Discover 419 Summer Fun Guide 2024

Road Trip with US!



Are you ready to explore? Plan your trip to Findlay in Northwest Ohio for a weekend getaway, staycation, or a road trip! Taste Ohio's best ice cream at Dietsch Brothers, or sip a local brew at one of our craft breweries. Stroll historic South Main as you walk the Historic Homes trail or strike a pose on the Findlay-Hancock County Mural Trail. Get creative as you DIY your way through Findlay's creative workshops, play a round of duck pin bowling, or give axe throwing a try. Plan your visit to include a show at Marathon Center for the Performing Arts, or visit one of our art galleries, like the one-of-a-kind Mazza Museum! Or, spend time outside as you hike a local trail or

attend a local festival this summer! No matter what you choose you'll find fun in Findlay! *Learn more at VisitFindlay.com*







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Ogden Newspapers

The Advertiser-Tribune

Discover 419 Summer Fun Guide is a regional magazine providing travel inspiration throughout Ohio's favorite area code, produced and distributed by Ogden Newspapers in Ohio.





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ALLEN COUNTY

ICONIC

LIMA LOCOS June 4-July 24 616 Heindel Ave., Lima

The Lima Locos, originally named the Lima Blues, has been a leading summer attraction for America's favorite pastime. The baseball team is one of the founding members of the Great Lakes Summer Collegiate League. The Locos have been an active team since 1987 and play at Simmons Field.

LIVE EVENT

CURTAIN CALL SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Thursdays starting June 1 7 Town Square, Lima

Join the Lima Civic Center for free weekly concerts with local artists. The civic center partnered with Rustgaze Records for the Curtain Call Summer Concert Series, sponsored by Good Food Restaurants and Wingate by Wyndham. The series is a free event that takes place at the Happy Daz Patio and includes a cash bar with cocktails and performances by Mike Williams, The Beer Barrel Boys, Rick Robinson and more.

Can't Miss community EVENTS

COUNTRY RUMBLE MUSIC FESTIVAL

June 21-22

2750 Harding Highway, Lima 33 West Productions is putting on a country music festival of the summer at the Lima County Fairgrounds Schmidthorst Pavilion. The two-day Country Rumble Music Festival hosts a lineup of elite country musicians, including Ashley McBryde, Lonestar, Walker Hayes, Lewis Brice and more.

ALLEN COUNTY FAIR AUG. 16-24

ASHLAND COUNTY

ICONIC

MOHICAN STATE PARK 3116 St. Rt. 3

Loudonville, OH 44842

Mohican State Park and the adjacent State Forest are located in the heart of Mohican Country...Ohio's great vacation region. The park is comprised of 1,110 acres and has five miles of the scenic Clear Fork Branch of the Mohican River running through it. Recreational opportunities available to park visitors include fishing, hiking, picnicking, camping, cottages, and a resort lodge. The Mohican Memorial State Forest surrounds the park with 4795 acres. Hunting, hiking, and bridal trails are available to the forest visitor.

Mohican is located in southern Ashland County, bordered by State Routes 3 and 97, near Loudonville, Ohio. The park can be easily accessed from I-71.

LIVE EVENT

ASHLAND CHAUTAUQUA July 16-20

2024 Silver Celebration with the theme "A Trip Down Memory Lane." July 16-20 - Featuring: Karen Vuranch as Julia Child; Hasan Davis as Joe Louis; Ilene Evans as Ethel Waters; Jeremy Meier as John Dillinger; and Elsa Wolff as Amelia Earhart.



ASHLAND BALLOON FEST June 27-June 29

The 34th Annual Ashland Balloon Fest will have another fabulous weekend in 2024. Hot air balloons, food and merchant vendors, live entertainment and activities for kids, spectacular balloon glows and so much more.

ASHLAND COUNTY FAIR SEPT 15-21

Discover 419

Always in Season? IT'S A SHORE THING

Immerse yourself in culture through a variety of diverse community events. Indulge in local cuisine, from upscale to casual, even dine lakeside. Take a ferry ride to a Lake Erie island, explore miles of natural beaches and trails, enjoy quaint downtowns and museums, and experience the beauty of the changing seasons in **Shores & Islands Ohio**.

Make memories that'll last a lifetime. Find your Lake Erie Love year-round at **SHORESandISLANDS.com**.



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SHORES&ISLANDSOHIO CEDAR POINT SANDUSKY PUT-IN-BAY

Jackson Street Pier, Sandusky OH

RING MILLION

FIRE

AUGLAIZE COUNTY

ICONIC

BICYCLE MUSEUM OF AMERICA

7 W Monroe St, New Bremen From the 1816 German Draisine to the monocycle, the Bicycle Museum of America has over 300 bicycles on display. Visitors will see wooden and fiberglass bikes, historic racing bikes, big-wheeled, balloon-tired and Stingrays in the museum. The museum is perfect for all ages.

LIVE EVENT

GR8 VINES WINE RUN 5K July 20, 9 a.m.

325 East Spring Street, St. Marys The GR8 Vines Wine Run 5K in St. Marys in Auglaize County is an annual event featuring a local winery, GR8 Vines Winery. The winery is owned and operated by a veteran and all the wine names reflect a slogan, name, rank or saying used in the United States Marine Corps. The run itself is perfect for anyone looking to run, walk or enjoy wine.

AUGLAIZE COUNTY FAIR JULY 28-AUG. 3

• CRAWFORD COUNTY

ICONIC

THE SCROGGS HOUSE 202 S. Walnut St., Bucyrus

On October 24, 1974, the Scroggs House, 202 South Walnut Street, was entered in the United States Department of Interior Register of Historic Places.

John Scroggs first bought the lot in the spring of 1839 from the original town lots of Norton and Kilbourne. The lot then passed from John Scroggs to his son Jacob, who built the present residence in 1873.

On his death, and the death of his wife, it came into the possession of his son Charles J. Scroggs who passed away in 1944. His wife resided there until her death. Their only child, Betty, married and, living in Nashville, Tennessee, sold the house to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, in 1966. However, when the Bucyrus Historical Society was organized in 1969 and was seeking a home with historical background, it purchased the Scroggs house from the church, in 1970.

LIVE EVENTS

BUCYRUS BRATWURST FESTIVAL 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Aug. 15, 16 and 17 330 S Sandusky Ave., Bucyrus

Originally established in 1967 as the "Colonel Crawford Days," the Bucyrus Bratwurst Festival is entering its 57th year. The Bratwurst Festival takes place on the third weekend in August. Is the only festival in Ohio that hosts a parade each night. With an annual attendance of over 100,000 visitors, holds the title of "Ohio's Eatingest Festival." The theme for this year is "Brattie supports our First Responders!" Festivities include the crowning of Bratwurst Royalty, daily parades, eating contests, and a stein auction. We round out the festivities with continuous free entertainment, craft and art show, rides, games, beer gardens, and most of all – our friendship and hospitality.



WAPAK TUG FEST

May 16-18 Auglaize County Fairgrounds 1001 Fairview Drive, Wapakoneta Come out to the fairgrounds for a weekend of all things trucks. Wapak Tug Fest has been offering truck shows, tugging, dirt drags, vendors and camping to its visitors for 15 years at the fairgrounds.



2024 MUSIC AT THE MURAL

The Bucyrus Area Chamber of Commerce is hosting a series of free community concerts on alternate Thursdays and Fridays from May 3 through Sept. 5 at the mural in Schines Art Park, 300 S. Sandusky Ave., Bucyrus.

The shows will be hosted from 5-8 p.m. Fridays and 7:30-9 p.m. Thursdays and those looking to attend are encouraged to bring their own lawn chairs. For more information, email admin@bucyrusohio.com.





Dee cream shops in the 419 Summer is a time for sweet treats, and the 419 does not disappoint. There is something for everyone, from classic soft serve to specialty flavors, from sundaes, shakes and slushies to novelties and new creations. There is much to choose from and enjoy!

ROTHERS

By Kevin Bean While looking for a sweet treat in the Hancock County area, it's hard to pass up Findlay's (ice) cream of the

crop: Dietsch Brothers. The local chocolates and ice cream store has been a Findlay staple for decades, going back to its founding in 1937. With two locations to choose from. 400 West Main Cross St. and 1217



Tiffin Ave., there is never a day when you have to go without a Mint Chocolate Chip shake, a pint of Black Raspberry Chocolate Chunk, or even a pound of chocolate-covered pretzels.

With 56 different ice cream and sherbert flavors combined. including seasonal flavors, there is always something for everyone.

And if ice cream might be something you are looking for on a different day, Dietsch Brothers has you covered with a wide range of chocolate confections, including bagged candy, meltaway of various flavors, caramels, truffles, brittle, nuts, popcorn, pretzels, and all manner of critters, clusters, and bark. As spring turns into summer, you can also find a number of saltwater taffies available for purchase.

TOFT'S DAIRY

By Andy Ouriel The numbers help define what's new at one of Sandusky's most respected businesses.

Toft Dairy just introduced seven fresh ice cream flavors, three of which feature unique trademarking.

But the management team based in Sandusky underscored a single figure,

in particular, to hammer home an important message.

Toft's Dairy

According to a company statement, "Toft's has become locally famous for its 'one quality' philosophy, which means Toft's uses only the finest ingredients to produce the highest-quality products."

Company officials underscored how they incorporated this very mentality - first established in 1900 when Toft's opened, making it the oldest operating dairy in Ohio – into their latest menu items.

THE WAIT FOR NEW TASTES

During the past few weeks, and ahead of its peak parlor period across spring and summer, Toft's began rolling out new ice cream flavors.

This marks the first time in more than four years, dating back to 2020, since Toft's unveiled different taste options.

So why such a long gap between new offerings?

Chalk it up to COVID-19-related factors and then a full-on companywide rebranding.

Like many businesses, Toft has experienced supply chain management issues in getting products delivered in a timely and full fashion to its Sandusky headquarters, partners and stores.

Then, when those matters subsided, a manufacturer discontinued production of half-gallon containers Toft's used to package ice cream for vears.

So after finding a new supplier, which helped Toft's streamline some processes, company officials timed this up by refreshing the company's overall look on their new 48-ounce containers sold in stores.

Many elements found on packaging, such as the font spelling out Toft's and its mascot, Tilly, remained during this transition.

"We did all of this to try to keep costs down for the consumer," Toft's assistant vice president Logan Meisler said. "But it's still the same great taste our customers know us for. During COVID, our focus was keeping what he had, but we have wanted to have new flavors for a long time now, and now we do."

SAMPLING THE FLAVORS

If customers visit Toft's parlor on Venice Road (U.S. 6) in Sandusky. they can choose any of the 51 available flavors. Up to 41 of these options can also be found in stores. Many of these flavors can be bought at places serving Toft's, such as area ice cream stands and even professional sports venues.

Here's the scoop on these seven new flavors with their descriptions:

- Cold Brew Caramel Latte cold brew coffee ice cream with caramel espresso swirls
- Strawberry Cheesecake cheesecake-flavored ice cream with strawberrv swirls
- Bananas Foster banana-flavored ice cream with caramelized brown sugar and rum-flavored swirls
- Peanut Butter 'n Cookies peanut butter ice cream with cream-filled chocolate cookies
- Vanilla Tilly Tracks vanilla-flavored ice cream with thick fudge swirls and peanut butter-filled chocolate cows
- Chocolate Tilly Tracks chocolate ice cream with thick fudge swirls and peanut butter-filled chocolate cows
- Peanut Butter Tilly Tracks peanut butter ice cream with thick fudge swirls and peanut butter-filled chocolate cows

DEFIANCE COUNTY

ICONIC

INDEPENDENCE DAM STATE PARK 27722 County Road 242, Defiance

The Independence Dam State Park is the perfect spot for enjoying fresh air, getting active and having fun. Enjoy 525 acres situated along the Maumee River, perfect for fishing, boating, camping and more. The park offers campsites, shelterhouses and scenic views. The campground allows you to get close to nature with its tentonly, non-electric sites.

LIVE EVENT

BATTLE OF THE BANDS July 11

Kingsbury Park, 118 Auglaize St., Defiance Local bands from Defiance, Williams, Fulton, Henry, Paulding and Putnam counties are vying to be chosen to perform in front of thousands in September. All music genres are welcome to participate in the outdoor competition for a chance to perform in front of thousands on the main stage. Three winners from the competition will perform at the annual Rib Fest in September.

Can't Miss community events

LILAC FESTIVAL & STREET FAIR May 11

The community's largest arts and crafts fair celebrates the official flower of Defiance by lining the streets of the city's downtown area. A day of free entertainment for young and old includes free lilacs, arts and craft vendors, unique food vendors and children's activities.

DEFIANCE COUNTY FAIR AUG. 17-24









Discover 419



OHIO BIKE WEEK

May 24-June 1 Downtown Sandusky, among other locations

Kickstands up — Sandusky's Ohio Bike Week returns yet again for a nine-daylong event. Motorcycle enthusiasts have plenty of bike-related events to look forward to, but whether you ride or not, there's plenty to enjoy. That includes Bike Week's marquee musicial performances, headlined this year by Bret Michaels. Returning favorites, like Jackyl, will also put on a show.

MILAN MELON FESTIVAL

Over Labor Day weekend Village Square, Milan

Melon-flavored ice cream is the hallmark of this annual festival that occurs in Milan over the Labor Day weekend. Stop by for food, music and more at this festival that's been a Milan staple for decades.

HURON RIVER FEST

July 12-14 Huron Boat Basin, Huron

Stop by this three-day festival in the "Great Lake Place" of Huron this July. People attending Huron River Fest can enjoy fireworks, food trucks, live entertainment, a 5K race, rides and more.

IRONMAN 70.3 OHIO

July 21 Start/Finis

Start/Finish Lines in downtown Sandusky

Athletes from far and wide will descend on Sandusky for another year of IRONMAN 70.3 Ohio. IRONMAN 70.3 makes its way back to Sandusky for a 1.2-mile swim, a 56-mile bike ride and 13.1mile run. Visit ironman.com/im703-ohio for more.

ERIE COUNTY

ICONIC

JACKSON STREET PIER



233 W. Shoreline Drive, Sandusky

It's a Sandusky landmark that hasn't yet celebrated its fifth birthday — and yet, it's already become the marquee destination in the city. The renovated Jackson Street Pier, formerly a parking lot, now boasts amenities like swings, walkways and a wide greenspace that is used for events. It played host to Sandusky's celebration of this April's solar eclipse and drew hundreds of visitors from all over the state, country and world, and has more events planned for this summer.

LIVE EVENTS

PARTY AT THE PIER

Show dates, acts to be announced Jackson Street Pier, 233 W. Shoreline Drive, Sandusky

It's one party you don't want to miss. Sandusky's Party at the Pier at the Jackson Street Pier is becoming an annual must-attend concert series that draws in droves. Last year, eight shows ranging across multiple musical genres graced the concert stage, with more as-of-yet unannounced acts planned for this summer. Check the "Jackson Street Pier" Facebook page for updates on show dates and acts.

FIRELANDS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERTS

Check firelandssymphony.com/events/ for show dates

Various locations

"Enriching lives through music" are the watchwords of this Erie County-based orchestra. The group hosts many concerts — including some free ones — of various musical styles, showcasing local talent along with some special guest performers. Students can also get free concert tickets.



107 Columbus Ave., Sandusky

The curtains have been closed for a while, but the historic Sandusky State Theatre remains an iconic Erie County landmark which is poised for a 2024 comeback. After a freak 2020 wind storm toppled the structure's roof and walls, theater leadership got to work fixing and upgrading the structure. They estimate that the theater will finally reopen its doors and welcome new and returning acts to its stage later this year. Even Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine said, in a call with newspaper editors, that he'd want to attend the grand reopening of the theater.

LAKE FRONT MARKET June 7-8

Lake Front Park, 310 Park St., Huron

People can enjoy shopping, refreshments and live music on the lakeshore at a two-day event in Huron. Lake Front Market is from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Friday, June 7 and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, June 8. The market is open-air and kid-friendly.

MARKET IN THE PARK

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays between July 6 and Aug. 31

Victory Park, 687 Main St., Vermilion

Check out vendors while being within walking distance of downtown Vermilion at this series of events this summer. Market in the Park returns on July 6 and gives visitors a chance to pick up a variety of products, including handcrafted artisan goods and other consumable product.

