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ON THE COVER

It's the time of year to get outside and enjoy the warmer weather while appreciating the beauty as things grow and bloom. One such place is Northwind Perennial Farm, a 10-acre property north of Lake Geneva and west of Burlington that is now open for the season.

COURTESY NORTHWIND PERENNIAL FARM
Spirit of Geneva Lakes



IT'S COMIN' UP

MAY EVENTS

1 Lake Geneva Farmers Market May 1 kicks off the annual market, which runs through Oct. 30. Held at Horticultural Hall, 330 Broad St., Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., rain or shine. For more information, email market@horticulturalhall.com.

3 Cinco by the Lake from noon to 6 p.m., the Williams Bay Business Association will host the 3rd annual event on Geneva Street downtown. The schedule includes noon-6 p.m., DJ Breezy; 12:30-1:30 p.m., Mariachi Monarcas; 2-2:30 p.m., Dance Academy of Mexico; 3-3:45 p.m., Zumba; 3:45-4:30 p.m., DJ Breezy; 4:30-5:30 p.m., Neva Heneracion; 1-6 p.m., Pete the Balloon Guy; noon-6 p.m., face painting and balloon artist. Free parking!

6 Tuesdays @ 2 Geneva Lake Museum, 255 Mill St., will host "Histories of Hillmoor" presented by archeologist Peter Reckner and historian Chris Brookes. Learn about the Haskins Brothers and the birth of Lake Geneva's "Crawford" Neighborhood. Limited to 100 attendees so reservations are required by emailing staff@genevalakemuseum.org or calling 262-248-6060.

8 Y.O. Speaker Series from 6 to 8 p.m. at Yerkes Observatory, 373 W. Geneva St., Williams Bay. A one-of-a-kind talk featuring horticultural legend Al Ritchie. The founder of Hosta Fest, a showcase of his evolving Eden of over 450 Hosta varieties, Al is speaking at Yerkes in celebration of the 25th anniversary of this fascinating festival at his arboretum and car body shop in Walworth. Cost is \$24 for 19 years old and older, \$16 for 18 and younger. For more information, visit yerkesobservatory.org.

8 Wine Talk & Tasting at 6 p.m., The Bottle Shop, 617 W. Main St., Lake Geneva, features a different theme and wine expert each month on the second Thursday. Cost is \$15 per person. To reserve or for more information, call 262-348-9463 or visit thebottleshoplakegeneva.com.

11 Blooms & Books between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Lakeside Books and The Flower Market, 252 Center St., Lake Geneva, are partnering to offer book bouquets – a combination of hand-arranged blooms paired with a book of your choice – for Mother's Day. Whether for mom, grandma, an aunt or a cherished friend, this unique gift is perfect for those who love to get lost in a good story while enjoying the beauty of fresh flowers. RSVP requested online at lakesidebookslg.com. If a specific book is

needed, contact Lakeside Books in advance to ensure it's in stock or get it ordered.

Sound Healing Stop by Essence Sound Healing, 647 W. Main St., Suite 1100, Lake Geneva, for Walk-in Wednesdays, between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. – no appointment required. Experience how profound sound healing is and how it can benefit you. For more information, visit the website, essencesoundhealing.com.

Magic Shows Lake Geneva's live magic and illusion show!

Magic, comedy and illusions in an entertaining performance starring award-winning illusionist, Tristan Crist.

The Tristan Crist Magic Theatre, 100 N. Edwards Blvd., is rated Lake Geneva's top attraction and No. 1 show on TripAdvisor!

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Purchase tickets online at lakegenevamagic.com or call the box office at 262-248-0505.

Piano Bar Music Mars Resort, W4098 S. Shore Dr., Lake Geneva, offers live music 6 to 9 p.m., Thursdays, in the Piano Bar.

America's Pub Quiz every Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Lake City Social, 111 Center St., Lake Geneva.

Grab your friends, invite that smart guy from the office, and come take a break with some great food and drink. No charge to play!

"We promise, once you play along with America's Pub Quiz, you'll be back," representatives said.

Thursday Night Dinners Let the Green Grocer make dinner Thursday nights with dine-in or carry out options. They offer a different menu each week, along with a couple of pairing wines at 10% off.

Call 262-245-9077 for the current menu and pricing. Green Grocer is at 24 W. Geneva St., Williams Bay. Thursday night dinner reservations must be made by noon on Wednesdays.

The calendar of events is compiled from a variety of sources including area chambers of commerce and visitor bureaus and contains events available as of press time.

Dates and times may change, and events may be canceled. Please verify details and locations prior to making plans.



IS A PUBLICATION OF



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The Spirit of Geneva Lakes is a complimentary publication, distributed from I-94 through west Kenosha County, to and including the Geneva Lakes area in Walworth County, Richmond Illinois, plus Burlington and Waterford in Racine County.

Send all correspondence to:



SOUTHERN LAKES NEWSPAPERS

1102 Ann Street Delavan, WI 53115

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----- MAY 2025 −

Creating the best cup of coffee by Sandra Land CORRESPONDENT

by Sandra Landen Machai

Lake Geneva Coffee Roastery expanding, one batch at a time

If you start your day with a cup or two of coffee, you are among the roughly 54% of Americans who do so. And some do not stop with their morning cup or cups of coffee but continue to drink it throughout the day.

Coffee for many is combined with meeting friends for an afternoon or evening social break. Whether they drink it black or with creamer, sweetener or even a shot of flavoring, one thing is clear: coffee drinkers love their cups of Joe.

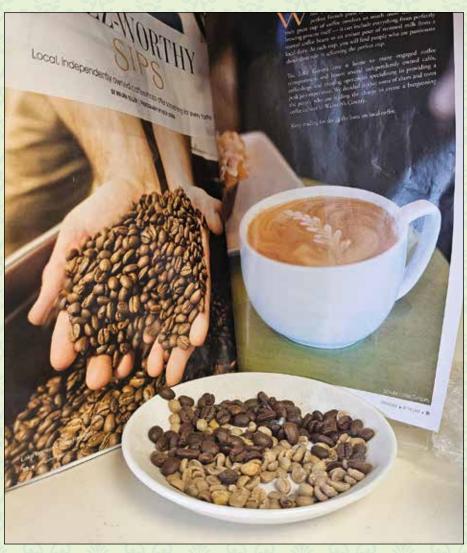
For Jeremiah Fox, owner of Lake Geneva Coffee Roastery, creating coffee was a hobby that has grown into a successful business.

