

Good NEIGHBORS

A Publication of the East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce

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HOMEGROWN BLUEGRASS

East Troy hosts 20th annual music festival Sept. 7-8

By Vanessa Lenz

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Home to the famed Alpine Valley Music Theatre, known for its rolling hills and rebellious rock fans, East Troy has always had a long and illustrious musical connection.

However, the East Troy Bluegrass Festival, started from scratch back in 1994, can be credited for making music deeply rooted in the local community.

The festival morphed out of founder Melissa Sherman's love for bluegrass music.

"It started because I'm a bluegrass-er," Sherman said.

With help from local bluegrass musicians Lee and Barb Lorentz, who she lovingly calls "Dad" and "Mom," and Linnea Loesch, who served on the Village of East Troy Parks and Recreation Committee at the time, Sherman held the first event, then called East Troy's Bluegrass Funfest.

Sherman, who was drawn into Bluegrass as a young girl, wanted to hold her own festival after she found that running her business Melissa's Country Baskets and a Touch of Heart in East Troy left her little time to jam on her guitar and upright bass and go to bluegrass shows.

That changed when Milwaukee resident and fiddle player John Losiniec came into her store and chatted about how the Village Square would be a nice spot to play bluegrass.

"I was fresh off having three kids



SUBMITTED PHOTOS Good Neighbors

Headliners Melvin Goins (left) & Windy Mountain and Don Rigsby (right) & Midnight Call will close out a full slate of bluegrass bands

at the 20th annual East Troy Bluegrass Festival on the East Troy Village Square on Sept. 7 and 8.

and I missed the music," Sherman said. "I decided to bring bluegrass to East Troy. I thought it was a perfect place for a little bluegrass festival."

Sherman followed through with her idea by raising money for prizes and asking her friends who were in bands to play for nothing.

"Everybody played for free those

See *BLUEGRASS*, Page 4

SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, SEPT. 7
10 a.m. Open Stage
11:30 a.m. Fiddle Contest
1 p.m. Front Porch Boys
2 p.m. Roller Mills
3 p.m. Band Scramble
4 p.m. Beef Tea
5 p.m. Melvin Goins & Windy Mountain

SUNDAY, SEPT. 8
10 a.m. Gospel Service featuring the Burie Family
11:30 a.m. Banjo, Mandolin & Guitar Contests
1 p.m. Oak Street Ramblers
2 p.m. Bluegrass Reunion
3 p.m. Templeton Family Band
4 p.m. Blue Eagle Reunion
5 p.m. Don Rigsby & Midnight Call

10 things to do this fall

There's no shortage of things to do in East Troy to extend your summer fun long into the fall season.

This list will ensure you get your foliage fix and make the most of your autumn adventures.

1 Ride the rails

Take in Southeastern Wisconsin's fall colors and experience the romance of dining aboard one of the East Troy Electric Railroad's award-winning dinner trains.

The two-hour excursion offers a gourmet four-course meal and a full cash bar. Dinner trains will run Sept. 14 and 28 and Oct. 5, 12, 19 and 26. Boarding begins at 4:45 p.m. with departure at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$72 per person.

The 106-year old rail line continues regular weekend service from East Troy to Mukwonago through Nov. 3. For a complete schedule, call (262) 642-3263 or visit www.easttroyrr.org.

2 Celebrate the harvest

The Elegant Farmer is offering a family-friendly,

See *FALL*, Page 8

Visit the East Troy Farmers Market every Friday

Get your fill of veggies, local treats and artisan goods at the East Troy Farmers Market Fridays from 3 to 7 p.m.

The market began its fifth season this year on the grounds of Wild Flour Bakery, W2463 County Road ES, on East Troy's west side.

Anna Aragón of Michael Fields Agricultural Institute and the East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce's Farmers Market Committee said so far, it's been successful.

"Vendors seem happier and we have weekly activities, mainly from local businesses," Aragón said. "People know more about the farmers market and we have more public participation than last year, but we have the challenge to keep working in order to get a busier market."

Aragón said the East Troy Farmers Market Committee is currently concentrating its efforts on getting more prepared foods at the market and spreading the word throughout the area via signs, websites and social media.

