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Vol. 28 No. 10

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OCTOBER 2016

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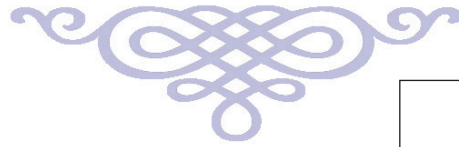
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Crisp, like autumn

Whether it's the sweet and tangy taste of cider, the crisp crunch of a bright red orb picked right off the tree or the tart and flaky goodness baked into a pie, the apple is synonymous with the autumn season. The Geneva Lakes area offers ample opportunity to celebrate the fruit of the season – whether that be on a family picking expedition on a sun-dappled Sunday or a romantic apple wine-tasting visit to one of the local orchards. For more on the fruit of the season, see page 7.



IT'S COMIN' UP

OCTOBER EVENTS

1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23

Autumn Harvest Festival, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., The Elegant Farmer, 1545 Main St., Mukwonago. Apple and pumpkin picking, tractor-pulled hayride, pony ride, corn maze and more. East Troy Electric Railroad's turn-of-the-century train departs from and returns to The Elegant Farmer Depot. (262) 363-6770, www.elegantfarmer.com

1, 8, 15 When Angels Carried them Away: Death and Mourning in the Victorian Era, 4 to 7 p.m., Black Point Estate, Riviera Docks, Lake Geneva Cruise Line, Wrigley Drive, Lake Geneva. Tickets are \$40 and include cruise. www.blackpointestate.org, www.cruiselakegeneva.com

7 River's Edge Art Walk, 4 to 8 p.m., downtown Waterford. Local businesses and community organizations host more than 25 artists who will display and sell their latest creations. The event is hosted by Waterford's Main Street program, Absolutely Waterford. absolutelywaterford.org

5, 19 Limber Timbers Square Dance Club – dancing from 7:30-10 p.m. at the Elkhorn Area Middle School, 627 E. Court St. Cost is \$5 per adult, \$2 per child. (262) 275-6373 or www.limbertimbers.org

8 Walworth County farmers market – Veterans Park on the downtown square, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. (262) 723-7733

8 East Troy Area Historical Society Ghost Walk, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in downtown East Troy. Cost is \$5 per person with children younger than 12 free. All money collected goes to the preservation of local history. etahs.org

8, 9, 15, 16 Autumn on the Farms, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Old World Wisconsin, W372 S9727 Highway 67, Eagle. The farmhands will be cutting logs into lumber at the sawmill. Draft horses will be out in the fields. The ethnic farmsteads will have traditional butchering and the kitchens will be bustling to prepare a farmhand dinner with the bounty of the harvest. Adults (13-64) \$19; children (4-12) \$10; children under 4 are free; senior citizens (65 and over) \$16. Family Pass \$50. (262) 594-6301

8, 9 Lake Geneva Oktoberfest, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in downtown Lake Geneva. Pony rides, bouncy houses, German music, children's performances, brats, potato pancakes, and cider donuts, Scootoberfest games, the Giant Pumpkin Weigh-in, and Sprechtobberfest's beer tent. Free admission.

9 Chamber music by the Lake Geneva

Symphony Orchestra, 3 to 4:30 p.m., at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 700 N. Bloomfield Road, Lake Geneva. (262) 359-9072, www.lakegenevaorchestra.org

15 Peoples Bank Oktoberfest 5k Run, 2-mile walk, 8 to 11 a.m. at the Walworth County Fairgrounds. Proceeds benefit the Elkhorn Fund, Kettle Moraine Land Trust and Lakeland Animal Shelter. Registration includes long sleeve shirt, sports pack, water bottle and free drink ticket for Elkhorn Oktoberfest for participants 21 and older. \$30 to register before Sept. 30, \$35 Oct. 1 through Oct. 15. Info: Oktoberfest@peoplesbankwi.com

15 Lights and Ladders - hosted by the Elkhorn Parks and Recreation Department in Sunset Park. (262) 741-5114

15 11th Annual Elkhorn Oktoberfest – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Downtown Elkhorn. Walk around to see the numerous vendors, participate in activities for kids and adults, and enjoy live entertainment.

21, 22, 23 Discovery at Camp Wise-N-Up, a Christian Youth Musical at the Christian Arts Centre of Chapel on the Hill, Highway 50 west at Cisco Road, Lake Geneva. Times are 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 3 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are \$5; call (262) 245-9122 or purchase online at www.brownpapertickets.com. www.chapelonthehill.net

22 Scare on the Square – hosted by Mercy Health System and the Elkhorn Area Chamber of Commerce in downtown Elkhorn. (262) 723-5788 or elkhornchamber.com

22 Skeleton Scurry, 9 a.m. to noon, Lake Lawn Resort, 2400 E. Geneva St., Delavan. Annual 5K Fun Run and 1K Kids Run for ages 5 and older. Dress up in Halloween costume or come in regular running gear. www.delavanparkrec.com

23 Pumpkin Drop and Fall Festival, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Lake Geneva Canopy Tours, N3219 Highway H, Lake Geneva. Food, live music, pumpkin painting and our infamous Pumpkin Drop. Soar through the air down the Dual Racing Zip Line and aim with a pumpkin to try to hit the center of a bull's eye painted on the ground. Victors will win a prize. Cost is \$25 per person. Reserve a spot at www.lakegenevacanopytours.com.

Although we make every attempt to provide accurate information regarding area events, dates and times may change or events may be canceled. We suggest you confirm events before you finalize your travel plans.

THE SPIRIT

IS A PUBLICATION OF



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THE SPIRIT

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FALL-ING FOR...



ucked away on a scenic road in Genoa City lies an orchard bursting with flavor and rich in history.

Hafs Road Orchard, in operation since the 1930s when it had 400 trees, has expanded since Richard and Debbie Polansky bought the 14-acre plot in 1982.

The Polanskys, who acquired the land from the Hafs, went from 400 trees to 2,000, according to Debbie.

Instead of full-sized trees, they transitioned to dwarf trees, to allow them to grow closer together.

While they have more than 40 varieties of apples, the honey crisp apple jump-started the operation in 1992, according to her husband, Richard.

The honey crisp was introduced at the University of Minnesota, and tested on the Hafs Road Orchard in 1992,

starting with 60 trees as a trial.

“We bought some at the very beginning and three years later, our first crop came, and it was a Saturday in the middle of September,” Richard recalled.

“We had bushels of them and put them out and it was just quite remarkable that several people within the same day were back to buy more.”

Since then, they have more than 1,000 honey crisp trees on the property, replacing some after they were lost to adverse weather.

Honeycrisp, Richard states, is an apple that packs a punch, and leaves customers salivating for more.

“What is different about them, is the cells of a honey crisp apple are about twice the size of a normal apple, so they hold more juice,” he said.

“The texture of the honey crisp is a game-changer in the apple industry.”

Apples!



An outdoor experience

As the Polanskys tout the honey crisp, the plot of land welcomes visitors with bright and vibrant flowers grown by Debbie, who recently retired from the Burlington Garden Center after three decades of service.

Adding to the bountiful flowers are neatly stacked pumpkins, a crop the Polanskys pursued when they bought the land 34 years earlier.

"We actually started pumpkins right away, really small spots in the orchard," Richard said.

The start, he said, came when they leased a five-acre plot behind their property from a landowner who did not have time to improve the undeveloped land.

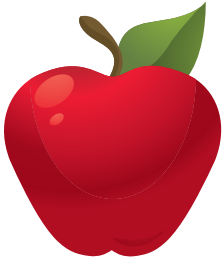
After the Polanskys labored through the five-acre plot, chopping down unsuitable trees, it revealed land suitable for pumpkin production.

"We are able to get more fruit trees and a pumpkin patch," Richard said, adding they have an acre of land they use for research purposes.

"There is a small experimental acre across the street that we do minimal maintenance and pest control to learn from."

Education, in addition to apples, is another passion for Richard, who spends time researching weather patterns and the science of planting and harvesting.

"I really enjoy learning about the insects and diseases, there is a lot of science in it, and it is interesting," stated Richard, who studied economics and cultural anthropology at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside.



Weather can be fickle

Weather brings another learning curve, he added, stating patterns change annually.

Patterns include excessive drought, rainfalls and heat, and in turn, creates different issues related to pest and insect production.

"The hardest thing is to continually adapt to the weather," Richard said. "Weather drives all agriculture production and you have very little control over it."

But, he said with proper management of the orchard's environment, including regulating humidity and temperature on site, apples can thrive until November.

"There is very little refrigeration here, we develop that so we can store the apples longer into the season," he said. "And be able to sell good, high-quality apples for months after they are picked."

Quality control is done by hand, starting with careful picking in the orchard, followed by a thorough visual inspection and concluding with a clean scrub.

The downtime for the Polanskys is in February and March, when they typically exhaust their apple inventory, but often have a few gallons of frozen cider on hand for customers.

Cider was originally produced at Hafs Road Orchard before stricter regulations were put in place.

Richard said the industry debate focuses on the difference between pasteurized and unpasteurized, along with upgrades in technology.

"For years and years, we made it here, fresh, and as our business grew, we ran out room to have our cider operations," he said.

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We had bushels of them and put them out and it was just quite remarkable that several people within the same day were back to buy more."

– RICHARD POLANSKY, on the success of the Honeycrisp apple



JASON ARNDT Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Debbie and Richard Polansky, both 66, have owned Hafs Road Orchards since 1982 when they bought it from the original owners in Genoa City.

Adding new technology just “wasn’t in the cards,” Richard added.

Since then, they have outsourced their crop to other area orchards, which he personally delivers.

A regional attraction

With flowers, a pumpkin patch and multiple antique vehicles sprawled along the land, customers come and stay for long periods of time.

“Some people plan to visit for five minutes, but they end up staying for an hour,” said Richard, who added a marsh area brings beautiful sand hill cranes that customers love to see.

Like the early days, customers are willing to drive at least two hours to savor the fruits of the land.

“When we started the orchard in 1982, it was mostly local people that came. But, because of the area we were in, we still got people from Chicago,” he said. “We still have a good number of people that come from Chicago and come regularly.”

Local commitment

The Polanskys, who both grew up in Southeast Wisconsin – Richard in Racine and Debbie in Bristol – have maintained a commitment to surrounding communities.