Making coffee began for Jeremiah when he started roasting small batches at home on his kitchen stove as he experimented with a variety of ways to roast the beans. He and his wife would drink the coffee, and he continued to roast more and more to perfect

They gave his home-roasted coffee to



SANDRA LANDEN MACHAJ Spirit of Geneva Lakes



from above: Using fresh beans (actually pits from coffee plants) is a must to create the best coffee possible, according to local roaster Jeremiah Fox. Wake the Lake is one of the favorite coffees that is produced at Lake Geneva Coffee Roastery.

COURTESY LG COFFEE ROASTERY Spirit of Geneva Lakes

friends and family members and as they received good reviews, Jeremiah continued to experiment with his coffee roasting.

"I soon realized I wanted to turn this hobby into a true business," Jeremiah explained. "So, then I created a business plan before sharing my dream with my wife Amber so she would know how serious I

When he did share his dream with his wife, she was surprised at how thorough his plan was and encouraged him to pursue it. She joined the effort including designing

the unique logo which would grace every bag of coffee that was produced by Lake Geneva Coffee Roasters.

"I used the shape of Geneva Lake to create a mermaid, holding a cup of coffee in her hand," Amber said. "This logo now appears on all our coffee packages.'

Relying on his senses

Starting the business was perhaps a bit more involved for Jeremiah than it may have been for many people as he is legally blind.

"We had to purchase a small commercial

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MAY 2025 6

roaster to allow me to roast more coffee in each batch to make it worthwhile," Jeremiah said.

"This required a special roaster with adaptations. The new roaster was electric with tactile points on the machine's controls. It also included a talking timer to allow me to adjust the temperature and air flow more accurately," he added.

As with many who have a diminishment of one of their senses, Jeremiah has experienced enhancement of his other senses – especially his sense of smell and taste and his hearing – all of which has played a key role in helping him create his coffee roast profiles.

As Jeremiah continued to experiment with different methods of roasting coffee and developed a variety of blends, their home soon became overrun with huge bags of coffee beans, so it was time to find a commercial space to continue creating his coffee

Because the coffee produced by Lake Geneva Coffee Roastery is air roasted, it does not have the burnt taste that many coffees do. The beans do not touch the hot metal but are blown through, which prevents the burnt taste.

"My goal was to create the best coffee not to sell the most," Jeremiah said. "Today

The perfect cup at home

According to Jeremiah Fox, of Lake Geneva Coffee Roastery, this is the best way to create the ideal cup of coffee.

- 1. The most important is to start with quality fresh roasted coffee.
- 2. Always grind the beans when you are ready to make the coffee. Do not grind them ahead of time and let sit in a container. They will lose flavor.
- 3. The ratio of coffee to water is 1-2 tablespoons of freshly ground coffee to 6 ounces of water.
- 4. If using tap water as many do, let it run so you are getting fresh water. Do not use distilled water or water that has been softened. Water may be filtered or bottled.
- 5. The water needs to be between 195 and 205 degrees.
- 6. Brewing time is dependent on your brewing process. If using a drip method, it will be about 5 minutes; for a French Press, 2 to 4 minutes; for Espresso, allow 20 to 30 seconds. And if you want to create a cold brew allow about 12 hours.

When finished pour, relax and enjoy.



SANDRA LANDEN MACHAJ Spirit of Geneva Lakes



from top: Jeremiah Fox stands in front of his coffee roaster ready to begin his day of work. Fresh beans are sent to the roastery in large bags of at least 100 pounds from the coffee belt where they are grown.

COURTESY LG COFFEE ROASTERY Spirit of Geneva Lakes

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from above: Lake Geneva Coffee Roastery's logo symbol features this mermaid who resembles the shape of Geneva Lake. After roasting the coffee beans, they are packaged in smaller bags ready to be sent out for sale. These large sacks each held 100 pounds of fresh Kona coffee beans. Hawaii is the only state in the U.S. where coffee beans grow.

SANDRA LANDEN MACHAJ Spirit of Geneva Lakes

we sell our coffee online and at many shops in the Lake Geneva area and in many of the local coffee shops."

He also is conscientious about reducing waste so reuses what he can and recycles as much as possible.

Twice each year, Lake Geneva Roastery has worked with Duesterbeck's Brewery to produce a coffee flavored beer named Rise and Shine. They also give them the chaff – a skin that protects the beans and comes off when processing – to use as fertilizer. Many of the burlap bags are used to line fields and prevent the growth of weeds, thus not needing to use weed killer.

"We have developed a 2-way vented bucket system that is used in many of the coffee shops that use our coffee," Jeremiah explained. "The bucket is left at the coffee shop until it is filled then we pick it up. Using the bucket allows the saving of about 300 pounds of paper waste per year."

Where coffee begins

Coffee, although a favorite beverage all over the world, has a very limited area where it is grown. That area, known as the coffee belt, is between the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn. It has the ideal temperature and most of the time the right amount of rainfall to grow the coffee plants. And they have what's described as the perfect volcanic soil.

Most of the coffee is grown in South America or Africa. The coffee from South America has a very different taste than that





from Africa.

"There is only one place in the United States that grows coffee and that is Hawaii. They too have the volcanic soil and the right weather conditions," Jeremiah said.

Five or six months ago coffee prices spiked due to the drought in Brazil, where much of the coffee is grown.

And while we refer to coffee beans as just that – beans, they are actually the pits from the fruit of the coffee plants.

"Each fruit has two pits which must be

removed from the fruit as quickly as possible to maintain the best taste. The longer the fruit is in contact with the pits the more it affects the taste, often leaving a bitter taste," Jeremiah explained. "The pits are removed and allowed to dry before they are sold to the roasters."

While each fruit only contains two beans it takes about 30 to create one cup of Espresso. The beans for roasting are sold in large 150-pound bags.

The Lake Geneva Coffee Roastery

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creates two house blends that Jeremiah said sell the best. The medium roast is an artisan blend using a variety of beans to give it its unique flavor – a chocolaty, flowery taste that is especially good for breakfast. The blend was created by Jeremiah, and he is the guardian of its recipe.