See *FARMERS MARKET*, Page 3



SUBMITTED PHOTO Good Neighbors

Antoine Bourdon of France (left) and Flor Revolorio of Chicago, interns from Michael Fields Agricultural Institute, sell fresh organic produce from Stella Gardens at their popular stand at the East Troy Farmers Market.

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Vanessa Lenz.....Executive Director

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•Farmers Market Continued from page 1

She said the market has seen an increase in traffic at its new location.

"It is in a more visible spot by the road, with more parking," Aragón said. "Definitely, the new location is great and hopefully we can keep the market there for many more years."

The market offers everything from fruits and vegetables to meat, eggs, cheeses and baked goods.

The market is also accompanied by weekly special attractions, including a full slate of free family activities and live music.

Regular vendors include Cobblestone Farm, Decatur Dairy Farm Markets, Michael Fields Agricultural Institute, Denise Murphy Custom Painting, Nature's Niche Farm, Nina's Dairy Goats, poschungsauter LLC popcorn, Pheasant Run, Real Good Stuff, Rushing Waters Fisheries, Sasha's Salad Dressing, Soothing Essentials, Wild Flour Bakery and more.

The market will continue every Friday through Oct. 4.

Vendor booths are available by the day for \$15 and \$60 for the quarter.

For more information, contact the Chamber office at (262) 642-3770 or info@east-troywi.org.

Special events

Aug. 30, Bees and Teas:
Join Marge from The Tea House and Dan from Honey Valley Apiaries for an enjoyable tea tasting and a crash course in bee keeping techniques.

Sept. 6, Heirlooms from the garden:
Shawn from Michael Fields will explain different varieties of in season produce and then take you on a tour of the gardens.

Sept. 13, Salsa competition:
Local restaurants will be bringing their A-game. Come taste the salsas and vote your favorite to crown the 2013 East Troy Farmers Market Salsa Champion.

Sept. 20, Make the most of your garbage:
Learn how to recycle your organic waste into a compost pile and enjoy dinner and a movie.

Sept. 27, Town and Country RC&D:
Discover the importance of and uses for urban wood with a short demonstration by Town and Country RC&D.

Oct. 4, Hay Ride:
Jump on a hay wagon for a free ride through Michael Fields Agricultural Institute.

Grist Mill invests in East Troy with expansion to bigger site

By Vanessa Lenz
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Grist Mill owners Troy and Katie Strand have strengthened their commitment to East Troy, investing in a new, larger facility on Main Street to help the restaurant keep up with growing business.

The 8,500-square-foot site is triple the size of the Grist Mill's former facility down the road with the addition of a full-service banquet hall, outdoor patio and large bar. The move wasn't surprising for many locals who have eagerly awaited the Grist Mill's expansion.

The Strands said the new location at 2645 E. Main St., offers a better dining experience for residents and visitors.

For Troy, who said he's always had an eye on the former site of Charlie B's and Mitch's Prime Time, it was an obvious choice.

"This was the first place we looked at. At that time I couldn't afford it," Troy said.

"It was always an ultimate goal. We wanted our business to grow," Katie said. "We wanted to start small and just get the hang of it. We both worked in restaurants, but running one together was completely different."

Katie said they had issues with space shortly after the Grist Mill first opened in March of 2010.

"We outgrew that space quickly," she explained.

The move into the vacated steakhouse was a long work in progress. The Strands spent months cleaning, rearranging and redecorating the space inside and landscaping the outside.

"We spent a lot of time reorganizing and making things work. There were a lot of things that needed to be tweaked," Troy said.

"We wanted to keep it rustic. Jeans and a T-shirt is totally fine," said Katie.

The Strands' hope is that patrons will walk in the door and have the same familiar feel they did at their old place.

"We wanted to keep it very Grist Mill. We didn't want to change our mood or our tone," Katie said.

Katie and Troy said diners can expect the same restaurant – serving breakfast, lunch and dinner, seven days a week with the same prices.

Favorites like smoked ribs, fish fry and breakfast anytime keep customers coming back.

Grist Mill fans will have noticed a few tasty additions, including pizza, shakes and malts and alcoholic frozen drinks.

Community minded

The additional space includes a large banquet hall with a bar, in-house catering, outdoor patio, and private meeting room, allowing the Grist Mill to host weddings, class reunions and meetings.

Katie said this gives the Grist Mill a chance to be even more involved in the community.

Troy and Katie, who were high school sweethearts, have a deep connection to East Troy.