In addition to participating at farmers markets, they donate inventory to area food banks in November.

“We go to two farmers markets. We eliminated one of them; they are really a lot of work to do,” Richard said, noting they often go to



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Flowers grown by Hafs Road Orchard co-owner Debbie Polansky and a pumpkin patch bring vivid autumn colors to the orchard in Genoa City.

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Kenosha HarborMarket and Columbus Park.

“We donate to local food banks in November, when we have a good sense of our crop.”

The community, he added, is what brought them back to Southeast Wisconsin after spending time in Minnesota.

When they returned, a new vision and passion developed, a zest for the outdoors.

Richard, who worked as a supervisor at Southern Wisconsin Center, and Debbie sought a new hobby.

The new hobby came when a Town of Rochester with an orchard was up for rent, and opted to lease it, therefore, developing a new lease on life.

“We weren’t happy being inside all of the time, and we rented a small orchard in Rochester for a couple of years,” he said. “And this was a good antidote for the job that I had.”

Hafs Road Orchard is at W632 Hafs Rd., Genoa City. The telephone number is (262) 279-3638. In October, the orchard is open noon to 5 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekends.

Here’s a look at other orchards in the area:

Apple Barn Orchard, Elkhorn

The Apple Barn is an orchard owned by Steve and Judy Jacobson on land the family has owned since 1848. Visitors will usually find some members of the family present, whether Steve or Judy or one of their daughters and sometimes all of them.

Visitors will start by checking out all the available apples ready for purchase. But most will be sidetracked by the many baked

goods, from pies to cobblers and muffins.

The Jacobsons added a tasting room several years ago that is used to sample their homemade fruit wines and ciders.

While most people have heard of a Black Cow, that iconic mixture of root beer and vanilla ice cream, at Apple Barn they offer a Cider Cow. It’s combination of fresh cider topped with vanilla gelato.

Outside the store, visitors may enjoy the ambience of the comfortable lawn chairs and picnic tables and breathe in the fresh country air. Many of the visitors come from the Chicago area.

The Apple Barn is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Self-picking is allowed on weekends in October.

The Apple Barn is at W6384 Sugar Creek, Elkhorn.

For more information, visit the website www.theapplebarnorchardandwinery.com or call (262) 728-3266 for information.



Brightonwoods Orchard, Burlington

Brightonwoods Orchard is owned by Judith and Bill Stone and Judith’s sister Paula Duntenny and has evolved from a three-acre orchard purchased by Judith and Paula’s parents as a weekend retreat in the 1950s. It has become an 18-acre orchard that produces 200 varieties of apples and 12 varieties of pears.

The orchard focuses on preserving heirloom varieties and testing new experimental varieties along with growing standard commercial varieties.

Taylor Hesse, 22, of Burlington and Sherry Bryan, 68 of Paddock Lake carefully inspect apples to ensure quality before they are sold at Hafs Road Orchard in Genoa City.



JASON ARNDT Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Brightonwoods does not allow people to pick their own apples due to the large trees, but does allow visitors to walk through the orchard to view the various types of trees. Walking through the orchards is a peaceful experience and interesting to see the different ways the trees are planted. Samples are offered of the various apples to help customers make a choice.

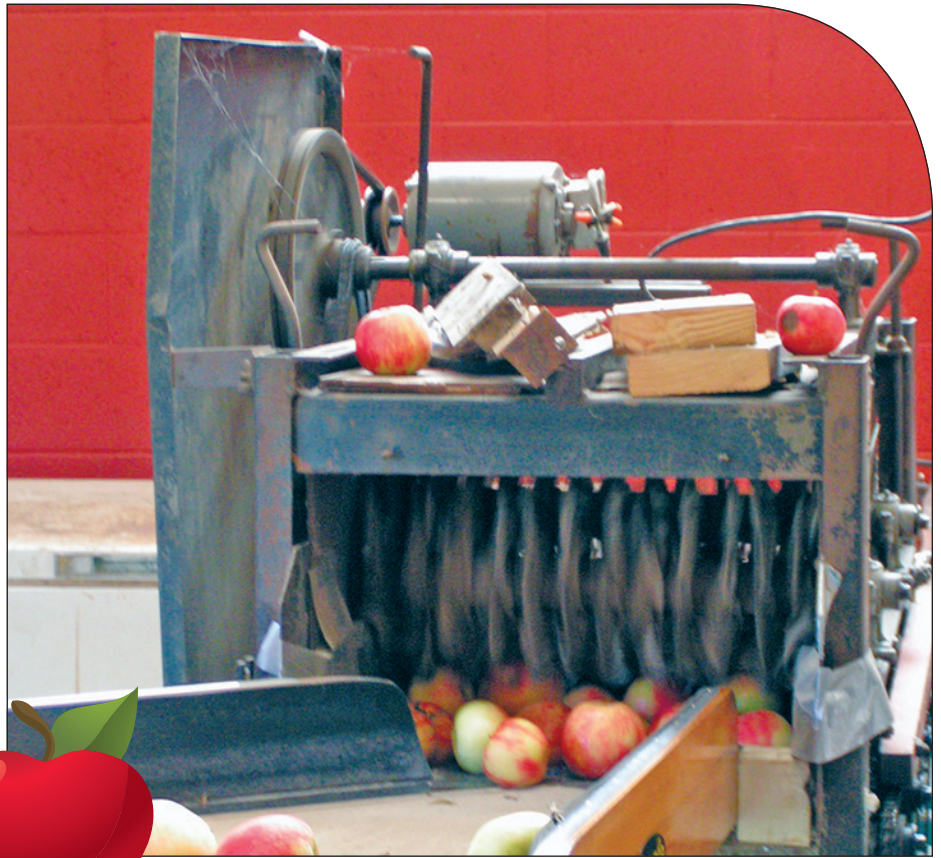
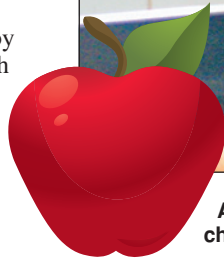
Bill Stone, a retired physician, explained that his orchard uses four different methods of planting trees for maximum yield. The high-density method allows the planting of 600-700 trees per acre rather than the more traditional 100 trees. This method of planting allows higher yield and higher quality fruit.

Brightonwoods is also well known for its cider made on site using their apples. A free sample is offered to all visitors.

The orchard is open daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (5 p.m. closing when daylight saving time ends) through Nov. 20

If you don't have the time to drive out to Brightonwoods, you have a chance to pick up their apples at nearby farmers markets from late July through October. Check the website www.brightonwoodsorchard.com for market locations.

Brightonwoods Orchard is at 1072 288th Ave., Burlington. The telephone number is (262) 878-3000.



JASON ARNDT Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Apples receive a scrub in this washer before they are sold at Hafs Road Orchard in Genoa City.

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A bushel of facts about Wisconsin apples

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- Antioxidants, especially quercetin, in apples and apple products play an essential role in reducing risks of prevalent diseases such as cancer and Alzheimer's.
- Apple consumption increases the number of good gut bacteria.
- Eating one apple a day for four weeks lowered blood levels of oxidized LDL, the "bad cholesterol," by 40 percent.
- Ursolic acid, a natural compound found in the apple's skin, may prevent muscle wasting that can result from aging or illness.
- Pectin in apples is a good source of soluble fiber.

APPLE TIPS

- Store small quantities in your refrigerator, in plastic bags in the crisper – between 34 and 40 degrees. Don't allow them to freeze. Apples can absorb odors from other foods, keeping apples in plastic bags prevents this and helps apples retain their own moisture.
- Apples ripen six to 10 times faster at room temperature than if they were refrigerated. One or two days sitting on a counter top and the fresh crunch of your apple is lost forever.
- Lemon juice helps prevent apple discoloration. Sprinkle a little lemon juice on sliced apples before adding to salads.

'Mobsters, masked men and missing pants'

NEW WALKING TOUR LOOKS AT THE SCANDALOUS SIDE OF TOWN

Just in time for Halloween, The Wisconsin Historical Society is rolling out a new Lake Geneva walking tour.

The Sordid and Scandalous tour will highlight the historic "gossip" of Lake Geneva including the dish on a 1950s bank robbery, the town's tie to prohibition gangsters and tales of the Lake Geneva Sea Serpent.

This walking tour will cover roughly 1.5 miles over 90 minutes. The tour grew out of the already popular Legends and Landmarks walking tour, now in its second year.

Both tours were developed by Wisconsin Historical Society staff working at Black Point Estate and Gardens.

"We offered a walking tour in 2015 and while the emphasis was on architecture, our attendees really responded favorably to the stories of mobsters, speak-easies, the 1967 riots and bank robberies," said Black Point Director Dave Desimone.



SUBMITTED PHOTO: Spirit of Geneva Lakes

The First National Bank, now the site of Champs Bar and Grill, was the site of a infamous robbery in 1955. That story and more is featured in a new walking tour of the city.

IF YOU GO...


WHAT: Sordid and Scandalous Lake Geneva Walking Tour
WHEN: Saturdays, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m..
COST: \$8 per person
WHERE: Tours gather and depart from in front of the Riviera Building, 812 Wrigley Drive, Lake Geneva, Wis.

This interest prompted the development of the new tour. Research was conducted over the spring and summer by a group of volunteers and Black Point's outreach coordinator, Jill Westberg.

"We came up with the name Sordid and Scandalous before we conducted the research. Had we waited to name the tour, the more

appropriate title would be 'Mobsters, Masked Men and Missing Pants!'" Westberg said. Tickets for each date are limited to 50 people. To purchase tickets, call Black Point Estate and Gardens at (262) 248-1888.

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A walk on the Wild Side



Former Racine Zoological Society president opens safari park outside of Lake Geneva



Above: Walworth County Visitor's Bureau Executive Director Kathleen Seeberg feeds a Watusi, a long-horned African cattle, during a recent tour. Many times, animals come right up to the side of the wagon during the tours. Top: A Nilgai Antelope stands along the tree line at Safari Lake Geneva. This style of antelope is one of numerous species visitors will have a chance to interact with at the park. Above right: "Jungle" Jay Christie stands atop the platform through which visitors depart, looking over the entryway to the park.