ERIE COUNTY FAIR AUG. 5-11

Summer Fun Guide 2024



For the following FREE concerts: Bring lawn chairs or blankets

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19 AT 7:30 PM FOREVER MOTOWN

Direct from New York - the original cast of Forever Motown with nine all-star performers will feature Theo Peoples, former lead singer of the Four Tops, Glenn Leonard, former lead singer of the Temptations, and Traci Robinson, former lead singer of the Marvelettes, with an all-star live band. This is a full stage production of favorite Motown hit songs.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24 AT 7:00 PM DRONE SHOW PREVIEW WEDNESDAY, JULY 24 AT 7:30 PM TAKE3

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24 AT 9:00 PM DRONE SHOW

TAKE3 lives at the intersection where pop, rock, and classical fusion collide. Described as a mini-Trans Siberian Orchestra experience, TAKE3 has style while making infectious joy in music. Created by Lindsay Deutsch, Yanni's featured violin soloist, TAKE3 merges hits from Elvis and the Beatles to Bach and Beethoven.

Near the end of the TAKE3 concert, Sky Elements (the leading drone light show provider in the U.S.) will present an aerial display of brilliant LED lights that utilizes a fleet of drones. This display, accompanied by the TAKE3 music, will highlight customized animations in the sky.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE LANGE TRUST MAKE THESE CONCERTS FOR ERIE COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY

This event is funded by the Norbert A. Lange and Marion Cleaveland Lange Trust Fund.

The Strawberry Cheesecake and Vanilla Tilly Tracks flavors, meanwhile, are also available in pint-size containers.

Meisler explained how the Toft's team came to choose these new flavors.

"Our ingredient suppliers help us with letting us know what they have seen in their order patterns and what flavors are trending right now," he said. "We knew we were lacking in offering something in banana, and coffee is a booming flavor right now. So it was important to us to offer that."

Regarding the Tilly Tracks flavors, they replace Moose Tracks, a popular option Toft's recently stopped serving as part of its rebranding efforts.

"Tilly Tracks is essentially the same flavor concept," Meisler said. "Instead of peanut butter cups, we bought our own mold for the peanut butter-filled cows, and those are exclusive to us. No one else can have that."

It seems to be quite popular among customers.

"People are liking the (Tilly Tracks) flavors just as much, maybe more, than Moose Tracks," said Glen Bango, Toft's general manager at its parlor. "It's been a great response."

The new Tilly Tracks branding also helps highlight Toft's mascot on packaging for these flavors.

It helps pay homage to Toft's roots: Tilly's a nod to Matilda "Tilly" Toft, who founded the business with her husband, Chris, back in 1900.

"Tilly was the name of our first Toft cow. Tilly has been our mascot forever," Meisler said. "But, now, we are really putting her out there at the forefront of our packaging. I'm very proud of the Tilly Tracks."

HISTORY LESSON

Toft Dairy provided the following statement to summarize its long and storied history in Sandusky:

We have been making our one-quality products through five generations of family in Sandusky, Ohio, since 1900. This achievement makes us Ohio's oldest dairy.

We source our fresh milk and real cream from family farms to create our unique creamy taste that is remembered and loved. Thirteen local dairy farms within a 50-mile radius deliver fresh raw milk to our Sandusky plant 365 days a year. Toft's has received written pledges from all 13 dairy farms to refrain from using the synthetic growth hormone rBST in their production of milk.

These daily deliveries allow us to produce the freshest milk and finest ice cream possible, all backed by the National Dairy Farm program, which sets the standards for animal care.

Here's a timeline of how we got here:

- 1900 Chris and Matilda "Tilly" Toft began selling raw milk out of glass bottles from a horsedrawn wagon to the local citizens of Sandusky. This was the creation of Toft Dairy as we know it.
- 1935 Toft Dairy purchased Oswald Dairy, also located in Sandusky. This decision grew their reputation throughout the region, leading to wholesale and retail routes and sparking the foundation for business growth for the future.
- 1940 Toft Dairy moved to a new facility on Adams Street that was much larger with growth capabilities. Toft's founded its original recipe of high-quality ice cream production in this facility. Toft's first-ever retail store opened in this location complete with an old-time soda fountain.
- 1960 Toft Dairy became the first dairy in the surrounding area to switch away from glass bottles to plastic jugs.
- 1985 Toft Dairy built its current facility on Venice Road in Sandusky. This location is also home to the famous Toft Dairy Ice Cream Parlor, which has become a landmark in the local community as well as a beloved tourist attraction. The parlor is home to more than 50 flavors of ice cream and all Toft's dairy products.
- 2008 Toft's installed the area's first wind turbine to help power daily operations in the plant. Crews also remodeled its ice cream parlor, leaving its iconic wooden seating and original soda fountain intact.
- Today Toft Dairy is a state-of-the-art 76,000-square-foot facility still located on Venice Road. The legacy Toft's has created is a testament to



their commitment to quality and forward-thinking principles.

 Future — The future is bright for Toft Dairy, thanks to five generations of family, dedicated to creating the most delicious products. Family owned and operated since 1900, Toft's is excited to announce the upcoming expansion of their facility on Venice Road. They will soon be adding over 20,000 square feet of freezer space, allowing Toft's to expand their distribution capabilities.

WHO'S TILLY?

Toft Dairy also offered a primer on Tilly and its overall importance to the company:

In 1900, when Chris and Matilda Toft were just opening their barn doors as a new dairy farm, there was a cow who provided dependable and delicious milk to their very first customers.

This adorable cow was named Tilly after Matilda Toft.

In honor of the first cow to ever produce Toft's milk, a cow statue remains in front of the Toft Dairy on Venice Road.

Tilly is known as a symbol of wholesomeness and tradition, founding the original recipe for the delicious milk we all love now five generations later. Tilly's legacy is strong today.

As Toft's moves through its second century, Tilly has become an endorsement of the "one-quality" philosophy.

Toft's commitment to each of its high-quality products includes working closely with our 13 local farms to ensure that everything we produce remains free from the synthetic growth hormone rBST. Our official promise of Toft's quality is now displayed on our packaging as "Tilly Approved" in honor of her.

You will also be able to find her as small, chocolate cow-shaped inclusions — filled with peanut butter — in our newly released and trademarked Tilly Tracks ice cream flavors. Come find Tilly in her newly released flavors: Vanilla Tilly Tracks, Chocolate Tilly Tracks and Peanut Butter Tilly Tracks.

VARGO'S DRIVE IN

By Angela LaRosa

For over 50 years, one growing family has been a staple to the Norwalk community and beyond.

Vargo's Drive-in opened around mid-March and will be open

throughout summer and into October. The drive-in, located at 192 Milan Ave. in Norwalk, started as a bread shop before being turned into what it is today.

"It's been in the family for 58 years," Dawn Casalinova, one of the drivein's main managers and operators, said.

Casalinova and her husband operate Vargo's Drive-In for her father-inlaw, Ron. It's become a hot spot for ice cream, food and a place for good times.

"We have the same customers coming in year after year after year. It just makes people happy, the community happy," she said.

And when they open, they get slammed with people missing them while they're closed.

Casalinova said customers come from all over for their ice cream. She said some of their best sellers include banana floats and flurries, their homemade Sloppy Joe's, footlong coney dogs and Vargo burgers.

Along with selling ice cream, they operate an 18-hole mini golf course just a few feet away and the family feeling has never left.

"We have a lot of family that work here," Casalinova said.

Casalinova has been working at the shop for 28 years, along with her husband, nephew, son and daughter. She also said one employee, Julie, has been working at Vargo's for about 35 years, and Julie's daughter has worked there for 15 years.

It isn't just the family working who makes Vargo's feel like home. Casalinova said while new customers come in, they still have regular customers who stop by four times a week.

"I love making people happy," she said. "I find joy in just seeing the kids' faces when they bring out the ice cream with sprinkles or seeing our older customers' faces when they see us and want to talk."

Sweet treats in Seneca County

By Kayla Trevino and Ziyah Piltz

If Seneca County is lacking anything, it is not ice cream shops. Reporters spoke with several local ice cream store owners, learning about the history of the stores, customer-favorite treats, locations and hours.

JB TWISTERS

With summer just around the corner, more and more kids are starting to line up in front of ice

cream shops. For places like JB Twisters, however, the line has been there since mid-January; This year, JB Twisters opened Jan. 17.

Located at 335 W. Lytle Street, JB Twisters offers a wide variety of ice cream. Their specialties include softserve ice cream, certain hard ice cream flavors, and many novelties. Not only do they serve ice cream, but they also have a food menu. Their most popular menu item is the shredded chicken sandwich.



Another popular item among customers is the Kelly Dog, a coney dog made with a secret sauce and chili.

JB Twisters has been open for 35 years in Fostoria, typically from mid-January until the week before Thanksgiving. Fostoria resident William Reineck started the business. Today, William continues to run the business with his two sons, Doug Reineck and Mark Reineck.



Jce cream continued on page 14 >



Discover 419



POPPY RUN May 25

8514 Ohio 108, Wauseon Spend Memorial Day honoring the nation's fallen by supporting veteran services by participating in the annual 5k event. This year, proceeds benefit Flag City Honor Flight, Wauseon American Legion and the

Flight, Wauseon American Legion and the Catholic War Veterans. The event begins with a pre-race ceremony and is open to all ages.

FULTON COUNTY

ICONIC

THE QUILT BARN TRAIL Various locations

Explore rural northwestern Ohio with a longstanding tour of barns painted with quilt patterns to honor past and present quilters in the local area. A second tour, featuring new barns added to the growing list, has opened up with new areas to explore. The new trail includes stops in Wauseon, Archbold and Defiance. The quilt barn tour has been an Ohio initiative since 2001. For a full list of trail stops, go to visitfultoncounty.com.

LIVE EVENT

OAKSHADE RACEWAY Saturdays through September

12985 County Road 14-2, Wauseon Speed is the name of the game. Running through summer and into September, enjoy a Saturday night out watching cars race past each other towards the finish line. Cars include dominators, compact cars and late models.

FULTON COUNTY FAIR AUG. 30-SEPT. 5



NEUMEISTER'S CANDY AND ICE CREAM SHOPPE

Debbie Frey, owner and chocolatier, said the family has had a candy shop in Upper Sandusky since 1877.

"We've owned it for 7.5 years and are only the fourth owners," she said. "We decided to expand after five years and chose Tiffin. We found this great location where we are at the Wolf Creek Plaza."

The candy is all made in Upper Sandusky, leaving plenty of room to add other offerings. Frey said the family decided to start offering ice cream.



Neumeister's unicorn monster shake

"I spent some time trying to figure out how to be different," she explained. "We serve Mark's Homemade Hard Dip Ice Cream from Bucyrus."

Neumeister's offers the typical shakes, sundaes and scoops. The shop scoops ice cream on the "big side" and offers monster shakes and sundaes that have "three large scoops with syrups, icings, chips, sprinkles, pie, cheesecake, brownies, cookies and cupcakes or special molded chocolate pieces and various candies." Most dessert offerings incorporate Neumeister's hand-made candies. Frey has recently started making ice cream cakes, which are currently made by special order. Once the shop receives a display freezer, ice cream cakes will be available through walk-in purchases. The cakes come in many different flavors with some resembling sundae options.

Neumeister's most popular ice cream flavors are apple pie and butter pecan with the popular sundae flavors being chocolate brownie chunk, turtle cheesecake, zombie, dinoland, mermaid and unicorn.

The Tiffin location of Neumeister's, 2447 W. Market St., has new offerings in the works, including private birthday events on Sundays.

LITTLE HUGO'S

Little Hugo's was built in 1949 as a Dairy Queen. According to information owner John Osborn gathered, it is the oldest ice cream shop still in operation, at 410 W. Market St., Tiffin.

"Hugo Bour was a worker here and bought the store and it was renamed Little Hugos in 1963," he said. My wife and I purchased it in 2017 and have been slowly



Little Hugo's current store front

making improvements and updates as we go."







FINDLAY PRIDE

June 1

Riverside Park, 231 McManness Ave., **Findlay**

Beginning over 20 years ago as a small potluck celebration, Findlay Pride has grown into a daylong celebration of acceptance, unity and equality. Events are held at Riverside Park and more round out this annual event. All are welcome at Findlay Pride!

BOOGIE ON THE BLOCK

June 7

Marathon Center for the Performing Arts,

200 W. Main Cross St., Findlay Findlay's Biggest Block Party returns to MCPA! Live music from North to Nashville and guests Eric Sowers Band will be sure to give you a beat to boogie on.

MCCOMB COOKIE FESTIVAL

July 19-20

Downtown McComb

Do you like cookies? We do! McComb is Cookietown, USA, with an in-town factory daylong festival.

FLAG CITY BALLOONFEST

Aug. 9-11 Emory Adams Park, 1827 S. Blanchard St., Findlay

Touch the sky at the FlagCity Balloonfest! This event draws pilots from around the country for hot air balloon rides, impressive nighttime glow events and lots of family fun.

OKTOBERFEST

Sept. 28

Downtown Findlay

Prost! Celebrate this German holiday in Findlay with live music and entertainment, a variety of contests and plenty of authentic

HANCOCK COUNTY

ICONIC



600 S Main St, Findlay

Satisfy your craving for a hamburg and fries at Wilson's Sandwich Shop! This iconic landmark has been in operation since 1936 in downtown Findlay. Besides a classic burger and fries, the menu also offers pies, malts, chili and several vegetarian sandwich options.



12259 Township Rd 218, Van Buren Calling all outdoors enthusiasts! Van Buren State Park offers a variety of activities on its 296 acres, including boating, camping, fishing, hiking and even sledding in the winter. Furry friends are more than welcome here, with a dog park and bridle trails on location.

LIVE EVENTS

FINDLAY ART LEAGUE 117 W. Crawford St., Findlav

Established in 1947, the Findlay Art League hosts a number of classes and workshops for artists of all ages, from watercolor to pottery to photography. Ready to take your work to the next level? Compete in one of the many shows they hold throughout the vear!

FORT FINDLAY PLAYHOUSE 300 W. Sandusky St., Findlay

This nonprofit, intimate playhouse located near downtown Findlay serves as a stage for theater talent in the area. A corps of volunteers is the engine behind five to seven plays and musical productions per year.

RIVERSIDE CONCERT SERIES

Riverside Park, 231 McManness Ave., Findlay This free summer concert series begins in June at the Riverside Park's Allen P. Dudley Memorial Bandshell. Some of this year's featured acts are the Fostoria Community Band, Findlay Civic Band and the Northwest Ohio Low Brass Collective.

CONCERTS AT THE MARATHON CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

200 W. Main Cross St., Findlay

The Marathon Center for the Performing Arts is a hub for all performers – from big-time acts to local talent like Findlay High School's Findlay First Edition show choir and the University of Findlay's Theater Department. There are plenty of year-round events in MCPA's auditorium, as well as creative and popular outdoor events.

HANCOCK COUNTY FAIR AUG. 28-SEPT. 2















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LITTLE CAESARS®

16

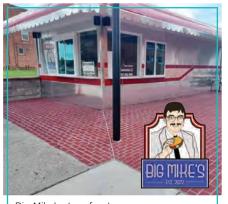
The shop offers several flavors, including vanilla, chocolate, orange sherbet, vegan lactose-free vanilla and dole whip. It also has a special flavor machine that allows for additional flavors like strawberry, butter pecan, coffee, dreamcicle, mint chip, pistachio, smurf and blueberry. Little Hugo's also offers funnel cake sundaes.

The shop sponsors Tiffin Youth Sports Association's baseball league.

BIG MIKE'S

The Perry family purchased Big Mike's (274 S. Washington St., Tiffin), originally known as Uncle Mike's, in 2021. The shop operated as Uncle Mike's until it closed for the season.

"We spent most of 2022 doing renovations and reopened in December of 2022," said co-owner Danny Perry. "We wanted to start a business to honor my late father, Mike



Big Mike's store front

Perry. So, we grabbed a picture of him holding a beer, cropped a burger into his hands and changed 'Uncle' to 'Big' and we were in business."

The Big Mike's crew started focusing on different food offerings, such as chicken chunks with M\$T (Madison Street Tavern) sauce, breakfast items, fresh burgers, wraps, hot dogs, and sides.

"Having been open a little over a year, we couldn't be more excited

what the future holds," Perry said.

