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## Orren Pickell builds house for generations



**Jerry Kuyper**

**FONTANA, Wis.** — After the housing market dipped into a recession in 2008, builder Orren Pickell endured a few rocky years.

Pickell, who was based in Lake Bluff, moved headquarters to Northfield and reorganized in new-house design and build operation. He is chief executive officer of Orren Pickell Building Group.

In his heyday of building new houses and developing subdivisions, Pickell had 133

employees. He's down to 20 or so today and building project numbers also are fewer. "We have a dozen projects on-going today, which is down from about 70 in 2005 (a high point year)," he said.

As in days of yore, Pickell relies on a wealthy clientele for his high ticket projects. Instead of subdivision development, though, today he is concentrating on individual custom houses in various locales.

Several of those projects are in their infancy, such as two in Woodstock. Others are further along in Hinsdale, Olympia Fields Country Club, Orland Park and the Wisconsin shoreline bordering Geneva Lake.

His daughter and chief operating officer, Lisa Pickell, is overseeing the custom construction of a two-story single-family house with almost 10,000 square feet of living space on the shoreline bordering Geneva Lake. The house is on a large lot overlooking the lake with a view of the Lake Geneva municipality in the distance. "It's a big lot, maybe two acres, with lake frontage, woodlands, landscaping and lawn," she said.

The CEO declined to reveal what the house will cost but said it would be more than one million dollars. "You can safely say that," she said.

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Photo provided

Orren Pickell designs and builds custom houses and has plans underway for several in Woodstock. One of his company's designs is under construction along the north shore line of Geneva Lake in Fontana, Wis. Stone patios and pillars and lush landscaping are ordinary ingredients in designs.

### REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

#### ALGONQUIN

\$78,000, 1006 Interloch Ct, Algonquin 60102-4110, 19-32-427-045, Bmo Harris Bank Na To Linda Kazmer & Mark Kazmer, March 4  
 \$80,000, 3 Center St, Algonquin 60102-2701, 19-34-301-009, James Delaere To Logan R Gilbertsen & Sophia I Cryns, February 27  
 \$90,500, 271 Partridge Ct, Algon-

\$178,000, 2101 Cumberland Pkwy, Algonquin 60102-4202, 19-35-453-001, John J O Malley To Brian Collins & Katherine Czerniak, February 27  
 \$196,500, 4 Sutcliffe Ct, Algonquin 60102-4352, 19-32-230-006, Timothy M Vinci To Matthew G Schlueter & Jennifer Schlueter, February 26  
 \$197,000, 10407 Lund Ave, Algonquin 60102-3474, 19-27-253-011,

Carden Trust To Piotr Zajac & Anna Zajac, February 28

#### BARRINGTON

\$407,500, 500 W County Line Rd, Barrington 60010-9629, 20-32-400-004, Schussler Trust To Cressey Trust, February 4  
 \$7,742,500, 500 W County Line Rd, Barrington 60010-9629, 20-32-

Drach To Matthew Northam & Wipha Northam, February 5  
 \$127,000, 136 Ann St 206, Cary 60013-1610, 19-12-426-001, Us Bank Na Trustee To Steven Michael Ignarski & Julie Michele Brim, February 19  
 \$135,500, 140 New Haven Dr, Cary 60013-1815, 19-15-229-007, Basilios Mourousias To Jaime J Diaz Jr & Amanda J Diaz, February 1



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1915 Burton Road, Wonder Lake. Superbly maintained. 3 bedrooms, office-den, full bathrooms. Spacious eat-in kitchen, granite counters, ceramic floor, oak cabinets, newer appliances, pantry cabinet: all very elegant included.

**BUILDER**

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The house with a cedar roof plus one and hardboard siding is being built for a family of five (two parents, three children) and, if all goes according to plan, their descendants is looked upon as a generational use," she said.

Besides a finished basement, the two-story custom house will have a three-car side-load garage and another facility to store a boat.

There are seven bedrooms and eight full baths and one half-bath. That's the powder room on the first floor," she said.

Four of the bedrooms are upstairs, one is on the first floor (master suite) and two more are in the basement. Flooring is hardwood (wide plank on the first floor, carpeting in bedrooms and a combination of tile and carpet in the basement which



Photo provided

**A vaulted ceiling is standard in Epcon's Abbey ranch model at the Maples at the Sonatas community in Woodstock.**

has been finished to showcase a game room (including a pool table), family room, second laundry (to comple-

ment first-floor laundry) and a golf putting green (artificial turf).

