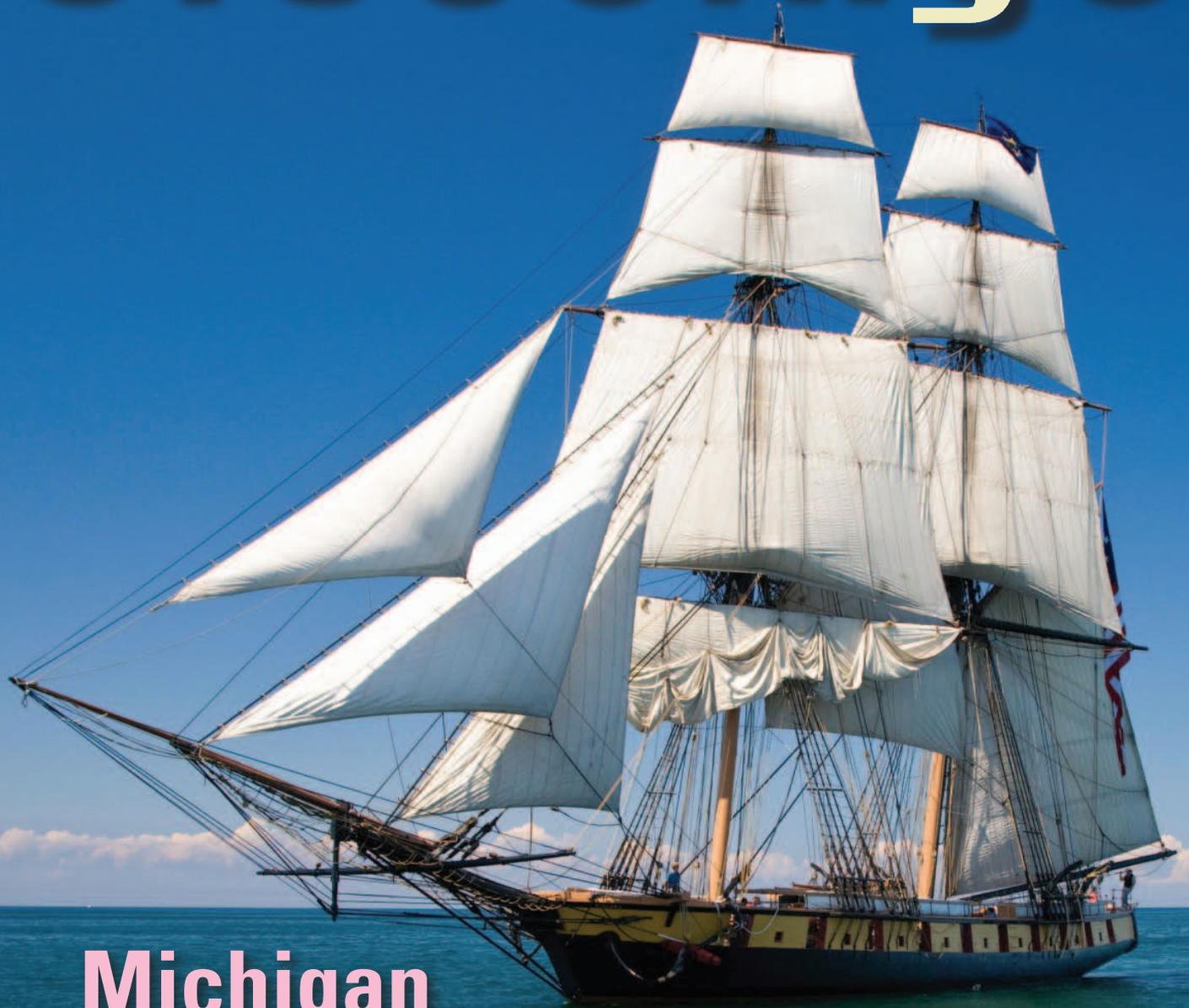


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Crossings



Michigan

Southwestern Ontario

Ohio

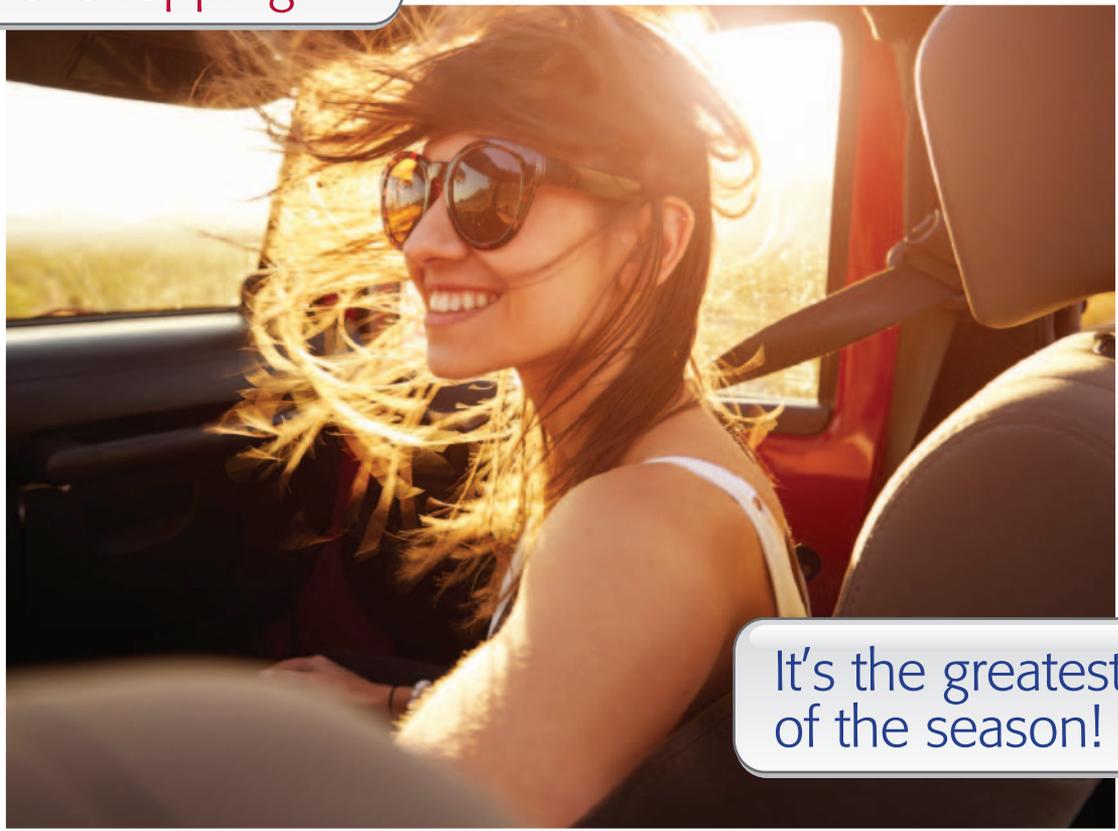
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Crossings

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Windsor's Little Italy is like a trip to the Bel Paese without crossing an ocean.

The 2017 BMW M240i is a real road warrior thanks to a full sport suspension and new 3.0-liter TwinPower Turbo inline-6 that pumps out 335 horsepower.



Cover: The U.S. Brig Niagara sails into Bay City this summer.

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EDITORIAL

Publisher	AJR Publishing
Managing Editor	Renu Saggar
Art Director	Wayne Mansfield
Assistant Editor	Adelina Irvine
Contributing Editors	Parker Zone Gail Mero-O'Neil Anoop Saggar

ADVERTISING

National Sales	Renu Saggar
	1455 Normandy LaSalle, ON N9J 3N1
Phone:	519-969-7646
Fax:	519-969-1066
Email:	Renu_Crossings@hotmail.com

AJR PUBLISHING INC.

President	Renu Saggar
Office Manager	Adelina Irvine
Email:	AdelinaIrvine@Cogeco.ca

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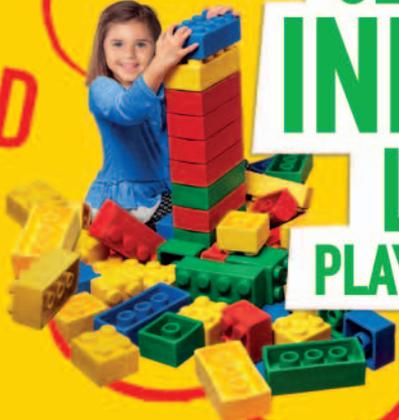
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District Detroit will join Downtown and Midtown.

BY RENU SAGGAR

Birds that Fly Underwater

The Detroit Zoo has a new offering too: the Polk Penguin Conservation Center. More than 80 birds reside in the 33,000-square-foot, 326,000-gallon, chilled aquatic area, giving the penguins plenty of room to zoom, swim and dive. An underwater gallery with a vast acrylic window and two acrylic tunnels provides spectacular views of the penguins above, around and below, and allows guests to get nose-to-beak with the birds.

Detroit Dining

Detroit's dining scene continues to please even the pickiest palate. Nearly 100 new restaurants, breweries, distilleries and coffee shops have opened in Detroit in the past three years. From farm-to-table inspired menus to beer bars, the list includes: Katoi, La Rondinella, Granite City Food & Brewery Townhouse, Central Kitchen + Bar, HopCat, Wright and Co., Selden Standard, and Antietam.

Retail Therapy

Many new retail stores have opened or are opening soon in Detroit like Shinola, John Varvatos, Will Leather Goods, Kit and Ace, Carhartt. Businessman, Matt Hessler plans a \$5 million project along Detroit's Avenue of Fashion at Cass Avenue and Peterboro.

Bring your family to discover Detroit, America's great comeback city, where there's so much to do, you'll have to come back to experience it all. Plan your family getaway at visitdetroit.com.

Birmingham

With charming tree-lined neighborhoods, Birmingham has the feel of a small town as well as an affluent urban area. Travel & Leisure Magazine has named Birmingham one of the coolest suburbs in America! Birmingham's lively, pedestrian-friendly downtown offers one of the midwest's premiere shopping districts. Comprised of nearly 300 retailers, downtown Birmingham offers a wonderfully diverse assortment of fashion boutiques, restaurants, gift stores, jewelers, salons, spas, antique shops, and art galleries. Movie theatres and a centrally located park complete the city center.

Located along Woodward Avenue,

It's Summer in the City Summer is for swingers in Metro Detroit

Detroit is America's great comeback story, a city ready for anything. They're the complete-package destination with new restaurants, retail and walkable downtown riverfront; high-energy championship sports, nightlife and gaming; and nationally recognized music festivals, cultural attractions, architectural wonders and more. New developments like Cobo Square and the Detroit Events Center, to the Detroit Zoo and Motor City Harley Davidson, are being announced all the time.

District Detroit will be 50 blocks of thriving businesses, parks, restaurants, bars and event destination connecting Downtown and Midtown into one contiguous, walkable area. The District's main feature will be the Detroit Event Center, home to the Detroit Red Wings, as well as concerts, other sports and entertainment events, and more. The expected completion date for the Detroit Event Center is summer 2017.

Play Ball

Baseball rules in The D. Catch the Detroit Tigers at Comerica Park for a sunny afternoon game or come Friday or Saturday and stay for the post-game fireworks. Greenfield Village at The Henry Ford hosts historic baseball games, played according to rules from the late 1800.

Great Outdoors in the City

Visitors get a taste of Michigan's great outdoors in the heart of Detroit at the Outdoor Adventure Center, with exciting outdoor adventures, hands-on activities, exhibits and simulators. Walk behind and touch a waterfall; explore a massive bur oak tree; hop aboard a real airplane; walk across a suspension bridge; step into a fishing boat and reel in a big fish; hit the trail on a mountain bike or snowmobile; see fish native to Michigan in a giant aquarium and much more.



EVERY GREAT COMEBACK NEEDS BELIEVERS. WE NEVER STOPPED BELIEVING.



Detroiters have never stopped believing in ourselves or our city. With an infectious spirit of entrepreneurship, we continue to push towards our economic turnaround. Every day, more new businesses plant their roots in The D, including retailers Shinola®, Carhartt®, John Varvatos™ and Nike®. A walkable downtown, diverse eateries and new and renovated hotels have fostered an atmosphere and enthusiasm that's contagious. We invite you to come see it – and believe it – for yourself.

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Shinola and Detroit Vegan Soul partners Kirsten Ussery and Erika Boyd.



visit **detroit.com**

Detroit

Michigan's Main Street, Birmingham is centrally located within Oakland County and Metro Detroit. Visitors can spend a summer evening browsing the galleries, taking in a concert in the park, or attending one of the many festivals. A wooded trail system, urban bike paths and the Rouge River all wind their way through the heart of the city.

Birmingham shines in the summer and fall, with events every week from May through October. The *Birmingham Farmers Market* takes place Sundays, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Lot 6, North Old Woodward north of Harmon. The market features Michigan flowers and produce, prepared foods, artisan baked goods, spices, salsas, soaps, live music and more.

Day On The Town sidewalk sale takes place July 23rd. Shop for deals at local retailers, see the bike parade for kids at 8:30 a.m., or the *Corvette Generations Car Show* at 9:30 a.m. near Old Woodward & Maple. The *Birmingham Cruise* on August 20, is a must see for anyone who loves old cars, while music lovers can check out the *In The Park Concert* series in Shain Park, Wednesdays, from June 22 – August 24, at 7 p.m. Visit www.bhamgov.org for more information.

Great Lakes Crossing

For an unparalleled shopping, dining and entertainment experience, explore Great Lakes Crossing Outlets, Michigan's largest indoor outlet mall. Easily accessible from I-75, the shopping outlet is home to 185 stores, restaurants and entertainment options, including more The Legoland Discovery Center.



than 30 unique to Michigan.

Great Lakes Crossing Outlets' newest retailers include the region's first Vera Bradley Factory Store, offering unique designer handbags, luggage and more. Shoppers can learn to live colorfully at the chic Kate Spade New York Outlet. Buckle offers the latest designer jeans, footwear and accessories. Le Creuset Outlet offers culinary enthusiasts iconic cast iron cookware, stoneware and other innovative kitchen accessories.

Debuting in the shopping center's food court (over 1,000 seats) is Rise Pies Handcrafted Pizza, Michigan's only location, where fresh pizzas are made with locally-sourced ingredients. Satisfy your sweet tooth at IT'Sugar, with specialty candy and gifts. They join many other exceptional dining options including Bar Louie, Miyako Japanese Steakhouse and Rainforest Café.

Out-of-town guests traveling 50 or more miles receive an exclusive Passport to Shopping, with discounts and special offers from over 100 retailers and restaurants. Shoppers who spend \$200 or more in one day will receive a free Great Lakes Crossing Outlets tote bag (stop by guest services for details).

To compliment the experience, Great Lakes Crossing Outlets recently launched a free new mobile app. Available for Android and iPhone, the innovative app delivers step-by-step navigation and location-based marketing through Bluetooth and Wi-Fi technology. Shoppers using the app can:

- Map it: Locate stores, restaurants and entertainment options as they shop.
- Plan it: Plan a shopping trip in advance

to easily navigate the mall upon arrival.

- Love it: Save favorite stores, receive real-time events, sales and view seasonal fashion trends.

For a complete list of stores, restaurants and attractions, as well as hours of operation and current promotions, visit www.greatlakescrossingoutlets.com and follow on Facebook www.facebook.com/greatlakescrossingoutlets.

Sea Life Michigan

One year ago this summer, Benson the rescued green sea turtle officially took up residence at SEA LIFE Michigan Aquarium. Since arriving last June, he has made himself right at home in the aquarium's 120,000-gallon ocean tank!

Benson was stranded in 2014 at Anastasia State Park in St. Johns County, Florida after being hit by a boat, which caused a fracture to his shell and induced a hypothermic reaction called cold stunning. As part of its Breed, Rescue, Protect program, SEA LIFE Michigan Aquarium welcomed Benson to its family of more than 5,000 sea creatures. While he is much healthier and stronger now, due to his injuries, he will never be able to survive in the wild.

"Benson is loving life at our aquarium, and our staff adores him," said Kelli Cadenas, displays curator for SEA LIFE Michigan Aquarium. "He gets along great with his fishy friends, loves swimming around and showing off for our guests."

Benson is not the only exciting creature that has joined SEA LIFE Michigan Aquarium in the last year. This past February, a wide variety of creatures including a Japanese Spider Crab, Puget Sound King Crabs, Mantis Shrimps, Fiddle Crabs and Halloween Moon Crabs made their debut in the aquarium's new CLAWS exhibit.

"Our guests have been blown away by how cool these crustaceans are," said Cadenas. "Along with those amazing creatures, visitors also have the opportunity to get nose-to-nose with thousands of other interesting and fun creatures, including sharks, stingrays, sea stars, our Giant Pacific Octopus, and many more. There really is no other experience like it for hundreds of miles!" For more information about SEA LIFE Michigan Aquarium, or to purchase tickets, go to www.visitsealife.com/michigan.

Legoland Discovery Center

LEGOLAND® Discovery Center Michigan first opened its doors this spring, to the delight of children and families across the region. Designed specifically

NEW!

CLAWS!

Amazing
underwater
ocean tunnel

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Over
5,000
Creatures

Interactive
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At Great Lakes Crossing Outlets



Detroit

for children as an immersive and playful learning environment, adults were only allowed in when accompanied by a child—until now.

With the launch of the attraction's Adult Night events, grown-up fans of LEGO are invited to play like a kid again and to experience the colorful and imaginative world of LEGOLAND Discovery Center. Adult Nights will be held on the last Thursday of each and every month and will feature themed competitions and classes with the Master Model Builder.

"I know firsthand how much fun adults can have building with LEGO bricks," said Clint Parry, LEGOLAND Discovery Center Michigan Master Model Builder. "I have the best job in the world and although I enjoy working with children every day, it is a fantastic and unique experience to welcome adults into our LEGO world!"

At these special events, adults are encouraged to experience everything the attraction has to offer, including MINILAND, two themed rides—Kingdom Quest and Merlin's Apprentice, a 4D cinema that features wind, rain and snow, build and test race car tracks, earthquake

tables designed to teach physics concepts, classes on special build techniques taught by the Master Model Builder in his workshop and building anything they can dream up with millions of LEGO bricks scattered throughout the attraction.

For more information about LEGOLAND Discovery Center Michigan, or to purchase tickets, go to www.legolanddiscoverycenter.com/michigan. Adults must be accompanied by a child to visit the LEGOLAND Discovery Center outside of Adult Nights.

The Hill Seafood & Chop House

Nestled among the boutiques on "The Hill" in Grosse Pointe Farms is The Hill Seafood & Chop House. Located at 123 Kercheval Ave. The Hill's outstanding combination of food, service, and value makes it the consummate American Chop House, classy yet comfortable, serving traditional American fare with premium ingredients prepared in a modern healthful way. The Hill favors locally grown, in-season organic fruits and vegetables as well as USDA Prime Choice meats, and fresh seafood. Entrées include Creekstone Farms Filet of Beef, Sautéed Filet of Perch, and East Meets West Pork. Great "Hill" finishes include Spanish Coffee,

house made Cannolis, and Molten Lava Cake — warm rich chocolate cake, with peppermint stick ice cream.

In addition to the regular menu, weekly features offer items like Fried Soft Shell Crab with Thai Flavors.

The traditional ambiance strikes just the right note between formal and casual. Enjoy your meal in the warm main dining room, celebrate a special event in the lower level "private" dining room, or dine "al fresco" on the outdoor patio.

The fun doesn't end when the kitchen closes. The Hill bar offers a wonderful selection of spirits, wine, and beer. They're very well known for their generous cocktails and they offer a large array of after-dinner drinks, cordials, and dessert wines. Happy Hour is from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday with drink and food specials including the famous \$5 Hill Martini, and half off all domestic beer and featured wine.

Rated 4.5 stars by Open Table, The Hill delivers outstanding value and creativity in their "all inclusive" dining experience resulting in satisfied, returning diners.

Join their email list and receive updates about special events at The Hill. Be the first to know about new menu items, Happy Hour specials, and more! 