Troy said he's always liked to cook and developed an early passion for food while growing up in East Troy.

He started working in local restaurants when he was just 14 and his list of employers is vast, including Roma's, Blu Sky, Gus's Drive-In, Estelita's Italian Grille, Boneyard Pub and Grille, Fork in the Road, Blue Bay, Miller Park and Ivan's on the Square. He also had a stint as the catering manager at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater where he managed a Panera-style restaurant on campus.

"I just grabbed as much information as I could from anyone and everywhere that I worked," Troy said.

The 2007 East Troy High School graduate returned to his hometown in 2009 after spending two years studying to be a culinary connoisseur at the famed Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, N.Y.

Strand also then started work as a personal chef with his company Chef to Order. Through the business, Strand does in-home meal preparation, food for private parties and weddings and box lunches for meetings, businesses, etc.

Troy also serves prepared foods at farmer markets in Milwaukee, Mukwonago and Waukesha each week and makes the food for the East



SUBMITTED PHOTO Good Neighbors
Troy and Katie Strand moved their restaurant, the Grist Mill, to a new East Troy location on June 30.

Troy Electric Railroad's popular dinner trains.

Katie is putting her operations and supply chain management degree to good use, managing the front end of the Grist Mill.

She is a 2008 graduate of East Troy High School and 2012 graduate of the UW-Whitewater. She is also employed full-time at We Energies in Milwaukee.

The Strands said they've received exceptional support from the community they grew up in.

"I definitely don't think we'd be as successful if we'd opened a place somewhere like New Berlin. I'd say half our client base is people who know us or know of us," Troy said.

"In East Troy, there are a lot of regulars – obviously people want to support local businesses and I don't think that's everywhere," Katie.

The Grist Mill has kept a number of its employees, but is working to expand its staff from 39 to nearly 60 people. Open positions include bartenders, cooks, dishwashers, runners and bussers.

The Grist Mill is open Monday through Thursday, from 7 a.m.-10 p.m. and Friday through Sunday from 6 a.m.-10 p.m.

For more information, call (262) 684-5138 or visit www.easttroygristmill.com.

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ERIC KRAMER *Good Neighbors*

A large crowd will gather on the historic East Troy Village Square for some string-scrubbin' down home family fun on Saturday, Sept. 7 and Sunday, Sept. 8. Locals can compete for top musician titles during fiddle, banjo, mandolin and guitar contests throughout the weekend.

PASSIONATE PICKIN'

Although many events, circumstances and key individuals influenced the development of the genre, there are certain fundamentals agreed upon by most bluegrass music enthusiasts.

"It's down home music with no drums and no amplification," said Melissa Sherman, East Troy Bluegrass Festival founder and artistic director.

The main bluegrass instruments are the guitar, fiddle, banjo, mandolin, dobro and upright bass.

Bluegrass is a derivative of country music and began after World War II. Its roots go back to 1600, and are attributed to early American settlers to the Carolinas, Tennessee, Kentucky and the Virginias who composed songs about day-to-day life on the farm and hills, according to the International Bluegrass Music Association.

After popular country duet the Monroe Brothers split and formed their own bands, bluegrass got its start. Bill Monroe's band Bill Monroe and the Blue Grass Boys, along with Earl Scruggs, with a three-finger picking style on the banjo, are credited for shaping the genre.

•Bluegrass Continued from page 1

first years," Sherman said.

Today, the East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce sponsored event isn't so small and is slowly and surely becoming a fixture in the regional and national bluegrass festival scene.

For the past 19 years, individuals from around the country have flocked to East Troy's historic Village Square the second weekend in September to hear and share the unforgettable bluegrass sound.

Dedicated crowds have increased from less than 200 the first weekend to 2,000 attendees expected for the festival's 20th anniversary event on Sept. 7 and 8.

Sherman said she is looking forward to seeing numerous "regulars" who have been there from the beginning.

"I'll do it 'til I die for those people," Sherman said.

She said the locals who have never heard bluegrass before leave the festival with an appreciation of the classic American genre. "Once we get them there they are hooked," according to Sherman.

Raising the bar high

Sherman said the third annual event put the East Troy Bluegrass Festival on the map when a private donation brought in the "Doctor of Bluegrass" Ralph Stanley & The Clinch Mountain Boys.