The shop doesn't offer a wide variety of ice cream but aims to be "top-notch" in what it does offer. Big Mike's milkshakes and flurries are best sellers. It also offers slushies and cones.

"Our most unique dessert item of all would have to be our fresh and hot donut holes. We just started serving them all day long instead of just offering them at breakfast."

The crew is incorporating the donut holes into an ice cream dessert.

"We try to make every customer feel special," he said. "It has been so fun to get to know these people on a personal level. Our biggest draw, of course, is my Famous Aunt Ellen!"

"We truly feel honored to be a part of this downtown and to give back. We would like to encourage anyone willing to donate to our blessing box, which we try to keep stocked behind Big Mike's."







CONCERT SERIES, FESTIVALS OFFER PLENTY TO SING ALONG TO

By Jolena Gioiello and Angela LaRosa

If you're looking for live music al fresco in the 419 this summer, you won't have to search far for plenty of fun options. Good for taking advantage of the nice weather and festive locations in the region, outdoor concerts make for a great (and often cost-effective) way to enjoy the season, whether at amphitheaters, parks, pavilions or even just alongside streets in town.

PARTY ON THE PIER

Party on the Pier is a popular concert series in downtown Sandusky. In the past, fans of all ages have been invited to these free events featuring food vendors, local acts, tribute bands and more.

Alissa Fisher, Greater Sandusky Partnership's director of marketing & creative services, said these free shows are a way to bring residents and visitors together as a community. "Community events like these make Sandusky a great place to live and enjoy and add vibrancy to community life," Fisher said. "The concerts can also attract visitors from other areas and encourage those folks to stay and enjoy other amenities in Sandusky like our downtown restaurants, bars and retailers."

The event's schedule has not been released yet, but locals can expect an increase in visitors on the day the concert season kicks off, June 13. Fisher said there will be a diverse line-up from multiple music genres for people to use as an opportunity to connect, unwind, relax and destress.

Each concert in the series is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. This start time allows visitors to experience sunsets on Sandusky Bay while listening to artists, and enough time for visitors to eat and shop downtown before the show.

OHIO BIKE WEEK

Downtown Sandusky will once again be taken over by Ohio Bike Week. In March, event organizers announced the marquee performers who would be taking the stage and performing free for area visitors.

Starting things off on May 30 will be Jackyl. Formed in 1991, the band originated in Georgia and moves stylistically between hard rock, heavy metal and southern rock.

Ace Frehley will take the stage on May 31. This will be Ace Frehley's first time performing at Ohio Bike Week. Probably better known as lead guitar player for KISS, Frehley's solo work expands further into the rock and metal genres.

Closing out the event on June 1 is Bret Michaels. Michaels gained popularity as the singer of '80s hair metal band Poison, but he first struck out on his own with a new pack of players in 2003.

Music continued on page 24 >







Museum Hours Jan-May; Sept-Dec: Fri-Sun, 10am-4pm Memorial Day-Labor Day: Tues-Sun, 10am-4pm,

Dive in Maritime History

Interactive exhibits on ice harvesting, Underground Railroad, Battle of Lake Erie, boat building, shipwrecks, wetlands, and knot tying. Programs and events are offered throughout the year, visit sanduskymaritime.org for calendar.

AN MEMOR

BIGSPLASHRAFFLE.CON

DEAN HOW



125 Meigs St., Sandusky 419.624.0274 sanduskymaritime.org

MUSEUMS for ALL on initiative of the stitute of Museum and Library Services

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Proceeds ensure the Maritime Museum of Sandusky can continue to bring quality family programming for years to come.

Visit BigSplashRaffle.com for more information.

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HENRY COUNTY

June 29-30 and Oct. 5-6.

Twice a year, vendors from all over the TriState area set up for a huge flea market. You can find anything and everything at Pickers Paradise! The event is held at the Henry County Fairgrounds.

HENRY COUNTY

ICONIC

MAUMEE RIVER

This crucial landmark is the lifeline of Henry County — it offers 22 miles of navigable waterway for boating and kayaking. The river is a wonderful resource for fishing, boating, water skiing, canoeing and bird watching. There are state-maintained woodlands along the waterway and wildlife abounds, highlighted by rare Bald Eagles nesting near the village of Florida and large rookeries of Great Blue Herons. The Buckeye Trail follows along the Maumee with great hiking trails and opportunities.

LIVE EVENT



HAMLER COUNTRY FEST

Incredible country acts from all over the U.S. with camping available, great food and fun. Little Texas and Travis Denning are the 2024 headliners. July 26-27. Hamler Community Park. Hamler's music tradition.

Photo: A view of the main stage at a past Hamler Country Fest.

HENRY COUNTY FAIR AUG. 8-15

Can't Miss community EVENTS

TREE TOWN FESTIVAL

July 12-14, at Gormley Park in Forest Festivities begin with a parade on the evening of Friday, July 12, followed by live entertainment, rides, games, a car show and great food. Saturday, July 13, starts with the "Tree Town Trot," including volleyball, baseball, and basketball tournaments. Later, enjoy "Cow Patty Bingo" and a fireworks display. The event ends with a church service on the morning of July 14.

HARDIN COUNTY-

ICONIC

LAWRENCE WOODS

13278 County Road 190, Kenton The largest known mature forest in this region and is home to many rare plant and animal species. The forest has large trees of many species. Buttonbush swamps within the forest are inundated for most of the year. It is an excellent spot for viewing birds and spring wildflowers. It has a 1.1-mile boardwalk and designated trails; no restrooms and pets are not permitted.

LIVE EVENT

EATS ON THE STREET

A food truck festival, features live music, a car show, beer, wine, and activities for kids and families, will be held July 20 in downtown Kenton's Historic Courthouse District.

MARKET ON MAIN

a farmer's market held from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on the second and fourth Saturday from May 11 to September in downtown Kenton. Situated in the large lot behind Middlefield Bank, it features many different vendors and products every week. Spring Fest will be to celebrate the opening of the Market season and Fall Fest will mark the conclusion of the season. See HCCBA.com for more information!

HARDIN COUNTY FAIR SEPT. 3-8

These performances will only be three nights out of the week-long Ohio Bike Week event taking place from May 24 through June 1. There will be many other musicians performing throughout the festival. More information can be found on the Ohio Bike Week website.

BASH ON THE BAY

Bash on the Bay is an annual concert hosted at the Put-in-Bay airport. In years past, stars such as Pitbull, Kid Rock, Blake Shelton and Toby Keith took the stage. This year, Jelly Roll and HARDY will perform for concertgoers on Aug. 21-22.

Jelly Roll, winner of three CMT Music Awards in 2023 for "Son of a Sinner," will headline the first night. Other performers on Aug. 21 include Oliver Anthony, Warren Zeiders, Ashland Craft and Logan Crosby.

HARDY, artist-songwriter of the year, visual media of the year and music event of the year award winner, will perform Aug. 22. Other acts of the night include Earnest, Drake White and the Big Fire, Tigirlily Gold and Cory Farley.

RALLY IN THE ALLEY

From May through August, the Findlay-Hancock County Chamber of Commerce invites the community to Latham Courtyard in downtown Findlay for Rally in the Alley every Friday.

"We've been doing Rally in the Alley forever. It's an event to bring people downtown to kickstart their weekend," the chamber's senior investor experience lead Doug Jenkins said.

With music for everybody and lots of snacks, Findlay's family-friendly event is sponsored by local businesses and features live local bands. It's a free event where people can enjoy live music and the downtown Findlay atmosphere.

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

As with Rally in the Alley, many other towns in the 419 feature their own weekly or monthly concert series in the summer months. Here are some other venues to check out:

- East Green Summer Concerts, Frost-Kalnow Amphitheatre, Tiffin
- Curtain Call Summer Concert Series, Lima Civic Center, Lima
- Riverside Civic Concert Series, Riverside Park, Findlay
- Fostoria Community Band Summer Concert Series, Wainwright Amphitheatre, Fostoria
- Van Wert Live,
- Fountain Park Amphitheatre, Van Wert

Series' schedules and can vary between weekly, biweekly, or monthly. Shows usually occur later in the evening when the hot, summer air is less taxing. Depending on the location, seating may or may not be provided or available.











STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

May 24-26 Uptown Norwalk

Who doesn't love a good festival? Celebrate all things strawberries along with rides, games, crafts, music and more! It's Norwalk's annual celebration and is must attend for all Huron County residents and those wishing to visit the Maple City of Norwalk.

WILLARD SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Aug. 4-10 Downtown Willard

Celebrating Willard's 150th Anniversary! There will be a parade, car show, fireworks, food, music, Bob Haas HoopFest and more!

HURON COUNTY



ICONIC



1300 Ohio 18, Norwalk

The foundation of Summit Motorsports Park is to provide family oriented sports entertainment at an affordable price. Located at 1300 State Route 18 near Norwalk, Ohio, it has been a National Hot Rod Association (NHRA) sanctioned facility since 2007.



138 Shady Lane Drive, Norwalk

Who doesn't love a good day out at the park? Veteran's Memorial Lake Park on Old State Road in Norwalk offers a fun day out for the whole family. Visitors can picnic, fish, rent canoes, hike, play disc golf, or just simply take a walk and enjoy nature. The city of Norwalk is in the process of building an amphitheater at the park so concerts and other shows are just a few months away!

LIVE EVENTS

ST. JOSEPH PARISH FESTIVAL Aug. 3-4

66 Chapel St., Monroeville

Come down to Monroeville to this annual family festival. Visitors can get plenty of good food, participate in raffles, take in musical performances, and more.

HALLOWEEN/PET-N-PUP PARADE Oct. 26 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Uptown Norwalk

There's nothing spooky about this event. Bring your kids and your pets — all of whom are encouraged to dress in costume — to the Pet-N-Pup parade in Norwalk. Kids can also get plenty of candy courtesy of festival organizers.

HURON COUNTY FAIR AUG. 12-17

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Bring the kids to these attractions in the 419

By Leah Alsept, Erin Caldwell and Karen Kin

SAUDER VILLAGE

22611 Ohio 2, Archbold

Tucked away in northwest Ohio, Sauder Village offers visitors a trip back through time, highlights of history, and welcoming hospitality.

Located on 235 acres in Archbold, Ohio, Sauder Village is Ohio's largest living history village, with programs, events and activities for visitors of all ages, including unique opportunities for kids to play, learn and explore. Sauder Village is located at 22611 Ohio 2, and is an easy drive from I-75 and Ohio 80/90.

"Each day provides a new experience with different hands-on activities and programs," said Andi Erbskorn, director of development at Sauder Village.

"Our youngest guests have the opportunity to play and learn in a special area designed just for them," she said.

According to saudervillage.org, Little Pioneers Homestead offers kids the chance "to have a blast in the past," with a historically based cabin, barn and garden.

Mary Ann's Cabin, the website states, is designed and furnished with child-sized visitors in mind. Children can "cook" a meal with a pretend fireplace and food, experience a rope bed and play old-fashioned games.

At Miller Barn and Garden, young visitors will experience 19th-century farm operations and can play with interactive exhibits that teach about farm animals.

Kids can "milk" a replica Holstein cow, help in the garden, gather eggs and learn about horseshoeing and animal care.

Beyond Little Pioneers Homestead, visitors will find other adventures to delight both kids and adults.

Horses are stabled at Sauder's livery, an 1840s-concept log schoolhouse can be explored, and train and buggy rides in the village are available.

An old-fashioned grocery store and theater can be toured, and a soda fountain and candy counter delight with sweet treats and refreshments as visitors take in Sauder's 1920s Main Street.



Sauder Village offers an 87-site campground with a splash pad, playground and lake for fishing, and the Heritage Inn, a modern hotel with an indoor pool and hot tub, includes "all the amenities of a large hotel with the ambiance of a country inn," according to the website.

The Doughbox Bakery entices visitors with a sweet variety of homemade baked goods, and hot and frozen coffee drinks, hot chocolate and smoothies are the perfect complement to the bakery's doughnuts, pies, cookies, muffins and breads.

The Barn Restaurant, a taste of homestyle dishes and welcoming service, offers diners a menu of hearty dishes, appetizers, sandwiches and entrees to be enjoyed "under the hand-hewn timbers of a barn built in 1861."

Families also can visit Sauder's Brush Creek Pottery, Burlington Glass Works, an herb shop, museums and a museum store, and browse historic crafts and see the work of a blacksmith.

Sauder's Historical Village and its activities and programs kick off the 2024 season on May 1.

"Connect with the past and make memories for a lifetime this summer," Erbskorn said.

For additional information, rates, dates and hours, visit saudervillage.org.

MARITIME MUSEUM

125 Meigs St., Sandusky

The Maritime Museum of Sandusky is the only place in Sandusky where people can learn about the rich stories of our maritime heritage in one location, according to executive director Molly Sampson.



It offers a diverse range of exhibits and activities designed to showcase various aspects of maritime life and heritage, Sampson said.

"The Maritime Museum of Sandusky is a fascinating destination where visitors can immerse themselves in the vibrant maritime history of the Sandusky Bay area," she said.

Visitors can learn about the evolution of passenger boats and commercial fishing practices along with how ice harvesting was once vital to the region's economy. They can also explore boat-building traditions, the importance of Ohio's

wetlands and Sandusky's involvement in the Underground Railroad.

The Maritime Museum of Sandusky also includes the Howman Boathouse and the Motor and Engine Room. Visitors can engage with interactive displays, board Lyman boats, observe boat building projects and check out vessels on display.

Many of the displays are interactive, making them kid-friendly. The museum also offers scavenger hunts for young visitors and youth programming throughout the year — from make and take crafts to the museum's STEAM into summer camp.

"The museum is a wonderful and cost effective excursion for families," Sampson said. "Beyond the kid-friendly exhibits and activities, we also offer plenty for adults to enjoy."

The museum's family rate covers up to nine members. There's additional discounts through the Museums for All and Blue Star Families initiatives.

More information about upcoming events, admission, parking and more can be found on its website, sanduskymaritime.org.

AFRICAN SAFARI WILDLIFE PARK 267 S. Lightner Road, Port Clinton

African Safari Wildlife Park in Port Clinton offers a unique experience for local residents and visitors.

The park, which is in its 56th season, strives to provide an interactive animal experience while also promoting the appreciation and conservation of all living things. There's about 600 animals at the park.

The main attractions at African Safari Wildlife Park include the drivethru safari and walk-thru safari. It's the Midwest's original safari park, said Elliot Zirulnik, the park's advancement manager.

"The park is the only place in Ohio that gives guests the opportunity to feed animals from the comfort and safety of their own vehicle," Zirulnik said. "Each vehicle receives one cup of grain, and additional cups of grain and produce are available for sale."

Some of the park's most popular animals include the giraffe, zebras, alpacas, camels, bison, elk, gibbons, lemurs, kangaroos and macaws.

There's something for everyone to do at African Safari Wildlife Park. "Our younger guests especially enjoy the camel rides, daily

educational animal programs and feeding rabbits, parakeets, tortoises, porcupines and giraffe in the Walk-Thru Safari," Zirulnik said.

Due to popular demand, Dinosaur Takeover is returning this summer, Zirulnik added. It features more than 20 life-sized prehistoric creatures that move and roar.

"Families visiting the park should expect a one-of-a-kind animal experience they'll remember for decades to come," he said.

Zirulnik mentioned the park is introducing two new animal experiences in the walk-thru safari this summer, but he couldn't share the details at the time.

Visit africansafariwildlifepark.com to review the hours of operation before visiting.











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NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE GREAT LAKES 1701 Front St., Toledo

Kid-family activities to make maritime memories are taking place this year at the National Museum of the Great Lakes.

Ashley Streichert, the museum's marketing and communications manager, said the museum "is an interactive destination to learn about the history and preservation of the Great Lakes, and is perfect for the entire family."

On May 11 and July 13, the museum will offer Captain Scuppers Tug Life, featuring an hour of tug-themed activities for kids ages 3-10. Attendees can explore a real tugboat and become immersed in the tale "The Adventures of Kitty Smoke." Fun and education mix to spark learning and imagination of children and their caregivers during this event, Streichert said.

The program Captain Scuppers Crew Life will take place June 8 and August 10, she said. and will include a guided tour of a lake freighter ideal. The event is ideal for kids ages 8-12.