A stone fireplace is in the main

floor great room and another wood-burning fireplace is in the master suite. The master suite also has a bedroom, walk-in closet, bath with shower, free-standing tub, double vanities and water closet.

Besides master suite and great room, major living areas on the main floor include a workshop, kitchen, laundry, library and sunroom. The kitchen will be equipped with restaurant-quality appliances, such as a Viking range and a Sub-Zero side-by-side.

The house will be open for display purposes during the two-week, new-home show sponsored by Lakeland Builders Association, which has an office in Elkhorn, Wis. The 2013 Parade of Homes is scheduled the weekends of July 27-28 and Aug. 3-4. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets will be available but they have not been printed nor has a price been established.

Pickell will be one of multiple

builders in the show. "We've had a dozen to 20 in our past shows but this is early and we won't know for a while how many we will have this year," an LBA spokeswoman said.

For information, call 262-723-2908, visit [www.lakelandba.com](http://www.lakelandba.com) or email [info@lakelandba.com](mailto:info@lakelandba.com).

Pickell has been building new housing for 47 years. While attending Bradley University in Peoria, he began painting houses before forming his own build and design company in 1974.

Besides an office, Pickell has a design showroom in Northfield. Designed to look like a home, there are 10 rooms showcasing settings such as kitchens, workshops, a luxury spa bath, pocket library, family room, vaulted wine cellar and more.

For information, call 847-572-5252, visit [www.pickellbuilders.com](http://www.pickellbuilders.com) or email [L.Pickell@pickellbuilders.com](mailto:L.Pickell@pickellbuilders.com), [info@pickellbuilders.com](mailto:info@pickellbuilders.com).

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255,000, 342 Foxford Dr, Cary 60013-1172, 06-453-010, Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp To David R Balfie & Elaine M Balfie, February 19 60013-3115, 07-381-003, William E Spears To Alexander Smith & Monica Alcarrese Smith, February 15 265,000, 376 Merion Dr, Cary 60013-1701, 06-454-014, Daniel Arwine To Scott Tiehen & Kimberly Tiehen, February 1

297, 611 E Main St, Cary 60013, 20-17-079, Nationstar Mortgage Llc To Srinivas Kamilli & Saisudha Kamilli, February 27 305,000, 6508 Kingsbridge Dr, Cary 60013-484, 20-06-278-001, Bmo Harris Bank Na To Alicia Fischer Deal & Dustin Tyler Deal, February

**CRYSTAL LAKE**

63,000, 9111 Baillard Rd, Crystal Lake 60014-03, 18-02-276-012, Fannie Mae To One Goal, March 4 65,000, 350 Millard Ave, Crystal Lake 60014-35, 18-01-306-031, Cesar Mendez To Robert T, February 1 000, 491 Golf Rd, Crystal Lake 60014-

Larry L Arnold & Amy S Arnold, February 1 3305,000, 6805 Minuteman Cir, Crystal Lake 60012-3142, 14-29-104-022, Home State Bank Na Trustee To Meredith J Merson, February 28 309,000, 1153 N Shore Dr, Crystal Lake 60014-5267, 18-01-251-004, Tiesenga Family Real Estate Pa To Tfr Llc, February 15 322,500, 3215 Remington Dr, Crystal Lake 60014-4763, 14-35-428-004, Mark R Carpenter To Marlene Petersen, February 5 3327,500, 1777 Queensport Dr, Crystal Lake 60014-2978, 18-24-179-012, W James Frank To Robert G Dillon & Kathryn L Dillon, February 6 328,000, 7160 Great Hill Rd, Crystal Lake 60012-1640, 14-19-426-009, Thomas J Waiters To Eric M Klux & Lindsay Klux, February 26 3392,500, 6108 Hazelwood Dr, Crystal Lake 60012-1280, 14-17-279-002, Ian A Nevers To Ty C Gorman & Stacey L Gorman, March 4

