

In the Loupe



Gallery renamed, endowment created to honor Ron Harder



Darin Kath; Patti Geolat, JM Board of Directors Chair, and Ron Harder.

When **Ron Harder** retires as CEO in May 2007, he'll close a chapter on his 34-year history and leadership with Jewelers Mutual. His name and legacy will live on much longer, though, thanks to an exciting announcement at the May 17 Annual Policyholder Meeting.

To recognize Ron's contributions to the company's success, **Patti Geolat**, Jewelers Mutual's board chair, revealed that the Jayem Gallery was renamed the "R. Harder Gallery of Gems and Minerals."

In addition, an endowment for the gallery was created through the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region.

"Ron was instrumental in forming the gem and mineral gallery, and this is one way we can honor him for his commitment to education and the jewelry industry," Patti said.

Through the Community Foundation, scholarships will be awarded in Ron's name to students who are studying geology at local universities, or are studying gemology at the Gemological Institute of America in Carlsbad, Calif.

"When we opened the gallery, our goals were to raise the awareness of the beauty of gemstones and minerals in the community and encourage young people to consider a

career in the jewelry industry," Ron said.

He will stay on as one of five members of the gallery's Board of Directors.

Ron's passion for the jewelry industry began when he joined Jewelers Mutual in 1973. In 1982, he became president. Over the years, he has collected specimens for the gallery from gem and mineral shows in Tucson, Ariz., and gem dealers.

His personal favorite? The gallery's rhodochrosite specimen, found in a Colorado mine Ron visited.

Rhodochrosite

Rhodochrosite (whose name means rose-colored) is a beautiful mineral with a one-of-a-kind, vivid color. It has several uses: as a minor ore of manganese, as an ornamental and semi-precious gemstone, and as mineral specimens. It has been the state mineral of Colorado since 2002.

Chemistry: $MnCO_3$, Manganese Carbonate
 Class: Carbonates
 Group: Calcite Group
 Color: Red to pink, sometimes almost white, yellow and brown

Source: www.galleries.com

The gallery—home to one of the nation's largest private collections of gemstones and minerals in their natural form—often surprises visitors to Jewelers Mutual. Some say they didn't realize such a treasure existed in their own community.

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What's happening?

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| June 1 | Hurricane season begins |
| June 20-21 | Agent training seminar |
| June 30 | Casual Day |

Up close and personal

Accounting... Nancy Anderson's daughter, Amanda, is graduating from Neenah High School.

Commercial Lines... Don Elliott's son, Jared, is graduating from Poynette High School.

Regulatory Compliance... Colleen Ninneman's daughter, Brittany, is graduating from UW-Green Bay with a bachelor's degree in business management and a minor in economics. ... **Mary Jo Shields'** daughter, Anna, is completing Maplewood Middle School "with a 4.0 GPA for each quarter of 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. She will be inducted into the National Jr. Honor Society for the second time this week, and was selected by the teaching staff to participate in a leadership camp this summer." She's looking forward to high school, and Mary Jo and her husband, Chet, "are pleased and proud of her accomplishments."

Sales and Marketing... Dan Degner's daughter, Janelle, is graduating from Fox Valley Lutheran High School. She will major in marketing and Spanish, with a minor in education from UW-Oshkosh. Dan's oldest daughter, Emily, was engaged and is planning an April 14, 2007 wedding in Phoenix. ... **Sheri Ihde's** son, Ben, is graduating from Neenah High School. He will attend Wabash Valley College in Mt. Carmel, Ill. with a baseball scholarship. ... **Sue Fritz's** son, Eric, is graduating from UW-Milwaukee with a degree in electrical engineering. "Can a job be far behind?" she asks.

JMI Insurance Services... Pam Kimberly's son, Morgan, is graduating from Oshkosh North High School. He plans to attend Northern Arizona State in the fall. He also is working part time in our Facilities Department.

Jewelers Mutual named partner in Taylor's wish

Every year, **Marcia Wysocky** heads up JM's efforts to support the Make-a-Wish Foundation of Wisconsin. Along with her team, Marcia organizes a casual day and a fund-raiser lunch with a raffle. She also participates in the Pig-to-Pig walk.

This year, Marcia and the many people at JM who donated to the cause were named partners in fulfilling a wish for Taylor, a little girl with a life-threatening illness. We received the following letter from the Foundation, along with a commemorative star:

Thank you for your continued support of the Make a Wish Foundation of Wisconsin. Your fundraising efforts are greatly appreciated and this year's total of \$2,500 is outstanding! Your entire team deserves a pat on the back. For this support, we are naming you a partner in Taylor's wish.

Taylor and her family traveled to Walt Disney World this month where she fulfilled her wish to ride all the rides. Thank you to everyone who donated to this wonderful cause!

Gallery renamed *continued from page 1*

"We've seen a wide range of visitors, from grade school students studying earth science to geology students from local universities to Boy and Girl Scouts earning badges, to the general public," said Ron. The visits seem to make a lasting impression on visitors, especially school groups. Thank you cards arrive with messages like these from three students at St. John Neumann Middle School in Oshkosh:

"I learned things that I never knew before."

"This is something I'll never forget."

"It was fun to be able to touch the gems and minerals."

Those sentiments fit perfectly with Ron's vision for the gallery.

"With the help of the Community Foundation, the gallery will continue to offer an opportunity for people of all ages to learn more about the beautiful and one-of-a-kind raw materials of the jewelry industry," Ron said.

June service anniversaries

Name	Department	Starting Date	Years of Service
Mary Beiser	Commercial Lines	6/10/1974	32
Kim Tessororf	Claims - Personal Lines	6/10/1974	32
Sheri Ihde	Sales & Marketing	6/9/1975	31
Patti Lenz	Production Support	6/12/1978	28
Carol Eake	Accounting	6/26/1978	28
Barb Van Dinter	Production Support	6/11/1979	27
David Sexton	Loss Prevention	6/2/1980	26
Mike Maley	Personal Lines	6/9/1986	20
Patti Mentzel	Production Support	6/29/1987	19
Mary Van Gompel	Claims - Commercial Lines	6/7/1993	13
Sue Fritz	Sales & Marketing	6/27/1994	12
Chad Bevers	Facilities	6/5/2000	6
Jesse Reichenberger	Regulatory Compliance	6/25/2001	5
Matthew David	Information Technology	6/16/2003	3