Photos by KELLEN OLSHEFSKI Spirit of Geneva Lakes

by **Kellen Olshefski**
STAFF WRITER



Ever since he was a little boy learning to read, it was pretty clear the path "Jungle" Jay Christie would one day take. "Zoo is, in fact, the first word I learned how to read," he said. "So, it was evidently something that made a great impression on me from a very young age, as did pets and really animals in general." Christie said as a child growing up in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, he always wanted to work in a zoo, surprisingly changing his thinking on his future as a zoo director at about the age of 10 or 12. However, it didn't mean that he didn't want to be around animals. "I decided I really wanted to build, run and live in a safari park or similar wildlife park devoted to the conservation of animals while also educating people about animals in the environment," he said.

Christie led the Racine Zoological Society as president and CEO for more than 16 years, but he stepped away in 2014 to follow a dream project of his own: a safari park.

Two years later and Safari Lake Geneva is now officially open for visitors. And as for his dream of living among the animals, yes, he does that too. Christie's new home overlooks the very park and animals he had once only dreamed of.

"It's smaller than any apartment I've ever lived in, but it makes up for it with the view," he said.

Christie said while he's not sure of exactly when the idea

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of his safari park began, he can say for certain there are written documents that date back to 1983.

However, he said, the project really began to take off about six years ago after he had come to love this part of the country and realized this area was best suited to serve the Chicago market.

"This is really just the beginning," he said.

In talking with colleagues in the zoological field, Christie said, the response has been positive thus far.

"It was refreshing and interesting to me the number of them that told me they had always dreamed of doing this themselves, including some CEOs of some fairly major American zoos," he said.

Christie noted he also received support and mentoring from a handful of top-rate, privately owned zoological institutions around the nation, including Wildlife World's Zoo, Aquarium and Safari Park in Litchfield, Ariz., and Clyde Peeling's Reptiland in Allenwood, Pa.

Likewise, he said he's received a lot of support from

his neighbors in Bloomfield.

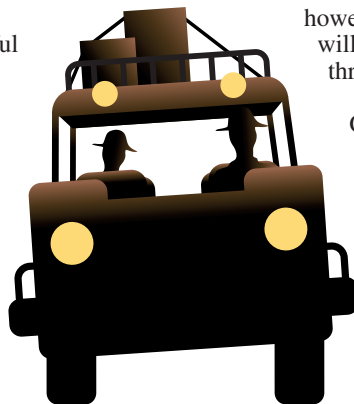
"We have been overwhelmingly impressed by everyone we have met thus far in Bloomfield, all the way up to the village chairman himself," he said. "We were pleasantly surprised by the neighbors, not one of whom has voiced any objections to us."

Furthermore, Christie said that pulling the park together even became somewhat of a community project, that used the services and talents of their neighbors, including deck builders, local farmers and welders.

Christie said at a media day in August that tours were already filling up fast and, interestingly enough, the largest urban area they had attracted customers from so far was Racine. As time goes on, however, he said he thinks it will be a tradition for families throughout the region.

Unlike a zoo, Christie's Safari Lake Geneva takes the traditional zoo experience and flips it on its side, letting the animals roam free and keeping the visitors contained.

"I think that this one, to me, seems to make a lot of sense and, to me, is more



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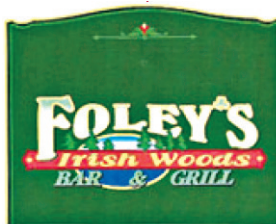
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exciting than a traditional zoo,” he said. “Here, the animals are living in virtually free-range conditions, as much as their ancestors would have thousands of years ago.”

At Safari Lake Geneva, visitors climb aboard a wagon and are taken on an hour-long tour of the property, giving them an up close and personal view, not to mention several close encounters and opportunities to feed the animals.

While the park features about a dozen different species of animals, representing five of the world’s continents, Christie said the plan is to have more than six dozen species, representing six continents.

All species at Safari Lake Geneva are herbivores, meaning they do not eat meat and are grazing animals.

Currently, and likely for the short to medium term, according to Christie, the park’s largest animal is the Bull American Bison, which roamed American prairies 200 years ago. The park’s first animal, which arrived about four months ago, was an African Bullfrog.

Other species as of the park’s opening included Nilgai antelope, watusi – a long-horned cattle native to Africa – alpacas, ostriches and zebras.

With 75 acres in Bloomfield, Christie plans to expand his safari park an additional 50 acres toward Lake Geneva.

“We’re obviously speechless about what we’ve been able to do here as it relates to allowing animals to live out their lives in a way that is very similar to what they would in the wild and displaying some of the same behaviors,” he said.

At this time, Christie said, they project the park will cost over seven figures, though it could possibly be more than an eight-figure investment in the long run. With improvements to not only the drive-through experience, but also a walk-through experience, Christie said, an exact cost for the future is difficult to estimate and only time will tell.

“This is really the tip of the iceberg what you’re seeing right now,” he said.

Christie said the park also has smaller animals, something which would be more dedicated to the park’s presentation stage and off-site presentations.

“It’s something a lot of safari parks don’t do, but something we’re glad to be offering, in our first year, no less,” he said.

Christie said the sky is really the limit for how far they’d be willing to travel for an off-site presentation, noting they’re open to visiting schools, colleges, scout groups, retirement homes and more.

“Really, the list just goes on and on,” he said.

While some might look at Wisconsin’s climate as being a problem for some animals, Christie said in all actuality the animals that live there – and will in the future – are able to adapt to Wisconsin’s



KELLEN OLSHEFSKI Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Safari Lake Geneva Owner and Founder “Jungle” Jay Christie gets up close with an ostrich while the wagon pulls away on a recent tour of the property. Christie explained on the tour this is actually a fairly small ostrich with the species generally reaching upwards of 9 feet tall in adulthood.

winters or to at least much colder temperatures than one would expect.

“Ones, for example, that can survive in Wisconsin winters with an unheated shelter include things like ostriches or llamas,” he said.

“Then there are other animals that don’t really require shelter at all and often won’t even use them if they have the option – like our own American Bison, but also exotic animals like yak from the Himalayas, as well as both species of camels.”

For instance, with camels, Christie said, temperatures in the Gobi Desert where the two-humped Bactrian camels originate drop much lower than winter temperatures in Wisconsin.

For those that don’t acclimate as well, Christie said the park will certainly have heated shelters so they can go inside whenever they so please.

As for other obstacles, Christie said one of the biggest was finding the perfect property in the perfect location. He said they made more than 50 site visits from as far north as Washington County to as far south as Grundy County in northern Illinois.

Tours at Safari Lake Geneva are by reservation only, which, according to Christie, provides visitors with a premium experience, eliminating long waits in lines and allowing them to arrive just in time for their tour. Of course, he said, guests are allowed to arrive a little early or stay for a bit after their tour

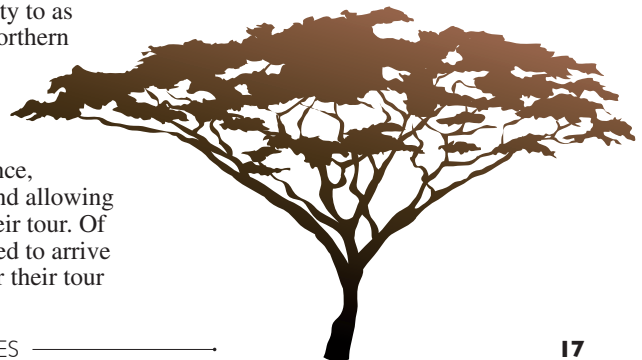
and mingle with animals in the corral.

Tours run daily, weather permitting, with the first tour leaving at 10 a.m. and the last at 5 p.m. The park will remain open through Oct. 31. In the event of inclement weather, tours can be rescheduled provided visitors contact the safari park prior to their scheduled tour.

Tours cost \$24.95 for adults 16 and older, \$14.95 for children between the ages of 3 and 15, and free for children 2 and younger.

Christie said he believes the park will also serve as a prime location for group events, such as family reunions and corporate and school outings, noting that the park does offer a group discount. Eventually, he said, they might even open it up to weddings.

Safari Lake Geneva is at W1612 Litchfield Road, Lake Geneva. To make a reservation for a tour or learn more about the park visit safari.lakegeneva.com.



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The Young Auditorium on the campus of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater brings top-notch entertainment to the area each season with performances ranging from Broadway shows to children's entertainment.

In all, 25 to 30 professional performing arts events are held in the facility each year. The auditorium is also used for various music department and continuing education-sponsored activities.

The auditorium has about 1,300 seats, depending on configuration pattern and number of wheelchair seats utilized.

Young Auditorium provides students and the surrounding communities an astounding opportunity to experience a variety of cultural events. The auditorium is also available to student and community groups that wish to present their own activities.

The auditorium is at 930 W. Main St., Whitewater. For more information, visit: www.uww.edu/youngauditorium.

Here's some information on this season's schedule for October and November:

Transit Authority

Friday, Oct. 7, 7:30 p.m.

Performing since 2003, Transit Authority has become known throughout the United States as the premier tribute band to the iconic group, Chicago. Chicago's original band name was Chicago Transit Authority.

The eight-member ensemble creates an accurate musical salute to the greatest horn driven rock band to ever hit the stage, meticulously capturing all the nuances of original recordings and will honestly make you believe you are witnessing the real thing. Performing mega-hits such as, "Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is?," "Hard Habit to Break," "Make Me Smile," "You're the Inspiration," and many more.

Laughing with the Animals

Saturday, Oct 8, 3 p.m.


Kachel Center

Referred to as "Jack Hanna meets Robin Williams," David also happens to be a Wisconsin Association for Environmental Education Teacher of the Year award winner. Through the use of songs, laughter, riddles, live creatures, and toys/puppets, David will take a "look" at animals that share our planet; hopping toads, jumping frogs, silly hats, and the "tune-a-fish" bag.

Mamma Mia!

Monday, Oct. 17, 7 p.m.

Writer Catherine Johnson's sunny, funny tale unfolds on a Greek island paradise. On the eve of her wedding, a daughter's quest to discover the identity of her father brings three men from her mother's past back to the island as they last visited 20 years ago. The story-telling magic of ABBA's timeless songs propels this enchanting tale of love, laughter, and friendship.



