

Geneva Chamber of Commerce presents

# Geneva Christmas

2014

*Walk and House Tour*

*Dec. 5 & 6*



**GENEVA**  
ILLINOIS  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# From our Geneva home to yours

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas, as the holiday elves have been busy creating a magical experience in Geneva for its 47th Christmas Walk on Friday, Dec. 5, and a Christmas House Tour on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 5 and 6.

Among the twinkling lights and fresh-greenery-lined streets, chestnuts will roast over open fires, carolers will fill the night air with seasonal favorites and a live Nativity scene will take place. Dazzling window displays brimming with gift ideas invite shoppers to stroll through shops as merchants serve holiday refreshments.

This popular, family-friendly event will treat visitors to a very merry Friday evening full of hometown traditions, as well as special treats: the arrival of Santa Lucia, Christmas cookies, the Great Tree lighting, homemade candy canes and a visit from Santa with the opening of his Gingerbread Home.

Treat yourself to the Christmas House Tour on Friday and Saturday. Five charming homes, aglow with holiday decorations, will open their doors to visitors for self-guided tours. The personality of each home will be illuminated by local decorators and landscapers working with homeowners to create



holiday magic. A Holiday Tea held at the Congregational Church in Geneva is included in the \$30 ticket price.

Both events are presented by the Geneva Chamber of Commerce with the support of the City of Geneva and community volunteers. Proceeds from the house tour go to decorating the downtown for the holidays.

Let us show you our warmth and hospitality as a visit to Geneva becomes part of your holiday celebration.

For more information on these events, and others all through the holiday season, visit [www.genevachamber.com](http://www.genevachamber.com) or call 630-232-6060.

*—Jean Gaines, President  
Geneva Chamber of Commerce*

# There's no place like homes for the holiday

Geneva Chamber of Commerce celebrates the season by hosting the annual Christmas House Tour, sponsored by Insurance through AAA, Kane County Chronicle and The PrivateBank.

The tour features five Geneva homes festively decorated for the holidays by local florists, landscapers and interior designers. From 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, visitors can drive to homes and take a self-guided tour.

Visitors can also share a cup of Christmas tea at the First Congregational Church of Geneva, at Fourth and Hamilton streets. The church will open its doors to House Tour ticket holders for hot tea, coffee and cookies from 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call 630-232-7143.

House Tour tickets are \$30 and include the Holiday Tea and a Holiday Idea Book, courtesy of Lebin Financial Planning and State Street Jewelers.

Limited tickets are available and may be purchased at these locations, with cash and check accepted:

■ **Anastazia - Treasures for the Home,**  
447 S. Third St., Geneva

- **bb Interiors**, 600 S. First St., Geneva
- **CIRCA**, 123 S. Third St., Geneva
- **City of Geneva**, 22 S. First St., Geneva
- **Cocoon**, 212 S. Third St., Geneva
- **Country Naturals**, 316 Campbell St., Geneva

- **Heinz Bros. Greenhouse**, 2010 E. Main St., St. Charles
- **Her Art Shoppe**, 12 S. Third St., Geneva
- **Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory**, 1308 Commons Drive, Geneva
- **SG Geneva (Scentimental Gardens)**, 428 W. State St., Geneva
- **The Little Traveler (china & crystal room)**, 404 S. Third St., Geneva

Tickets and more information are also available by calling the Geneva Chamber of Commerce at 630-232-6060.



## Walk and Tour Information

**What:** Christmas Walk events include visits from Santa Lucia and Santa Claus, Graham's candy cane parade, tree lighting, roasted chestnuts, carolers, shopping and many other family events. Five distinctive, festively decorated homes open their doors during the Christmas House Tour.

**When:** Christmas Walk: 6-9:30 p.m., Dec. 5. Christmas House Tour: 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Dec. 5; 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Dec. 6.

**Holiday shopping:** Store hours vary

**Where:** Christmas Walk festivities are held in downtown Geneva at South Third and James streets and on State Street. Geneva's train station is located on South Third Street, just blocks from the Christmas Walk, shops and restaurants (Metra Union Pacific West Line).

**Who:** The Geneva House Tour is at various locations in downtown Geneva; not all homes are within walking distance of each other or the train station.

**Cost:** Christmas Walk: free general admission

**House Tour tickets:** \$30

**Parking:** Public parking includes four parking lots and various street parking.

**Information:** Call the Geneva Chamber of Commerce at 630-232-6060 or visit [www.genevachamber.com/christmas\\_walk.php](http://www.genevachamber.com/christmas_walk.php)

The Geneva Chamber of Commerce thanks community volunteers, sponsored by Cadence Health, now part of Northwestern Medicine, for their assistance during the House Tour.