The performance set high standards for the festival and Sherman has worked to increase the quality of the bands each year.

"We had to up the ante and come up with the money to get somebody as good as him," she said.

Sherman, who currently serves as artistic director, has been successful in hiring headliners for each subsequent event.

Many top artists have graced the East Troy stage through the years, including Bobby Osborne, J.D. Crowe and Jim and Jesse McReynolds.

This year's headliners include Melvin Goins & Windy Mountain at 5 p.m. on Saturday and Don Rigsby & Midnight Call at 5 p.m. on Sunday.

From the time he played his first radio show in 1951 on WKOY in Bluefield, W.Va. to his 2009 IBMA Hall of Fame induction for his time with the Lonesome Pine Fiddlers, Goins is considered one of the pioneers of bluegrass.

He has remained a consistent fixture on the bluegrass scene playing with Ralph Stanley and then touring with his brother as the Goins Brothers for more than 35 years.

From remote Isonville, Ky., to an international following in bluegrass music, Rigsby has remained true to his mountain roots and made his own marks as a powerful tenor and distinctive mandolin player.

Rigsby grew up listening to early Ralph Stanley records and to the high lonesome sounds of his cousin Ricky Skaggs, learning from those who went before him and then adding his own personal touches.

The two-time Grammy nominee and two-time SPBGMA Traditional Male Vocalist of the Year is a multiple IBMA Award winner.

"It's not just a music, it's a lifestyle."
—Melissa Sherman,
Bluegrass Festival
Founder

Staying true to blue

The East Troy Bluegrass Festival continues because of the generosity of local sponsors with many key volunteers contributing over the years.

Robin Hudec joined on as co-chair of the festival in 2002 after Sherman moved to Canada where she composes award-winning music and manages the popular bluegrass band Hard Ryde.

The East Troy Chamber took over the festival in 2010.

Unlike larger music festivals, the event showcases local food and entertainment while keeping costs down for attendees. Admission is \$5 for two full days of music and free for children younger than 15.

For East Troy Bluegrass Festival fans and organizers, the event is about continuing tradition.

"It's not just a music, it's a lifestyle."

Sherman said. "For me, it's not easy being blue."

The fast tempos and high vocals hit the mainstream with the Coen Brothers' 2000 film "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" and triple platinum selling soundtrack.

Sherman said celebrity banjo player Steve Martin and the Steep Canyon Rangers have been giving bluegrass a huge amount of press lately.

She said this type of growth in popularity helps attract younger fans to the music, which usually has a fan base of 60- to 80-year-olds.

Sherman has made some changes to the festival to help attract a younger audience and keep the genre alive, including the addition of Beef Tea, which mixes bluegrass, Americana, indie rock and contemporary styles, to Saturday's lineup.

"The younger generations are going their own way with it and we have to respect it," Sherman said. "We can't stop these young wonderful musicians who have really made it for themselves."

Attendees should bring their own lawn chairs. No alcohol is allowed at this family event.

The rain location is East Troy Middle School, 3143 Graydon Ave. Check www.easttroybluegrass.com for updates. For more information, call (262) 642-3770.

Bluegrass Food Court Vendors

Cousins Subs – Variety of sub sandwiches

East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce – Soda, water and coffee

East Troy Area Historical Society – Elegant Farmer caramel apples and pie

Gus's Drive-in – Sprecher root beer floats

The Grist Mill – Hamburgers, hot dogs, Italian beef and shaved prime rib sandwiches

Hometown Sausage Kitchen – Rueben sandwiches, nachos with Hometown Sausage Kitchen pico de gallo and cheese sauce and Hometown Sausage Kitchen Packer brats

Loomis-Martin American Legion Post 188 – Roasted sweet corn

Pops Kettle Corn – Kettle corn

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Cycling Classic brings community together

The East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce is excited to have served as the local host for the East Troy Cycling Classic for the second-straight year during the second leg of the 11-day Tour of America's Dairyland on June 21.

The atmosphere throughout downtown East Troy that day was electric and the air was thick with love for both cycling and community.

Members of the East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce's Bike Race Committee are very grateful to the sponsors, volunteers and community businesses and residents for the success of the event.

The committee was chaired by Jane Thompson of Red Door Café. Committee members included: Linda Kaplan of East Troy Shell, Deanne Conrad of Citizens Bank of Mukwonago, Ann Zess of Allan Integrated Control Systems, Inc. and Tony LaShay of Excel Engineering.