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Letters Home

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 7:30 p.m.
Griffin Theatre

Letters Home puts the current wars in Afghanistan and Iraq front and center by bringing to life actual letters written by soldiers serving in the Middle East. The production is inspired by the New York Times Op-Ed article, "The Things They Wrote" and the subsequent HBO documentary Last Letters Home. The production also uses letters and correspondences from Frank Schaeffer's books: Voices from the Front, Letters Home From America's Military Family, Faith of our Sons, and Keeping Faith. The play without politicizing gives audiences a powerful portrait of the soldier experience in the ongoing war. The initial production was critically acclaimed and was nominated for a Joseph Jefferson Award for "Outstanding New Play."

Ghosts of War

Wednesday, Oct. 26, 7:30 p.m. • Griffin Theatre

Ghosts of War is based on a true story, inspired by the memoir of a 19-year-old U.S. Army reservist and Iraq War veteran, Ryan Smithson. In his poignant, often harrowing account, and especially vivid in sensory details, he chronicles his experiences in basic training and Iraq.

The production offers an unflinchingly honest portrait of the physical and psychological brutality of his experience. Ryan also lucidly recounts the intensity of battle and the pain of losing comrades, and manages to find personal enlightenment through his war experience.

AXIS Dance Company

Wednesday, Nov. 2, 7:30 p.m. • Free, but tickets required

AXIS Dance Company exists to change the face of dance and disability. Based in Oakland, CA, AXIS is one of the world's most acclaimed and innovative ensembles of performers with and without disabilities. Under the Artistic Direction of Judith Smith, the Company has collaborated with leading contemporary choreographers and composers, touring all over the world. AXIS was featured twice on FOX TV's "So You Think You



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LETTERS HOME

October 25th

Can Dance” and has been honored with seven Isadora Duncan Dance Awards.

This repertory program will include “To Go Again” (2015), a dance theatre work that brings to light the issues facing our nation’s veterans and addresses their resilience following severe life changes.

David Pendelton Anything Can Talk

Friday, Nov. 11, 7:30 p.m.

Ever since he was six years old, David Pendelton has had a passion for ventriloquism and performing. Today, he’s a seasoned professional, an in-demand comedian, and expert ventriloquist whose unique brand of family-friendly humor has won audiences over throughout the world. His flawless technique

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**Young Auditorium
2016-17
SEASON AT A GLANCE**

October

- 7 Transit Authority
- 8 Laughing With the Animals – David Stokes
- 17 Mamma Mia!
- 25 Letters Home, Griffin Theatre
- 26 Ghosts of War, Griffin Theatre

November

- 2 AXIS Dance Company
- 11 David Pendelton – Anything Can Talk
- 16 Pro Arte Quartet

as a ventriloquist sets him apart. He will not only amaze you with his ability to make you believe that anything can talk, but his comedy act will also keep you laughing from start to finish.

Pendelton brings to his show a cast of comedic characters including lovable but blunt Aunt Tilly, a 94-year-old spinster; the classic quick-witted trouble maker, Mack Elroy; the dopey yet adorable hound dog, Buford; and the slightly misguided albino vulture, Vern.

Of course no show would be complete without a few surprise appearances from members of the audience as well.

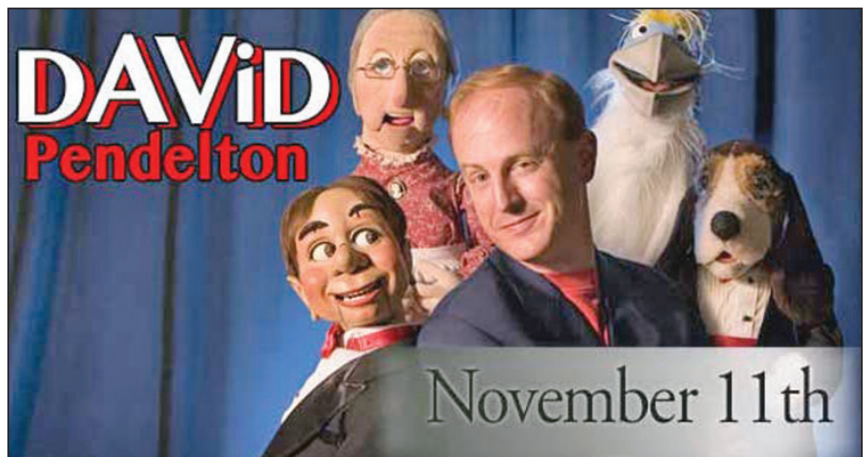
Pro Arte Quartet

Wednesday, Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m.

The Pro Arte Quartet was founded in 1911-12 by students at the Brussels Conservatory, and considered to be an exponent of modern music at the time.

Pro Arte played their American debut in 1926, performing at the inauguration of the Hall of Music in the Library of Congress, Washington D.C. Pro Arte became the faculty string quartet at UW-Madison in the late 1950s, an appointment that continues to the present day. Today, in addition to widely acclaimed performances of standard classical repertoire, Pro Arte continues its tradition of championing new music.

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When asked to play a role in the wedding of a friend or family member, most people are honored and willing to do whatever it takes. That willingness to be helpful is often a blessing, as wedding party participants each have their own unique responsibilities.

Maid of honor and best man

The maid of honor and best man are counterparts in the wedding. The bride and groom's right hand woman and man, respectively, the maid of honor and best man are often siblings or very close friends of the bride or groom. Though their responsibilities are similar, the maid of honor and best man don't have completely identical roles.

The maid of honor might have the most responsibilities of anyone aside from the bride and groom. The maid of honor will help the bride shop for her dress and must also plan the bridal shower and the bachelorette party. The maid of honor's duties also extend to the wedding day itself, when she will be expected to help the bride get dressed and toast the new bride at the reception that night.

The best man's role includes organizing the bachelor party and toasting the groom at the reception. The best man also plays a logistical role, organizing the newlyweds' transportation to the airport the morning after the wedding as well as organizing the groomsmen's gift to the couple.

Bridesmaids and groomsmen

The role of the bridesmaids and groomsmen are similar. Bridesmaids and groomsmen are often the siblings or close friends of the bride and groom, and they accompany each other down the aisle during the wedding procession. Typically, the role of bridesmaid and groomsmen is to offer any assistance in making the ceremony go smoothly.

Groomsmen may act as ushers, while bridesmaids might help address wedding invitations and choose vendors for the ceremony and reception. How involved the bridesmaids and groomsmen become is often contingent on how close they live to



FILE PHOTO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

Whether it's a last-minute dress adjustment or helping address invitations long before the big day, bridesmaids offer support and friendship to the bride.

the bride and groom and how much help is needed the day of the ceremony.

Flower girl and ring bearer

The flower girl and the ring bearer are typically very young members of the family, such as very young siblings or a niece or nephew of the bride or groom.

The flower girl will carry a basket of flowers during the wedding procession, often tossing flower petals on the ground to signify the bride's entrance.

The ring bearer is a boy and carries a pillow with the rings sewn on it during the wedding procession.

Parents

The bride and groom's parents play the role of hosts. The tradition of the bride's parents paying for the wedding entirely by themselves has largely fallen by the

wayside thanks to the escalating costs of throwing a wedding.

However, if the bride's parents are footing the bill, then they will typically act as hosts of the wedding. In that instance, the groom's parents will host the rehearsal dinner the night before the wedding.

During the ceremony, the bride is most often walked down the aisle by her father, though some brides choose to have both parents included in the walk down the aisle. The groom's parents will often walk down the aisle ahead of the procession and take their seats.

The parents may also play a role in the months leading up to the wedding. For instance, the mother of the bride might help plan the bridal shower, while the father of the groom might help plan any activities, such as a golf outing, for the groomsmen and additional friends of the groom a day or two before the wedding.

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Accommodations for the resort's guests reside on 250 acres of beautiful lakefront real estate that includes wooded areas, a golf course, and a long exquisite waterfront with a marina. With 271 luxurious guest rooms and 32,000 feet of indoor banquet space, this destination wedding site can accommodate intimate gatherings of 20 or celebrations of 500 people.

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kiss of gentle summer breezes gliding across the lake or in fall revel in sunlight tinted by the brilliant colors of hardwoods as they change to autumn dress. There are large windows from which to watch sparkling snowfall in the winter while lovely shades of peridot and jade return to the trees in the spring.

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Lake Lawn Resort has a long history of pleasing its visitors. The first modest guesthouse was built on the property by Anna Mary Phillips in 1883 after division of the area that had provided a winter home for the nationally renowned Mabie Circus for nearly 30 years. Phillips' hotel proved so popular that it became necessary to expand.

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Lake Lawn Resort offers indoor and outdoor venues for wedding ceremonies as well as the reception to follow.

Chicagoans. Lake Lawn's renown grew also. During the Swing craze that began during the Great Depression and continued through the 1940s, famous big bands made regular appearances at the resort. The bands and the excellent dance floors drew crowds who loved music and dancing from all over the Midwest.

Generations of couples have been married at Lake Lawn and because of Lake Lawn Resort's location, its ambiance and experienced staff, current generations continue to come. Brides and grooms schedule entire weekends at the resort because it offers everything they wish to have before, during, and after the wedding.

◆ EXCELLENT AMENITIES

Lake Lawn Resort is easily accessible from Chicago, Milwaukee, and Madison. With its close proximity to Interstate 43 it is only about two hours from Chicago and one hour from Milwaukee or Madison. Lake Lawn has its own airport suitable for small planes, just across Highway 50 from the golf course and main entrance.

No bride or groom should have to get married burdened with the stress of planning all of the arrangements associated with weddings.

Lake Lawn's Calladora Spa lives up to its name, which means "beauty by the

water." It offers several different kinds of massages and treatments, a eucalyptus steam room, facials, hair styling, manicures and pedicures.

The 9,000-square-foot spa has a cottage-style intimacy and includes 10 treatment rooms where you can choose from a variety of specialized treatments including a romantic couple's massage.

Whether it's a group of wedding guests enjoying the peaceful surroundings in the gathering lounge or individually tucked away for two hours or an entire day in one treatment room, Calladora Spa offers wellness, peace, and renewal for all who care to sample it.



