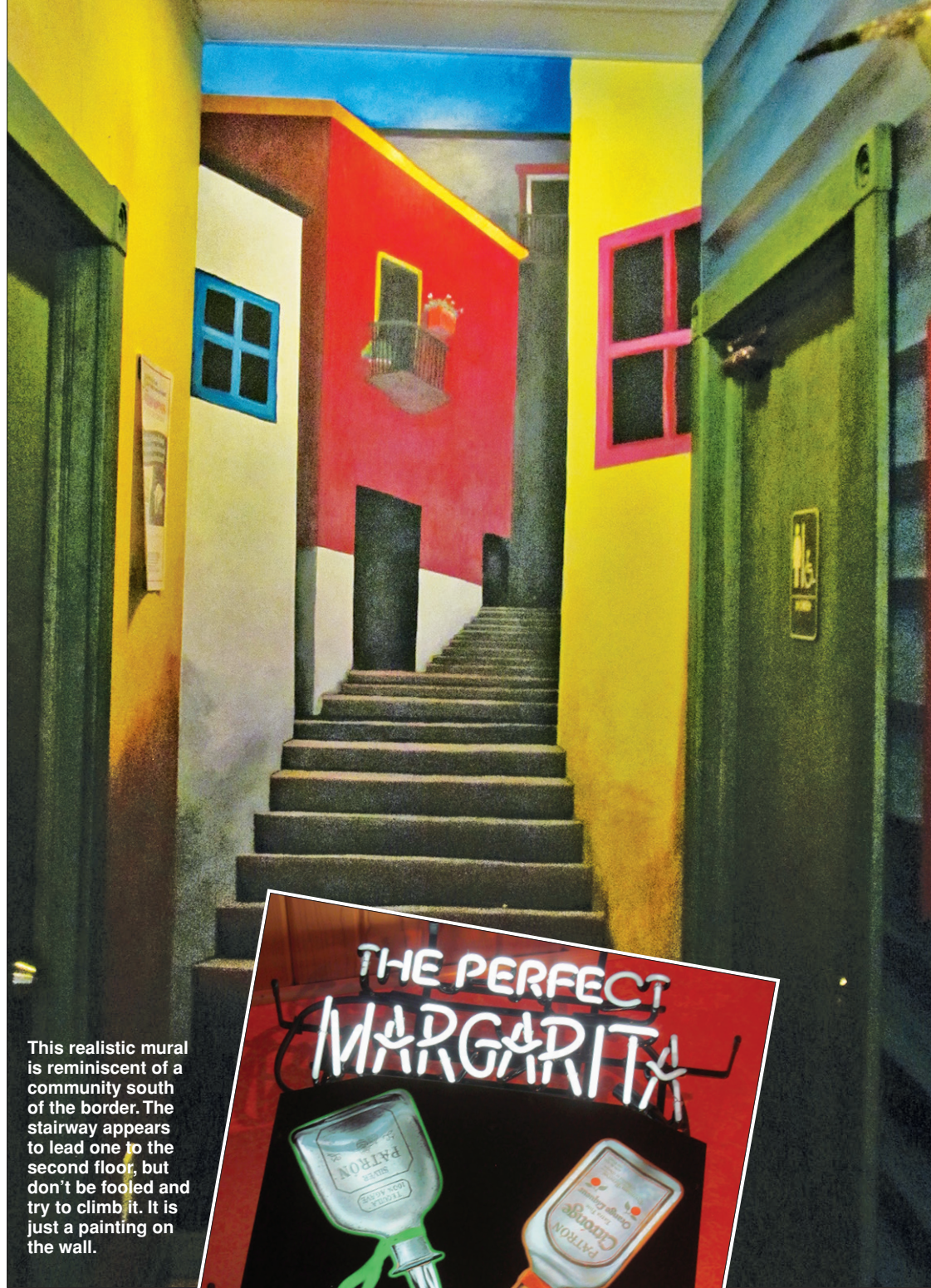
For the margarita lover, the choices are abundant: the classic style, the trendy fruit flavored ones, or the Perfect Margarita. The latter can be made to order and is served in a large multi-colored margarita glass. Perfect Margaritas are made from Patron tequila and Patron Citronge.

According to Beckie Januszewski, "The perfect margaritas, which are stronger, may not be for rookies."

Owner has local roots

Restaurant owner, Laine Lucke, has been a longtime resident of the Williams Bay area, having lived here since childhood. A former home builder, he was well acquainted with the restaurants in the area and so when he opened the Cantina, he chose to do something different from what was currently available.

After remodeling the building, he was ready to



This realistic mural is reminiscent of a community south of the border. The stairway appears to lead one to the second floor, but don't be fooled and try to climb it. It is just a painting on the wall.



Looking for the perfect Margarita? Let one of the bartenders at Lucke's prepare it for you. The Perfect Margarita is made with Patron Tequila and Patron Citronge and is not for rookies.





The food is excellent. It is the best Mexican food around."

- Brent Januszewski

open in 2006 realizing a lifetime dream of owning a restaurant. One year later, he added on an additional dining room to accommodate large groups, private parties, and just general overflow from the bar.

The bar itself dominates the room but its U-shape makes it easy to share conversations with those around you. Throughout the day and evening, customers stop in and many seem to know each other. They chat, enjoy a drink and an appetizer. For many of them, lunch or dinner is ordered and eaten as they enjoy the camaraderie of friends while sitting at the bar. Customers may also choose to sit at

a table for more privacy. Both the popular high tops and regular tables are available.

On pleasant sunny days, the best seats in the house are actually not in the house but on the deck. The deck is fenced to provide privacy and to muffle some of the traffic from Highway 67.

Like any good Cantina the bar is well stocked with popular drinks. Sixteen beers are on tap and others in bottles or cans are available. Many are familiar brands, such as Blue Moon, Fat Tire, New Glarus, Smithwicks, and Leinenkugel seasonal, but there is usually something new to try.

How many types of tequila are there?

At the Cantina there there are 20 different varieties. For the wine lover there are several house wines including the popular Chardonnay, Riesling, Cabernet and Merlot. Specialty bottles are also available.

Mixed drinks, especially the margaritas, go with any of the south-of-the-border dishes. For the ladies who love margaritas, the Cantina hosts a special on Thursday nights when all women receive \$1 off.

Weekend retreat

On Saturday and Sunday, breakfast is served from 8 a.m. until noon. Eggs Benedict, the signature dish, should



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definitely be considered for a delightful breakfast and one that probably won't be cooked at home. Sunday mornings starting at 9 a.m. the Bloody Mary bar is set up in the dining room. The liquor is purchased at the regular bar and then customers can take it to the Bloody Mary bar and add other ingredients for a custom flavor.

