

The Galenian

The image features two men in the foreground, dressed in dark blue military uniforms with gold buttons and black hats with gold bands. They are standing with their arms crossed, looking towards the camera. Behind them is a large, ornate gold-framed painting depicting a group of men in similar uniforms, some standing and some seated, in a historical setting. The scene is indoors, with a red and white striped cloth visible on the left.

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The Galenian



CONTENTS



12-16

The Two U.S. Grants

18-20

Blaum Bros. Distilling Co.

22-24

Galena River Wine & Cheese

26

Fried Green Tomatoes

32-36

Hawk Valley Retreat

40-41

Art Galleries

42-44

Galena Center for the Arts

46-48

Actor Profile: Emily Painter

50-53

New Earth Animals

54-55

Galena/U.S. Grant Museum

56-60

Historic sites

62-63

Artist profile: Toni Klingler

64-66

Railroad history

68-70

Tapley Woods

72-75

Jo Daviess Conservation

Foundation

76-78

Adventures!

80

Cemetery Walk

82-83

Galena's Challenging Runs

84

Country Fair

85

Halloween Parade

88-91

Winter Events

92-93

Jesse Shull

94-96

Our Neighbors

98-101

Walking tour

102

Shuttle map

103

Galena parking map

104-105

City of Galena map

106

Downtown Galena map

107

Galena River Trail map

108-109

Tri-state map

112

Index of business partners



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On the cover

U.S. Grant interpreters Bob Buman and Scott Whitney stand in front of "Peace in Union" at the Galena/U.S. Grant Museum. *Photo by Jay Dickerson*

Digital edition

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Welcome to

GALENA

by Jay Dickerson

The cover for this issue of *The Galenian* honors the 200th birthday of Ulysses S. Grant, Galena's greatest citizen. When he left for the Civil War in 1861, Grant called Galena home.

Since then, a great many people have found Galena and call it home. The area's natural beauty is alluring all year round. The area's past is equal parts historical and magnificent. And, of course, there are the activities. Where else can you do a ghost tour one night; spend the entire next day skiing; and then go a magic show that night?

But it's the people of Galena that make this place unique.

This issue of *The Galenian* includes several feature stories of the people who make Galena—well, Galena. There are people who've lived here their whole lives, and people who relocated here to start their lives anew. There are artists and actors. There are volunteers and business owners.

This issue also shares Galena's early history. A lifelong Galena man is dedicated to telling U.S. Grant's story. A Cemetery Walk in September shares the lives of eight people who called Galena home in the 1800s. The Galena/U.S. Grant History Museum has exhibit after exhibit of Galena's often hardscrabble days, featuring miners scraping the ground in the hopes of finding their fortune.

People work their entire lives just to get to Galena. It is an honor to share with you the stories and history of this community.

Whether you're picking up an edition for the first time, or—just like U.S. Grant—you call Galena your home, thank you for reading this issue of *The Galenian*.



Behind the two U.S. Grants is "Peace in Union," available to view at the Galena/U.S. Grant Museum on 211 South Bench Street.



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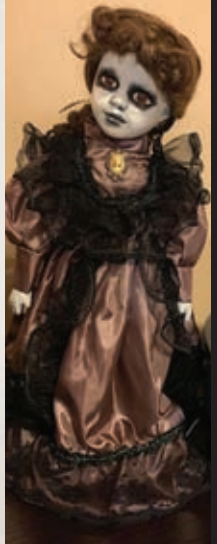
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Telling the tale of

TWO GRANTS

Two views of Galena's favorite citizen

by Sara Millhouse

Years ago, you might have heard someone say, “Grant was a great general but a terrible president.” They might repeat Civil War criticisms that Galena’s favorite son was a “drunkard” or a “butcher,” or that Ulysses was a simple man who didn’t deserve credit as a strategist but was simply in the right place at the right time.

Recent scholarship has not only addressed Civil War criticisms but reclaimed Grant’s reputation as a politician. Instead of describing his presidency dismissively, as “plagued by scandal,” modern historians are more likely to point out that President Grant defended the rights of Black Americans during Reconstruction, keeping the Ku Klux Klan at bay.



Jesse Root Grant, aged 7, stands with his father at their home in Galena in 1865. The home was a gift to the Grant family. In 1904, Jesse, along with his siblings, gave the house to the city of Galena “with the understanding that this property is to be kept as a memorial to the late General Ulysses S. Grant, and for no other purpose.” It is now a state historic site.

Bob Buman and Scott Whitney pose on the front porch of the U.S. Grant Home State Historic Site.
Jay Dickerson photo





Grant calmly and ably managed the Panic of 1873, as well as international crises that are largely forgotten today because they were successfully resolved with diplomacy.

As long-time portrayers of the Union general and U.S. President, Bob Buman and Scott Whitney have heard it all. They're glad to see their hero getting his due.

Both men portrayed Grant in the historic play "Peace in Union," but they have their own specialties. Whitney is a horseman whose Grant has often ridden sure-footed warhorse "Jack." He has portrayed General Grant as part of the Confederation of Union Generals across the eastern half of the United States, including the 150th anniversary of the Gettysburg Address, at a burial in Arlington Cemetery and at Fort Lesley J. McNair, home of the National Defense University. He also portrayed Grant at the

retirement of the 85th Infantry Division of the U.S. Army, Whitney's own division when he served in the military.

Buman, meanwhile, has portrayed Grant since 1975, starting with the Galena Generals in parades and events when he was in his 20s, at the urging of his barber. The Galena Generals portray all nine Union generals who hailed from Galena.

A decade after he first marched as General Grant, Buman joined the Galena Volunteer Fire Department, and he had to shave his beard to accommodate breathing apparatus.

When Buman retired from the fire department in 2006, his beard grew back. The Galena Generals had disbanded, however, and Buman and several others decided to pull on their uniforms again. "We did it with the intent of public education," Buman said.

Now, each Galena General can speak eloquently about a specific general's role in the war and his personal life. "I'm quite proud of them," Buman said. "It's rewarding to know that we've got a group of guys who want to keep history alive."

Buman also portrays Grant at Grant's Home and at walking tours starting at the DeSoto House Hotel at 10 a.m. and noon on Saturday mornings.

"I'm also starting to conduct weddings," Buman said. He even participated at a renewal of vows to a descendant of General John Duerr last year.

Grant had a long and loving marriage with his wife Julia Dent. "He was such a devoted husband and father," Whitney said.

Buman agrees. "He was madly in love with his wife, and I think that gave him a lot of strength through her," he said.

In some ways, this family man was an unlikely war hero, the opposite of a "butcher" unconcerned about the lives of soldiers. He even deplored the smell and gore of his father's tannery, Buman describes, slipping into character. "My father says to me, 'Uly, as long as you can

Above: Lifelong Galenian Bob Buman portrays U.S. Grant, and is the head of the Galena Generals, committed to sharing the stories of the nine Civil War-era generals from Galena. To the right: Scott Whitney and his wife, Peg, portray U.S. Grant and Julia Dent Grant during a cake auction for the Galena/U.S. Grant Historical Society.



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At Home in Galena owners, Bill and Patti Murphy, launched Finley Grace, a wickless soy candle business in 2009, as a way to raise funds for their granddaughter, Finley Grace, who has a rare and incurable genetic disorder. The business has taken off, and now Finley Grace products are sold across the country.



Finley is cooking up something new...



It's been 13 years since Bill and Patti Murphy began searching for a way to raise money for their now 16-year-old grand-daughter's trust fund. Finley Grace was born with a rare and incurable genetic deficiency called Cri du Chat syndrome, or 5P minus for short. Their perfect business opportunity turned out to be in

the form of a scented Wickless Soy Candle.

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and give off a delightful scent for up to 15 weeks. At any given time there are 50-60 different fragrances displayed on the first floor of the store. The Murphys also sell Finley Grace products through over 500 retail outlets mostly in the Midwest and have been able to network and market their products for fundraisers all over the United States with customers who visit their Galena store.

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U.S. Grant in Galena

by Jay Dickerson

Ulysses S. Grant was at a crossroads.

With a young wife, and a growing family, U.S. Grant lived in St. Louis. They relied on Julia Dent Grant's family. Grant started a real estate company with Julia's cousin. But the market wasn't strong enough to support two families, and Grant lost a bid to become county engineer.

It was time to do something different with his life. It was time to set down meaningful roots.

Enter Galena.

Grant withdrew from the partnership "and, in May 1860, removed to Galena, Illinois, and took a clerkship in my father's store," he wrote in his memoirs. Grant would join his brothers Samuel and Orvil in the family leather shop.

Grant rode his horse from community to community, collecting debts owed to and making sales for the business. "I travelled through the Northwest considerably during the winter of 1860-1. We had customers in all the little towns in south-west Wisconsin, south-east Minnesota and north-east Iowa."

Grant wrote in his memoirs about wanting to see Abraham Lincoln elected in 1860; about how he would travel from community to community, and often talk politics with other businessmen; and how states began seceding from the Union during those winter months. "During all of the trying winter of 1860-1, when

the Southerners were so defiant that they would not allow within their borders the expression of a sentiment hostile to their views, it was a brave man indeed who could stand up and proclaim his loyalty to the Union."

Proclaim loyalty to the Union, U.S. Grant did. After the April 12, 1861 attack on Fort Sumter, President Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers. "As soon as the news of the call for volunteers reached Galena, posters were stuck up calling for a meeting of the citizens at the courthouse in the evening. Business ceased entirely; all was excitement; for a time there were no party distinctions; all were Union men, determined to avenge the insult to the national flag." U.S. Grant presided over an April 18 meeting at the courthouse, where a company was raised and officers were elected. "I declined the captaincy," Grant noted.

But it was clear: Galena soldiers were going to war, and Grant was called to lead. "I never went into our leather store after that meeting, to put up a package or to do other business." Grant took charge in Galena, dividing the soldiers into squads and running them through drills. On April 25, he traveled with the soldiers to Springfield, where the governor found him and called him to the Adjutant-General's office. The rest is history.

As Grant's military duties increased, so did his national profile. Julia and the family stayed in Galena for a time at their

beloved rented home on South High Street, and in November joined Grant at his headquarters in Cairo. Julia and the children then returned to St. Louis, and later traveled with Grant as he engaged in his military duties. The Galena High Street home has recently been refurbished, and is available to rent.

At the end of the Civil War, Grant returned as a conquering hero. On Aug. 18, 1865, the citizens of Galena greeted the return of its victorious General with a grand celebration, and a "grand triumphal arch" spanned Main Street at the DeSoto House Hotel. More than 20,000 citizens are said to have joined in the celebration, which included parades, cannon salutes and a reception ball at the DeSoto House. Grant later used rooms 209 and 211 of the hotel as his presidential campaign headquarters.

Also in 1865, wealthy citizens gave Grant and his family a mansion on the east side, on Bouthillier Street. This home is now a state historic site. The Grants would return to Galena often: on April 1877, after Grant's second term as President; on Nov. 5, 1879, at the end of their world tour; and for the final time in 1883, before moving permanently to New York. In 1873, Grant commented that "although it is probable I will never live much time among you, but in the future be only a visitor as I am at present . . . I hope to retain my residence here. . . I expect to cast my vote here always."

"Get me the names of all those mules. I think I'll get them promoted to horses."

keep busy doing chores and making a few dollars, you won't have to work in the tannery.' Believe me, I kept busy."

Whitney is a retired math teacher and farmer. As such, he's lived a life of which Grant might have been envious: Grant wanted to be a math teacher. Grant wanted to be a farmer.

Instead, fate called him to make heart-breaking decisions during our nation's greatest crisis. "He had no fear of what he

thought needed to be done," Whitney said. "Some people are scared to death to make decisions that might put them at odds with other people, and he had no fear of that. That's what made him a good leader."

Neither Whitney nor Buman ignore Grant's lighter side, however. "He had a very droll sense of humor," Whitney said.

Whitney tells the story of mules that broke loose during the Battle for Chattanooga and frightened Confederate soldiers,

who turned and ran in the face of such "cavalry."

"Get me the names of all those mules," Grant said. "I think I'll get them promoted to horses."

While Grant himself hated public speaking, he could sit around a fire and captivate friends for hours with tales of his life. Both Whitney and Buman are natural storytellers who immediately put audience members at ease.

"He loved to tell stories," Whitney said. "To do him justice, you need to tell stories."

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Since opening in 2013, Matt (left) and Mike Blaum (right) have produced—no. You know what? Read the story. There's no great insight from this caption. I'm about 90 percent sure no one reads the captions anyway. Don't pretend like you're one of the ten percent who does. Oh! Still here? Well, look at you, Mr. "I Read The Entire Caption." *Sara Millhouse photos*

In good spirits with the BROTHERS

Blaum Bros. Distilling Co. celebrating a decade

by Sara Millhouse

Walk into the Blaum Bros. distillery, and you'll see sink-into-me couches and a shining copper bar that invites you to pull up a stool. A smoked old-fashioned under a glass bell gives off a campfire scent and a whiff of vapor. Americana or bluegrass music plays over the loudspeakers, a song with just another drive to keep you energized. Meanwhile, Mark, the polydactyl distillery cat, snoozes by the copper stills; his advice is to relax and enjoy the good things in life.

You'll find distillery owners and brothers Matt and Mike Blaum behind the bar, preparing an order for distribution, fixing the toilet or testing a spirit nearly ready for release. "That's why we quit our jobs," Mike said. "To do this every day."

In previous lives, Matt owned and

operated his own nuclear pharmacy and Mike worked for the National Security Agency. Mike developed a love for Scotch while stationed in York, England, and the brothers' initial, off-the-wall idea of starting a distillery slowly grew into a life plan.

Bottles of Blaum Bros. straight rye, HellFyre vodka, oak reserve gin and others are emblazoned with a drawing of the two brothers, Mike with one foot up on a whiskey barrel. The drawing, by a son of a family friend, was an immediate hit and changed their plans for naming the business to place "the brothers" front and center.

"We were both kind of hesitant," Matt admitted. "We were like, 'We don't want our dumb faces on the logo.' Well, we ended up Blaum Bros. and had our faces on the logo."

Their business opened with fanfare





in 2013, beating by several years an explosion in craft distilleries throughout the United States. The next generation of Blaums has grown from toddlers to teens in a tight-knit community that welcomes nearly a million guests a year, allowing their business to grow. “We both have lived around big cities and prefer this life,” Mike said. Mike and Matt are both active in community organizations and efforts.

Blaum Bros. is prominently located for visitors coming to Galena from the east on U.S. 20. Their products are also distributed in Illinois, Iowa, Colorado, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia and the District of Columbia.

As they’ve gained distribution in the bourbon belt, Blaum Bros. remains committed to “Illinois-centric” spirits. Most of the grain that goes into their spirits is grown at one farm within an hour of the distillery.

Making whiskey is a waiting game, and some spirits started not long after they opened in 2013 are just now ready for release. “2022 is going to be the year of the most unique releases,” Mike said. Releases planned for the year include experiments with heritage grains, a light rum and a Scottish-style malt whiskey.

Blaum Bros.’ first new spirits of 2022 were a cognac-finished bourbon and a

As they’ve gained distribution in the bourbon belt, Blaum Bros. remains committed to “Illinois-centric” spirits. Most of the grain that goes into their spirits is grown at one farm within an hour of the distillery.

six-year-old “cigar blend” straight bourbon, with a portion of proceeds benefiting the Galena Historical Society. Whiskey lovers drove from as far away as Tennessee and the Rocky Mountains for these limited releases, and a few even slept in their cars the night before—in a snowstorm.

Customer enthusiasm keeps Matt and Mike motivated. “We’ve had several of these releases, and Mike and I look at each other and go, ‘Wow,’” Matt said.

“Those are the rewarding moments,” Mike said. “As with everything, it’s stressful, but those are the moments that it pays off. I’m not talking about the financial, but... somebody drove from Idaho for this? It’s humbling.”

Blaum Bros. modeled their tours, and their business ethos, after Scotch distillery traditions. “Tours in Scotland are so much different than the ones here,” Mike said. “They don’t have the fluff stories.”

Much of Blaum Bros. marketing pokes

fun at the legends that surround American whiskey. “We have no yadda, yadda, yadda, our grandfather was friends with Al Capone,” Matt said.

Or that “our uncle had a family recipe that got handed down to us,” Mike added.

Their tours aim to inform guests about the technical aspects of whiskey making in a way that’s fun and easy to understand. “We want people to know, what you see is what we get,” Mike said. “It’s an authentic experience.”

Of all their products, Mike admitted that they’re most proud of their whiskeys. “We want people from all over to get really, really into our whiskey,” Matt agreed. “We want to make something exceptional... We just kind of wanted to make it our way and hope people dug it.”

“The brothers” could chat longer, but instead, we walk over to the bar. “Ultimately, we are very much in the mindset of having our spirits do the talking,” Matt said.



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Addyson, Bryon and Julie Taylor look over the cheese case at Galena River Wine & Cheese. *Sara Millhouse photos*

Cheese, wine & style

Galena mainstay reaches milestone



by Sara Millhouse

For 40 years, Galena River Wine & Cheese has been making customers' mouths water, tantalizing the palates of locals and visitors alike. The store is located just inside the floodgates on Main Street.

Proprietors Julie and Bryon Taylor moved from Chicago in 2014 and bought the business from Joe Watts, who had purchased the specialty food and beverage purveyor from founders Ken and Sandy Winge.

Julie and Bryon put their own spin on the business the moment they walked in the door, but they've continued the business's tradition of quality food and drink that you won't find in big box stores. They've also expanded, with Galena River Goods across the street, which offers housewares and clothing



for men and women, selected with the same philosophy.

“Our focus has always been small, independent, family-run producers,” Bryon said. He and Julie work to develop individual relationships with many of the producers they carry at Galena River, from Wisconsin cheesemakers to Croatian winemakers.

When people are “passionate about what they make, you get exciting stories that you can tell to the customers, and that’s what people want,” Julie said. “They want things that are unique.”

The Taylors search out artisanal products that can’t be found in “big box” retailers. “Artisans will take what’s given them” and make it into the best food or beverage possible, Bryon explained. “Other people will take their recipe and force the ingredients into the product.”

The Taylors have bolstered relationships with independent producers through travel whenever possible. This summer they headed to the Cheesemonger Invitational, a competition and celebration of cheese selling. “I’m not going to compete—this year,” Bryon said.

The Taylors work to serve customers with a range of budgets. “I spend as much time trying to find good wines for that section as any other,” Bryon said of their “under \$15”



wine selection.

They also offer affordable grilled cheese as a quick lunch for families, busy visitors and Main Street workers. This simplest of gooey sandwiches is enhanced by the enticing cheeses in their case.

On any given day, cheeses could include Hook’s Aged Sheep’s Milk Gouda, made in Mineral Point, Wis., by an American cham-

pion cheesemaker, to beer-washed cheese made from water buffalo milk in Italy and aged underground in Brooklyn, New York.

The Taylors also handpick their beer selections, which are available in mix-and-match packs and individual bottles. Galena Roasters coffee, small-batch spirits, flavored bitters, pasta sauces, dry goods and more fill the shelves. Galena River Wine & Cheese



also offers Olive Mill oils and balsamic vinegars, created by a husband, wife and sister team in Geneva.