**First Congregational Church of Geneva has a traditional Holiday Tea, included in the price of the House Tour ticket.**

### Christmas Walk and House Tour Sponsors:

Insurance through AAA  
Cadence Health, now part of Northwestern Medicine  
Charles Schwab & Co. Inc.  
Geneva Bank & Trust  
Kane County Chronicle  
Lebin Financial Planning  
The PrivateBank  
Shodeen Homes  
State Street Jewelers  
and our partner City of Geneva



### Christmas Walk and House Tour Contributors:

Advanced Disposal  
Cocoon  
Comfort Inn & Suites of Geneva  
Geneva Cleaners  
Kane County  
Fagans Graphic Design & Printing  
Geneva Public Library  
Mat Masters  
Strawflower Shop/Rug Merchant

## Visions of sweets dance in their heads

**Annual Cookie Walk** – 4:30-6:30 p.m., Dec. 5. Unitarian Universalist Church, Second and James streets. Visitors can purchase empty pastry boxes for \$14 each and walk through the "cookie room," filling their boxes with delicious homemade cookies and candies of their choice while supplies last.

**Candy Cane Pull** – 6-9 p.m., Dec. 5. Graham's Fine Chocolates, 302 S. Third St. A traditional, old-fashioned Candy Cane Pull allows visitors to watch Graham's candy makers, along with other candy makers from the area and Florida, bring to life the age-old custom of pulling peppermint confection into colorful Yuletide candy canes. Graham's will be giving away all the candy canes to their valued customers as a token of appreciation.



**Marshmallow Toasting** – 6-9 p.m., Dec. 5. Country Naturals, 316 Campbell St.

**Decadent Drinking Chocolate and Fudge Samples** – 6-9 p.m., Dec. 5. Kilwins Chocolates & Ice Cream, 407 S. Third St. Drinking Chocolate is a powerful, concentrated and rich version of Kilwins' hot chocolate, where they use real chocolate shavings to make an unbelievably delicious drink.

# All I Want for Christmas is ...

Plan to enjoy the fresh and fragrant Christmas trees and wreaths, twinkling lights and the magic of Friday evening. Geneva Mayor Kevin Burns and Scott Lebin, chairman of the Geneva Chamber of Commerce, will welcome the crowd assembled to ring in the holiday season on Dec. 5. A multitude of voices will sing favorite carols as Santa Lucia, the Swedish symbol of the season, arrives with her attendants.

The attendants will circulate through the gathering, bidding all welcome and offering a traditional Swedish "wish" cookie, Swedish Pepparkakor. An old custom says to place a Pepparkakor in the palm of the hand, make a wish and tap the cookie in the middle with your index finger. If the cookie breaks into three pieces, your wish will come true. If the Pepparkakor breaks into many pieces, you'll have lots of tasty morsels to enjoy.

## CAROLS

Enjoy Carols by Candlelight at St. Mark's Church, Fourth and Franklin streets, from 7-8:30 p.m. Dec. 5. This event is free, and all are invited to stop by and join in the singing. For more information, call 630-232-0133, Ext. 10. Friday evening also includes The Merry



**Santa Lucia, the Swedish symbol of the season, arrives Dec. 5.**

Carolers, which will put all in the holiday spirit with caroling on the stage and around downtown. After the lighting of the Great Tree, fourth- to eighth-graders from the St. Patrick Catholic School Choir will sing in front of Galena Wine Cellars. On the court-

house lawn, enjoy the four-piece saxophone quartet from Fox Valley Concert Band. The Salvation Army Band will also be adding to the spirit with their music. Salty Sacbuts, a trombone quartet from Geneva High School, will be entertaining visitors, and a duo from

St. Charles North will be sharing their talents.

On Saturday, Geneva Girl Scout troops will entertain at 10:30 a.m. on the courthouse lawn on Third Street. Enjoy the music of The Blue Note Combo, a jazz group that has been playing together since middle school, from 1-4 p.m. on the courthouse lawn.

## CANDY CANES

Graham's Fine Chocolates, 302 S. Third St., celebrates the Annual Christmas Walk with its old-fashioned Candy Cane Pull. A holiday tradition, watch as Graham's candy-makers bring to life the age-old custom of pulling peppermint confection into hundreds of colorful Yuletide candy canes. Graham's will be giving away all the candy canes to its valued customers as a thank-you for 27 years of business.