This event would not be possible without the continued support of title sponsor, the Dennis and Janice Klumb Family Foundation. Dennis Klumb Jr. also played a significant role by securing additional major sponsorships from his company, KS Energy Services, LLC.

Other sponsors responsible for the event's success, listed alphabetically, include:

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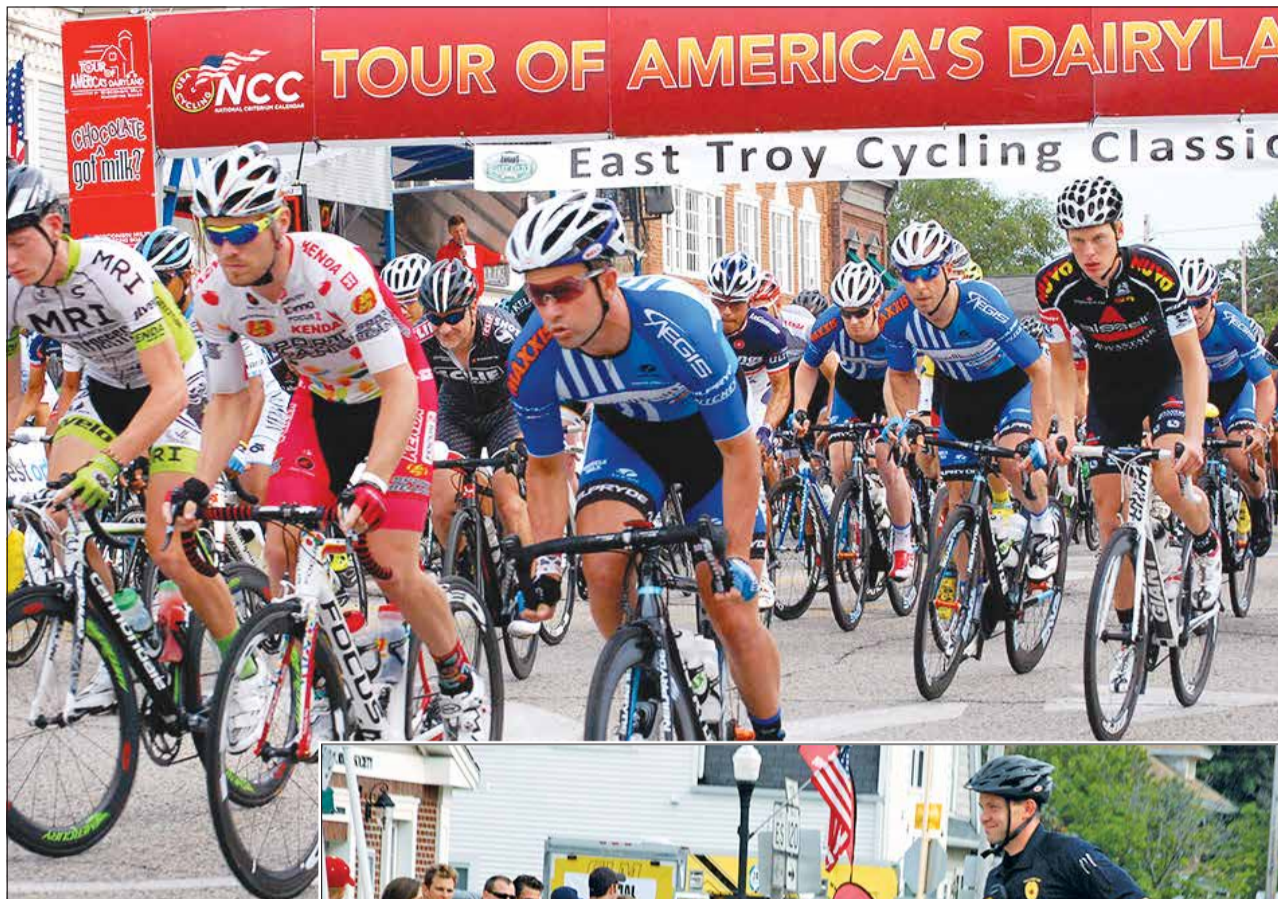
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Village of East Troy
Walworth County Economic Development Alliance
Won-a-go Biking

The committee is also grateful to the individual contributions of the following people: Chief Alan Boyes and Deputy Chief Jeremy Swendrowski of the Village of East Troy Police Department, Mike Miller, Steve Nelson and Doug Gauger of the Village of East Troy Department of Public Works, Kathy Zwirgds of the East Troy Community School District, Larry Price of the Walworth County Department of Public Works, Brent Flikkema from John's Disposal Service, David Allen of East Troy House and Ivan's on the Square, Tisha and Kendyl LaShay, John Graf, John Theisen and Pat Hudec.