“
Lake Lawn Resort
has dedicated
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help you plan the
wedding of your
dreams.
They are
particularly adept
at smoothing
rough spots long
before the big day.”



With the shimmering water of Delavan Lake as a backdrop, Lake Lawn Resort provides a picture-perfect setting for brides and grooms to exchange their vows, celebrate with family and friends, and stay for a honeymoon.



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◆ AWARD WINNING CUISINE

An award-winning chef and his talented staff of culinary experts are ready to help set the food style for any type of wedding. Chef David Ross, Director of Culinary Operations and Executive Chef at Lake Lawn Resort, commands over 25 years of experience in designing Midwestern Heartland-style cuisine. He has also twice been named "Chef of the Year" by the Geneva Lakes Chapter of the American Culinary Foundation.

Lake Lawn Resort offers a variety of specialized wedding packages to fit any budget as well as customized options to make wedding days the stuff of dreams. The extraordinary menus offered are unique to Lake Lawn, all made with Chef Ross' special touches. "Actions Stations" are currently popular at rehearsal dinners or receptions, where small servings of specialty foods are prepared to order or served. They are one of the staff's specialties.

◆ STAY AND PLAY

Most brides and grooms prefer to have special times set aside to be with their best friends and attendants before the wedding. Lake Lawn's motto "The Fun Starts Here" now comes into play.

The Lookout Bar and Eatery and the Clubhouse Sports Bar and Grill make

bachelor and bachelorette parties easy and fun. These groups can kick back with brews and televised sports in the Lookout Bar on the 11 televisions, or with musical entertainment every Friday and Saturday after 9 p.m. For a little fun on the lake, rentals available include pontoon and speedboats, water skis, wave runners, paddleboards and kayaks. Sports enthusiasts can golf on the 18-hole Majestic Oaks course or use the driving range, shoot some hoops at the basketball court, play tennis, or a game of beach volleyball on the sand court overlooking the lake.

In the evening, lakeside bonfire pits are available to privately reserve to gather around and celebrate.

◆ WEDDING SPECIALISTS

Lake Lawn Resort has dedicated Wedding Specialists who can help you plan the wedding of your dreams. They are particularly adept at smoothing rough spots long before the big day. By keeping lists of experts and craftspeople, they can recommend florists, photographers, DJs, decorative linens and chair covers, music, mood lighting, trellises, ice carvings, personalized favors, and much more.

Lake Lawn's wedding specialists give tours of the resort's facilities by appointment, and keep the couple's wants and needs a

priority in considering the right facilities for whatever celebrations they would like to have. Couples can do an entire wedding weekend that involves everything from the bachelor/bachelorette parties, the rehearsal dinner, the wedding ceremony and the reception at the picturesque destination. Lake Lawn Resort is the only wedding venue in the area with 2.5 miles of shoreline and lakeside lawns. It can accommodate outdoor lakeside ceremonies and receptions for an intimate party of 50 to a celebration of 500.

Some families have used the time prior to nuptials held at the resort for a reunion to get re-acquainted with family and friends before the big day. The Lake House, a separate and more private part of the resort complex is very popular and available to reserve.

The resort offers the finest amenities to couples seeking a comfortable, unique place for their wedding. Whether couples schedule all of their nuptial festivities at Lake Lawn Resort or just part of them, the expert staff at the resort will never cause a moment's regret.

Find Lake Lawn online at www.lakelawnresort.com and on Facebook and Twitter. The resort's address is 2400 E. Geneva St., Delavan. Prospective brides and grooms may call (262) 728-7950 and ask for the Wedding Specialist to make an appointment to tour Lake Lawn Resort and see all that it has to offer.

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Tips for trying on wedding gowns

Many brides-to-be look forward to the day when they visit a bridal salon and are able to try on gowns for the first time.

Here are a few tips that can make the day go much more smoothly and potentially reduce the amount of time it may take to find the perfect gown.

- Wear a supportive, well-constructed strapless bra or corset in your correct size. If you will be wearing a petticoat, also have the right size available.
- Go without face makeup when trying on gowns so they remain clean.
- Try to wear your hair similar to the style you have in mind for your wedding.
- Note that the size of the wedding gown you will wear is typically one to two sizes larger than your day-to-day clothes. Proper measurements can be matched to designers' size charts.
- It's best to limit the number of people with whom you shop to one or two trusted friends or family members. An entourage can be confusing.
- It's always better to order a slightly larger gown and leave room for alterations if you are between sizes.

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Seating your wedding guests

Weddings are filled with many emotions – happiness, excitement and anticipation, to name a few. With all of the positive emotions a wedding may drum up, in the mix there may be a few negative ones, including feelings of being overwhelmed at all the details that need to be completed on a deadline.

One aspect of wedding planning that tends to send people into panic is wedding reception-seating arrangements. The thought of having 200 friends and family members together under one roof – and then attempting to seat them next to an acceptable group of people – can cause some couples to hyperventilate.

Every family has its ups and downs, and there are certain people who get along well and a few who clash. Ensuring that a wedding is memorable for all the right reasons (and not for the brawl at table three) is why seating arrangements are so important.

Many couples can use a little advice when seating guests, while others would love another person to handle the seating arrangements for them.

Here are some guidelines for setting up reception seating arrangements.

- Place yourselves as well as the bridal party, at a separate table that is in a prime location in the room. Be sure to allow the spouses or dates of bridal party members at the same table so couples

remain together.

- Some couples choose to seat both sets of parents at one table together – the parents table. Grandparents may also be seated at this table, depending on the number of people each table can accommodate.

- If children under the age of seven are invited, they should be seated with their parents. Children between ages seven and 14 can be seated at a separate kids' table.

- Be mindful of guests with disabilities or mobility issues. Seat them close to the door, bathrooms or food station.

- Instead of separating the bride and the groom's family to separate sides, intermingle the tables to promote conversation.

- Consider arranging guests by common interests at each table, seating business associates or parents' friends together.

- Take into consideration people who have relationship rifts and try to seat them separately. But don't stress about this too much because it won't be possible to accommodate everyone. You'll have to hope that at your wedding a certain level of decorum will preside.

- It's not unheard of to let guests seat themselves. This takes the pressure of finding a seat for everyone off of you as a couple and enables you to think about the other tasks at hand. This can take place at a buffet wedding or a smaller affair.



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Bon Voyage

Newlyweds opt for the romance, adventure of cruises

There are 2.5 million weddings in the United States each year, and the wedding business is a \$40 billion annual industry, including the ceremony, reception, bachelor (-ette) parties and honeymoon.

Increasingly, newlyweds are opting for a cruise for a cost-effective and carefree honeymoon.

About 5,000 weddings and vow renewals happen on cruises every year, and cruises now account for 15 percent of all honeymoons.

In addition to local options for wedding-related cruises offered by Lake Geneva Cruise Line – from small charters to grand, on-the-water events – couples often turn to cruises for destination weddings and honeymoon travel.

Most newlyweds say they prefer a week in a fun and sun destination. That makes cruises doubly attractive, since they visit several ports and offer a selection of shore tours. The inclusive nature of a cruise is a leading factor in the decision.

Though the Hawaiian Islands remain the all-time favorite honeymoon destination, many newlyweds are choosing cruises in the Mediterranean and the Caribbean.

And there's no more romantic way to experience the wonders of the Mediterranean or Caribbean than a weeklong voyage aboard a tall ship. Star Clippers' three sailing ships only carry up to 170 or

227 guests, and visit some of the world's most exotic destinations.

Aboard Star Clippers, newlyweds can experience the luxury of a private yacht while sailing to smaller lesser-known destinations big cruise ships can't visit.

Star Clippers' relaxed yet elegant shipboard atmosphere is the perfect antidote to months of wedding planning. Yet, the emphasis on beach time and water sports, and the array of soft-adventure excursions offered provide opportunities for couples to share new experiences as they start their life together.

Whether it's a fabulous honeymoon sailing through the Greek Isles, a barefoot wedding set on a Caribbean beach or a sunset vow-renewal ceremony performed by a ship's captain, Star Clippers offers the romance of a true sailing experience.

For more about Star Clippers, visit www.starclippers.com.

(NEWSUSA)

A photograph of a bride and groom walking away from the camera on a boat deck. The bride is wearing a white lace wedding dress and holding a bouquet of flowers. The groom is wearing a grey suit. They are holding hands and looking towards the water. In the background, there are other boats and a clear sky.

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Your home on the lake

At The Lake House offers comforts of home with a spectacular view

by **Sandra Landen Machaj**

CORRESPONDENT

Mary King and her husband Andy Smyth enjoyed their childhood while spending summers in the Geneva Lakes area. So it is not surprising that as adults they found a way to live full time in the area.

Not only living at the lake, but actually becoming owners of a vacation home perfect for family enjoyment.

At The Lake House is a complete vacation home that opened in 2010. The home overlooks Lake Como with gorgeous views of the water from the front deck and balcony. Because of its location along the lakeshore, beautiful sunrises – if one is up that early – and sunsets can be enjoyed from indoor great rooms or outside on the deck or balcony.

The Lake House is a two-story home with two individual suites, the first-floor villa and the second-floor tree house. Each suite contains a great room, kitchen, and two en-suite bedrooms. The first floor villa also has a small room with a fireplace to gather on chilly evenings to read, play games, or just chat and enjoy the fire.

“The suites are designed to accommodate the whole family. With two master bedroom suites on each floor, families either rent one suite for smaller families or for larger families, especially multi-generation groups, renting the entire house is the choice,” King said as she pointed out some of the unique features of the suites.

“The bathrooms provide different types of showers. One is a walk-in steam shower with back massage jets. A favorite for a truly relaxing shower.”

The shower stall is large enough that a shower chair could be placed inside for visitors with accessibility needs. The other bathroom provides a relaxing soaking tub with a bubbler to allow guests to soak their aches, pains and stresses away. A shower is also present.

The home is decorated in soft, soothing colors to encourage relaxation. The villa has beautiful tray ceilings with chandeliers hanging from the center. The contemporary furniture and accent



JEANNE KOSTRO *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

The view from the great room of the second floor unit or from the balcony gives a wide view of Como Lake.

pieces add the finishing touches. The pride in King’s voice as she shares the story of the house is evident.