March in the Graham's Parade, made up of friends and customers of Graham's, with adults and children alike. Over 60 bell ringers will fall in line behind trumpeters dressed in full regalia, with herald trumpets and the Geneva High School Drumline. The First Candy Cane of the Season will commence, as Graham's Fine Chocolates presents its home-

continue on **PAGE 8**

# The Fuller Family Home, 521 Campbell St.

Nestled in a pleasant neighborhood, this home is registered with the Geneva Historical Society, dating its construction from 1857. Built for Noadiah and Lydia Kendall, elements of Greek revival design are evident in the woodwork, moldings, black/white basket-weave floor tile and the column-supported front portico. The family's story is told and reflected through their artwork and furnishings, beginning with their roots in New England and continuing with their home in the Midwest. Holiday finery greets you as you walk the brick path to the front of this cedar home.

In the master bedroom, ocean blues surge from pictures hanging against a wave-cap white wall. A bold sun-kissed gold settee, handed down through the generations, sits at the foot of the master bed, which is adorned with starfish and sea shell pillows. A serene feeling is carried into a sophisticated, marbled master bath, complete with a heated floor.

Previous owners went to great length to remain true to the historic authenticity of the Noadiah Kendall home by finding a supplier of old and rare woods. Approximately 20 new boards are woven in among the original flooring. Only a discerning eye is able to find where the original wide wood-plank flooring ends and the addition begins. Local architect Tim Nelson won the Historic Preservation Award for his design and renovation six years ago. The single recent enhancement has been plantation shutters, an architectural feature commonly found in the 1850s.

The living room is warmed by an inviting fire. A cherished family Bible dates

back to 1886 and lists milestones of the matriarch's family for the last 130 years. Close by, a walnut Victorian desk is not only beautiful but the first antique lovingly purchased years ago by this young couple just starting their family. Nativity scenes are one of the most recognizable and loved Christmas customs today. This one, received as a wedding gift, is set out each year.

Paintings express a fondness for the East Coast and passion for horseback riding. A cheery Christmas tree twinkles over the cozy setting awaiting friends and family's for a merry party.

A functional kitchen, with maple cabinets and stainless-steel appliances, gracefully flows into the laughter and merriment of a dining room set for Christmas Eve dinner with Spode china – a gift from a beloved grandmother. Perhaps sweet treats find a place on the restored buffet – a favorite of the homeowner. A painting, bought last summer at the Geneva Arts Fair, pays homage to their present home in the heartland.

SG Geneva continues the magic onto the enchanting outdoor patios. Fragrant evergreens intertwined with seasonal colors guide you along the path that carries you around to the front of this charming home and the welcoming, never ending story of the Fullers.

#### **Presented by:**

**SG Geneva:** 428 W. State St. (corner of Fifth and State streets), Geneva, 630-232-1303, [www.scentimentalgardens.com](http://www.scentimentalgardens.com)

**All Chocolate Kitchen:** 33 S. Third St., Geneva, 630-232-2395, [www.allchocolatekitchen.com](http://www.allchocolatekitchen.com)



## The Filas Family Home, 710 Shady Ave.

A broad luminary-lit walk leads to this impressive traditional home. The family's vision came to life with an open floor plan, designed by the homeowner, that encompasses comfort and togetherness while also maintaining a high-efficiency standard. Our decorator has chosen a monochromatic theme for this stone and LP SmartSide Green Building sided home, adding emphasis with varied textures. Upon entering the foyer, your eyes are drawn to an impressive Christmas tree. Close by, a unique ottoman is ready for seated poses – perhaps a picture for the holiday greeting card. A signed Leroy Neiman print complements the intricate bookcase that holds a complete set of 1890 Charles Dickens novels; given to the homeowner by her grandfather.

An arched entryway invites you to explore this five-bedroom, 4.5-bath beauty further. Gaze at the 6-foot-high reclaimed natural wood mirrors as you make your way to the master suite that opens off the grand living room. The simplicity of the bedroom calms your soul with earth-inspired hues. Espresso crown molding encircles a 10-foot tray ceiling. Five-and-a-half inch Spanish walnut floors guide you to a crisp, clean style in the master bath with a streamlined wooden maple, coffee-stained vanity and solid-white quartz countertops. The chocolate and Crema Marfil marble floor, found in the large walk-in shower, flows seamlessly with the neutral scheme of the bathroom, adding texture and interest to the space. The oval soaking tub sits back in a small alcove, where a large window allows for natural light to stream into the space. A chrome-and-linen crystal chandelier hangs from the ceiling, adding ambience to the room.

Accents of teal add an unexpected burst

of color to the living room. Herringbone brick surrounds the stone fireplace that anchors the living space. An oversize love seat is the perfect spot to sink, snuggle and wait for St. Nicholas to arrive. Ceiling beams offer a striking visual element. A dusting of snow on the flagstone paved patio makes the home's colors crisper and reflects even more natural light through this extraordinary room.