UPCOMING BSD EVENTS IN BIRMINGHAM

BIRMINGHAM FARMERS MARKET

Sundays thru October 23, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Parking lot #6, east side of North Old Woodward, North of Harmon Street Produce, flowers, crafts, live music, hands-on fun & more. Chef Clash is June 26, Corn Festival is August 14. www.BirminghamFarmersMarket.org

BIRMINGHAM MOVIE NIGHT

Fridays at Booth Park, Activities begin at 7:30 p.m., Movies begin at dusk. June 24: Minions, July 15: Star Wars - The Force Awakens, & August 12: Inside Out Enjoy family-friendly films in the great outdoors. In case of inclement weather, please visit www.ALLINBirmingham.com for relocation info.

DAY ON THE TOWN

Saturday, July 23 • 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Downtown Birmingham, Deals await at various shops; a bike parade for kids at 8:30 a.m.; Corvette Generations Car Show at 9:30 a.m. near Old Woodward & Maple; INFO: 248-530-1200, www.ALLINBirmingham.com

BIRMINGHAM CRUISE EVENT

Saturday, August 20 • 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Old Woodward from Merrill to Lincoln This annual ode to the automobile is a must-see. INFO: 248-530-1200, www.birminghamcruiseevent.com

Other Events Coming Soon in Birmingham

53RD ANNUAL BIRMINGHAM VILLAGE FAIR June 2-5 • Around Shain Park INFO: 248-644-1700, www.bbcc.com

IN THE PARK SUMMER CONCERTS Wednesdays, June 22 - August 24, 7 p.m., YAB Teen Summer Concert, Friday, June 17, 7 p.m., Shain Park INFO: 248-530-1650, www.bhamgov.org/summerconcerts



www.ALLINBirmingham.com

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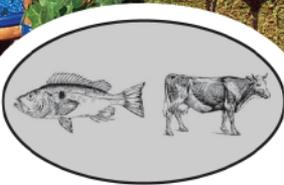
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Thomas Edison statue against the Blue Water bridges.

Michigan's Travel Stars for 2016 Winners honored at governor's conference

Representatives of Michigan's hospitality industry were honored April 18 as the best of the best by the Michigan Lodging and Tourism Association.

The awards were presented during the "Stars of the Industry" awards dinner at the Lansing Center during the 2016 Pure Michigan Governor's Conference on Tourism.

Marci Fogal, president of the Blue Water Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, Port Huron won 2016 (smaller) CVB Star of the Year. A true visionary she created the "Discover the Blue" campaign in 2008.

And the blue shores of eastern Michigan will be bursting with fun and activity this summer. Spectacular fireworks, vintage car shows and thundering powerboat races are only a few of the exciting, family-friendly events that have made the Blue Water Region a hot spot for visitors. Along with the great events taking place, enjoy waterfront dining, boutique shopping, museums, boardwalks and water trails. Choose to dip your toes into any of the quaint towns along 140 miles of shoreline where each city and village has unique charms to explore.

Dabble along the waterfront by foot or by paddle. Port Huron and the Blue Water Region offer excellent places to enjoy the beauty and freshness of the Great Lakes state. Take in freighter watching and gra-



Grand Haven Salmon Fest's Pure Award.

acious waterfront views along riverwalks and boardwalks that line the St. Clair River and Lake Huron. Paved bike paths and nature trails also weave their way along the shoreline and through wooded areas of each community.

This year's Good Earth Keeping Star of the Year is The Henry-Autograph Collection in the category Best Commercial Project. The Henry underwent a significant lighting upgrade this year which included the installation of interior linear LEDs, LED par lamps and CFLs throughout common areas, as well as custom candelabras throughout the hotel. The project has resulted in energy savings of more than 470,000 kWh annually.

The energy upgrades have also improved The Henry's overall look and feel. Guests can enjoy the newly remodeled Fitness Center and Swimming Pool, dine in TRIA Restaurant, or take a memorable trip

to THE HENRY FORD – America's Greatest History Attraction, just a short distance from the hotel. While the Lobby and guest rooms in the Dearborn Michigan property are immaculate, it's the service and attention to guests which sets The Henry apart.

The Rugby Grille, The Townsend Hotel's fine-dining restaurant, received the coveted AAA Four Diamond award, one of only five Michigan restaurants to earn this honor. The Rugby Grille has maintained this prestigious rating consecutively since 2001.

According to AAA, restaurants at this level offer a distinctive fine-dining experience and attentive service. Menu offerings are distinguished by highly creative chefs using top-quality ingredients. Just two percent of the more than 30,000 AAA-Approved Restaurants receive this rating.

The Townsend Hotel is AAA Four-Diamond and Forbes Travel Guide Four-Star boutique luxury property located in downtown Birmingham, Michigan.

The *Grand Haven Salmon Festival* received the Inaugural Pure Award recognizing excellence in the stewardship of Michigan's natural, cultural and heritage resources. The festival pays tribute to the area's bountiful waterways as a natural resource, while coinciding with the region's annual Salmon migration. The three-day festival takes place September 16-18, 2016 and is designed to mark the passing of summer and celebrate the fall harvest season.

The outdoor waterfront festival features live jazz music, Michigan wine & beer tasting pavilion featuring top wineries and grape stomping, gourmet salmon cook-off contest, craft beer & entertainment pavilion, art fair on the waterfront; fishing contest with weigh-in/awards ceremony, fish boil, hands-on children's nature-themed arts & crafts activities and educational environment focused exhibits.

The Grand Haven ArtWalk, September 21 to October 9, is a collaboration of artists, local businesses and members of the lakeshore community in a celebration of art. Competitions include photography, paintings, mixed media and sculpture.

Travel Marquette Recreation Director Candy Fletcher Kozeluh was recognized as Sales and Marketing Star of the Year and recognized for the "pivotal" and "influential" role she has played putting Marquette County on the map as a premiere recreation destination. 

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DAY 1

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Edison's formative years
- **Coast Guard Cutter Bramble**
Tour retired buoy tender
- **Knowlton Ice Museum**
History of ice cultivation
- **Fort Gratiot Light Station**
Michigan's oldest lighthouse

DAY 2

- **Sanilac County Museum / Village**
Step back in time
- **Lexington**
A delightful boutique & dining experience
- **Huron Lightship**
Only existing lightship on the Great Lakes
- **Huron Lady**
Enjoyable & informative dinner cruise to the River Crab Restaurant

DAY 3

- **Wills St. Clair Car Museum**
History of C. Harold Wills
- **St. Clair City Step on Tour**
Diamond Crystal Salt & boating history
- **Mariner Theater**
Scale Titanic model
- **Explore Marine City**
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- **Snug and Riverbank Theaters**
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Discover the Blue



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Traverse City an increasingly famous wine-producing region.

Mad About Michigan

Considering a Michigan vacation getaway? The choices are almost endless. There is so much to see and do in the state that you can take your pick, whether it's the sandy shores of Lake Michigan, or a casual weekend festival.

Visitors to Michigan can look forward to a wide range of new and improved lodging options, dining spots, and activities this year, including milestone celebrations. And there's no better place to shop for a bargain.

Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti

Summer is festival season in the Ann Arbor area. With a thriving artistic community, many of the area's biggest summer events have a creative flair.

The fun begins on June 10 with the Ann Arbor Summer Festival—a three-week art and music festival with more than 140 concerts and activities. Event highlights include Flip FabriQue's Catch Me!, a high energy showcase of athleticism and acrobatics, See Jane Sing!, an evening of a musical comedy with comedian Jane Lynch and Mayer Hawthorne, a hometown hero known for his neo-soul music

which has sold millions of albums. Also, there will be smaller outdoor concerts, yoga on the lawn, and endless activities for children!

Located four miles east of Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti is known to be the "Brooklyn to Ann Arbor's Manhattan." Every month the city hosts a free monthly art and music walk called First Fridays Ypsilanti

throughout the downtown area. Chalk artists, musicians, galleries, restaurants, and more collaborate for a vibrant experience throughout the city.

Visitors looking to spend more time in Ypsilanti should consider adding the Michigan ElvisFest (July 8-9) to their agenda. The Michigan ElvisFest is a two-day celebration of music featuring several Elvis tribute artists, as well as Frank Sinatra, Tom Jones, and Marilyn Monroe tribute artists.

Discover heritage and culture at the Saline Celtic Festival (July 7-9) with Celtic dance competitions, pipe bands, sheep herding demonstrations, jousting showcases, and Gaelic Football. This family-friendly event is held outdoors in Millpond Park, only 10 miles southwest of Ann Arbor.

Perhaps the most notable arts event in the area is the Ann Arbor Art Fair (July 21-24). Attracting more than 500,000 visitors annually, the Art Fair is a juried show that is dedicated to increasing public knowledge and appreciation for contemporary fine arts and fine crafts. Attendees can expect to discover sounds, colors, and eats around every corner. Make sure to leave extra space in the suitcase for all the fabulous art that can be acquired at this renowned event.

Home to Emmy Award Winning Jeff Daniels, the city of Chelsea hosts its annual Sights & Sounds Festival — a weekend full of music, arts, and fun for the whole family. This event takes place on eleven separated stages, with a juried



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| Big Rapids
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Comfort Inn
Quality Inn | Paw Paw
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Michigan

sculpture walk, children's performances, and local food and craft beer.

A great way to conclude the summer is by attending the Dexter Plein Air Festival (August 15-20) where local and visiting artists station themselves around downtown Dexter to capture the beauty of the great outdoors within the city. Activities include a friendly competition for professional and emerging artists, a quick-draw painting competition, a silent auction and artwork sale and more.

Discover more about these amazing events and visitor information at visitanarbor.org.

Weber's Ann Arbor

Weber's Restaurant and Boutique Hotel is located in Ann Arbor's beautiful west side. It's moments from downtown and the University of Michigan's Central Campus. The 158 room boutique hotel, with its four-seasons indoor pool and welcoming atmosphere has long been a favorite of travelers and guests of the University of Michigan.

Weber's reputation for fine dining began in 1937 with their original restau-

rant. More than 75 years later, Weber's continues to be Ann Arbor's landmark restaurant, featuring the area's finest prime rib, steaks and seafood. Whether you're in the main restaurant or the cozy, secluded Le Bistro room, their moderate prices, relaxed upscale design and friendly service turn new customers into regulars. They specialize in classic, made from scratch American dinners with entrées like prime Rib, London Broil, Jumbo Lump Crab Cakes, and Lake Erie Walleye and Perch.

Weber's Restaurant has all the ingredients for a special night out. Sample fine wines by the glass or taste from our 16 selection Cruvinet in the Ventura Bar. The Ventura bar also specializes in fine ports and after dinner drinks. House made desserts and coffee drinks are served at the bar.

Weber's is also a proud recipient of "The Wine Spectator" Award of Excellence for over a dozen years. Visit their wine cellar to select from their many award winning wines.

After dinner stay and enjoy live entertainment and dancing seven nights a week in The Habitat Ultralounge. Wireless High speed Internet access is available

free to guests.

Weber's outdoor terrace is adjacent to the Habitat Ultralounge. Weather permitting it is open for breakfast, lunch, dinner and late night cocktails under the stars. The terrace seats 50 with a southern exposure, designer shade umbrellas and beautiful annual flowers. Sign up for their Frequent Diner Program and qualify for special rewards, promotions & perks.

Choice Hotels

When you're ready to book the perfect Michigan getaway, finding comfortable and affordable accommodations near all the best destinations is one of your first priorities. With over 80 Choice Hotels in Michigan to choose from, Choice Hotels offers the perfect opportunity to create the vacation of your dreams. Brands include Comfort Inn, Comfort Suites, Sleep Inn, Quality Inn, Clarion & Ascend.

Choice Hotels has locations in Ann Arbor, Lansing, Grand Rapids, Traverse City and more. They've got the amenities to make your stay enjoyable, whether you're taking a business trip or planning a family vacation. These may include Hot or Continental Breakfast, Smoke Free Rooms, High Speed Internet and Pet Friendly properties. Book early at ChoiceHotels.com.

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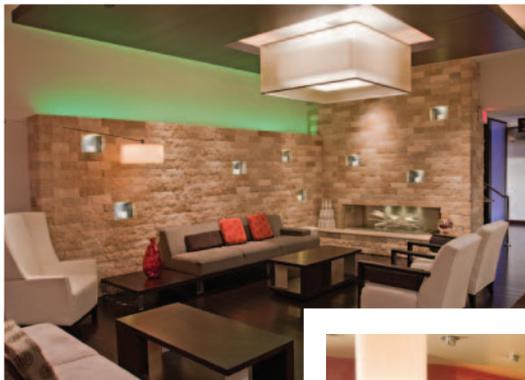
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Livingston County

Navigate mid-air obstacles on the High Ropes Adventure Course, soar through the tree tops on Zip-Lines, and climb to new heights on Michigan's tallest Outdoor Climbing Wall at Howell Nature Center. Nestled in acres of forest, the nature center rescues injured wildlife with the goal of returning them to their natural habitat. Animals that cannot be released become residents of the Wild Wonders Wildlife Park, home to 30 different types of native Michigan species.

Bike or hike the paved, scenic 8 mile loop through 4,481 acres at Kensington Metropark. Rent a kayak, canoe, rowboat, paddle boards (SUP) or paddle boat, or take a guided lake tour on a 25 passenger pontoon boat, the Island Queen II. Immerse yourself in the cool, serene water of Kent Lake adjacent to the Splash & Blast outdoor waterpark. With two, 250-foot twisted waterslides, water cannons, palm trees, and spraying sea-serpents, the

waterpark will keep the kids busy all day. Plan to stay the weekend so the family can experience the Farm Learning Center.

In case of rain; the Great Escape, Sky Zone Trampoline Park, the Zap Zone, and Castaway Play will keep the family busy with fun favorites like laser tag, playscapes, video, and arcade games.

The folks at the Livingston County Convention & Visitors Bureau are happy to help you customize your visit. Learn more and view family friendly hotel packages at www.lccvb.org

Lansing

Head to the middle of the mitten for an easy and affordable summer getaway in Michigan. Whether you're bringing the family or just getting away for a couples' retreat, you'll find world class amenities coupled with small town charm and hospitality in the capital city of Lansing.

Five "Don't Miss" attractions await you in downtown Lansing. Located all within a five block radius they will keep everyone entertained. First stop is the majestic State Capitol Building. This national treasure with nine acres of hand painted interior surfaces (walls, columns, woodwork and ceilings) makes it one of the finest examples of decorative painting in the

country. Free tours are available to the public Monday through Saturday. The next stop will immerse you in even more Michigan history. Take a stroll through four floors at the Michigan Historical Museum and you'll be walking through a copper mine, a lumber baron's home, a one-room schoolhouse, grooving to Motown records and checking out some sweet rides at a Detroit auto show.

Speaking of cars, you might want to make sure your visit to Lansing includes a visit to the R.E. Olds Transpiration Museum. Since Lansing was the birthplace of Oldsmobile and REOs, this one-of-a-kind museum showcases the accomplishments of Ransom Eli Olds and his contribution to Michigan's auto history.

But wait, there's more! For the young and young at heart, a visit to Impression 5 Science Center will have the whole family playing together. Painting with light, creating giant bubbles and making slime are just some of the fun to be had. Don't miss the First Impression Room for the youngest science learners from birth to age four. It comes complete with family restrooms, private nursing rooms, crocs and raincoats for the water area, and a welcome area for enjoying snacks and

Discover *Fun!*

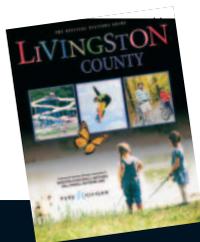
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Michigan

more! Impression 5 is perfect for the whole family. In fact it may be hard to get dad away from trying his hand at pitching in the new Throwing Things exhibit. Maybe not if there's a real baseball game going on just down the street. The Lansing Lugnuts are a Class A Toronto Blue Jays affiliate and the perfect, affordable way to "Go Nuts" in downtown Lansing.

These are just five of the more than 150 things to see and do in Greater Lansing, Michigan. For more information and to book your weekend getaway visit www.lansing.org.

Traverse City

Nestled along the deep blue waters of Grand Traverse Bay, Traverse City is Michigan's "True North" — the cultural and social center of a four-season recreational paradise! For over a century, travelers have been coming here to enjoy our unique mixture of relaxation, adventure and unrivaled natural splendor.

With more than 150 inland lakes and hundreds of miles of Lake Michigan shoreline (including the majestic Sleeping

Bear Dunes National Lakeshore) Traverse City has almost limitless opportunities for boating, sailing, paddling, swimming and beachcombing. There are miles of hiking and cycling trails, four blue-ribbon trout streams, and 18 championship golf courses with heart-stopping views and world-class designs.

Long known as America's Cherry Capital, Traverse City is also an increasingly famous wine-producing region, with over 40 wineries and tasting rooms, and a hotbed of craft brewing and distilling.

Our beautiful turn-of-the-century downtown has over 150 delightful boutiques, galleries and restaurants, and the Village at Grand Traverse Commons (our former mental asylum) is filled with fascinating shops and eateries. You won't ever feel bored in Traverse City, they're rich with museums, galleries, theatres and music festivals, and the world-renowned Interlochen Center for the Arts is just up the road.

During the days from July 2-9, thousands of people will gather along the city's bayshore beaches to celebrate the 90th Annual National Cherry Festival, which features over 150 family activities: air shows, fireworks, concerts, parades and

lots of delicious cherry products!

If movies are more your style, the Traverse City Film Festival (July 26-31) brings some of the world's best new films to Traverse City for a week of premieres, parties — and free family movies each night! And lovers of craft beer adore the Traverse City Summer Microbrew & Music Festival — an outdoor celebration of craft brews held Aug. 26-27 with beers and ales from around the Midwest and entertainment by national touring musical acts.

And on Friday nights in August, the city shuts down its main downtown thoroughfare for Friday Night Live, an evening street fair with music, food, and family fun. To learn more, visit www.traversacity.com.

Newly opened on Memorial Day weekend, Hotel Indigo is a unique boutique hotel that combines authentic local experiences, modern design and intimate service with the peace of mind and consistency of staying with one of the world's largest hotel groups. Hotel Indigo Traverse City reflects the new life and vibrant spirit of the city's waterfront Warehouse District neighborhood. It is within a 5-minute walk of the Visitor Center and Clinch Park and 15 minutes



SLOAN MUSEUM

A BUG'S WORLD

MAY 21 – SEPTEMBER 4, 2016

Giant bugs are crawling into Sloan Museum!
Experience life from a bug's-eye view.
Trade sizes with an insect to find bugs looming large in this interactive exhibit.



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from the City Opera House and Traverse City Beach. Visit their website at www.ihg.com.

Sloan*Longway Flint

Regional history, historic automobiles and hands-on science are all on display at Sloan*Longway, in Flint. Sloan*Longway is comprised of three unique facilities, the Buick Automotive Gallery, Longway Planetarium and Sloan Museum. The Buick Automotive Gallery and Research Center, features over 25 classic and concept Buicks and Chevrolets. Celebrate Sloan Museum's 50th anniversary on Wednesday, June 22 and enjoy the unveiling of two historic vehicles — a 1953 Corvette and a 1953 Buick Skylark.

Bugs are also looming large at *A Bug's World*, running through September 4, 2016. Trade sizes with an insect in this interactive exhibit with giant robotic replicas of 5 species: a 19-foot-long Chinese praying mantis, stick bug, swallowtail butterfly caterpillar, desert locust and rhinoceros beetle. Learn about entomology—the study of insects—while exploring common backyard species magnified 40-120 times their size in scientifically accurate detail.

“Longway Planetarium is Michigan's

largest star gazing facility, if you don't count the sky,” once quipped comedian Stephen Colbert. It recently reopened after extensive renovations, visitors will experience a radically different planetarium experience with new seating, a slanted floor, full dome screen, and a state of the art Digistar V projection system. To learn more visit SloanMuseum.org.

Flint & Genesee County

Flint and Genesee County has a well-earned reputation as an active community. Nowhere is that more apparent than in the area of road races and competition.

The running world has long taken note of our collective propensity to hit the bricks, thanks to the outstanding work of the Crim Fitness Foundation, the Riverbend Striders and countless local and visiting runners. In 2015, Club Running Magazine officially designated Flint a “Runner Friendly Community®”.

The biggest event is the HealthPlus Crim Festival of Races, which features the renowned 10-mile road race that attracts elite runners from around the world. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Crim and the streets of downtown Flint will once again be packed Aug. 25-27. For runners and walkers of all levels and

ages, the Crim has it all.

Maybe cycling is more of your thing.