Galena River Wine & Cheese serves as a UPS Access Point where people can drop off packages during regular business hours. A poster near the front of the store celebrates their independent, family producers.



The Taylors are continuing to renovate the four-story Peck building where “the cheese shop” is located. Built in 1845, the building has served many purposes, as a steamboat provisioning warehouse, a welding shop, a creamery, a brewery, a wine and liquor wholesaling plant and a pork packaging plant.

Across the street at Galena River Goods, Julie and Bryon have effortlessly blended their tastes into carefully-curated clothing for women and men, as well as housewares. “It’s like coming into our house,” Bryon said. “Our general philosophy is that, if it doesn’t sell, we might have to take it home.”

For Bryon, a condition of starting the store across the street was including men’s clothing, as independent men’s clothing retailers are relatively limited in the area. His sense of humor comes through, too, in the store’s cards. Mugs and other items sport



Galena River Goods is located at 421 South Main Street; Galena River Wine & Cheese, which celebrates 40 years this year, is located at 420 South Main Street.

cheeky sayings in a classy black-and-white color scheme: “little things that are cute and speak to us,” Julie said.

Galena River Goods includes a nook for animal lovers and another with skin and bath goods selected by their daughter Addyson, who just graduated cosmetology school.

The store includes practical items, like sunglasses and comfy sweatshirts, as well as Galena-specific designs, such as flasks engraved with a street map of Galena and “Galena, I love you” shirts.

“We eat well, we drink well, now we dress a lot better,” Bryon said. “What else do we need?”

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Distinctly Galena FRIED GREEN

Galena restaurateur reflects on nearly 30 years



Fred Bonnet

by Sara Millhouse

Fried Green Tomatoes has been a staple of Galena dining for nearly 30 years. Under the watchful eye of owner Fred Bonnet, he has helped guide the restaurant, first in the “Old Poor Farm” about a mile outside of town, then in the leather store where Ulysses Grant worked on Main Street in Galena. When customers walk through the door, Bonnet wants to give them “a relaxed dining experience, along with some charming Galena history,” he said.

Staff told ghost stories about the restaurant’s first location outside of town, which has since been torn down. “I drank too many spirits to ever see any spirits!” Bonnet joked.

Fried Green Tomatoes moved downtown in 2004, allowing it to expand its footprint in the heart of town and commune with a happier history.

In the leather goods store downtown, Ulysses Grant had regained his financial footing and developed friendships that sustained him throughout the Civil War and his presidency. The building, which features some exposed brickwork, has previously housed a saloon, a pharmacy, an antiques dealer and a sports outfitter.



Behind the scenes, “there are really three components of the business: culinary, service and the marketing/financial end of the restaurant,” Bonnet explained. All these aspects contribute to a customer’s ability to “sit back, relax and enjoy a great dining experience, not just dinner.”

Through the years, Bonnet has seen technology assist in all aspects of the restaurant business, “from online vendor relationships to point of sale (POS) transactions,” he said.

Another big change? Outdoor dining, introduced during the pandemic and available in their outdoor patio at the back of the building.

Restaurant work is hard work, but special moments make it all worthwhile. "Seeing generations of families come together at Fried Green Tomatoes for special occasions really span the years together," Bonnet said.

Bonnet is "proud of the hard work of our entire team," he said. "My children now work in the business and have the same commitment to a quality guest experience. People all over recognize the Fried Green logo as a symbol of a great dinner."

Fried Green has U.S. Department of Agriculture choice steaks and a Wine Spectator award-winning wine list. The restaurant is multi-level and offers space for parties and an executive shuttle service. They do not offer high chairs or booster seats.

Menu options at Fried Green include an espresso steak, free-range chicken marsala, bruschetta salmon and, of course, the eponymous fried green tomatoes.

Bonnet's favorite meal? Seared sea scallops, he said. Or maybe the blackberry pork ribeye. As with any great restaurant, sometimes it's hard to choose.



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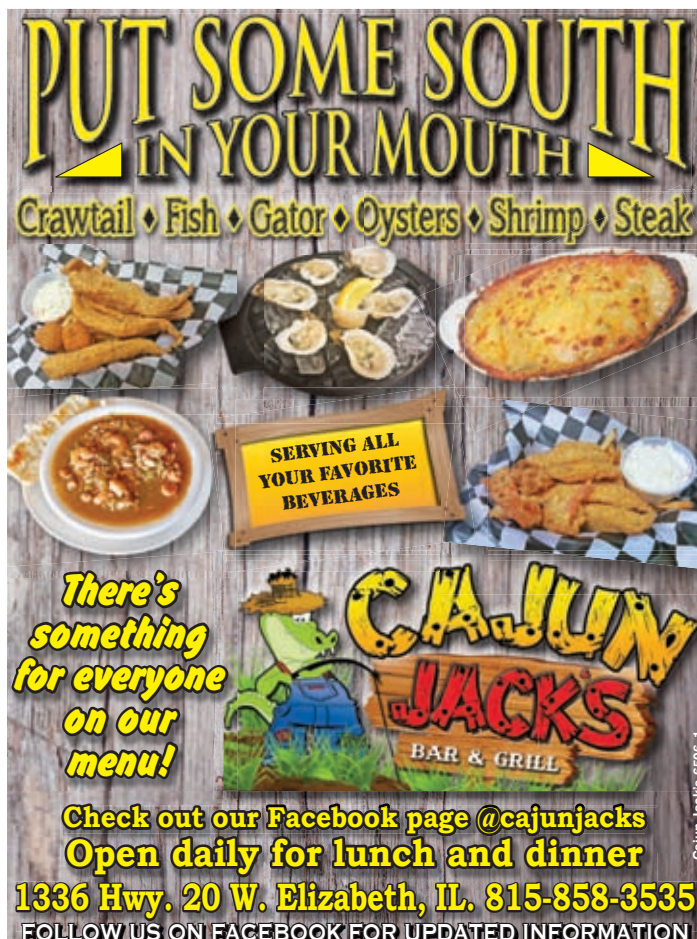
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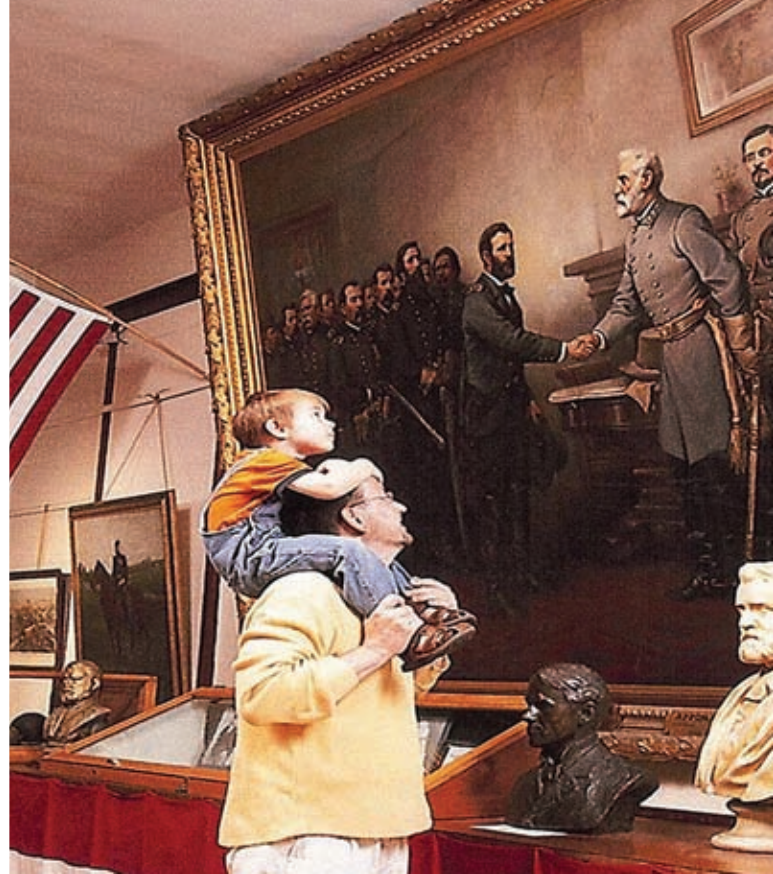
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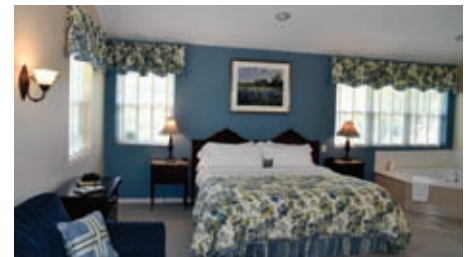
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John Walch and Jim Shopofski invite you to "Relax. Restore. Explore." at Hawk Valley Retreat. *Sara Millhouse photos*

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An aerated pond comes into view, then an overhanging willow tree. The cottages and inn occupy ground partway up the hill. A gazebo surrounded by flowers rises ahead of you. To the right is the lovingly restored 1905 Cording Barn, and across the valley, the land rises again, giving the property a protected feel.

"We came out, and we fell in love with the property," said innkeeper John Walch. "The area was so beautiful, the hills, the nature."

by Sara Millhouse

FYI

Hawk Valley Retreat is located at 2752 W. Cording Rd., Galena; call 815-777-4100; or visit hawkvalleyretreat.com

At the time, Walch was chafing at a corporate role after a career spent working independently. Fellow innkeeper Jim Shopofski faced staffing challenges in his job in managed mental health-care. "We made a decision that we wanted to work for ourselves, and a bed-and-breakfast seemed to make sense with my background in restaurants and Jim's background in food service," said Walch.

They knew the warnings. "Every book tells you not to open a bed and breakfast," Shopofski said. Nevertheless, the couple

attended a seminar and traveled 6,000 miles to visit 16 bed and breakfasts.

They took over the business in February 2020, five weeks before the world shut down. "In that short time, we got to meet people," Shopofski said. "We bonded with other innkeepers, and 30 or so of us developed a little network. We would chat in the mornings, and we just kept each other going."

During the shutdown, Walch and Shopofski redirected their considerable energies toward continued renovation, including

flooring, carpeting, painting and more.

When businesses reopened, Hawk Valley attracted guests with the property's built-in social distancing. "We have 10 acres, and we only have 14 people here," Walch said. "I think it fits a nation of people who were looking, especially during COVID but always, for the opportunity to get out in nature."

Hawk Valley includes three private rooms in the main home and four cabins. The property has been a bed and breakfast for more than 25 years, first under Jane and

Fritz Fuchs, with Hawk Valley School of the Arts, then with owners Hal and Wendy Gilpin.

"Each couple has left their legacy," Shopofski said. "We're fortunate to have been able to spend time with each of them."

"We think of ourselves as caretakers of the property," Walch continued. "Someday, we'll be gone, and hopefully somebody else will come up with a vision of what they want to do with it."

Long before it was a bed and breakfast, the property was the center of a hard-working farm. The first log cabin was built at Hawk Valley in the 1840s. The Cording family took over the farm in the 1890s. In the 1950s, they built the home that became the inn.

This was a model, modern farmhouse, featured in magazine articles and toured by school groups. Arthur and Myrna Cording were a model farm family as well, earning several statewide awards and leading local farm conservation practices.

"As we learned more about the history of the Cording farm, we decided to embrace the farming aspect of the property, because there's such a wealth of history here," Shopofski said. "Instead of a fancy, lace doily B&B, we're more modern country."

Even in a beautiful setting, being an innkeeper isn't much more glamorous than being a model farmer. After breakfast, there's cleaning, baking, marketing, construction projects, gardening, animal care and painting to be done. "It's not a suit-and-tie job where you stand behind a desk and field phone calls and say, 'Welcome,'" Shopofski said.

"Well, you do that, too, but then you change into your cleaning clothes," Walch added.

Walch is the fourth generation of his family to work in the restaurant business. "I was born and raised in a restaurant," he said.

Sometimes Walch imagines his grandfather watching over him as he completes one of the less glamorous tasks of B&B ownership. "Here I am, grandfather, still washing dishes, 40 years into my career," he said with a laugh.

Shopofski is the animal lover of the couple. As he puts it, "I'm in charge of anything that poops." Most notably, Hawk Valley has four "big dogs with hooves," goats named Butch, Cassidy, Sundance and Etta.



Walch's father had urged them to get goats. "Your guests will love them," he said. After he passed away in December of 2020 of COVID, the couple finally got goats in his honor.

He was right, too. Guests do love the goats. Walch recalls a previously stressed solo visitor saying, "You don't realize how therapeutic this is for us."

Shopofski thinks of a vacationing firefighter "running, jumping and leaping around the garage with these goats, turning back into a 10-year-old and just having the time of his life. People just connect with them, especially when you're so stressed, and it does something for your spirit."

"For me, I know that's the highlight of my day, working with them," he continued.

Shopofski also tends bees on the property. Walch said that they seek to make the business as sustainable as possible, with 19 kilowatts of solar panels providing electricity to the property.

"We both love outdoors and gardening," Walch said. "We grow our own vegetables. We have the chickens for eggs and the bees for honey." In early summer, the garden is brimming with chives, garlic, eggplant, peppers, Swiss chard and strawberry plants.

Hawk Valley breakfasts are made completely from scratch, the innkeepers explained. "Food is my passion," Shopofski said. "It's my love language, and that's the key to everything we do here, love."

Speaking of love, Shopofski and Walch

are getting married here in December, making a full, official "Brady Bunch" with their six children. Hawk Valley has already been the location of more than two dozen weddings.

The Cording Barn hosts the inn's breakfasts and small events, with a spacious, open dining area, full kitchen and overhanging loft room. Barn flooring came from recycled farm and factory timbers, and trim came from a barn near Apple Canyon Lake.

The property includes about a mile of walking trail. The pond has catch-and-release bass and bluegill. Birding is another big draw for many guests.

"We're doing this because we want people to come here, disconnect with technology and the hustle and bustle, and reconnect with each other, or nature," Shopofski said. "When we actually see them doing that, it's better than any award you can get."

The retreat is located on Cording Road, an easy-to-miss turn off Stagecoach Road. On Cording Road, look for the sign for Hawk Valley at 2752 W. Cording Rd. GPS still sometimes mislocates the farm lane, which was changed decades ago. The change made their address appear out of order.

Especially in the winter, guests unaccustomed to driving the steep country roads of Jo Daviess County occasionally call, sounding frazzled by the journey. "Whenever we have frantic phone calls, we say, 'We just have to get them here,'" Shopofski said confidently. "We just have to get them here."

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•Friday, Sept. 9, 8 p.m.; Comedian Mike Paramore; John and Alice Butler Hall

•Friday, Sept. 16; Tito Puente Jr. and His Latin Jazz Ensemble; John and Alice Butler Hall

•Monday, Sept. 19; Wiesenthal: The Nazi Hunter; Babka Theatre

•Tuesday, Oct. 4; Matt Vee's Music of Neil Diamond: I Am ... He Said; John and Alice Butler Hall

•Sunday, Oct. 16, 3 p.m.; Organist Dexter Kennedy, John and Alice Butler Pipe Organ Recital Series; John and Alice Butler Hall

•Saturday, Oct. 22, 8 p.m.;

Tony Danza: Standards & Stories; John and Alice Butler Hall

•Friday, Oct. 28, Riders in the Sky; John and Alice Butler Hall

•Saturday, Nov. 5, 1 p.m.; Peter & The Wolf, performed by Eulenspiegel Puppets; Babka Theatre

•Saturday, Nov. 5, 8 p.m.; Piano Fondue: Dueling Pianos; Babka Theatre

•Friday, Dec. 2; Christmas at Heritage Center "Heaven and Nature Sing!" John and Alice Butler Hall

•Tuesday, Dec. 6; A Christmas Carol, performed by Nebraska Theatre Caravan; John and Alice Butler Hall

•Friday, Jan. 13; The Magic of Bill Blagg LIVE!; John and Alice Butler Hall

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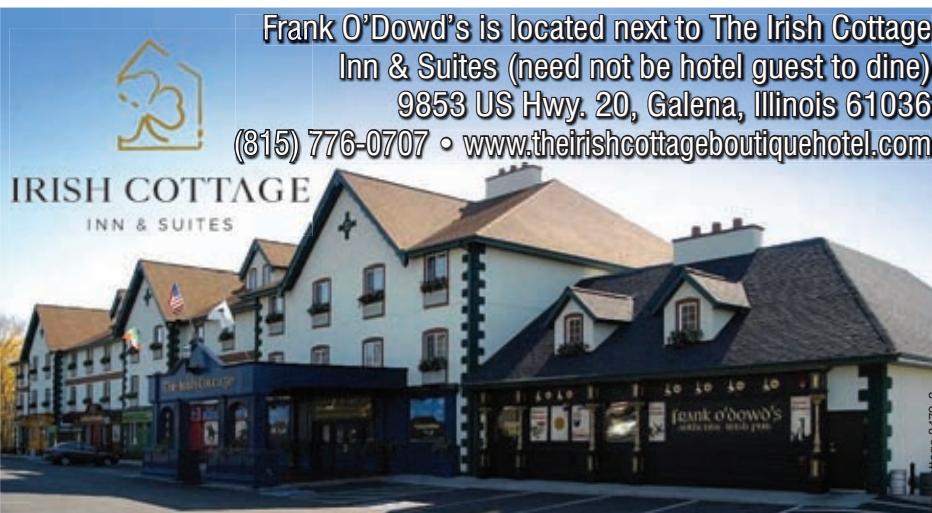
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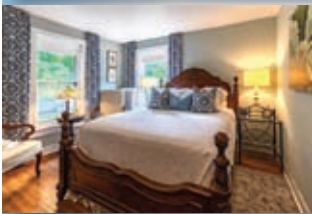


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815-281-9199. Geoffrey Mikol is a photographer who owns River Bend Gallery with his family. riverbendgalleries.com

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121 N Commerce St, Galena, 815-777-1448. Hello Galena! offers unique gifts and artwork for all ages made entirely by Jo Daviess County artists. hellogalena.org

Outside The Lines Gallery

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Galena artists Casey and Jennifer Cilino-Folks during the 2021 Country Fair. They often display work at the Market House Art Festival as well. Jay Dickerson photo

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Galena Spoon Co., 201 Hill St.

Stone House Pottery & Gallery, 418 Spring St.

ELIZABETH

Dejawood, 121 N Main St.

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It’s just another radio show at the new

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Left: The “Broad Ideas” show celebrates artwork by women, and happens annually in March. Above: Matt Blaum watches Mark Haman in the radio show. A schedule of upcoming events is at galenacenterforthearts.org.