A maritime music and movement event also will take place this summer, although dates still are being finalized. Streichert said Captain Scuppers Songfest will be hosted in partnership with Sing into Reading, and is best for kids ages 0-6. The program will seek to "build a love of reading through music that incorporates a Great Lakes twist."

Attendees also will have the opportunity to explore the museum's Port of Play.

Additional information can be found at NMGL. org. A variety of virtual kid-friendly activities also are available through the website's Captain Scupper's Kids Club.





ERIE METROPARKS various locations, Erie County

Erie MetroParks offers plenty to do at no cost.

Erie MetroParks manages 14 properties, which covers about 3,500 acres in Erie County. The properties feature habitats like forests, wetlands and prairies.

Many of the park properties are located along Lake Erie and Sandusky Bay, including Community Foundation Preserve at Eagle Point (3819 Cleveland Road W., Sandusky), Joseph Steinen Wildlife Area (4501 Cleveland Road W., Sandusky) and Wyandot MetroPark (5401 Cleveland Road W.)

These are unique spots along the water because of bird migration and the number of native species recorded.

"During spring bird migration, many beautiful migratory birds pass through the parks giving visitors a great chance at discovering and observing unique birds," said Cheryl Kilmer, program manager and naturalist. "The parks are also home to many bald eagles, and some nest along the East Sandusky Bay."

The district's most visited park is Osborn MetroPark, located at 3910 Perkins Ave. in Huron. More than 50,000 people visit the park each year, according to Kippie Loughlin, the digital media and information technology coordinator.

"Osborn is our flagship park," he said.

It has amenities like trails, playgrounds, shelters, pickleball courts, soccer fields, a disc golf course and more. There's also a new nature center being built.

Among the parks, there's more than 30 miles of trails.

"Erie MetroParks has so many beautiful trails to discover together and it is a fun, free activity," Kilmer said. "From the cliffs at Castalia Quarry MetroPark (8404 Ohio 101, Castalia) to the beautiful forests at Edison Woods MetroPark (10186 Ceylon Road, Berlin Heights), there is always something new and exciting to explore."

At The Coupling MetroPark (11618 Ohio 13, Milan), there are canoe rentals and overnight lodging available.

Erie MetroParks offers more than 300 free public programs a year.

A few programs specifically for children include Nature Baby (ages 0-3), Park P.A.L.S. (ages 3-6) and Wild Things (ages 6-12). Other fun programs are Bubble Boogie and summer nature camps.

To see more park information and the list of programs, visit eriemetroparks.org.







CROSBY FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS 5403 Elmer Drive, Toledo June 28-30

The Crosby Festival of the Arts in Toledo, Ohio, is an annual fine arts show at the Toledo Botanical Garden. This event transforms the lush grounds into a bustling marketplace of artistic expression. With over 200 artists showcasing their work in various mediums, from painting and sculpture to ceramics and jewelry, the festival offers something for every artistic taste. Visitors can stroll through the picturesque gardens, engage with artists about their inspirations, and even purchase unique pieces to adorn their homes. Beyond the art, the festival also features live music performances, delicious food vendors, and interactive activities.

LUCAS COUNTY

ICONIC

THE BATTLE OF FALLEN TIMBERS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE 4949 Jerome Road, Maumee

The Battle of Fallen Timbers National Historic Site in Maumee, Ohio, consists of 187 acres of open field along with a wooded area near the center. The property is owned and operated through Toledo Metroparks, and the site was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1960 and represents a solemn testament to a pivotal moment in American history. This site commemorates the decisive clash between Native American tribes and the United States Army in 1794, a conflict that marked the end of Native American resistance in the Northwest Territory. Today, visitors can explore the tranguil grounds dotted with fallen trees that once served as barriers during the battle. Interpretive exhibits and guided tours provide insight into the events leading up to the confrontation and its profound consequences for indigenous peoples and the fledgling nation.

LIVE EVENT

WHITEHOUSE CHERRY FEST June 6-8

Downtown Whitehouse

The Whitehouse Cherry Fest in downtown Whitehouse, Ohio, is a delightful annual celebration hosted in honor of the town's rich cherry-growing tradition. The festival brings together locals and visitors to revel in the beauty and bounty of the region's cherry orchards. From juicy cherry pies to refreshing cherry lemonade, the festival offers a delectable array of cherry-themed treats for attendees to enjoy. Beyond the culinary delights, the Cherry Fest features live music, artisanal crafts, carnival rides and family-friendly activities, creating a festive atmosphere of fun and camaraderie.

Can't Miss community EVENTS

WORLD'S LONGEST YARD SALE Aug. 1-4 202 N. Main St., Celina

The World's Longest Yard Sale along U.S. Route 127 is an iconic event that stretches across multiple states and attracts throngs of bargain hunters and treasure seekers to Celina and other participating towns. In Celina, Ohio, this annual extravaganza transforms the streets into a bustling marketplace spanning over 690 miles. Vendors line the roadside, offering an eclectic array of goods ranging from antiques and collectibles to handmade crafts and vintage finds. With its lively atmosphere and endless array of unique treasures, the World's Longest Yard Sale in Celina promises an unforgettable shopping experience that celebrates the joy of discovery and the camaraderie of community.

MERCER COUNTY

ICONIC

ROTARY LIGHTHOUSE

527 S. Walnut St., Celina The 40-foot Rotary Lighthouse in Celina, Ohio, stands on the west bank of Grand Lake in Celina. This picturesque landmark gives guests incredible views of the 13,500 acres of land. Erected in 1986 in collaboration with the Celina Rotary Club, its serene setting amidst the tranquil waters of Grand Lake makes it a beloved spot for locals and visitors alike to gather, reflect, and appreciate the area's natural beauty.

LIVE EVENT

BOARDWALK FEST

July 19-20

LUCAS COUNTY FAIR JULY 8-14

725 Westbank Road, Celina The Boardwalk Fest in Celina, Ohio, is an annual celebration that transforms the shores of Grand Lake St. Marys into a lively hub of entertainment, food and family-friendly activities. Hosted along the scenic boardwalk, this event brings together residents and visitors to revel in the charm of lakeside living. Attendees can browse an eclectic array of artisanal crafts, sample delicious local fare from food vendors, and enjoy live music performances against the backdrop of the shimmering lake. With its festive atmosphere and idyllic setting, the Boardwalk Fest captures the essence of Celina's summertime leisure and tight-knit community.

MERCER COUNTY FAIR AUG. 8-14

Summer Fun Guide 2024

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF FINDLAY 1800 Tiffin Ave., Findlay

The Children's Museum of Findlay combines education and entertainment to create an engaging experience for little ones and their families.

Located inside the Findlay Village Mall on 1800 Tiffin Ave. in Findlay, Ohio, the Children's Museum of Findlay offers a variety of experiences and activities for children 10 and under.

"We have over 20 exhibits," Kora Burtch, the museum's executive director, said. "We always try to either bring in a new exhibit or do a major overhaul of an existing exhibit at least once a year."

"Little Main Street," a collection of businesses and organizations in Findlay made to be kid-friendly, is hugely popular at the Children's Museum.

"Most of those exhibits kind of circle around places that you may visit when you go into downtown (or) a local community," Burtch explained. "There are (places) like the bank, the grocery store, the hospital, fire station, there's the recycling truck."

The other half of the museum consists of "outdoor exploration" themed exhibits.

"In 2019 we expanded to the other half of the museum. We have exhibits like the tunnels... (a) treehouse with the tents and the river. We have "once underground," which is (the) foam pit," she said. "We (also) have sock hockey, the theater, the bus and the sheriff car on that side."

Burtch says they're ramping up programming within the museum.

"One event that we have been starting to do is partnering with Awakening Minds Art doing a Paint and Play event every other month, where they come into the museum and they host a painting class for the kiddos to do," she said.

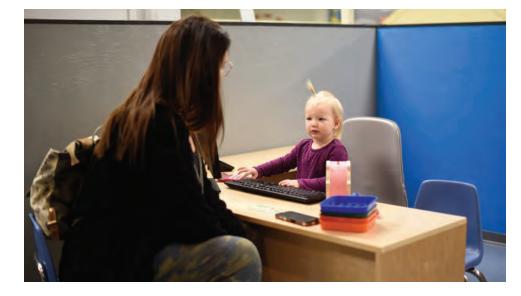
The museum also has a sensory-friendly room for children for different needs or those who just need a break from all the excitement.

"We're also doing sensory hours and that's an hour prior to our normal opening at 10 a.m. It'll run from nine to 10, and that is the third Wednesday of every month," Burtch said.

The variety of things to do makes the museum unique, Burtch said.

"There aren't a lot of places where families can come in together and they can interact through play... without even knowing that they're learning things," she explained. "We just have this unique experience (where) families can grow and learn together in a safe place."

More information about the museum's exhibits and programming can be found at www.cmfindlay.com.











BIGGEST WEEK IN

AMERICAN BIRDING May 3-12

Black Swamp Bird Observatory, Oak Harbor, among other locations

Thanks to the folks at Black Swamp Bird Observatory, the Lake Erie shore will again become a must-visit venue for serious birders who want to view the spring migration. This year's events will include birding field trips accessible to everyone, a concert celebrating migrating birds, top speakers, new field trip site guides, van trips and more. For more, go to www.biggestweekinamericanbirding.com.

PORT CLINTON WALLEYE FESTIVAL

May 23-27

Waterworks Park in downtown Port Clinton

The Main Street Port Clinton Walleye Festival returns in late May in downtown Port Clinton. Expect free live concerts, a kids fishing derby, more than 130 vendors, carnival rides and other activities. There will be plenty of food and drink offerings, too.

PYRATE FEST XVI

June 28-30 DeRivera Park, 341 Bayview Ave.,

Put-in-Bay, South Bass Island

The annual pirate-themed event will include live cannon firings, treasure hunts, historical demonstrations and encounters with "mermaids and legendary pirates." Go to www. visitputinbay.com to learn more.

B-17 FLYING FORTRESS VISIT

Aug. 3 Liberty Aviation Museum,

3515 E. State Road, Port Clinton

Whether you want to purchase a ride on a legendary World War II heavy bomber or just get a good look at the plane, the Liberty Aviation Museum has you covered. The Port Clinton museum is offering tickets to take a ride on the WWII Boeing B-17G Flying Fortress bomber, courtesy of the Yankee Air Museum in Michigan. The museum's website at www.libertyaviationmuseum.org has more information about the event and other museum events featuring various planes.

OTTAWA COUNTY

ICONIC



MARBLEHEAD LIGHTHOUSE 110 Lighthouse Drive, Marblehead

One of Ohio's best known historic attractions is the Marblehead Lighthouse, depicted endlessly in photographs and in art. Marblehead Lighthouse State Park offers a lighthouse that can be climbed during the summer. There's also a replica lifesaving station, a gift shop, picnic areas and restrooms.



PERRY'S VICTORY AND INTERNATIONAL PEACE MEMORIAL 93 Delaware Ave., Put-in-Bay

There are plenty of reasons why tourists come to South Bass Island, but one famous attraction that helps keep visitors coming is the Perry Memorial. In good weather, visitors enjoy going to the observation deck of the memorial, 352 feet tall, to enjoy a spectacular view of much of the island and the surrounding lake. The monument is open May through October, check dates at www.nps.gov/pevi/index.htm

LIVE EVENTS

BASH ON THE BAY Aug. 21-22

Put-in-Bay Airport, 1494 Langram Road, Put-in-Bay, South Bass Island

Put-in-Bay's Bash on the Bay music festival, set for Aug. 21-22, features singers Jelly Roll, Oliver Anthony and Warren Zeider on the first day, with Hardy and Ernest on the second day. The annual bash has become the area's biggest music event. For more information or to get tickets, go to bashonthebay.com.

HERMAN'S HERMITS 7:30 p.m., Aug. 10

Hoover Auditorium, Lakeside

Singer Peter Noone and his British Invasion band returns to sing vintage hits such as "I'm into Something Good," "There's a Kind of Hush" and "I'm Henry VIII, I Am." For tickets or to learn more, go to lakesideohio.com.

OTTAWA COUNTY FAIR JULY 17-23



A CHANCE TO TAKE TIME AND BE ONE WITH THE OUTDOORS

By Brian Gott

INDIAN TRAIL CAMPGROUND

1400 U.S. 250 New London

Did you ever wonder what it's like to sleep in a Teepee? Well you can find out by renting one at Indian Trail Campground in Fitchville.

Indian Trail Campground began its first full camping season in May 1986. Ron and Eunice Hackenberger bought the farm land in Fitchville with the intention of starting a campground. The campground is now in its 38th season, says Eve Cross, the daughter of the owners.

"The name of the campground came about because there is an Indian Mound located on the east side of Fitchville River Road," says Eve. "Our campers can hike, bike or take a golf cart ride to the mound. In keeping with the Indian theme, we invested in teepees as a way to get travelers' attention to the park."

The campground started renting them as a primitive camping experience for adventurous families and groups, but two years ago, it shifted the teepee rentals to more of a glamping experience.

"Our current 'Dream Catcher Teepee' includes a comfy queen bed, concrete floor, electricity, refrigerator and coffee maker," says Eve. "We have two cots that can be added for families up to four. It is beautifully and romantically decorated inside and the view of the park from the picnic table high atop a hill is gorgeous!"

But the campground also has more traditional camping sites.

They currently offer 175 camping sites, 15 primitive sites, and three cabin rentals and the teepee rentals.

Campground amenities include an 8 acre lake for fishing, paddle boats, rowboats, canoe, kayaks, swimming pool, basketball, cornhole, sand vollevball, shuffleboard, horseshoes, 9 hole footgolf course, several play grounds, sand box and lots of organized activities every weekend. "Some of the most popular

organized activities include BINGO,

bands, family gameshow nights, kid's crafts, sports tournaments, and outrageous scavenger hunts," Eve says.

The campground is open for 25 weeks - opening the first week of May and closing the third week of October.

You never know quite what you're going to get when you operate a campground.

Eve says one time a group came with elephants.

"The MOST unusual request happened during the first year we opened, Eve savs, "Three traveling elephants staved the night along with their trainers on their way to Omaha, Nebraska for a show. They had just performed at the Lorain County Fair."

But mostly, they just serve people.

Eve says one of the best parts about managing her parents business is working alongside family members.

"Approximately 25 family members have worked over the course of the past 37 summers. I currently work side by side with my husband and daughter, a couple of nieces and a nephew who will be getting trained this month," Eve says.

"I also love seeing other families enjoy their camping experience in an environment that means so much to me, and making memories with one another," she says.



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Compiled by Ziyah Piltz

CLINTON LAKE CAMPING

4990 E. TR 122 Republic

Clinton Lake Camping is committed to serving all unique vacation and recreation needs. Outside of rural Republic, Ohio, Clinton Lake Camping features individual swimming and fishing lakes, horseshoe and volleyball pits, three playground areas, primitive tent sites and modern water and electric hookup sites, and a convenient camping store. Swimming



Clinton Lake swimming lake

and fishing lakes, horseshoe and volleyball pits, three playground areas. Camp Store, Dump Station, 30 Pull-Thru Sites, RV Sites, Tent Sites, Pets Allowed.

LEAFY OAKS CAMPGROUND 6955 OH 101 Clyde

Leafy Oaks Campground was formerly a dairy farm. According to Joan Faneuff, the campground's owner, an agreement was made in 1962 to develop the property into a campground, which was named Seneca Campgrounds, in addition to Camp Seneca & Leafy Oaks RV Park.

"Leafy Oaks Campground is a Camparound caught in time," said Faneuff, cont "something magical



Leafy Oaks during "Heroes Weekend." Scheduled to take place May 31-June 3.

happens as you drive over the scenic bridge." Leafy Oaks is celebrating its 20th Anniversary this year. They offer a beautiful landscaped outdoor recreation facility known for fun, family, community events throughout the summer. The charity team supports 4 Paws for Ability raising money for service dogs for disabled children and vets, and since 2017 they have raised over \$92,000 for 4 Paws. Leafy Oaks is fun in nature for all ages with entertainment, 30 acres of hiking trails, kid's crafts & activities & music events.