The most popular entrée on the menu for lunch or dinner is the enchilada. It is accompanied with rice and beans and there is a choice of fillings: cheese, chicken, steak, chorizo, or ground beef. There is a choice of a mild red sauce or a spicy green sauce covering them. The green spicy sauce is not overly hot but possesses a kick.

If a light lunch is more your style, soups, salads and sandwiches are available and, like everything on the menu, is freshly made.

It is not only the food and pleasant atmosphere that makes Lucke's Cantina a friendly and fun place. It is the staff who are friendly, efficient and work together as one family. Perhaps that is because many of them are long-term employees who feel as if they are one big family.

Each year a customer appreciation event is held in June. A pig roast is held at the Cantina as a way of thanking the regular customers. The event is very well attended.

Laine Lucke served his country as a United States Marine and now works to help those who were not as fortunate as he was, while they were serving their country. The first Monday of each month is dedicated as Military Monday where a portion of the profits for the day are donated to the United Relief Fund for the purpose of providing a lifeline of hope and help to Wisconsin veterans in need.

Lucke's Cantina is at 220 Elkhorn Road (Highway 67), Williams Bay. It is open seven days a week, Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Fridays from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sundays from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. The bar is often open longer. Lucke's can be reached by telephone at (262) 245-6666, or on the web at Luckescantina.com.



SANDRA LANDEN MACHAJ *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

Lucke's Cantina, at 220 Elkhorn Road (Highway 67), Williams Bay, serves South of America cuisine in a friendly atmosphere. Stop in for a drink and an appetizer or a full meal.



SANDRA LANDEN MACHAJ *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

Freshly made tortilla chips are paired with guacamole also prepared to order in-house. It is a popular appetizer to enjoy with friends and family.



Symphony is scheduled for concerts in local parks

“Back to the Wild, Wild West” is the theme for the Lake Geneva Symphony Orchestra’s 2015 concerts in the park in August.

Aaron Copland’s popular “Hoe-Down,” selections from “Oklahoma,” music from “The Magnificent Seven,” “The Wild, Wild West,” and others will be featured, harkening back to the days of America’s western frontier.

Performances are scheduled at the Phoenix Park Bandshell in Delavan on Saturday, Aug. 1 at 7 p.m. (preceded by the Delavan-Darien High School Summer Chamber Strings at 6:30 p.m.) and at

Lake Geneva’s Flat Iron Park on Sunday, Aug. 2, at 3 p.m.

Both concerts are free and open to the public. Attendees are advised to bring a lawn chair.

“We are extremely excited to share this fun and familiar music with our audiences in these free outdoor concerts,” LGSO Music Director David Anderson said.

“This year’s performance in Lake Geneva is especially notable, as we will have the opportunity to perform in the brand new Brunk Pavilion.”

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EARLENE FREDERICK Spirit of Geneva Lakes

All's Fair

KENOSHA COUNTY FAIR BEGINS AUG. 19

The Kenosha County Fair is back again this year from Wednesday, Aug. 19, to Sunday, Aug. 23. The fairgrounds will open 8 a.m. and close midnight each day. The five-day fair has a variety of events for everyone to enjoy. Between the entertainment, animals, contests and an abundance of fair foods, there will be plenty

to keep the family busy. The crowning of the Fairest of the Fair is set for Wednesday night at 9 p.m.

Visitors will have a chance to make a bid in this year's pie auction Saturday evening and then pick up the pace by also checking out the Demolition Derby Sunday at 1:30 p.m. or 5 p.m. Events cover every end of the spectrum.

For those who love power – both human and engine – the Pedal Tractor Pull is Thursday and Friday morning and the Garden Tractor Pull is Saturday at 10 a.m. The first four places win cash prizes.

What's a county fair without a hay bale-throwing contest? Watch the hay-hurling Friday at 6:30 p.m. in the show ring, or give it a hand yourself for just \$1 entry fee. Cash and prizes are awarded to the champions.

Visitors also have the chance to show off their skills at a talent contest Thursday – anybody ages 2 and up can join in.

Kids ages 12 and younger are invited to participate in a fairground-wide scavenger hunt Thursday at 10 a.m., followed the next day by the annual Children's Parade.

The parade starts at 10:30 a.m. Friday morning,

Little Hailey Harpster participates in a hay bale-throwing competition at a past Kenosha County Fair.



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Above: Barrel racing competitor Grace Hipper rides for honors astride her horse, Derby, at the Kenosha County Fair. At right: Kenosha County's best gardeners will take home blue ribbons for their produce.

but registration begins at 9:30 a.m. Children in costume get free admission. Ribbons and cash prizes will be awarded to participants.

Live entertainment includes a Karaoke Show with Nick Dattilo from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. Wednesday at the Miller Lite Creek Side Stage. The Econolimes will take the stage Thursday night from 8 to midnight; on Friday at 8 p.m. Stetsin and Lace



EARLENE FREDERICK Spirit of Geneva Lakes

will perform; and Bella Cain will play Saturday night.

Sunday will wrap up with Burro Creek from 1 to 3 p.m. and the Class of '62 from 4 to 7 p.m. on the Miller Lite Creek Side Stage.

Admission

Tickets cost \$9 for adults ages 12 and up, \$5 for children ages 8 to 11 and free for children 7 and younger. Season passes are also available for \$30 for adults and \$10 for children.

Wednesday, Aug. 19, is "Senior Day" – anyone 62 and older will be admitted for \$6.

For a \$5 admission on Wednesday, Aug. 19, or Thursday, Aug. 20, bring in two non-perishable food items between 8 a.m. and noon.

Admission is non-refundable, regardless of any cancellations in entertainment.

There is a \$5 fee for IRA racing plus the price of admission Friday and Saturday of the fair.



Well-scrubbed and brushed farm animals, like cows Topacz and Sandra, will be on display and for sale during the fair, which runs Aug. 19 through 23.

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2015 WALWORTH COUNTY FAIR

Just another day in paradise

(turn the page for more)



Children compete in a pie-eating contest held during the 2014 Walworth County Fair. The 2015 fair runs Sept. 2 through 7.

FILE PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

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County fairs and demolition derbies go hand in hand, and 2015 will be no exception. This year's grandstand event is set for Sept. 7 at 1:30, 4 and 6:30 p.m.

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211014



Walworth County Fair runs Sept. 2~7

by **Rumasa Noor**
STAFF WRITER

The Labor Day weekend will mark the 166th anniversary of the Walworth County Fair. The fair will be celebrated from Sept. 2 through 7 on fairgrounds in Elkhorn.

The annual event provides entertainment to the local communities through a multitude of entertaining and educational programs.

"It's a great place to come with your friends, family and children," said Sue Preussing, marketing and public relations manager.

Each year the fair has a theme. This year's theme is "Just Another Day in Paradise."

Activities

The annual event brings fresh activities every year; Monster Truck is one of the new additions to this year's activities, said Preussing.