"Our other popular brand is called Wake the Lake. It is a dark roast and has a rich earthy taste with woody undertones and a bold flowery taste," he said.

While many coffee drinkers have switched to decaffeinated coffee, creating a decaffeinated version is an additional process. According to Jeremiah, many coffee roasters pull the caffeine out by using chemicals, something they don't do at Lake Geneva Roastery. They produce their decaffeinated coffee using only water to process the caffeine out, leaving no residual chemicals in the finished product.

Freshness is key

Using fresh beans for roasting is the first step in making a quality coffee. Then it's recommended that when purchasing coffee beans, choose ones that have been roasted close to home because they have not been stored in a warehouse or shipped a long distance.

Jeremiah recommends coffee drinkers always purchase the whole beans and grind just enough for the coffee they are going to prepare, just before they make it to obtain the best flavor.

Because the Lake Geneva Coffee Roastery meets the fine quality of coffee that is expected, their business has continued to grow. While Jeremiah continues to roast more coffee to keep up with the demand, that is not all he does.

Jeremiah works with people who are opening a new coffee shop and teaches them the best way to prepare top quality coffee.

The packaged coffee for retail sales is sealed and vented to keep it fresh. Jeremiah does all the roasting and packaging himself with help from Amber to apply the labels so that they are straight.

He sells and sets up the machines needed to prepare the coffee drinks served in many shops before the coffee shop opens. He is also the person to call when the coffee machines at area cafes and shops need repair.

While Jeremiah started this as a hobby because of his love of coffee, he has turned his small, at-home kitchen operation into a successful, full-time business that continues to grow.

Additionally, Jeremiah has produced programs about coffee roasting and has conducted school tours of his coffee roastery shop by appointment.

Of the profit that comes from the selling retail bags of coffee, Jeremiah and Amber donate a portion of the sales to help animals. They have donated to traditional animal shelters but are currently donating





to Fellow Mortals Wildlife Hospital. Fellow Mortals provides professional care for injured, orphaned or sick wild birds and mammals found and rescued by the public and when possible, releases them back into the wild once rehabilitated.

For more information about Lake Geneva Coffee Roastery, including which shops sell their coffee freshly brewed as well as where to purchase bags of their fresh coffee beans, visit lgcrcoffee.com or call 262-903-5427.

from top: Ready for a latte? This machine can brew one up quickly. Jeremiah works with people new to the coffee business to teach them how to use the machine. Lola sits guard over the statue of the mermaid and a few other items at the production shop. Jeremiah, owner of Lake Geneva Coffee Roastery, enjoys a cup of his coffee before returning to work roasting and packaging fresh batches.

COURTESY LG COFFEE ROASTERY Spirit of Geneva Lakes





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JERRY KROUPA

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W1260 South Shore, Palmyra - Your lakefront search stops here! Move-in ready two-story with walk-out lower level and 65' of frontage on Blue Spring Lake. Low-voltage lighting runs to the floating pier and boat ShoreStations which stay in year-round. Lakeside kitchen with large breakfast bar and dining area offer extended lake views and access to multi-level decking which leads to lake access. Lakeside level lawn and shed. Cozy living room with wood-burning fireplace. In-floor heating system upgraded in 2021 with backup furnace and new A/C system installed in 2025. Main floor laundry room and Master Suite with lakeside sitting room. Upstairs offers four bedrooms and a full bath. Lower-level rec room with sliding glass door for lake access. Blue Spring Lake is an all-sports lake with crystal clear water. \$789.700



W5672 Ridge Rd, Elkhorn - Experience lakeside luxury with this custom-built Thelen Construction home, offering 83' of private frontage on Lauderdale Lakes. This elegant 3BR, 2.5BA lake home is designed to impress, blending timeless craftsmanship with upscale finishes throughout. Enjoy stunning lake views from expansive windows, a gourmet kitchen, vaulted ceilings, and a spacious open-concept layout perfect for entertaining. Step outside to a beautifully landscaped yard with ample space for lakeside relaxation and recreation. Trex balconies, screened porch w/ heaters facing the lake, LL family room, stone fireplaces, wet bars, zoned heating & heated 3 car garage. For additional fun, turn the ree space into a bar or gym. A rare opportunity to own a true luxury retreat on one of Wisconsin's most sought-after lakes. \$1.699.700



W5693 Ridge Rd, Elkhorn - This Lauderdale Lakefront home has everything you been looking for. Situated on 76' of Middle Lake frontage with southern exposure, offers you a 3BR, 3.5 multi-level with walk-out lower level to screened in porch. Main floor features living room with hardwood floors, natural fireplace and sliding glass door to deck, kitchen with breakfast bar and dinette with sliding glass door to 3 season room adjacent to deck offering extending lake views. On the second floor you'll find the master BR ensuite with sliding glass door to private balcony, plus 2nd and 3rd bedrooms and full bath. Lower-level family room with bar & walk-out to huge, screened porch and deck, full BA and laundry room. Level lakeside yard featuring shed, fire-pit and Forever Pier installed last summer. Come enjoy the lake life! \$959,700



N7729 Laura Lane, Elkhorn - Luxurious lakefront estate on Lauderdale Lakes' exclusive "Gold Coast" with 142' of pristine sand frontage and 1.28 acres of gated, wooded privacy, all on a private road for additional exclusivity. The 4BD, 4.5BA main home is designed for elevated lake living, with panoramic views, lakeside dining, a vaulted screened porch, and a lakeside primary suite with private deck. Entertain with ease in the walkout lower level featuring a family room, wet bar, brick fireplace & patio with fire pit. A rare wet boathouse includes a stunning 2BD/1BA guest cottage above with vaulted ceilings, full kitchen, living room, and screened porch. Premium amenities include a 36x30 heated/cooled garage with 4 vaulted rooms including workout room & dog run, plus an additional heated 3.5-car detached garage \$3,199,997