Well, check out the Tour des Lacs Bike Tour on Aug. 6. After a one-year hiatus, the tour is back for its thirteenth year. Starting at the Fenton Community Center in downtown Fenton, riders will have four routes to choose from: 6 miles, 15 miles, 31 miles and 62 miles. All ages and fitness levels are welcome with all routes sharing the same finish line.

On Aug. 21, the 37th Annual Assenmacher 100 offers cyclists a recreational and social fun bicycle ride through the farmland and villages of mid-Michigan, with distances of 20 miles to 100 miles.

Coming July 16, the Flint & Genesee CVB invites all to experience “Be a Tourist in Your Home Town.” This one-day event offers Flint and Genesee residents and non-residents the opportunity to experience what their community has to offer.

On July 30, the 2016 Warrior Dash will be held at the E.A. Cummings Center in Mt. Morris. The 5k race features 12 world-class obstacles, like the Goliath and Fisherman's Catch, leap over fire and mud-caked backroads, as you make your loop to the finish line.

So if you're up for a fitness getaway,



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To discover more about their festivals and events, shopping and dining, visit www.flintandgenesee.org.

Holland

From a bustling downtown to the picturesque shores of Lake Michigan, Holland is your one-stop destination for summer fun! Start your visit by settling into the heart of the community—a downtown whose renaissance over the past 30 years is a prime reason that Forbes Magazine named Holland one of America's Prettiest Towns. The award-winning downtown has also earned numerous accolades as one of America's most vibrant city centers; a comfortable place where trend meets tradition. In impeccably restored Victorian buildings, you can experience one-of-a-kind boutiques, galleries, craft-brew pubs and eateries.

Every Thursday in the summer, from noon to 8:30, downtown comes alive with street performers entertaining locals and visitors alike with their juggling, magic, music and aerial gymnastics. Some of

those same performers also delight shoppers at the Wednesday and Saturday Holland Municipal Farmers Market, just two short blocks from downtown. Recognized as one of the best outdoor markets in Michigan, the Holland Farmers Market boasts nearly 100 vendors operating along a canopy-lined stretch that is closed to vehicular traffic. Take in the spectacular displays of homegrown, homemade and handmade goods from area farmers, food vendors and artisans.

Just a short drive from downtown, you can unwind on the scenic shores of Lake Michigan. Pick from a variety of "things to do" during your lakeside visit—boating, swimming, fishing, stand-up paddle-boarding, or just lounging on a sugar-sand beach where stunning sunsets are the perfect ending to a fun-filled day. A number of waterfront parks and beaches invite visitor access, but none is more popular than Holland State Park, offering your best view of Holland's iconic "Big Red" lighthouse, one of Michigan's most photographed landmarks. With the towering beacon as a backdrop, you can splash in the water, build a sandcastle, or kick back and enjoy the steady stream of paddleboats, sailboats, speedboats,

and yachts cruising through the Lake Macatawa channel as it flows into Lake Michigan.

Away from the beach, you can sample a taste of Holland's Dutch heritage at Windmill Island Gardens, where a 17th century working windmill, imported from The Netherlands half a century ago, towers over 36 acres of beautifully manicured lawns and gardens. Add to your Dutch experience by also visiting Nelis' Dutch Village, DeKlomp Wooden Shoe and Delft Factory, Veldheer Gardens, and the Holland Museum. Home to a number of family-friendly attractions like glow-bowling, laser tag, bumper boats, miniature golf, and nature centers. Holland is also a favorite destination for cyclists, with over 150 miles of paved bike paths.

For more information on Holland, and accommodations to fit any budget, visit www.holland.org

Coldwater Country

This summer make family memories as you discover the quaint communities of Coldwater, Bronson, Quincy and Union City, during a getaway to Michigan's Coldwater Country. Conveniently located in south-central Michigan, at exit 13 off I-69,

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Coldwater Country has many adventures waiting to be explored.

Swing through the area and take advantage of the nearly two dozen golf courses. Whether golfing on an island, along the lakeside or on a nature preserved course, we have the course for you.

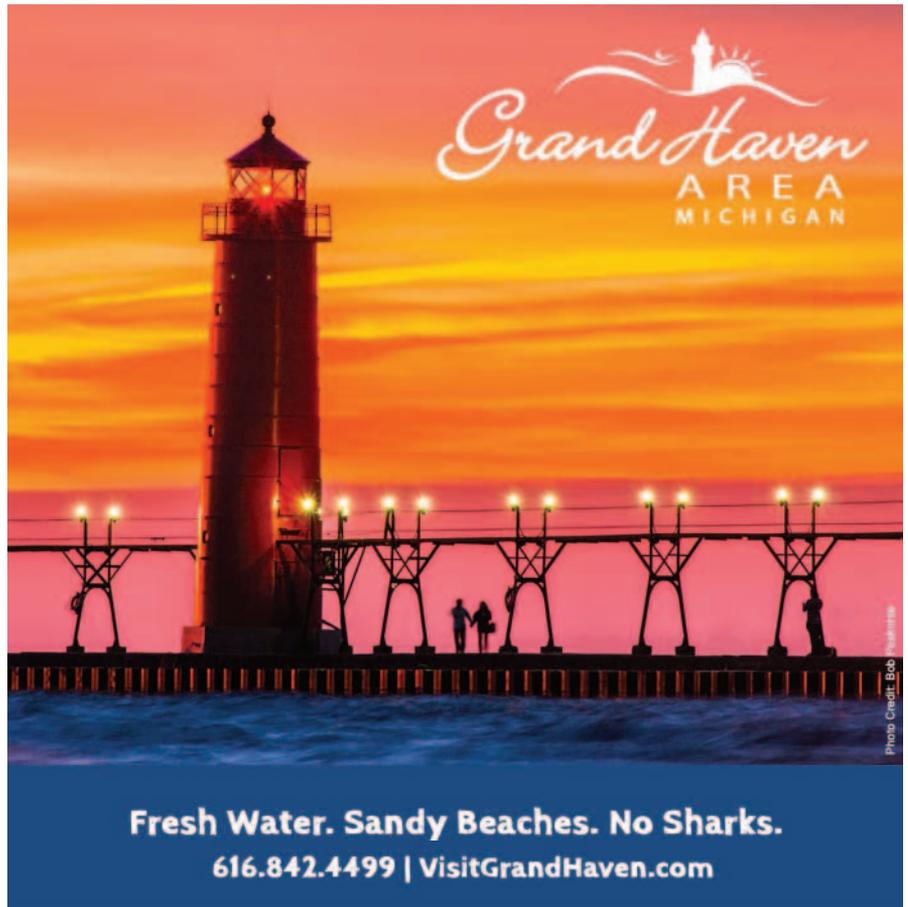
Kick back on one of more than 100 lakes, including two chains of lakes. Coldwater Country is a haven for relaxation on the water. Rent a pontoon or kayak for a water adventure. Anglers will find a hot spot for reeling in the catch of the day.

The area is home to an abundance of things to see and do...take a ride on a historic steam train, or experience laser tag and go-carts. As the sun sets, make your way to an 'All-American Drive-In' with new HD projectors.

Quality theatrical offerings at the local Opera House have become a must see. The Professional Summer Theatre is always a crowd favorite.

Shop 'til you drop in the many boutiques and shops throughout the area. Allen has one of the largest concentrations of antiques dealers, dubbed as Michigan's Antique Capital.

At the end of your fun-filled day and exciting night on the town you can check



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into one of the many hotels. The hotels are just minutes from the excitement and attractions.

Don't forget to check the website for additional information on the exciting events including food festivals to cars, boat parades and magic, taking place all year round. There's always a reason to celebrate in Coldwater Country. www.ColdwaterCountry.com.

Lakewood Shores

Golfers and families can experience Private Club conditions at a resort. Lakewood Shores Resort in Oscoda, not only offers great golf, but wonderful accommodations, meeting facilities and world-class cuisine. Three championship golf courses include *The Gables* named by Golf Week as Michigan's highest-rated resort course in 2016.

Nestled among northern Michigan hardwoods, the resort's 152 rooms offer an excellent view along with a patio overlooking the courses. Rooms range in style from new hotel units, to spacious one and two-bedroom suites, many with in room Jacuzzi's.

Dining facilities include a main dining room and Scotland Cove, their 19th hole, with soup, sandwiches and quick snacks for making the turn. The lounge offers a relaxed atmosphere to kick back after a round.

Lakewood Shores is a resort for the whole family. The resort offers a full array of family activities including a private beach on Cedar Lake perfect for swimming, jet skiing, canoeing and fishing. Just minutes away are the beautiful beaches of Lake Huron. Visit their website at www.lakewoodshores.com and use their online quote form to create a custom package just for you.

Petoskey Area

Ready for a vacation with more to do than hit the beach? Then make plans this summer to visit what has been called a Michigan treasure: The Petoskey Area of northern Michigan.

The resort communities that make up the Petoskey Area have earned quite a reputation for beautiful beaches and spectacular lakeside settings. Whether you like strolling the soft sand looking for Petoskey stones, diving into crystal-clear Lake Michigan, or catching a sunset over the lake, this is the place to be.

But what makes the Petoskey Area even more special is all there is to do when the beach towel has been put away for the day. The resort communities of Petoskey, Harbor Springs, Bay Harbor and Boyne City offer a whole vacation full of things to do.

Be sure to explore our boutiques and galleries. The elegant Village at Bay Harbor, Petoskey's famous Gaslight District, and the downtown areas of Harbor Springs and Boyne City are lined with dozens of inviting shops.

Our historic districts offer a wealth of treasures from yesteryear. The Bay View area alone has nearly 500 Victorian structures that have earned Bay View a designation as a National Historic Landmark.

Our lakeside communities are surrounded by some of the most beautiful hiking and biking trails imaginable. These trails lead through magnificent forests, and along the shores of inland lakes and crystal-clear rivers and streams. Wildlife abounds, and with every crest of a hill, another awesome vista arises.

You'll remember our courses long after forgetting your scores. We have more than a dozen courses from nationally rated to economical. And the quality of



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those courses is often written about by Golf Magazine and Golf Digest.

Whatever you have a taste for, you'll find it here. Perhaps it's one of our fine gourmet restaurants. Maybe it's one with a more casual, easygoing style. For a truly memorable experience, head out on our culinary trail. It has 38 markets, boutique food shops, wineries and breweries.

Choose from quaint country inns, luxurious condominiums and modern full-service hotels. Whatever your preference, you can count on your accommodations being everything you hoped for. For more information or lodging help visit PetoskeyArea.com.

Cadillac

Cadillac offers a wide variety of summer and fall recreation, mouth watering cuisine, appealing attractions, unique shopping, a healthy environment and a vibrant sense of community. Located in the northwestern corner of the Lower Peninsula, just 3.5 hours from Detroit.

This fall consider a Fall Color Tour in the US National Forest. Four separate tours have been plotted out by foresters based on the tree species along the routes, offering the best color in Northwest Michigan throughout October.

The tours are all on well-maintained roads, and on warm fall days there are awesome river trips as well! So no matter your mode of transportation you'll find Cadillac is a fall fantasy of color. See more on www.cadillacmichigan.com or check out their new blog at www.exploreCadillac.org for visitor stories.

The first and third weekends in October the Michigan Steam Train Institute will offer Steam and Diesel trips to and from Cadillac, to wet your 'yester year' appetite, see www.michigansteamtrain.com for ticket details.

Cadillac offers you a warm and gracious invitation to enjoy their lakes, forests, and rivers any time of year. Make their home town, your home away from home.

Marquette

Named a Top 25 Best Adventure Destination in the World, Marquette County is located in the heart of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The rugged Huron Mountain range and Lake Superior shoreline define the landscape, making it the perfect place to linger and enjoy outdoor activities.

With summer in the air, a variety of events fill the calendar with fun activities, great food and treasured memories. Summer begins with Art Week June

19-25, the family-friendly Marquette Trails Festival June 24-26, along with the Downtown Farmer's Market each Saturday in Marquette.

The season heats up in July with the International Food Fest July 2-4, Independence Day parades and celebrations July 4, Red Earth Classic Mountain Bike Race July 16, U.P. Shakespeare Festival July 17 through August 3, Hiawatha Music Festival July 22-24, Blueberry Festival July 29, Ishpeming Italian Fest and the Marquette Harbor Lighthouse 150th Birthday Celebration on July 30, and Art on the Rocks July 30-31.

The fun continues in August with Shriner's parades in downtown Marquette August 5 and downtown Ishpeming August 6, Ore to Shore Mountain Bike Epic, racing from Negaunee to the lakeshore of Marquette on August 13, Marquette Trail 50 Ultramarathon August 19-20, North Country Trail Hike August 21, and the music and excitement of Harborfest along with visiting Tall Ships in Marquette Harbor August 26-27.

Adventures of the culinary kind are always easy to find in Marquette County. Choose fine dining or a variety of ethnic menus and locally sourced cuisine,

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Taste Michigan and specialty home brews at this year's Cadillac Craft Beer Festival & be sure to check out our Fall Color Trains! Visit our website for lodging and area information.

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Join us for the Cadillac Craft Beer Festival
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including fresh whitefish. Restaurants located downtown and along Third Street in Marquette are locally owned and independently operated, spicing up the county's food scene. And visit the popular dining establishments of Negaunee and Ishpeming. Be sure to try an authentic U.P. pasty during your visit!

Set aside time in your travels to visit sites dedicated to preserving the story of Marquette County. In the city, spend time at the Regional History Center. Visit the statue of Father Marquette, the Jesuit explorer from the 1600's. Linger at the Marquette Maritime Museum and Harbor Lighthouse. In Ishpeming, explore the Cliffs Shaft Mining Museum and take in the Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame.

Travel anytime to Marquette County. Stay awhile where the deep blue of Lake Superior meets the shimmering Northern Lights. Where lodging accommodations exceed your expectations, all within minutes of city or woodland adventures. Where fine food is served with craft beer coaxed from the purest ingredients.

Plan your adventure at TravelMarquetteMichigan.com.

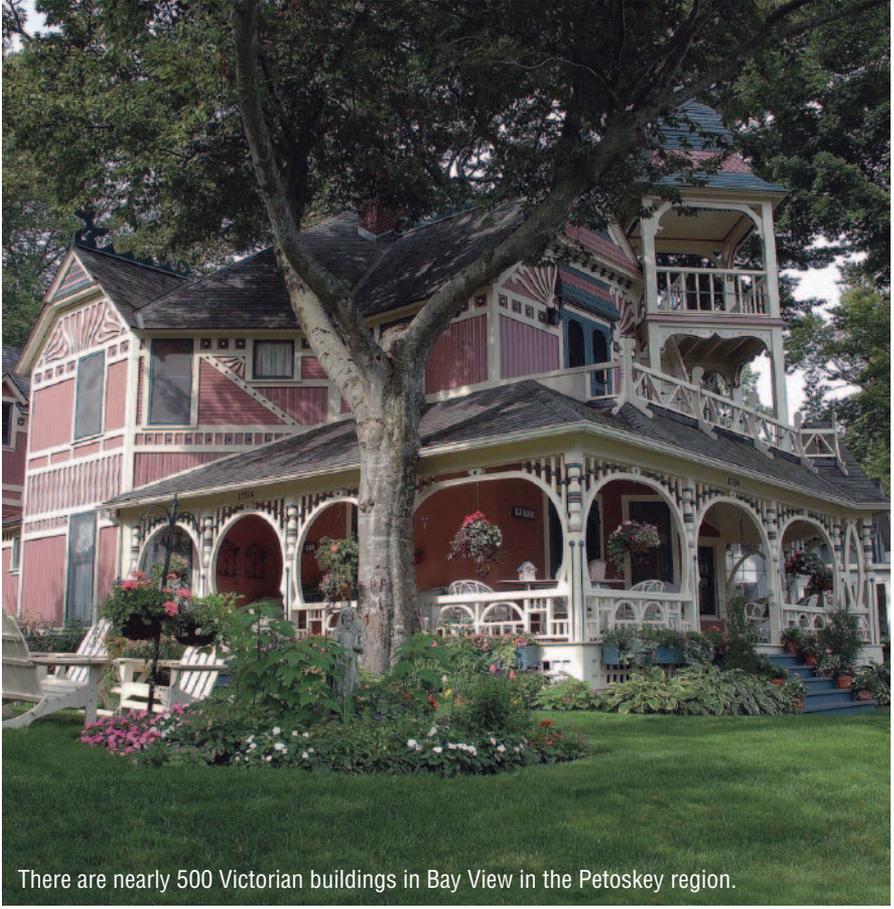
Kewadin Casinos

Kewadin Casinos is rolling out of a new and improved Northern Rewards Club. Starting June 1, 2016, Northern Rewards will be upgraded to a four tiered players club. A Green, Silver, Gold or Black card will indicate each member's tier status and the level of benefits each player is eligible to receive. Green will be the base level while Black will be the highest.

To put this newly tiered Northern Rewards Club in place Kewadin's slot system software has been upgraded, Kewadin Hotel rooms are being remodeled, and new slot machines are being added. Kewadin's entertainment offerings have been increased with additional dates added at Kewadin Shores in St. Ignace.

The DreamMakers Theater, in Sault Ste. Marie, is a state of the art 1,500-seat showroom. Its hosted some of the biggest acts in the industry like Keith Urban and Tim McGraw, just to name a few. You can check out their current concert lineup on their website at www.kewadin.com.

Patrons are encouraged to contact Northern Rewards Club Team Members at 1-800-KEWADIN with questions about the club. New player card distribution began June 2nd, 2016 at all Kewadin properties. Kewadin Casinos are located in Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Hessel, Manistique and Christmas.



There are nearly 500 Victorian buildings in Bay View in the Petoskey region.



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It's a new day at Mission Point Resort

BY RENU SAGGAR

Mackinac Island's east end landmark, Mission Point, has completed second phase of its multi-year renovation. Mission Point's renaissance began last year when the property was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Dennert O. Ware of D & S North in December, 2014. The first phase included an updated lobby, refreshed rooms, a variety new programs and signature weekends, and the addition of a Superintendent of Grounds and Gardens spearheading the horticultural movement at the property. Local artwork is showcased in the lobby, Round Island Bar and Grill, and Chianti, Mission Point's fine dining restaurant.

The second phase includes a brand new spa, salon and workout facility as part of a larger wellness component. The spa's design aligns with Mission Point's overall aesthetic — a lake lodge that exudes casual elegance, refined comfort, blending old and new, tradition and today, while drawing on heritage themes of Mackinac — lakes and sailing, horses and bicycles, nature and leisure time to recharge, rejuvenate and reconnect. The



Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island.

spa offers a variety of treatments for men and women including massages, facials, traditional salon offerings and a state-of-the-art fitness center.

Visitors to Mission Point this season will taste and sip the very best of the destination. Mission Point Cream Ale from Petoskey Brewing, New Day IPA from Saugatuck Brewing Company and Sinclair's Scotch Ale from Mountain Town Brewing Co. are created for and sold only at Mission Point. If spirits are your pleasure, the property will also be debuting barrel aged bottled Negronis

and Manhattans made exclusively for the hotel.

Diners can expect the most comprehensive and freshest farm and water-to-table menus on the island. Mission Point uses local Native American fisheries for its signature whitefish used in its award-winning dishes, whitefish caviar, smoked whitefish dip (served warm and blended with soft white cheeses) and whitefish benedict.

Adding to a stellar culinary line-up at Chianti Restaurant will be the newly created Mission Point Cookbook Series. Not your typical Friday night fish fry, Round Island Bar and Grill will feature Friday night Lobster and Low Country Boils.

The 'Marketplace at Mission Point' features four unique new spaces. *Boxwood Coffee Shop and Café* serves coffee, tea, light bites, ice cream, house made pastries, beer and wine. *Reserve* offers wine, Champagne, cheese and chocolate. *The Boutique* features upscale clothing, accessories, and jewelry. For more information, visit www.missionpoint.com. 

wake up to this.



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Bay City hosts Tall Ship Celebration

BY RENU SAGGAR

Bay City is celebrating fifteen years of award-winning maritime festivals as host port for the 2016 Tall Ships® Challenge, a series of races and rallies organized by Tall Ships America. Bay City has also been named “Port of the Year” by Tall Ships America three times, more than any other community in North America.

