

Section 2

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Milton Hot Spots & Happenings.....42
 Campfire fun.....43
 Fine flavors at Northleaf Winery.....44
 Wally Fest channels the 1980s.....45
 Celebrating Milton College.....46
 Frederick's maintains tradition.....47
 Game time at Junction Pub.....47
 All things horses at Bellaire Farms..48
 Good eats, summer fun at Lucy's...48
 Timber Hill's tasty offerings.....49
 Big plans for historic warehouse....50
 Shakespeare in.....50
 Experience Milton House.....51
 Rock Aqua Jays dazzle.....52
 Don't bypass Milton.....52
 Take the Rock River Trail.....53
 Sweet symphonic sounds.....53
 Janesville Hot Spots & Happenings.....54
 Visit Block 42.....56-57
 Honest Abe was here, honestly.....58
 Beauty enchants at Rotary Gardens....59
 RCHS brings history into focus.....60
 RCJS keeps you on the waves.....61
 Courthouse clock is timeless.....61
 Rise of the balloons.....62
 Diary of a "Thousand-Miler".....63
 Monterey Dam's days numbered....64
 Memorable Midwest musicians.....65
 CHURCH DIRECTORY.....66-69
 Beloit Hot Spots & Happenings.....69
 A romantic Wisconsin night.....70
 Ancient history at Logan Museum..71

Northleaf offers amazing sips and surroundings

By Jack McLaughlin
Special to the Lakes Edition

The Napa Valley welcome center in California is more than 1,700 miles from Edgerton. According to Google Maps, that equates to 30 hours of driving. Downtown Milton, though, is less than 10 miles away. While the former location is world-renowned and prime grape-growing country, both can offer a great glass of homemade wine and impressive variety.

Milton's own Northleaf Winery, which has been a fixture in the Rock County community now for nearly a decade, offers a vast array of style and flavors, ensuring there's something for everyone. Owner and head winemaker Gail Nordlof has been involved with wine for much longer, though – growing up, the young connoisseur would assist her father in making his own wine. "It's been kind of a family thing," she said.

For Nordlof now, it's a vibrant business thing as



Northleaf's wine camps have become an annual popular tradition. Participants get a hands-on crash course in understanding the finer points of wine. (Photo submitted by Northleaf Winery)

well. The blossoming establishment currently boasts 27 wines, plus six small-batch varieties offered during wine club meetings.

Although it's difficult for her to choose a favorite, she noted several recently popular picks, including a cranberry Shiraz. The style, known for its full body and strong flavors, became a favorite during the winter months. "It totally took off during the holidays this year," Nordlof said.

Another top choice, especially for the warmer months ahead, is Northleaf's tropical Viognier, a summer wine made from white grapes with notes of lush, sweet fruits, including pineapple and mango. "It's great made into slushies," Nordlof added. Visitors can sample these batches and others in Northleaf's tasting rooms, where tasting flights are offered.

While a litany of tasty, interesting drinks is reason enough to visit the Milton winery, their location in a unique slice of local history might be reason enough for a visit. The building housing most of Northleaf's operations, itself more than 150 years old, was acquired by the town's historical society in 2007. Made up of cream brick and beautifully weathered, exposed ceiling beams, the building imparts the sort of warmth and age perfectly suited

for imbibing fine wine.

What's more, the Rock County business operates an adjacent (and equally historic) guest house, one that can be rented nightly or weekly for any number of events. The space can hold up to 65 for gatherings and is often used for weddings and showers, for which Northleaf can create personalized labels on their wines, truly commemorating and personalizing an experience.

And if you like wine, you're liable to love wine camp. Held the past four years, Gail and Northleaf have begun making their Labor Day weekend festivities an annual tradition. Held on the winery grounds, the event, billed as "The ultimate reconnaissance mission for connoisseurs-in-training," is a three-day long, hands-on crash course in

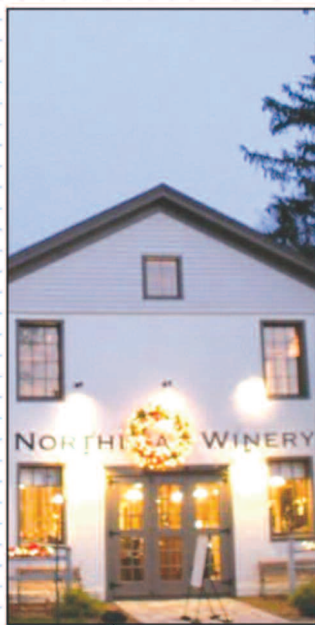
Continued on page 45



Inside Northleaf Winery's historic abode. (Photo submitted by Jack McLaughlin)

232 SOUTH JANESVILLE STREET MILTON WISCONSIN 53563 ~ 608-580-0575 ~ WWW.NORTHLEAFWINERY.COM

NorthLeaf Winery



Gather over a glass of wine, a tray of cheese, and some pretty awesome music! Every Friday night share a bottle with friends while you listen to our musician du jour on our huge deck. Featuring local musical talent, typically guitar and vocals.

— Check northleafwinery.com for a schedule of artists and dates. —

Throw a party and relax while we do the work. For an occasion or a regular day! Wine & cheese or chocolate pairings, wine glass painting, indoor or out, 3 course fondue dinner, only limited by your imagination!"