N8367 Hillburn Mill Rd, Elkhorn - The ultimate nature enthusiast property on a very private 5.73 acres, amongst majestic oak trees. You'll be impressed by this 5 BD, 3.5 bath, 2 story with finished walk-out. As you enter the foyer off the covered porch you're greeted by the LR with vaulted ceiling gas fireplace adjacent to Ktch with wood floors, large breakfast bar, granite tops and new Bosch appliances WiFi capable. Off the ktch you have a dinette with deck access, formal dining room plus den off dinette. Master BD ensuite with double vanity, soaking tub plus glass shower and walk-in closet. 2nd Bd with Vaulted ceiling. Upstairs offers a loft 3rd BD with sitting area, jack and jill bath & 4th Bd. Family room walk-out to cement patio, 5th Bd and ample storage. Walking trails throughout the woods and natural spring pond. \$1,073,700



W5135 Sterlingworth Ct, Elkhorn - Located in a prime spot at Sterlingworth Condominiums in the atrium, this 2-bedroom, 2-bath unit is just steps from the beach with its own boat slip. Enjoy stunning lake views through a wall of sliding glass doors leading to a spacious deck. The eat-in kitchen features a breakfast bar and dinette, while the living room offers a cozy gas fireplace. The master suite boasts an updated bath with a walk-in multi-head tile shower and double vanity. Wood flooring throughout. Direct access to the indoor pool, tennis and pickleball courts, and the finest sand beach on the lake. Just a short walk to Lauderdale Golf Course & minutes to Kettle Moraine trailhead. Turn-key for effortless lakefront living! \$697,700



S96W32955 Hickorywood Trl, Mukwonago - Vacation at home in this stunning prairie style retreat. Your own everyday paradise. Enjoy resort-style living w/ inground pool, cabana bar, pergola, and sport court—perfect for both relaxation & recreation. Upon entering through the grand 2-story foyer, you'll be greeted by a spacious living room w/ vaulted ceilings, a gas fireplace, & a wall of windows offering breathtaking country views. The beautifully updated kitchen features stainless steal appliances, granite countertops, a breakfast bar, & a cozy dinette, all adjacent to a charming 3-season room with deck access. Master suite is a true retreat, boasting an ensuite w/ a glass steam shower, heated floors, a double vanity, & private screened porch. The walk-out LL is an entertainer's dream. This home offers both luxury & convenience \$1,225,000



W5712 North Dr, Elkhorn - Exquisitely remodeled in 2020, this stunning 3-bed, 2-bath ranch offers 92 feet of Middle Lake frontage with breathtaking, expansive views. The main level features soaring vaulted ceilings, a wall of sliding glass doors opening to a spacious wraparound deck, and a chef's kitchen with elegant Quartz countertops, designer backsplash, KitchenAid SS appliances, and a striking waterfall island with bar seating. A luxurious bedroom and spa-like bath with heated floors and a glass shower complete the main floor. The walk-out lower level boasts a chic beverage center, 2 additional bedrooms, a modern bath with glass shower, and laundry. Two 9x12 sheds, including one lakeside, lead to the pier and manicured yard.

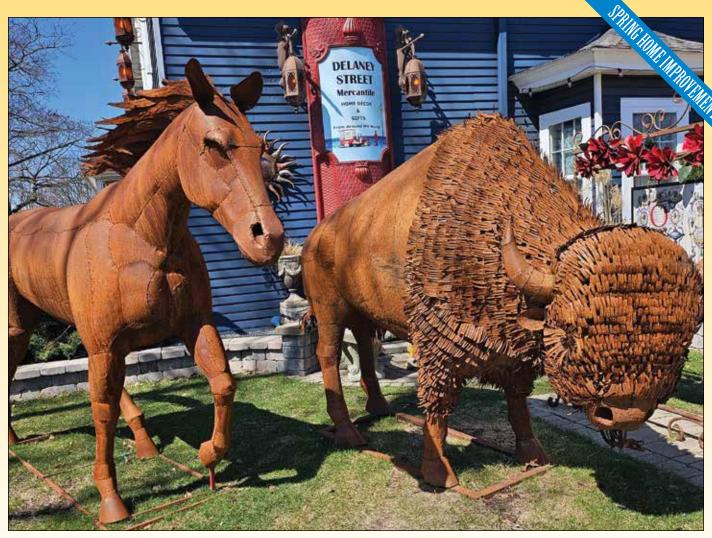


W5357 Lauderdale Dr, Elkhorn - The Iconic Lauderdale Lakes home,
"The Boathouse" on Deakin Isle is situated on 192 of premier shoreline.
Rebuilt in 2015 to its original 1915 Jazz Age glory, this 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath home is bursting with historical details and architectural styles. Ballroom features 1,200 sq ft with original hard rock maple floors, unique hanging Meiji era Japanese lanterns, with the original Opium Den prepped for a future hidden wine cellar. All 3 Lauderdale Lakes are visible from numerous vantage points throughout the four levels. Kitchen features custom marble countertops, farm sink, Wolf & Sub-Zero appliances. Master BR ensuite with Lury freestanding tub, full steam room, and private deck with fireplace. A finished swim basin provides access to the marque wet boathouse w/ underwater lichtino. \$4.499,700



W5742 North Dr, Elkhorn - Why go through the hassle of building when this 2023 custom built 4 Plus Bedroom, 3.5 bath two story is ready to enjoy. Situated on 75' of Middle lake frontage you'll find this open concept main level with wall of windows lakeside. Inside Kitchen offers everything the discriminating chef would demand and ultimate living and dining space with gas fireplace, custom wet-bar and deck access. Master Bdrm ensuite with breathtaking lake views offering double vanity, large tile shower and ample walk-in closet. Family room walk-out with gas fireplace, full bath, work-out room or Bdrm, 4th bdrm and screened porch. Kitchen also features large island/breakfast bar with Delkton countertops and Zline Autograph appliances. Outside fireplace and level lakefront yard by pier and storage shed. \$1,565,000

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A unique shop, inside and out

Delaney Street Mercantile offers items from all over the world

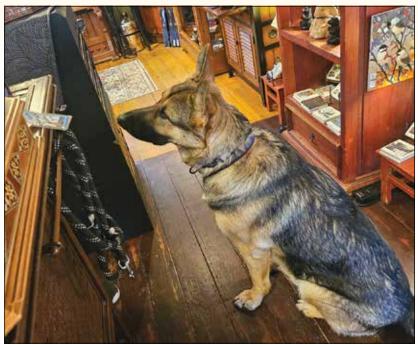
by Sandra Landen Machaj

CORRESPONDENT

Walking down Main Street in downtown Lake Geneva, it's hard not to notice a unique shop at the corner of Main and Cook streets.