Other activities will include, bull riding, demolition derby, truck and tractor pulls and different animal exhibits such as cattle shows, dog shows, horse shows and cat shows, Preussing said.

"We have exhibits in home economics where people have made their canned goods, cakes, fudge, cookies (and) pies," she said.

Each year the event also provides live musical entertainment through contests and concerts.

This year the fair's grandstand has the Charlie Daniels Band on Sept. 5 and Cheap Trick on Sept. 6.

The fair will also hold the semifinal and final rounds of the 13th Annual Kunes Country Automotive Group Walworth County Talent Show on Sept. 2 and 3.

This is a musical program that will entail performances in different genres including country, Christian, gospel, soft rock and more.

The Master of Ceremonies, WSLD 104.5 FM Radio and Kunes Automotive Group will award \$1,000 for the first place winner,



Laura Ellsworth, of Spring Prairie 4-H, shows her 1,188-pound crossbreed, which Aluminatank, of Harvard, Ill., purchased in the meat animal sale during the 2014 Walworth County Fair.

FILE PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

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FILE PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Mighty draft horses pull impressive loads during the 2014 horse pull competition at the Walworth County Fair.

\$300 for the second place and \$200 for the third place.

Other challenges will include Fairest of the Fair competition, Duct Tape Fashion, Farmers Olympics and an Outstanding Seniors and Grandparents of the year contest to recognize five seniors who have contributed to the community in some way.

The 2015 WCF Farmers Market and Old World Artisan Village market will operate from Sept. 4 through 7.

This year's events will also include multiple horse events and recognition of centennial farms.

"We have a nice park at the fairgrounds where you can sit and enjoy music," Preussing said. "It's economical to come here, there are lots of things to see, do, eat and take part in."



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211483



A look across the length of Laser Electric Supply and Lighting Gallery's showroom gives the customer an idea of the myriad choices available here for light fixtures, ceiling fans, furniture, and unusual home accents.

Let there be

LIGHT!

Laser Electrical
Supply and
Lighting
Gallery offers
illuminating
beauty

by **Janet Deaver-Pack**
CORRESPONDENT

Home centers – retail businesses where one can buy everything from light bulbs and hardware to pet toys and paint – are found in larger communities throughout the United States. There are many in strip malls throughout southeastern Wisconsin. Most people think of going to such stores when they need electrical wiring, ceiling fans, and anything to do with home or business lighting such as light bulbs and fixtures.

There is, however, a better option, located at the corner of Highway 67 and Willow Bend Road just north of Fontana. This place specializes in lighting and

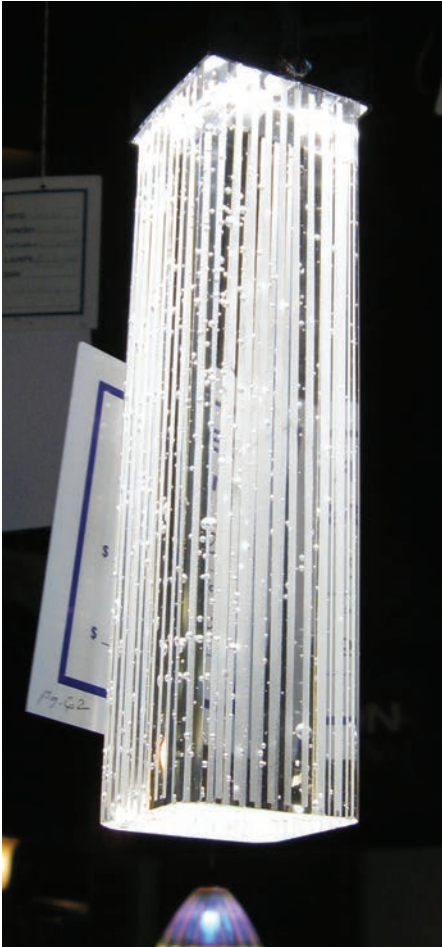
electrical service, which home centers do not. Twenty-five years in business proves an expertise and attention to customer service larger businesses offer but cannot match.

Laser Electrical Supply and Lighting Gallery gives customers a full range of electrical components, fixtures, and other items appropriate for home or business. Owner Jeff Liberman stocks his extensive service desk thoroughly, welcoming do-it-yourselfers needing (for instance) a single new cord for an old beloved desk lamp.

Contractors requiring full wiring and all electrical fixtures for new or restored houses also shop here regularly. There are



Having good decorative lighting is like having the right tie on a suit. A good suit needs a good tie. Don't scrimp on light."



BRUCE HEARD Spirit of Geneva Lakes

hard-to-find sizes of fluorescent lights here. There are connectors, wires, sockets, ballasts, and "can" lights of all sizes on head-high displays.

Behind the counter, the crowded shelves reach almost to the ceiling. And if the shop doesn't stock it, the staff will do its best to order the part.

The store sparks with customer calls and visits. The service desk often has one or more homeowners or contractors asking questions about spare parts or sharing a story with the staff member about an installation.

Several people browse in the showroom, searching for just the right lighting ideas for their kitchen, bedroom, or bath, from top companies like Murray Feiss, Hinkley, Meyda Tiffany, Hubbardton Forge, Monte

An extraordinary and elegant ceiling accent lamp appears to have dancing air bubbles captured along the length of its crystal rods.

Carlo, Fanation, and a host of others. Suppliers bustle in and out, interacting with both customers and the staff. Laser Electric has become a hub for parts, advice, service, and the best

electrical items available anywhere.

Business of his own

Liberman gained his experience by working for an electrical distributor. When his boss retired, he saw an opportunity to start his own business. Liberman became aware of a property for sale including a building on the corner of Highway 67 and Willow Bend.

"This place was an empty shell when I bought it," he said, looking around the busy showroom. "It had a dirt floor with wood above that." He converted the metal building, making all the necessary changes so it was both inviting and comfortable. Liberman opened Laser Electric Supply and Lighting Gallery in April 1990.

The contacts he had made during his years working for the electrical distributor, as well as new associations, helped Liberman's business grow.

"We expanded in 2000," he said, gesturing through the showroom toward the doorway into the parts division. He had the building elongated westward to house that and three storage/loading bays for Laser Electric's own trio of company trucks, and



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to accommodate the stream of contractors picking up supplies for their projects. The original building became the dedicated showroom.

“We’ve got 15,000 square feet here now,” Liberman said. “And we have 15 employees.” It’s become one of the largest dedicated lighting supply houses in southern Walworth County.

Amazing array

The showroom is home to an amazing array of lights and ceiling fans of all types. It features wall sconces, floor lamps, desk lamps, chandeliers both formal and casual, nightlights, billiard table fixtures, and table lamps, all manufactured by the best companies currently serving the business.