ARROWHEAD LAKE CAMPGROUNDS

21876 US-68. Williamstown

Located in Williamstown, Arrowhead Lake offers a unique camping experience as it is home to a six-acre fishing pond. The grounds have been home to campers for approximately 60 years and have a number of familyoriented amenities, with the pond being their most utilized amenity. All of their camp sites have 20-, 30-, and 50-amp service hookups as well as water and a nearby dumpsite. The campgrounds are conveniently located to stay at



and visit many Ohio attractions, ranging from Cedar Point in Sandusky, OH to the US Air Force National Museum in Dayton, OH.

Camp Boss Tom Bader said, "We offer so much more than what somebody would find at a hotel and it's considerably cheaper, as long as you own an RV or tent." In 2021, they finished building a new bathhouse making another amazing addition to the grounds. There is not a laundry site on location. Some of their other amenities include:

- Fishing
- Swimming
- Volleyball
- Basketball
- Non-Motorized Boating
- Playgrounds

Arrowhead Lake will be open from May through October.



camping continued on page 35 >

PAULDING COUNTY

ICONIC

PAULDING COUNTY CARNEGIE LIBRARY

205 S Main St, Paulding

Over 100 years ago, the president of the Public Library Association in the county requested funding to build a library from Andrew Carnegie. Carnegie agreed to provide the funding under the idea that it would support the entirety of Paulding County's population. For \$40,000, Paulding County became the site for the first "county" Carnegie library in the United States.

LIVE EVENT

ANNUAL ANTIQUE & CLASSIC TRUCK SHOW

Sept. 22, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. 600 Fairground Dr., Paulding The John Paulding Historical Society will host the Annual Antique & Classic Truck Show. There will be free admission for visitors. More information is to be announced.

Can't Miss community EVENTS

FLAT ROCK CREEK FALL FESTIVAL Sept. 20-22

501 Fairground Drive, Paulding lee cream, fresh apple cider, popcorn, antique tractor pulls and craft shows these are just a few attractions visitors will come cross when they explore this year's Flat Rock Creek Fall Festival. Event organizers say the event is a way to "celebrate days gone by, right here in the present."

PAULDING COUNTY FAIR JUNE 8-15



FINE ARTS CAMP

July 29-August 2, 2024 9:00 am-3:00 pm All children entering 1st - 5th grade \$55 first child; \$45 additional Movement, Drama, Music Visual Arts!

First Presbyterian Church 2330 S Main St Findlay, OH 45840 419-423-2112

www.findlayfpc.org/fine_arts_camp/ Register online today!





Mao/ca

419-379-5513

pierre.duplessis@mmvagent.com

www.getawaypierre.com





MEADOWBROOK PARK CAMPGROUND 5430 W. Tiffin St.

Bascom

Located in Bascom. Meadowbrook Park has been home to campers since the 1970s. Another familyoriented location, Meadowbrook Park is sure to create good memories for those who stay there. With 130 acres to carry out numerous different activities, the park is split into a few different areas: A court area, where



guests can play tennis, basketball, and roller hockey, as well as another court area for sand volleyball and a softball diamond. What makes Meadowbrook unique, however, is that there is an 18-hole disc golf course that intertwines with the park features.

Park Ranger Tony Breidenbach said some of their most popular amenities include:

- The Fields
- The Ballroom
- Foot Trails
- Bike Trails
- The Playground

Meadowbrook Park will be open from April through October.

RIVERBEND CAMPGROUNDS 16618 Township Rd 208, Findlay

Riverbend Recreation Area is located on the grounds of Riverbend Recreation Area. This campground is a class "C" primitive camping facility with four tent camping sites. Each site includes a picnic table and fire ring. The entire campground can be rented for camping or special events.

Campsites are not accessible by car; campers must park and walk items to their site.

Riverbend Recreation Area was the Hancock Park District's first park, which opened in 1976 for America's Bicentennial celebration. Once a Native American camp along the "big bend" of the Blanchard, the 129-acre park remains a unique habitat for wildlife. Visitors can birdwatch and take photographs as they enjoy a wide range of year-round outdoor recreation opportunities and experiences. Ample open space is available for yard games. A multi-use loop trail and nature trails weave through clearings and tree canopy, perfect for quiet dreaming and restful solitude for every season.

HERITAGE SPRINGS CAMPGROUND 13891 Township Rd 199, Vanlue

Heritage Springs campground offers full hookup or water/electric only. Heritage Springs has a familyoriented mission with activities for all ages going on, including live music, trolley rides, kids crafts, and more. This campground has a playground on-site, a pond for swimming and fishing, and golf cart rentals.



WALNUT GROVE RV RESORT 7325 S. TR 131

Tiffin

Walnut Grove RV Resort is Ohio's premier RV vacation destination in Northern Ohio on the Sandusky River! For over 75 years, they've been hosting family fun and memory-making on their family farmturned-resort and offering a wealth of



activities, events, and fun on the water. Whether you're staying in one of their cozy cabins or your own tent or RV, come join the family at Walnut Grove RV Resort this season.

MOHICAN STATE PARK CAMPGROUNDS 3116 State Route 3 Loudonville

Offers a variety of overnight accommodations including a large family campground with electric and non-electric sites, camper cabins and Sherman cabins for guests who want a camping experience. Other amenities located near the campground complex include an archery range, multi-use trail system, and historic grist mill.



Reservations may be made up to six months in advance online or by calling (866) 644-6727.

PUTNAM COUNTY

ICONIC

MURALS AT THE REX

Murals in downtown Ottawa depict historical highlights, yet tie together different periods. One mural celebrates agriculture with scenes of fields, major crops and animals in Putnam County.

LIVE EVENT

THURSDAYS AT THE REX

Live music, food trucks and a market will be offered from 5-8:30 p.m. on Thursdays in June through August at The Rex in downtown Ottawa.

Can't Miss community EVENTS

OKTOBERFEST OTTAWA

Happens Sept. 28 downtown at the EndZone on North Walnut Street Sept. 28. Live music, food trucks and local vendors serving German food. Ottawa Brewing Company will be serving craft beer.

PUTNAM COUNTY FAIR JUNE 24-29



ICONIC

SHAWSHANK TRAIL

124 N. Main St., Mansfield

Always open

The world-famous trail straight out of the movie. The Shawshank Redemption brings fans from all over the world to step into the movie. The trail includes 15 filming sites from the movie with 11 sites in Mansfield, one site in Ashland, two sites in Upper Sandusky and one site at Sandy Point National Wildlife Refuge in St. Croix, US Virgin Islands. All filming sites aside from St. Croix are accessible via car.

LIVE EVENT

SHAWSHANK30 ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND

124 N. Main St., Mansfield Aug. 9 - 11

Discover 419

The 30-year weekend-long celebration of The Shawshank Redemption 30th anniversary will feature the director, actors and crew. The gathering is one-of-a-kind for Shawshank fans. Many details are yet to be announced; however, the celebration is sure to be popular with the 25th-anniversary celebration had visitors from 18 states and six countries. To find more information as it becomes available, visit shawshanktrail.com/events/shawshank-30th-anniversary.

RICHLAND COUNTY FAIR AUG. 4-10



THE GREAT PUMPKIN GLOW

Kingwood Center Gardens, 50 N. Trimble Rd., Mansfield 4 - 9 p.m. October 18 - 19

The Great Pumpkin Glow, hosted by Ohio Health, takes place at Mansfield's public garden, Kingwood Center Gardens. The event displays 1,000 community-carved jack-o-lanterns for guests to view as they walk through the estate.

The event features themed areas such as Scarecrow Row, Greenhouse Glow and Enchanted Forest. There will be a children's carnival, autumn activities, food trucks and a live DJ.





Simple. Rustic. Affordable. NEW WEDDING VENUE IN SENECA COUNTY (419) 680-5970 | www.HistoricalOctagonHouse.com







Summer Fun Guide 2024

SANDUSKY COUNTY

ICONIC



Located in Fremont, Ohio and is just a few miles from Exit 91 of the Ohio Turnpike. The museum is open year-round, although dates and hours may vary seasonally. Hayes Presidential is the nation's first Presidential library, opened to the public in 1916 and celebrated its centennial anniversary in 2016. It is located at Spiegel Grove at the corner of Hayes and Buckland avenues in Fremont, Ohio. The facility recently underwent a 1.3-milliondollar museum renovation and now features a new handicap-accessible grand entrance to the museum. New exhibits include interactive components that better tell the story of 19th U.S. President Rutherford B. Hayes and First Lady Lucy Webb Hayes. The museum now has a Presidents Gallery, which has artifacts from other U.S. Presidents and has a replica of the Resolute Desk. The original is located in the Oval Office of the White House.

LIVE EVENTS

FREMONT COMMUNITY THEATRE 155 Dickinson St., Fremont

Entering its 64th season, FCT is the premier live theater venue in Sandusky County, Ohio The Fremont Community Theatre and Literary Society was founded in 1956 by several Fremont residents who had a desire to perform live theater. Over 50 years later, FCT continues to be the premier live theater venue in Sandusky County. A non-profit organization. FCT is an all-volunteer theater which depends on the continued support of its members, patrons, and guests. Everyone is welcome at FCT; whether it be as a guest, musician, stage hand, decorator, actor, actress, or even just to donate cookies. Able to seat nearly 200 audience members in our auditorium, we proudly offer programs for area youth ages 8-12, teens 13-19 and 5 main season shows with a wide assortment of hilarious comedies, musicals and dramas, as well as special event performances.

THE STRAND THEATER 220 S. Front St.

The Strand Theater and Backstage Lounge, an intimate concert theater/venue located in downtown Fremont Ohio. The theatre has



These beautiful murals were made possible by multiple corporate and private donors. The barn trail is growing each year as more barn locations are secured designed a historical scene to paint on each barn. Most of the Sandusky County Barn Murals were designed by David Thornbury, a graphic designer/marketing director for the SCVB. The first barn was painted just prior to 2003 to commemorate Ohio's Bicentennial. The newest barn was secured in 2019 and was designed to commemorate Sandusky County's Bicentennial.

The Sandusky County Historic Barn Mural Driving Trail is just under 40 miles and takes about an hour to travel from start to finish. The trail takes you throughout Sandusky County winding along rural country roads that provide breathtaking country landscapes to take in along the way. When driving the trail please be aware to observe local traffic safety laws as well as to respect the property owners by not trespassing on private property without permission. These barns are meant to be enjoyed in passing and along the way you may stumble upon one of the local restaurants or downtown districts to take in a little small-town shopping.

a full-service kitchen and liquor license in the lounge, always available during events, and open 11 a.m.-8 p.m. every Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The theatre is available for rentals for business meetings, fundraisers and more. The theater is fully equipped with house sound, lighting and video systems, sound by JBL, Crown and more. A generous-sized stage, 32' wide and 12' deep on the sides and 15' deep in the middle. Large dance floor and seating with tables. Can accommodate up to 200+ people with plenty of room to mill around. There is free parking within a very short walk of theater.

The Strand Theater is also a fully equipped recording facility, with 24-track HD, Pro Tools, and lots of great outboard gear and mics. It is also the home of Precision Guesswork Productions Limited, a Graphic/Visual design company that produces CD covers, newspaper ads, video editing, DVD authoring, and much more.

CHATEAU WINERY & VINEYARDS 525 State Route 635, Helena

Bill and Michele, owners of Chateau Winery and Vinyards are looking forward to providing the winery's loyal customers, the community, and nearby wine enthusiasts with a friendly, relaxing, and enjoyable wine experience. For a full list of upcoming events, visit 419wine.com.

Can't Miss community EVENTS

FREMONT PRIDE 2024

July 6, 610 Morrison St, Fremont

Fremont Pride is a new organization in Sandusky County! Its goal is to provide year-round support to and education about the beautifully diverse LGBTQ+ community in Fremont and the surrounding areas. The group embraces diversity, places priority on activism and lifting unheard voices, and is here to create a safe space of love and support. Its first annual Fremont Pride Festival was a huge success! The festival saw over 40+ entertainers, 5 local food trucks, over 30+ local businesses, and over 2,000 community members in attendance. Come be a part of our Fourth Annual Fremont, Ohio Pride Festival! Fremont has a rich LGBTQ community that deserves to be celebrated. Come show your support to the community, local businesses, artists, and more! Entry is donation-based, so feel free to invite your family and friends.

SUNSET MARKET & DOWNTOWN BLOCK PARTY EVENT

Downtown Fremont, Cost: FREE! 4-8:00 p.m. Sept. 7, rain or shine

Located in Downtown Fremont, you will find vendors of every variety, live entertainment, yummy treats and a little something fun for folks of all ages in an evening sunset market setting! Use 105 S. Front St., Fremont as an address if searching our location using GPS. For more information, visit: www.downtownfremontohio.org.

THE CROP CIRCLE ART & MUSIC EVENT

Downtown Fremont

6-9: p.m. Sept. 27 and 28, rain or shine

The Crop Circle Art & Music Event is a 2 day extraterrestrial event for the whole family to partake in. It is an opportunity for the Fremont and surrounding communities to watch or participate in fun, creative and curious events. This event focuses on learning, creativity, fun, families, teamwork, team-building and celebrating what makes each of us unique. Events will take place in Downtown Fremont. Enjoy live art, local food and opportunities for everyone to join in! Use 105 S. Front St., Fremont as an address if searching our location using GPS. For more information, visit: www. downtownfremontohio.org.











RELIGION



Waterfront hotel, shopping, dining, 700 ft. dock, pool and live entertainment ... it's all in Lakeside.

EDUCATION

ARTS

RECREATION

Lakeside has been a family vacation destination on Lake Erie for more than 150 years. As one of the original Chautauqua communities, Lakeside has been a center for cultural arts, education, spiritual renewal and recreation. Make this the year you experience all Lakeside has to offer.







Christmas Candlelight tours to be announced *Reservations required

Open June, July & August Guided Tours Wednesday - Saturday 11am - 5pm • Last tour at 4pm

If the Amish Prefer Privacy... How Do You Buy Their Superior Quality Furniture?

Amish furniture is not something that falls apart.

Amish furniture is not something that comes in boxes, with self-assembly pieces that never quite fit correctly together. Since the

eighteenth century, it's been widely known that the Amish are some of the finest woodworking, furniture craftsmen in the country.

When Amish build men (and furniture the women sew quilts), they take



their time to ensure precision, attention to detail and a general standard of excellence. Amish furniture is crafted with Old World techniques. It is not ego that drives these craftsmen to create such masterly goods - in fact; pride,

vanity and individual gain are sacrilege in Amish Country.

The Amish dilemma...

Amish vearn privacy, yet love to make and sell their fine furniture. How does an

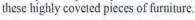
"outsider," with their loud cars, cameras and questions, venture into Amish Country to buy Amish made furniture? And how exactly would an outsider locate a furniture craftsman? After all, the Amish don't have telephones or storefronts. For decades, these questions caused most folks to just stay home and live with their mass produced factory furniture.

But now, something amazing has happened.

Much to our community's great fortune.

there is now a solution to this age-old conundrum. Deckers Furniture, an Ohio premier furniture retailer, has forged a great relationship with several Amish craftsmen - relationships as strong as the furniture itself. Through mutual admiration for fine woodworking and top quality furniture, Deckers has

come to an exciting, new agreement. The Deckers trucks are invited to visit Amish Country and pick up



In addition to this news, customized pieces are now available, too.

Customers are welcome to bring pictures into the store of pieces they'd love to have made by the Amish, and Deckers will deliver them to the craftsmen on their next journey to Amish country. .

The life-pace in Amish Country is said to be slower. Privacy matters to the Amish. They believe in hard work. And they love to make furniture. Now you can have hand-made Amish furniture right here in your own backvard-thanks to Deckers Furniture.

Once the furniture pieces are built, Deckers then delivers them straight to your home or office.

Not only is it now possible to buy Amish made furniture, it's easier than ever to get the exact pieces you have your heart set on.

Buying Amish furniture through Deckers is truly a win win situation for all. You now have the opportunity to own these timeless pieces of quality craftsmanship; and the Amish can enjoy their wish for privacy.

Explore the world of Amish made furniture at Deckers in downtown Tiffin.