With its huge metal sculptures – buffalo, horses, dinosaurs and more – surrounding the shop on the lawn, it's easy to get drawn in. Visitors generally examine the display on the lawn first, and then enter the shop called Delaney Street Mercantile.

Created by Beverly and Jeffrey Leonard, the mercantile is a store a long time in the making. The couple is originally from the Midwest, but both of



from top: These large metal animals "roam" the lawn outside of the shop, serving as an attraction for visitors to downtown Lake Geneva. River, a German Shepherd who spends the day with his owner Ivan, an employee at Delaney Street Mercantile, enjoys greeting customers.

SANDRA LANDEN MACHAJ Spirit of Geneva Lakes





∙----- MAY 2025 -----

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them worked in the art world in Maui for 10 years.

When they decided to return to the mainland, they opened their first mercantile in Oregon, and then moved to the Gulf area.

"Unfortunately, we picked the wrong time to move there," Beverly explained. "We had found a beautiful antebellum home, which we bought and remodeled to turn it into our business.

"We had just stocked the store with fine quality products when Katrina hit, devastating our property," she explained.

The couple then decided to return to the Midwest, settling in the Lake Geneva area while looking for the perfect business location.

After a great deal of searching, Jeffrey settled on the building at 905 W. Main St. in downtown Lake Geneva – the business's current location. The shop is near the library, just a block from Geneva Lake.

They purchased the building in 2005 and began the work of remodeling it into the high-end gift, home décor and lighting store it has become.

A WORLDLY PLACE TO SHOP

Preparing the building to become the Delaney Street Mercantile was a job that required a good deal of physical labor, with Jeffrey doing much of the work. He and Beverly also began shopping to obtain high-end artistic items from quality artisans throughout the world.

"While some think of us as an antique store, we definitely are not," Beverly said. "Nothing in the store is an antique, but rather, quality items created by artisans. We purchase them from all over the world. Most of the artisans that we work with are long-term suppliers."

She said they are not one-time buyers as they prefer to have a long-term commitment.

The Leonards build relationships with their artisans who produce art in several countries. Their products come from countries such as France, Italy, Croatia, Portugal, Germany and Mexico, while many items are also created by independent artists in the United States.

The couple enjoys watching as their artisans mature and add new creations to their line of items available for visitors to purchase.

A stop at Delaney Street Mercantile begins before even entering the building. The animal sculptures range from small, prehistoric dragons to giant buffalo – and many require a second look. The sculptures have all been created by the same artist from Mexico over the last 12 years.

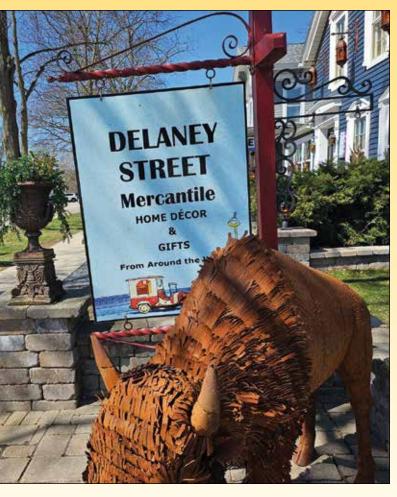
"The artisan who creates our animals is fantastic," Beverly said. "Many of our animals are creatures of our imagination or ones that our creator has never seen. I send him a photo or a small trinket depicting the animal I want created and he fabricates it beautifully. Our pigasi, or flying pigs, are





from top: High end chess sets are on display throughout the store such as this one that features a beautiful carved wood board. These hand-blown Murano pens are a recreation of the old-time pens that used fresh ink before ballpoints became the norm.

SANDRA LANDEN MACHAJ Spirit of Geneva Lakes





another of our creative animals that he produces, and does so with a true artistic flourish."

The yard is also filled with a variety of sculptures for sale as outdoor decorations, allowing visitors to perhaps find something to take home. From a garden or front lawn to a porch perhaps, there is a variety of items that may be perfect for your outdoor space.

The store has received five beautification awards and a community betterment award from the Chamber of Commerce over the years, something the Leonards are deservedly proud of.

SO MANY UNIQUE ITEMS

On most days, unless she is traveling for pleasure or searching for new merchandise, Beverly can be found in Delaney Street Mercantile sharing the beauty of the items there with customers.

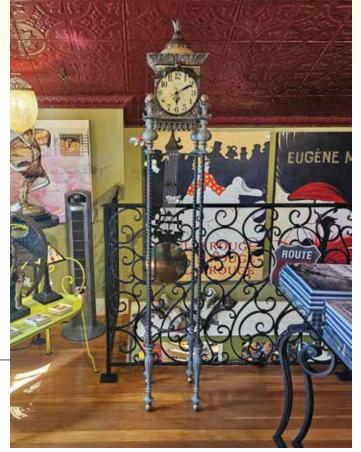
These days, Jeffrey doesn't spend much time in the store other than when he has to make repairs in the shop. He still travels with Beverly, as they both enjoy travel and finding quality objects to add to their inventory.

"Jeffrey has a few other interests that he spends his time on. He will be leaving in about a week as a volunteer to deliver supplies to the front lines in the Ukraine," Beverly explained. "This will be his third trip as a volunteer to the area."

Entering the shop, Beverly employee Ivan, or River – Ivan's German Shepherd – will greet customers. Once inside the store, the next question may be where to start. Customers can ask where to find a specific item, or peruse what's available, with the best advice

from above: Stop by Delaney Street Mercantile, 905 W. Main St., Lake Geneva to see many unique items, inside the store as well as outside. Beverly and Jeffrey Leonard, owners of Delaney Street Mercantile, enjoy a visit to Turkey while shopping to replenish inventory at their store. This unique clock will be an ideal addition to someone's home or office.

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being to start at one end of the store and work to the other.

When customers are done making their way through the first floor, there is also merchandise available on the second floor, including a handful of locally written books.

