

Galleria 214: a story of revitalization in Cambridge

By Janice Redford
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The village of Cambridge is going through a major phase of revitalization. On Main Street, the

former Scobie Wagon Works built in 1892 has a new look and vitality with a new name: Galleria 214.

In May 2017, the historic building was purchased by Dave Mittle-

stead and Nancy Sheahan after they had sold their business in Cottage Grove three years earlier and wanted to find a location for their new adventure.

After the purchase was completed, they immediately hired a local stone mason who spent seven intensive weeks tuck pointing and upgrading the outside of the building. Then they realized that the windows needed replacing, interior painting was necessary and new awnings were added in front.

By October, the building was ready for a celebration and grand opening. The interior is still like a Victorian street scene with various businesses surrounding a central gathering area.

One major business in Galleria 214 is Ruby

Rose Gallery, which offers jewelry, gem stones, precious metals and artifacts from around the world. The Kindfolk Coffee Shop opened immediately after the building was purchased. Other businesses include Sprout gift shop, House to Home, Agora Acres (which is a year-round flower cart with local fresh flowers seasonally and dried bouquets in winter) and the Badger Realty office. The building also includes the Cambridge Community Room, which is available for local meetings, parties and classes.

Dave and Nancy were former owners of Integrated Security Solutions in Cottage Grove. Two years ago, after they sold their business and traveled to Arizona for the winter, they attended an international gem and mineral



Front view of Galleria 214 on Main Street in Cambridge. (Photo submitted by Janice Redford)



Megan Barthel, Nancy Sheahan and Dave Mittlesteadt at Ruby Rose. (Photo submitted by Janice Redford)

show. That was the inspiration for their new venture, and they worked on gaining knowledge and experience to turn their dream into reality.

Meghan Barthel was hired as manager for Ruby Rose Gallery in Sept. 2017. She has

gained years of experience with gems and minerals by working for various companies in the field. She designs the eye-catching displays at Ruby Rose and Karen Havey was recently hired to assist her with the business.

Cam-Rock Park

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Commission for many years and was with the commission until his passing. He was in the state legislature and editor/owner of the Edgerton Reporter with his wife, Helen, for many decades. That upland area around Shelter #3 was his very favorite view from all the parks in Dane County.

One of the oldest historical gems within the park area is the existence of the beer cave

that may be restored at some time in the future. The cave was utilized in the 1800s to store beer that was brewed in the breweries of Rockdale before refrigeration. The cave is currently blocked off due to vandalism and degradation from human visitors.

Currently

Biking trails exist in various parts of Cam-Rock Park and many groups sponsor events

that are held each year in the park. A new group is also working to establish a dog park on the recently purchased land near the village of Cambridge.

Canoe and kayak enthusiasts travel down the Koshkonong Creek as it is the central water feature within the park. A dedicated water monitoring team has worked for 20-years to watch over the waters of the creek and retain scientific data.

Evansville events

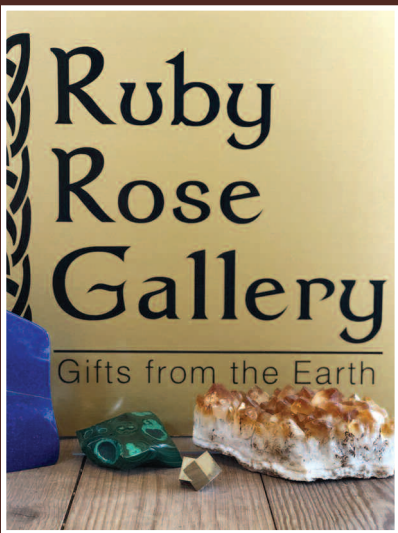
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Sept. 20-Oktoberfest: Beer festival with great flavor and themes. Featured are almost 70 different beers from nearly 50 breweries around the world, with an emphasis on Midwest craft breweries. Local restaurants and caterers present signature dishes, all with an Oktoberfest flavor. Door prizes, raffles and a silent auction with proceeds supporting local causes. Main event 7-10 p.m. VIP event 6-7 p.m. Creekside Place, 102 Maple St. 608-882-0407, www.creeksideplace.org

Sept. 28-Oct. 6—Theodore Robinson Plein Air Painting Competition: Artists will paint outdoors (en plein air)

and submit their works of art for prizes and auction. The contest is named for Evansville native Theodore Robinson who lived from 1852 to 1896, and was a well regarded contemporary of Monet. Post auction, the art will be exhibited at Creekside Place (102 Maple St.). Stop by Eager Free Public Library (39 W. Main St.) for more information. 608-882-0598, www.ecp-wi.org/theodore-robinson-plein-air-competition.html

Information compiled from internet sources, including local chamber of commerce websites, municipal websites, the Wisconsin Department of Tourism's www.travelwisconsin.com, and other websites, unless noted.



Unique jewelry, gifts, home decor, gems, fossil and mineral specimens



Gifts from the Earth



GALLERIA
214

Ruby Rose Gallery
214 W. Main Street, Cambridge, Wisconsin
920-475-2925 • Rubyrosegallery.com