Discover41



Tickets available online AND at the fair office

For additional info visit our website at: www.senecacountyfair.org Fair Office 419-447-7888

SENECA COUNTY

ICONIC



TIFFIN GLASS MUSEUM & GIFT SHOPPE 25-27 S. Washington St., Tiffin

The Tiffin Glass Museum honors the heritage established by the men and women of Tiffin's "Glass House". Through preservation and education, the museum safeguards glassware made by the artisans from the factory's nearly hundred-year history. Museum preservation work includes acquiring memorabilia and historical documents from the factory's beginnings in 1889 until its closing in 1984. Gift Shoppe features products from the original Tiffin Glass Factory, where beautiful stemware, tableware and decorative ware was produced from 1889 to 1980. In addition to the large selection of Tiffin Glass, other fine glassware, collectibles and books are offered for sale in the multi-dealer cabinets. Seasonal displays feature giftware for all ages. Tours are welcome. (Photo provided: Tiffin Glass Museum & Gift Shoppe)

FOSTORIA IRON TRIANGLE RAIL PARK

499 Poplar St., Fostoria

Fostoria Iron Triangle Railpark is a 5-acre tract directly inside the three double-track mainline freight rail lines that meander through Fostoria. Open 24/7, this park provides a 360-degree viewing platform that allows one to experience the sights and sounds of the 60-plus trains that pass through Fostoria daily. Historic places of interest include: B&O Depot, 400 S. Main St.: on the south side of Ex-B&O Tracks; LE&W Depot , 128 W. North St.; Toledo & Ohio Central/New York Central Depot; New York Central/Jackson St. Tower.



SENECA COUNTY MUSEUM 28 Clay St., Tiffin

Your window to Seneca County's history is framed and ready for viewing at the Italianatestyle 1853 home of Tiffin's first millionaire. Rezin Shawhan. Experience the elegant drawing room with original furnishings and elaborate architectural details. The parlor, with its original wallpaper, marble fireplace, and chandelier, showcases early means of musical entertainment. The remainder of the first floor has been renovated to enhance displays of glassware, primitive kitchen items and military uniforms, weapons, and memorabilia. The library and research center offers material on a wide range of topics and the new gift shop features historically themed items and books by local artisans and authors.

Did you know that the Seneca County Museum is an official stop on the Northwest Ohio Cultural Heritage Passport? The museum, along with many other exciting stops in Seneca County and Northwest Ohio are featured and allow you to explore the amazing culture our area has to offer. Check it out! (Photo provided: Seneca County Museum)

LIVE EVENTS

FROST-KALNOW AMPHITHEATER AT THE EAST GREEN

155 E. Market St., Tiffin The overall programming of the East Green complex includes theater, musical, jazz, kids' concerts, local bands, university events, summer camps and festivals.

THE RITZ THEATRE

30 S. Washington St., Tiffin

Let your worries melt away and enjoy an evening of fabulous entertainment at the Ritz Theatre in Tiffin! A historic 1928 vaudevilleera movie palace renovated in 1998, the Ritz serves the Northwest Ohio region as a performing arts center hosting national headliners, touring productions, dance, comedy, family shows, community theatre, and more. Restored almost to the original condition in 1998, four original textone murals are breathtaking as they adorn each side of the stage. A mammoth 1,200 lb. chandelier made of 20,000 Czechoslovakian crystals hangs impressively in the fine arts center.

THE POIGNON PROJECT

227 E. Perry St., Tiffin

The magical art of glassblowing is alive and well at the Poignon Project.

They offer a wide variety of handmade glass items including ornaments, marbles, sculptures, stemware, jewelry and many other great glass products all made also custom glass and glass blowing classes that you can sign up for and experience this exciting practice of art for yourself! In addition to The Poignon Project being home for glass blowing, it also features other medium of work for viewing along their gallery walls.

THE SPACE (FCAC INCLUSIVE ART STUDIO) South side of the 2nd floor in BANKquet Hall, 125 S. Main St., Fostoria

The Space is an inclusive studio for artists of any creative backgrounds. The Space is a registered 501c3 and accepts donations of artistic supplies of any kind to be used by any artist! From sewing to painting to musical jam sessions, The Space offers something for everyone. The Space is a free community resource and is a judgement free zone meant to foster and encourage creativity of all types! It is operated by members of The Fostoria Community Arts Council and welcomes everyone to come check out The Space.



TIFFIN-SENECA HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Sept. 20, 21, and 22

Promote Seneca County's history, especially during the county's 200 anniversary. In its 45th year, the festival features two venues - Heritage Village, located at Tiffin's Hedges-Boyer Park and the downtown portion. Visitors to the living history village can hear the boom of cannons, visit with reenactors portraying the area's settlement in the early 1800s as well as the Civil War era as well as listen to period music, and enjoy children's activities and food. The downtown portion features music, a parade, food, children's activities and more.

SENECA COUNTY BICENTENNIAL | HERITAGE FESTIVAL PARADE 10 a.m. Sept. 21

Destination Seneca County and the Seneca Regional Chamber of Commerce have announced that the Heritage Festival Parade, sponsored by Brian Bower – IoanDepot. The parade will take place during Heritage Festival weekend. The route will begin on South Washington Street at St. Joseph Catholic Church and go through the intersection at Riverside Drive. This year's parade will honor Seneca County's deep history as the county celebrates its 200th birthday. Becky Hill, a long-time Seneca County historian and genealogist, will be the grand marshal of the Heritage Festival.

22ND ANNUAL FOSTORIA RAIL FESTIVAL

Sept. 28

Sponsored by Fostoria Rail Preservation Society, the annual festival welcomes visitors to Fostoria High School, 100 Park Ave., and Fostoria Elementary School, 1202 H L Ford Drive, Fostoria, where they can see model train layouts, buy and sell train items, enjoy a soup contest, take part in a photo contest and the kids can take a train ride. Cost is \$5/person, children under 10 are free.









(419) 435-1807 Visit us at our new location 1610 N. Countyline St. Fostoria Pickup or Delivery Pizza • Subs • Salads • Wings Fostoria Rail Preservation Society Schedule of 2023 Events 419-435-1781 <u>13TH RAILROAD DINNER * 5/24</u> LE&W Depot \$25 / Person Doors open 4:30 • Dinner 5:30 • Program 6:30

> <u>21sτ FOSTORIA RAIL FESTIVAL * 9/23</u> Fostoria H.S. & Elem. Gym Adult Admission \$5.00, Children Under 10 - FREE

For more info visit our Facebook page or Fostoria Rail Park Facebook page or FRPS website

Make sure to visit the Fostoria Rail Park 499 S. Poplar St. Fostoria, for GREAT train viewing American Table Family Restaurant 603 Plaza Dr. Fostoria 419-435-5275 Daily Specials Hours: 7am-8pm daily Dine-in/Carryout



Summer Fun Guide 2024

GET YOUR CAFFEINE FIX

Many unique, locally-owned coffee shops in the 419

By Leah Alsept, Elizabeth Keefe and Julia Schaefer

Coffee shops hold significant cultural importance worldwide. They are more than just places to grab a cup of joe; they're often regarded as social hubs where people from all walks of life converge to connect, converse and unwind.

Here's a selection of unique coffee shops in the 419 worth checking out:

SABAIDEE COFFEE AND CREPES 45 S. Sandusky St., Tiffin

Lauren and Stephen Drown didn't always plan to own a coffee shop. Now, more than three years later, the couple has made Sabaidee their lifestyle.

The couple were married in August 2020 and came back from their honeymoon as fulltime small-business owners. They have spent the past few years experimenting with old and new ideas for what "third-wave" coffee can be.



Discove

They were given the opportunity to own Sabaidee by the previous owner, a missionary who felt a calling to spread what she had learned abroad back in her hometown. "Sabaidee" is a Thai greeting that translates to "Hello, I'm at peace, how are you?"

Lauren gave birth to their first child soon after the store opened. She is appreciative of their customers, who supported them when they had to adjust the store hours and offerings.

The welcoming, family-friendly atmosphere is everywhere throughout the store. They recently began collaborating with an artist to design their monthly specials board. They met the artist, a chalk specialist, doing designs on the sidewalk while at the park with their son.

Stephen is a coffee aficionado. He says it's a daily grind to "constantly strive for quality" in every cup. The Blueberry Muffin is the shop's signature drink, made with oat milk. He joked that they used up an entire bottle of blueberry syrup before they presented their perfect drink to customers.

Saibaidee rests adjacent to the Tiffin University campus on Sandusky Street. Lauren said that she wants the shop to feel "like a common ground, homey and comfortable for the college kids."

New on the horizon for this shop is a transition to more heathy and green ingredients. Sabaidee makes an energy drink from plant-based syrup. Their honey comes from a Tiffin beekeeper. Their coffee comes from a Michiganbased company called Contrast Coffee Company whose owners originally hail from Tiffin.

Sabaidee offers a selection of crepes along with their beverages. They offer vegetarian and gluten-free options for breakfast and lunch crepes, and are working hard to reduce GMOs in their food. With a wide menu, Sabaidee encourages customers who don't enjoy coffee to come in and experiment with their tastes. Stephen explains this relationship with their customers makes them so special.

"We might not remember your order, but we will remember your name," he said.

SHERI'S COFFEE HOUSE

27 Whittlesey Ave, Norwalk

A cozy coffee house in downtown Norwalk, Sheri's Coffee House, was founded in 2004 by Sheri and Bill Thomas. Even 20 years later, it continues to brew delicious beverages and put smiles on people's faces.

Sheri and Bill Thomas wanted to restore one of downtown Norwalk's oldest buildings and serve the community. After over a decade of success, the couple who raised six kids in Norwalk eventually decided it was time for a new chapter.

In June 2018, the family-owned business underwent new ownership. Before leaving to live in South Carolina, the couple approached Morgan Tucker and Jamie Simpson to see if they would be interested in taking over the building and the business.

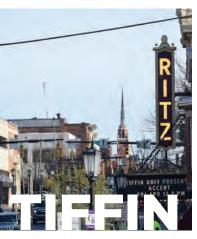
Firelands Coffee Co. roaster Collin Bedard and the business's building manager said the two couples first met through the Culinary Vegetable Institute near Milan.

"Jamie and Morgan wanted to continue what Bill and Sheri have done to restore the space and make it into a community hub," Bedard said. "They wanted to make sure that the transition in ownership didn't feel like things were changing and breathe new life into the building."

Since the pair took ownership in 2018, the shop has, in collaboration with Bedard, began roasting its own coffee in-house.

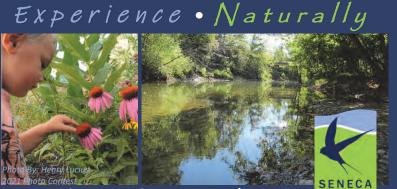
Sheri's Coffee House manager Sarah Neibler said that serving customers high-quality coffee is essential to keeping the business running, and they also keep the coffee shop open seven days a week.

"The biggest and most popular item on our menu is our coffee, which we actually get from Collin (of) our separate business, Firelands Coffee Company," Neibler said. "We also serve savory and sweet croissants, cookies, scones, muffins, bagels, oatmeal, and many grab-and-go options."





HARDWOOD FLOORING



www.SenecaCountyParks.com PARKS



One of the business's most popular food items is its Margherita pizza croissant, a freshly baked pastry filled with a tomato sauce and cheese blend.

"We do have plans in the future to add more food items to our menu," Neibler said.

Sheri's Coffee has also released an app allowing customers to quickly order their favorite items. The coffee house also has ample space for those who want to sit inside and work on their computer or catch up with an old friend.

"Serving the community and maintaining excellent customer service is our top two goals," Neibler said. "We want people to be greeted no matter what type of day they are having, this is a very tight-knit community, and we are known to be here for one another."

coffee continued on page 48 >



Corner of US 100 & 224 South of Tiffin 419-447-1828



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Wyandot County Fairgrounds Upper Sandusky, Ohio www.thewyandotcountyfair.com 419-294-4320

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A strange pairing to some, but the idea of adding joy to life with Grouchy-Gonging appliances and fantastic wine, coffee, and gourmet food makes sense once you give it a try. As Ralph says, "you'll be glad you did."



JoyOfLiving.com/Summer-Fun





SPRING FEST May 3-4

1055 S. Washington St., Van Wert Spring Fest is a great way to start prepping for outside lawn and gardens. Equipment for sale and local landscapers will help make your yard look the best it can. And if you aren't a greenthumb, outdoorsmen will also get to enjoy a wide variety of hunting, fishing and camping vendors.

VAN WERT COUNTY

ICONIC

LINCOLN RIDGE FARMS 6588 Pollock Road, Convoy

Find year-long fun at Lincoln Ridge Farms. Pick your own fruits and veggies from May through November, including strawberries, peaches, apples and pumpkins. The farm also has two self-serve stands, one at the farm and another in Antwerp beginning in May.

LIVE EVENT

VAN WERT LIVE Various locations

Whether you're trying to catch a play or enjoy a concert, Van Wert Live is full of endless possibilities. Venues are scattered around the Van Wert area including the Niswonger Performing Arts Center, the Fountain Park Amphitheatre, the grandstands at the fairgrounds. Upcoming events include the Dallas String Quartets with music from Netflix's Bridgerton, a Johnny Cash tribute band, Molly Hatchet and more. For a list of events and locations, visit vanwertlive.com.

VAN WERT COUNTY FAIR AUG. 27-SEPT. 2

Can't Miss community EVENTS

FLAIR ON THE SQUARE Saturday, July 27

A juried fine arts festival in scenic downtown Bryan. The event features art live entertainment, culinary treats and a local fresh market.

WILLIAMS COUNTY



LAKE LA SU AN WILDLIFE AREA

A 2,616-acre state wildlife area located 4 miles west of Pioneer. Acquisition of the Lake La Su An Wildlife Area began in 1981 and continued through 2015. The property was acquired using multiple state funds and donations. Multiple sources of federal funding were used to acquire the property.



BRYAN CITY BAND

A free live concert featuring local musicians, will be held at 7:30 p.m. June 12 at the Fountain City Amphitheater, 526 Avenue B, Bryan.

WILLIAMS COUNTY FAIR SEP. 7-14



MR. SMITH'S COFFEE HOUSE 140 Columbus Ave., Sandusky

For husband-and-wife duo Trent and Sara Beard, the art of making coffee and other delicious beverages is not the core of their work.

Rather, the pair strives to make their coffee shop in downtown Sandusky a spot where people can relax and converse with one another over their favorite caffeinated beverage.

But why "Mr. Smith's?"

"It's named after a place that my mother used to take me to as a kid in the nearby town of Green Springs, Ohio," Trent said. "Back in the 70s, there was a little shop that served as a pharmacy called Smith Drug."

The pharmacy, which a man named Bob Smith ran, was considered a stomping ground for many locals. Trent said during this time, pharmacies such as Woolworths featured a lunch counter for patrons.

"This store was the center of the town, and it was a place where people would come and spend time with one another and talk about things," Trent said. "Coffee shops have since become that, and for many people, it is their home away from home."

Trent and Sara, originally from Fremont, opened Mr. Smith's Coffee House in 2008. After years of working at coffee shops in other areas, the pair someday hoped to build their own.

"My wife Sara and I both originally worked at a coffee shop in Fremont in 1994, and after it closed, we both looked for other places to work," Trent said. "I came up here to Sandusky and worked at a coffee shop called Coffee Temptations, and she worked at a different place, and then eventually, we wound up going to the Sandusky Mall to work at a coffee chain in 1997 where we both served as managers for 11 years."

The pair knew they wanted to be somewhere downtown, a destination that out-of-towners would visit and view as a mustsee while in the city.

Despite various setbacks over the years, Trent said there was no particular time when the business took off and peaked. The company has remained steady over its current 16-year run.

"The business just got to be strong enough where we get through tough times," Trent said.

Mr. Smith's Coffee House features many breakfast and lunch options, and customers can customize their orders to suit their needs. Regarding drinks, there is also no shortage of options from coffee to tea, smoothies and more.



our coffee beans from a roaster outside of Cleveland called Berardi's Fresh Roast."

Trent and Sara's business goal has remained the same - to simply "make a living." The pair were not, and still are not, interested in franchising. They said they only want to make a living and supply a livable wage to their employees.

"It's about making sure that our business remains the type of place people want to return to," Trent said.

COFFEE AMICI 328 S. Main St., Findlay

The idea for Coffee Amici began in 2002, when smoking inside restaurants and coffee shops was still legal.

"The whole basic concept was a safe gathering place where people of all ages could come; you can bring your baby in the stroller and your grandma who's 90 and didn't have all those barriers that a typical restaurant or venue would have," like smoke everywhere, said Coffee Amici's owner and manager John Calvelage.