Tiffany styled lamps are among customers' favorites, as they add a touch of color and style to any style of décor, whether it be a small bedside lamp or a larger floor lamp. Other unique lamps are also available throughout the store.

One of the most unique items found in the store is the Murano pen. These beautiful pens, which are made from Murano glass, can bring a beautiful look to a desk or serve as a thoughtful gift for someone special.

Writing with an ink pen where the tip is dipped in a bottle of ink is not how most people these days complete their writing. But back in the 1700s, these types of pens were created, and they made their way to the United States in the early 1900s.

Using a hand-blown pen offers a relaxing rhythm and gives the final written page a distinctive personal look, according to information on the Delaney Street Mercantile website. These pens were originally created for letter writing and record keeping. Today, they can still be used for these purposes, giving a better presentation than using traditional ballpoint pens.

Then there's the jewelry available at the store. What woman doesn't enjoy a new piece of jewelry, especially one wellcrafted and unique?

Among the many things carried at the mercantile are filigree jewelry pieces from Portugal. These delicate and beautiful pieces have been enjoyed for many years and are symbolic of the creativity of the artisans of Portugal.

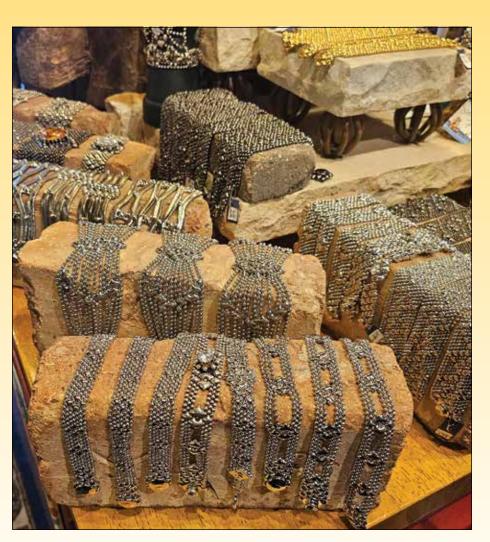
And for those who enjoy a good game of chess, check out the sets available, which can serve the dual purpose of adding a sense of elegance to a room as they have for hundreds of years. The chess sets available at the mercantile are from Turkey and are hand crafted.

The Leonards, according to Beverly, have landed in the right place and appreciate the area they call home as well as their customers, locally and beyond, that support them.

"We are grateful we chose Lake Geneva both for our home and as the place to create our business," Beverly said.

"Lake Geneva is a beautiful and interesting area and visitors from both nearby cities and states support us and have helped us grow," she added.

Delaney Street Mercantile is at 905 W. Main St., Lake Geneva. For more information, call 262-248-8008, or visit delaneystreet.com or the store's Facebook page.





from above:

The shop has a variety of Portuguese styled bracelets available. This wall hanging featuring flowers and hummingbirds is a reminder that spring is here.

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A passion for Geneva Lake

fishing

Whether for business or pleasure, guide service aims for quality outings

by Sandra Landen Machaj

CORRESPONDENT

ach year as the weather turns warmer, many people flock to the Lake Geneva area and surrounding communities. While the reasons vary, a common denominator is to spend time outdoors, from wandering the streets exploring the countless stores and restaurants to spending a day at the beach or taking a hike on the lake path.

Geneva Lake is a major attraction for a variety of watersports including for those who enjoy fishing, which has been popular in this area from days long ago when people lived along the shores and fished so they could feed their families.

Today, many people fish for the sport of it, taking in the beauty of their surroundings while waiting to catch their first fish of the season, or perhaps their first fish ever.

Geneva Lake is a great fishing lake because of its clear, clean water and it serves as home to many species of fish. It's the second deepest natural lake in Wisconsin, according to Lake Geneva Fishing Guide Service members – and clear, deep water offers the ideal habitat for the large variety of fish found here.

Fish regularly caught on the lake include walleye, small mouth and large mouth bass, northern pike, lake trout, brown and rainbow trout, white bass, perch, crappie, bluegill and cisco.

And the crew of local fishing guide service are here to help ensure a fun day out on the water.

"For a successful day of fishing, you need the water to be warm. This usually occurs about mid -May after we have had some 80-degree days and some warm rain," said Tom Billing, owner of Lake Geneva Fishing Guide Service.

Billing, who has been a professional fishing guide for many years, said once the water is warm the fish are more active and more willing to bite at the bait.

He grew up on the shores of Geneva Lake and began fishing its waters at the age of 7. Now, 60 years later and despite some health challenges in recent years, he continues to enjoy the sport of fishing just as much as he did when he was younger.

Not only does he have a deep passion for fishing, but Billing

from top: The size and depth of Geneva Lake offers endless opportunities for the guides to find where the fish are biting. Catching a large fish always brings a smile to the face of the fisherman.

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is also very knowledgeable about the history of the area and enjoys sharing it with friends and visitors while spending time out on the lake.

How it began

In 1979, Billing founded Lake Geneva Fishing Guide Service and engaged several of his fellow fisherman to work with him. Today those who work with him are full time professional guides with knowledge of where to fish on Geneva Lake.

The goal is to help both the beginner and well-seasoned fishing enthusiast have a great time and the other guides, like Billing, enjoy sharing their knowledge of Geneva Lake with their clients.

One thing that can be bet on is that the fishing trip will not be boring. If the fish aren't biting in one spot the guides will move to another location, and with the lake being so large, there are countless areas to explore. While traveling across the sparkling water on the fishing boat, history lessons are often given by pointing out some of the mansions along the shore, many of which were considered summer cottages when they were built.

Family names like Wrigley, Harris (of Harris Bank) and Maytag are among some of the popular Chicago families who spent their summers on the shores of Geneva Lake.

"As a child I knew many these families because my father worked for the Harris family, while my grandfather was their dog trainer, and my mother, who was a nurse, worked for the Wrigley family," Billing said.

Many returning clients

Over the years, Lake Geneva Fishing Guide Service has grown to become a popular fishing guide service on Geneva Lake. Many of the resorts on the lake refer those seeking a fishing guide to Billing's company. The guide service is also a member of the Chamber of Commerce and as such receive referrals.

