

WINERY from page 1

took the leap and purchased the property.

They started clearing some of the land and growing grapes immediately. "We planted grapes right away, learned to make wine, and we started," Samek says.

One of the unique things about the winery, out of its many charms, said Samek, is the presence of the historically accurate renovation of the once abandoned Giles E. Warner mansion, built in 1795 and essentially untouched by any modern alterations prior to Samek taking ownership.

One of the first things besides growing grapes Samek did was start the process of thoroughly restoring the mansion to its original condition - including choosing to leave out plumbing and electricity.

A five-year project, the mansion is the face of the winery, with a 5,000-foot timber frame barn addition attached to the back, where they hold functions and are open to the public daily to eat, meet, drink, and be merry.

After 25 years, the winery has enjoyed numerous awards and accolades, including being voted "Best Winery In Massachusetts," Samek said.

Beating out over 30 other New England cranberry wines for first place in a Yankee magazine blind taste teste, is a great source of pride for Samek.

However, the winery also boasts excellent water - not necessarily what one would guess to be among their collection of awards, but it just happens to be right up there with the wines.

"We just won best tasting water in Massachusetts, and we are going to compete nationally," he said. "The award was totally unexpected."



A view from the front of the winery shows off the majestic Federal-era, fully restored, mansion. The timber frame barn is on the back of the mansion, and is where the public comes to enjoy wine, food, and friends.

Samek says that when they first began, they had six wines on offer, and sold everything directly from the winery. Hiring a salesman, who is still with them to this day, propelled them onto greener pastures, and their wine is now available in over 200 stores across the state.

They also now grow six varieties of grapes and generate about 3,500 gallons of wine per year.

There are 17 different wines for sale currently, and there really is something for every taste - from their classics Yankee Boy White and Hardwick Red to more recent Enfield Apricot and a Chocolate Raspberry, the selection just keeps getting more impressive.

One surprising flavor is their Valley Asparagus, which Samek said is quite possibly the only asparagus wine made commercially

in the world.

This semi-dry white wine imbued with locally grown asparagus has landed the winery an invitation to a prominent asparagus festival in California.

The funny thing about this, Samek points out, is that usually it is California wine traveling east. "How much wine do you know that goes east to west? Usually it's the other way around, west to east," said Samek.

Samek credits his hard-working, locally grown and raised crew with a large part of sustaining and increasing the winery's success.

"They are hard working, honest, fun, they love to work, they love wine," Samek said.

Tasting Room Operator, Kaitlin Young, enthused about her job at the winery, said, "I have such a

great team working under me. I always tell people how lucky I am."

Young says the winery has been celebrating their 25th anniversary all year with lots of events and three new wine releases.

Greenwich Apple, Reservoir Rose, and a dessert style wine called Liquid Apple Pie was added this year, and Samek said there are plans to add several more new wines next year, including a strawberry variety.

Samek, who describes himself as a workaholic, is also quite fond of fun, and said he finds some of the aspects of the business particularly enjoyable.

"One of the fun things for me in the cellar is to create the wines, the labels, and names," he said.

In fact, his new Reservoir Rose was an accident, albeit a happy

one, created when he forgot to change the filters out when going from making red wine to white.

The future looks bright for the winery, and for those who enjoy it now and those who have yet to discover what a treasure it is.

"The future is so wide open," Samek said.

The winery is focusing on increasing its event space and capacity, doubling the square footage of the main barn, and adding a timber frame pavilion to the grounds, which he said will have great acoustics and be multi-seasonal.

Samek's business card has an unusual aspect to it - a personal and business motto.

"The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than education, than money, than circumstances, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill," it reads.

"I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so, it is with you... we are

in charge of our ATTITUDES."

He adds at the bottom, "We hire our staff based on this motto."

Written by Chuck Swindol, and lived by Samek in his life and his business, it appears that with the right attitude, the future can be bright, and it certainly seems to be as the winery has become more than a destination, and a beautiful place to relax, but also an example of what magic can happen with the right attitude and determination.



public notices

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- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

TOWN OF WARE
Legal Notice
Request for Statement of Qualifications

The Town of Ware Planning & Community Development Department will receive sealed proposals from qualified consultants to conduct an:

Adaptive Re-Use and Feasibility Study of the Mary Lane Hospital Complex (85 South Street, Ware, MA)

at the Town Manager's Office, 126 Main Street, Ware, Massachusetts, to be completed no later than **June 30, 2023**.

All proposals shall

be sealed and clearly marked with the name of the study. The project fee is not-to-exceed \$65,000 and final costs will be negotiated between the qualified applicant and the Town.

Full RFQ packages may be obtained at the Planning & Community Development Office, Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM.

There will be an on-site walk through on **December 1, 2022** from **12pm to 1pm**.

Interested firms should rsvp with Rob Watchilla at

rwatchilla@townofware.com.

Proposals must be submitted to the Town Manager's Office, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082 by 2:00 PM on **December 15, 2022**.

There will be an opening in the Board of Selectman's Meeting Room (126 Main Street, Ware, MA) on December 15, 2022 at 2:00 PM.

The Town reserves the right to reject any or all proposals in the best interest of the Town.

Stuart Beckley
Town Manager

11/24/2022

LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts General Law 105A, in order to satisfy past due rents and other expenses, the contents of Darion Hannah will be auctioned off at Secure Storage, 31 Southbridge Rd., Warren MA at **9:00am on December 3, 2022**.

Any questions or inquiries call Mary at 413-531-3722.

11/17, 11/24, 12/01/2022

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baby's first Christmas

Turley Publications, Inc.

Kensie Michele Distler
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Grandparents: Chris & Michele Mues, Warren
Carole Distler and the late Bruce Distler, Rocky Point, LI, NY

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Include a self addressed/ stamped envelope if you would like the picture returned or email photo to: jamie@turley.com with subject line: BABY'S FIRST.
This offer is available to all babies born in 2022. Pictures will be published the week of December 19-23, 2022.

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Deadline for photos and forms is Friday, December 2, 2022

Announce Your Wedding or Engagement

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Bridal GUIDE

Your wedding or engagement announcement will be included in our Bridal Guide, out January 2, 2023 for FREE!

Be sure to include the following with photograph:

Bride's Name: _____
Bride's Town Residence: _____
Groom's Name: _____
Groom's Town Residence: _____
Wedding Date: _____
Wedding Location: _____

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