Since then, Coffee Amici has stayed the same. The color scheme has stayed the same and so has their coffee, which they get from Crimson Cup in Columbus.

"The first year we opened, we had no frozen lattes because frozen drinks hadn't really become a big thing at that time," Calvelage said. "Because people drink cold coffee all year round now, that was unusual in the beginning."

Nowadays, he says, hot and cold coffee popularity is about even. "That one poster up there, the 'sticky toffee caramel cream," he said, gesturing to a poster on the wall of the coffee shop behind the register. "We took that down after the pandemic and people asked us 'what happened to it? You need to get that back up there. That's my drink.' And so people have a real affinity for their favorite drinks."

Calvelage was working at Marathon when they first opened and got more involved at Coffee Amici once he first retired in 2005 and then again in 2019. Calvelage's wife, Lynne, was the primary barista and operations manager of the coffee shop until she retired during the pandemic.

"There are some people that have been our customers for the last 20 years and we have some employees now who were four years old when they first came into Coffee Amici," Calvelage said. "Now, they work for us."

Calvelage has seen a lot of growth downtown around Coffee Amici in the last 20 years.

"Downtown has become a lot more diverse with its business clientele," he said. "There've been a lot of great additions."

He even remembers when the Marathon Center for Performing Arts was a school administration building.

"There are a lot of people that have invested in downtown in the last 20 years," he continued. "And it's created a really vibrant atmosphere with a lot of different places that people can go."

Now there's live music somewhere every weekend, including an open mic night every Friday at Coffee Amici. And "so much good food" too, says Calvelage.

"The one thing that surprised us at the beginning is how well the musical performances were received," he said. "It was well accepted by the community from the very beginning."

There are many guitar players who play at Coffee Amici on Friday nights. More piano players are also showing up since the shop procured a keyboard.

"It's really amazing how talented people are. People that you see every day going to work," Calvelage said. "And then they show up one Friday night, start playing music, and you think, 'where did that come from?' But there are just a lot of talented people around."

Calvelage and his wife also give back to the communities in other ways with the coffee shop.

"My wife and I have served on nonprofit boards," he said. "We've helped with fundraisers and all kinds of things over the years."

The two have partnered with Red Cross, United Way and Spectrum of Findlay for fundraisers in the past. Lynne also served on the board of FOCUS Recovery and Wellness Community and Calvelage himself serves on the NAMI Hancock County board.

"The funny thing is usually we get to know the people, then we get involved. Because it's really more of a people business than a coffee business," he said. "And if you're in this business, you really want to love people."

He didn't expect to see the level of acceptance Coffee Amici has had in the community when they first opened.

"The fact was that there was something missing," Calvelage said. "And we were fortunate enough to stumble upon the idea, apparently at the right time."

Looking out at the people that fill the seats every day in the shop, Calvelage says, that's exactly what Coffee Amici was intended for.

"I mean, there's just all these little groups, little communities, that meet inside the walls," he said. "They

might be college students, they might be business people with business meetings. They might be lawyers, meeting with clients. They might be moms with little kids or might be Bible study groups, people who are dating. People meeting for whatever reason in a safe place where they feel comfortable," he says.

"That's what it's all about."



BAILIWICKS COFFEE COMPANY 62 S. Washington St., Tiffin

Art and science combine in the front room of Bailiwicks Coffee Company, where coffee beans are roasted weekly in-house. Behind this project is Jess Wirth, who founded Bailiwicks 12 years ago.

"I'm obsessed with and fascinated with every feature," Wirth said, likening coffee to wine in its complexity. Wirth has enjoyed filling her shop with pieces of the



surrounding community, from cookies to artwork.

The art on the walls is sold on consignment, a process that is less expensive than a gallery and gives local artists a chance to be discovered. Artists of a different kind shine on Open Mic nights, a collaboration between Tiffin Univerity and Heidelberg University that gives students and community members a chance to find some inspiration for poetry, music and comedy.

Pop-up shops of local small businesses also frequent the front room on weekends, allowing customers to discover new local favorites in jewelry, body products and handmade items. The two back rooms of

the shop offer a variety of seating, from family-style tables to couches and sitting chairs.

Bailiwicks' specials board artwork, done by a barista, has gone viral on social media several times. Wirth remembers a family that traveled from Kentucky to try their "Land Before Time"-themed specials. Another barista curates the houseplants that line the windowsills and display shelves. Many of the Bailiwicks employees have worked there for more than six years, and Wirth says she "can't thank them enough."

Bailiwicks' coffee motto is quality and consistency over speed. Bailiwicks

highlights coffee beans from all over the world, from Guatemala to Africa. Roasted beans are available for wholesale order on their website or for a small bag in-store. They recently upgraded to a larger roaster, and they now roast coffee in-house once a week. Each coffee is customroasted to bring out the particular flavor Wirth wants to highlight.

The word "Bailiwick" means a person's area of expertise or interest, and Wirth chose it because she wanted to develop a mastery of coffee. She also wanted to make her shop a space for people of all professions and interests to come together.

Wirth is a single mom of three, and the community around Bailiwicks is her motivation and passion. Her dream was to create, "a sense of place, a space for the community" from business meetings and interviews to family outings and artist meetups.



WOOD COUNTY

ICONIC

WOOD COUNTY MUSEUM 13660 County Home Road

The museum recounts various historical aspects of Wood County on the grounds of what was originally the Wood County Infirmary, or the "County Home." The original construction was completed in 1868, and additional wings followed. The infirmary closed in 1972, and the Wood County Park Commission and Historical Society became proprietors of the 50 acres of grounds and buildings in 1972. The museum opened in 1975, and in addition to daily visitors, it frequently hosts a variety of presentations and other activities. In addition to the museum, the grounds include the Lyle Fletcher Arboretum, Adam Phillips Park, a public archery range and two walking trails.

LIVE EVENT

NATIONAL TRACTOR PULLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Aug, 15-17

The Wood County Fairgrounds become Pulltown, USA each summer, with thousands attending the world's largest tractor-pulling event. A variety of activities are included in the championships, which began as the National Tractor Pull in 1967. Since then, crowds estimated at 65,000 have gone to the fairgrounds through the weekend to witness pulls involving tractors, trucks, diesels and pro stocks. The Bowling Green-based Northwestern Ohio Tractor Pullers Association directs the event, which includes a total purse of \$250,000, along with contingency prizes.

Can't Miss community EVENTS

THE APPLEBUTTER FESTIVAL

Grand Rapids

Since 1976, the event has revived and celebrated the old-time tradition of making apple butter, which was stored and used for making apple products in the winter. The event takes place on the banks of the Maumee River and includes three stages that provide non-stop entertainment such as music, re-enactments and crafting. Other events include an antique farm equipment display, a vintage car show and craft

The event, which reputedly draws 40,000 people, is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free, but parking is \$15.

WOOD COUNTY FAIR JULY 28-AUG.4



August 6 - 10, 2024

August 6 - Cheer Competition August 7 - Draft Pony Pulls August 8 - Pig Scramble August 9 - Bulls & Barrels August 10 - OSTPA Truck & Tractor Pulls

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JAVA'S ENCHANTED BEAN 204 S. Main St., Fostoria

Java's Enchanted Bean is breathing new life into downtown

Fostoria. The coffee shop acts as a respite for the busy lives of its patrons.

Dionna Brenamen and her husband, Kyle, opened Java's Enchanted Bean in 2022. They offer a variety of caffeinated hot and cold drinks, breakfast, lunch and sweet treats from their bakery. One of their most popular items is a made-from scratch, lightly-sweetened pretzel twist with a side of maple bacon dipping sauce.

Her goal is not only to make great coffee, but to build upon a culture of inclusivity — to make everyone feel welcome.

"That's one of the things that I have stressed with our team is,

we can provide coffee, we can provide baked goods and they can even be great," she said. "But if we treat people like they're not important or they like they don't matter, then we're not any different than any other place that you go to."

A normal day for the coffee shop has students, working adults and retirees stopping in to stay for a while.

"Several times a week we have groups of people that come on certain days. We've got some ladies that come (in), they're called the Java Tribe, which is a bunch of girlfriends hanging out," Dionna said. "It's that sense of community that we wanted."

Making Java's Enchanted Bean what it is today took a lot of work and a lot of heart.

"(When) we started out, I had been involved in the insurance and financial services world for about 30 years," Dionna said. "I was at a crossroads of whether I wanted to continue on in that business or if I wanted to do something that was just more a dream type of thing."

When the new owner of the building happened to reach out to the Brenamen's about opening a coffee shop, Dionna immediately jumped on the chance.





the community with hope of revitalizing the area.

"Four or five years ago, a lot of people started to come together and start talking about not just talking about it," Dionna explained. "There was a good number of people who were willing to say, 'Hey, we're going to make something out of this.' And just like anything, it starts to pick up momentum."

Six months into construction of Java's Enchanted Bean, the pandemic hit. But that didn't stop the crew from powering through COVID-19 and opening the shop on June 27, 2022.

"Have you ever planned a party, a big party, and it's taken so much work and effort (but) you're not sure if everybody will come or nobody will come. It was kind of like that," Dionna explained.

All of their fears were dispelled when opening day was a huge success.

"When we opened, obviously we were just slammed. Just people wanted to see it because it was a two-and-a-half-year process," she recounted.

Now with the Fostoria Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Center, more businesses

like Java's Enchanted Bean are moving in revitalizing downtown.

"You have people who have a desire to do something and truly put their money where their mouth is. All of that together starts to build on itself. It encourages other people," Dionna said.

"I think it's important to understand we have to rebuild our communities, but in a different way than maybe what we knew years ago."

Summer Fun Guide 2024

"The thing that we wanted to do is bring in the community," she said. "Bring a place for people to play games and people to just come hang out and have a spot where they felt at home."

Fostoria, like many other rural communities across the nation, has faced a mass exodus of its population, largely in part due to businesses leaving the area – forcing people to move where the jobs are.

"Back in the day, there were lots and lots of manufacturers and businesses like that," Dionna, a lifelong native of Fostoria, said. "We lost a good amount of our population here in Fostoria. For those of us who live here, it feels like it's just us."

After decades of desolation, the community started to buzz

RETURN TO THE ROLLER COASTER CAPITAL

RIE R.R

A 2024 Cedar Point season preview

By Justin Dietz - cpfoodblog.com

The Cedar Point season will once again start May 4, with an early season passholder preview of the new Top Thrill 2 roller coaster scheduled for April 30 through May 2.

If you have not been paying attention to the Cedar Point skyline over the past six or so months, there is a new roller coaster tower that is 420 feet tall and matches the height of the top hat track from the former Top Thrill Dragster roller coaster.

The entire ride has been retrofitted with state-of-the-art linear synchronous motor, or LSM, technology that allows for more reliable launching of the ride vehicles. In addition to new track, a new paint schedule and modified station. New ride vehicles will also premier this spring.

Guests will board new Top Thrill 2 vehicles and then the train will be transferred to the ride using a unique sliding switch track. Once in place, the ride will launch guests 74 mph halfway up the top hat.

From there, the vehicle will roll backwards, this time accelerating to 101 mph in reverse and up the new vertical tower. Guests will be facing straight down. From here, it is all systems go, as you roll forward to an accelerated speed of 120 mph, which will get the vehicle over the top hat.

Once over the top, it is a twist and freefall back into the station. The entire ride experience will be two minutes, but something guests will never forget.

In addition to the new Top Thrill 2 ride, after a hiatus in 2023, Cedar Point is bringing back Boardwalk Nights, slated for July 19 though August 18. These evening celebrations are a great way to enjoy the beach and nightlife that comes alive once the sun sets. Enjoy food booths, a DJ, and beach games that are a guest favorite for enjoying the laid-back vibes, all with the Cedar Point skyline in the background.

Discover4





CRUISE-IN FOR CHARITY

Downtown Upper Sandusky, Sept. 28

Since 2001, the Wyandot Classics and Cruisers car club has conducted an annual cruise-in car show for charity in downtown Upper Sandusky. It has since become one of the largest in Northern Ohio. Cruisers from all over Ohio and neighboring states come to show off their cars and trucks and cruise Main Street in downtown Upper Sandusky. All net profits from the cruises go to charity.

WYANSTOCK

Wyandot County Fairgrounds,

10171 Ohio 53, Upper Sandusky, July 5-6 What could be better than a summer weekend full of live music, local foods, arts and brews. The Wyandot County Young Professionals will again bring the festival to the Wyandot County Fairgrounds. Performers during the two-day event will include Trevor Howe, Gopher Baroque Band, Nebdroola, Whiskey Over Water, Eric Sowers Band, The Fret Mashers, Tom's Kitchen Table, Crabgrass, The RidgeRunners, The Bootleg City Band, Forbidden June, Grape Jam, My Cousin Eddie, Last Minute and Bassnotik.

Camping is available. Admission is \$15 either day or for the weekend. Parking is free. Proceeds support local scholarships and charitable causes.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Wyandot County Museum, 130 S. 7th St., Upper Sandusky, July 6, noon-4 p.m.

Hosted by the Wyandot County Historical Society, the annual ice cream social will feature self-guided tours of the museum and Charlotte's Schoolhouse next door. The one-room schoolhouse that was constructed about 1895 and served students southeast of Dunkirk until a consolidated brick school structure was constructed in the 1920s. The building was then used for storage until 1966 when it was donated to the historical society. There will be displays of horse drawn buggies and sleighs, and classic cars. The Upper Sandusky Community Band will perform at 2 p.m. Admission is free. Ice cream and food items will be available for a nominal donation.

CAREY FEST

Downtown Carey, August 2-3

This town festival features a parade, music up and down the street, rides, games and food. The event opens at 4 p.m. daily.

Country singing star Tracy Byrd will headline the festival the evening of Aug. 3. Byrd's song list includes "Watermelon Crawl," "Ten Rounds with Jose Cuervo," "Keeper of the Stars" and "I'm From the Country." The Electrik Circus will perform Aug. 2. Entry into the festival is free with admission charged for the two concerts.

The event kicks off with Homecoming Aug. 1 at Waterworks Park. There will also be fireworks at dusk that night.

WYANDOT COUNTY

ICONIC



Wyandot County Highway 130, Antrim Township, near Harpster

Built in 1879, the bridge has a 96-foot span of the Sandusky River and features the Howe truss construction. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1976 and restored in 1992-93 and 2018.

PARKER COVERED BRIDGE

Crane Township Highway 40, northeast of Upper Sandusky

The Parker Bridge is a Howe truss design that spans 172 feet over the Sandusky River. It was built in 1873 and renovated in 1992 and 2018.

The signs on the ends of the bridge identify J. C. Davis as the original builder. The structure was destroyed by fire in 1991. Bricks just beyond one of the abutments identify William Morton as the builder who rebuilt the bridge in 1992. The Parker Bridge was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1975.

LIVE EVENTS

GOTTFRIED NATURE PRESERVE Wyandot County 330, about 5 miles west of Upper Sandusky in Crane Township

Open to the public daily from dawn to dusk. The Gottfried Nature Center near Upper Sandusky is home to 22.7 acres of woods, wetlands, prairie habitats, walking trails and a half acre. There's also an education building that was constructed in 1996 to offer the community a better understanding of agriculture, conservation and the preservation of natural resources. Seasonally a wide variety of birds can be observed at the center. The area is open to the public to visit and observe, hike and picnic. Group visits can be scheduled through the Wyandot Soil and Water Conservation District, which manages the center.

The area was named for brothers Chuck and Norman Gottfried, who donated the land to the conservation district in 1992.

INDIAN MILL STATE MEMORIAL AND MILLING MUSEUM

7417 County Highway 47, Upper Sandusky May through October

Located on the banks of the Sandusky River about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of Upper Sandusky, a former gristmill once owned by the Wyandotte Nation now houses a museum of Wyandotte heritage and milling history.



OLD MISSION CHURCH East Church Street, Upper Sandusky The landmark is open during the months of May, June, July and August, with worship services at 8 a.m. each Sunday.

The Wyandotte Indian Mission was founded by black missionary, John Stewart, in 1816. Three years later, it became the first officially recognized mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church in America. The stone structure was built in 1824 under the supervision of the Rev. James B. Finley. Stewart, several of the chiefs and converts are buried in the cemetery beside the church.