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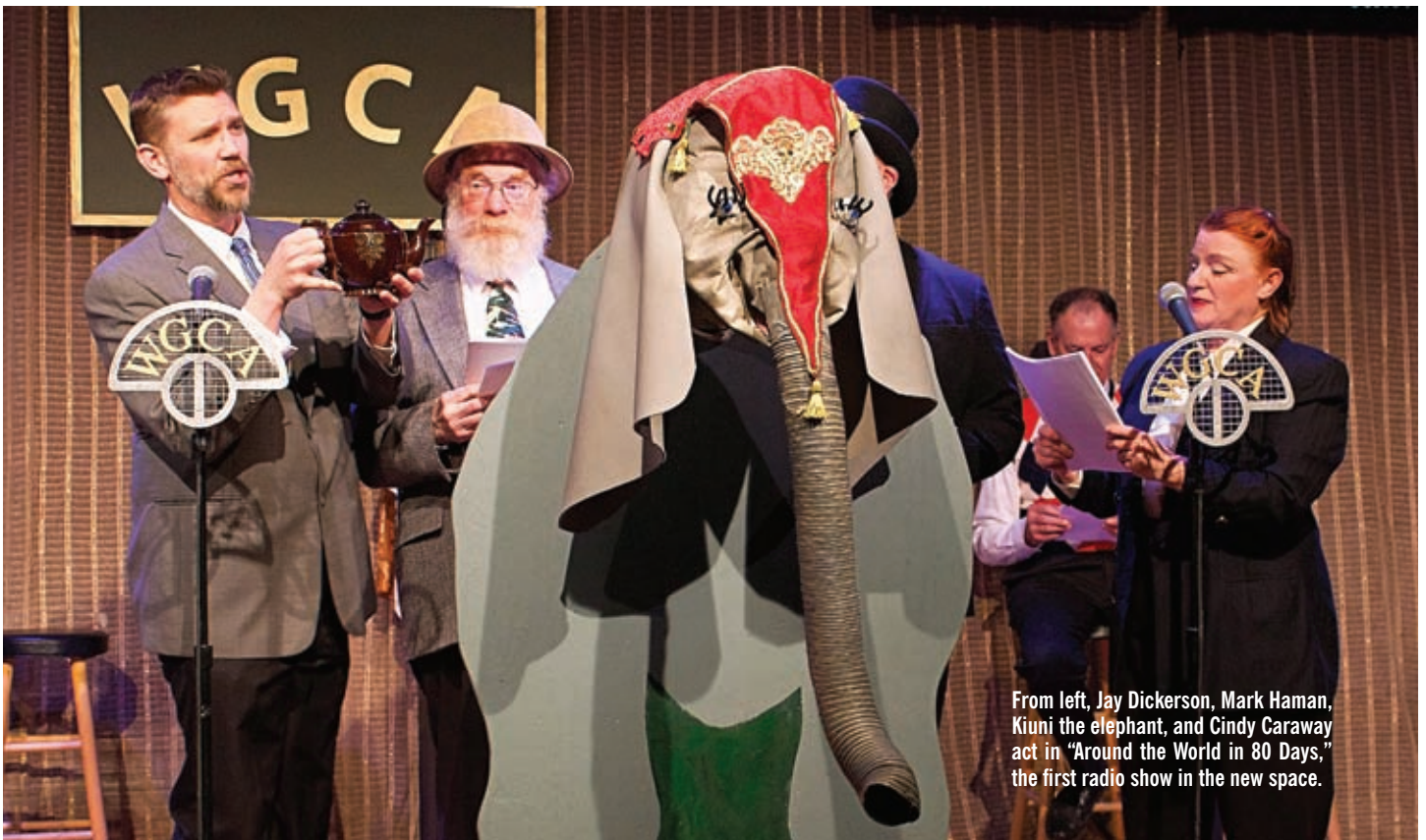


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From left, Jay Dickerson, Mark Haman, Kiuni the elephant, and Cindy Caraway act in "Around the World in 80 Days," the first radio show in the new space.

It's showtime at the Galena Center for the Arts

FYI

The new Galena Center for the Arts is located at 971 Gear St., Galena. An updated schedule of events appears at galenacenterforthearts.org.

by Jay Dickerson

The newly renovated Galena Center for the Arts is finally ready for visitors, displays and performances. Located at 971 Gear St., just off U.S. 20, the Galena Center for the Arts is nearing the end of its renovations, fresh off a spring radio show in the lower-level theater space. The upper-level space has already hosted the hallmark annual "Broad Ideas" show this past March.

It's been a challenge. An elevator, expected earlier in 2022, was delayed due to the supply chain issues. Technical director Jan Lavacek had to create a door at the lower level theater space to accommodate handicap accessibility for the radio show within hours of a performance.

The new location continues the two-level layout art patrons in Galena are familiar



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Above: Stephanie Bussan, Robert Armstrong, Cathie Harms and Mike Blaum presented “Romance in D,” the first table reading of the year at the new Galena Center for the Arts. Right: Brion Bowman performs during Songwriters Showcase. For a full schedule of events, visit galenacenterforthearts.org. Below: The June 2022 Jimmys concert was the first sold-out event for the Center.



with. Making the move to a new facility offers new opportunities, observed Carole Sullivan, Galena Center for the Arts executive director. Moving the Galena Center for the Arts closer to the highway in a relatively high-traffic area demonstrates the importance of arts in Galena, Sullivan said.

The Galena Center for the Arts has expanded and created a haven for artists and performers alike. The upstairs level of the building is dedicated to visual art. There is a big, open gallery in the center of the space, where visitors can enjoy and purchase art. On the perimeter, existing offices were transformed into art studios that artists can rent as work spaces for a reasonable price. The upstairs level did not require many renovations. “The options for displaying artwork and the options for beautiful art studios will be appreciated by a lot of people,” Sullivan said.

The downstairs level, however, was a completely different story. Prior to the move, the Galena Food Pantry operated out of the bank’s basement. The Galena Center for the Arts was tasked with finishing the basement—adding walls, doors, flooring, plumbing, lighting—before attempting anything else. Pandemic-induced supply issues brought challenges to each step of the renovation.

“When we first envisioned this process, we figured we would have a grand opening, and everything would be finished,” Sullivan said. “I think all of us who have been through this pandemic know how hard it is to even get something in the grocery store. I think our audience will understand if there’s something not completed, but we’ll be rolling one way or the other.”

The downstairs level, which is dedicated to performance art, is now fully functioning and includes a theater with seating on three sides, a lighting/sound control room, dressing rooms, a concession area, bathrooms, a backstage set and props work space, a dance studio and more. The new building’s higher ceilings and proper dressing rooms will enhance the quality of productions, Sullivan said.

Another benefit is the property’s ample outdoor space. It sits on seven acres, so the Galena Center for the Arts can host outdoor concerts and activities during the warmer months.

“Now that we have this space, if we plan an outdoor concert, and it’s inclement weather, we have an automatic backup plan,” Sullivan said. “We have been so pleased that people in the area are excited,” Sullivan said. “There has been a lot of support for us doing this whole project, and people have been generous with their time, effort and donations.”



EMILY PAINTER

A Painter of characters

by Sara Millhouse

When Emily Painter auditioned for her first full season with Galena's Main Street Players, her husband Gregg told her not to worry. "They know you're very responsible," he said.

Thirty-six years later, they still laugh about his response.



Above: From a show in Dubuque.
Right: With Mark Haman in "God's Favorite."



After all, most people think audition success has something to do with acting skill. But to Emily, his words ring remarkably true. "In essence, if people show up and are responsible, you can teach them a lot, and that's true of a lot of things," she said.

As a mainstay of local theatre productions, Emily has been "showing up"—and honing her craft—for more than 40 years. She's entertained audiences as a pioneer woman, an elephant driver, a drunk, a seamstress and a dog. She's portrayed Salome dancing with the head of John the Baptist, Alice Roosevelt and a grief-stricken English widow, among many other characters.

"It's always fun to be someone you're not," Painter said. "It's fun to be the bad girl sometimes."

She credits the "amazing" Galena-area theatre directors and co-conspirators she's learned from over the years, including Ronn and Alice Toebass, Carole Sullivan, Jan Lavacek, Marina O'Rourke, Jean Berquist, Pat Terry and Dave Resnick.

Galena nurtured a new passion for performance for Painter. Uninvolved in theatre in high school or college, she first tried out for a show after moving to Galena, around the same time that she first took a ballet class, as an adult. She loves dance and has performed in Galena-specific

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Above: In the Cemetery Walk. Right: Emily with Matt Blaum and Brian Schoenrock in "Around the World in 80 Days."

In a Main Street Players show at Sinsinawa Mound, the lights went out. Cast and crew retrieved flashlights from their cars and stood in a semicircle lighting the stage until the power returned.

musical revues, including "Off Broadway, On Bench" and "Remembering Old Galena," which she performed for decades with Sullivan, Deb Hyland and a rotating cast of male performers.

In dramas, Painter admits she's often cast as an angst-ridden character who experiences grief or crisis. "I always say, Ronn Toebass taught me to cry," she said. "We all cry, but in order to teach yourself to cry believably, you need to be able to flip that switch and give yourself emotional pins, stick yourself so you can do it, and not lose focus."

Some of her roles have pushed her beyond her comfort zone. In "Calendar Girls," Painter and other actors popped up "partially clothed," in their calendar poses. In "Wait Until Dark," Painter had to learn how to navigate the world as a woman who was blind. In "Talking With..." she played a Pentecostal snake handler with a live, three-foot red-tailed boa constrictor draped around her neck. Rosa grew more active under the hot stage lights and liked to crawl up through her hair during performances.

Every production has its surprises and occasional silliness. Painter once shortened the Civil War to "four long, painful weeks." Another time, she watched in horror as a

cast member's skirt started to slip down.

In a Main Street Players show at Sinsinawa Mound, the lights went out. Cast and crew retrieved flashlights from their cars and stood in a semicircle lighting the stage until the power returned.

For Galena Center for the Arts radio shows, Painter writes jingles for sponsors using familiar, old tunes remade, just like ads in old radio shows. "I've written jingles on the back of my checkbook balance stubs, and I wrote one part of a chorus"—she lowers her voice to a whisper—"in church, on the back of a bulletin."

Painter also flexes her writing chops by writing her own monologues for Women of Courage and Commitment, a Galena-based historical theatre troupe. Painter has portrayed a Galena seamstress, her own great-grandmother and the "outrageous" Alice Roosevelt.

Even when a script is already written, Painter likened her role to that of "creating your own historical fiction," she said. "You don't want to make them a caricature." Painter has also performed several times in the Cemetery Walk, which benefits the Galena-Jo Daviess County Historical Society.

With Galena Center for the Arts execu-



Above: "Talking With..." Below: "Calendar Girls."



tive director Sullivan, Painter recalls scouring Main Street for a home for the Main Street Players, who ended up performing everywhere else, from Sinsinawa Mound to hotels, churches, the courthouse and the middle school.

With the Galena Center for the Arts in their new, prominent location on Gear Street, local community theatre has a dedicated space designed for its needs. "Now, with so much hard work, we have a theatre home," Painter said.

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New Earth Animals & Galena Kids

The joy of learning & wiggle butts

FYI

Galena Kids is located at 313 S. Main Street. New Earth Animals is located at 222 S. Main Street.

by Sara Millhouse

As the energetic owners of Galena Kids Toy Store and Learning Center, New Earth Animals, and a dog grooming and boarding facility, Gail DeMoss and David Bauer “tried not to talk shop on our wedding day, but I think we did a little,” Gail admits.

When they tied the knot this spring, they officially brought together the many talents that have contributed to their Galena businesses, which center on kids’ education and their love of animals.

David and Gail have a daughter, Camdyn, 15, and son Cainan, 13. They also have four dogs: Willow, Beans, Tony and Stimpny.

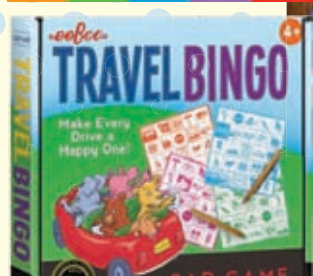
As a fourth-generation jeweler, Gail made her first retail sale at age 11, but

she studied veterinary medicine until developing a cat allergy. She persisted as a vet tech, eventually owning a veterinary hospital in Marshfield, Wis., before moving to Marco Island, Fla. “I missed the Midwest a ton,” she admitted.

In Florida, Gail worked as a Montessori teacher. She also created a blueprint of the businesses she developed after moving to Galena: a kids’ store, a dog groomer and boarder, and a retail animal store.

Back home in the Midwest, Galena Kids Toy Store and Learning Center was the last piece to fall into place, about two years ago. “Galena really needed a kids’ store and learning center,” Gail said. “It’s focused on education.”

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“Our focus is always on animals, too,” she continued. Not only are animals an instant hit with many children, but they can teach concepts like responsibility and empathy, as well as the science of the natural world.

David grew up on a Galena-area farm “so I’ve been around animals my whole life,” he said. He spends much of his energy at the dog grooming and boarding facility—formerly Doggie Do’s and now Wiggle Butt Inn & Day Spa. His favorite part of the businesses is “being around the animals,” he said.

Gail added that clients often send videos of their dogs getting excited when they realize “it’s time to go see David.”

David is the quieter half of the couple, but he brings complementary skills to their various businesses. Besides his skill in caring for animals, he has the creativity and know-how to build almost anything.

David learned many of his construction skills while working for Hulscher Fencing. “I like being busy,” he said.

He learned more skills while landscaping and setting up greenhouses with his grandfather and tending the family’s 35-year-old, four-acre patch of asparagus, which he sells locally.

“Working together is so much fun, and he’s so creative with the things he comes up with,” Gail said.

“You come up with them, and I put them together,” David responds.

“Well, it’s a combination,” she said. “We throw ideas out, and then he just builds whatever.”

“Pretty much,” David agrees.



David’s carpentry and creativity are on display in the jungle framing at Galena Kids Toy Store and Learning Center. “We want to make it more of an experience instead of just a store,” David said.

The business advertises itself prominently with its bright yellow awning, which casts a warm glow inside the front of the store. “The first thing, we

Gail added that clients often send videos of their dogs getting excited when they realize “it’s time to go see David.”

walked in, and it was lit up in gold,” David recalls.

Inside, the store includes walls of carefully organized family games, retro plastic dinosaurs, custom screen-printed designs, high-quality art supplies, outdoor equipment like folding trikes, baby dolls—“and astronauts, too,” and toys using the skills of S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math).

Gail seeks out award-winning toys and unique brands, including Hearthsong, Folkmanis Puppets, Tonies, Magna-Tiles, Think Baby, Fat Brain Toys and many more. Galena Kids is officially a destination for Djeco, a French company that designs toys and crafts for kids using the work of more than 100 artists.

Her training in Montessori education

informs what she carries in the store. “Montessori is hands-on and all about kids figuring it out for themselves, so you create a very creative person that way,” Gail said.

The couple has lots of plans for programming in the near future—creative classes, kids’ yoga, a Galena Kids Club. On “the animal side,” they’re planning to expand their doggy bakery with bagged bakery goods next winter and hope to offer agility classes in the future.

Gail and David credit assistant manager Kristin Beusse, inventory manager Rori Moore and dog groomer and facility manager Courtney Parker for keeping all of their ventures running smoothly.

Gail turned to David. “You were just talking about it yesterday, in the car,” she said. “How thankful we are, every day, to get to do what we do.”



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Galena's Black History

by Hillary Dickerson

Barney Norris, born in 1809, was a footman and table boy for John Quincy Adams from 1826-28. He arrived in Galena in 1834, purchased a lot for a home in 1838, married in 1843 and became the father of seven children.

For more than 30 years, he was sexton at Second Presbyterian Church. On his 75th birthday, in 1884, Norris was gifted a cane by surviving Civil War Generals U.S. Grant, William Rowley, J.C. Smith, J.E. Smith and Augustus Chetlain.

That cane, donated to the museum in the 1950s, and the story of Norris' life is now an important part of the new permanent exhibit, "A Walk Through Galena's Black History," at the Galena & U.S. Grant Museum in Galena.

Norris' story is just one piece of the exhibit that traces this previously little-told history. Mostly graphic in nature because very few artifacts are available, Norris' cane is all the more special.

The majority of the research done for the exhibit was from the collection of Galenian Scott Wolfe, who spent years reading through papers and sifting through census data. The result was binders filled with information on about 200 people—some families—who lived in Galena. Much of his work, which began in the early 1980s, was done jointly with Kathie Oestreich, who Wolfe calls his history mentor.

"We have a lot of documentary evidence but not a lot of artifacts," said Wolfe. Wolfe was involved for decades in research relating to abolitionist John Brown.



Swansey Adams, born a slave in 1797, was brought to Illinois where he worked in salt mines and then lead mines near Hazel Green, Wis. Adams was eventually purchased in St. Louis, Mo., by William Hempstead for \$100, and returned to Galena. His story—and the stories of many other people of color—are remembered at the Galena & U.S. Grant Museum, 211 S. Bench Street, in a permanent exhibit.



This cane was presented to Barney Norris by former President U.S. Grant, and Galena Generals William Rowley, J.C. Smith, J.E. Smith and Augustus Chetlain.



Moses Dickson worked as a barber in Galena. He formed, with others, "The Order of Twelve," a fraternal organization dedicated to service to the Black community. In St. Louis, Mo., he was founder of the Lincoln Institute (now Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Mo.). He dedicated his life to providing assistance to formerly enslaved persons.



James Embry was living in Galena in 1855, along with his sister Elizabeth Fullington (later Duffin) and worked as a whitewasher. In 1856, he was licensed to practice in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. From 1862 until the 1863 fall of Vicksburg, Miss., he served as a hand on a supply boat in Grant's army.



Henry O. Wagoner was sporadically educated and set out on his own in the 1830s. Arriving in Galena in 1839, he became a typesetter for a Galena newspaper and a close associate of Elihu Washburne. He moved to Chicago in 1847, and worked on abolitionist newspapers and assisted the Underground Railroad.

His study of Galena's Black history grew from that as Wolfe researched the lives of free Blacks in the North, specifically Galena.

"It just kept rolling," said Wolfe, noting his binders list individuals as well as offer descriptions of Black institutions, churches, choirs, schools, cultural societies and more. He tried to follow the lives of the people, even after they left Galena.

Wolfe noted that Galena's Black population also featured a satellite community in Rush Township called Equal Rights. That lasted until the early 20th century, but some of the lime kilns are still visible today.

When it came to putting together this particular exhibit, Kris Chapman, historical society secretary and museum volunteer, started work on it during the pandemic.

There was a half of a room on the second floor available, and after a winter lecture on Frederick Douglass, Chapman thought about Wolfe's work and how it could be presented. Several years before, Wolfe had given a presentation on Galena's Black History, which made for a perfect template for the exhibit.

The challenge, of course, was that there were few artifacts and pictures to draw upon. The museum was closed as well during the height of the pandemic, meaning money was scarce. Volunteers, including Wolfe, Leslie Waltman and Ron Chapman, helped pull it all together.

Tessa Flak, executive director of the Galena-Jo Daviess County Historical Society,



From left, Scott Wolfe, Kris Chapman and Tessa Flak at the new permanent exhibit chronicling Galena's Black History at the Galena & U.S. Grant Museum. In the photo announcing the exhibit is Swansey Adams, perhaps Galena's most well-known African-American resident, a formerly enslaved person who bought his freedom and worked for years delivering water to Galena businesses. *Hillary Dickerson photo*

praised the work, noting that the hard truths of life in Galena at that time, and the history of slavery, are incorporated as well. The exhibit starts in 1720 and in Galena in particular in 1820.