The spacious, open kitchen invites family and friends to gather for laughter and friendship. The dining table melds shades of dark and light. Draped with hundreds of oversize glass crystals, the chandelier bathes the whole table in a festive glow, with each teardrop and raindrop sparkling in the light it casts. Airy windows provide another view to the patio. The light gray granite makes a statement on this large island adding dimension to the white maple cabinetry. Natural travertine subway tile creates a colorful backdrop to the cooking area.

As you prepare to leave, remain just a few moments more to regard extra touches done on the home. A train inspired blackboard and spacious cubbies keep the family of six on track. Can you find the special place for the seventh member? Allow time to take in the details of a charming powder room and an intricate sapele wood and custom iron railed staircase leading to four bedrooms before you head out to resume your journey.

### **Presented by:**

**Elizabeth Wray Design:** 15 S. Third St., Geneva, 630-232-1975, [www.elizabethwraydesign.com](http://www.elizabethwraydesign.com)

**Plandscape Inc.:** 707 E. North St., Elburn, 630-365-2558, [www.plandscapeinc.com](http://www.plandscapeinc.com)



# The Home of Russ and Kathleen Newhouse, 1264 Keim Court

This captivating two-story brick and cedar home is filled with classical, quality furniture, exquisite window treatments and beautiful accessories. Visitors will get a special look at the owner's interior design expertise, especially evident in the remodeled living room, dining room, powder room and lower level.

Step into the study where shades of gold and rose shimmer from the bright light streaming through a three-sided bay window. Crown molding and a sparkling chandelier add to the richness of the room.

Descend the stairs to the lower level where entertaining is a breeze. A color palette of muted brown, orange, red and bronze adorn the walls and furnishings. Custom banquette seating offers a clever use of space. Having friends over? Additional seating is found on leather ottomans, complete with a pull out side tray.

Around the corner, a dark wood bar with light granite top creates an essence of elegance in this stylish living space. Through the windows, twinkling lights delicately hanging on the trellis light up spectacular views of the pond and golf course. The Little Traveler has this spacious room ready for celebrations all holiday season.

Meander up the stairway, pausing at the top to first admire the French inspired powder room. Touches of gold create a warm iridescent glow that flows from room to room. Each fleur-de-lis

hand stenciled on the metallic walls and covered in a chocolate glaze is embellished with a decorative nail head. In the family room, soft hues of cream and beige harmonize the space, while the two story palladium windows, with crisp white plantation shutters, enhance the open floor plan. Details around the fireplace and adornments add character to this airy room.

Enjoy a second view of the first tee and of the two tiered deck as windows flood the gourmet kitchen with natural light. Countertops speckled with light caramel, dark cinnamon and gold blend beautifully with white cabinets, giving off a calm, relaxed feel in the kitchen. A geometric wall tile design pulls in the backsplash. The sleekness of the kitchen is carried over to the diminutive butler's pantry.

The focal point of the dining room, an attractive chandelier that echoes the round shape of the table, illuminates a joyful tablescape. Gilded walls intermingle with a deep sable ceiling. Both walls and ceiling use multiple layers of tinted colors to achieve this custom look, which is exclusive to the Newhouse home.

Back out the front door, linger just a moment more to admire the decorating, design and Christmas brilliance of this Eagle Brook address.

**Presented by:**

**The Little Traveler:** 404 S. Third St.,  
Geneva, 630-232-4200, [www.littletraveler.com](http://www.littletraveler.com), [info@littletraveler.com](mailto:info@littletraveler.com)



continued from PAGE 4

made Yuletide confection to Mayor Burns on the Third Street stage. Participants will parade from 318 S. Third St. to the reviewing stand to start the Annual Candy Cane Ceremony just after 6 p.m. Dec. 5.

Celebrate the anniversary of Chef Roby's creation of the World's Longest Candy Cane starting at 6 p.m. Dec. 6 at All Chocolate Kitchen, 33 S. Third St. Roby will present a 10-foot-long replica of his Guinness World Record-breaking 51-foot candy cane. Immediately following, Roby will announce the winner of the Community Gingerbread Contest.

### SANTA CLAUS

The young and young at heart should gaze into the night sky, hoping to catch a glimpse of the jolly old elf arriving in Geneva. Encouraged by the crowd's singing, he will make his debut just after 6 p.m. Mayor Burns and Santa Claus will then prepare everyone for the long awaited grand event, the lighting of the Great Tree on the courthouse lawn, sponsored by Shodeen Homes. Genevans and visitors help by counting down to the suspenseful moment, the switch is thrown and more than 4,000 lights suddenly illuminate the upturned faces of onlookers. Shimmering handmade ornaments created



**Roasted chestnuts can be found at several locations Friday evening.**

by the children of Geneva signal the town is all a-twinkle and ready for the holidays. Santa opens his Gingerbread House at the corner of James and South Third streets to hear the wishes of area children until 9:30 p.m. Dec. 5. Santa's Gingerbread House is sponsored by Geneva Bank & Trust. Santa's visits continue through Dec. 23.