Thanks to all the local business owners, employees and residents for their patience with the detours around the central part of the village.

We appreciate your continued support.

East Troy Cycling Classic Committee



VANESSA LENZ PHOTOS
Good Neighbors

Above: Hilton Clarke (center) took third place to give UnitedHealthcare a 1-2-3 sweep in the 90-minute Pro Men's contest at the East Troy Cycling Classic on June 21, presented by the Dennis and Janice Klumb Family Foundation and the East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce. The race marked the second day of the 11-day Tour of America's Dairyland, billed as the largest competitive cycling race in the country. Clarke was cheered on by a local contingent, including his in-laws Jim and Debbie Surges and wife Jamie (Surges) Clarke. Right: Village of East Troy Police Deputy Chief Jeremy Swendrowski leads Mason Kesselhon, 4, of East Troy at the Tour de Square Kids Fun Races. Kesselhon won the Tricycles/Big Wheels category.



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VANESSA LENZ *Good Neighbors*

The team at FirstMerit Bank includes (from left) Louisa Castillo, Hillary Campfield, Nichole Regnier, branch manager Brooke McPhail, Kira Mallon and (not pictured) Shannon Wulf. For more information on the bank's Sounds of Summer getaway, visit firstmerit.com/getaway.

Citizens Bank is now FirstMerit Bank

Citizens Bank on the square was recently purchased by FirstMerit Bank, an Akron, Ohio-based bank.

While the acquisition was officially announced last October, the company is now finalizing the transition.

FirstMerit unveiled its new signs on the former Citizens Bank branch this month.

Branch manager Brooke McPhail said the bank remains community-based and continues its full operations on the historic East Troy Village Square.

"We still treat clients like we are a small community bank, but now with all the benefits and features that bigger banking allows," she said.

The bank will now provide a full range of services, offering new features like a FirstMerit credit card and an in-house mortgage lender.

She said the bank will also offer more business and corporate services, such as equipment leasing.

"FirstMerit is very small business focused and really driven by helping the small business succeed," said McPhail.

McPhail said FirstMerit is very excited to be in East Troy.

"This is their first footprint in Wisconsin. It's a very, very big deal," she said.

With the acquisition, the historic bank on the square, which was founded in 1845, joins the 26th largest bank in the nation. FirstMerit is worth \$24.5 billion with 415 banking offices in Wisconsin, Illinois and Pennsylvania.

FirstMerit in East Troy is now the sixth largest bank headquartered in the Midwest.

FirstMerit is located at 2905 Main St. For more information, call (262) 642-7391.

New Member Profiles



VANESSA LENZ *Good Neighbors*

Director Daniel Bishop and Stephanie Coates of Credence Counseling and Therapy Associates were welcomed to the Chamber by Anna Aragón (right) of Michael Fields Agricultural Institute and the East Troy Farmers Market Committee.

Credence Counseling and Therapy Associates

3066 W. Main St., Suite 106
East Troy, WI 53120
(262) 723-3424
www.credencetherapy.com

Credence Counseling and Therapy Associates is a state certified mental health counseling center, serving Walworth County since 1992.

The professional staff of licensed psychiatrists, psychologists, psychotherapists and alcohol/drug counselors offer confidential services, including individual, family, marital and group counseling.

Office hours are Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday and additional hours by appointment.



VANESSA LENZ *Good Neighbors*

East Troy Gridiron Club

P.O. Box 617
East Troy, WI 53120
(414) 750-5891
www.easttroygridironclub.org

The East Troy Gridiron Club is a service organization that benefits the youth in the community through community service and athletics.

Eric Sulik (left) and John Kulick, representing the East Troy Gridiron Club, are the newest members of the East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce.

Sign up for the 16th annual Chamber golf outing

The East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce will host its 16th annual golf outing on Friday, Sept. 20 at Alpine Valley Resort.