Michigan’s largest gathering of tall ships begins on July 14th, when twelve vessels will sail up the Saginaw River to Downtown Bay City. Ten will remain dockside and will be available for touring Friday, July 15th through Sunday July 17th. Bay City’s own tall ships, Appledore IV and V will provide sail away trips.

The term “Tall Ship” has been around since Shakespearian times. Today, it’s frequently used to describe traditional sailing vessels of all rigs.

There will be many different types of sailing ships at this year’s festival. The *Galeón Andaluía* is a replica of a 16th-17th century galleon, the only one of its kind in the world. For three centuries, these Spanish galleons crossed the Atlantic



Galeón Andaluía

Ocean and sailed around the Caribbean Sea, carrying the riches of the New World back to Spain.

The *U.S. Brig Niagara* is a two-masted, square-rigged sailing vessel. In 1813, she had a crew of 155 men and boys who manned her sails, 18 carronades and two long guns. The current Niagara, the third reconstruction of the original vessel, was launched in Erie in 1988, the 175th anniversary of the Battle of Lake Erie.

The *Brigantine Playfair* was christened in 1973 by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, and is the only Canadian ship to be commissioned by a reigning monarch.

Pride of Baltimore II is a reconstruction of an early 19th-century Baltimore Clipper. Sleek, fast and maneuverable these vessels, gained fame as privateers during the War of 1812.

When and If is an 83’ Alden schooner, commissioned by General George S. Patton in 1939, who planned to sail it around the world after World War II.

Tall Ship Celebration has made it a priority to create a family-oriented event filled with activities and entertainment for all ages. Kids can visit Storyteller’s Corner to hear tales of tall ship life on the high seas or build their own lighthouse at Sailor’s Village.

A highlight for everyone—young and old—is touring the visiting tall ships and learning their history firsthand from crew members and volunteers. Music is also a key part of Tall Ship Celebration. This year the International Maritime Music Festival presented by SC Johnson features some of the most talented shanty musicians from around the world. 🎵

For more information, visit www.TallShipCelebration.com.

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE, OVER THE PHONE AND AT ALL MICHIGAN KROGER STORES!



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BY RENU SAGGAR

Port Stanley Beach from the water.

The Pleasures of Port Stanley

Ontario's timeless lakeside village

Located on the north shore of Lake Erie, on a beautiful natural harbor, Port Stanley was once known as “The Coney Island of the Great Lakes.” The expansive beach was home to midway rides, a casino, and the cavernous Stork Club, where patrons danced to the big band sounds of Guy Lombardo. People came by boat, car, or Port Stanley Terminal Rail, an excursion train that ran between London, St. Thomas and Port Stanley, to frolic on the beach or ride the incline railway up to Picnic Hill.

In addition to Main Beach, there's also Little Beach, best suited for families with small children, on the east side of town and secluded Erie Rest Beach, a beautiful sand beach located west of Main Beach.

While many of the old attractions may be gone, the beach remains and today, Port Stanley enjoys the only coveted world-class ‘Blue Beach’ designation on Lake Erie. Located 20 minutes south of London, and 2 hours east of Windsor, thousands come every year to enjoy the warm summer waves, walk the shoreline and catch the sunsets over the lake. Marinas and commercial fishing boats line picturesque Kettle Creek and the harbor, while the lighthouse stands watch at the end of the west pier.

Michelle Fournier, chair of the local Business Improvement Association (BIA), has seen a lot of changes in the past decade. Retired baby boomers have discovered Port Stanley's temperate climate, sandy beaches along with the more relaxed pace of small town living.

Michelle runs the popular *Village Square Coffee House* and is a passionate supporter both of Port Stanley and the villages she helps support in Nicaragua. She and her staff, banter with the locals and customers while serving up Cappuccinos, award-winning Espresso, fresh baked goods and light lunches.

Michelle really knows coffee and has tasted it all over the world. Today, she buys and brews her premium coffee exclusively from the Las Chicas Plantation in Nicaragua.

If you happen to be in Port Stanley, stop by Village Square Coffee, located at the only spotlight in town, and check out the photos on the wall. That's Michelle picking coffee beans in Nicaragua.

In addition to what nature has to offer Port Stanley or “Port “ as the locals like to say, has attractions galore. Train rides and live theatre, golf, watersports, charming shops and boutiques, and restaurants and bars.

Hand-crafted dishes made with only the freshest local ingredients are a signature of *So•Lo on Main*, located in a beautiful location facing the harbour. Newly opened in May, the seasonal menu features house made pastas, desserts, soups, fresh fish, meats, artisan cheeses and meats. Their signature dish is “Smoked trout frites” Steelhead smoked trout with house cut fries.

Chef and owner Lauren Van Dixhoorn, a Port Stanley native, started cooking when she was 16 and graduated from the Canadian Institute of Food & Wine/ Niagara on the Lake. The restaurant will be open year around has been given a complete face-lift. In addition to the elegant dining, there's an outdoor patio for al fresco dining under the stars. Visit soloportstanley.com.



The Chocolate Bombe – So•Lo on Main



Eric Alexandre at Studio Style



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SO·LO
ON MAIN

Restaurant & Bar

Indulge in fully hand-crafted dishes with only the freshest local ingredients designed by creative tastemakers in Port Stanley, ON.

226 658 0999 soloportstanley.com

Studio Style Ladies Apparel & Accessories is definitely worth a visit while you are in Port Stanley. It's small town service with a big town selection of clothing accessories, handbags, scarfs and more. Located on Main Street, they carry a number of Canadian designers and European collections, including Robert Kitchen, Simon Chang, Fresh FX, Neon Buddha, Sandwich and Junge coats. Their fashion sense is current yet classic, chic and unique with every line they carry.

Silhouettes shown for Fall 2016 are returning to a cleaner, simpler design focusing on cardigans and knit jackets. Colour is always on the forefront in fashion, with key hits of colour paired with neutrals and of course, black and white...always in style!

Accessories include Karen Wilson Handbags — Exquisite Custom Vintage purses from Toronto, and Myka Jewellery — Rhodium plated designs with Swarovski crystals crafted in Vancouver.

Studio Style offers a great selection of casual styles in sizes 4 to 18. Proprietor Kim Ariesen is proud to be in her eighth year of business and believes in acquiring items that you love! Visit studiostyle.ca.

The Port Stanley Festival Theatre performs live summer theatre with a focus on



Port Stanley Theatre

Canadian plays and featuring Canadian talent. Productions focus on all genres of comedy, comedy-drama, musical-comedy and more, in their newly renovated 202-seat theatre. During off-season (Sept. to April) the not-for-profit theatre provides rental opportunities for outside concerts and musical tributes.

This season's productions include the World Premiere "Birds of a Feather" by Simon Joynes, July 6-23. Competitive bird watchers converge on a quest for the Bachman Warbler, the rarest of birds, in a laugh filled battle of wits, technology,

and high stakes.

Playwright Denise Mader's World premiere production of "This One", July 27 -August 13, explores the bond between mother and daughter, and the wonder of fresh baked pecan pie.

Fresh from the pen of the playwright Mark Crawford comes "The Birds and the Bees", a sparkling new comedy about family and friends, relationships, sex and farming, running August 17 to September 3rd. You can view their summer schedule and purchase tickets at: www.portstanleytheatre.ca.

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Live Summer Theatre • *Antique Train Rides*
 Lift Bridge *Boat Launch and More*

PORT STANLEY
PORT STANLEY, ONT.

www.portstanley.net



BY DR. SAPNA SAGGAR

The London Health Sciences Centre Cardiac Team.

A Team Approach to Treatment

Better outcomes with better care

The heart team at London Health Sciences Centre have long been pioneers in the delivery of care using the team approach. Since 2004 this concept has successfully lusted with patients with blocked arteries by providing a combined hybrid strategy of surgically bypassing and stenting the blocked heart arteries.

Most recently this same approach to treatment was introduced for patients involved in a motor vehicle collisions. Recently, a young female patient was involved in a very serious crash resulting in numerous chest, abdominal and orthopedic injuries. The patient suffered extensive lung contusion and in order to undergo the surgeries needed to repair her injuries, she first had to survive.

The heart team led by cardiac surgeon Dr. Dave Nagpal, made a decision to place the patient on an external pump oxygenator. The machine bypasses the heart and lungs to provide cardiac and respiratory support by oxygenating and propelling the blood. With the aid of this device the orthopedic and general surgery team were able to complete the necessary surgeries in several stages to repair her injuries.

The patient subsequently recovered and now plans to pursue her goal of attending medical school. This would not have been possible without the support of the entire team, which included anaesthesiologists, intensivists, clinical perfusionists and nursing staff.

This kind of highly specialized care requires resources that in the current economic climate, are difficult to obtain from the Ministry of Health. Therefore, the heart team is increasingly reliant on the support of donors such as the Crich Family, owners of the Auburn Group of Companies.

The Crich family is backing a world-leading surgical program at London Health Sciences Centre with a \$1 million gift to help finance the latest third generation da Vinci Si Surgical Systems currently in use at the hospital's CSTAR program (Canadian Surgical Technologies & Advanced Robotics).

This helps the heart team continue to perform the combined treatment for blocked heart arteries in a more efficient and productive manner with improved outcomes. It is because of this support that the heart team is able to provide such state-of-art delivery of care to patients in Southwestern Ontario. It will also help

patients from across Canada whose surgeons can train on the latest technology and alongside the top experts in the field of robotic-assisted surgery.

While the gift is the result of their experience with care received at LHSC, in particular with cardiac surgeons Dr. Bob Kiaii and Dr. Neil McKenzie, family spokesperson Jamie Crich said the donation also follows his father's philosophy and example.

"Because our family has been touched by the wonderful caregivers at London Health Sciences Centre, most particularly Dr. Kiaii and Dr. McKenzie, we are making a commitment to ensure that patients will continue to experience the exemplary care made possible when skilled and caring surgeons have access to the latest and most innovative technology."

This donation continues a long philanthropic tradition in the family that includes supporting health care in London. The late Don Crich believed in building and investing in communities and his family is noted for their charitable contributions.

Donors have funded every previous robotic surgical platform at LHSC. The availability of this advanced technology helped attract skilled surgeons to the city and surgical teams using this technology were able to pioneer 24 national and international medical firsts using that equipment. The latest first, a robotic-assisted colorectal surgery, was performed by the hospital earlier this year.

"Without donor support like this, we would have been unable to provide care to patients with heart disease in the same way we have over the past several years," notes Dr. Bob Kiaii, Chair/Chief Cardiac Surgery, London Health Sciences Centre. "I believe that as robotic-assisted surgery continues to rapidly evolve, we will have the ability to provide even better patient care in the future."

The donation adds to the total of LHSC's campaign to raise \$200 million for the current and future needs of LHSC. The campaign has now reached almost \$160 million in pledges and donations. A public phase of the campaign to help raise any remaining portion is planned for later this year.

LHSC Chair/Chief of Cardiac Surgery Dr. Bob Kiaii will begin pre and post op clinics in Windsor starting June 29th at the Windsor Regional Hospital (WRH) Ouellette Campus. About 30 per cent of heart surgery patients in London are from Windsor and Essex County. 



Zaanse Schans.

BY GAIL MERO-O'NEIL

One of the best ways to see the city is onboard one of the many canal tours. The Golden Bend — the canal from Leidsestraat to Vijzelstraat — has the most magnificent stretch of canal houses in the city. In the evening, lovers gather at the Magere Brug or Skinny Bridge, a traditional drawbridge connecting the banks of the Amstel River.

The Jordaan is famous for its crooked lanes and garden courtyards. Cobble streets are filled with bustling street markets, flower stalls, trendy restaurants, one of a kind boutiques and traditional Brown Cafés. This is where Amsterdammers go to relax over a glass of genever, (Dutch gin) usually ordered with a beer chaser. The term comes from the walls and ceilings, stained from centuries of age and tobacco smoke.

In Amsterdam, the term café covers a broad range of establishments. On one hand, there are the “poky” bars where you can knock back a few beers; on the other are the larger Grand Cafés. In between are the “eetcafés” or eat-cafés where you enjoy an inexpensive meal. Tearooms serve tea and coffee, but coffee shops are better known for dispensing

Holland is a Dutch Treat

Amsterdam gives you the impression of having stepped into a 17th century canvas by Vermeer. Linden bordered canals are framed by lofty patrician homes topped by graceful stepped gables. Prosperous Dutch merchants erected these tall, narrow mansions during Holland’s Golden Age in the 17th century when the tiny nation was among the most affluent on earth.

Compact and convivial Amsterdam is the consummate walker’s city where pedestrians and bicycles still take precedence over automobiles. Holland is considered a cyclist’s paradise with more than 20,000 miles of safe cycle paths, mostly separated from motorized traffic.

The Dutch simply say the city is “gezelligheid.” Cozy is a close approximation but there seems to be no real English equivalent. Street names are an improbable mixture of consonants finished off by a declamatory “straat”. Fortunately everyone speaks English. The Dutch not only speak better English than most

Anglophone Canadians speak French. They speak better English than many Anglophone Canadians speak English.



Amsterdam is famous for bicycles and canals.

marijuana or hashish, all perfectly legal in this freewheeling city.

Amsterdam is one of the world's leading diamond centers and you can check out one of the many diamond factories. Tours are available seven days a week and you can watch diamonds being cut and polished and learn why some stones are worth a fortune, while others are just worthless lumps of glass. And just in case you're inclined to make a purchase, jewelers will mount your stone while you wait. In case you happen to run out of cash, head over to the "geldomatt" the Dutch version of the automatic teller.

It's love for sale in Amsterdam's Red Light District. The world's oldest profession has been going on in "De Walletjes" for five hundred years, right next door to Oude Kerk, Amsterdam's oldest church. An estimated 100,000 people visit here nightly, mostly to gawk and soak up the atmosphere. One of the oldest sections of town, the quiet side streets and gabled canal houses possess a quiet dignity that belies De Walletjes' seamy reputation.

There are probably more museums per square mile in Amsterdam than any other city on earth. At last count there were over fifty. The Rijksmuseum was

founded in The Hague, in 1800 and offers a representation of Dutch art and history, as well as European and Asian art from the Middle Ages to today.

The museum moved to Amsterdam in 1808 and moved to its current location in 1885. In 2003, the main museum closed for a 10-year renovation and reopened in 2013. Today the museum hosts nearly 2.5 million visitors a year.

Rijksmuseum houses a collection of one million objects dating back to 1200, with 8,000 works currently on display. Guests visiting the museum can see masterpieces by Dutch painters including Rembrandt's Night Watch and Vermeer's The Milkmaid. The nearby Stedelijk Museum, also located on Museum Plein, houses a world-class collection of modern art.

The Anne Frank House in Amsterdam is a museum with a story to tell. During the Nazi occupation, Anne Frank, her family and four others went into hiding in the attic of Prinsengracht 263. On August 4, 1944, their hiding place was betrayed and they were sent to various concentration camps. Only Anne's father Otto Frank survived. Anne's original diary along with some of her other notebooks are on display as part of the museum's

permanent exhibition.

The Van Gogh Museum, houses the world's largest collection of works by the tormented Dutch artist. You can follow the chronological progression of his remarkable genius, from dark peasant scenes to the sweeping brush strokes and bold palette of his work at Arles.

Located just southwest of Amsterdam, Keukenhof is Europe's largest flower garden drawing nearly 1-million visitors a year. This 70-acre park displays some 7-million flowers, including orchids, roses, carnations, traditional Japanese gardens, flower parades and over 1000-varieties of tulips.

Much of the popular image of the Netherlands actually comes from the northwest district known as Noord-Holland. This is where you can find the eternal windmills, tranquil fishing villages and flowering bulb fields. Zaanse Schans is an open-air museum about 20 minutes north of the city, with a collection of seven historic windmills. The windmills are open to visitors from April to October. You can also watch wooden shoes being made and visit the shops and museums housed in wooden buildings painted in traditional green and white. 



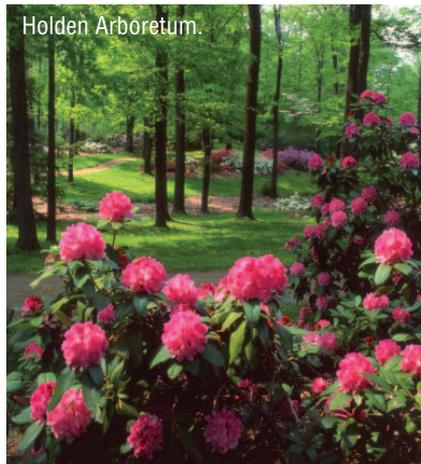
The Jordaan.



Old Woman Creek Beach Lake Erie Shores and Islands.



The Beast at King Island.



Holden Arboretum.

Choose a private charter that includes all the necessities, or a walk-on charter. There are also dozens of options for those who prefer fishing from shore.

Summer is the time to enjoy Cedar Point's thrilling rides and beach-front family resort. Dare to dive on Valravn, the world's tallest, fastest, and longest dive coaster which debuted this year. The 18th roller coaster, at the *Roller Coaster Capital of the World* features a 214-ft, completely vertical free-fall, speeds up to 75 mph, and three inversions — the most of any dive coaster in the world.

Jet Express, which ferries visitors to the Lake Erie islands, is offering daily trips to the Cedar Point from Sandusky's Jackson Street Pier. The 10-minute trip costs only \$5 and is offered twice a day this summer.

Sandusky is also home to five indoor waterpark resorts including the country's largest, Kalahari Resort. These under-one-roof resorts feature family activities, fine dining, unique shopping, and spas ensuring a good time no matter the weather.

The Lake Erie islands provide a relaxing change of pace. On Kelleys Island, rent bicycles or golf carts and cruise to the world's largest example of glacial scoring, then wade in the shallow waters of the state park beach. On South Bass Island, take the Put-in-Bay tour train for a narrated tour with stops at many island attractions, including the Perry's Victory & International Peace Memorial, standing 352 feet tall.

This year, you can see the Lake Erie islands from a new point-of-view with Put-in-Bay Boat Tours. Enjoy sites you can only observe from the water with short or long trips for groups of four to

Find It Here in Ohio This Summer

There may be no better way to experience warm weekends and one-of-a-kind gatherings than in Ohio. The Buckeye State even has a new travel slogan — Find It Here and there are can't-miss destinations in each of Ohio's five regions. From theme parks to state parks, timeless New England style villages and world class cities. You can while away the day along the Lake Erie shore, sample vintages in one of America's fastest growing wine regions, or get a little edgy in some of the arts and cultural scenes. Whatever your pastime or pleasure you'll find it here.

Lake Erie Shores & Islands

Ohio's Lake Erie Shores & Islands offers so much to love in a getaway destination. The region between Toledo and Cleveland provides an eclectic mix of historically significant sites, family-fun amusements, gorgeous scenery and outdoor recreation.

Birders can experience one of the most spectacular songbird migrations in the country. The region includes more than

BY ADELINA IRVINE

15 areas designated by Audubon as "Important Bird Areas."

Angler's will relish dropping a line in the "Walleye Capital of the World."



Shadowbox Live performs in Columbus all summer.

HAVE A BEER THAT TASTES AS ORIGINAL AS ITS CITY

More than 20 craft breweries
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There's something brewing in Columbus. Head down the Ale Trail to try a cloud-like Humulus Nimbus from Seventh Son or the hard-rocking Brass Knuckle from Four String Brewing Co. Winding through historic neighborhoods, a vibrant downtown and beyond, our craft beer scene is another reason weekends are Made in Cbus.

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LAKE COUNTY, OHIO BIG! & TALL!



BIG! The new multi-million dollar, 8,917 sq. ft. Laurentia Winery

The architecturally ambitious Winery is a marvel built from reclaimed barn siding and hand-hewn beams from the 1800s. It sits amid 38 acres of vineyards, a lake, and beautiful landscaping. Their acclaimed Chef pairs small plates with their wines.



Watch our Drone Video at lakevisit.com

YouTube Facebook Instagram Pinterest

TALL! The new 120' Emergent Tower at The Holden Arboretum

Climb its 202 steps for a grand view of Holden's 3,600 acres with Lake Erie in the distance. Season opens April 1, 2016. The \$1.4 million project is unique to public gardens nationwide. Cross the 65' high, 500' triangular Canopy Walk for more enchanting views.

ALSO HUGE!: Elegant B&B's, the restored Steele Mansion Inn, the Frank Lloyd Wright rental house, and Ohio's largest winery region.