### SANTA'S GINGERBREAD HOUSE

Santa will see visitors at his Gingerbread House from 12:30-3:30 p.m. Dec. 6 and 7. For the rest of the season, hours are

continue on PAGE 10

## The Serluco Family Home, 1112 James St.

Built in the late 1920s, this Tudor defines curb appeal. Lovely window boxes add a pop of color to the gray-cedar shingled, shake-roof home. Honoring the original architecture, present owners have made it their own with an addition designed by local architect Tim Nelson that includes a new master bedroom, kitchen and dinette area.

Stepping inside this three-bedroom, three-bath house, the intricacies and beauty of the millwork is unmistakable, beginning with the beadboard in the cozy foyer.

A moonlight-white living room serves as backdrop for a glistening tree with white and silver ornaments. Sunlight streams through the transom windows as you ascend an open stairway to the spacious master bedroom with vaulted wood planked ceiling and elegant bath. Large windows give way to a golf course winter wonderland.

The walls are painted with a hue named "quiet moments," fitting for the tranquility of the bedroom enriched with dark wood floors, soft colors and wainscoting.

Calmness carries into the master bath complete with custom Past Basket cabinets; a perfect place to relax after a busy day of wrapping presents for friends and family. Notice the exquisite milk glass in this room and throughout the home — collected over many years.

Downstairs, the dining room show-

cases the homeowner's Waechtersbach Christmas dishes, festively set for holiday merrymaking. Gathering these German place settings for more than 20 years, the family uses them from the day after Thanksgiving through the new year. The butler's pantry that reveals lovely glassware and more beautiful milk glass, flows into the Past Basket kitchen.

The unique shaped island, rounded at the end, is supported by an antique lantern from the Geneva Masonic Temple. Clocks in all the rooms serve as reminders that Christmas will soon be here. Bright skylights and spacious windows bathe the kitchen in natural light, making you almost forget the chill outside.

Comfort abounds in the family room with plush furnishings of khaki, cream and taupe; even the four-legged family member has her own bed.

While a crackling fire glows with warmth in the stone fireplace, it is easy to imagine the family decorating the tree with memories. Each year, adding a new Radko ornament has become a favorite tradition.

As you leave, the decorators have outdone themselves on the patio with holiday splendor. Santa will have no trouble finding the Serluco home this season.

### Presented by:

**Heinz Bros. Greenhouse Garden Center:**  
2010 E. Main St., St. Charles, 630-377-6288, [www.heinzbros.com](http://www.heinzbros.com)



# The Simner Family Home, 1209 Dunstan Road

Built in 2006, this nearly 4,500-square-foot, four-bedroom home overflows with craftsmanship, including detailed trims and moldings, Brazilian hardwood floors, two full masonry fireplaces and custom cabinetry. The builders kept the stairway, foundation and width of the previous house on this property.

As you enter, dark wood stairs lead you to the second floor. Admire the handcrafted newel posts that complement the iron spindles. Beginning at the top, a young boy's love of cars is evident in the first bedroom, dominated by blues and whites with a vibrant green accent wall. An illuminated painting sits above his dresser. Colorful handmade valances resemble racing pennants. Purposely hung low, so he could race his cars around and around — who will win on the wall mural track? Pinewood Derby trophies are proudly displayed next to signed baseballs from the Kane County Cougars and his Geneva baseball team.

A playroom no child would ever want to leave, reflects an around the world theme. World maps are flanked by states on the wall that highlight places where the family has lived. Additionally, a signed flag by professional golfer Graeme McDowell is dedicated to the children.

A close look at the precious dollhouse reveals carpeting, accessories and wallpaper from the owner's childhood home. Lovingly played with when she was a child, and now passed onto her own family. Tree trimming, in this room, has come to a halt. A ring of bells has led the children to the windows hoping to spy a sleigh being pulled by eight tiny reindeer in the starry sky. A Jack and Jill bathroom leads to a burst of pink, fitting for a little girl. The Fancy Nancy picture seems to jump off the wall as paper butterflies flutter about on the whitewash finish.

While crystal chandeliers light your

way through the hallway, take notice of the ornate woodwork on a salvaged door, purchased locally, that graces the subtle colored walls. French doors open to a glorious retreat in the master suite. Descend the stairway, first passing by a resplendent dining room bathed in striking colors and prepared for a holiday feast, and then onto the gourmet kitchen where the preparations begin. Cherrywood cabinets effortlessly blend with Venetian gold granite counter tops and gleaming stainless steel appliances.