Elegant or whimsical shades temper the lights – everything from monochromatic linen to the intricate interplay of jewel-toned Tiffany-style stained glass. Above the lights rotate ceiling fans, twirling blades of woven cane, natural wood, painted wood, and unusual man-made, in sizes small to large.

Intriguing pendant lamps hang just above head level, waiting to highlight a dim corner or accent a bar or kitchen island. Wall mirrors catch and reflect the illumination from across the room. And the floor hosts a riot of color from painted bookcases, stools, chests, dining tables with matching chairs, end



BRUCE HEARD Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Jeff Liberman is the owner of Laser Electric Supply and Lighting Gallery. He and his wife, Sharon, also own Verve in Lake Geneva.



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tables, and coffee tables.

Hold on! Those last descriptions are of furniture, not lights or items that reflect or enhance lights. "That's another reason to visit this place instead of home centers," Liberman said. "My wife, Sharon, and I saw these styles of furniture on a trip we took 20 years ago, and we liked it. When we came home, we ordered some for ourselves and the store. We've sold it ever since."

One brand is saturated with color, line upon line of reds, blues, yellows, and greens that glow with harmony and good cheer. These come from a highly regarded artist called Sticks. Another line from David Marsh features carvings of pets, still lifes, sayings, or natural scenes, which are stained in natural tints that associate well with the unadulterated hue of the wood.

Furniture sold here is both whimsical, and eclectic. Most of the items on display are proudly manufactured in the USA. All of these unusual pieces become topics of conversation wherever they're used.

Revival of Verve

A few years ago, the Libermans opened a store in downtown Lake Geneva called Verve. They filled it with the same brands of furniture featured at Laser Electric and Lighting Gallery, and added unique handcrafted gift items and unusual home accents. It did quite well. Eighteen months ago, the building housing Verve was put up for sale, and the Libermans closed the store. Now that the building's sale is complete, Verve reopened on July 3.

"We're working nights to get this done," Jeff Liberman said. "It's going to be great."

Helen Radloff, a former employee of Marshall Fields in Chicago, works at the renovated Verve. Along with David Marsh and Sticks, Sid Dickens plaster art pieces are featured



BRUCE HEARD *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

Lamps to suit any decor are offered at Laser Electric Supply and Lighting Gallery – from Tiffany-style stained glass to modern, rustic to traditional.

in the shop. Dickens' designs are highly collectible. The eye-catching pieces are retired one once per year, and those patterns are never repeated.

Items from other crafters across the United States and Canada include whimsical metal pets, glass, soap, wooden boxes, vases, and trivets. New items will be arriving daily. The Libermans also have a similar shop in Geneva, Ill., called Verve on Third, located at 227 S. Third Street.

Lighting is still Jeff Liberman's primary focus, and his passion for new technology shows that.

"Look at this," he said, pointing to a display of concealed lighting. "This is LED. There's a push across the country toward this because of lower power demands, and it lasts longer. It is more efficient than all other types of light, and gives the best color range."

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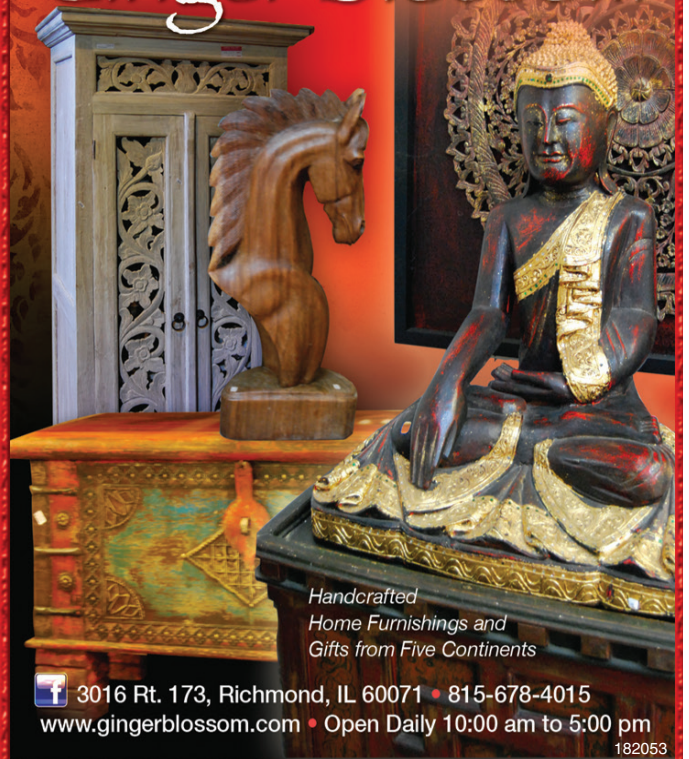
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He went on to explain how the color of light in a closet can skew what shade a person sees depending on whether it gives off more reds than blues, or vice versa. Daylight-colored lights often emit too much of the blue spectrum.

People who arrive at work in consistently mismatched outfits from difficulties not attributable to color blindness likely have the wrong light bulb illuminating their clothing. Natural sunlight is the best light by which to match hues. Second best are the color options available in LEDs.

"An LED fixture lasts a very long time," Liberman continued. "A fluorescent bulb's luminescence diminishes about 50 percent over two years. It's been proven that workers become less efficient as light weakens. LEDs produce great light for much longer periods with nominal degradation. And two years from now, this kind of light will be even better."

LEDs currently cost about twice the price of fluorescent bulbs. Liberman is avidly watching the pricing become much more competitive as time passes and the technology used in their manufacture becomes better.

"Having good decorative lighting is like having the right tie on a suit," Liberman said. "A good suit needs a good tie. Don't scrimp on light. Good lighting increases people's production."

When he's not at work, Liberman likes to travel. He also thoroughly enjoys playing with his dogs Sedona, a Pomeranian-poodle, and Rocky, a Lhasa Apso-Maltese poodle. He's also a musician who owns a home recording studio he calls the "Sound Lab" where he co-produces his own works, as well as a few songs from well-known musicians.

"I guess you could call my style a fusion," he said. "It's a mix of rock, blues, and jazz."

He plays rhythm and lead guitar, and often sings lead vocals. Most of the songs on his new CD "Fantasy" are Liberman's compositions. The album also features tracks written by Jimi Hendrix, Neil Young, Martin Sharp, Eric Clapton, Booker T. Jones, Jr. and William Beil. Order Jeff's "Fantasy" CD at CDBaby.com.

Liberman is a person who loves life, and lives from moment to moment. "We have to appreciate what we have," he said. "If we do what we like well, that's a great success."

"The future is very bright," Liberman concludes, gesturing to



BRUCE HEARD Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Mirrors, wall accessories, and a table and chairs by Sticks are featured at Verve in Lake Geneva, owned by Jeff and Sharon Liberman. The store re-opened July 3 after an 18-month hiatus.