The Black population peaked in Galena in the 1850s and then declined throughout the Civil War. When it is finished, the exhibit will conclude with the present day, and that's

the piece Chapman is working on now.

The response has been positive.

"We're trying to focus not only on transportation, goods, mining but trying to get the cultural aspect into it, too," Flak explained of the focus of exhibits.

The Galena & U.S. Grant Museum, 211 S. Bench St., is open daily from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Visit galenahistory.org.

U.S. Grant Home State Historic Site

500 Bouthillier St, Galena, 815-777-3310, granthome.org.

The U.S. Grant Home was built in 1859-60. When Gen. Ulysses S. Grant returned to the city in 1865 as a Civil War hero, he was presented with the house. Grant used the home as his official political and voting address, living there with his family during his 1868 presidential campaign, and then for a few brief periods during his presidency (1869-1877) and retirement. The restored U.S. Grant Home is a two-story brick structure, decorated and furnished to represent the mid-1860s, primarily with family heirlooms. The site includes several small mid-19th-century homes comprising the

three-block Grant Home Historic Neighborhood. Grant State Park, a tree-shaded area south of the Grant Home, has picnic tables for use. Also in the park is the Long House, a log building constructed in 1851 and moved to the site from Elizabeth in 1976, representing a typical settler's home of mid-19th-century Jo Daviess County.



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Exhibit imagines life of an early lead miner

The city of Galena gets its name from the lead ore mined for hundreds of years. While many other communities have mining roots, very few can say there is an old mine shaft through which people can view life in Galena's distant past.

The Galena and U.S. Grant Museum features a vertical mine shaft that descends 30 feet into the ground.

Dug by hand in the 1830s, the shaft

shows the lengths to which the miners would go. Miners excavated lead ore, brought it to the shaft and raised it to the surface by human or animal-powered windlass, a hoist. The lead ore was hauled to a smelting furnace where the rock was discarded and the ore was melted and molded into "pigs" of lead.

Miners did not have to worry about lead poisoning. Lead does not become hazardous until the smelting process.

Galena & U.S. Grant Museum

211 S. Bench St, Galena, 815-777-9129, Galenahistory.org. Step inside the Galena & U.S. Grant Museum in Galena to discover the history behind the area's lead mining, steamboating and commercial success during the Civil War era. Meet the spirit of Ulysses Grant in a hologram that welcomes guests into the museum. There are also true national treasures, like the "Peace in Union" and "General Grant on the Battlefield" paintings and the flag from the Vicksburg Siege. The museum is located in an 1858 Italianate mansion built as a private residence by Galena merchant Daniel Barrows. It features over 6,000 square feet of exhibit space and presentations on lead mining in the northwest region, the Driftless Area, Grant's leather store and the Port of Galena. Souvenirs, gifts and books are available for purchase in the gift shop.



Look straight down 30 feet into the mine shaft exhibit at the Galena and U.S. Grant History Museum.

In 1858, the Daniel Barrows house was built on the site, with the kitchen wing just eight feet from the mine shaft entrance. In the 1920s, the Odd Fellows, a fraternal organization, bought the house and tore off the kitchen wing. Much of the debris was thrown down the shaft! Workers constructed a large two-story addition now used as museum exhibit halls.

In the 1990s, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Office of Mines and Minerals began closing old mine openings all over the state. This nearly forgotten 1830s Galena mine presented an educational opportunity. The Galena-Jo Daviess County Historical Society and the state of Illinois worked together to open and clear part of the shaft. The roof over the mine prevents groundwater pollution yet allows gases to escape.



Miners use carbide lamps on their hats in Ginte Mine, around 1945.



Above: This carbide lamp burned acetylene, produced by dripping water on to calcium carbide. Left: This large, German-made lamp burned acetylene.

Check out these other local historic sites & museums



The Chicago Great Western Railroad Museum is located at 111 E Myrtle Street in Elizabeth.

Old Market House State Historic Site

123 N Commerce St, Galena, 815-776-9200, granthome.org. The Old Market House, erected by the city of Galena in 1845-1846, served for 65 years as the city market during the decades of Galena's greatest prosperity as a river port, lead-mining center and commercial hub. The Old Market House also served as the seat of Galena government and for years had two jail cells.

Apple River Fort State Historic Site

311 E Myrtle St, Elizabeth, 815-858-2028, appleriverfort.org. The Apple River Fort was the site of an important battle during the Black Hawk War. On June 24, 1832, the settlers of the fort turned back an attack by 200 Sauk and Fox warriors led by Black Hawk himself. The war ceased the threat of Sauk and Fox Native American attacks in the area and opened the region to further settlement. Today, the fort has been reconstructed for visitors to take a step back in time.

Old Blacksmith Shop

245 Commerce St, Galena, 815-777-1893, May through October. Old Blacksmith Shop is a museum, but there are forges that operate and blacksmiths are on duty during the season. Check out the well-stocked gift shop filled with things made by blacksmiths and also the local foundry. They do beautiful custom work as well. Come watch the sparks fly at the Old Blacksmith Shop. Open 10 am to 4 pm Friday through Monday.

Hanover Historical Society

500 Fillmore St, Hanover, 815-591-3623, hanoverhistoricalsociety.com. The Hanover Historical Society provides an in-depth look at the history of Hanover. A recently added exhibit is the Larry Bell, Jr. Collection, featuring 1,000 Native American artifacts collected over 45 years with 70 percent found at the Wapello Site.

Chicago Great Western Railroad Museum

111 E Myrtle St, Elizabeth, 815-858-2343, elizabethhistoricalsociety.com. Located in a former Chicago Great Western Railway station, the Chicago Great Western Railway Museum in Elizabeth focuses on the railroads of northwest Illinois. The museum houses thousands of railroad artifacts, and also gives visitors the opportunity to step into a full-size Milwaukee Road caboose.

Stockton Heritage Museum

107 W Front Ave, Stockton, 815-947-2220. Learn more about the history and heritage of Stockton by paying a visit to the Stockton Heritage Museum.

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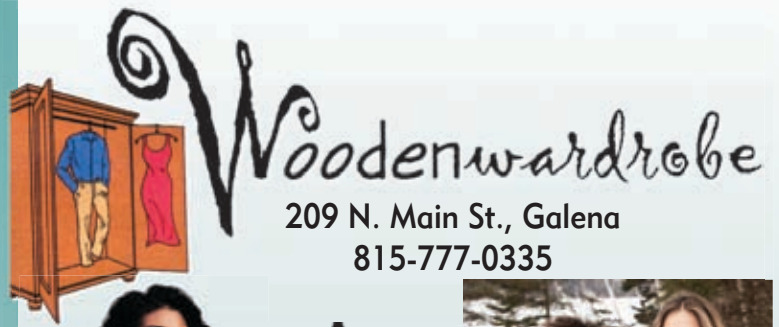
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This REEDING TEACHER weaves art

by Sara Millhouse

When Toni Klingler first saw a class offered in basket weaving, she laughed, thinking of “underwater basket weaving,” used to describe a useless course, pursuit or degree.

Klingler was helping with a summer day camp for elementary students at the University of Dubuque. The teacher immediately noticed Klingler’s knack for weaving, and the next day Klingler took some materials home.

“I was completely, 100 percent hooked,” she said.

She had dabbled in painting, crocheting, macramé, stained glass and other art forms, but all that “went out the window” when she discovered weaving.

Twenty years later, basket weaving is still her artistic passion. Klingler has made well over 1,000 baskets, as well as hundreds of pieces of gourd art. As she weaves reed or cord around spines to form a circular or rectangular basket, she’s participating in an art form that started more than 10,000 years ago. “You know how they talk about the world’s oldest profession?” Klingler asked. “It was probably basket weaving.”

Baskets have always been prized for both beauty and utility. They are durable, practi-



Hello Galena is located at 121 N. Commerce St., Galena. There are summer hours and winter hours. For updated information, visit hellogalena.org, or call 815-777-1448.

cal and often lightweight. “They bounce,” Klingler tells worried parents when children touch one of her carefully constructed baskets.

A hand-woven basket requires many hours of labor. Klingler recalls a young boy at a fair who called a basket “expensive.” When Klingler explained that she worked for about 40 hours on the basket, he turned to her and said, “You should get more for these.” He got it right away,” she added.

To make a basket, a weaver dampens reeds to make them pliable, then weaves them in and out of long spines. After weaving the bottom, the basket is “upsett,” and the weaver starts on the sides. If a reed breaks, it can be woven with a new piece to make an uncompromised basket.

Dyed materials and materials of varying natural colors make intricate geometric shapes in the hands of skilled weavers like Klingler. She uses primarily reed but has experimented with other materials, which can include cotton cord, wire, waxed linen, black ash, willow, coiled wire and split white oak.

She enjoys making car’s head baskets, so called because the bases are shaped into slight points, resembling car’s ears. She also enjoys collaborations with other artists and working with the many embellishments she

collects to add to her art.

Klingler goes to several art fairs each year and regularly sells at the Territory Farmer’s Market and Hello Galena. Her popular rectangular baskets can be used to hold mail, masks or other items. Also popular are her narrow, tall baskets equipped with a shoulder strap, which can be used to carry a bottle of wine to a picnic or a skein of yarn to a friend’s house.

Klingler’s gourd art includes bold, colorful masks embellished with the brilliant feathers of a friend’s ruby macaw. Other gourds she sprays with multiple shimmering colors, creating shiny, iridescent mixes of color.

Like baskets, gourd art has practical applications. Gourds have been used for millennia as eating utensils, bowls and baskets.

A retired teacher, Klingler taught “preschool, kindergarten, first grade, second grade, third grade, reading and French,” she said. Now as “the reeding teacher,” she’s also taught basket weaving to children around the area. The patience she practiced as a teacher is equally important for long hours of intricate basket weaving.

Her love of teaching is equaled by her love of learning. “I never make a basket if I don’t think I’m going to learn something,” Klingler said. “Sometimes I do use other

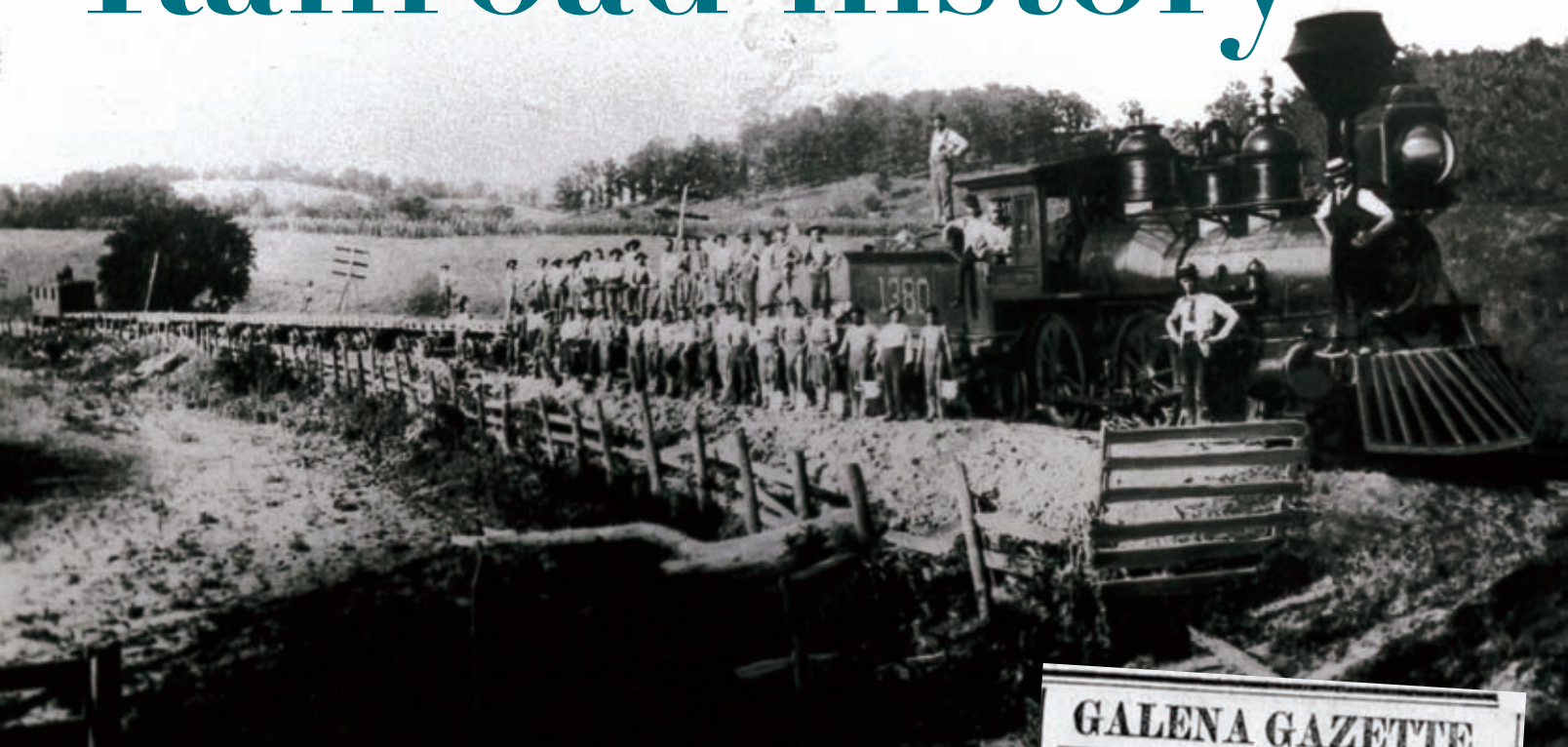
people’s patterns, but I have been known to never finish a pattern the way the pattern dictates.”

A few baskets are especially memorable. Her largest commission ever was for a large basket to store motorcycle gear, including clothes and a helmet. A family with twins bought a basket to be a toy box.

Klingler is part of an artistic tradition that spans six continents, from ancient Egyptians to Taiwanese bamboo weavers, Pomo weavers in California and contemporary Zulu telephone wire basket weavers. The patterns woven into baskets contributed to the development of abstract math and have been used to tell stories for thousands of years.

Klingler recalls listening to a Georgia basket weaver tell one of the many stories that basket weavers have passed down for generations: a grandmother passing on her craft realized after several hours that the novices had made the basket “backwards, inside out.” The grandmother wondered if she would have to start over, but as she turned it in her hands, she realized that she could turn the weaving, thus creating a double-wall basket. “The moral of this story is, it’s just like life,” Klingler said. “You don’t know where your story starts and where your story ends.”

Railroad history



Above: This photo from the Alfie Mueller Collection shows early Illinois Central train work. Right: The Galena Gazette of Feb. 1, 1870 listed the train schedule.

It was 1854 when the railroad finally arrived in Galena

by Steve Repp

Although Galena originally came into prominence as a river town, railroads have played an important part in its history. Western expansion was a big part of the American scene during the nineteenth century. During a good part of that time period, Galena was the center of the lead-

mining region of the northwest. Transportation connections to the east were mainly by way of the Mississippi River or the overland stagecoach. It was only a matter of time before some kind of a railroad connection made its way to Chicago and eventually to Galena.

Progress began with the Galena and

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6:32 P. M.	(except Sunday)
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This photo from the Alfie Mueller Collection was taken in the early 1900s at Galena's Old Train Depot.

Chicago Union Railroad Company in 1836, but some years would pass before any track was laid. In 1852, the Galena & Chicago Union Railroad had reached as far as Rockford, Illinois and the following year Freeport, Illinois.

When the railroad finally did arrive in Galena in 1854, it was a branch of the Illinois Central, extending from Freeport. Reading through the Galena Daily Advertiser for the years of 1853 through 1855, you can follow the progress being made on the building of the Illinois Central in Jo Daviess County.

In mid-November of 1853 it reported that the town of "Nora is situated 31 miles from Galena on the Central Railroad. It is in the midst of a splendid farming country, and will ultimately make a town of considerable size. The railroad company is now building a depot there. The company is also putting up a freight depot at Warren, Illinois."

In early 1854, the Advertiser reported that "The Illinois Central Railroad was opened for passengers from Freeport to Warren." Several months later it was reported that workers on the Ill. Central were nearly all on strike as they were receiving one dollar a day and the workmen were demanding a dollar and a quarter a day.

By mid-September of 1854, the first regular passenger train of cars arrived at Scales Mound and by late October of that year, passenger service came into Galena. It was in June of 1855 railroad service was made to Dunleith (East Dubuque).

The arrival of the Illinois Central Railroad opened up a good part of the county for the transportation of people and goods. Many towns and communities grew and prospered because of it.

Other railroads that served Galena and parts of Jo Daviess County were the Chicago and Northwestern which came down from Wisconsin. Then the Chicago



A train moves through flood waters at the Illinois Central viaduct near Grant Park.

Burlington and Quincy Railroad, which became known as the Burlington Northern, which ran a spur line from Galena Junction, up the south bank of the Galena River, into the city. The Chicago Great Western ran a railroad line through the central part of Jo Daviess County.

Over the years there were a lot of changes to the names of the different railroads. But they all served Galena and Jo Daviess County for passenger and freight service for many years.

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Tapley Woods

Here's the story, of a woods called Tapley

Traveling on Highway 20 from Elizabeth to Galena, the high ridge road affords beautiful vistas of fields and farms fallen away below. Then, suddenly, the road is bracketed by thick forest. You've just entered Tapley Woods, a mile-long stretch of timber bordering the highway. Picnic tables beckon the weary traveler. Stretch your legs, take a break, enjoy nature.

by Michael Jones

A named woods along the highway is unusual in Illinois. How did this come to be? And who was this Tapley fellow?

Our story begins in, of all places, Buckfastleigh Parish, Devon County, England, at a place with the lovely name Summersbridge. There, the family of Gilbert and

Eleanor Hendy Tapley was enumerated in the 1861 census: Gilbert was 31; Eleanor, 27; William Isaac, 2; and brother John Gilbert, 1. The two-year-old English toddler, William, would grow up to be the person for whom Tapley Woods would be named.

Life and work were hard. At age 13,



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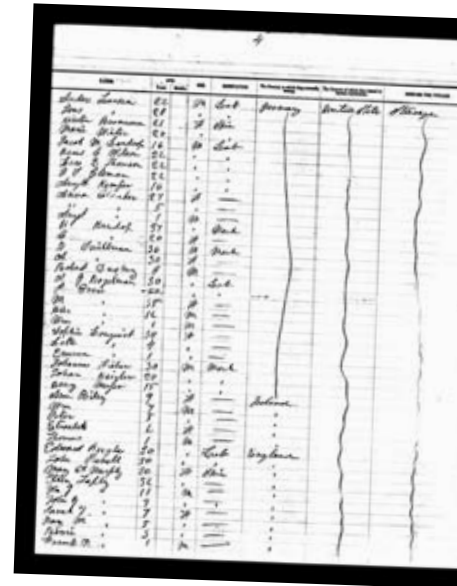


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Gilbert Tapley was a farm laborer. In 1851 he was a wool comber. In 1861, a copper miner.

Gilbert immigrated to the United States in 1868. He was looking for the perfect place to improve his prospects and raise his growing family. He found his paradise on a farm near Weston, a hamlet in Elizabeth township. Eleanor, with their six children, crossed the ocean a year later (a parenting experience which needs to be recognized and applauded).