**FOX RIVER GROVE**

\$82,500, 113 Grace Ln, Fox River Grove 60021-1454, 20-19-230-010, Hud To Cynthia J Hernandez, February 1 \$171,000, 3 Melrose Ct, Fox River Grove 60021-1830, 20-19-401-006, Capital One Na To David Morris & Jorsee Morris, January 31

Robert A Mansfield & Shammon M Mansfield, February 1 \$270,000, 10727 Mayfield Ln, Huntley 60142-4056, 18-27-177-003, Joseph P Kelley To Robert E Larsen, February 20 3315,000, 13235 W Hampton Ct, Huntley 60142-7713, 18-31-429-017, Jack W Emerick To Calvin H Meyer & Sandra L Meyer, February 27

**LAKE IN THE HILLS**

\$73,000, 210 Indian Tri, Lake In The Hills 60156-1388, 19-29-208-010, Deutsche Bank Natl Tr Co Tee To Wayne Grove, February 26 78,000, 3011 Ronan Dr, Lake In The Hills 60156-6284, 18-14-456-044, Deutsche Bank Natl Tr Co Tee To Violeta Sanchez Marin, February 27 \$88,500, 993 Viewpoint Dr, Lake In The Hills 60156-4918, 19-28-251-060, Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp To American Homes 4 Rent Property, February 15 \$89,000, 9 Roman Ct, Lake In The Hills 60156-6286, 18-14-453-043, Us Bank Na To Equity Trust Co, February 27 \$90,000, 12 Larkspur Ct, Lake In The Hills 60156-4662, 18-24-351-067, Thomas M Wiley To Traci M Tomaso, February 27

Assn To Natalija Bilizicene & Vjoliuz Biliza, March 4 \$72,000, 201 N Creekside Tri D, Mchenry 60050-5962, 09-33-456-036, Terry Casstre To Amber Florek, February 28 \$72,000, 3330 Cottonwood Ct 3330, Mchenry 60051-4451, 09-26-255-004, Fannie Mae To Andrew Vargas, February 21 \$77,500, 4214 Sioux Ln, Mchenry 60050-5349, 09-34-277-012, Barry J Bugbee To Steven M Karki, March 1 \$81,000, 4218 Ponca St, Mchenry 60050-5340, 09-34-234-018, Mark J Oman To Laurie D Mann, March 1 \$85,000, 911 Paul St, Mchenry 60051-9479, 15-29-304-008, Cheyenne Johnson To Thr Property Illinois Lp, March 4 \$85,000, 1212 Court St, Mchenry 60050-5765, 09-26-456-004, Thennes Trust To John B Thennes & Linnea Thennes, January 31 \$85,000, 732 Legend Ln 14 2, Mchenry 60050-8012, 09-32-428-034, Jason J Mcintyre To Brittney N Brice, February 19 \$90,000, 812 W Wegner Rd, Mchenry 60051-3212, 15-05-182-015, Robert P Carpenter To Thr Property Illinois Lp, March 1 \$94,500, 704 Columbu St, Mchenry 60051-3224, 15-05-130-017, Devin Tereshel To Thr

To Michael J Losch, March 4 \$300,000, 1201 Paddock Rd, Spring Grove 60081-8663, 15-19-403-008, Skupien Trust To Joseph F Klims & Chunlian Su, February 5 \$428,000, 4007 Northgate Dr, Spring Grove 60081-9334, 04-27-476-016, Pnc Bank Na To Daniel V Zarembo & Jodi A Zarembo, February 27

**WONDER LAKE**

\$66,000, 3503 Lake Vista Ln, Wonder Lake 60097-8221, 08-13-404-006, John W Stevens To Gary J Bobeck, January 31 \$71,000, 8918 W Sunset Dr, Wonder Lake 60097-8417, 08-13-304-018, Charlotte V Randow Estate To Bernard Hala & Margaret Hala, March 1 \$94,500, 7308 Northwood Dr, Wonder Lake 60097-8606, 09-18-407-024, Tad Fontaine To Mary C Farley & Bridget A Farley, January 31 \$98,500, 4019 Seneca Rd, Wonder Lake 60097-8806, 08-13-201-004, Va To Michael W Beyer, February 15 \$111,000, 3915 W Lake Shore Dr, Wonder Lake 60097-8881, 08-13-226-011, Leonard Naumann Estate To Robbie W Hollingsworth & Constanz Hollingsworth, February 27