"Many of our customers are referred by other customers and many are repeat customers who return year after year," Billing said. "We have had customers who came every week for 10 years or longer on the same day of the week throughout the season, to enjoy fishing."

The people they take out on the lake vary from families with young children going fishing for the first time to corporate groups seeking a day of camaraderie, friendship and a little competition as each strives to catch the largest fish.

Billing said they work with a mix of people, all of whom enjoy the benefits that come with time spent casting a line.

"We have professionals – lawyers, architects and company presidents who can't wait to get out on the water. We also have students who enjoy spending their free time fishing," he said.

"No matter what their age or calling

Tom Billing, owner of Lake Geneva Fishing Guide Service, and this crew are all smiles while spending time out on the water fishing.

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Key

B: Breakfast L: Lunch D: Dinner NC: No credit cards accepted \$: Mostly under \$10 \$\$: Mostly under \$20 GF: Gluten free \$\$\$: Mostly under \$30 FF: Fish Fry \$\mathbb{E}: Reservations requested \$\mathbb{I}: Alcohol served \$\mathbb{G}: Kids menu SR: Senior menu

 in life, fishing is a way to relax," he added.

Variety of packages

To fish in Wisconsin, anyone 16 years of age or older must have a fishing license.

According to Billing, in the early days of the business, they would issue licenses on the boat before they went out on the lake. Today it's done online by those who are going out fishing and they usually take care of it before arriving at the boat. For visitors or those who don't need a license for a full season, one- or three-day fishing licenses can be purchased.

Billing said those who plan to fish two or three times over the summer should purchase a regular license (resident or non-resident if they live in another state) as it will be less expensive in the long run than purchasing a short-term license more than once.

"But if you are only planning to fish once over the summer, the day pass is all that is needed, especially if it's your first time fishing. If it is your first experience, you aren't sure if you will develop a love for the sport," he said.

The crew at Lake Geneva Fishing Guide Service are members of the Lund and Mercury Pro Team, which ensures new top of the line Lund boats every season. Lund is the top name in fishing boats which means a comfortable ride for the time spent on the water.

"Lund fishing boats often cost up to \$100,000 for their top line boats," said Billing. "Much like a top of the line and high-powered pontoon boat, which can also fit into that price category."

With summer approaching, it's recommended to book a fishing outing sooner rather than later. Early in the season, when not as many visitors have descended on the Lake Geneva area, it is sometimes possible to make a reservation on shorter notice but as the season progresses – especially for weekends – advanced reservations are needed.

For families or small groups of up to four people, fishing from one of the Lund boats is a perfect fit. For larger groups like the corporate outings or bachelor parties, the pontoon boat is more suitable.

Keith Hahn, a veteran fishing guide with over 25 years of experience on Geneva Lake also has a wealth of knowledge about the history of the area. Hahn is





from above:

The guide service uses Lund fishing boats, such as what is shown here, for smaller groups. When taking out larger groups, they utilize a roomier pontoon boat. It isn't often when a fish caught is taller than the boy who landed it, likely with some help from his dad.

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the group's pontoon fishing charter captain and enjoys working with bigger groups including families and those on a corporate outing.

The Lund boat packages usually are scheduled for 4 1/2 hours, and the cost is determined by number of guests included. All fishing equipment – poles lines, nets and a variety of bait, both live and plastic – are included. For special baits such as suckers, chubs and minnows, there is an extra charge.

The pontoon boat fishing outings can be customized to include snacks and beverages and other specialties.

The fishing guide will work with each person to the extent that they need guidance, from baiting the hook to getting the line in the water and helping land the fish.

There is nothing as satisfying as helping a youngster land his or her first fish, according to Billing.

The catch-and-release method of fishing is recommended. Generally, someone from the group will take a photo of the fish caught before returning it to the water so there is a memento of the catch. If someone lands a large trophy fish that they want to have mounted, or some small pan fish they wish to cook, they will be accommodated.

Wisconsin fishing regulations have to be followed regarding the size and number of fish allowed (when keeping them) and it varies for different species of fish.

The guide service leaves from the Town of Linn boat launch off of Hillside Avenue.

For more information about Lake Geneva Fishing Guide Service or to make a reservation, call 414-791-0703 or visit the website at lakegenevafishing.com.



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Northwind Perennial Farm is a growing, learning place

by Sandra Landen Machaj

CORRESPONDENT

ocated on a 10-acre farm in Burlington, Northwind Perennial Farm is a unique garden area that brings the beauty of southeastern Wisconsin to life.

Since 1991, Northwind has been a popular place to enjoy the beauty of perennial gardens and a place to purchase quality plants to place in one's own gardens.

When friends and business partners Steve Coster, Colleen Garrigan and Roy Diblik discovered a farm from the 1900s in the Lake Geneva-Burlington area, they knew they had found the perfect place to start a special business.

The farm would bring not only locals to see their designs, but also visitors from out of town. It would be a place that would embrace the natural beauty of quality plants that are native to the environment.

Building on strengths

The friends – and business partners – each had their own strengths, which would work well together to create on the grounds at Northwind, the beautiful natural gardens that they all dreamed of. The trio realized that by combining their talents, they could create a truly unique environment.

Garrigan is described as the charm of the farm. She is known for having a good eye for unique items that turn routine pieces – planters, sculptures, fountains and other such objects – into the perfect items to decorate your home.

"Colleen maintains the retail aspects of our business," Diblik explained. "She maintains the buildings on the property, keeping them looking as they did when this was a working farm."

One of the first of the first buildings visitors encounter as they enter the property is the original barn. Garrigan has kept it as it has been for years, for the most part. The original horse stalls and milking cow stanchions remain in the building, and antiques are displayed inside the garden as well. Unique items for sale are also on display.

Garrigan finds items that give the barn a warm feeling. She also displays a variety of antiques that would be perfect in a home or garden – some useful as planters, others purely decorative or pieces of art.

There are several other small buildings on the farm and the feeling of it being a true small farm is maintained by raising some small animals.

"As we began our business we had the following goals in mind - cultivate, educate and inspire," Garrigan said. That goal has continued to make the farm a unique place. They began by cultivating the soil and grew plants native to the area, took on the job of educating people how to create the perfect, healthy garden, and inspire others to create gardens that might someday be as inspirational as those at Northwind."