Spend the day on the golf course, with 18 holes of golf with cart, lunch and a steak dinner for an early bird price of \$85 per person before Aug. 31. The regular cost is \$100. There's also a dinner only option for non-golfers for \$25.

If you don't have a foursome, we'll pair you up with a team. All entries are due by Friday, Sept. 13.

Golf registration and warm-up is from

10-11 a.m., followed by a shotgun start at 11 a.m.

Sponsor a hole or donate a raffle prize

In addition to golf entries, the golf outing committee is also looking for hole sponsors and contributions of raffle prizes.

Prizes can be dropped off at the Chamber office, 2096 Church St., during business hours, Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information, call (262) 642-3770 or visit www.easttroywi.org.

Learn about the land Sept. 4

Michael Fields Agricultural Institute, W2857 County Road ES, will host Research Field Day at its research farm, one mile west of the Institute from noon to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 4. A lunch will be provided beginning at noon.

Topics of the day will include crop demonstration plots with several cover crop "cocktail" mixes on display. Interim Research Director Dr. Erin Silva will discuss cover crop trials. Also, presenting on cover crops will be Jim Stute, UW Extension, and Greg Igl, NRCS District

Conservation.

Attendees will also get a brief glimpse into MFIA's corn research program, a no-till organic plot making use of roller crimper no-till technology, and visit a field where soybeans were planted into winter wheat.

The event is open to all area farmers, conventional and organic.

For more information, call (262) 642-3303 or visit www.michaelfields.org. To register, email aaaron@michaelfields.org.

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501 Main St.
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East Troy, WI 53120

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(262) 642-7515
2847B Buell Drive
East Troy, WI 53120

Hudec Law Offices, SC
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2100 Church Street
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East Troy, WI 53120

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East Troy, WI 53120

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East Troy, WI 53120

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W1184 County Road L
East Troy, WI 53120

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W4812 Hwy 20
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SCHOOLS & DAY CARES

Bright Beginnings Day Care, LLC
(262) 642-3904
2541 Main Street
East Troy, WI 53120

East Troy Community School District
(262) 642-6710
2043 Division Street
East Troy, WI 53120

Little Angels Learning Center
(262) 642-7002
2141 Mill Street
East Troy, WI 53120

Michael Fields Agricultural Institute
(262) 642-3303
W2493 County Road ES
East Troy, WI 53120

Nature's Classroom Montessori School
(262) 363-6820
W1802 County Road J
Mukwonago, WI 53149

St. Peter's Catholic School
(262) 642-5533
3001 Elm Street
East Troy, WI 53120

The Climbing Tree Child Care & Family Education
(262) 642-5001
3147 W. Main Street
East Troy, WI 53120

SERVICES

5 O'Clock Somewhere Travel & Cruise
(262) 642-2553
N8766 Hillburn Mill Road
East Troy, WI 53120

Bon Voyage Cruise & Vacations, Inc.
(262) 514-2022
116 North Milwaukee St.
Waterford, WI 53185

Lakes Area Rental
(262) 723-6450

●**Fall** Continued from page 1

old fashioned farm harvest at its annual Autumn Harvest Festival weekends Sept. 7-Oct. 26 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Twelve varieties of apples can be picked on the farm's orchard and pumpkins of all shapes and sizes selected from the patch.

Area residents can also see the leaves change color aboard a tractor-pulled hayride or vintage trolley ride. New this year, the Elegant Farmer will offer a family-friendly 5-acre farm scene corn maze. Adding to the fun are make-your-own caramel apples offered along with barbecue pulled pork sandwiches, warm cider donuts, slices of pie a la mode and hot buttered apple cider.

The Elegant Farmer, 1545 Main St., is open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. For more information, visit www.elegantfarmer.com.

3 Run for a reason

The East Troy Area Historical Society will host its fifth annual 5K Walk/Run on Saturday, Sept. 7. Registration is from 7-8 a.m.

The 5K race begins at 8:30 a.m. at Prairie View Elementary School, 2131 Townline Road. A 1-Mile Dash for children 12 and younger will start at 8 a.m. For more information, visit www.etahs.org or call Jamie Baumeister at (262) 215-7103.

