

# A new spin for Rowe Pottery

By Janice Redford  
Special to the Lakes Edition

Rowe Pottery has moved to a newly restored facility on Main Street in the center of the Village of Cambridge. The historic building has nearly a century of character and charm to offer visitors and a showroom filled with a variety of gifts and tastefully displayed pottery that is handmade on site.

The large front windows once displayed new vehicles as Thorsen Auto Dealer in the 1920s and for years afterward, then a bar and grill, a flower shop, a resale shop, and many more businesses over the decades. Interior windows in the restored building look over the workshop of artists as they make the famed Rowe Pottery. Each piece of pottery is an original piece of art and very collectible.

Local residents have been amazed while watching the restoration for months as the old building was refurbished and renewed. What was once the parking lot in back is now a modern pottery kiln.

Beverly Semmann purchased Rowe Pottery Works in 2013 and gave the business new life. She explained to this author that instead of looking back at what was the business, she is projecting her focus on the new trends



Above: Ric Lamore, John Tiller and Beverly Semmann in the studio. Below: Lore Larson decorates pottery. (Photos submitted by Janice Redford)



and the future. She feels lucky to jump into the upswing of a village that is rejuvenating its downtown and offering more appeal to anyone who visits. She has retained the artists who have been creating amazing pottery for more than 40 years. Visitors can watch them working

through large windows in the showroom.

The photos include Ric Lamore, who has been a potter since 1972, and John Tiller, who has been spinning pots since the late 1980s. Also shown is Lore Larson, a decorator with decades of experience.



Shelter #3 in Cam-Rock Park is undergoing a rebuild. (Photos by Janice Redford)

# Catching up with Cam-Rock

By Janice Redford  
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Cam-Rock Park is one of the largest county parks in Dane County. It is located on more than 500 acres along Highway B between the villages of Cambridge and Rockdale. It has three shelter areas and trails that connect over four bridges along Koshkonong Creek. It is a natural wonderland with resident deer, sandhill cranes, birds of all varieties and wonderful water critters in the flowing creek that meanders through the entire park.

### Work on Shelter #3

Since construction of the original shelters in 1975, the most utilized shelter, Shelter #3, located high above the valley and the village of Rockdale off Highland Drive, has shown the

damage resulting from being buffeted by winds and weather for 43 years. After careful inspection, it was decided that the shelter needed more than a new roof. During the winter and into the spring it is currently under reconstruction. Shelter #3 should be completed by June 2018 for summer activities and reservations.

### Tree removal

Work crews were busy during the winter removing damaged elm trees that have been decimated by Emerald Ash Borer insects for the past three years. Hundreds of trees are now dead within the park. Chain saw crews are keeping busy removing the trees and brush and then new trees are being planted each year. It is a never-ending cycle.

Many groups of volun-

teers have been gathering prairie seeds to help restore new prairies all across Dane County. The oldest restored prairies of all Dane County Parks exist at Cam-Rock Park.

### Historical areas

The first of many acres of current prairies was planted in 1974 by naturalist Rosemary Flemming. The prairie at Shelter #1 is named for the legendary scientist who served as the very first Dane County Naturalist and was a role model to thousands of youth during more than half a century for her devotion to everything natural.

The kiosk at Shelter #3 looking over the Koshkonong Creek Valley is dedicated to Harland Everson, who served on the Dane County Parks

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