The built-in curio cabinet reveals bone china teacups from the homeowners "Zia." Many Christmases were spent with this adored aunt eating Italian cenci cookies and sipping warm cocoa.

To your left, a great family room has a comfortable, organic feel. Earth colors, similar to the kitchen, surround a stone fireplace, a coffee table constructed from sea grass and generous windows, touched by bamboo shades. Sunlight showcases the outdoor living space. The bluestone patio, which doubles as an outdoor kitchen, contains a chandeliered pergola. After caroling, the merriment continues around the fire pit — enjoying hot cider and s'mores.

Before you depart this remarkable Colonial, glimpse into the laundry area. A place for missing socks has become just the right spot for extra stockings that the jolly old elf can fill. Excellent wood artistry is again evident in the final room. Built-in bookshelves border a second fireplace in the relaxing office. Flickering luminaries bid you farewell as you continue your holiday journey.

#### **Presented by:**

**Karen Gross, Gatherings By Design:**  
630-880-8792, [gatheringsbydesign21@gmail.com](mailto:gatheringsbydesign21@gmail.com)  
**Plandscape Inc.:** 707 E. North St., Elburn,  
630-365-2558, [plandscapeinc.com](http://plandscapeinc.com)



continued from PAGE 8

5:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and 12:30-3:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Santa's house will be open until Dec. 23. Bring your camera for that special shot.

### HOLIDAY SHOPPING

Downtown Geneva will be dressed in holiday finery. Stroll along the streets and discover the treasures of more than 100 specialty shops nestled in historic storefronts and charming, Victorian-style homes filled with gifts for every person on your list. Many downtown shops will be open late Thursday through Saturday until 7 p.m. and Sundays until 4 p.m. through Dec. 23.

### 'LIVE' WINDOWS ON STATE STREET

Merchant windows on State Street will be lively as they showcase "live mannequins" from 7-9 p.m. Dec. 5 after the Christmas Walk tree-lighting ceremony.

### CHESTNUTS ROASTING OVER FIRES

On the evening of Dec. 5, chestnuts are roasted over open fires at these downtown locations: EvenFlow Music & Spirits, 302 W. State St.; Geneva Ace Hardware in front of The Paper Merchant, 328 S. Third St.; Geneva Spice House, 577 S. Third St., Suite



Santa will be on hand for the lighting of the Great Tree, Friday, Dec. 5.

100; and Geneva Running Outfitters, 221 W. State St. Complimentary chestnuts are sponsored by Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.

### HORSE-DRAWN CARRIAGE RIDES

Shodeen Homes will sponsor free horse-drawn antique carriage rides through the

historic district of Geneva from 1-4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays from Dec. 6-21. The rides begin and end at the corner of South Third and James streets, travel down Third Street and back around to the courthouse.

### WARMING TENT

Insurance through AAA invites you to warm up with handwarmers and hot chocolate. Pick-up your free giveaways from 5-9 p.m. Dec. 5 on the courthouse lawn on South Third Street.

### LIVING NATIVITY

The youth of Geneva Lutheran Church will present a living Nativity from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Dec. 5, during the Christmas Walk. The 30-minute, tableau-style scenes will run through three settings at 6:30, 7:15 and 8 p.m. Costumed young actors will be accompanied by live animals, background music and props on the front lawn of the church, at Third and Franklin streets. Admission is free, and church members will provide free cookies and hot cocoa. Donations will be accepted for a local charity.

### CHRISTMAS WALK BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Geneva Public Library will host its Annual Christmas Walk Used Book Sale in the library's lower level meeting room, 127 James St. Hours are 5-9 p.m. Dec. 4; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 5; and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 6. A bag of books will sell for \$8 all day Dec. 6. Tickets for opening night admittance will be available at the check-in desk at 9 a.m. Dec. 4. Admission for opening night will be at the outside, northwest alley door.

### NEAPOLITAN CRÈCHE

The Geneva History Museum, 113 S. Third St., is home to a breathtaking 18th-century,

Neapolitan nativity set purchased in the 1930s by Kate Raftery, founder of The Little Traveler. Visit the museum from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Dec. 23 to see this rare display, which is similar to nativity sets owned by the Art Institute of Chicago and the White House. Luncheon fundraisers are scheduled for Dec. 11 and 13 to benefit its restoration. Call 630-232-4951 or visit [www.genevahistorymuseum.org](http://www.genevahistorymuseum.org).

### GENEVA GIVING TREES

Christmas trees decorated by local charities will be on display through the holidays at the Geneva History Museum, 113 S. Third St. Visit in person or at [www.genevahistorymuseum.org](http://www.genevahistorymuseum.org) to vote for trees with a monetary donation. The winning organization will keep 100 percent of the funds donated, while the other organizations split their winnings with the museum. Hours are 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Dec. 5, during the Christmas Walk, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday though Dec. 23.