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BRUCE HEARD Spirit of Geneva Lakes

An array of hand-fashioned glass is featured at Verve in Lake Geneva. The shop is stocked with the best from David Marsh, Sticks, Sid Dickens, and other fine artists from the United States and Canada.

his glowing showroom.

His pun is intentional.

Laser Electric Supply and Lighting Gallery is based on its quality merchandise and the knowledgeable people dedicated to customer service working there. Find the business in the blue building just north of Fontana on the west side of Highway 67; its address is W5724 Willow Bend Rd., Walworth. The phone number for service and the showroom is (262) 275-5775. Its website is at www.laserlightinggalleries.com, and the business also maintains a page on Facebook.

The Lake Geneva Verve Art Gallery is at 223 Cook Street. Call (262) 248-8771 with questions.



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The bridal room is a quiet retreat on the second floor where a bridal ring can be chosen in privacy and quiet while working with Fontana Jeweler's knowledgeable staff.

SUBMITTED PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

A place of Beauty

FONTANA JEWELER SPARKLES WITH LARGE SELECTION OF DIAMONDS

by **Sandra Landen Machaj**
CORRESPONDENT

Diamonds, diamonds everywhere. That is the feeling one gets while perusing the jewelry at Fontana Jeweler. But it is not only diamonds but rubies, emeralds, sapphires and every precious and semi-precious stone imaginable, set in dazzling settings that keep the eye constantly roaming as each piece sparkles in the brightly lit store.

While many jewelry stores are storefronts with simple display cases, that does not begin to describe Fontana Jeweler. Fontana Jeweler is not your typical jewelry store but an elegant, carefully designed and specifically built facility to display jewelry at its best.

That is apparent from the moment one enters the building with its elegant crystal chandeliers lighting the space and display cases artistically arranged to showcase the vast assortment of quality jewelry.

Architecturally, the store is beautiful and with its showrooms divided yet open it encourages visitors to continue in, stopping at each display to take in the beauty and variety of the high quality jewelry.

Elegant high-end antiques used to complement the displays and in some cases the pieces are actually used as a display case. It seems that the building is either just undergoing another addition or one has just been completed as owner Eric Hurkman continues to enlarge it to meet the needs of the expanding business.

Hurkman is the mastermind behind Fontana Jeweler. It is his insight and love of fine jewelry and watches, which began at an early age, that led him to pursue a career focused on designing, creating and selling the finest in jewelry.

As a child, Hurkman became interested in watches and how they work through a family friend who was a retired jeweler. This friend began to teach him the intricacies of repairing watches

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SUBMITTED PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

From the exterior, Fontana Jewelers appears to be a small jewelry shop but that vision disappears when passing through the doors into the elegant space with crystal chandeliers and showrooms that extend back and up.

and setting diamonds and other fine stones. It was an interest that Hurkman did not outgrow as children often do, but an interest that intensified as he matured.

Hurkman followed his dream by attending Gem City College in Quincy, Ill., known for its high quality classes that prepare prospective jewelers in the art and science of diamond setting and design and watch repair.

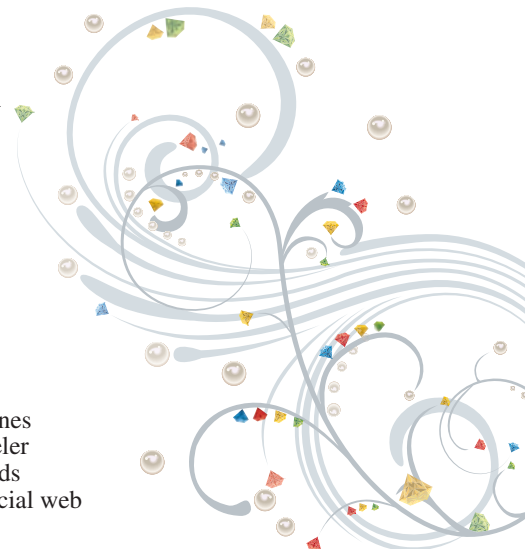
Upon completion of his courses, Hurkman moved on to work in the diamond industry further increasing his knowledge of fine diamonds until he was ready in 2006 to open his own store, a store that has grown to offer the largest selection of diamonds in the area.

Expert advice

Shopping for diamonds is often a difficult process. That most important diamond – the one to be mounted in an elegant engagement setting and presented to the one you love when proposing marriage – is probably the most difficult purchase of a lifetime. Often the young man or the young couple are not knowledgeable about choosing a diamond. They need to begin their search for that perfect diamond at a store that specializes in quality diamonds with knowledgeable experts who will educate them, not just salesmen working on commission and hoping to make a quick sale.

Fontana Jeweler is the place to begin and end that search. Shoppers will first be taken to the diamond room on the second floor where more than 1,600 different styles of set diamond rings are on display. In addition there is a large array of unset diamonds that can be purchased. The Fontana staff will take shoppers through all they need to know about diamonds to make the right choice for their budget and style.

In addition to the many stones offered in store, Fontana Jeweler has a large number of diamonds available on the web with special web





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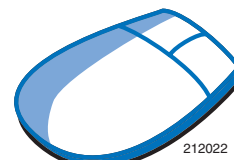


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pricing. Those who visit the website at Fontanadiamonds.com may read about diamond quality and selection.

Those who find a stone they are interested in purchasing may come into the store with the diamond's information and Hurkman and his staff will bring it into the store for the shopper to see in person, yet preserving online pricing. Fontana Jeweler has the largest area selection of large diamonds – that is those between 1 and 3 carats.

“White gold still is the favorite setting especially the halo styles,” Hurkman said. He added that some yellow gold is starting to be favored by some couples. The halo style is composed of a large center stone surrounded by smaller stones in effect forming a halo around the center stone.

Diamonds for all

While there are diamonds and settings at the very high end of the price range, Fontana Jeweler also has a line of engagement and wedding rings sets that can be purchased for \$2,999 and still contain diamonds of a good quality.

Estate jewelry is a great way to acquire unique pieces. Fontana Jeweler has a display of antique jewelry including some very high-end pieces such as a 3.51-carat Emerald set in platinum surrounded by 4.6 carats of diamonds or a 1.65-carat marquis cut diamond surrounded with platinum and a carat of side diamonds. There are also many less expensive but still beautiful pieces available.

Most people go to the jewelry store to purchase fine jewelry in a more moderate price range. Fontana Jeweler carries many lines of jewelry produced by great designers and also pieces designed by jewelers on



The combination of antique and modern display cases provides a pleasing view for shoppers at Fontana Jeweler. Fine lines of jewelry are found in the modern cases while table clocks are displayed in the antique case.

SUBMITTED PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes



SUBMITTED PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

This 1.65-carat stone surrounded by sapphires and set in platinum with 1 carat of side diamonds is on display in the store's estate collection.

site.