Ohio Summer

six, departing from South Bass Island State Park.

Sawmill Creek Resort offers two new ways to experience a birds-eye view of the Shores & Islands. Float in the sky for up to one hour with a hot air balloon ride; or take a quick, scenic helicopter tour with views of Cedar Point and the islands.

Special events entertain visitors with food, fun, live music, reenactments, and celebrations of all types. Enjoy these summer events in the Lake Erie Shores & Islands:

- June 17-19: Vermilion Festival of the Fish featuring a fishing tournament fireworks, and lighted boat parade.
- June 17-20: Put-in-Bay Pyrate Fest
- July 8-10: Huron River Fest.
- July 8-August 14: The National Matches at Camp Perry.
- July 15-17: Kelleys Island Islandfest.
- August 5-6: Weave your way to the Berlin Heights Basket Festival.
- September 3-5: The 58th Annual Milan Melon Festival.
- September 9-11: Perry's Victory Heritage Festival.

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Sandusky County, Ohio is centrally located close to it all, with nearly every attraction of interest less than a 30 minute drive. We also feature the best value in hotel pricing with top-rated hotel rooms at a significant discount to the Port Clinton and Sandusky, Ohio rates.

Plan your vacation at: www.SanduskyCounty.org

Lake Erie Love

Explore the islands, ride roller coasters at Cedar Point, tour a lighthouse or simply relax and unwind. Find your Lake Erie Love at Ohio's Lake Erie Shores & Islands.

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Shores & Islands®



Ohio Summer

Lake Erie Shores & Islands is the ideal coastal retreat. Plan your getaway at SHORESandISLANDS.com to order an official travel guide.

Sandusky County

Planning your summer holiday to the states? Put Ohio on the top of your destination wish list! Northern Ohio is filled with so much to see and do, you will find yourself coming back year after year to try to experience it all! From the thrills and chills of Cedar Point, “The Roller Coaster Capital of the SandISLANDS.com to order an official travel guide. World,” to the laid back and relaxing Lake Erie Islands or one of many Ohio wineries scattered across the area, there is something for everyone. The Sandusky County Convention & Visitors Bureau is located in Fremont Ohio, is a great resource for finding out more information about the area and for planning your trip.

Fremont, located in Sandusky County, has a variety of hotels to choose from and is centrally located between all of the area’s best attractions. The area also

offers the area’s best hotel and restaurant pricing with up to a 40 percent discount compared to other hotels closer to the Lake Erie Islands or Cedar Point area. Fremont is also easy to get to, just off the Ohio Turnpike 80/90 (Exit 91).

In addition to the attractions along Lake Erie, there are many other attractions that are unique to this area. Fremont is located in the center of Sandusky County and was home to America’s 19th President, Rutherford B. Hayes. The Hayes home, museum and library, all sit on his 25 acre estate. This was ‘America’s first presidential library and it turned 100 years old in 2016! The Hayes Center is open daily and tours are given of the home, museum and library.

Other attractions in the area, within a 30-minute drive include: African Safari Wildlife Park, the Liberty Aviation Museum, The Mad River Railroad Museum, Seneca Caverns, Historic Lyme Village, the Public Safety Service 9/11 Memorial, the Wilson Nature Center on Creek Bend Farm, the Sandusky County Historic Jail and Dungeon, and many more.

Whatever you’re into, Sandusky County has something for everyone! For a complete listing of events, hotels,

restaurants, unique shopping opportunities, and much more visit www.sandusky-county.org.

Lake County

Speeding power boats, elegant tall ships, and wineries, Celtic & Whiskey BBQ Festivals are a sample of major events coming to Lake County Ohio, Lake Erie East’s Coastal Getaway Oasis this summer.

The *Tall Ships Festival* docks at Fairport Harbor, July 7-10, 2016. A Lavender Festival is scheduled for July. Vintage Ohio featuring 16 Ohio wineries, food and music, plus newly added craft beer, August 5-6, 2016, at Lake Metroparks Farmpark. The Ohio Celtic Festival in Eastlake is August 12-14, 2016, featuring Irish and Celtic culture, plus new bands, some from overseas. The Offshore Power Boat Race with 50 racing teams from around the world is at Headlands State Beach Park in Mentor, and expected to attract 40,000 spectators watching super boats race at speeds around 200 miles per hour and the Pig & Whiskey Festival in late August in Willoughby Ohio features pork and beef competition with about 50 varieties of libations, a dozen selections of craft beer and music with free admission.

Lake County is off Interstate 90 just before Cleveland with several premiere venues. Opening to large crowds last fall is the \$1.4 million, 120-foot-high Emergent Tower, an observation deck with 202 steps for an exhilarating view of the Holden Arboretum, one of the country’s largest arboretums. The Emergent Tower is unique to horticultural gardens in the region and perhaps the USA. Also at The Holden is a triangular, 500-foot-long, 65-foot-high walkway. A recently expanded Rhododendron garden is another recent addition to The Holden.

Lake County offers a mix of New England/California ambiance, with the largest concentrated winery district, the Grand River Valley, in Ohio. The newest, Laurentia Vineyard & Winery is housed in an extraordinary luxurious but rustic log cabin style building, surrounded by acres of peaceful vineyards and a lake.

Lake County offers fresh distinctive Victorian B&B’s, a golf resort nestled amidst 700 acres of wooded land plus two designer golf courses. More championship golf is available in Lake County. A Frank Lloyd Wright Vacation Rental House in Lake County is just one of a few in the entire USA (Book early!)

Or unwind in the recently opened *Steele Mansion Inn*, resplendent in its 1867 glory,



Amish Buggies in Wayne County.

is reborn as an opulent, historic 16 suite masterpiece.

Take a stunning drone tour of Lake County Ohio by viewing www.lakevisit.com and tabbing aerial/drone video on the home page.

Greater Akron

Blurring the lines between metropolis and scenic haven, visitors to Greater Akron, Ohio can get swept up in the rush of the little big city that is downtown Akron, or escape to the breathtaking views of Ohio's only national park.

Cities offer visitors the thrill of rich culture found in various major metropolitan areas. Art enthusiasts can explore the Akron Art Museum and galleries like Summit Artspace or Akrona which feature local and touring exhibits. Those looking to catch a performance have a variety of playhouses and concert venues from which to choose including the Akron Civic Theatre, one of five remaining atmospheric theaters in the nation.

Guests who still haven't had their fill can look into Greater Akron's past at Hale Farm & Village, Perkins Stone Mansion, and Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens.

The former estate of F.A. Seiberling, co-

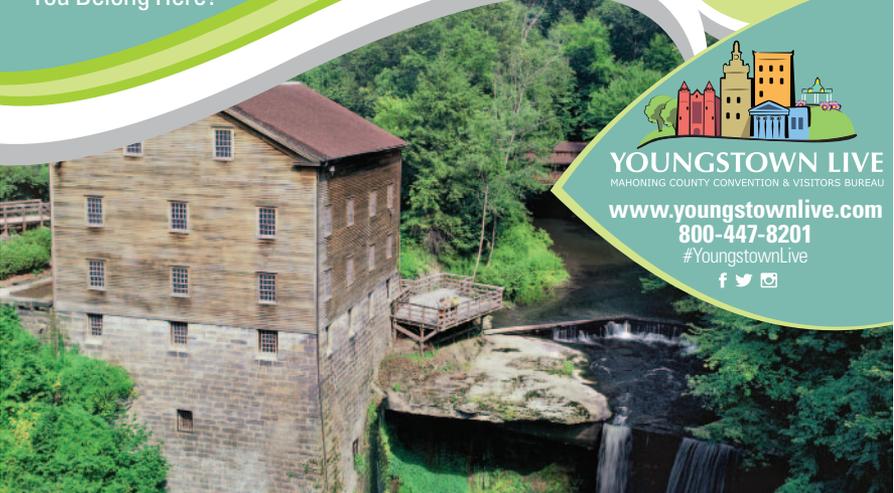
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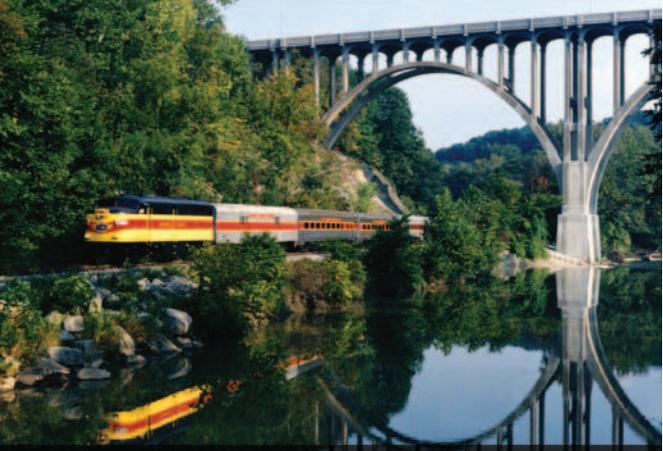
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Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad, Summer & Fall Excursions

founder of The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, the 65-room Tudor Revival Manor House is the nation's 6th largest historic home open to the public. The estate includes five historic buildings and eight historic gardens spread over 70 acres.

Festivals happen all year long. Earlier this summer, Greater Akron hosted the World Golf Championships Bridgestone Invitational and the FirstEnergy All-American Soap Box Derby. Through August into the fall visitors can enjoy International Twins Days Festival, the National Hamburger Festival, Ohio Mart, and Akron Zoo's Boo at the Zoo event. Diverse dining options offer flavors from authentic Nepalese to modern Mexican and from Swensons Drive-in's car-side service to an iconic Akron steak house.

Visitors that need a break from the action can wander off the beaten path to Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP) by using the Ohio Erie & Canalway Towpath Trail, which runs through the heart of downtown Akron, or by hopping on the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad. The 11th most visited national park in the U.S., CVNP boasts 33,000 acres of unimaginably beautiful areas to play, rest and recharge. To celebrate the National

Park Service's 100th Anniversary, CVNP will be hosting a variety of events throughout 2016 including concerts, educational programs, and picnics.

A visit to Greater Akron also offers novices to pros a chance to hit the links on more than a dozen manicured public courses. Not a golfer? Spend your time shopping area favorites, Don Drumm Studios & Gallery, Akron Glass Works, Mustard Seed Market & Café or any of the myriad shops and boutiques scattered throughout our communities.

Sights, sounds and special experiences await. Plan a visit that will be your very own at www.visitakron-summit.com.

Medina County

Nestled in northeastern Ohio, Medina County is one of Ohio's best kept secrets. Summer in Medina County means fun for the whole family. Good music, good food, fun events/festivals. Something for everyone.

Music lovers can enjoy concerts all summer across Medina County. Mapleside Farms is host to Concerts Over the Valley on Friday nights, concerts in Wadsworth's Downtown Gazebo, free Medina Community Band concerts Friday nights in

June/July in the Gazebo, Public Square, Medina. Also Friday nights all summer Rally in the Alley behind Main Street Café. The week of July 11-15 is Arts Week with evening concerts in different locations throughout the county with children's programs at noon. Arts Week ends with Medina's Art-in-the-Park. There are free Jazz Under the Stars concerts throughout the summer.

Medina County has exquisite festivals: Wadsworth Blue Tip Festival (June); Summer Celebration in Brunswick and Sweet Corn Festival (July); Valley City Frog Jump, the Medina County Fair, Medina's International Fest and An Affair on the Square Craft Fest (August).

The dates for Buckin' Ohio Pro Bull Riding are June 18, July 16, August 20 and September 17 with fun games for children, barrel racing, country music, bull riding, good food and good family fun.

Castle Noel is open weekends all summer long with extra hours for Christmas in July. A unique Christmas museum with Blizzard Vortex, Santa Squeeze, Mark Klaus' holiday sculptures for sale, NYC department store Christmas window display and props, set pieces and costumes from Christmas movies such as "The Grinch",



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Ohio Summer

“Santa Claus”, “Christmas Vacation”. You can slide down the “A Christmas Story” slide and much more.

The Medina Antique Mall features over 500+ dealer locations and 52,000 square feet of antiques and collectibles. For more information visit www.visitmedinacounty.com.

Mahoning County

Experience Youngstown’s rich culture at festivals and fairs that showcase the melting pot of ethnicities that make up our community. During the summer months, there are festivals almost every weekend. Take in an ethnic tradition like the Greater Youngstown Italian Fest (July 29-31) and savor rich cultures and delicious food. Feast on ethnic delights from across the world right here in Youngstown.

July features Youngstown State University’s Summer Festival of the Arts, a 2-day juried showcase of the best in regional art (July 9-10). The weekend also includes the Downtown Jazz Fest on Saturday, and the Gospel Fest on Sunday. For three

weekends in August, the Shaker Woods Festival takes you back to a simpler time, with crafters demonstrating and selling their wares, live entertainment and delicious food. The end of summer is marked each year by the Canfield Fair. Now in its 170th year, the Canfield Fair is the largest County Fair in Ohio, featuring agriculture, arts, rides, games, delicious food, and top-name entertainment in the grandstand.

Plan a weekend getaway and enjoy plenty of great outdoor recreation. Tee-off on one of the challenging golf courses or enjoy Mill Creek MetroParks featuring over 4,400 acres of natural beauty, including miles of hike and bike trails. Stroll through lovely Fellows Riverside Gardens and explore Lanterman’s Mill and Covered Bridge. Be sure to visit the Mill Creek MetroParks Farm, a 402-acre working farm that offers a natural escape and recreational activities including a tractor and wagon ride and visit with the animals.

Meet up with more animal friends at *Noah’s Lost Ark Exotic Animal Sanctuary*. Get an up-close look at lions, tigers, leopards, wolves and other animals at this unique facility dedicated to providing a

permanent, safe environment for abused and unwanted exotic animals.

OH WOW Children’s Center for Science & Technology is fun for all ages! This exciting, hands-on learning environment offers interactive exhibits that are both educational and fun. You won’t want to miss their 5th annual Silly Science Sunday where EDUtainment spills out onto the downtown streets for a day filled with more hands-on exhibits, activities and demonstrations for the whole family (September 18).

You Belong Here! For information, please visit www.youngstownlive.com.

Trumbull County

Summer. Just the word itself evokes thoughts of hot, sunny days, pitchers of iced cold lemonade, baseball games, fireworks, and cookouts. And best of all, it means a summer getaway that takes you far away from your regular routine.

Here in Trumbull County in north-eastern Ohio, life is far from routine. Conveniently located between Cleveland and Pittsburgh, the area’s modest size of 25-square miles is jam-packed with major events and festivals taking place all summer long.

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Ohio Summer

tinuing nearly every Saturday through Labor Day, the River Rock at the Amp Concert Series takes place at the outdoor Community Amphitheatre, located along the banks of the Mahoning River in downtown Warren.

Less than two miles up the street, the luxurious designs and state-of-the-art engineering of the Packard automobile takes center stage during the annual Packard Legacy Weekend at the National Packard Museum over the July Fourth Weekend.

Hot dogs are among America's favorite food and primarily regarded as fun summertime fare. Every Fourth of July, the city of Niles celebrates this tasty treat while honoring the inventor of the hot dog with its Harry Stevens Hot Dog Day Festival. Stevens, a native of England and former resident of Niles, not only came up with the idea of the hot dog but also invented the drinking straw and baseball scorecard.

A short drive away, hundreds of classic and vintage airplanes and cars share the SLOAS Airfield located next to the Ernie Hall Aviation Museum during the annual Wings-n-Wheels event every August. This major event helps support one of Trumbull County's newest museums. Here visitors will find artifacts that touch on interesting facets of flying history including fabric from the famed Red Baron's airplane.

Not far from the Ohio Pennsylvania border and within a very short drive north of Interstate 80 is Vienna where families will find *Wagon Trails Animal Park*, a 62-acre that was recently included in "USA Today's Top 10 List of Great Places for a North American Safari." Here you can roam with buffalo and feed over 350 animals from around the world while riding in an African safari truck.

These are just a few of the summertime activities that await you here in Trumbull County, Ohio! Discover even more at ExploreTrumbullCounty.com. Now's the time to break your regular routine!.

Wayne County Ohio

Are you looking for an adventure this summer with a relaxed casual pace? Then the beautiful rural countryside of Amish Country, Ohio may be exactly what you're looking for. Amish farms, one-room school houses and their distinct black horse-drawn buggies are familiar sights.

A sure sign that summer has arrived

Armstrong Air & Space Museum

Can you be an astronaut? 2000

As space exploration has evolved, so have the exhibits at the museum. But the focus has remained the same: to stand not only as a repository of Ohio's aeronautical history and a monument to Ohio's contribution to aviation and space exploration, but also as a tribute to Ohioan Neil Armstrong, whose "one small step for a man" was indeed a "giant leap for mankind."

DISCOVER THE ARMSTRONG AIR & SPACE MUSEUM
500 S Apollo Drive, Wapakoneta, OH
 Located at exit 111 on I-75 in Ohio
Phone: 800-860-0142 www.armstrongmuseum.org

is the opening of world-renowned Ohio Light Opera on June 18th. Productions of classic operettas and musicals, including Kiss Me, Kate, Annie Get Your Gun, and The Mikado will fill their 38th season on The College of Wooster Campus.

Grab your clubs, binoculars, and strap on your helmet or lace up your running shoes and get ready to experience the rural beauty of Wayne County. Many will find the golf courses scenic as well as challenging. The bike trails are open to hikers, bikers, and other non-motorized vehicles including horse drawn buggies. Wayne County is also home to Ohio's largest inland waterway, the Killbuck Marsh Wildlife Area near Shreve. The marsh offers a 3.7-mile observation and earthen foot trail, where visitors can view many migratory birds including trumpeter swans and bald eagles.

Local farmers and gardeners alike are dusting off their folding tables, pop-up awnings and cash boxes gearing up for the farm market season. If you've never experienced a local weekly market, picked your own strawberries or stopped off at a roadside stand to purchase fresh from the farm produce, you're really missing a treat.

Amish Country offers an abundance of summer festivals celebrating everything from ribs, Johnny Appleseed, jazz and arts to beets! You'll love the car shows, parades, village-wide yard sales, fireworks, outdoor concerts, history and heritage, or maybe we just enjoy getting together and having fun.

Shoppers will find a surprising number of world-renowned companies call Wayne County home. Visit The J.M. Smucker Company Store, Everything Rubbermaid, and The Cat's Meow Village, creators of the popular two-dimensional wooden collectibles. If you think it isn't made any more, check with *Lehman's* before you give up. Founded by Jay Lehman in 1955 to serve the local Amish and others without electricity, Lehman's now ships old-fashioned, merchandise all over the world. Virtually every big name Hollywood production set in the 19th century buys their props from Lehman's.

Visit the Wayne County Convention and Visitors Bureau online at wccvb.com and request a free copy of the Wayne County, Ohio Visitors Guide that includes hotel and camping information, restaurants, entertainment, shopping, maps and a calendar listing local events.

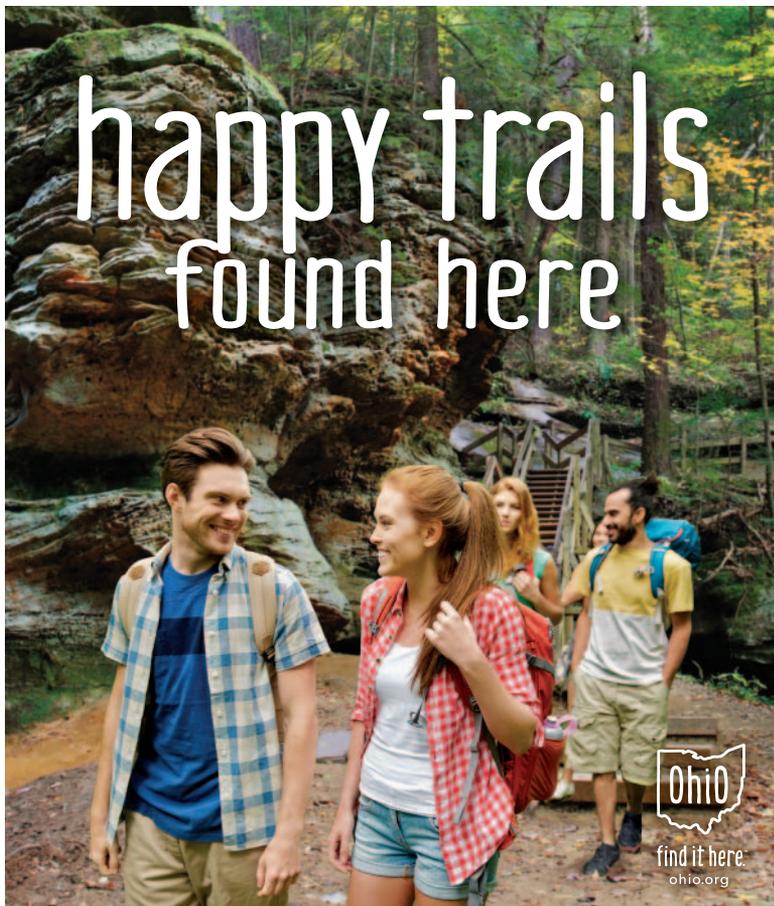
Columbus

Ohio's capital city is fast emerging as an effervescent hub for travelers. Visitors seeking to truly immerse themselves in the city's edgy, diverse creative community will find even more opportunity to do so after dark, when Columbus' lively lineup of one-time special events and nightly happenings spark to life.