### STEEPLE WALK

The Sixth Annual Steeple Walk, sponsored by the Geneva Cultural Arts Commission, will once again be a part of Geneva's Christmas season. From 2-4:30 p.m. Dec. 7, the United Methodist Church (Anima Youth Choir of Glen Ellyn), the Geneva Lutheran Church (Orion Ensemble), the First Church of Christ Scientist (Quentin Dover on guitar and Rosemary Schroeder on piano) and the Unitarian Universalist Church (Vox Gloria - Methodist Women's Choral Group) will participate. The cost is \$12, and admission is limited to people ages 6 and older. Tickets are available at the churches, the Geneva Chamber of Commerce, CIRCA and through PayPal online. For more information, email Kent at [kgg1109@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kgg1109@sbcglobal.net).

### SPECIAL OFFERINGS

**Comfort Inn & Suites** is partnering with downtown Geneva retailers and Geneva Commons for a Holiday Shop Til You Drop package. Visit [comfortinngeneva.com](http://comfortinngeneva.com) for more details.

**Marklund**, 1S450 Wyatt Drive, Geneva, will open its Giving Tree on Dec. 5. Help them "undecorate" the holiday tree by removing one or more of 117 gift tags, each of which represents wishes by a resident who calls Marklund "home." The store is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

**Christmas Open House**, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 5-7, **Antiques on State**, 422 W. State St., Geneva.

**Kilwins Chocolates & Ice Cream**, 407 S. Third St., Geneva will be raffling off a giant 25-pound, handcrafted and "hand painted,"

all-edible chocolate Santa during the holidays. The shop will also offer two limited-edition ice creams, eggnog and peppermint during the holidays, as well as handmade, gingerbread-flavored waffle cones, eggnog and peppermint fudge.

Enjoy hot apple cider, popcorn with truffle oil and a pistachio cake using pistachio oil at **The Olive Mill**, 315 James St., Geneva, from 4-9 p.m. Dec. 5.

A special beer release is scheduled at **Penrose Brewing Co.**, 509 Stevens St., Geneva, for 5 p.m. Dec. 5. Glögg Spiced Stout will be paired with chestnuts roasted on site.

**Holiday Spirits at Fox River Distilling**, 204 Dearborn Court, Geneva, is scheduled for noon to 8 p.m. Dec. 5, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 6 and noon to 6 p.m. Dec. 7. Get a free shotglass when purchasing Herrington Vodka, Geneva's Preservation Gin or Rev. Mike's White Lightning Moonshine.

**Sweet Treats at The PrivateBank**, 501 W. State St., Geneva, is set for 4-7 p.m. Dec. 5. Stop in for hot cocoa and treats.

**More Sweet Treats at C'est le Vie**, 25 S. Third St., Geneva, is also set for 5-9 p.m., Dec. 5. Candy canes and live windows will be featured during the Christmas Walk.

**Caroling on the Corner**, 6 p.m., Dec. 5, will include free jewelry for the first 50 guests, holiday refreshments, an appearance by Mrs. Illinois and caroling at **Perlman Fine Jewelry**, 301 W. State St., Geneva.

Treat yourself to a massage, energy work, reiki, a spinal check, yoga, sound healing and more for a suggested \$5 donation to charity from 3-5 p.m. Dec. 5 and 1-4 p.m. Dec. 6 and 7 at **The HoneyBee Wellness Center**, 115 Campbell St., Geneva.

An Outdoor Fashion Show will take place from 6-8:30 p.m. Dec. 5, at the **Jane Pabon Consignment Boutique**, 220 S. Third St., Geneva.

**Going To My Happy Place Yoga/World Martial Arts USA**, 316 Anderson Blvd., Geneva, will be partnering with Fox Valley Troop Support to collect, pack and send items Dec. 5-6 to let the troops know we are thinking of them throughout the Christmas season and more. Suggested items include baby wipes, protein bars, healthy snacks, books, current magazines, toiletries and any other thoughtful or useful items small enough to ship. Thoughtful cards and letters are also enclosed with packages.

Holiday book signings at **Little Traveler**, 404 S. Third St., Geneva, include "Rodney the Repo Reindeer" from 1-4 p.m. Dec. 5 and

"The True Tale of Dasher" from 5-10 p.m. Dec. 5 and 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Dec. 6. Call 630-232-4200 for more information.

Meet Santa and donate to Toys for Tots from 2-5 p.m. Dec. 5 at **All About You Dental Care**, 2631 Williamsburg Ave., Geneva. Get a free photo with Santa, plus receive a free electric toothbrush with a donation to Toys For Tots.