A long journey

Going from a summer visitor to owner of a lakeside vacation home was a long journey, for King and Smyth. Both found their way to year-round residency at the lake and also found each other. While King continued to teach at Badger High School, she and Smyth began to consider building a family-style lake house on the property adjoining her home – property that she already owned.

They realized how much they enjoyed the memories of their summer time on the lake and hoped to provide the same

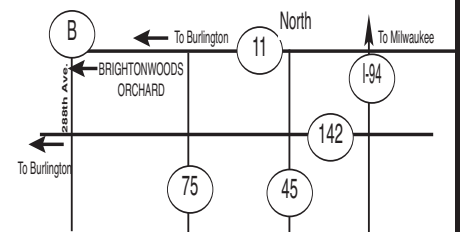
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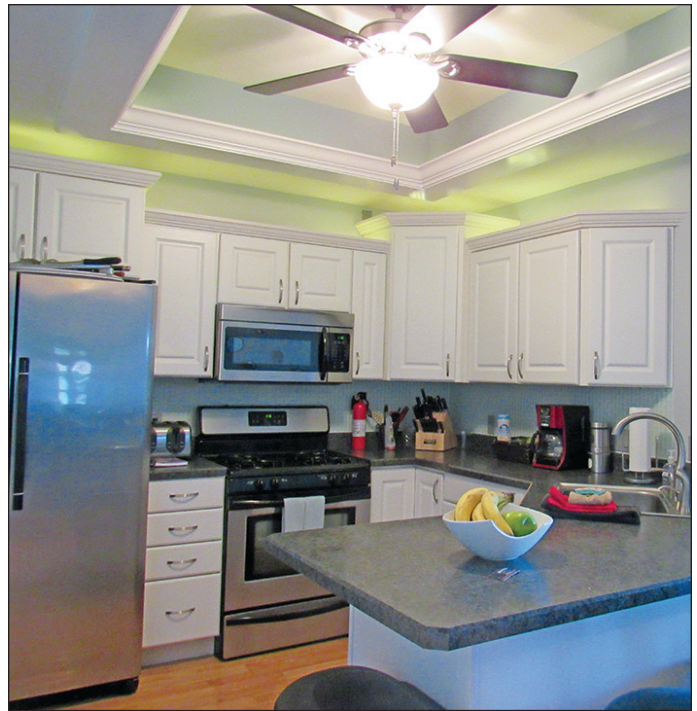
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JEANNE KOSTRO *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

While there are many restaurants in the area, if you prefer to stay in, this well-designed kitchen supplied with needed cooking utensils will make preparing dinner easy.

experience for other families. The plans were drawn but things did not run smoothly.

“I suffered serious injuries when my car was hit by another driver who was suffering from a seizure,” King said. The plan for the lakeside vacation home was put on hold while I underwent long-term rehabilitation and recovery. I had to give up thoughts of returning to my teaching position and we began to rethink the lakehouse.”

When the decision was made to go ahead, nothing held them back, not even the recession. In 2009 it was time to pour the foundation. According to King that was both a positive and a negative. More construction workers were looking for work but there was the question of whether building a rental vacation house was a good choice. And then when it was time to pour the cement it snowed.

But go ahead they did and they haven’t regretted their choice.

“It is great to provide a vacation home for families or couples that they can use without the high cost and maintenance usually associated with a vacation home,” she said.

Water playground

In addition to the comfortable lodging, there are the usual lake activities to enjoy. A 50-foot pier owned by At the Lake House is available for use. Guests may bring their boats and enjoy cruising around the lake. They may also opt to rent a boat from one of the nearby marinas.

“It is a great place to water ski,” King said, “as it is a quiet lake. There is not the high volume of boats such as are found on Lake Geneva.”

Como Lake is a 955-acre lake with a maximum depth of nine feet.

Fishing is also a favorite activity of many guests. Panfish, largemouth bass, and northern pike are found in the waters. Visitors may fish from their boat or carry a fishing pole out to the pier and drop line.

Grills are available on site to cook a daily catch or any other foods that guests wish to prepare. After dinner, they may opt to

sit around the fire pit in the backyard and enjoy a glass of wine or a cup of coffee while sharing the day's activities in this private area.

For those who wish to cook their meals inside, they have a well-equipped kitchen at their disposal. There is also a pub-type restaurant within walking distance and another that offers a fish fry on Friday. For fancier dining, downtown Lake Geneva with its many restaurants is only minutes away.

Time at the lake for children means a trip to the beach. There is a small sandy beach about six blocks up South Shore Drive with picnic tables. Also for the children's enjoyment is a playground one block in the other direction down Lake Shore Drive where they will spend time on the swings and other equipment.

If you enjoyed watching beach volleyball during the Olympics, try your own version at the volleyball net at the playground.

Four seasons of fun

Often families think of time at the lake as a summer activity but lakes offer four-seasons of fun. During autumn it is still warm enough to fish, take boat rides and walk along the shore of the lake. Nothing beats the beauty of the trees in their colorful splendor as they change from green to the fall shades of yellow, brown, and orange.

The view from the balcony or front deck



JEANNE KOSTRO Spirit of Geneva Lakes

The living room and dining room of the downstairs unit provides a relaxing area to enjoy dinner or evening board games...or maybe just to watch some television.

of At the Lake House is spectacular as it includes the trees across the lake as they are reflected in the water. In the summer we often say "stop and smell the roses," now in fall we need to stop and enjoy the changing fall colors and last of the warm weather in these days before the season changes again.

In winter the lake area turns into a winter wonderland. As the lake freezes, fishing shelters begin to appear on the lake as the ice fisherman move in for the season.

Ice skating is also easily enjoyed. Think of cuddling up in the great room while enjoying the beauty of the snow-covered outdoors. Plan a mid-week or a weekend getaway for the family or for just the two of you.

King suggests planning a holiday celebration At the Lake House. What a great place to gather the family and enjoy a celebration whether it is Thanksgiving, Christmas or Easter, a family birthday,

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anniversary, bridal shower, or a family reunion.

Great get-togethers

Weddings have been held here. Technically, King and Smyth's wedding was not held in the At The Lake House building as it was not yet built at the time. The ceremony was held on pontoon boats in Lake Como in front of the At The Lakehouse property and a light reception was held at their house next door before they moved on to another venue for a formal dinner.

In both summer and winter, small seaplanes can be seen on the lake. Some of the pilots also offer rides. If you have never

experienced landing on water you may want to look into these planes. Certainly it will be a memorable addition to your stay.

We all recognize the need to be thankful for our veterans who have done so much to preserve our freedoms. King and Smyth participate in the national B&B's for Vets campaign yearly. Each year to honor the vets staying at B&B's, they give two vets and their families a night's stay At The Lake House without charge.

Local merchants who were contacted by At the Lakehouse generously participated in offering additional gifts to veterans staying at the house. In 2013, At the Lake House raffled a two-night stay for a veteran and

family.

In addition to the At The Lake House rentals, King's original home next door is also rented on a longer term basis. The 2,500-square-foot home has three bedrooms and is rentable for stays of one month or more. Each bedroom overlooks the lake.

When planning a family vacation or just a short getaway to recharge, consider At The Lakehouse, W3920 Lake Shore Drive, Lake Geneva.

Visit them online at www.Atthelakehouse.com or on Facebook. Telephone for further information or to check on availability at (262) 903-6636 or contact King at Maryking@wi.rr.com.

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Lost in a maze of politics

It doesn't matter if you lean to the right or to the left, because the corn maze at Pearce's Farm Stand offers equal time for the candidates in this year's presidential election. The maze is open for those brave enough to enter on weekends from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children. Those younger than 4 enter for free. The farm stand is at W5740 N. Walworth Rd., Walworth.





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COURTESY OF HAPP'S PUMPKIN FARM *Spirit of Geneva Lakes*

Happ's Pumpkin Patch, one of the largest pumpkin farms in the area provides Halloween activities for all ages. From Thomas the Train for young children to the Ghoulish bus and the new haunted hayride. For those who really want a good scare visit Happ's Haunted House.

A haunting we will go

The best
thrills and
chills
in the
area

by **Sandra Landen Machaj**
CORRESPONDENT

It is that time of the year again. The time when the weather begins to cool and the leaves on the trees change colors and then fall to the ground, leaving the trees empty and rather eerie looking as the moon glows through the empty branches.

It is the time of rustling and sounds that we cannot quite place. The time when ghosts, goblins, and ghouls permeate the area and strange sounds go bump in the night. And at night bats can be seen flying through the air.

Halloween decorations begin to appear. From simple pumpkins carved into Jack o Lanterns to likenesses of ghosts or the most recent serial killers as seen in the latest horror movies. Mock graveyards appear in the front lawns of many houses sometimes with an open grave or an open casket. Giant spiders in oversized webs hang down the front of houses.

It is Halloween and time to embrace the

bizarre and the scary. From high macabre haunts to mildly scary venues, haunted displays abound in the Geneva Lakes area. Here is a listing of some of our favorites.

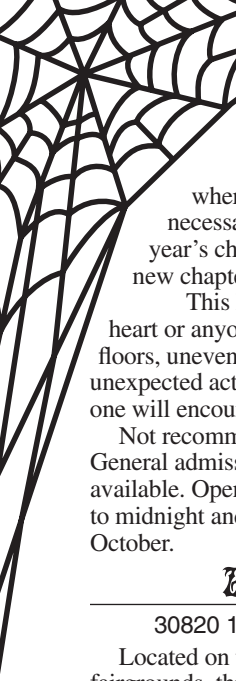
Twisted Realm

Walworth County Fair Grounds
411 E. Court St., Elkhorn • (262) 394-6871

Twisted Realm is returning to the Walworth County Fairgrounds for its second year and the second chapter in the story of the deceased Garrison Bryson whose body disappeared in last year's installment. This year the story continues as members of a cult try to find Bryson and return him to life.

If you survived last year's fright, get ready for another scary and horror filled night.

"This is a unique haunted house," said Bryce Ring, co-owner of the venue. "It is the only interactive haunted house in the area. There are 20 points of interaction that require one to discover hidden exits and solving



puzzles to find the cult's next ritual."

The story begins in the same scene where last year's adventure ended but it is not necessary to know last year's story to enjoy this year's chapter. Each year for the next three years a new chapter will be introduced.