For those who love exploring on foot, Gay Street's Moonlight Market outdoor street festival runs every second Saturday, April-October. More than 150 vendors peddle loads of locally crafted food and goods, from handmade knitted caps to vintage Ts and up-cycled messenger bags. Juggling unicyclists amaze while indie rockers entertain and shoppers imbibe with specialties from nearby watering holes.

On the first Saturday of every month, the Short North Arts District's Gallery Hop has been attracting locals and visitors alike for more than three decades. Miles of galleries, independent boutiques, restaurants and salons stay open late, showcasing art exhibition openings and browse-worthy wares free of charge.

Lively dance parties at Damn Girl!, O-Gee and The Clamp Down, just to

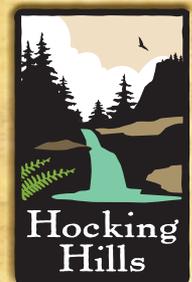


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name a few, are held monthly and draw a vibrant crowd of revelers who rave that the parties offer the most entertaining nightlife in the city.

Completely unique to Columbus, Kingmakers board game parlor offers more than 500 titles of games and game events in a convivial atmosphere that's a total departure from the typical bar scene. Kingmakers' board game sommeliers offer guidance on picking games and rules, as well as lessons for first timers.

Launched just last September as an upscale underground music events venue, Notes is fast making a name for itself with serious music lovers. Tucked below restaurant Copious, Notes' grotto setting draws live jazz, bluegrass, blues, opera and cabaret performers from the incredible depth of Columbus' local music scene. Unmatched acoustics and a comfortable ambiance rank this as one of the Midwest's best spots to hear a big band or a solo performer.

Live music fans will also want to plan a pilgrimage to Worthington's intimate Natalie's Coal Fired Pizza, for nightly music events where every table offers a front-row view and crusty, hand-crafted pies are served up with white-hot jazz,

blues and acoustic greats.

Throughout the summer, Shadowbox Live will offer two unforgettable events: Best of Shadowbox and Front Street Funk. Unlike anything on the planet, Shadowbox blends pounding, live funk and rock 'n' roll with hilarious original sketch comedy and great writing for a night out that's pure Columbus. www.ExperienceColumbus.com.

Hocking Hills

In 1816 Governor Thomas Worthington plotted out an 1,860 acre village at the gateway to southeast Ohio's Hocking Hills which would become the City of Logan. He commissioned a grist mill and saw mill to meet the needs of residents and enterprise. Both were completed in 1818. Logan's population was only 100 and to meet the needs of these few brave pioneers there was a church, post office, one or two general stores and a tavern.

On March 1, 1839 the City of Logan was incorporated through state legislation. The city's population had ballooned to 500 and now boasted two lawyers, seven physicians, three general stores, three dry goods stores, two hotels, two churches and three saloons.

By the turn of the last century Logan

had grown to the robust population of 3,480 and served as a busy business center for the coal, iron ore and clay mining interests. By the beginning of the 21st century the population of Logan had nearly doubled and was estimated to be 7,154 in 2014.

Now it's 2016 and Logan is having a Birthday Party 200 years in the making, and everyone is invited. The year-long celebration kicked-off with an Ice Extravaganza in January and will culminate with a Bicentennial Ball on December 30. Every month there are events to highlight and celebrate the rich history of Logan.

July will feature Fantastic 4th of July Fireworks from the Fairgrounds. July 29 - 31 the trial of the century (the 19th century that is) will be reenacted in the historic Common Pleas courtroom in the Hocking County Courthouse. The intriguing 1898 murder case exposed a feuding family, a dead husband of questionable character and his wife accused of murder. Each performance will feature a jury selected from the audience as well as some of the witnesses. The verdict may be different at each performance.

Details on all upcoming Bicentennial events are available at Logan200.com.



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Ohio Summer

Hocking Hills State Park consists of 2,348-forested acres lying just south of Logan. *Old Man's Cave* is considered the "heart" of the park and a series of rock-hewn steps, man-made tunnels, arched stone bridges and hiking trails lead visitors through this rocky gorge. Most hikers begin at Upper Falls — one of the most photographed spots in the State of Ohio — and then follow along the creek to Old Man's Cave.

Visit ExploreHockingHills.com, the

Official Travel Site for the Hocking Hills.

Carroll County

Who doesn't love a good treasure hunt?! Following a map, searching for clues and discovering "treasure" is exciting stuff, no matter your age.

A modern-day version, otherwise known as geocaching, has grown in popularity over the years. The new Explore the Shores Geotrail gives geocachers and newbies a chance to discover the beauty of the Atwood Lake Region.

Geocaching is a fun, unique way to get people outside. It is basically treasure hunting with global positioning systems

(GPS). GPS units can range from your smartphone, to a hand-held unit. A geocache (commonly a small box) is placed in a specific location and the coordinates are listed on geocache.com. GPS users then use a cache's coordinates to help locate the actual cache. The caches typically contain a small variety of trinkets. Users are expected to take one item, leave one item for a future user, sign the logbook, and then return the cache to its original location.

A geotrail is a series of geocaches tied together by a common theme. The Atwood Lake Explore the Shores Geotrail, located in the Atwood Lake Region of Carroll and Tuscarawas counties in Ohio will take geocachers to the area's businesses, hiking trails and more. More information about this trail may be found at bit.ly/AtwoodGeocaching.

Take a break from geocaching by traveling 20 minutes to the north on state Route 39 and discover the small-town charm of Carrollton. Ashton's 5- & 10-cent Store has those hard-to-find items, novelty candy and creaky floors that recall the past. The history of Ashton's can be found at Ashton House Museum, where you can see the many collections of John and Eileen Ashton.

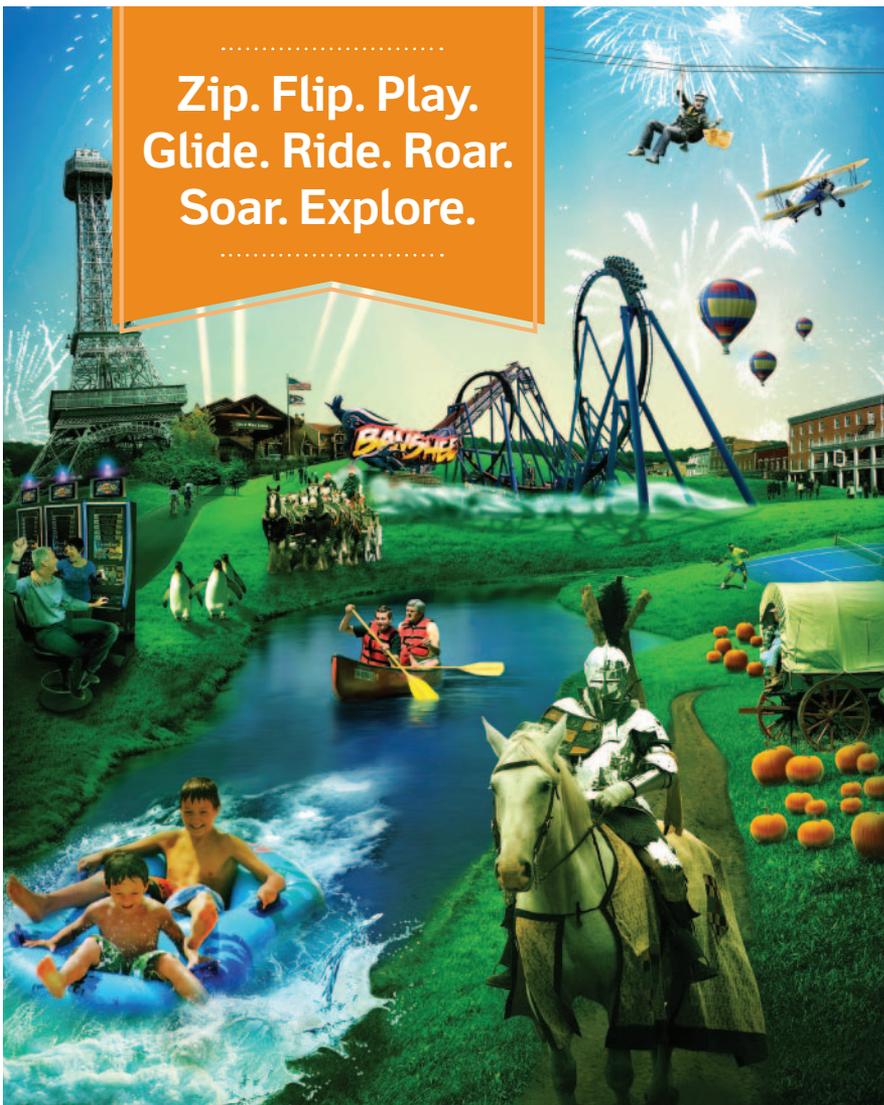
If you love history, then check out the McCook House Civil War Museum. The home of the "Fighting McCooks," a family of 17 who fought in the Civil War, is filled with local and military artifacts that are both interesting and unexpected.

Visit Carroll County at www.carroll-countyohio.com and see where natural beauty combines with a rich history.

Warren County

Record-breaking roller coasters, wild and winding water slides, and a prestigious professional sporting event are just the start of the summertime fun travelers will find this year in Ohio's Largest Playground—Warren County! There's more to do here within a 30-mile radius than anywhere else in Ohio! Conveniently located off Interstates 71 and 75, and just a short drive north of Cincinnati, this Southwest Ohio hideaway has all of the makings of a summer escape that's easy to get to, but hard to forget!

Looking for adventure? *Kings Island* is one of the largest amusement and waterparks in the United States! Home to a bevy of record-breaking rides, including the Beast, the world's longest wooden coaster and Banshee, the longest inverted roller coaster, this Warren County wonder



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Ohio Summer

is also the site of a kids' area named 'Best in the World' 15 years and running. Included in the price of admission, is Kings Island's accompanying waterpark, Soak City, with more than 50 water rides and attractions, including Tropical Plunge, a newly constructed complex of six different water slide experiences towering nearly seven stories high!

Just down the road, the waterpark fun continues both indoors and out. Thrill seekers can conquer The Cliff, an iconic 5-story slide at The Beach Waterpark, while families can lead their packs to Great Wolf Lodge to swim, splash, and slide their way through an incredible, wildness-themed indoor waterpark.

Traveling with a sports or nature lover? Tennis fans get up close and personal with the sport's biggest stars each August at the storied Western & Southern Open, while outdoorsy adventurers are invited to explore the beautiful Little Miami Scenic River by canoe or kayak, or from 200 feet above at Ozone Zipline Adventures!

Time for a grown-up getaway? Valley Vineyards, Warren County's award-win-

ning winery and micro-brewery, and the Golden Lamb, originally opened in 1803 and recently named 'Ohio's Most Iconic Restaurant', are just two of the county's romantic and relaxing dining gems.

For travelers of every type, summer fun awaits in Warren County! Order a free 2016 Ohio's Largest Playground Visitors Guide, or view a digital version and book your stay today at [OhiosLargestPlayground.com!](http://OhiosLargestPlayground.com)

The Armstrong Air & Space Museum

On July 20, 1969 the Apollo 11 crew completed the greatest journey in human history, putting men on the moon for the first time. Explore the museum that chronicles Wapakoneta, Ohio, native Neil Armstrong's life and achievements. Located in Wapakoneta, about 90 miles south of Toledo, the Armstrong Air & Space Museum stands as a repository of Ohio's aeronautical history and a monument to Ohio's contribution to aviation and space exploration, from the early pioneer days, through the space shuttle era. The museum itself is designed to resemble a futuristic moon base. It is most beautiful when viewed at dusk.

There are numerous interactive exhibits

and simulators that make the museum a fun and enlightening stop for the entire family.

Exhibits include many one-of-a-kind artifacts including the Gemini VIII space capsule, Neil Armstrong's Gemini and Apollo spacesuits, and an Apollo 11 moon rock. The museum is also home to two full-size aircraft, both of which were flown by Mr. Armstrong, including a yellow Aeronca Champion.

The museum has just opened a new exhibit featuring the Mars rover Curiosity. The radio-controlled rover can be operated by museum visitors in a small Martian enclosure. They also premiered a new 25 minute film, "Apollo 11: The First Lunar Landing" that was created specifically for the museum, playing in the Astro Theater.

In April, a new working replica of the lunar rover has made its debut. The drivable, working replica was constructed over the past three years by students at Ohio Northern University's Smull College of Engineering. The rover seats two, can travel at 10 miles per hour, and includes authentic accessories like an antenna and tool storage. Beginning this summer, the museum will use the vehicle for outreach at schools, fairs, special events, parades,



The Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad travels through Ohio's only National Park.

and car shows. The July 16-17 Summer Moon Festival, celebrates the anniversary of the first lunar landing. For more information, please visit them at www.armstrongmuseum.org.

Greater Grand Lake Region

Summer is a great time to check out west central Ohio's Auglaize and Mercer Counties. It is the perfect time to enjoy all the outdoor activities that abound at Ohio's largest inland lake, Grand Lake St. Marys. Constructed as a feeder lake for the Miami-Erie Canal 1845, it was the largest man made lake in the world.

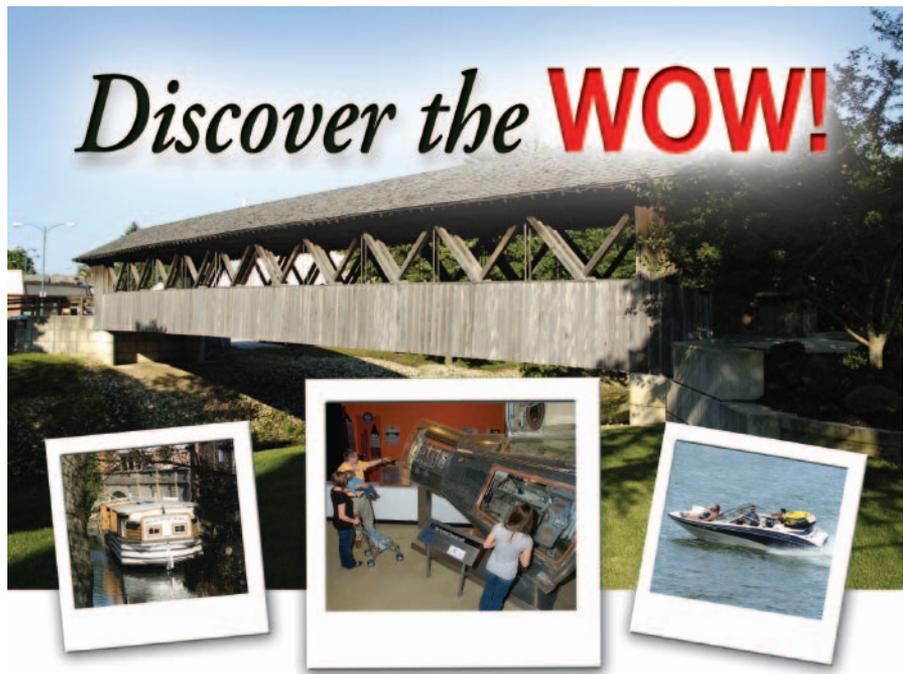
Today, Grand Lake St. Marys State Park consists of nearly 600 acres of prime lakeside parkland. Fishing, boating, birdwatching, hiking, biking, kayaking, camping, tubing and picnicking are just some of the summer fun to be had at the lake. Grand Lake St. Marys is also surrounded by more than a dozen restaurants, clubs and bars, many featuring live music and great water views that add to your summer fun.

Summer also means festival time in the area. You really need to check out the amphi-cars and fabulous fireworks over the lake at the Celina Lake Festival (July 22-24), the tractor square dancing at the Maria Stein Countyfest (June 24-26) and be sure to meet Space Shuttle Astronaut Don Thomas at the Wapakoneta Summer Moon Festival (July 14-17). Those free events are just a few of the many special activities and celebrations that happen in the area all summer long.

While visiting don't miss the many interesting year round attractions including the Armstrong Air & Space Museum in Wapakoneta, the Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics, historic Fort Recovery and the Bicycle Museum of America. Located in New Bremen, the museum displays over 300 bicycles, the core of which were the Schwinn family collection formerly housed at the Navy Pier in Chicago.

Fort Recovery is the site of two of the most dramatic Indian battles in American history. The museum features one of the largest Indian artifact collections in Ohio. A 103 foot tall monument remembers the over 900 soldiers that died here.

Mix that with interesting boutiques and unique shopping, great local dining experiences, new local craft breweries and indulgent ice creams and you have all the makings for a wonderful summer break. For more information check out www.GreaterGrandLakeRegion.com. 📍



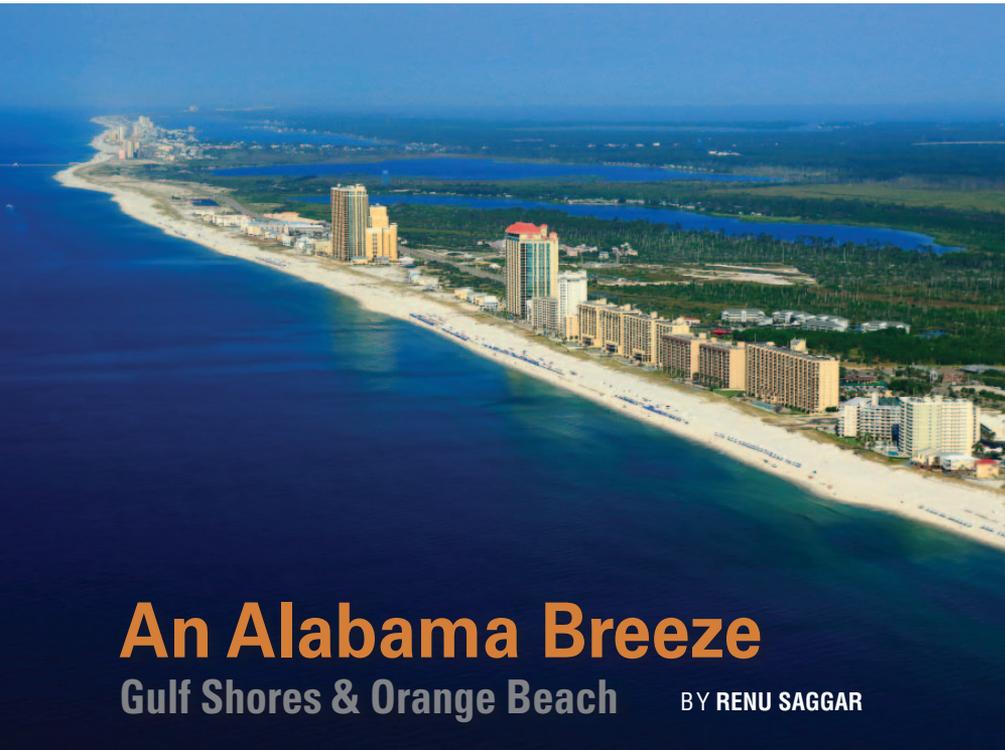
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The Hocking Hills.



An Alabama Breeze

Gulf Shores & Orange Beach

BY RENU SAGGAR

The Alabama Gulf Coast offers 32 miles of beach.