Enconced in Jo Daviess County, Gilbert Tapley was first employed as a miner. Later, he and his sons farmed. Two more children joined the family.

Later, there was a harrowing interlude in the promised land of North Dakota. Here's a reporter relating why the Tapley family patriarch moved his family back to Weston: "He has had all he wants of North Dakota, . . . having been frozen out, burned out, and generally pursued by bad luck every year. He thinks there is no place like Jo Daviess County and will endeavor to make up for his eight years' absence, which he counts as entirely lost."

Back in Elizabeth Township, son William Isaac married Araminta "Minta" D. Goldthorp in 1888. They farmed. In 1891, William's mother, Eleanor, died of brain fever at William's home.

Fast forward to 1936. Residents of northwest Illinois appealed to Governor Henry Horner to preserve at least a portion



of the tract of timber framing Highway 20. The governor was said to have "desired the timberland as a park site since his first trip along the picturesque Terrapin Ridge road."

The area, though beautiful, was known as "Rattlesnake Woods." In fact, signs proclaimed that name and cautioned wayfarers about the serpents.

William I. Tapley was in the process of selling the land to a lumber company. Rattlesnake Woods consisted of virgin timber—white, red and black oak, hickory—almost all hardwood. The lumber company planned to cut down the ancient trees for railroad ties. People were not happy.

Negotiations commenced. The state of Illinois purchased "the cut-over tract...as a highway park, 450 acres in addition to the highway strip, with practically half the timber...left untouched" on both sides of Highway 20. The site would be a "perpetual picnic ground." And so it came to be.

Today, Tapley Woods is managed by the

Illinois Departments of Natural Resources and Transportation. It's a popular hunting spot. The foresight of local residents and the state of Illinois ensures that this mile-long strip of woods remains for all of us, visitors and locals alike, to enjoy.

Gilbert Tapley died in 1916. He cut a striking figure in his old age. Araminta Tapley died in 1930; William I. Tapley in 1944. All are buried in Weston Cemetery in Elizabeth Township.

In the past, places were descriptively named, the names often doubling as a warning. In our area alone, we had Fever River, now Galena River; Death's Head (Tete des Morts); now St. Donatus; Hardscrabble, now Hazel Green; Smallpox Creek (still with us and so named) and... Rattlesnake Woods, now Tapley Woods.

"Tapley Woods" is so much more inviting to picnickers and passersby than its predecessor. No word on what the snakes thought.



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A helping hand for beautiful bluebirds

by Sara Millhouse

Every week during bluebird nesting season, volunteer monitor Abigail Issleb, age 12, knocks on nesting boxes, then carefully looks inside to see who has taken up house. If she's lucky, she'll see eggs.

"Once I even saw babies," Abigail said. "They were sleeping. It was adorable. They were fluffy, so they didn't have their full feathers yet."

Male eastern bluebirds are bright, Cape Cod blue on their head, back and wings, with rusty orange on their throat and chest. Females have similar coloring in a more muted palette, with a slate-colored back and a lighter, softer orange on the belly.

Declining numbers of these beautiful birds have galvanized conservationists to build secure nest boxes to replace old trees and wooden fence posts where the birds traditionally nested.

Abigail explained the rationale behind nest box specifications. "It gives them a lot of support, so they don't have to do as much work" building their nest, she said. "It's kind of like the crook of a tree."

The roof shelters the baby birds from the

elements, and a metal cage around the front of the nest box "is really important because it's big enough for them to get through, but predators can't crawl through," Abigail continued.

Eastern bluebird nest boxes should have a hole exactly 1.5 inches in diameter to let bluebirds in and out. They are best placed in open areas, not in overgrown woods.

"If you build it, they will come," doesn't always work when it comes to nature. Or, to be more precise, you don't always get what you want. About "50 percent of the time," in Abigail's estimation, house sparrows take over bluebird nest boxes.

House sparrows are originally from Europe and are considered invasive in the U.S., where they often outcompete native birds. At one of the nest boxes we visited, a sparrow had built a nest directly on top of the cushion of an old bluebird nest.

The species' nests are as distinctive as their attitudes. Sparrow nests are built with pieces "all over the place," while bluebird nests are tidy and tightly formed from grass, Abigail explained.

Many monitors destroy house sparrow

nests to keep this prime real estate open for native species. Other times, nest boxes are taken over by insects such as wasps and ants.


"About 25 percent of the time," Abigail explains, house wrens find the nest boxes. House wrens are native to this area, and human monitors like Abigail leave them alone to rear their young and move on.

The other "25 percent of the time," bluebirds find the boxes. Since many bluebirds nurture several broods each year, each nest box can mean many bluebird hatchlings get a safer start at life. "We've had a ton of bluebirds," Abigail said.

A female bluebird carefully incubates her eggs for about two weeks. After they hatch, both parents work together to feed the chicks for about two more weeks, when the young are nearly ready to leave the nest.

Abigail learned about bluebirds from veteran monitor Amy Hardwicke, who mentored her and taught her that monitoring improves outcomes for those tiny, vulnerable hatchlings. Passing on such data can also help scientists understand trends in bird populations on a larger scale.

Jo Daviess County has had an active



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bluebird recovery program for more than 25 years under the direction of Joan Harmet, a former vice-president of the North American Bluebird Society. More than 25,000 bluebirds have successfully fledged from Jo Daviess County nest boxes as a result of the program.

Monitoring fits Abigail's active personality. "I like this, because I get to walk around, and I get to breathe in fresh air," she said.

You might not catch her motionless staring through binoculars, though. "I honestly don't really like birding all that much. It's more sitting around, and I'm not a very patient person."

We met at Horseshoe Mound Preserve, one of the places where Abigail has monitored nest boxes. The preserve is open to the public from dawn to dusk, with some closures for hunting.

To visit Horseshoe Mound, enter from 1679 N. Blackjack Road. The lane is gravel at the entrance but becomes paved as you

wind up the steep hill to the parking area. From there, you can explore about 200 acres with trails and panoramic views of Galena and the surrounding countryside, including Iowa and Wisconsin.

Horseshoe Mound is the literal high point in a group of properties owned or managed by the non-profit Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation on the east side of Galena and extending all the way from the top of the 1,063-foot mound to the Galena River. Galena Gateway Park is located to the north of Highway 20 east of Galena, and Buehler Preserve can be visited by taking the Galena River Trail north and west from the Meeker Street Bridge.

Weekly bluebird box monitoring is a great opportunity to see other animals as well. Abigail likes seeing turkey vultures riding the thermals high above her head. "They're really lazy, like me," she said. "I can relate to them. And they eat leftovers, just like me."

Along with other family members, Abigail continues to monitor bluebird nest boxes at their home in West Galena township. Each week, they record data including what species is occupying the nest box, how many eggs are laid, when the eggs are expected to hatch, how many hatch, when the birds are expected to fledge and how many survive to fledgling.

In doing so, they're conducting valuable citizen science. Though the data must be comparable across the country, Abigail finds a way to make her volunteer reporting reflect her personality as well. "My favorite part is making little jokes in the notes section," she said with a grin.

Above: Twelve-year-old Abigail Issleb volunteers at Horseshoe Mound Preserve, one of the properties maintained by the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation (JDCF). For a full listing of JDCF properties that can be visited, even in winter, see the next page.

Casper Bluff Land and Water Reserve

870 S Pilot Knob Rd, Galena

Casper Bluff Land and Water Reserve offers rich Native American history on its 100-acre site of prairies, savannas and effigy mounds. Breathtaking views of the Mississippi River, Iowa and Illinois can be seen from dawn until dusk at Casper Bluff. There are 51 burial mounds indicating that the area served as ceremonial grounds for the Late Woodland Indians. On the property, visitors will also find the last known intact Thunderbird Effigy Mound in the state.



Galena Gateway Park

9300 W Powder House Hill Rd, Galena

Visit one of Illinois' most scenic views, overlooking downtown Galena and surrounding mounds. Galena Gateway Park includes natural prairies with an always-changing population of wild flowers and woodlands. There are mowed and gravel paths for hiking, running, mountain biking, bird watching and picnicking.

Horseshoe Mound Preserve

1679 N Blackjack Rd, Galena

Located at the eastern gateway to the historic city of Galena, the 40-acre Horseshoe Mound features a central gathering area with a stone compass, viewing scopes, hiking trails and scenic outlooks with a 40-mile view including parts of Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin and the Mississippi River, making Horseshoe the perfect place to watch the sunset.

Wapello Land & Water Reserve

8642 Illinois 84 South, Hanover

Named after the original name of Hanover and the chief of the Fox Indians, Wapello is located just south of Hanover. Referred to as the "John Chapman Archaeological Site" by the National Register of Historic Places, Wapello was the meeting point of two Native American cultures, the northern Woodland and southern Mississippian Native American tribes. Walking trails, featuring effigy mounds and barred villages, are equipped with interpretive signage.

Valley of Eden Bird Sanctuary

5559 E Rush Creek Rd, Stockton

Explore 109 acres of prairie, forest and grassland at the only bird sanctuary in the county, which offers a peaceful environment to watch the sun set. It features six miles of walking trails and two observation decks for bird watching. So far, over 120 species of birds have been identified on site.

Buehler Preserve

102 Jefferson St, Galena

The eastern portion of Buehler Preserve contains a hilly woodland; the western portion, a flood plain that offers water filtration, a prairie restoration and open space values in close proximity to the city of Galena. The Galena River Trail, open for bikers, dog walkers and hikers, extends from the Meeker Street footbridge.

Schurmeier Teaching Forest

147 E Reusch Rd, Elizabeth

In memory of their parents, Jerry and Jon Schurmeier donated 52 acres of land to JDCF in 1994. With the help of the North-west Illinois Forestry Association and a grant from the Illinois Council on Forestry Development, the Schurmeier Teaching Forest was created on the 11 westernmost acres of the property. This is the only teaching forest in Illinois. The site consists of rugged hillside that is entirely wooded.

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A person wearing a yellow helmet, safety glasses, and a bright green shirt is ziplining through a dense forest canopy. They are holding onto a rope and are positioned in the lower left of the frame. The background is filled with lush green trees and foliage, with sunlight filtering through the leaves. The title "Adventure awaits" is overlaid in large white serif font on the left side of the image.

Adventure awaits

Long Hollow Canopy Tours

3247 W Longhollow Road, Galena, 815-281-2853, longhollowcanopytours.com. Embark on a 2.5-hour, completely guided zipline tour, where well-trained guides take groups of up to eight into the canopy of Tapley Woods. Also check out the high ropes challenge course to highlight the rolling hills and unique wildlife of this area. The course includes many classic challenge obstacles like a cargo net climb, a tightrope walk and a wooden bridge jump.



Chestnut Mountain Resort

8700 W Chestnut Mountain Road, Galena, 800-397-1320, chestnutmtn.com. Take a drive into the country and you will find Chestnut Mountain Resort atop the hills where skiers and snowboarders enjoy their winter sports. The hills are still filled with adventure as the Alpine Slide takes over in the warmer months. Race down 2,050 feet of tailored track on a sled to the banks of the Mississippi on the ride of your life. A ski lift whisks you back to the top of the mountain where a gorgeous panoramic view of the Mississippi River valley is unveiled. Also try out the Soaring Eagle Zipline, Segway tours and mini golf. There are trails suitable for mountain biking as well, with a map available at chestnutmtn.com.

Adventures in Galena & Jo Daviess County



Champagne on Main

116 S. Main St., Galena, 815-777-6007, champagneonmaingalena.com. Champagne on Main is a champagne bar with charcuterie boards and specialty cocktails. Sit back and relax on Main Street while trying out a taste of Galena.

General Grant Walking Tour

DeSoto House Hotel, 230 S Main St, Galena, 815-777-9129. Join General Grant, portrayed by Bob Buman, for a one-hour walk down Galena's historic Main Street. Tours are conducted every Saturday at 10 am and noon, May through October. Pet friendly and runs rain or shine.

Haunted Galena Tour Co.

304 S Main St, Galena, 815-990-7203, hauntedgalenatourcompany.com. The Haunted Galena Tour Company offers participants a glimpse into the past. The tour covers most of Main Street, starting at Haunted Galena's companion store, A Darkness Lovely, and wrapping up at the DeSoto House Hotel, with many haunted spots along the way. The old jail, the Dowling House and the Old Market House are just some of the stops.

Hoof It Goat Treks

616 S Devil's Ladder Road, Galena, 563-663-6944, hoofit-galena.com. It's all about the fun, the laughter and pure joy of walking with goats through native prairies and forest. Lace up your shoes and get ready to hoof it! All guides, a.k.a. trekkers, have an inherent knowledge of the land and the animals. They have grown up on the property, raised their families there and are excited to share it with you. Join a wine trek, book a bonfire trek or enjoy live music around the fire after hoofing it.

All About a Ghost Tour

230 S Main St, Galena, 815-777-9252. By day, Steve Repp works at the Galena Public Library, combing through historical documents and newspaper clippings. But by night, he prowls

Blaum Bros. Distillery

9380 US 20, Galena, 815-777-1000, blaumbros.com. Come to the distillery for a comprehensive look at the art of distilling. From the distillation area, to the barrel room, to the tasting room and cocktail bar, you will take a journey through the entire process of how Blaum Bros. spirits are hand-crafted in historic Galena. Take a tour to touch, taste and feel the ingredients that make the spirits unique!

the streets of downtown Galena—giving ghost tours. Enjoy the perfect mix of “History and Mystery” on Repp’s All About a Ghost Tour. The walking tour takes participants through the downtown.

P.T. Murphy Magic

204 Hill St, Galena, 779-214-0035, ptmurphy.com. Galena's #1 attraction—Trip Advisor 2013 and 2014. The setting for this intimate encounter with illusion is P.T. Murphy's private 24-seat theater located in the heart of historic downtown. Matinee and evening performances available. Call for show times.

Scent Workshop

307 S Main St, Galena, 309-530-9786, scentworkshop.com. The Scent Workshop is a fragrance studio where guests experience the art of French perfumery to make custom scented candles, perfumes, colognes, diffusers and more. This is an all-age workshop experience during which guests learn to layer fragrance to create their own scent and transform it into an item of choice. The Scent Workshop experience is perfect for date nights, birthdays, bachelorette and wedding parties or family gatherings. Scent is the first thing someone notices, and the last thing they forget, so come create some memories.

Belvedere Mansion

1008 Park Ave, 815-777-0747, belvedere-mansionandgardens.com. Built in 1857, the Belvedere has been considered the finest mansion in Galena. Tour the elegant interior and landscaped gardens. Open for tours May–November.

Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa

444 Eagle Ridge Dr, Galena, 815-777-5000, eagleridge.com. Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa offers fun in the warmer months with golf and other activities. There are 22 miles of hiking and biking trails to explore. Go cross-country skiing, ice skating, and explore the winter outdoors. Those ready for more adventure can check out the Shenandoah Riding Center.



Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation

Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation offers many different relaxing places to visit. From hiking at Rutherford Refuge to taking in the views at Horseshoe Mound, there are many places to have a minute to yourself.



Shenandoah Riding Center

200 N Brodrecht Rd, Galena, 815-777-9550, thegalenaterritory.com. A little bit of everything for horse lovers. There are trail rides, pony parties, riding lessons, wagon rides, lead lines and more at this facility. The location in The Galena Territory makes it the perfect spot to take in the beauty of the area on scenic trail rides. Fun for all ages.

STOCKTON

Gateway To Jo Daviess County

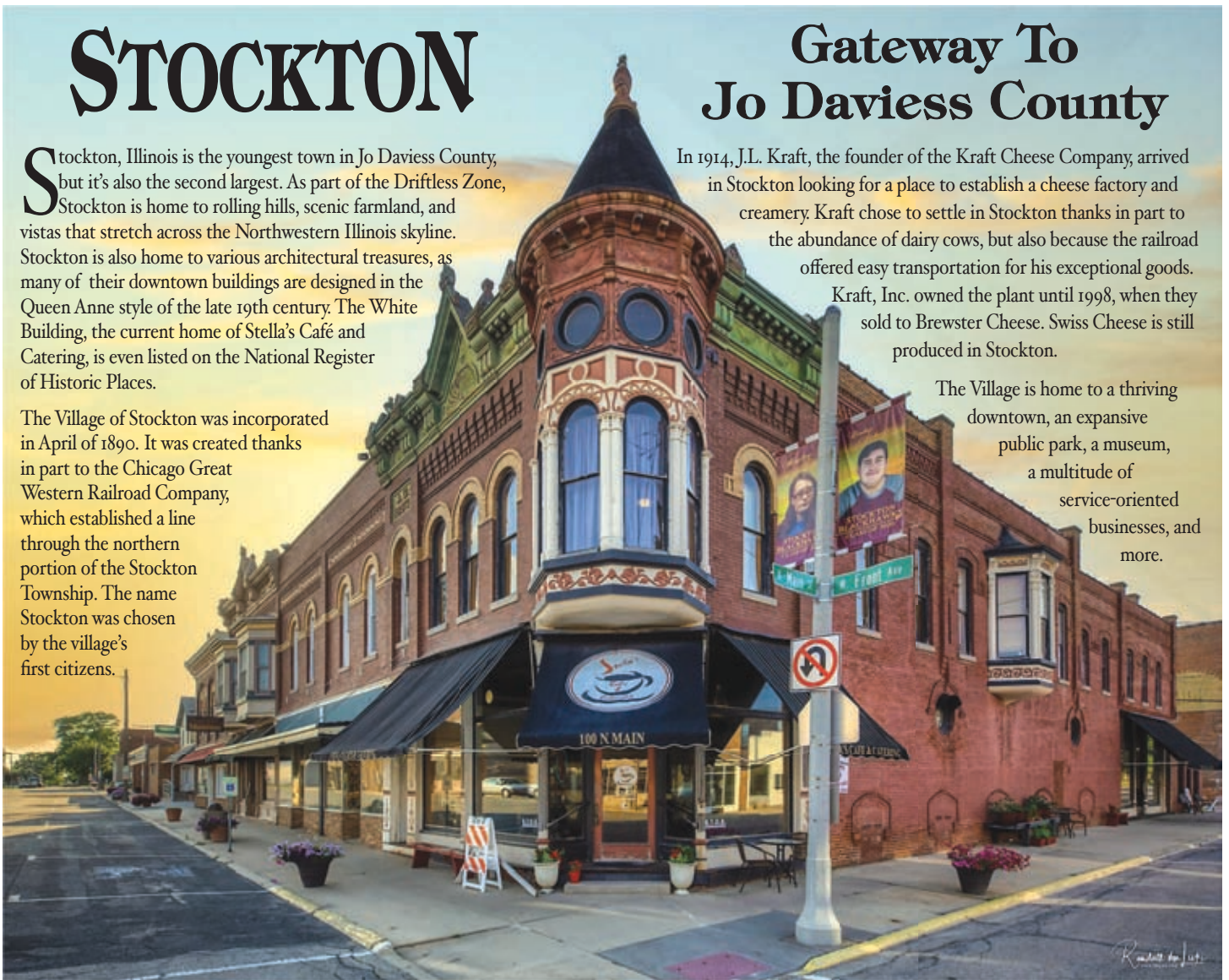
Stockton, Illinois is the youngest town in Jo Daviess County, but it's also the second largest. As part of the Driftless Zone, Stockton is home to rolling hills, scenic farmland, and vistas that stretch across the Northwestern Illinois skyline. Stockton is also home to various architectural treasures, as many of their downtown buildings are designed in the Queen Anne style of the late 19th century. The White Building, the current home of Stella's Café and Catering, is even listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Village of Stockton was incorporated in April of 1890. It was created thanks in part to the Chicago Great Western Railroad Company, which established a line through the northern portion of the Stockton Township. The name Stockton was chosen by the village's first citizens.

