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## Courthouse dome becomes birthday cupcake in sesquicentennial T-shirt design

Logo created by man who lived in Eureka as a child

By Michele Lehman

EUREKA – Growing up in Eureka in the 1990s, Evan Walles often saw the tall, imposing dome of the Woodford County Courthouse as he and his family made their way to the Eureka United Methodist Church on the corner of Court and Callender, where his father, the Rev. Paul Walles, was pastor. Years later, the younger Walles called upon that memory to design the logo for a T-shirt commemorating the Eureka sesquicentennial celebration.

“The courthouse dome is the most iconic symbol of the town and needed to be included in the T-shirt logo design,” Walles said. “I also wanted the design to approach the idea of a sesquicentennial celebration as more of a birthday party because that is essentially what it is, but for a town not for a person.” The logo depicts the dome as a birthday cupcake topped with a birthday candle, meant to be a celebratory symbol of Eureka's 150th "birthday."

The graphic supervisor from Bloomington took several photos of the courthouse and made sketches of design ideas. The result, he said, “was the realization that the image of the silhouetted courthouse dome made an excellent substitute for the frosted top of a birthday cupcake adorned with a candle. This combination of imagery is a little unexpected and a lot of fun, and hopefully people enjoy it.”

Walles attended grade school and middle school in Eureka before his family to Canton. He has bachelor's degree in design and painting from Illinois State University. While a college student he worked part-time designing and screen-printing T-shirts.

The green sesquicentennial T-shirts are \$12 and are available at the Eureka Public Library, 202 S. Main. St. and at sesquicentennial-related events, including the Fourth of July celebration and the second-Sunday band concerts in July, August and September, all at Lake Eureka.

The sesquicentennial celebration will be Aug. 20 through 22 at Lake Eureka and include a carnival, food vendors, main-stage entertainment, children's activities and more. For a schedule of events, go to [eurekafestivals.com](http://eurekafestivals.com).

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