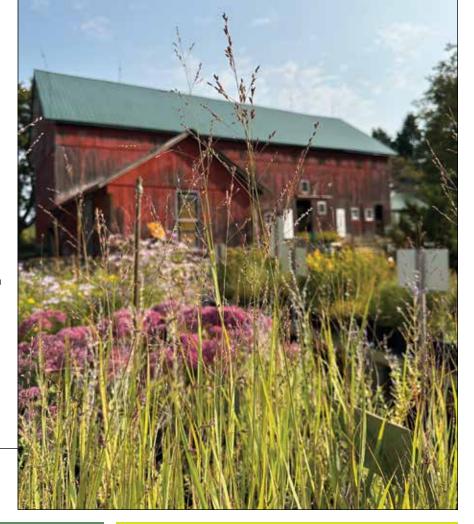
Diblik is the perennial plant expert who has spent more than 35 years working with perennials to create healthy and beautiful displays. He is a designer, a speaker on native perennials and an author. He oversees the landscape of the grounds and is head of the landscape work that the owners have created in

"Roy is a natural teacher, and author who loves to share his knowledge of perennials for the area with the gardeners," said Garrigan. "His book, 'The Know Maintenance Perennial Garden,' shares some of his knowledge with gardeners."

The unique title is a play on words that also serves as a reminder that know-how is needed to create these special gardens - and for them to be successful.

While the outside of the barn at Northwind is surrounded by beautiful plants and landscaping, the inside maintains its authenticity.

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Plants, like people, are social beings and do better when planted together. Plants appreciate the natural ground without chemicals such as herbicides and they need sunlight and water to grow.

Diblik grew up in the suburbs of Chicago and some of his early work was done in places like the Morton Arboretum, working with various well-known designers.

As he worked more with plants, he learned about local perennials and how to create a perfect garden. Using perennials that are natural to the area saves gardeners time, as the plants continue to grow each year which means the gardens don't have to be redesigned and replanted.

Diblik has also created many displays throughout around the Lake Geneva area. The unique garden in front of the entrance to Grand Geneva Resort is one of his creations that's always full and lush to attract the attention of visitors.

Northwind's third partner was Steve Coster, who was known for his work in creating not only the hardscape of stone walls and paths that wind their way throughout Northwind, but also for choosing and planting many of the trees and shrubs that are aesthetically pleasing and environmentally correct for visitors to enjoy when walking the grounds.

Although Steve passed away in 2019, the beauty of his work continues to be enjoyed by visitors.

Ready for the season

This year, Northwind Perennial Farm opened to visitors in late April. According to Diblik, early in the season is a great time to come and purchase perennials to use for home plantings.

Just don't expect to see all of Northwind's plants in bloom or even fully grown at this time of year.

"By the end of May, they have usually grown some and you can observe how they interact with each other," said Diblik. "Plants, like humans, are social and they enjoy being in a space with other plants, not isolated."

When creating a garden, start with making it appealing to humans. Birds and butterflies will then also be attracted to it, he said.

When customers come to Diblik for help in planting a garden, he spends time discussing what they want out of that garden, how much time do they want to spend caring for it, and what do they want it to look like when it is all grown.

He then may suggest, depending on time and budget, starting with a portion of the size that customers originally considered.

Once they realize how much time is





from top: Steve Coster, Colleen Garrigan and Roy Diblik founded Northwind Perennial Farm. Though Coster died several years ago, Garrigan and Diblik still run the business and Coster's role in it continues to be admired and appreciated by visitors. If seeking perennial plants to beautify your landscape, Northwind has a variety of plants throughout the property.

COURTESY NORTHWIND PERENNIAL FARM Spirit of Geneva Lakes







involved, they may have a different idea of the size they want.

It is important, according to Diblik, to plant items that don't require maximum maintenance.

"Plant sedge and grasses that only need mowing 1 -2 times per year rather than weekly. This is better for the plants and the soil," he explained.

When meeting with homeowners who may be unsure of what they want in their gardens – maybe not even knowing what plants or colors they prefer – Diblik will say to them, "Show me an Impressionistic painting that you like."

This helps him figure out what types of plantings they will likely enjoy.

While Garrigan is busy preparing the summer displays in the barn and the quality programs that Northwind produces each year, Diblik will be hard at work preparing the grounds. He will also be involved with Garrigan in creating programs that include antique sales, art sales and talks.

Opening day at the farm is one of the favorite days of the year for Northwind's owners and that's just the kickoff to a busy season.

On May 3, the first in a series of four workshops will be given by Diblik –

discussing his popular plant pattern/grid system approach to planting.

Also beginning that day and on the first Saturday of each month throughout the season, Leo from Bladeworks will be available to sharpen any tool needing a sharp edge, at a reasonable price.

Garrigan said there will be an antique and garden sale May 9 and 10. On this weekend, Northwind staff will assemble some of their favorite local dealers to showcase a unique selection of objects, ranging from garden to architectural and primitives.

There will also be pop-up food and beverage vendors on site both days, along with music. It's a great opportunity to spend some time at the farm, enjoying the grounds and perhaps finding some plants to incorporate in your own gardens.

Many people do not realize that Northwind Perennial Farm can also serve as a beautiful, local site for a wedding ceremony. With a backdrop of plants, many of them in bloom depending on the time of year, Northwind offers a natural, eyecatching, wedding venue.

"While we don't have a lot of space to accommodate a large wedding, the beauty of our gardens is the site for a small wedding," said Garrigan, who can be contacted for more information for those interested.

In addition to the farm, the business offers complete landscape services for homes as well as businesses.

The farm is now open and will be welcoming visitors through October. They will then close for a month while the transformation of the barn into a Christmas Wonderland takes place.

"We will add fresh greens,d berries, lights, ornaments and even gifts for the Christmas season to the barn," Garrigan explained, adding that the barn will then be open for a month before closing for the winter.

Northwind Perennial Farm is at 7047 Hospital Rd., Burlington. For more information, call 262-248-8229, send an email to northwindpf@gmail.com or follow the Facebook page.

from left: Those looking for wall art may want to start in the barn, which features a selection of accent pieces. The variety of decorative items available for purchase can compliment many spaces in homes as well as offices.

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