In 1914, J.L. Kraft, the founder of the Kraft Cheese Company, arrived in Stockton looking for a place to establish a cheese factory and creamery. Kraft chose to settle in Stockton thanks in part to the abundance of dairy cows, but also because the railroad offered easy transportation for his exceptional goods.

Kraft, Inc. owned the plant until 1998, when they sold to Brewster Cheese. Swiss Cheese is still produced in Stockton.

The Village is home to a thriving downtown, an expansive public park, a museum, a multitude of service-oriented businesses, and more.



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Take a walk through Greenwood CEMETERY

Actors present living histories in September

Performers of the September Cemetery Walk will explore the lives of past residents, sharing stories that shine a light on the people who made our region what it is today.

The Cemetery Walk is one of the Galena-Jo Daviess County Historical Society's major fundraising events. A team of researchers, actors and supporters put countless hours of preparation into each year's Walk to create a remarkable experience.

Writer and co-directors Ronn Toebaas and Jay Dickerson rely heavily on research by local historian Scott Wolfe and Historical Society Board Member Kris Chapman to find the facts behind the people who are portrayed in each Walk.

You can be a living witness at Greenwood Cemetery Sept. 17-18. Shows start every 20 minutes from 1 to 4:30 p.m. Proceeds go to the Galena-Jo Daviess County Historical Society's mission to preserve the stories of the region. There's also an indoor performance at the Galena Center for the Arts the following weekend.

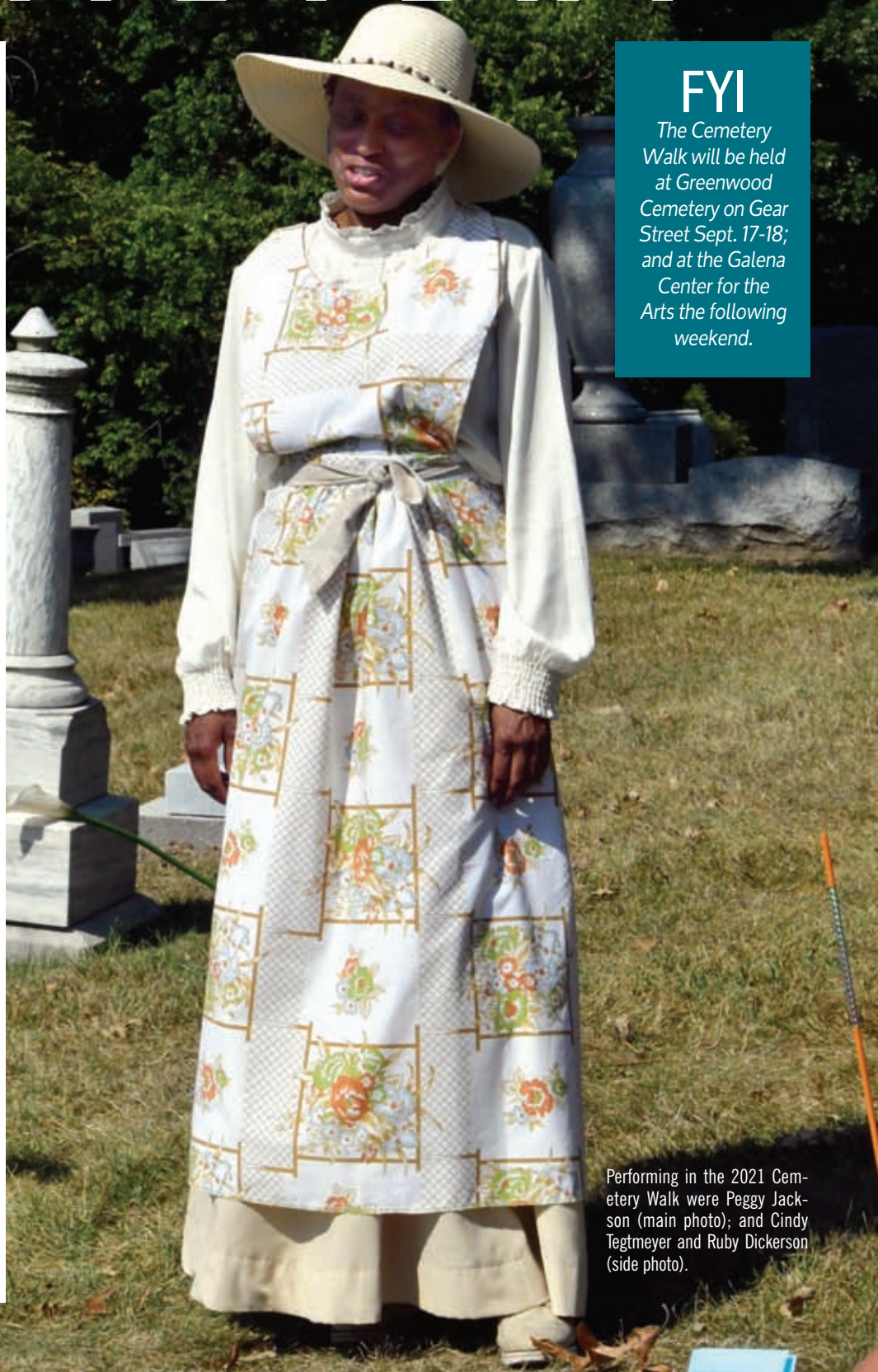
This year, there are eight local performers in six scenes. You can hear the stories of a carpetbagger couple; Galena's first businesswoman; and a man who met with President U.S. Grant to see if one of Grant's colonels was good enough to marry his daughter.

Call 815-777-9129 or visit galenahistory.org. Tickets are available at the gate only on the day of the performances.



FYI

The Cemetery Walk will be held at Greenwood Cemetery on Gear Street Sept. 17-18; and at the Galena Center for the Arts the following weekend.



Performing in the 2021 Cemetery Walk were Peggy Jackson (main photo); and Cindy Tegtmeier and Ruby Dickerson (side photo).



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Some of Galena's most challenging

RUNS



Above: Are you ready to run these stairs seven times? You could, in the Heroes for History Stair Run! Right: Emergency personnel often run this event in full gear, in honor of the first responders during the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.



The Galena River Fall Half Marathon & 8K takes runners on the scenic Galena River Trail.

by Jay Dickerson

Some of the most challenging runs are planned in Galena in the coming months, and all are for a good cause.

The **Heroes for History Stair Run** is a 5K that benefits emergency services. Planned for Saturday, Sept. 10, the run is sponsored by the Galena/Jo Daviess County Historical Society.

This run starts at the Old Galena High School steps. Runners head up the steps, and then hang a right onto Prospect Street. Runners then turn right, onto Hill Street, and head straight downhill, passing the Galena Fire Department, and turn right onto Bench Street. From there, runners follow Bench Street until the route repeats back onto the Old High School steps.

What makes this a challenging course: Runners do the steps seven times.

Our recommendation: It is perfectly fine to save your knees and walk up the steps. Veteran runners walk the steps. First-time runners walk the steps. So can you.

The best part of this run: You're giving back to the community to emergency services!

Another run for a good cause: the fifth annual **Galena River Fall Half Marathon & 8K**. Planned Saturday, Oct. 29, the run challenges participants on the well-groomed, steady Galena River Trail. This is the perfect run for those who want to try a half marathon for the first time.

The course begins at the Old Train Depot parking area, under the U.S. 20 bridge. Runners in the half marathon follow the Galena River Trail 5.5 miles, and then return to the start. Runners





Main Street is the starting point for the Shamrock Shimmy in March! The course takes runners on a route through Galena's historic brick downtown.

then proceed in the other direction on the trail, toward Buehler Preserve, for a short out-and-back for the remaining mileage. The 8K starts the same, but has an earlier turnaround.

What makes this a challenging course: Due to the Halloween Parade, the course will close at 11:30 a.m.

Our recommendation: Make use of the many hydration stations along the way. Distance running takes mental discipline. Make sure your earbuds are charged.

The best part of this run: The organizers pick a family and donate proceeds from the event. Funds are going right back to people in need.



The **Galena Elks Club's Shamrock Shimmy** is held the same day the Elks hold the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. Typically held on a Saturday, the course starts on Main Street, in front of the Elk's Club, and loops through downtown Galena. The run features a mini-shimmy for kids before the 5K run. The 2023 date has not yet been set.

What makes this a challenging course: It's March in the Midwest. It might be 25 degrees out. It might be 75 degrees out. Who knows?

Our recommendation: Many locals call this their favorite race. The course ends at the Galena Elks, where—if you just ran a 5K—you certainly deserve a drink.

The best part about this run: This is a key fund-raising event. The Galena Elk's Club distributes Christmas baskets back to the community in December, and throughout the year donates to the Galena Art & Recreation Center (ARC), scholarship programs, the Boy Scouts, the Galena American Legion, the Kiwanis Club of Galena, and other causes in the community.

Each of these runs has a link on Facebook to sign up.



Visit the vendors, or take a break and watch the trains go by during Country Fair weekend. *Jay Dickerson photos*

An annual tradition of giving back: Galena's Country

by Jay Dickerson

Locals know two things about Country Fair:

- It's a great event that gives thousands back to community causes; and
- It's where we go for the Galena Elk's Club fries.

With more than 40 years of giving back to the community, Country Fair is planned for Grant Park in Galena on Saturday, Oct. 8, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, Oct. 9, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The event brings more than 100 hand-selected art, craft and fine art vendors selling high-quality, original, handmade items. Want to get a jump start on your holiday gift shopping? There's home decor, seasonal, clothing, toys, jewelry, photography, gifts

FAIR

and more. The event also brings local charitable organizations out.

The Galena Music Booster Club helps park cars at the Old Train Depot. The Workshop runs the walking tacos booth. Learn about their mission with corn chip bag in hand.

The Kiwanis Club of Galena runs a caramel apple sundae booth. Hear about their annual scholarship program while you enjoy a cool treat.

The line is steady at the Galena Elk's Club for their famous fries. One bite and you'll see why.

The event started in 1979 as a way to raise money for a potential foster home in the community.

Years passed, and the event grew. Since 2003, when Jo Daviess Country Fair Charities, Inc., became associated with the fair, more than \$1 million has been returned to the communities of Jo Daviess County through donations to not-for-profit organizations and a grant program.

Monies from the fair have supported a wide range of causes including strengthening our communities' emergency services and preparedness, developing programs for youth, and improving the well-being of the citizens of Jo Daviess County.



Putting on a proper

HALLOWEEN

Fire blasts into the air, its light dancing off the historic brick walls. A pirate ship goes by, followed by an AT-AT Walker, direct from the planet Hoth.

It's just another Halloween Parade in Galena.

Main Street's the place for the 45th annual Galena Area Chamber of Commerce Halloween Parade, set to begin on the corner of Main and Franklin streets at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 29.

The parade will head down Main Street, toward the flood gates.



To accommodate the high volume of parade goers, there are shuttles operating that evening. Parking will be prohibited on Main Street that afternoon. Officials begin diverting traffic away from Main Street shortly

before the parade, to accommodate the floats, school buses loaded with marching bands and other parade participants. More information is available at galena-chamber.com.



AMA Pro Motocross champion Chad Wienen, a lifelong Galenian, thrills the audience at a Halloween Parade.



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Elizabeth was incorporated in 1868 and provides a glimpse of the past as well as maintaining an up-to-date infrastructure.

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DECEMBER



Living Windows is planned for Saturday, Dec. 10.



Galena's annual fireworks in December, Holiday Diamonds in the Sky, are planned for Saturday, Dec. 3.

Galena Holiday Festival Dec. 3, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Galena Holiday Festival will be a come and go, family-friendly event that will feature traveling and local artisans with holiday items and local food vendors, live music including Christmas caroling, kids' activities, a Christmas wreath sale, silent auction, and more!

Holiday Diamonds in the Sky Dec. 3, 6:30 p.m.

Watch the evening sky come alive with a spectacular show of fireworks to kick off the holiday season in downtown Galena. Enjoy the fireworks from downtown Galena and the surrounding area. Rain or shine, the event goes on.



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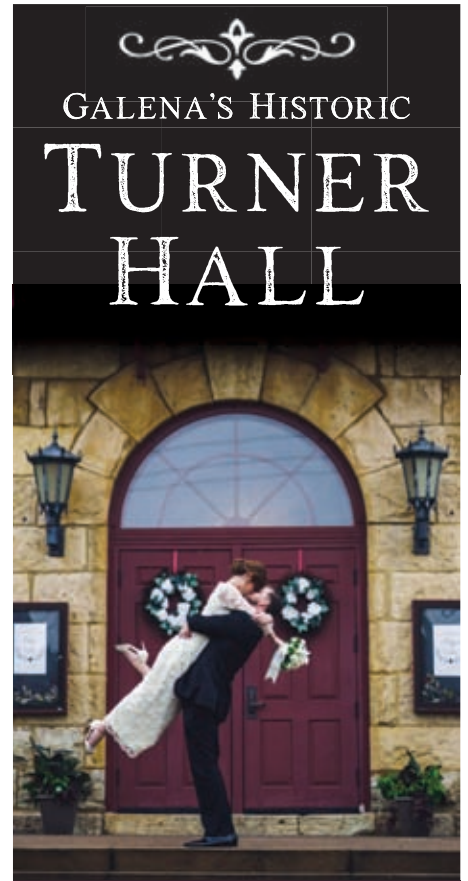
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**Living Windows
& Night of the Luminaria
Dec. 10, 4 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.**

Don't miss one of the most beautiful and romantic visions of the year. More than 5,000 candlelit luminaries line the streets, steps, and sidewalks, and store windows come alive! From Main Street to the hills overlooking Grant Park, all of Galena will be glowing.

From 4-7 p.m., store windows on Main Street come alive with holiday-inspired animation in Living Windows. Local businesses offer extended hours, so take advantage and do some holiday shopping!



Nordic Center

Eagle Ridge Resort, 444 Eagle Dr, Galena, 815-776-5225, eagleridge.com/nordic-center. The Nordic Center offers rental equipment to enjoy on an eight-mile stretch of cross-country trails. Sled down the 18th hole of the south golf course, skate around on a 1.5-acre pond, snowshoe or cross-country ski on seven miles of groomed trails.



Chestnut Mountain Resort

3577 S Blanding Rd, Galena, 800-397-1320, chestnutmtn.com. High above the Mississippi, tucked nicely in the hills near historic Galena, Chestnut Mountain Resort is a premier Illinois resort that offers great outdoor recreation for any season. From late November to early March, you can ski down the hillside on one of 19 trails.



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Shenandoah-10179_1

Jesse Shull is the namesake of the quaint village of Shullsburg. His life also gives us insight into Galena in the tumultuous 1820s, when Euro-Americans were pushing out Native American lead miners.

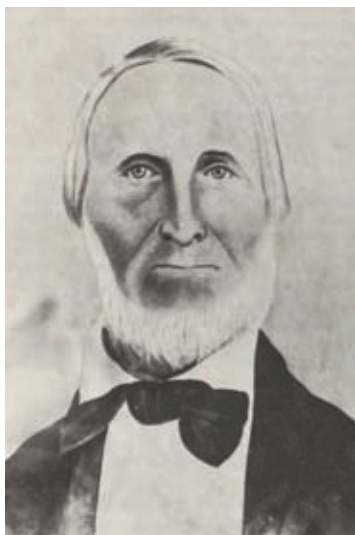
Galena was a vibrant industrial center before Euro-American mining. Meskwaki women and men were shipping out an estimated half a million pounds of lead ore each year from the Buck mine and nearby. Ho-Chunk people mined further north in southwest Wisconsin. In total, Native American miners in the Galena area shipped out an estimated three to 10 million pounds of lead ore.

Historical accounts refer to the Ho-Chunk as Winnebago. Meskwaki were also known as Fox and were closely associated with the Sac or Sauk. Treaties established their mining and land rights, but these rights would soon be in jeopardy.

We know more about Shull than we do about most people who lived in Galena around that time, but we still don't know much. Shull was born in Philadelphia of Dutch descent. The Lafayette County (Wis.) Bicentennial Book describes him as a "slim, active man of quick, nervous temperament."

He trained as a hatmaker and served in the War of 1812 before joining the American Fur Company. They wanted him to trade with Meskwaki miners on the Galena River.

Meskwaki warriors had allegedly killed at least one trader in their mining territory. So Shull and the American Fur Company told



Jesse Shull, and his wife, Melissa Van Matre Shull

Shullsburg

Ambition in the 1820s: The lead boom, Indian displacement and Jesse Shull

by Sara Millhouse

the Meskwaki that Shull's goods were from the U.S. government. If Shull couldn't trade near Galena, the American military would move in.

It was a blatant lie, but it worked. Meskwaki leaders, knowing their rights faced increasing pressure from Americans, decided they would rather have Shull's trading business than American troops.

Shull set up temporary shop near the base of Perry Street in Galena about 1819, moving south to the mouth of the Apple River or north to the future Shullsburg area as business demanded. He may have been married to a Native American woman, as one

riverboat captain recalled meeting Shull and his "Indian wife." No information about her survives.

In 1819, Shull was probably one of two Euro-Americans in the area, but more soon sought to cash in on rich Indian lead. By 1823, Moses Meeker reported the population of Galena as about 2,000 Indians and "less than 100" white people. Black Americans also worked the diggings, some free and some enslaved, in violation of the Northwest Ordinance.

Shull quit the fur business and joined the booming lead trade as well, moving into Ho-Chunk land north of Shullsburg.

Influential Congressman Elihu Washburne tells a story of Shull

seeking mining rights in Indian territory. Washburne was the son-in-law of early French-American pioneer Henry Gratiot, who maintained good relations with the Ho-Chunk.

According to Washburne, Ho-Chunk tribe members took Shull to the top of a hill and shot an arrow north in the direction of a large lode, but promptly drove Shull away when he attempted to mine there. Gratiot subsequently negotiated and paid for the same rights.

Did Shull think he could get away with mining the area without paying the Ho-Chunk for doing so? He didn't succeed, but soon, many American miners moved onto Ho-Chunk land. The increasing invasions, accompanied by rumors, fueled the Winnebago War of 1827.

Though "war" exaggerates the skirmishes, Indian resistance was used as an excuse to force the Ho-Chunk off their valuable mining territory, opening it officially to the Americans whose illegal mining had fueled the conflict in the first place.

The Lafayette County Bicentennial Book of 1976 describes the Winnebago War similarly. "It is hard to blame the Indians, however, since it has been reported that the cause of the Winnebago War was a result of the Shullsburg miners trespassing upon Indian Reserve mining lands... In most cases operations were carried out with utter disregard to the rights of the Indians."