4 Remember the Civil War

The East Troy Area Historical Society will host a number of special events to mark the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

Civil War expert and author Lance Herdegen will discuss Wisconsin's role in the Civil War with emphasis on the Iron Brigade during a presentation at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 17 at the East Troy Lions Public Library, 3094 Graydon Ave.

The historical society will host a Civil War Sesquicentennial Ceremony at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 22 at Oak Ridge Cemetery, Highway 20 and County Road ES.

The event will feature a short parade, wreath laying, commemoration

ceremony, roll call of those who served and rifle and artillery gun salute.

A Civil War Band concert will follow from 2:30-3:30 p.m. on the East Troy Village Square. Civil War re-enactors will play authentic Civil War instruments and tunes. Admission is free for all events. For more information, call (262) 642-2642.

5 Say trick-or-treat

Trick-or-treat hours will be held in the Village of East Troy, Town of East Troy and Town of Troy on Thursday, Oct. 31 from 5 to 7:30 p.m.

East Troy High School will host its annual Halloween Bash on Thursday, Oct. 31. Children 10 and younger, along with their parents, are invited to trick-or-treat through the school from 5 to 7 p.m. For more information, call (262) 642-6760.

6 Get lost in a local corn maze

Army Lake Camp is kicking off the fall season with its annual corn maze, which will run Sept. 13-Nov. 2.

The maze is open Fridays from 5 to 8:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. The maze is available to groups by reservation Wednesday and Thursday evenings and will be open on Oct. 31.

Residents are also invited to explore the courtyard, which includes concessions, bounce houses, corn cannons, hayrides, barrel train rides, archery and a pumpkin patch. The cost is \$8 for adults, \$5 for children 5-12 and free for children younger than 4.

The camp is located at N8725 Army Lake Road, East Troy. For more information, call (262) 642-6400 or visit www.armylakecamp.org.

7 Have some fall fest fun

St. Peter's Catholic School, 3001 Elm St., East Troy, will host its Fall Festival and Harvest Dinner from 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 6.

The event will feature a chicken dinner, games and market. For more information, call (262) 642-5533.

8 Give yourself the chills

The East Troy Area Historical Society will host a cemetery walk at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26 at Evergreen Cemetery, Marsh Road and State Highway 20, west of the Village of East Troy. Suggested donation is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children younger than 12. For more information, call (262) 642-2642.

9 Get the kids involved

The East Troy Family and Community Resource Center, 3066 W. Main St., suite 108 in the Windfield Plaza, will host a full slate of fall events

Beginning Sept. 11, the Resource Center will host playgroups every Wednesday from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at Playmore Park on the corner of West Street and Graydon Avenue.

On Tuesdays from 9:30-10 a.m., beginning Sept. 10, the Resource Center will host a pre-school class called Alphabet Adventures for children ages 2-5.

The Resource Center also hosts arts activities every Monday night from 6-6:45 p.m.

Save the date for the organization's annual Fall

Dinner and Silent Auction set for Nov. 2 at Ivan's Backstage.

Participants are asked to pre-register for all events at 642-4900 or easttrofamily@centurytel.net.

10 Spend autumn on the farm

Visitors to Old World Wisconsin will celebrate the harvest season at Autumn on the Farms with brewing, baking and cooking and putting up produce, as they did in the late 1800s/early 1900s.

This event is so popular the museum has expanded it to six extended weekends -Thursday through Sunday -10 a.m. to 5 p.m., beginning Sept. 5 and running through Oct. 13.

Admission is \$16 for adults, \$9 for children 5-17, \$14 for students and senior citizens (65 and older) and free for children younger than 5. Admission for a family (two adults and two or more dependent children 5-17) is \$43.

Old World Wisconsin is located at W372 S9727 Highway 67, Eagle. For more information, visit at www.oldworldwisconsin.org.



VANESSA LENZ *Good Neighbors*
Catelynn Blank of Burlington picks apples right off the tree in the orchards at Elegant Farmer in Mukwonago during its Autumn Harvest Festival, which continues this fall, Sept. 7-Oct. 26, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.



VANESSA LENZ *Good Neighbors*

Business After Five

Keith Witt, owner of Hometown Pharmacy (from left), chats with Fred Douglass, Village of East Troy Trustee, and Bill Vint of Sleeping Dogs Communication at the East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce's Business After Five event held June 6 at East Troy's new, independently operated drug store, located at 3284 Main St.



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