This haunted house is not for the weak of heart or anyone who is not sure footed. Moving floors, uneven ground, low lighting, strobe lights, and unexpected actions are but a few of the many obstacles one will encounter.

Not recommended for children younger than 13. General admission is \$16; other ticket packages are available. Open Friday and Saturday from 7:30 p.m. to midnight and Sunday from 7:30 to 10 p.m. through October.

Terror At the Fair

30820 111th St., Wilmot • (262) 705-9555

Located on the grounds of the Kenosha County fairgrounds, this 3-D house of horrors will have one descending into the depths of a town ravaged by radiation testing and be faced by the CarnEvil clowns that suffer from this experiment gone wrong and attempt to torture visitors by attacking their innermost clown fears. No friendly clowns here. Sheer horror.

A high terror venue that is best for those in the best of health. Those with asthma, heart disease, seizures, and other respiratory problems should not attempt this chamber of horrors. No children younger than 16.

Open weekends through October from 7 to 11 p.m. Ticket packages begin at \$18.



COURTESY OF RICHARDSON FARMS Spirit of Geneva Lakes

This group of girls work their way through the corn maze at Richardson Farms in Spring Grove, Ill. The maze covers 33 acres and its paths meander for 10 miles.

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Happ's Pumpkin Farm

24121 Wilmot Road, Trevor
(262) 862-6515

One of the largest pumpkin farms in Wisconsin, Happ's is the place to go for a day and evening of both friendly and scary Halloween fun. From the friendly Thomas the Train ride for youngsters through the extremely high end new haunted experiences at Happ's Haunted Homestead there is sure to be an activity to make your Halloween experience complete. Happ's is experienced in providing Halloween activities and is sure to have an activity to appeal to everyone in your family.

Take a scary train ride through the Haunted Forest or enjoy a ride on the Ghoul Bus for a different scary experience. For 16 years, Happ's has been home to a Haunted House but this year they are producing a new and even scarier venue.

This year the Haunted House is under new management and is a completely new design. New scares and thrills and a variety of extras will make this a night of fun and terror. Children allowed at parent's discretion. Tickets for the Haunted Homestead are \$15. Train ride or maze \$5.

Visit them on Facebook for days and times.

COURTESY OF HAPP'S PUMPKIN FARM Spirit of Geneva Lakes



Take a walk through the Happ's Pumpkin Farm cemetery but be careful who (or what) you speak to, they may be the walking dead.

The Estate of Terror

Pearce's Farm Stand
W5740 N. Walworth Road, Walworth
(Corner Highways 67 and F)

For the past four years, Pearce's has been the home of a haunted house. Through the years the house has grown and evolved into an exciting and frightening experience as one travels through a Haunted Victorian Mansion. With a strong story line, the house uses a multi-sensual experience, but it is not only the haunted house experience that has developed but also several other enjoyable

Halloween experiences.

Take a trip in a wagon pulled by a tractor through Witchwood Forest on Friday or Saturday nights. Will you survive the whole ride and emerge from the woods?

This year Pearce's have upgraded their corn maze to make it more interesting and exciting. The maze design reflects the current political scene as the faces of Donald Trump and Hilary Clinton are worked into the design. Choose a passport. When one answers the questions, they are given direction to go through the maze. Answer it incorrectly and your directions will be misleading.

Before or after sit around the campfires and enjoy snacks and beverages available at the concession stand. Children will enjoy climbing the hay bales.

Maze prices are \$8 for those older than 12, \$6 for children from 5 to 12 years and free for those 4 and younger.

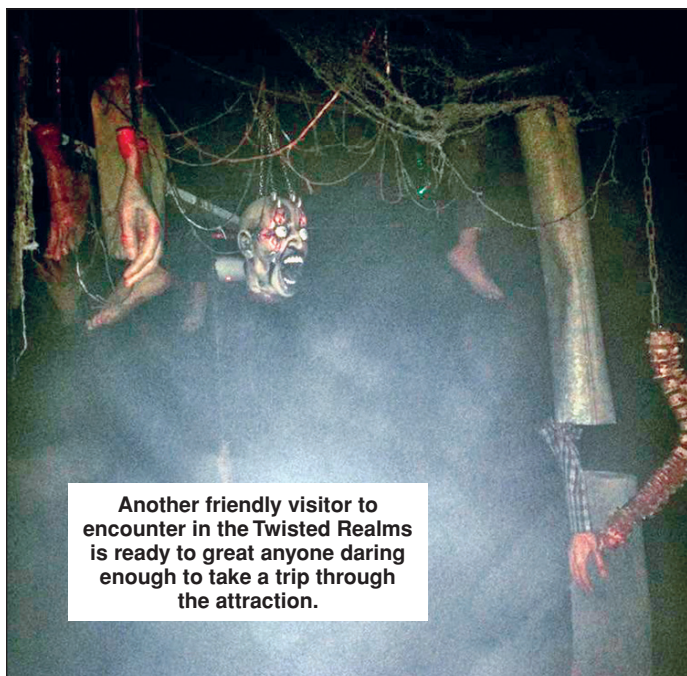
Visit the Haunted Victorian mansion for \$15 and ride through the haunted forest also for \$15. Special package price \$22 for both the mansion and the forest. Contact the Estate of Terror at www.estateofterror.com for hours and additional information. Dogs not allowed.

Richardson's Farm and Corn Maze

909 English Prairie Road, Spring Grove, Ill. • (815) 675-9729

For many years, Richardson's Corn mazes have been the favorite of visitors from all around the area. Richardson's is known for their creative mazes that incorporate contemporary themes or issues of importance into their designs.

This year Richardson's has embraced the 50-year anniversary of Star Trek and have cut an interesting and complicated design into their maze honoring Star Trek. Richardson's is known for the World's largest corn mazes and this one is no exception. There are 33 acres of corn maze and five separate mazes to explore. Upon entering the maze chose one or more games to play in the maze. These include finding specific points, quiz questions, and a game called farm investigations similar to clue.



Another friendly visitor to encounter in the Twisted Realms is ready to greet anyone daring enough to take a trip through the attraction.

COURTESY OF TWISTED REALM Spirit of Geneva Lakes



A 50-foot tower on site offers an aerial view of the maze and zip lining from the tower will take your breath away. Many other activities for all members of the family are available on site including snacks and drinks.

Fee for the corn maze is \$15 for those 13 and older and \$13 for those from 4 to 12 years and free for those younger than 4. Contact them for reduced rates for groups of 30 or more.

Dan Patch Stables

Sleepy Hollow Haunted Woods

7036 Grand Geneva Way, Lake Geneva • (262) 215-5303

Located at the entry way to Grand Geneva Resort the Dan Patch Stables offers a scary wagon ride through Sleepy Hollow Woods. Ghosts and ghouls will be invading the stables and the Sleepy Hollow Woods adding spooky fun to the ride.

Not recommended for children under 10 years of age other than the first ride of the day. The first ride is family friendly and as such is less scary.

Contact Dan Patch Stables for hours and prices at danpatchstables.com

McHenry Area Jaycees Haunted Barn

Knox Park, 300 S. Route 31, McHenry, Ill.

Listen to the howls and snarls being emitted from Knox Park as the ghouls and other unearthly creatures continue their struggle as they have for the past 31 years, to free themselves. Follow the twists and turns and avoid being captured by the creatures.

While the evening struggle through the haunted barn may be too intense for children, visit in the afternoon for the special children's program between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Children 10 and younger can enjoy trick or treating in the haunted barn and can take photographs with some of their favorite characters such as ELSP, Spiderman, or the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. Fun activities with the actors will be available in some of the spooky rooms.

For those 11 and older a more exciting program will be held between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. It will be a full scare haunting but will be held with the house lights on.

A children's program will be held on Oct. 30. Full adult haunted house will be open weekends through October. Children's program is \$5; adults free to attend with child. Evening entry fees are Friday and Saturday \$10 and Sundays \$8.

For more information visit website at www.Mchenryjaycees.org.



Dining Directory

HERNANDEZ EL SARAPE - RESTAURANT & CATERING • 212 S. 7th St., Delavan. 262-728-6443. www.hernandez-restaurant.com. L, D, \$ ȳ

SPRECHER'S RESTAURANT & PUB • 111 Center St., Lake Geneva. 262-248-7047. www.sprecherspub.com Online ordering now available. Happy hour specials Sun.-Fri. Craft beers and gourmet sodas. America's favorite family brew pub. L, D, FF \$-\$\$ ȳ ☺

PRINCESS CAFE • 2695 Main St., East Troy. 262-642-5905. B, L, D, FF \$ ȳ ☺

DADDY MAXWELL'S • 150 Elkhorn Rd., Hwy. 67, Williams Bay. 262-245-5757. www.daddymaxwells.com. B, L, D (Fri.), FF NC \$ ȳ ☺

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

CHAMPS SPORTS BAR AND GRILL • 747 W. Main St., Lake Geneva. 262-248-6008. www.champslakegeneva.com. Featuring new items on our menu: hand rolled taquitos, prime rib burgers, baja fish tacos and country pot roast sandwich. L, D, FF \$ ȳ

THE CHALET • W6904 County Rd. A, Elkhorn. Known for our fresh fish, oysters & salmon. Open Thurs., Fri. and Sat. 5pm-9pm. D, FF \$\$

BINANTI'S TASTE OF ITALY • 101 S. Second St., Silver Lake. 262-889-8387. Italian dining. Dinner everyday at 4pm, closed Tuesday. D, \$\$\$ ȳ ☎

COLONY HOUSE • Hwy. JF, Trevor. 262-862-2076. Full service restaurant. www.colonyhouserestaurant.co Dinner is served Tues., Wed., Thurs. 4-9:30; Fri. & Sat. 4-10; Sun. 3:30-8:30; closed Mon. D, FF \$\$\$ ȳ ☎ ☺

FITZGERALD'S GENOA JUNCTION • Hwy. B, Genoa City. 262-279-5200. Featuring famous fish boils all year 'round. Open Wed.-Sun. (summer), Thurs.-Sun. (winter). D, FF \$\$

LUCKE'S CANTINA FOOD & SPIRITS • 220 Elkhorn Rd., Williams Bay. 262-245-6666. Choose from 15 draft beers. Open 7 days a week from 11am. L, D, \$ ȳ

MOYS RESTAURANT • In the historic square, 3 N. Wisconsin St., Elkhorn. 262-723-3993. Chinese and American cuisine. Open 6 days a week, closed Monday. L, D, FF, \$\$ ȳ

RIGA-TONY'S DELICATEZZI ITALIANO • 5576 C State Rd. 50, Delavan (in the Dairy Queen Plaza). 262-740-2540. Open Wed.-Sun., closed Mon. & Tues. L, D \$

ZENDA TAP BAR & GRILL • N560 Zenda Rd., Zenda, WI (on the south side of Geneva Lake). 262-394-4100. Open 7 days per week at 11am. L, D, FF ȳ



Key

B: Breakfast L: Lunch D: Dinner NC: No credit cards accepted \$: Mostly under \$10 \$\$: Mostly under \$20 \$\$\$: Mostly under \$30 FF: Fish Fry ☎: Reservations requested ȳ: Alcohol served ☺: Kids menu

Information is subject to change. Please contact individual restaurant for more information.