For several years, Shull continued to mine, smelt and trade in the area that came to bear his name. Though

now part of Wisconsin, Shullsburg was one of three precincts in Jo Daviess County, Illinois, in 1827. Shull served in several official roles, even as a Jo Daviess County commissioner in 1828-1829.

In 1826, Shull married Melissa Van Matre, the sister of his friend A. P. Van Matre. Aged 15, Melissa walked from Ohio to Galena to marry Jesse, according to family lore.

By 1835, the couple moved away from the boom, about 20 miles east to Green County, where they raised nine children and farmed on about 400 acres of land for nearly 30 years, even as the town of Shullsburg organized and grew with the mineral boom.

Shull is credited with finding the original Badger mine in Shullsburg, perhaps with the help of a scurrying critter. Today, the Badger Mine & Museum in picturesque Badger Park offers seasonal tours, including a 51-step descent into the mine, where visitors can look into original-dimension side tunnels and learn about the lives of later miners.

Today, when you hear the University of Wisconsin fight song or see Bucky Badger advertising cheese curds, remember that the “Wisconsin Badgers” started here, with miners who dug into the hills like human mustelids.

And when you walk by Main and Perry streets in Galena, stop for a moment and look around you.

Try to imagine yourself in Jesse Shull’s Galena. Today’s buildings are absent, but the whole valley is a hive of activity. In 1820s Galena, you might have heard a jumble of languages and accents: Meskwaki, French, English, Metis, Irish and Scottish brogues, Menominee, Pennsylvania Dutch, Ho-Chunk, Kentucky drawls and the languages of enslaved Africans.

Meskwaki women and men are bringing furs or trading pecks of lead for pecks of corn. Smelters burn on largely bare hillsides. And more and more newcomers are coming every day, driven by ambition to seek their fortune mining Galena’s “grey gold.”



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The Ride the Ups and Downs bike tour starts in Elizabeth. Riders experience the beauty of Jo Daviess County, with the Galena Territory in the background.

The Galena Territory, Illinois

(9 miles E) The Galena Territory, which encompasses 6,800 acres, is home to Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa and numerous outdoor activities including Shenandoah Riding Center, Thunder Bay Falls and Lake Galena and Marina. thegalenaterritory.com

Dubuque, Iowa

(16 miles NW) population 58,000, Dubuque is Iowa's oldest city and is among the oldest settlements west of the Mississippi River. The first permanent Euro-American settler to the area was French-Canadian fur trader Julien Dubuque in 1785. Today Dubuque is known for its casinos, the Mississippi Riverwalk and the National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium. Eagle Point Park provides a panoramic view of Lock and Dam 11 and the Mississippi River valley. traveldubuque.com

Cuba City, Wisconsin

(22 miles N) is known as the City of Presidents. Drive through this community of 2,012 and you can't help but see shields lining its Main Street honoring each of our presidents. Also lining the Main Street are a number of local businesses. The first name of the community was Yuba, but was later changed to Cuba and then Cuba City. cubacity.org

Hazel Green, Wisconsin

(13 miles NE) population 1,200, was the first permanent settlement in Wisconsin in 1825 and is part of the region's mining heritage. In 1831, Lucius Lyon began surveying two miles south of Hazel Green. This "Point of Beginning" is the basis for all descriptions on all property deeds in Wisconsin. villageofhazelgreen.org

Sinsinawa, Wisconsin

(12 miles NW) Sinsinawa is an unincorporated community one mile north of the border with Illinois, just north of Menominee. The town is known for being the mother house of the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters, founded by Father Samuel Mazzuchelli. Sinsinawa Mound hosts numerous events throughout the year and runs a bookstore and art gallery which is open to the public. sinsinawa.org

New Diggings, Wisconsin

(12 miles N) provides a look back at another day and age. St. Augustine Church was founded by Father Samuel Mazzuchelli in 1835 and built in 1844.

Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin

(77 miles NW) population 5,911, is located along the Mississippi River, and has a wide array of natural beauty,

a history dating back many centuries, events all year around, and businesses, shops and attractions. Referred to as Wisconsin's second-oldest city, Prairie du Chien was established by French voyageurs in the late 17th century. prairieduchien.org

Platteville, Wisconsin

(25 miles N) population 11,244, surrounded by rolling topography, the area around Platteville



hosts some of the most breathtaking sights in the state.

Besides being home to a University of Wisconsin campus, Platteville also offers recreational opportunities like fly fishing the Platte and Grant rivers. On the side of Platte Mound stands a large letter "M" that symbolizes the university's mining history. platteville.com

Shullsburg, Wisconsin

(19 miles NE) population 1,200, home of Shullsburg Creamery, is the third-oldest community in Wisconsin with roots in the



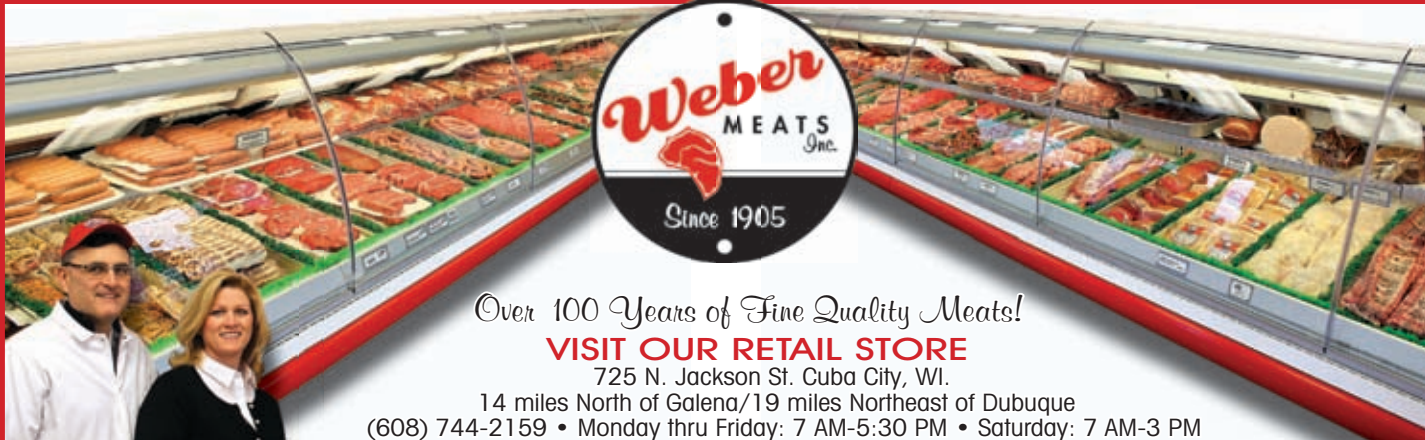
Shullsburg, Wis., has something for everyone.

mining and trapping industries. The last mines were closed in the 1970s, but the Badger Mine & Museum keeps the history alive. A visit to Gravity Hill is a must. experienceshullsburg.com



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Apple Canyon Lake, Illinois

(18 miles E) was developed in 1969 by the Branigar Organization. Activities include water sports, camping and golfing. applecanyonlake.org

Apple River, Illinois

(21 miles NE) population 366, Apple River grew along with the Illinois Central Railroad in 1854. Three churches built in the 1870s—Methodist, Catholic and Presbyterian—still stand.

East Dubuque, Illinois

(10 miles W) population 1,505, is a small, picturesque community with breathtaking views. The city is connected to Dubuque by the Julien Dubuque Bridge. Gramercy Park, a 10-acre city park, is an Illinois Natural Heritage Landmark, and is home to 26 ceremonial and burial mounds from the Middle Woodlands Native American culture.

Elizabeth, Illinois

(12 miles E) population 694, has something for everyone. The town gets its name from the three women, all named Elizabeth, who defended Apple River Fort during the 1832 Black Hawk War. Antique collectors will find a haven of treasures as they explore northwestern Illinois' largest antique mall, the Elizabeth Grand Antique Co. Set in an old school building, each room is full of special finds and gems.

Hanover, Illinois

(18 miles S) population 784, is home to Wapello Land & Water Reserve, a park with premiere prairie restoration. The Apple River runs through the center of the town. Hanover is the Mallard Duck Capital of the World, home to Whistling Wings duck hatchery. In September they celebrate their title with Mallardfest, a weekend of fun including a parade, food, music, duck-calling contest and more.

Savanna, Illinois

(32 miles S) population 3,000, is best known for the Army Depot. The depot, established in 1918, was used for several purposes, including manufacturing, testing and storing of weapons. The military use was gradually phased out, and it is now the Lost Mound Unit of the Upper Mississippi River Wildlife Refuge. savanna-il.us

Scales Mound, Illinois

(12 miles NE) population 378, Scales Mound was



Savanna, Illinois.

founded in 1853. Just west of town on Stagecoach Trail is the famous "Jesus Saves" rock. Ninety percent of the town is on the National Register of Historic Places. scalesmound.com

Stockton, Illinois

(28 miles E) population 1,728, was established after the Minnesota Northwestern Railway, which later became the Chicago Great Western Railway, built a station in Stockton Township in 1886. Stockton's industry grew with the newly added transportation. In 1914, the Kraft brothers opened their first cheese plant in Stockton. Spend a day at the Memorial Park, where you can hit up three playgrounds and a pool all in one, or Kidstown, a wooden playground. Stop by Valley of Eden for rolling hills brimming with a wide variety of birds. Head downtown to enjoy some shopping, local history and mural paintings. Looking to play a round of golf? Visit the 18-hole golf course, Woodbine Bend, just outside Stockton.

Warren, Illinois

(27 miles NE) population 1,600, grew with the arrival of the railroad. Alexander Burnett and Freeman Tisdell founded Warren in 1853. Pumpkin Festival is the last full weekend of September. Take in the community's historic downtown. villageofwarren.com



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WALKING TOUR

Take a stroll downtown, learn some history

Flat Iron Building « 222 N. Main St.

The original building housed Bradley/Taylor House hotels and was three stories until it was destroyed by fire in 1876. The new Italianate structure is only two floors and has housed many different businesses from the People's Bank (original safe still there) to a Justice of the Peace.

J.A. Meusel Cigar Factory « 208-210 N. Main St.

This building was home to the Standard Cigar Factory, one of the many cigar manufacturers in Galena. Tobacco was a cash crop for some county farmers, particularly in the Stockton area. Several businesses now welcome customers here.

Perry Street

The stone laid on this street was originally as a deterrent to erosion, not a paving stone. However, maintaining control of horses and wagons on steep hills was a constant concern in the early days of Galena.

Old Stockade « 208 Perry St.

Originally home to trader Amos Far-rar, during the Black Hawk War this home-stead was transformed into a refuge for women and children. It never had to be used. The home has been remodeled since its days as a stockade.



Hempstead Store « 100 N. Main St.

The second floor of this building was home to the law office of John A. Rawlins, one of Galena's nine Civil War generals. He later served as Grant's chief of staff. Today it's the Galena Kandy Kitchen.

Newhall Drug Store « 101-103 S. Main St.

The Newhall Drug Store was built in 1843 by Galena physician and pharmacist, Horatio Newhall, a Yale graduate, who also published Galena's first newspaper, the "Miners Journal." His most notable work was treating cholera victims in the 1832 and 1848 outbreaks. The observations he made about the disease and its spread were considered some of the best of that period. The addresses are now home to Outside the Lines Gallery and Strawberry Lane.

Barrows & Coatsworth Stores « 120-126 S. Main St.

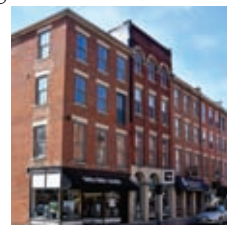
This section of buildings housed the leather goods shop of Jesse Grant (U.S. Grant's father). Located at 120 S Main St., you can shop in the same store where U.S. Grant worked from 1860 to 1861.

Schmohl Building « 215-217 S. Main St.

Lena Schmohl's millinery store in the 1850s. In 1886, after her husband died, Lena built and installed Galena's first hydraulic elevator. She was a highly respected business leader long before most women had the opportunity.

Davis Block « 304-310 S. Main St.

This was the very first all-brick block in Galena. Consisting of five stores, the block housed a jewelry store owned by Civil War general John E. Smith, and office to controversial lawyer M.Y. Johnson.



Barrows & Coatsworth Building



Hempstead Store



DeSoto House Hotel « 230 S. Main St.

Named after the discoverer of the Mississippi River, the DeSoto House Hotel opened in 1855 at Galena's economic peak. The hotel was billed as the "Largest Hotel in the West," and was built to service the many people arriving in Galena. Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas spoke on the hotel's balcony on separate occasions. The hotel also served as the venue of Ulysses

S. Grant's reception ball and celebration after his homecoming from the Civil War. His presidential campaign headquarters were also housed in the DeSoto in rooms 209 and 211.

The historic DeSoto House Hotel now offers 55 guest rooms with private baths, three dining areas, a ballroom, conference and banquet rooms, specialty shops and a private parking garage.



Dowling House « 220 Diagonal St.

Galena's oldest house, Dowling House, was built of limestone by John Dowling in 1826. At one time, the house was the only trading post in the city and was equipped with

primitive living quarters and hosted many fur traders in years past.

Now open for tours, guides offer visitors a complete history of the house and the city.

U.S. Customs House/Post Office « Green & Commerce

The U.S. Post Office and Customs House is still the second oldest continuously owned and operated post office in the United States. The Renaissance Revival style used by architect Ammi B. Young was the first standardized style to be used throughout the country by the U.S. government.

The superintendent of construction was engineer Ely S. Parker, a Native American with the Seneca nation who was raised on a reservation in western New York State.

The post office sits at the corner of Green and Commerce streets in Galena. Parker would go on to become a brigadier general in 1867 and then be appointed U.S. commissioner of Indian affairs in 1869 by President Grant.



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Turner Hall



Old Galena High School

WALKING TOUR

Grace Episcopal Church « 107 S. Prospect St.

The Grace Episcopal church was built partly from stone quarried at the site. The original 1837 Henry Erben organ has been restored, making it the oldest organ still in use in Illinois.



Felt Manor « 125 S. Prospect St.

This house was originally built in the 1850s for dry goods merchant Lucius Felt. What you see today, however, is a “new” version, as the house went under major remodeling in 1874. The “new” house was done in the Second Empire style and sports a large dance hall under the mansard roof. The outside double stairway cost thousands of dollars and was for many years known as “Felt’s Folly.”



Old Galena High School « 411 S. Prospect St.

This massive structure dominates Galena’s skyline. Built after the previous school burned, the new building features a square tower with four circular openings, each nearly seven feet in diameter. In 1980, the school was sold and converted to condominiums.

Old High School Steps « 106 N. Bench St.

This stairway, originally wooden, has been in this location since the 1850s. In addition to hilltop residents, these stairs serviced hundreds of students who attended the Old Galena High School, which overlooks Galena on the top of the hill.



Dr. Newhall House « 235 S. Bench St.

This building served as the home of Galena’s foremost physician, Dr. Horatio Newhall. Its use as a funeral home goes back over 80 years.



St. Michael’s Catholic Church « 227 N. Bench St.

The current church was built after the previous building burned down. The building was designed and the parish was established by Father Samuel Mazzuchelli. St. Michael’s Parish was made up largely of Irish working-class families.

History Museum « 211 S. Bench St.

Designed by architect William Dennison, who also designed U.S. Grant’s home, this residence was home to Daniel A. Barrows and his family. Barrows was a prominent businessman, owning a confectionery store, distillery and lumber yard. Barrows was also a Republican and Lincoln supporter, which led to his front window being smashed by rocks during a Democratic rally on Bench Street in 1864. In 1938, the city purchased the building and used the front two rooms as city hall until 1967. Today, the building houses the Galena-Jo Daviess County Historical Society & U.S. Grant Museum.





Galena Public Library « 601 S. Bench St

The Galena Public Library's story starts in 1892. Galenian Benjamin Felt's goal was to establish a free public library in the city, and that goal became reality with the dedication and opening of the South Bench Street building on July 4, 1908. Felt donated \$28,500 of the funds, while Andrew Carnegie gave \$12,500 for the neoclassical revival building. The cornerstone of the building is dated April 27, 1907.

Today the mission of the Galena Public Library is to "inspire lifelong learning, advance knowledge, provide cultural and recreational opportunities, and strengthen our community."

The library is open six days a week and closed on Sundays. The library features a historical collections room as well.

To learn more about the Galena Public Library, visit galenalibrary.org or call 815-777-0200.

Galena United Methodist Church « 125 S. Bench St.

The original structure, built in 1832, burned in January 1838. The present church building was dedicated in 1857. General U.S. Grant attended church here with his family. The Grant pew is marked with a U.S. flag.



Turner Hall « 105 S. Bench St.

Constructed by the local Turner Society, Turner Hall was to serve as a public hall for lectures, theater, rallies and events. In 1926, the hall was gutted by fire but then rebuilt. Many famous visitors have been to Turner Hall including William McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt.

First Presbyterian Church « 106 N. Bench St.

The architectural style of this church comes from the East Coast, specifically the New England area. The steeple is said to be copied from the Old South Church of Boston.

St. Rose Academy « 228 N. Bench St.

Designed and built by Father Samuel Mazzuchelli, the St. Rose Academy was an all girls Catholic school also known as "the Academy." From 1868 to 1875, the building was used by the German Lutheran Church as a part of Wartburg College.

Jo Daviess County Courthouse « 330 N. Bench St.

The construction of the Jo Daviess County Courthouse began in 1839 and took five years to complete due to shortages of materials, labor and finances.