One of the most exciting collections is that of Miera T, a collection for women designed by women. Her pieces are delicate, asymmetrical and becoming very popular with celebrities. They have been featured in magazines such as *Harpers Bazaar*, *Elle*, *O*, and *Cosmopolitan*. Television and movie stars including, Kerry Washington (*Scandal*), Julie Ann Hough (*Dancing with the Stars*), and Connie Britton (*Nashville*) are

among those who can be seen with one of these necklaces.

Diamonds are meant to dazzle and pendants and rings that are set using a new technique – using a laser to make a small hole in the diamond and inserting a fine wire through it – allows it to move as you move, picking up all the light in the room.

Among the store's lines is Pyrrha. Handmade in British Columbia, the line features 19th century wax impressions cast in reclaimed sterling. The pieces are set as necklaces, earrings, bracelets, and key chains. No two are the same. These unusual

pieces with an antique look have been seen on celebrities such as Taylor Swift and Brad Pitt and are suitable for both men and women.

Charms continue to be popular and there is a return to the traditional type of dangling charms. Rembrandt charms are now available at Fontana Jeweler in silver or gold. The store has also increased its line of Chamilia charms.

These are just a few of the many lines of jewelry found on the first floor. The lower level is a shoppers' paradise offering fine-quality jewelry that is priced affordably. Most of the items are priced under \$400 and are perfect for gifts for special occasions such as special birthdays or graduations. Colored stone pieces, such as earrings made of red stone can be picked up reasonably to compliment any outfit.

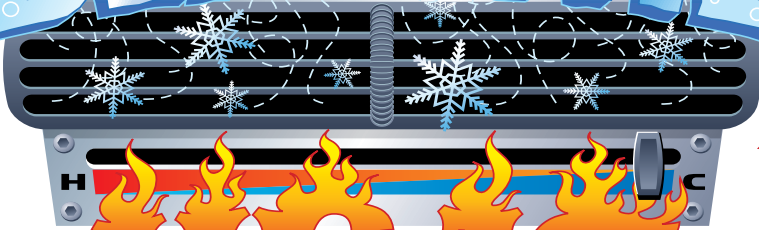
Hurkman and his staff are high quality jewelers and jewelry designers and are the people to contact for those who want to update the look and setting of their jewelry.

Those who have pieces of jewelry that need a new clasp, prongs replaced, or other repair are encouraged to bring them in and allow the in-store jewelers to make repairs in a timely manner. Some jewelry stores do not have a full-time jeweler on staff and send items out to be worked on.

Fontana Jeweler is at 553 Valley View Drive (Highway 67), Fontana. Their website may be found at www.fontanadiamonds.com or call at (262) 275-6363.

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Venetian fest



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The Lake Geneva Jaycees will celebrate their 53rd Venetian Fest in downtown Lake Geneva this month.

The annual festival will run from Aug. 19 through 23 at Flat Iron, Seminary and Library Parks.

Venetian Fest is open Wednesday through Friday from 5 p.m. to midnight and Saturday and Sunday from noon to

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The annual festival features a carnival, craft fair, water ski show, fireworks, boat parade, and multiple musical acts throughout its five-day run.

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- Aug. 20: Cherry Pie, 8 p.m. (\$5 cover charge)
- Aug. 21: The Love Monkeys, 8 p.m. (\$5 cover charge)
- Aug. 22: Fresh Hops Band, 12 p.m.; Acoustic Generation, 3 p.m.; Too White Crew, 8 p.m. (\$5 cover charge)
- Aug. 23: Lake Geneva House of Music, 12 p.m.; Christopher's Project, 8 p.m.

ARTS & CRAFT FAIR

The 20th annual Venetian Festival Arts & Crafts Fair is held Aug. 22 and 23 at Library Park on Geneva Lake. It's open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

Venetian Festival draws thousands of tourists and locals to downtown Lake Geneva to browse the 110 art booths.

This is a juried fair. Jury selection is based on appropriate quality of personally handcrafted art or craft pieces in keeping with the classic history of local craft fairs. Imported and flea market type merchandise will not be accepted.

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CARNIVAL

The carnival is put on by Mr. Ed's Magical Midways LLC at Flat Iron Park and Seminary Park.

The carnival ground are open Wednesday and Thursday from 5 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.; Friday from 5 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.; Saturday from noon to 11:30 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 10:30 p.m.

Ride specials include \$20 wristbands Wednesday and Thursday from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday from noon to 5 p.m.

FIREWORKS. BOAT PARADE. WATER SKI SHOW

The annual Lake Geneva Jaycees Fireworks display begins at dusk on Aug. 23. Fireworks are shot off in Geneva Bay and can be viewed from Library Park, the lake front, Riviera Beach, and Flat Iron Park in downtown Lake Geneva.

The water ski show is also Aug. 23 at 6 p.m. Wonder Lake Ski Team performs on Geneva Lake and may be viewed from the shoreline at Library Park and The Riviera.

The boat parade is held on Sunday

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Musicians from the Lake Geneva House of Music, will again perform at Venetian Fest in Lake Geneva. Bands from the House of Music will play at this year's festival beginning at noon on Sunday Aug. 23.



FILE PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lake

night on Geneva Lake right in front of Library Park in Lake Geneva and The Riviera. The lighted boat parade starts right at dusk with a fireworks display after that. This year's theme is "Americana."

BEER TENT

The Lake Geneva Beer Tent is open Wednesday through Friday from 5 p.m. to midnight and Saturday and Sunday from noon to midnight.

Beverages may be purchased in the beer tent only with tokens. Tokens are available in the beer tent.

The tent will offer beverages from its sponsor, Beachwood (Budweiser). Available selections include: Budweiser, Bud Light, Bud Light Lime, Spotted Cow, Totally Naked, Guinness, Sprecher Hefe Weis, Shocktop Lemon Shandy, New Belgium Fat Tire, Woodchuck Cider, Lagunitas IPA, Geneva Lake Blonde, Bud Light Lime-a-rita and Razber-rita, Monster ABS 0, Monster Rehab Pink Lemonade and non-alcoholic Odouls.

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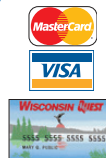
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Library book sale scheduled for Aug. 8-9

The Friends of the Lake Geneva Public Library will hold its 25th annual book sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 8 and 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Aug. 9 at the east end of Library Park in Lake Geneva.

Mass media paperback books will be sold for 50 cents; hardcover, trade paperback books and DVDs for \$2; and videos and CDs for \$1 unless priced otherwise. Rare editions or signed copies of books are in a separate category and are priced according to their value. Funds raised from the sale make special projects possible including youth and adult programming, online book clubs, and new books, audio books and DVDs for the library collection.

Gently used book donations are welcome for the sale. Donations of textbooks, magazines, encyclopedias, records, and Reader's Digest condensed books will not be accepted.