Warm weather, beautiful beaches and pristine turquoise waters set the stage for summer on the Alabama Gulf Coast. Alabama's 32 miles of sugar-white sand beaches have seen generations of families return year after year to enjoy their summer vacations. And, with so much to see and do, it's no wonder. From fishing excursions and nature-based adventures to nationally-acclaimed music festivals and art and culinary events, there is something for visitors of all ages.

Beyond the beaches, there are a large number of other attractions left to be explored. For nature enthusiasts, Gulf Shores and Orange Beach are home to some of the most breathtaking nature trails along the Alabama Gulf Coast. The *Hugh S. Branyon Backcountry Trail* is a favorite of both visitors and locals. The trail's 15 miles span six unique ecosystems found on the Gulf Coast: coastal dune and swales, longleaf sand ridges, coastal hardwood swamps, freshwater marshes, live oak maritime forests and wet pine flatwoods. The trail is the perfect place to enjoy a leisurely hike or bike ride. It is also a popular spot for bird watchers to experience the variety of species that migrate to the area throughout the year.

Alabama's beaches also have a lot of opportunities for visitors who seek a thrill.

Flyboarding is an exciting attraction that has recently made its way to the Alabama Gulf Coast. At *Flyboard Bama*, guests can "fly" up to 40 feet above the water. For another type of thrilling flight, *Hummingbird Ziplines* at the Gulf Adventure Center is the place to go. Located at Gulf State Park, this seven-tower zipline course takes adventure seekers 90 feet off of the ground. One line travels directly over Lake Shelby, allowing for a spectacular view of one of the area's many beautiful bodies of water.

Wild Hearts is a 53-foot-long catamaran designed for open ocean sailing. She sails a variety of Orange Beach, Perdido Key and Gulf Shores cruises along the inshore waters and on the spectacular Gulf of Mexico. With a mast that rises 72 feet in the air and a sail area of over 1000 square feet, she will easily whisk you away at double digit speeds. Take a sunset cruise, or set sail to Perdido Key for a guided snorkel tour of an amazing artificial reef just feet below the waves.

Fishing is another popular activity for both locals and visitors. Orange Beach boasts one of the largest charter fishing fleet in the Gulf of Mexico. The area has several businesses that offer deep sea and charter trips as well as back bay fishing excursions. And the *Gulf State Park Pier* is a great place for those wanting to experience pier fishing. Throughout the summer, Gulf Shores and Orange Beach are home to several renowned fishing tournaments.

The *2016 Blue Marlin Grand Championship* (July 12-17), located at The Wharf in Orange Beach, is the big finale for the deep sea tournament season. Dubbed the "Greatest Show in Sportsfishing," this event attracts nearly 15,000 spectators to the weigh-in and awards ceremony. And, this year, the event concludes with a concert by country music star Dierks Bentley at the Wharf Amphitheatre.

The *Hangout Music Fest*, which takes place earlier in May is famous for beach hammocks, craft beer and three days of non stop music with a roster of big names like Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers, Stevie Wonder, Zac Brown Band, Red Hot Chili



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Gulf Shores

Peppers and Dave Matthews Band! Try a “Hang 10 Burger” and one of their famous seafood towers, featuring local favorites like steamed shrimp, Gulf oysters and even lobster corn dogs!

From beachfront condos and colorful beach houses to hotel chains and full-service resorts, Gulf Shores and Orange Beach offer accommodations for every occasion. Many of these accommodations include amenities such as indoor and outdoor pools, fitness centers, spas, restaurants and bars, and much more. And, especially during the summer, several locations provide family-friendly events and activities.

Phoenix VII condo/villas will wow you with the gorgeous Gulf of Mexico as a backdrop, gentle gulf breezes blowing across beautiful beaches and ample amenities to keep you comfortable and active. Onsite features such as indoor and outdoor pools, hot tubs and saunas provide soothing alternatives to swimming in the Gulf. However, it’s the pristine beaches boasting sugar-white sand greeting the aqua water that is the

main attraction, whether you are here for relaxation or the picturesque setting for a beach destination wedding—complete with tropical landscaping and gazebos. A fitness center and grilling areas assure that there will never be a dull moment unless you want one. The one to three bedroom units feature sliding glass doors lead to balconies overlooking the beach.

No trip to the Gulf Shores would be complete without sampling local seafood, fresh from the Gulf. Restaurant choices range from casual to upscale and area chefs have garnered national attention for their inventive use of local ingredients. Beach views and fine dining combine for a spectacular evening at *Voyagers* at Perdido Beach Resort. Discover the exciting twist Chef Brody Oliver has created with fresh Gulf seafood accented with citrus and spice and hand-cut aged steaks complimented by local farm fresh produce. There’s also an extensive wine list.

Ambience abounds at *Cobalt*, one of Orange Beach’s most exciting restaurants. Picture windows give way to breathtaking views of Perdido Pass and with numerous boat slips, *Cobalt* is the perfect place to end a sunset trip on the water. Local favorites include pistachio-wasabi

encrusted tuna, Spanish paella, lobster rigatoni and stone hearth pizzas.

Take a walk on the wild side at the Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo with more than 500 exotic animals, daily keeper talks & shows, animal encounters, a petting zoo, aviary and picnic area.

In 2004 the zoo was inundated by storm surges and floodwaters from Hurricane Ivan and again by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. All of its nearly 300 animals had to be evacuated to zoo director Patti Hall’s home before both storms.

The evacuation and recovery efforts were documented on the Animal Planet series “The Little Zoo That Could” in 2006, which became a huge hit. Now plans are in the works to move the zoo to new higher location farther inland on 25 acre tract of land donated by local businessman Clyde Weir. 

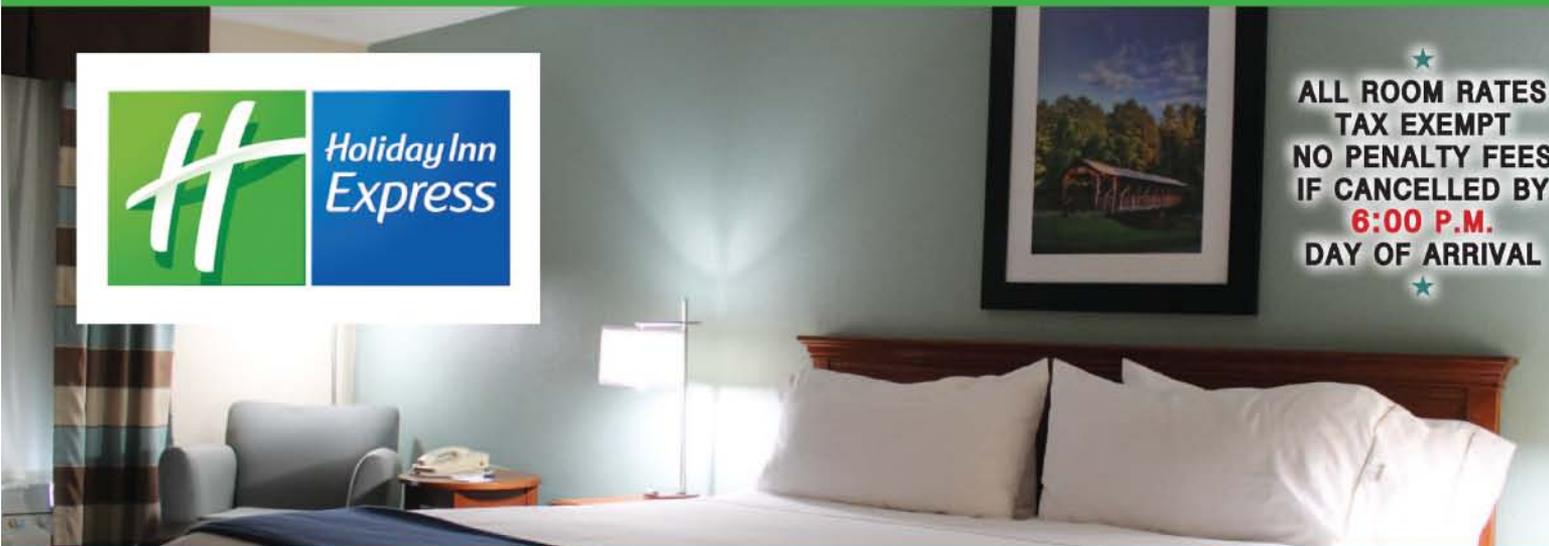
PLAN YOUR NEXT GETAWAY

To learn more about Alabama’s beaches visit GulfShores.com or OrangeBeach.com. And, be sure to request a copy of the 2016 vacation guide, where you’ll find information about area accommodations, things to see and do, and the best places to eat.





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BY ADELINA IRVINE

The endless views of Cattaraugus County.

An Enchanted Mountain Summer

Feel the heat in Cattaraugus County New York

The heat is on this summer in New York State's Enchanted Mountains! A full slate of events bring you excitement and fun all season long. There's always something to do in the Enchanted Mountains of Cattaraugus County to fill those hot sunny days, so *Where Do You Want To Play Today?*

Get off to a galloping start at the *Ellicottville Championship Rodeo*, June 30th to July 3rd. It's an honest-to-goodness rodeo with bronco bustin', bull riding, calf roping, barrel racing and stick horse racing for the kids.

Ellicottville's Summer Music Festival July 1-3, is one of the few outdoor music scenes that not only allows, but encourages, guests to bring a picnic basket with them. There's something for every musical taste with artists like Rusted Root, the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and Southern Rock legends 38 Special.

See hundreds of radio controlled aircraft take to the skies at the *S.T.A.R.S. 39th Annual Rally and Airshow* at the Olean Airport on July 9-10.

On July 16th, a pair of rock legends team up for an amazing night of music

when Michael McDonald and America perform at Seneca Allegany Resort & Casino. Between them, these superstars have won six Grammy Awards with hit songs. Some of their best known hits include "A Horse With No Name," "Ventura Highway," "Tin Man," "What A Fool Believes," "Minute By Minute," "I Keep Forgettin'," and many more. The Casino also helps support the *Marvin "Joe" Curry Veterans Pow Wow*, July 15-17. This alcohol free, family event celebrate the culture and heritage of the Seneca Nation featuring authentic Native American arts and crafts, foods, such as shortcakes, corn soup and fried breads.

Allegany State Park offers one of summer's greatest activities, camping! Book your cabin or plan your trip today around one of the events there to keep the summer sizzling. Psych yourself up for the *Annual Raccoon Rally Cycling Festival Weekend* which rolls through Allegany State Park on Saturday and Sunday, June 18th & 19th 2016. Two days of cycling action through the picturesque rolling hills deep of the Allegany National Forest. There's a class for every level of cyclist — first timer or sponsored elite riders.

On July 22nd it's "Rock the Park" a full day of music and fun. On August 19th grab the craziest Hawaiian shirt you can find and hula your way to Red House Beach for their *Annual Family Beach Party!*

If the way to a person's heart is through the stomach, then Olean is a destination you're sure to love on July 24th. Head down to the 26th annual *Taste of Olean* and 67th annual *Art in the Park*. This juried fine arts show showcases some of the finest art in southwestern New York and northwestern Pennsylvania.

The biggest event of the summer in the Enchanted Mountains is the *Cattaraugus County Fair*. Held in Little Valley, this week long event runs August 1-7 and features nightly entertainment ranging from musical talent like Dustin Lynch, to Demolition Derbies! Another not to be missed event for the year is *Onofest*, held at the beautifully pristine Onoville Marina. Enjoy games by the water, bands and great food on July 23rd.

Start your engines at the 25th annual *Street Classics Car and Motorcycle Show* August 7th. Check out the antiques and classics at Allegany Firemen's Park.

The bikes are back in town for Olean's 14th annual *Rally in the Valley*, August 17-21 motorcycle rally.

For more information on any of these events, or to see the many more ways you could have the best summer ever, visit www.EnchantedMountains.com.

The Holiday Inn Express® Hotel & Suites Salamanca embraces the spirit and natural splendor of the Enchanted Mountain Region. Hotel guests can enjoy the scenery along the *Amish Trail* and in *Allegany State Park*, which is practically in their backyard. Golf, ZipLining, and the Mountain Coaster are all within a 10 minute drive away. The hotel is also just down the street from Seneca Allegany Casino and Seneca Gaming and Entertainment, both of which provide free, 24-hour shuttles to hotel guests.

A complimentary Deluxe Continental Breakfast is included with your room and features homemade pancakes and there is a free laundry facility. A recent multi-million dollar renovation includes amenities, like free high-speed, wireless internet, a heated indoor pool, a whirlpool and fitness center.

On June 22nd, Ruth Ann Zink the General Manager of the Holiday Inn Express Salamanca received the Handshake Award for demonstrating leadership and all-around excellence in business. This award was presented by Salamanca Applauds. 

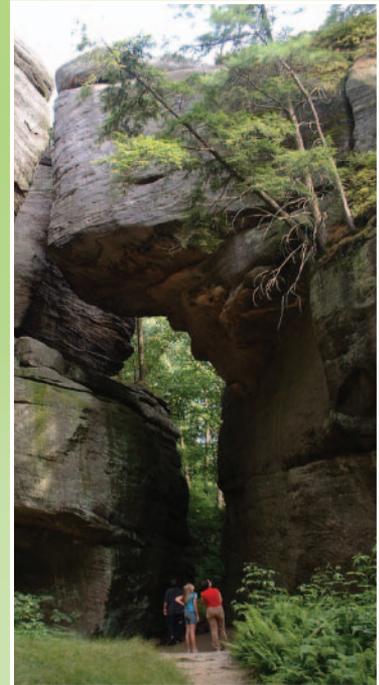


The Enchanted Mountains of Western NY

Get your kids off the couch this summer and exploring the great world around them in one of our fantastic parks that are now open for the season!

See Art in Nature at Griffis Sculpture Park, as you walk amongst giant sculptures warmed from the sun. Walk under the two story tall, "Three Sisters" rocks at Rock City Park, gazing upwards to marvel at Nature's magnificence. Climb through the leaf-filled trees, challenging your body and brain at Sky High Adventure Park in Holiday Valley.

Plan your summer vacation to the Enchanted Mountains and see how we live the #EnchantedLife!



Cattaraugus County Tourism
303 Court St. Little Valley, NY 14755
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EnchantedMountains.com



BY ANOOP SAGGAR



The Blue Lagoon geothermal spa.

Glaciers, Geysers & Waterfalls

Iceland is closer than you think. In fact, this mid-Atlantic island is America's closest European neighbor. With a flight time from New York only a jet lag free 4.5-hours, you're ready to rock as soon as you arrive.

The chilliest thing about Iceland is its name! In January, the average temperature in Reykjavik, Iceland's capital is higher than in New York. And Iceland's welcome is always warm. Almost everyone speaks fluent English and Icelanders aren't really given to formalities. Using titles such as Mr., Mrs., Ms. is uncommon and even the telephone directory lists people by their first name. It's also because most Icelanders don't actually have a formal surname. They normally take their father's first name and add daughter or son to the end of it.

Visitors to Iceland can expect direct contact with a side of nature that has all but vanished from most other countries. Against a stunning backdrop of incredible scenery, you can "go back" to the places that most other countries have

paved over. Visitors experience virtually the same world that greeted the Vikings when they arrived more than 1,100 years ago. The coastal waters are prime

whale habitat and teeming colonies of seabirds roost in the rocky cliffs around the fjords. In Thingvellir, you can stand on a bluff and see the Mid-Atlantic ridge as it carves its way north and east into the island's interior.

The vast interior region is a place where man has never made his home. This is nature at its most primordial, with glaciers, deserts of black sand, barren glacial moraine, bubbling hot springs and thermal pools, active volcanoes and strange oases of vegetation thriving against all the sub-Arctic odds.

The Lake Myvatn region is one of the most geologically active and stunningly beautiful areas in the world. Dimmuborgir, on the east side of the lake, is a forest of lava pillars, some of which tower 65-feet-high. Eldhraun or "fire lava" is a barren lava field where the Apollo 11 crew trained for their moon landing.

Iceland's beloved Gullfoss, or "Golden Falls" is a spectacular, 105-foot double-cascade. On a sunlit day, the clouds of mist surrounding the hammering falls are filled with dozens of rainbows, providing an amazing spectacle of color and motion.

Icelanders still speak the language of the Vikings (Old Norse). When new words are needed, they simply coin words that are combinations or modifications of old words.

Geysir is the only Icelandic word to make it into the English language. Though the word refers to all geysers in general,



Icelandic horses.

Iceland

it comes from a single geyser (in fact, the geyser) located in the South West of Iceland. Unfortunately, the Great Geysir has been somewhat shy in recent decades but when it does perform, it lives up to its name, spewing a jet of steaming water 200 feet skyward. Far more reliable, though less spectacular, is nearby Strokkur “the churn”, which spouts a 60-100 foot jet about once every five minutes.

Iceland is hotbed of geothermal activity, famed for hot springs like the Blue Lagoon or Landmannlaugar. Weary travelers can soak among the riotous colors of its volcanic landscape, including the shocking pink rhyolite. Bathers must get completely naked and then shower before they put on their swimsuits and enter the pools.

The small but sure-footed Icelandic horse was once the country’s primary form of transportation. The breed dates back to the ninth century when Iceland was settled by the Vikings. Bred to cross glaciers and volcanic lava deserts, their hardy descendants have become one of

Iceland’s most popular tourist attractions.

Icelandic horses are fabled for their endurance and their unique gait known as the “tolt”, enabling them to travel over rough ground at speeds up to 20 mph. They can also carry a 250 lb. ride up a sixty degree slope with the agility of a mountain goat. Treks can be arranged on the outskirts of most towns including Reykjavik.

Reykjavik is just as much a part of the Icelandic experience as the midnight sun. The name Reykjavik means “Steamy Bay” after the geothermal steam which today heats homes and outdoor swimming pools throughout the city. Colorful painted houses are in stark contrast to the imposing grey Hallgrimskirkja church, which spouts like a geyser from the center of town.

Traditional Icelandic cuisine evolved from the country’s seafaring traditions. Hákarl (carefully putrefied shark) is a pungent local delicacy, and other traditional dishes include gravlax (salmon marinated in salt and dill), hangikjöt (smoked lamb) and singed sheep-heads

If there’s one Icelandic phrase every visitor should learn it’s, “Eina med ollu”

which literally mean, “Give me one with the works.” The works consists of a delicious Icelandic hotdog (pylsa) served in a steamed bun topped with ketchup, mustard, crunchy fried onions, raw onions and a remoulade sauce. Pylsa stands are sprinkled throughout the city but the most popular is Baejarins Bestu located directly across from Reykjavik harbor. Wash it all down with a Viking beer or a glass of “Black Death” a potent local liquor made from potatoes and seasoned with Caraway seeds.

Iceland has over 50 golf courses, most with outstanding views and always close to nature. Golf is played from May through September and during the summer can be played around-the-clock thanks to the midnight sun.

On a clear day in Reykjavik you can gaze northwest and see the shining Snaefellsjokull Glacier, 60 miles away. Though nowhere near the size of some of Iceland’s other glaciers, it is by far the most mysterious and most popular. It was this glacier that author Jules Verne chose as his doorway into inner space in his fantastical book, Journey to the Center of the Earth. 📖



Kirkjufellatan is the most photographed mountain in Iceland.



BY RENU SAGGAR

decked out in colourful racing gear. Tour de France riders like Canada's Steve Bauer, and Jocelyn Lovell, and Windsor's own Kelly-Ann Way, as well as American stars like Robbie Ventura and Eric Heiden have all raced on Erie Street.

The Tour di Via Italia bicycle races traditionally take place during the Labour Day weekend, this year on September 2-4. Friday features street vendors, live entertainment, evening patio city, great food and good times! It all happens again on Saturday with the addition of a vintage car show, from 4 to 9 p.m. On Sunday, get ready to crank it up with the bicycle races and the Running Factory foot race. The late afternoon Pro Race is always the highlight of the day. Visit www.viaitalia.com for more information.

Brigantino's Trattoria

One of the very first restaurants to open on Erie Street, Brigantino's Trattoria is back with a new location at 501 Erie Street at the corner of Howard and Erie. It's famous for authentic Italian cuisine like gnocchi, baked branzino, and wood fired pizzas topped with fresh cheeses. Signature dishes include Girellini di Ricotta Fresca — silky sheets of homemade pasta, rolled with fresh ricotta and spinach, served with fresh marinara sauce, which owner Sam Ambrosio prepares every day. Brigantino's can accommodate up to 140 guests, and is suitable for small weddings, baptism, anniversaries and more. They can also cater your special occasions. From time to time, Sam will emerge from the kitchen with his guitar to serenade customers with classic Italian songs. Brigantino's is also planning a second location in Toronto's Danforth Ave. area. Visit Brigantino-Trattoria.com.