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





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GALENA POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1** General Grant's Home
- 2** Old Market House
- 3** Galena & U.S. Grant Museum
- 4** Courthouse
- 5** Blacksmith Shop
- 6** Galena Public Library
- 7** Washburne House
- 8** City Hall
- 9** Galena Center for the Arts
- 10** Galena ARC
- 11** Historic Galena Post Office
- 12** Grant's Pre-Civil War Home
- 13** Gateway Park
- 14** Buehler Preserve
- 15** Pathway on the Levee
- 16** Old City Cemetery & Park
- 17** Recreation Park
baseball diamond, skate park,
playground, water park
- 18** Wiene Park
soccer and baseball fields
- 19** Grant Park
gazebo, picnic areas, fountain,
cannons, playground, U.S. Grant statue
- 20** Muchow Park
- 21** Depot Park
- 22** Boat/Kayak/Canoe Launch
- 23** Kayak/Canoe Launch

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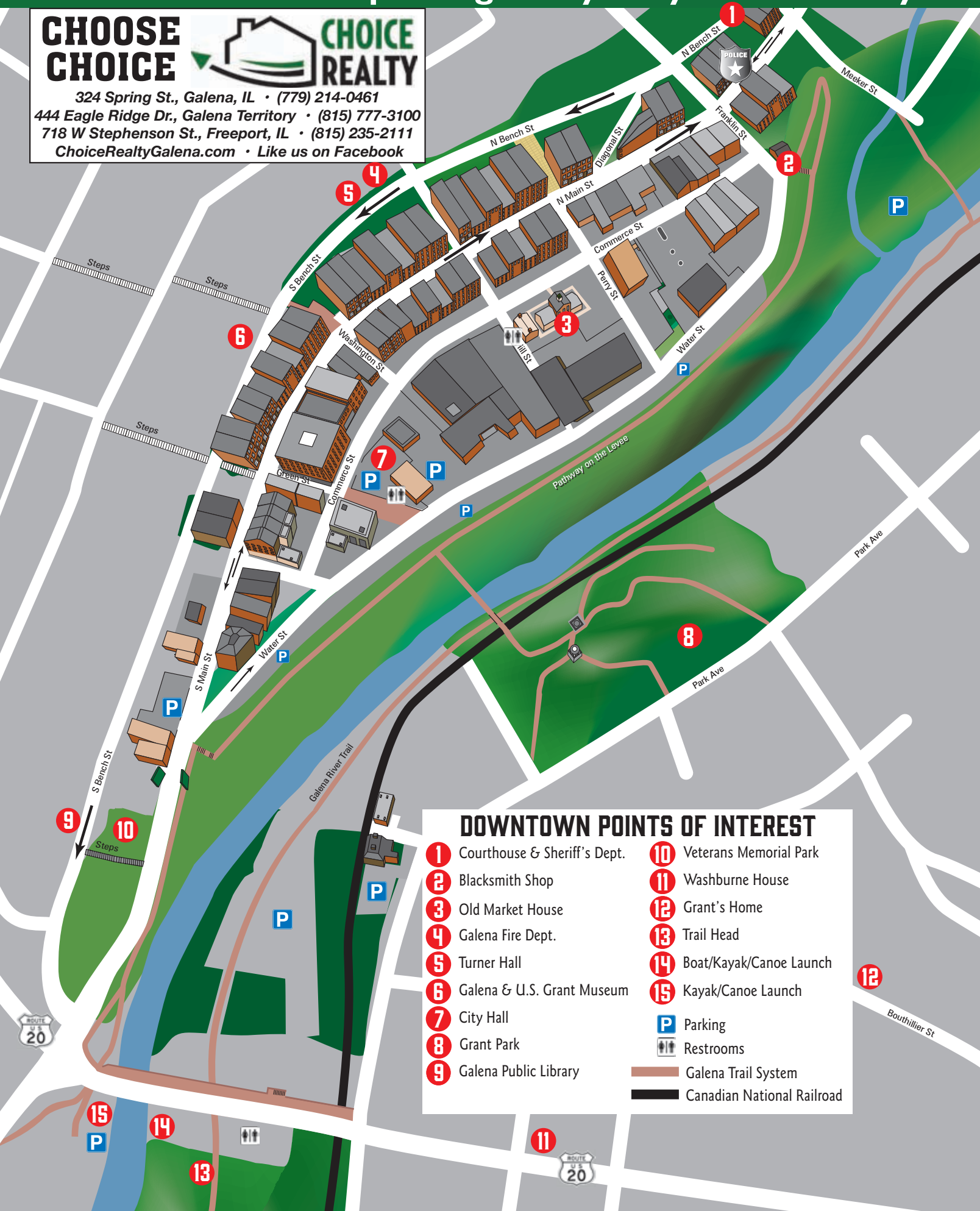
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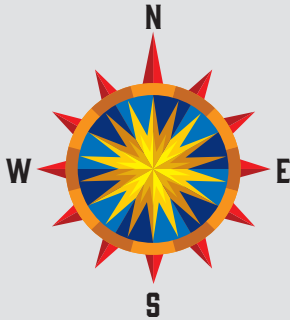
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DOWNTOWN POINTS OF INTEREST

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Courthouse & Sheriff's Dept. | 10 Veterans Memorial Park |
| 2 Blacksmith Shop | 11 Washburne House |
| 3 Old Market House | 12 Grant's Home |
| 4 Galena Fire Dept. | 13 Trail Head |
| 5 Turner Hall | 14 Boat/Kayak/Canoe Launch |
| 6 Galena & U.S. Grant Museum | 15 Kayak/Canoe Launch |
| 7 City Hall | P Parking |
| 8 Grant Park | Restrooms |
| 9 Galena Public Library | Galena Trail System |
| | Canadian National Railroad |

GALENA RIVER TRAIL



MILEAGE

Trailhead to Galena Junction—3.4 miles
 Trailhead to Aiken—5.5 miles
 Trailhead to Meeker Street bridge—0.5 miles
 Trailhead to Buehler Preserve—1.4 miles
 Trailhead to Recreation Park—1.0 mile
 Trailhead to Chestnut Mountain—8.1 miles

LEGEND

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- Parking**
- Public Restrooms**
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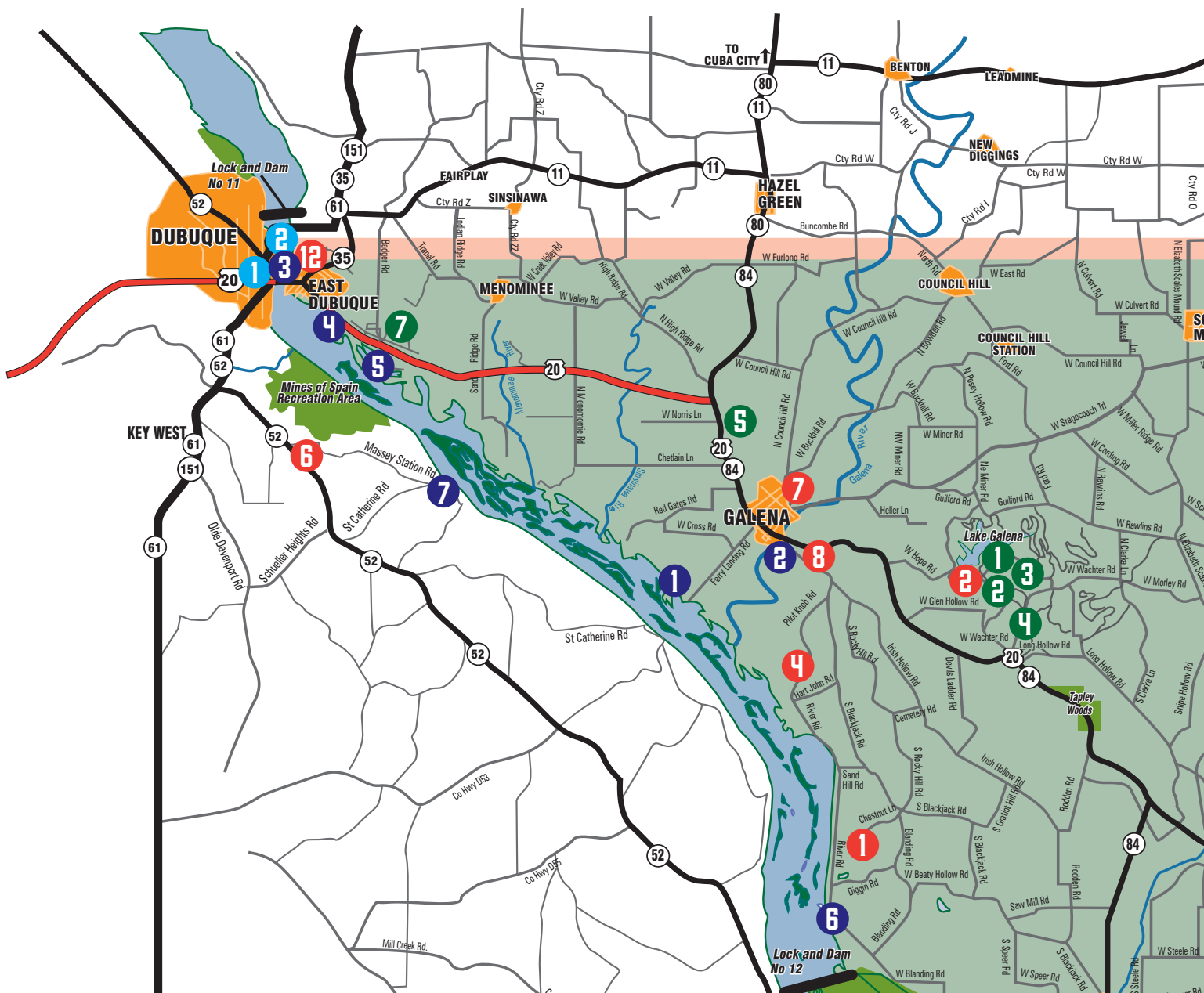


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Recreation

- 1 Chestnut Mountain
- 2 Galena Territory
- 3 Apple Canyon Lake
- 4 Casper Bluff Land & Water Reserve
- 5 Wapello Land & Water Reserve
- 6 Crystal Lake Cave
- 7 Buehler Preserve & Gateway Park
- 8 Horseshoe Mound Preserve
- 9 Schurmeier Teaching Forest
- 10 Valley of Eden Bird Sanctuary
- 11 Apple River Fort
- 12 Gramercy Park
- 13 Rutherford Refuge at Twin Bridges

Casinos

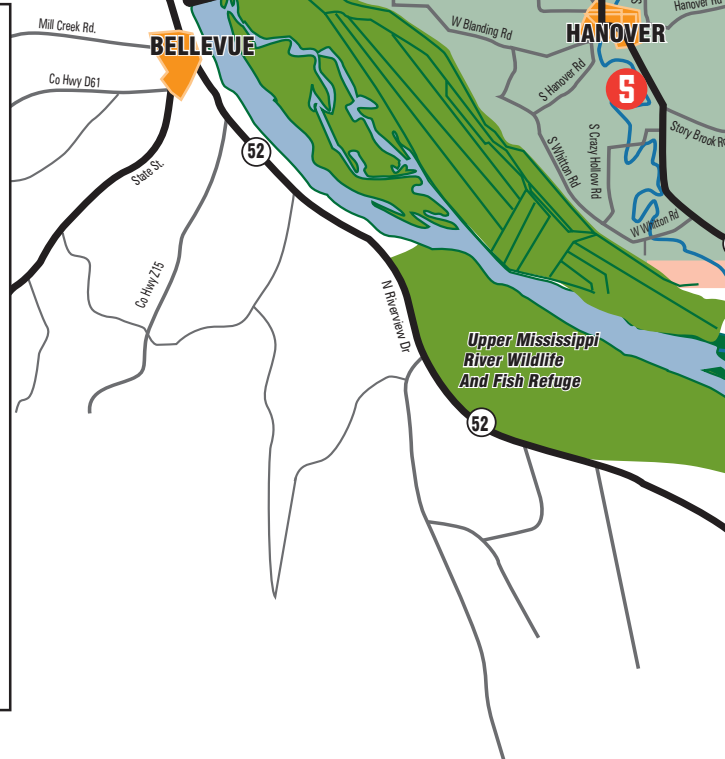
- 1 Diamond Jo Casino
- 2 Mystique Casino

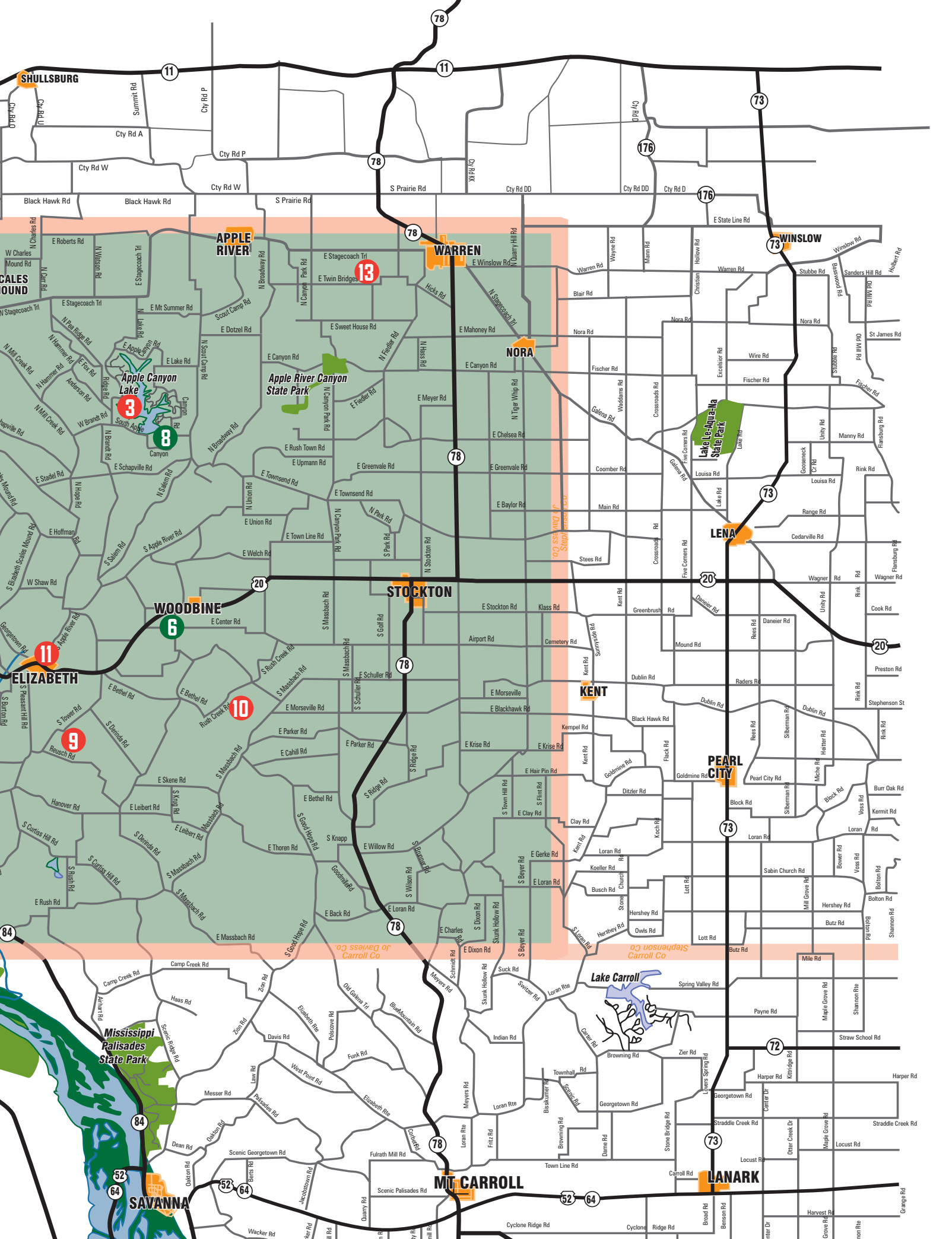
Golf Courses

- 1 Eagle Ridge North Course
- 2 Eagle Ridge South Course
- 3 Eagle Ridge East Course
- 4 Eagle Ridge The General
- 5 Galena Golf Club
- 6 Woodbine Bend
- 7 Lacoma
- 8 Apple Canyon Lake Golf Course

Boat Landings

- 1 Ferry Landing
- 2 Galena Public
- 3 East Dubuque Public
- 4 Midtown Marina
- 5 Frentress Landing
- 6 Blanding Landing
- 7 Massey Station





Nestled in the Southwest corner of Wisconsin is the city of Shullsburg, the state's third oldest city after Green Bay and Prairie du Chien.

Founded in 1827 by a fur trader by the name of Jesse Shull who came to find mining more lucrative than buying furs, the town came to life once he married and established his first home, creating a destination for migrating miners in search of a good living mining the precious lead and zinc ore the area hid beneath its ground. Today, Shullsburg is on the National Register of Historic Places.



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Index of our Advertising Partners

Arts & Galleries

Eshelman Pottery	86
Galena Center for the Arts	65
Hello Galena!	37
Outside the Lines	49
River Bend Gallery	47

Entertainment, Recreation & Tours

All About a Ghost Tour	89
Apple River Fort	64
Belvedere Mansion	17
Blaum Bros. Distilling Co.	4
Dowling House	81
Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa	6-7
Galena Center for the Arts	65
Galena Tours App	24
Galena & U.S. Grant Museum ..	31
Haunted Galena Tour Company ..	10-11
Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation ..	49
Massbach Ridge Winery	89
Nuts Outdoors	107
Orchard Landing Apple Farm	69
P.T. Murphy Magic	21
Scent Workshop	73
Shenandoah Riding Center	91
Woodbine Bend	71

Lodging

Almost Heaven Rentals	86
Avery Guest House	38
Chestnut Mountain Resort	115
Country Inn & Suites	40
DeSoto House Hotel	3, 112
Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa	6-7
Goldmoor Inn	36
Grant Hills Motel	39
Hawk Valley Retreat	41
Irish Cottage	38
Jail Hill Inn	42
Lamberson Guest House	40

LeFevre Inn	39
Main Street Inn	113
Suite Victory	81
Three Elizabeths Guest House	86
Ulysses Suites	41

Food & Drink

American Old Fashioned Ice Cream Parlor ..	81
Blaum Bros. Distilling Co.	4
Bread & Vine Bakery	30
Cajun Jack's	27
Champagne on Main	29
Chestnut Mountain Resort	115
DeSoto House Hotel	3, 112
Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa	8-9
Fried Green Tomatoes	25
Goldmoor Inn	36
Highway 20 Brewing	87
Irish Cottage	39
Lola's Deli	87
Los Aztecas	28
Massbach Ridge Winery	89
Rocky Waters	73
Sugarbakers Boutique & Wine Bar ..	27
Vinny Vanucchi's	116
Woodbine Bend	71

Retail Shops

A Darkness Lovely	10-11
Antiques Etc	79
At Home in Galena	15
Blaum Bros. Distilling Co.	4
Botanicanna	81
Common Cents	87
The Clothes Bin	87
Earth's Treasures	53
Elizabeth Grand Antique Mall	75
Galena Kids Toys & Learning Center ..	51
Galena River Wine & Cheese	69
Galena Roasters	9
Grateful Gourmet	9
Hello Galena!	37
Nature's Treasures	79



New Earth Animals	57
Orchard Landing Apple Farm	69
Poopie's	113
River Bend Gallery	47
Rustic River	112
Scent Workshop	73
Simply Elegant	33
Something Special	61
The Stitching Hour	10-11
Village Treasures	87
Wooden Wardrobe	61

Services

Choice Realty	2, 105, 106
Citizens State Bank	79, 86
City of Galena	89
Coldwell Banker Network Realty ...	49
First Community Bank	73
Galena Free Ride	102-103
The Galena Gazette	38, 41, 73, 89
Garret Hillary Realty	37, 44
Keller Williams	69
Midwest Medical Center	114
Safe Haven Humane Society	86
Stockton Dental Center	79
Tammy's Piggly Wiggly	43
Wiggle Butt Inn & Day Spa	57

Churches

Galena United Methodist	111
Grace Episcopal	111
Schapville Zion Presbyterian	111
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran	87, 111

Iowa

Grand Opera House	89
National Mississippi River Museum ...	99

Wisconsin

Benton State Bank	110
Experience Shullsburg	93
Junque Stops Here	95
Pahnke Realty	110
Platteville Chamber of Commerce	97
Second Chance Coffee & Music	110
Serving Soles Reflexology	110
Shullsburg Cheese Store	110
Shullsburg Community Bank	110
Shullsburg Market	110
The Burg	110
Water Street Market Cafe	110
Weber Meats	95

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