The Friends book sale is the major annual fundraiser sponsored by the Friends of the Lake Geneva Public Library. It is managed solely by volunteers who devote their time to receive, sort and sell books for this anticipated tradition that draws booklovers and collectors from local areas as well as from out of state.

In addition to the book sale, historic LIFE Magazines will also be available for purchase as a part of the ongoing Friends of the Library LIFE Magazine sale. The Friend's LIFE Magazine sale provides an opportunity to give a contribution to the library as well as purchasing a gift for friends and family to commemorate birthdays, anniversaries or other special events or occasions. The library's collection of more than 700 magazines covers the years 1936 to 1972 and 1978 to 2000 but is not comprehensive and represents only what the library has stored. The standard price for each issue is \$10 and select magazines are sold for higher prices based on their assessed values.

The Friends welcome new members throughout the year with annual dues of \$10 for individuals, \$15 for families and \$25 for patrons. Dues for lifetime membership are also popular and are offered with a one-time gift of \$100. Members are invited from 4 to 6 p.m. Aug. 7 to a members-only preview to purchase books before the sale opens to the general public. Enrollment applications are available at the library's circulation desk.

For more information, call the Lake Geneva Public Library at (262) 249-5299 or visit www.lakegeneva.lib.wi.us.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Representatives of the Geneva Lake Sailing School and the Lake Geneva Yacht Club (from left) Dave Stout, Joe Kutschenreuter, Tom Freytag, Jen Jones, Sarah Burton Zick, John D. Simms Jr., Chris Impens, Buddy Melges, Gloria Melges, Tom Larimer, Terry Blanchard, David Navin, Rod Rieger, John DeCarlo and Bill Barrett mark the opening of the new facility in Fontana with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Yacht club, sailing school dedicate new home

Officers, directors and members from Lake Geneva Yacht Club and the Geneva Lake Sailing School celebrated the official opening of their new facility with a ribbon-cutting ceremony July 3.

The building is on South Lake Shore Drive in Fontana on property that the yacht club has occupied since 1926 and where the school began in 1938. The new facility, which contains about 12,000 square feet of interior space, houses the sailing school on its first floor and the yacht club on the upper floor. The entire property, which consists of about eight acres of land and includes a number of outbuildings, has been named the Buddy Melges Sailing Center in honor of the club's most accomplished sailor, whose accolades include Olympic gold and bronze medals, an America's Cup win, and other sailing championship awards. He was a student at the sailing school in the 1940s and later an instructor.

Briohn Construction Corp. of Brookfield, was the general contractor and builder. The company began work on the property last fall.

"The new Buddy Melges Sailing Center, home of the Lake Geneva Yacht Club and the Geneva Lake Sailing School, is the culmination of many years of planning and represents a significant milestone in the history of these two great organizations," said the yacht club's commodore F. Terrence Blanchard. "We believe the facility will be one of the finest sailing centers in the country and will provide current and future members and students a very special home where we can continue to promote and enjoy the sport of sailing

on Geneva Lake."

This year's programs at the sailing school started June 9 and will continue until mid-August. In 2014 more than 400 children and adults from the local community received their certificates. Instructors teach students in six indoor and outdoor classrooms as well as on the water. Fleet racing at the yacht club started later in June.

"The Buddy Melges Sailing Center provides a state-of-the-art facility for the Geneva Lake Sailing School to teach and grow the sport in a safe and enjoyable environment," said the Geneva Lake Sailing School's President Thomas Freytag, a top sailor and a graduate of the school. "We are very excited about the future of sailing on Geneva Lake."

Freytag also serves as co-chairman with past commodore John D. Simms Jr., of the Buddy Melges Sailing Center Funding Committee and the Building Committee. The Lake Geneva Yacht Club traces its roots to 1874 and the first Sheridan Race, an event established to honor Gen. Philip H. Sheridan during his visit to the area and a highlight on the club's racing calendar ever since. The first clubhouse was built in 1906 at Cedar Point in Williams Bay. Members of the yacht club founded the sailing school, which became an independent entity after being incorporated in 1953.

The Lake Geneva Yacht Club will host the Inland Lake Yachting Association Annual Championship Regatta from Aug. 19 to 23. The event, which is expected to attract more than 200 boats, will also be held at Lake Geneva Yacht Club in 2016 and 2017.

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Juried artwork is displayed in Flat Iron Park in Lake Geneva during the 2014 Art in the Park event. The 2015 Art in the Park is scheduled for Aug. 8 and 9.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Art in the park

Foundation to host 35th fine arts exhibit in Lake Geneva

The Geneva Lake Arts Foundation will have its 35th annual Art in the Park art fair Aug. 8 and 9 in Flat Iron Park in Lake Geneva.

The event runs 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Aug. 8 and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 9.

Art in the Park is a juried fine art exhibition, which is limited to 80 exhibitors in the following categories – clay and pottery; fiber, leather and handmade paper; glass; graphics, printmaking and digital;

jewelry; metal; two-dimensional and three-dimensional mixed media; oil and acrylic painting; pencil and pastel; photography; sculpture; watercolor; and wood.

All artwork must be original in concept and design and must have been executed by the applicant. Work from molds or kits, commercial or manufactured items and mass produced items are not permitted.

This year's judge is Bob Mertens, professor of art at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. He has served as the associate dean of the UW-Whitewater College of Arts and Communication since 2007 and as chairman of the UW-Whitewater Art Department from 1999 to 2008.

Mertens has been invited to provide the external assessment of public and private University Art and Art History programs, served as juror for regional art exhibitions, conducted creative workshops, lectured on the economic influence of artists in local communities, and currently serves as the vice president of the Whitewater Arts Alliance.

Visitors will have the opportunity to bid on artwork donated by exhibiting artists at the silent auction booth. Bidding will end on Saturday at 3 p.m. and on Sunday at 2 p.m. At the close of the auction each day, winners will be notified by cell phone and will be asked to pick up their item within

2-1/2 hrs of the auction closing.

In addition, Geneva Lake Arts Foundation members will have their works on display and ready for sale throughout the event.

Music and food are also part of the festival and children will have a chance to create their own art projects in the "Just 4 Kids" area.

Free parking and shuttle service are available both August 8 and 9, running from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., from northeast corner of Home Depot parking lot, 550 N. Edwards Blvd, to and from the US Bank, 303 Center Street. The shuttle runs continuously every 20 minutes.

For any additional questions about this event, or to join the Geneva Lake Arts Foundation Inc., call (262) 249-7988 and leave a message.

The Geneva Lake Arts Foundation Gallery is at 647 W. Main St. in the North Shore Pavilion. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and 1 to 4 p.m. Sundays.