Ein Prosit!

OKTOBERFEST
CELEBRATION
CONTINUES TO
GROW IN ELKHORN

by **Kellen
Olshefski**
STAFF
WRITER

If you go

WHAT: 11th annual Elkhorn Oktoberfest, hosted by the Elkhorn Area Chamber of Commerce

WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 15, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

WHERE: Downtown Elkhorn in Veterans and Pocket parks

With Oktoberfest traditionally being a German celebration of the tapping of Marzen-style beers – typically brewed in March and ready for consumption in late September – the Elkhorn Area Chamber of Commerce is continuing its celebration in a traditional sense by offering more beer to its patrons.

Like last year, the beer tent will again spill out of Elkhorn’s Pocket Park into an expanded beer tent along North Wisconsin Street.

Chris Clapper, executive director of the Elkhorn Chamber of Commerce, said the beer tent is expanding its beer and wine tasting opportunities, which proved popular last year.

This year, organizers aim to maintain an expanded selection of various types of beers from breweries they visited.

Beer selection this year will again focus on authentic German beers and wine. Also like last year, beer selection will focus on Wisconsin breweries such as New Glarus, Capital and Lakefront breweries.

Those who attend Oktoberfest will receive a commemorative mug as well as sampling tickets to sample the beers available.

While in the past attendees have only been able to

purchase samplings, organizers changed the setup last year, allowing an attendee to purchase full drinks.

Clapper said this year's event will also continue to offer the past favorites, including the annual chili cook-off, a beer stein holding contest, live music, entertainment from community groups, various vendors and a classic car show.

North Wisconsin Street will be closed off from Moy's to Friends on the Square to provide space for live music and additional vendors in the downtown area.

The annual chili cook-off and tasting will again take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in conjunction with the event, with first-, second- and third-place prizes awarded in the People's Choice Contest. Prizes range from \$50 to \$200 for the three winners.

Because of the popularity of last year's Chili Cook-off, Clapper said, the contest will feature both an amateur and professional division this year. The professional division is open to contestants working in the food service industry only.

The professional division will feature one winner who will receive a \$100 cash prize, an Elkhorn Oktoberfest traveling trophy and, of course, a year of bragging rights.

The Chamber requires entry forms be completed and turned in by Oct. 10 to the Chamber Office. Contestants are asked to bring at least 10-quarts of warmed chili (no pasta) in a roaster or large crock-pot and contestants must provide a server. Contestants must deliver chili by 11 a.m. and stay until contest winners are announced at about 2 p.m.

The seventh annual Elkhorn Oktoberfest Classic Car Show will be held in the north parking lot of the Walworth County Government Center, along Court Street from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Five non-perishable food items or a \$5 donation to the Elkhorn Food Pantry are encouraged with entry. Clapper said the first 75 cars will receive dash plaques. Space is limited and there will also be a People's Choice Award for the best classic car.

Clapper said people have told her in past years they love that

Lake Geneva's Oktoberfest Oct. 8-9

Lake Geneva's Oktoberfest will take place downtown Lake Geneva from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday Oct. 8-9. The event will feature pony rides, bouncy houses, German music, children's performances, brats, potato pancakes, and cider donuts, Scootoberfest games, the Giant Pumpkin Weigh-in and the Sprechtoberfest's beer tent.

Guests can stroll through the downtown shops and see the colors around the lake.



it is a family friendly event, providing plenty of opportunities for attendees of all ages.

"People feel comfortable that they can purchase a wrist band for their child so they can go play over there and mom and dad can walk around," she said.

"There's something for everyone. The guys who want to can go look at cars, the women can shop and then they can go meet in the beer and wine tent."

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Additionally, Clapper said, the Chamber will introduce its new Christmas Card for this year, which marks the organization's 20th commissioned painting. The card will be unveiled at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday and a limited quantity of this year's card will be available for purchase.

Clapper said with limited parking downtown during the event, organizers have also set up a shuttle service. The shuttle will run from the Walworth County Fairgrounds main parking lot on East Court Street directly across from the fair's main gates to the Oktoberfest grounds downtown.

Schedule of events

- Wine and beer tasting, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Pocket Park and on North Wisconsin Street;
- Chili cook-off and tasting, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; and
- Classic car show, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the North Parking Lot of the Walworth County Government Center

Activity stage line up

- Dreams Studio of Performing Arts, 9 a.m.;
- Elkhorn Flying Dragons, 10 a.m.;
- Toe To Toe Ballet, 11 a.m.; and
- Walworth County Cloggers, noon.

Main stage line up

- Falling Rock, 2 to 5 p.m.

For more information on the event call the Elkhorn Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism at (262) 723-5788 or visit elkhornchamber.com.



KELLEN OLSHEFSKI Spirit of Geneva Lake

Elkhorn's Oktoberfest, scheduled for Oct. 15, features a chili cook-off (top), a car show (right), and activities for children and families (above).



Era of dinner trains brought to life

EAST TROY ELECTRIC RAILROAD OFFERS CLASSIC EXCURSIONS

Fifty years ago, passenger trains across America routinely offered dining car meals served on china atop white tablecloths.

Service was impeccable and riders were treated to a culinary experience that rivaled the finest of restaurants.

That experience lives on today on the East Troy Electric Railroad, which operates the last remaining electric interurban dining car service in North America.

Three dinner train events remain on the Fall 2016 season schedule, beginning with a Fall Harvest dinner served on Oct. 8. Each train features a unique menu, but each dinner includes cheese spreads, salad, a special entrée, and a very dessert:

- Oct. 8 - Fall Harvest: Stuffed pork loin or blackened salmon, squash, tricolored potatoes

- Oct. 15 - Sweetest Day: New York Strip steak or shrimp scampi with mashed potatoes

- Oct. 22 - Pumpkin Express: Prime rib or grilled salmon, red skin mashed potatoes

“Dining aboard trains was once an experience unto itself with many passengers riding the rails simply for the food,” said Ryan Jonas, president of the East Troy Electric Railroad. “Our Dinner Train service recreates the era when fine dining aboard trains was commonplace. We take great pride in delivering an experience that is truly

unique, not only to the Midwest, but to the entire country.”

Dinner service includes cheese spreads with assorted crackers, followed by salad, a special entrée, and dessert. Coffee, tea, milk and water are included with the meal. Soft drinks, cocktails, beer and wine are also available for an additional charge.

The train departs the railroad’s historic East Troy depot at 5:30 p.m. and returns two hours later. The cost is \$71.09 per person and advance reservations are required. Visit www.easttroyrr.org and click on the Dinner Train link. Then scroll down to purchase tickets. People may also purchase tickets by calling (262) 642-3263.



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Born and raised in Burlington and a graduate of Burlington High School, Andy was the first Selective Service soldier in World War II to receive the Distinguished Service Cross, our Nation’s second highest military honor next to the Congressional Medal of Honor. Andy received the medal from General Douglas MacArthur for his exploits in cleaning out a section held by the Japanese in Bataan after his tank was put out of commission. Andy later became a POW and was killed when the unmarked Japanese ship he was on was torpedoed.

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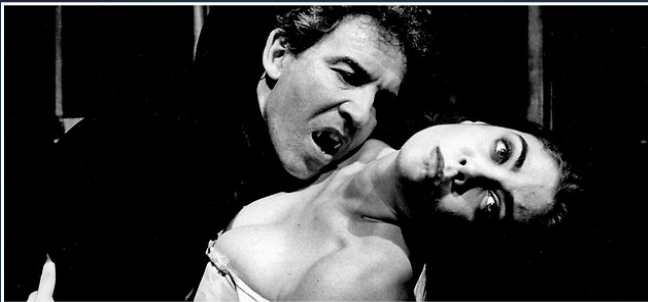


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The Passion of Dracula

October 27 | 7:00 pm

Live theatrical production of the play "DRACULA". It will take audience members throughout Lake Lawn Resort, including outside. Show \$15

Call the Frontier Restaurant at 262-725-9155 to make a reservation. Pick up tickets at the door.



Old Tyme Radio Show

Oct. 8, Nov. 5 and Dec. 10 | 11:00 am

A live radio show on station WGTD of Kenosha will broadcast from Lake Lawn Resort. The show mimics the old time radio shows of the 20's, 30's and 40's. Complete with actors and sound effects, all done in real time.

\$10 Show only | \$20 Breakfast/Show package

Call 262-725-9155 for reservations.



Big Chill Golf Tournament

October 22 | 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

This 4-player team event has a shotgun start at 10:00 am and each member of the winning team will receive a 2017 Exclusive Golf Membership at Majestic Oaks Golf Course at Lake Lawn Resort. Additional prizes will be offered to the 2nd, 8th, and 12th place teams. The cost of this event is \$75 per player and includes golf, cart, and lunch buffet.

For more information call 262-725-9200



Fall Family Festival & Harvest Buffet

October 7-9

A recreation day pass can be purchased for \$5 a person on October 8th or 9th. The pass includes hayrides, old fashioned yard games, Birds of Prey Show, scarecrow building, and a movie by the lake. Join us for the Fall Harvest Buffet October 9 from 12:30 pm - 3:00 pm.

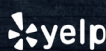
\$25 Adults | \$15 Children 4-12

For more information call 262-728-7950



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