A Christmas Open House is set from 5-8 p.m. Dec. 5 at **Dancer's Dream**, 322 W. State St., Geneva. Come for treats, beverages and surprise discounts while browsing gifts and dancewear.

Free chair massages will be offered from 5-9 p.m. Dec. 5 at **Elements Massage**, 507 S. Third St., Geneva. There will be holiday treats and massage drawings all weekend.

**Christmas Finery at The Paper Merchant**, 328 S. Third St., Geneva, is set from 5-9 p.m., Dec. 5, as **Geneva Ace Hardware** sells greens, wreaths, roping, birch branches, pine cones and redtwig dogwood in the courtyard.

Arrange your own winter container from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Dec. 5, or decorate a front door evergreen from 2-3 p.m. Dec. 6, at **Heinz Bros. Greenhouse Garden Center**, 2010 E. Main St., St. Charles.

**Santa, Specials and Jazz** is set from 6-10 p.m. Dec. 5 at **Third Street Eyecare**, 500 S. Third St., Geneva. Santa, s'mores, music and more are on tap.

Santa's reindeer visit **Geneva Bank & Trust**, 514 W. State St., Geneva, from 9 a.m. to noon Dec. 6. Get \$25 to open a Junior Savers account and enter a coloring raffle with a \$50 cash prize, through Dec. 21. Pick up the coloring page at Santa's House on Third Street or at the bank.

Cookies and tea will be served from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Dec. 5 at **Peaceful Parlour**, 212 S. Third St., Geneva. A psychic will be on hand to read tea leaves for a small fee.

Join **Geneva Wine Cellars**, 227 S. Third St., Geneva, Dec. 5-7 for tastings of a multitude of wines specially selected by food and wine professionals to pair with holiday dishes.

The **TriCity Family Services 5K Run/Walk** Snowflake Shuffle begins with check-in at 7 a.m. Dec. 6 at the Mill Creek Golf Clubhouse. The USA Track & Field-certified 5K starts at 9 a.m. Pre-registration is \$35 for adults, \$25 for children ages 6-17 and free for those 5 and younger. Call 630-232-1070 to register or visit [www.tricityfamilyservices.org](http://www.tricityfamilyservices.org).

Breakfast with Santa and a Toys for Tots drive are set for 9-11 a.m. Dec. 6 at

**Kyuki-Do Martial Arts of Geneva Inc.**, 33W624 Roosevelt Road, West Chicago. The cost is free with a donation of a new, unwrapped gift for Toys for Tots.

**State Street Dance Studio** invites you to come and enjoy a Sugar Plum Fairy Tea from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 6 at **Eagle Brook Country Club**, 2288 Fargo Blvd., Geneva. Tea will be served while guests are enchanted by performances from Clara, friends from the Land of Sweets, the Sugar Plum Fairy and the Nutcracker. There will be open dancing, face painting and a special appearance by Santa. To reserve tickets, call 630-232-0444.

Breakfast with Santa will be held from 7:30-11 a.m. Dec. 6, at **Geneva High School**, 416 W. McKinley Ave., Geneva, hosted by **Geneva Lions Club**. For more information, visit [genevalionsclub.org](http://genevalionsclub.org).

The **Oscar Swan Country Inn**, 1800 W. State St., Geneva, will be hosting a festive luncheon, Christmas Around the World, Dec. 6. Live music will be offered, featuring the sounds of Germany. Reservations are required. For more information, visit [www.oscarswan.com](http://www.oscarswan.com) or call 630-232-0173.

Take a break for shopping and relax with a Holiday Happy Hour from 4-7 p.m. Dec. 6 at

## A Geneva gift certificate

As the holiday season approaches, Geneva gift certificates make a great gift. They are easy to buy, easy to use (over 140 merchants accept them) and never expire. Certificates are available at [www.genevachamber.com](http://www.genevachamber.com), at the chamber office, 8 S. Third St., or weekends at the Visitor Center, 10 S. Third St. For more information, call the chamber at 630-232-6060.

**Chez Moi**, 415 W. State St., Geneva. There will also be live music with Dennis O'Brien.

Breakfast with Santa is scheduled from 8:30-11:30 a.m. Dec. 7 at **Hotel Baker**, 100 W. Main St., St. Charles. For more information, call 630-845-5837.

**Fox Valley Repertory** presents "Christmas on Broadway" at 8 p.m. Dec. 5, 4 p.m. Dec. 6 and 2 p.m. Dec. 7 at **Pheasant Run**, 4051 Main St., St. Charles. Call 630-524-5071 for more information.

The **Steel Beam Theatre**, 111 W. Main St., presents "Sing Along with Santa" at 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Dec. 6, and 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Dec. 7. Visit [www.steelbeamtheatre.com](http://www.steelbeamtheatre.com).