Artistic history

In 1947 a group of artists including sculptors, painters and photographers from southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois founded an organization that was named the Geneva Lake Art Association. The group met in libraries or other rooms available to share and discuss art. They encouraged

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individual artistic growth and excellence while fostering community appreciation of fine arts through the arrangement of frequent public shows, monthly programs, lectures, demonstrations and workshops.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Each year at Art in the Park Art (at right) there is a silent auction where visitors may bid on works donated by the members. The gazebo at Flat Iron Park (above) is set aside for children to make their own art project

Over the years the association has grown in both membership and activities.

The association is an all-volunteer organization, which operates under the direction of an elected board of directors. They support and encourage all forms of art and cultural activities. Funding for the organization comes from membership dues, fundraisers, and the proceeds from the annual Art in the Park show.

Thirty-five years ago the group began

an art show which was originally known as a “starving artists’ show where members could display their original art work. The exhibition could be enjoyed by the local community and the artists could sell their work.

Over the years the show has continued to grow and now in its 35th year is a two-day juried exhibition of the work of 80 talented artists not from just the Lake Geneva area but from throughout the country.



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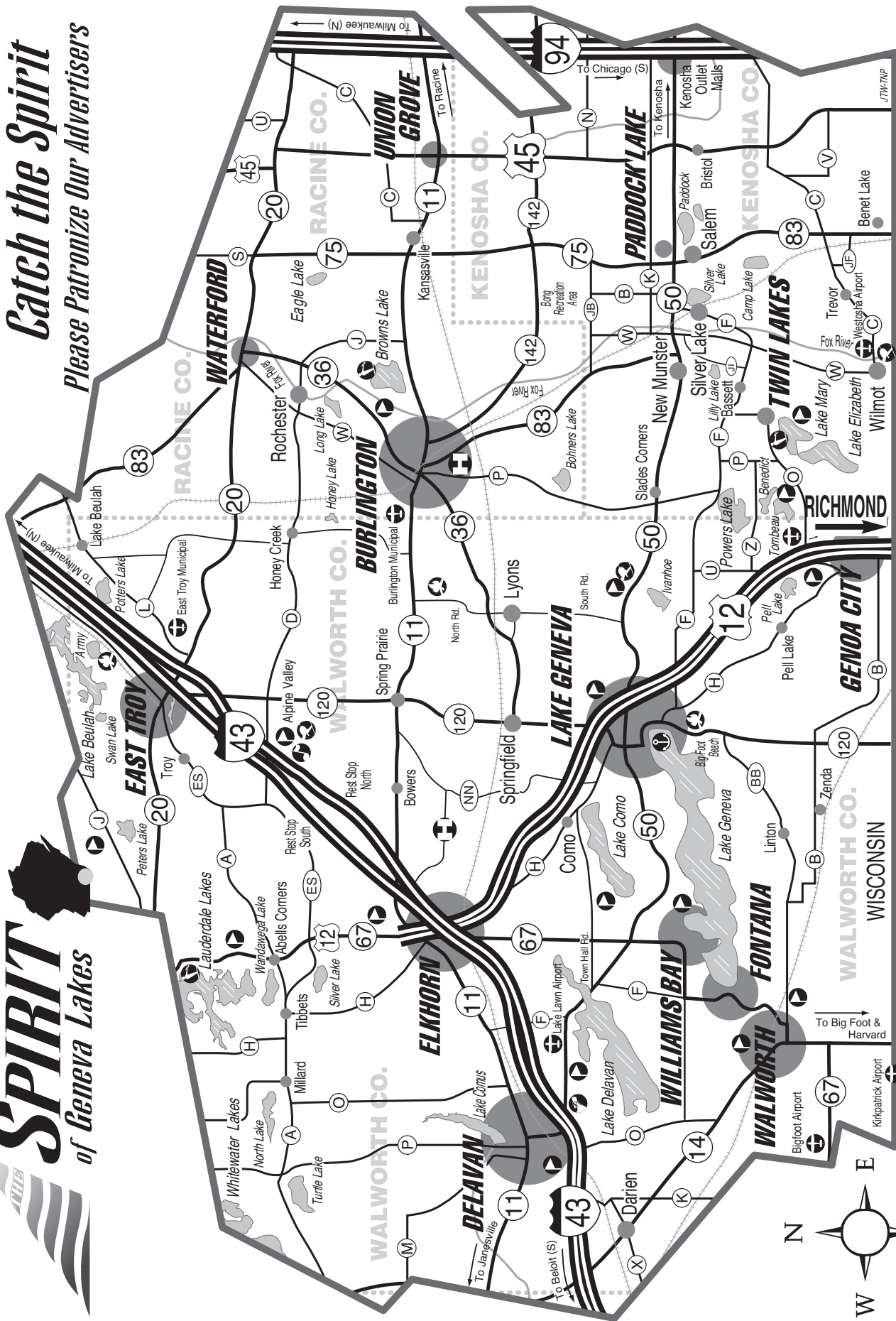
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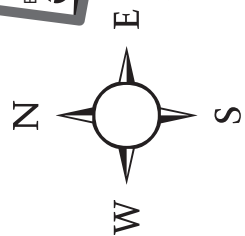
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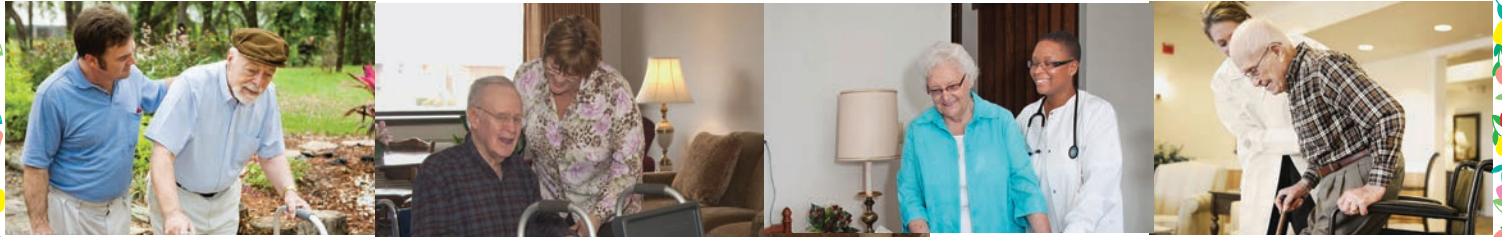


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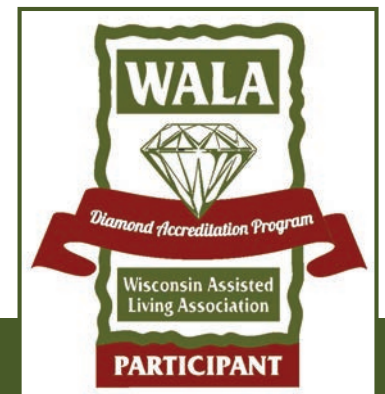
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