Erie Street is Windsor's Little Italy

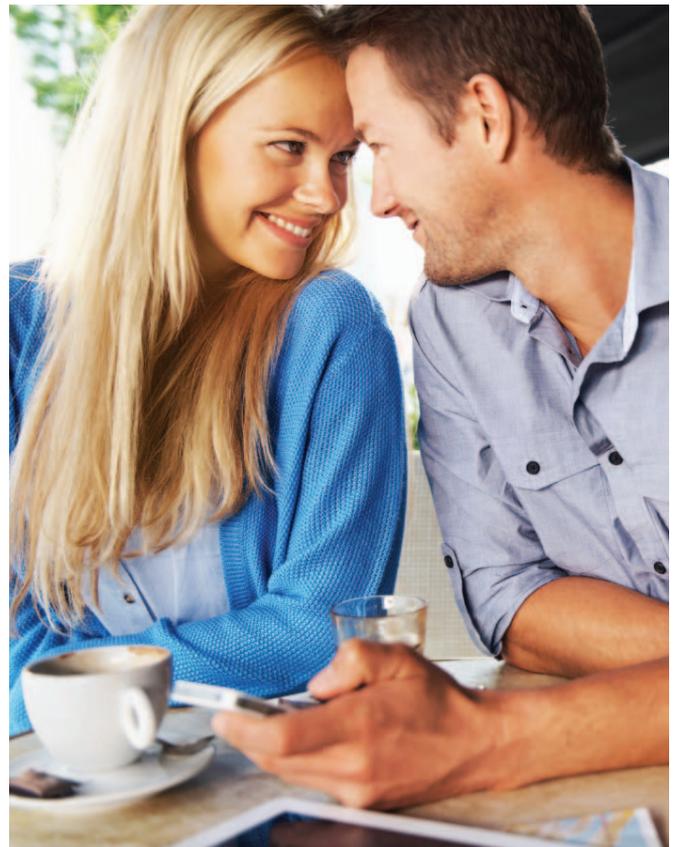
Italy is a feast for the senses and no one is immune to its charms. Where the elemental pleasures of enjoying good food and wine acquire the unmistakable cachet of *la dolce vita*. That's why we should all be grateful for places like Erie Street, Windsor's Little Italy. It has all the ambience and abundance of the *Bel Paese* (beautiful country), without having to cross an ocean or set foot on a plane.

Erie Street or Via Italia is a fascinating fusion of Old Country brio and culture. Quiet and relaxed during the day, it resonates with melodious cadences of Italian.

At night it comes alive with bright lights, music and laughter. Linger over a cappuccino in one of the outdoor cafés, or try on a pair of sleek Italian designer shoes. Satisfy your appetite in one of the casual or fine dining restaurants, cafés, gelaterie and bake shops. Enjoy exciting Italian festivals, music and dancing. Browse and shop 'til you drop in style-savvy shops and boutiques. Revel in an enclave that fully embraces the enjoyment of good company.

St. Angela Merici church at the corner of Louis and Erie, is the cornerstone of Windsor's Italian Canadian community. Their annual parish festival will take place on July 7, 8, & 9th. Outdoor activities include live music, dancing, children's games, folk dancing and a food tent.

Erie Street activities usually involve nothing more strenuous than eating, drinking and listening to good music, but every year thousands of cycling fans flock to Erie Street for Tour di Via Italia bicycle races. Competitors of all ages and experience levels race around a 1.7km circuit riding exotic, high tech bicycles and





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Erie Street

Angileri Designer Fashions

One of the jewels of Erie Street's retail district is Angileri Designer Fashions, an exclusive designer boutique. Here they house the hottest new designers from Europe, Toronto, and New York for both men and women.

Angileri specializes in exceptional personal service to fit your individual style, your body type, and your professional needs. In addition to the unique pieces you will find here, their services also include custom clothing designs and alterations performed on the premises. They also carry exclusive handbags, accessories and scarves. Do you want to custom design your outfit? Franco does not just sell you the clothes, he fits you!

Visit Angileri Designer Fashions for a unique and exciting fashion experience or check them out online at angileridesigns.com.

Take Five Bistro

Located at 1068 Erie Street. Take Five Bistro is the home of Windsor's finest steaks, chops and seafood. Co-owners and

Chefs, Paul Sauve and Cody Northgrave, are committed to great food, quality service, friendly staff and a fully licensed bar compliments the cozy ambiance. All of their meat and produce is grown and raised in Ontario to ensure customers are getting the finest and freshest ingredients possible.

Their popular Prix Fixe Menu — \$25 gets you a three-course meal — starters like P.E.I. Mussels, main course, and delectable desserts like Tiramisu! Come check it out on Sundays, and Tuesdays through Thursdays, starting at 5:00 p.m. In addition to favourites like Rainbow Trout Meunière, and 7 oz. New York Steak, there are plenty of new entrees to choose from, including Fresh Catch of the Day, Pork Schnitzel, Shrimp Tortellini, Fettuccine Carbonara, Beef Tips and Mediterranean Chicken. All entrees, with the exception of pasta dishes are served with market fresh vegetables and your choice of starch.

Browse their menus online at www.takefivebistro.com. Then go make a night of it at Take Five Bistro.

Mezzo

Mezzo is Italian for "middle" and the restaurant is located right in the heart of Erie Street. The not-to-be-missed dining

experience at *Mezzo Ristorante & Lounge* goes far beyond innovative, award-winning cuisine. A cool blend of an eclectic contemporary atmosphere, extensive wine list, specialty cocktails and live entertainment are the ingredients for one of Windsor's most appealing destinations.

Overlooking Via Italia, Mezzo offers both indoor and patio dining — perfect for corporate functions, date night, girls night out, weddings, private parties and fashion shows.

Mezzo is also popular with the business community for lunch meetings, cocktails or quiet dinners.

Tantalizing menu selections often begin with delectable spring rolls filled with goat cheese, artichokes and red peppers. Customers rave about the home-made ravioli stuffed with roasted butternut squash and mutzu apple in a ginger, bacon, sun dried tomato cream sauce.

Other delicious fare includes sesame encrusted sushi grade yellow fin tuna, succulent AAA beef tenderloin and sweet finishing touches like their famous crême brulee. It's no wonder that Mezzo's awards include Best Entrée in the City, Outstanding New Business and Healthier Choice Entrée. Visit mezzo.ca. 🍴

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Summer in Southwestern Ontario

BY RENU SAGGAR

Summer is the season in Southwestern Ontario. The days are longer, the breezes warmer and outside is definitely the place to be. There are many great places to visit and things you can do. Take in big city lights, timeless towns and waterfront views. Celebrate at the many music, agricultural and ethnic festivals or enjoy world-class shopping, dining, entertainment and out-of-the-way spots for kicking back and getting in touch with nature.

Windsor Crossing

Imagine finding the best deals and latest trends in an open-air outlet shopping centre with tree-lined streets and pedestrian walkways. Windsor Crossing Premium Outlets offers you just that and MORE! Come and experience the fun of an open-air premium outlet which boasts clean, architecturally designed buildings with a modern European flare.

The first of its kind in South-western Ontario, Windsor Crossing Premium Outlets is the only premium outlet in the Windsor area. Conveniently located along Highway 401 it's only 15 minutes



Maneli Jamal performs at 2016 Kingsville Folk Festival.

from the Ambassador Bridge providing easy access to both Michigan and Ohio.

Outlet shopping that is always worth the trip, guests can stroll leisurely along the broad sidewalks as they discover deep discounts on unique items or enjoy a drink and a bite to eat by the fountains. Unlike enclosed shopping malls the open-air outlet atmosphere is more relaxing giving shoppers a very unique and personal experience. Simple, elegant design and the promise of outlet savings is what Windsor Crossing Premium Outlets is all about.

Housing a collection of premium brand names tailored to designer fashion, athletic apparel, shoes and home accessories, among others. Windsor Crossing Premium Outlets offers some of the most elite brands at savings of up to 60%.

With over 30 stores to choose from and more to open, Windsor Crossing Premium Outlets delivers what any great shopping experience should — a great selection of fantastic prices with plenty of “I saw it first” moments. Home to more than 30 stores including brand name outlet concepts like Tommy Hilfiger Outlets, Guess Factory Outlets, Coach, Adidas, Puma, Bench, Banana Republic Factory Store gives shoppers exactly that.

Join the exciting eNewsletter and be the first to hear about special savings coupons, fashion trends and the latest events at Windsor Crossing Premium Outlets. As a member you'll also get access to further discounts, new products and special promotions and contests.

The Outlet is open 7 days a week, 363 days a year, closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Open every other day

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Windsor Crossing Premium Outlets is worth the visit for exceptional service and savings. It is a true shopping destination with a distinctive mix of outlets stores and unique retail shops.

Windsor Airport

Windsor International Airport is known as "Your Quick Gateway" because of its airport code letters 'YQG'. Why endure long wait times at the border,

congested airline ticket counters and long TSA wait times, when YQG can get you through the parking/check-in and security clearance process in about 30 minutes. It can also connect you to the world. It's actually cheaper to fly from YQG to Pearson to overseas destinations like Ireland, Paris and Peru, than it is to fly from Detroit Metro, and without all the hassles of crossing the border. It's just one reason why it's one of Canada's fastest growing airports.

Air Canada offers frequent daily service to Toronto's Pearson Airport, Canada's global hub with direct passenger service to more than 190 destinations on five

continents.

Porter Airlines offers direct flights from YQG to downtown Toronto's Billy Bishop Airport, with connecting flights to popular destinations like Montreal, New York, and Myrtle Beach to name a few.

WestJet offers non-stop seasonal service to Calgary, through October 25th, with more convenience and connectivity and no layover in Toronto.

When booking your next trip, research your options and choose YQG, your gateway to the world. Visit www.yqg.ca.

Authentic Amherstburg

One of the prettiest and oldest communities in Southwest Ontario, Amherstburg is nestled on the shores of Lake Erie and the Detroit River, just a short 25-minute drive from the Windsor/Detroit border. Steeped in the rich history of the Underground Railroad, and authentic War of 1812 sites, Amherstburg is filled with unique architecture, award-winning gardens and interesting museums and galleries. They even have our very own island — Boblo — to explore!

Don't miss Canada Day Celebrations (July 1) at Fort Malden and Free Music in the Park (check website for dates and time) series along the waterfront. A street party comes to town for Mardi Gras (July 22, 23) and for pet lovers, there's the Woof A Roo Pet Festival (Aug, 13, 14). Celebrating 50 years as an all-time favourite, Art by the River (Aug. 27, 28) will be a signature end of summer event. New this year is the WE Harvest Festival (September 9-11) along the banks of the Detroit River at Fort Malden. Celebrate the bounty of the county with wine, craft brew, distilleries and delicious farm to table fare.

The gateway to Essex County offers memorable waterfront views and scenic country roads bordered by vineyards and wildflowers. Don't forget to check out the many dining options with eclectic eateries will satisfy every palette. You're going to love it here!

For more information visit www.amherstburg.ca, or www.facebook.com/AmherstburgConnection.

Artisan Grill

Artisan Grill is a beautiful restaurant located in downtown historic Amherstburg. People come from all around to enjoy this little gem and all it has to offer. Located steps from the water front, with a beautiful courtyard patio and a gorgeous vintage dinning room this location is often a busy place so they recommend

Reason #51 ANNUAL GARDEN TOUR
 Enjoy a tour of some of our most spectacular private gardens by a Master Gardener who will provide expert horticultural advise.
 Taddy Jones Park/
 \$10 per person.
 Friday, June 17,
 4pm to 8pm
 Saturday, June 18,
 10am to 4pm

Reason #25 MUSIC IN THE PARK
 Enjoy the sound of music performed by the Greater Windsor Concert Band, The Diplomats, Essex Community Concert Band and the Windsor Symphony.
 July 3, July 17, All concerts 4pm to 5pm
 July 31, August 13, except August 13, 7pm to 8pm
 August 14, August 28
 King's Navy Yard Park,
 4pm - 5pm

Reason #18 BLOOMING RHODODENDRONS!
 Amherstburg is home to Canada's second largest Rhododendron collect. The gardening season is kicked off by these spectacular blooms, that will make you feel like you are walking through clouds of colour!
 Mid May to Mid June (pending weather)

Reason #8 FREE GARDEN WALKING TOURS
 Join Amherstburg's very own Manager of Parks and Naturalized Areas for a **FREE** guided garden walk through the King's Navy Yard Park. She will share gardening tips and species information so you can create your own Garden of Eden! Tour starts behind the Gordon House.
 June 17, 4pm, 6pm
 June 18, 12pm, 2pm
 July 13, 12pm
 July 17, 1pm
 August 17, 12pm
 August 21, 1pm

Reason #11 ART BY THE RIVER
 Love art? Join over 150 topnotch artists and artisans in Amherstburg to celebrate the 50th year of Art by the River, Essex County's original arts and crafts festival. Enjoy the art, music and history at Art by the River— an old town, end of summer tradition since 1967.
 For details call: 519-736-2826 or gibsonartgallery.com
 Fort Malden National Historic Site.
 August 27, 28, 10am to 5pm

Reason #17
 (Image of a blue flower)

Reason #11
 (Image of people at an art festival)

Reason #11
 (Image of a stone marker for King's Navy Yard Park)

We have plenty of reasons why you'll love this place.

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 #plentyofreasons
 facebook.com/AmherstburgConnection

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reservations to avoid disappointment!

Artisan is all about having fun, feeling good and being well taken care of. "Hospitality is our main focus" says Chef and Owner Matthew Johnston. "Taking care of our guests and their needs is our highest priority." Matthew creates a wide variety of culinary creations that satisfies all different palettes. From a Smoked Chicken and Panchetta Club house with his signature fries to a Herb infused rack of Lamb with garlic red skin mashed potatoes and fresh local seasonal vegetables, there's something for everyone!

One of Chef's proudest selection is his Certified Angus Steaks which are of premium quality. He believes, to have good quality food, you have to start with the best raw ingredients.

Matthew relies on his very talented team to provide outstanding service, while Matthew and his culinary team concentrate on providing the best food quality. Another favourite is the surf and turf burger, hand made certified Angus beef burger with 3.5 oz. of butter pouched lobster and aged orange cheddar on top served on a brioche bun with

crisp lettuce, tomato, slivered red onion and pickles. It's a must try if you like a great burger and lobster.

Artisan also puts out a seasonal feature menu that draws a lot of attention. This is where the Chef tries out new creations to continue the evolution of his menu.

The Summer Menu has got some great choices like the award winning California Spring Rolls, Summer Gnocchi and Barbecue Ribs and Chicken.

Artisan also does different drink features throughout the week. Thursdays: bottle of wine half off, Fridays: premium beer \$5.00 only. With eight draught beers on tap and over 40 local and international wines, finding just the right libation is easy. Summer hours Sunday through Thursday 11 a.m. – 11 p.m., Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. – 12 a.m. Live music every Friday and Saturday. For more information or to browse the menu please visit Artisangrill.ca.

Essex

Stretching from the centre of Essex County to the north shore of Lake Erie, the Town of Essex is uniquely positioned on the 42nd parallel, a circle of latitude shared with northern California, the French Riviera and Rome, Italy. It's no wonder that the largest number of vine-

yards are located in the town or that they grow the very best Ontario grapes.

Travel along historic County Road 50 for a laid back tour of the area, stopping at John R. Park Homestead to relive the area's 19th century past, or follow the Waterfront Trail to Colchester Centre with its beautiful harbour, park, splash pad and beach – quite possibly the best-groomed beach in Essex County.

As you bike, cycle or drive along the Essex County wine route, be sure to stop and experience our award-winning wineries: Colio Estate Wines, Cooper's Hawk Vineyards, Colchester Ridge Estate Winery, Oxley Estate Winery, Erie Shore Vineyard, Muscedere Vineyards, North 42 Degrees, Paglione Estate Winery, and Viewpoint Estate Winery.

Festival season brings a full schedule of events, including the Essex Fun Fest (July 7 to 10), the Essex Summer Music Series (June 8 to August 31), Explore the Shore (July 23-24), Essex County Steam and Gas Engine Show (August 12-14), and the Harrow Fair (September 1-4), this year celebrating its 162nd anniversary! For more information, please visit www.essex.ca.

A La Mode

At A La Mode Ladies Fashion & Acces-

What's the Magic Number?

42

At its southern reaches along Lake Erie, the **Town of Essex** is host to the 42nd parallel, a circle of latitude shared with **northern California**, the **French Riviera** and **Rome, Italy**. It's no wonder it's magical!

What To Do On 42

CYCLE along historic County Road 50 and the Wine Route, taking in all of the award winning wineries and the bounty of the county

Cast a line and **COME ASHORE** at Colchester Harbour, the "Walleye Capital of Canada" and home of friendly hospitality

RELIVE history at John R. Park Homestead, Canadian Transportation Museum and Heritage Village, Essex Railway Station and the Memorial Spitfire

Don't forget to **PLAY** . . . take a few swings on our golf courses, spike a ball over our volleyball nets at Colchester Beach, or let the family cool off at one of our splashpads

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sories, it's all about making the shopping experience comfortable, personable and affordable. They can dress you from head to toe with the latest Summer and Fall fashions and top notch accessories like handbags, shoes and jewelry. New this season at their Amherstburg location is the Denim Bar, which is absolutely to die for, also check out the super hot Yoga Jeans.

The second floor of their Amherstburg store is now exclusively for the Sandwich Collection. A La Mode's professional staff can help you mix, match and coordinate your Sandwich collection pieces. A La Mode is located at 52 Richmond St. in Amherstburg with a second location at 3869 Dougall Ave. in Windsor. Alterations are done on site at the Amherstburg location.

Kingsville

"Canada's Southernmost Town" is the perfect weekend or seasonal getaway. Nestled along the north shore of Lake Erie, people are drawn by the Victorian architecture, magnificent outdoors and

laid back lifestyle. Summer activities include golfing on three championship courses, numerous parks and beaches.

Lakeside Park is set on the shores of Lake Erie and boasts a quiet beach and meticulously maintained gardens.

Follow the wine route to award-winning vintages at almost 20 wineries like Pelee Island Winery, Aleksander Estate Winery, Black Bear Farms Winery and Mastronardi Estate Winery. Be sure to stop at one of the many roadside stands for some home grown fruits and vegetables.

Wander down the historic streets of Kingsville and discover quaint shops and friendly shopkeepers. Discover over 40 restaurants with southern hospitality and signature dishes. The second annual *Kingsville Folk Music Festival* takes place rain or shine on August 12-14, 2016. This 3-day celebration of folk music is held in Kingsville's *Lakeside Park*, which will be transformed with 5 stages featuring over 30 performers, including Buffy Sainte-Marie. There's artisans, food and craft vendors, local beer and wines and *Todd Crowley's Traveling Musical Petting Zoo*. From accordion to zither, The Zoo is a fully interactive, hands-on exhibition for musicians, young and old. For more information visit www.kingsville.ca.

Shoe Box

Exceptional service, classic fashions and quality European and Canadian-made shoes and bags have kept loyal customers returning to Shoe Box since 1989. Their new Coco Chanel inspired location in the Tecumseh Towne Centre, is at least three times larger than the previous one. Owner Claudine Thibodeau has introduced a number of new lines, featuring trendy Casual and Office Wear, Activewear, and expanding men's shoes. Visiting Shoe Box is more than just a shopping trip. It's an experience. Relax on the sofas, sip coffee or tea, and discuss latest trends and colours with Claudine. Visit shoeboxcanada.ca.

Sushi Bar

At Sushi Bar, staying healthy never tasted so good. Located at 486 Advance Boulevard, Suite 130 in Tecumseh, Sushi Bar offers a variety of both sushi and Japanese cuisine. Whether you are an avid sushi fan or new to this culinary trend, their menu is filled with delicious appetizers, rolls, boats, and dinners that will satisfy your cravings. The patio is open and JR offers top notch service and hospitality to compliment the fine art of making sushi. Visit sushibarlakeshore.com. 🍣

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Kingsville, Ontario



Photo courtesy of Randy Holland

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