The Wyandotte Indians worshiped there until 1843 when they were moved to Kansas. They deeded the church to the Methodist Church. The building was not used for many years and fell into disrepair, but was restored in 1889. It was designated a national historic shrine by the General Conference of the Methodist Church in 1960. The sacred land was returned to the Wyandottes in 2019. John Stewart United Methodist Church continues to oversee the care of the church and lands for the Wyandottes.

This year marks the 200th anniversary of the building of the mission. A special service will be held during the regular church service on June 2 to commemorate the anniversary. Chief Billy Friend of the Wyandotte Nation will be the speaker for that celebration.

Built in 1861, the mill was operated by Leffel Turbines, and the old stone burrs and bolting chests are still visible. The structure is the nation's first educational museum of milling in its original structure. The mill ceased operation in 1941 and was later transferred to the Ohio History Connection. The structure was cleaned, restored and opened to the public in 1968. Exhibits are placed around the original mill machinery.

ELM HILL NATURE'S EDGE

Located along Township Highway 98 on the east edge of Carey

The seven-acre nature area was officially dedicated in 2022 and features native prairie grasslands, wildflowers, a gazebo dedicated to Carey's Vietnam veterans, a sculpture and a fenced dog park. It was developed by The Link which continues to care for the park, while it is part of the Carey park system.

There will also be an orchard area for fruit trees. When the fruit is ready, some will be harvested and taken to the town's farmers market. Community members will also be able to go out to the park and pick produce, too. Artist Jamie Stephenson created the 11-foot-tall tree sculpture that features 17 animals and insects, all made from reclaimed metal parts. Members of the Carey FFA constructed benches. Events in the 41



May 24-27 LAKESIDE MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND IN LAKESIDE 800 Maple Avenue

Lakeside, OH 43440 Fun for the whole family enjoy the music of Neil Berg's "50 Years of Rock & Roll," a Plant Sale, the Great Lakes Maritime Art Exhibit, a cookout and more.

lakesideohio.com/calendar

May 25-September2 TOLEDO SUMMER SEASON TOLEDO ZOO & AQUARIUM 2 Hippo Way

2 Hippo Way Toledo, OH 43609

Visit elephant calf, Kirk, at the Toledo Zoo! Guests can explore the elephant exhibit weekdays 10 a.m.-3 p.m. with Sat/Sun viewings extended from 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Learn more and plan your visit at toledozoo.org

June 1 FINDLAY FINDLAY CRAFT BEER & WINE TASTING NORTHWEST OHIO

Railroad Preservation 12505 County Road 99 Findlay, OH 45840

This adult-only event is intended for those 21 and older interested in sampling the offerings from several local craft breweries and a local winery. This evening event will be held rain or shine beginning at 5 p.m. In case of rain, we will hold the tastings, refreshments, and entertainment inside our train barn. www.nworrp. org/craft-beer-fest.html to purchase your ticket today!



June 1 LAKESIDE PORTRAIT OF A QUEEN: CECE TENEAL CELEBRATES ARETHA FRANKLIN

Hoover Auditorium 115 W. Third Street Lakeside, OH 43440 At 7:30 p.m., CeCe Teneal honors the legacy of the Queen of Soul with personalized interpretations of popular and lesser-known songs from the 18-time Grammy Award winner. lakesideohio.com/calendar

June 7 FINDLAY BOOGIE ON THE BLOCK

Marathon Center for the Performing Arts 200 W. Main Cross St. Findlay, OH 45840 Findlay's Biggest Block Party returns to MCPA this summer! Live music from North to Nashville with guests Eric Sowers Band, food trucks, libations, dancing and fun. This is a family-friendly event! Doors open at 6 p.m. MCPA.org

Tickets: \$7 for adults, \$3 for children (children not accompanied by an adult must pay \$7), strollers are FREE!



June 8 LAKESIDE

OSU ALUMNI BAND

Hoover Auditorium 115 W. Third Street Lakeside, OH 43440 The largest all-brass and percussion college alumni band in the U.S. performs at 7:30 p.m. lakesideohio.com/calendar



June 13 LAKESIDE KEYNOTE SPEAKER: KAIRA ROUDA

Hoover Auditorium 115 W. Third Street Lakeside, OH 43440 USA Today and international bestselling author, whose novel Best Day Ever is set in Lakeside, speaks at 7:30 p.m. lakesideohio.com/calendar



June 14 LAKESIDE JUKEBOX SATURDAY NIGHT: A MUSIC REVIEW OF THE GREAT BIG BANDS

Hoover Auditorium 115 W. Third Street Lakeside, OH 43440 Jukebox Saturday Night celebrates America's Swing Era, performing the greatest hits of Glenn Miller, Duke Ellington, Artie Shaw and more at 7:30 p.m. lakesideohio.com/calendar



June15 LAKESIDE COLLECTOR CAR SHOW Hotel Lakeside Lawn

150 Hakeside Lawn 150 Maple Avenue Lakeside, OH 43440 From 1-7 p.m., get an up-close look at 50+ vintage cars at this fun, family event. lakesideohio.com/calendar

June 19 FINDLAY RIVERSIDE CIVIC CONCERT SERIES ALLEN P. DUDLEY BANDSHELL AT RIVERSIDE PARK

231 McManness Ave Findlay, OH FREE civic and community band concerts beginning at 7 p.m. each Wednesday through July 24. Full lineup can be found at MCPA.org.

June 19 FINDLAY JUNETEENTH FREEDOM DAY CELEBRATION

Black Heritage Library & Multicultural Center 817 Harmon St. Findlay, OH 45840 Join us from 2-7 p.m. on June 19! Juneteenth activities will be FREE, with food and concessions available for sale. For more information, go to our Facebook page: facebook.com/ BlackHeritageCenterr





June 21 LAKESIDE THE PACK DRUMLINE

Hoover Auditorium 115 W. Third Street Lakeside, OH 43440 "America's Got Talent" contestants known as one of the most dynamic performance groups in the nation performs at 7:30 p.m. lakesideohio.com/calendar



June 22 LAKESIDE NEWSBOYS

Hoover Auditorium 115 W. Third Street Lakeside, OH 43440 One of the biggest bands in Christian music history takes the stage of Hoover Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. lakesideohio.com/calendar

June 26 FINDLAY RIVERSIDE CIVIC CONCERT SERIES ALLEN P. DUDLEY BANDSHELL AT RIVERSIDE PARK

231 McManness Ave Findlay, OH

FREE civic and community band concerts beginning at 7 p.m. each Wednesday through July 24. Full lineup can be found at MCPA.org.



June 29 LAKESIDE **RAELYNN** Hoover Auditorium

115 W. Third Street Lakeside, OH 43440 Two-time Academy of Country Music nominee for âNew Female Vocalistã performs âGod Made Girls,ã âLove Triangleã and other hits at 7:30 p.m. lakesideohio.com/calendar



July 1 LAKESIDE KEYNOTE SPEAKER: ROY BRIDGES JR.

Hoover Auditorium 115 W. Third Street Lakeside, OH 43440 American pilot, engineer, retired U.S. Air Force Officer and NASA astronaut speaks at 7:30 p.m. lakesideohio.com/calendar

July 3 FINDLAY RIVERSIDE CIVIC CONCERT SERIES ALLEN P. DUDLEY BANDSHELL AT RIVERSIDE PARK

231 McManness Ave Findlay, OH FREE civic and community band concerts beginning at 7 p.m. each Wednesday through July 24. Full lineup can be found at MCPA.org.



July 4 LAKESIDE FOURTH OF JULY IN LAKESIDE

800 Maple Avenue Lakeside, OH 43440 Celebrate the holiday with a parade, cookout, concerts in the park, fireworks and more family fun. lakesideohio.com/calendar



July 5 LAKESIDE HOTEL CALIFORNIA

Hoover Auditorium 115 W. Third Street Lakeside, OH 43440 Tribute band recreates the legendary sound of The Eagles at 7:30 p.m. lakesideohio.com/calendar

July 9 FINDLAY LUNCHTIME LIVE SERIES WATERFALL PAVILION AT RIVERSIDE PARK

231 McManness Ave Findlay, OH

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. This event features FREE, family-friendly live music performed by local artists for people of all ages. Plan on bringing a lunch -Food Truck availability will be posted on Facebook. There is room to spread out, so bring your chairs or blankets to sit on. Full line-up can be found at MCPA.org.

July 10 FINDLAY ALLEN P. DUDLEY BANDSHELL AT RIVERSIDE PARK

231 McManness Ave Findlay, OH 45840 FREE civic and community band concerts beginning at 7 p.m. each Wednesday through July 24. Full line-up can be found at MCPA.org



July 13 LAKESIDE 10,000 MANIACS

Hoover Auditorium 115 W. Third Street Lakeside, OH 43440 One of America's favorite indie rock bands performs hits "These are the Days" and "Because the Night" with lead singer Mary Ramsey at 7:30 p.m. lakesideohio.com/calendar



July 14 LAKESIDE LAKESIDE WOODEN BOAT SHOW

Hotel Lakeside Lawn & Dock 150 Maple Avenue Lakeside, OH 43440 Fun for the family, Lakeside's waterfront transforms into an outdoor showroom of classic wooden boats from noon-4 p.m. lakesideohio.com/calendar

July 16 FINDLAY LUNCHTIME LIVE SERIES WATERFALL PAVILION AT RIVERSIDE PARK 231 McManness Ave

Findlay, OH

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. This event features FREE, family-friendly live music performed by local artists for people of all ages. Plan on bringing a lunch -Food Truck availability will be posted on Facebook. There is room to spread out, so bring your chairs or blankets to sit on. Full line-up can be found at MCPA.org.

July 17 FINDLAY ALLEN P. DUDLEY BANDSHELL AT RIVERSIDE PARK

231 McManness Ave Findlay, OH 45840 FREE civic and community band concerts beginning at 7 p.m. each Wednesday through July 24. Full line-up can be found at MCPA.org

July 20 FINDLAY ELIOT LEWIS

Marathon Center for the Performing Arts 200 W. Main Cross Street Findlay, OH 45840 Multi-instrumentalist artist and original featured musicians on Live from Daryl's House show, Eliot Lewis, returns to MCPA live in concert Saturday, July 20 at 7:30 p.m. Show will take place onstage in the Donnell Theater for a unique audience experience. Tickets are \$25 each, GA. Purchase tickets at MCPA.org



July 20 LAKESIDE GIRL NAMED TOM

Hoover Auditorium 115 W. Third Street Lakeside, OH 43440 Talented sibling trio and the first group to win NBC's "The Voice" returns to perform classic covers and original songs at 7:30 p.m. lakesideohio.com/calendar

July 23 FINDLAY LUNCHTIME LIVE SERIES WATERFALL PAVILION AT RIVERSIDE PARK 231 McManness Ave

Findlay, OH

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. This event features FREE, family-friendly live music performed by local artists for people of all ages. Plan on bringing a lunch -Food Truck availability will be posted on Facebook. There is room to spread out, so bring your chairs or blankets to sit on. Full line-up can be found at MCPA.org.

July 24 FINDLAY ALLEN P. DUDLEY BANDSHELL AT RIVERSIDE PARK

231 McManness Ave Findlay, OH 45840 FREE civic and community band concerts beginning at 7 p.m. each Wednesday through July 24. Full line-up can be found at MCPA.org



July 25 LAKESIDE KEYNOTE SPEAKER: ANSON WILLIAMS

Hoover Auditorium 115 W. Third Street, Lakeside, OH 43440

At 7:30 p.m., "Potsie" from the iconic sitcom "Happy Days" shares stories from his career and reflects on how TV has impacted society. lakesideohio.com/calendar



July 25-27 LAKESIDE LAKESIDE CRAFT & ART SHOW

Hotel Lakeside Lawn 150 Maple Avenue Lakeside, OH 43440 Rain or shine, shop from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday. lakesideohio.com/calendar



July 26 LAKESIDE ALL-4-ONE

Hoover Auditorium 115 W. Third Street Lakeside, OH 43440 R&B group best known for their smash hits, "I Swear," "So Much in Love" and "I Can Love You Like That" performs at 7:30 p.m. lakesideohio.com/calendar



July 27 LAKESIDE LAKESIDE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA POPS CONCERT

Hoover Auditorium 115 W. Third Street Lakeside, OH 43440 Concert features soprano vocalist Lisa Vroman at 7:30 p.m. lakesideohio. com/calendar

July 29-August 2 FINDLAY FINE ARTS CAMP

First Presbyterian Church 2330 S. Main St. Findlay, OH 45840 Movement, Drama, Music 9:00 am-3:00 pm All children entering 1st - 5th grade \$55 first child; \$45 additional 419-423-2112 www.findlayfpc.org/fine_arts_camp Register online today!

July 30 FINDLAY LUNCHTIME LIVE SERIES WATERFALL PAVILION AT RIVERSIDE PARK

231 McManness Ave Findlay, OH

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. This event features FREE, family-friendly live music performed by local artists for people of all ages. Plan on bringing a lunch -Food Truck availability will be posted on Facebook. There is room to spread out, so bring your chairs or blankets to sit on. Full line-up can be found at MCPA.org.



July 30 LAKESIDE KEYNOTE SPEAKER: NICK MCCULLOUGH

Hoover Auditorium 115 W. Third Street Lakeside, OH 43440 Author and owner of McCullough Landscape & Nursery in New Albany, Ohio, speaks at 8 p.m. lakesideohio.com/calendar



August 3 LAKESIDE TOM PAPA

Hoover Auditorium 115 W. Third Street Lakeside, OH 43440 Veteran comedian who has been featured in several movies, TV shows and three Netflix stand-up specials performs at 7:30 p.m. lakesideohio.com/calendar



August 3-4 LAKESIDE WATERSPORTS SHOW IN LAKESIDE

Hotel Lakeside Lawn & Waterfront 150 Maple Avenue Lakeside, OH 43440 Adventure awaits with on-the-water demonstrations (weather permitting) and exhibits of the top brands of boats. Hours are 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday. lakesideohio.com/calendar

August 6 FINDLAY LUNCHTIME LIVE SERIES WATERFALL PAVILION AT RIVERSIDE PARK

231 McManness Ave Findlay, OH 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. This event features FREE, family-friendly live music performed by local artists for people of all ages. Plan on bringing a lunch -Food Truck availability will be posted on Facebook. There is room to spread out, so bring your chairs or blankets to sit on. Full line-up can be found at MCPA.org.



August 10 LAKESIDE HERMAN'S HERMITS STARRING PETER NOONE

Hoover Auditorium 115 W. Third Street Lakeside, OH 43440 Legendary band performs popular hits "I'm Into Something Good," "There's a Kind of Hushã and "I'm Henry VIII, I Am" at 7:30 p.m. lakesideohio.com/calendar



August 13 FINDLAY LUNCHTIME LIVE SERIES WATERFALL PAVILION AT RIVERSIDE PARK 231 McManness Ave

Findlay, OH

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. This event features FREE, family-friendly live music performed by local artists for people of all ages. Plan on bringing a lunch -Food Truck availability will be posted on Facebook. There is room to spread out, so bring your chairs or blankets to sit on. Full line-up can be found at MCPA.org.



August 16 LAKESIDE ONE NIGHT IN MEMPHIS

Hoover Auditorium 115 W. Third Street Lakeside, OH 43440 Tribute to Carl Perkins, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Elvis Presley at 7:30 p.m. lakesideohio.com/calendar

August 17 FINDLAY IMAGINATION MOVERS

Marathon Center for the Performing Arts 200 W. Main Cross Street Findlay, OH 45840 Imagination Movers are a rock band for families and the Emmy-winning starts of Disney's hit TV series by the same name. Don't miss them live in concert at MCPA's Donnell Theater Saturday, August 17 at 2 p.m. Tickets \$15 for children under 18, \$25 for adults. Purchase tickets at MCPA.org/ImaginationMovers



August 17 LAKESIDE STARS OF THE PEKING ACROBATS

Hoover Auditorium 115 W. Third Street Lakeside, OH 43440 View daring displays of technical prowess and gravity-defying gymnastics as these acrobats push the limits of human ability at 7:30 p.m. lakesideohio.com/calendar

August 20 FINDLAY LUNCHTIME LIVE SERIES WATERFALL PAVILION AT RIVERSIDE PARK

231 McManness Ave Findlay, OH

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. This event features FREE, family-friendly live music performed by local artists for people of all ages. Plan on bringing a lunch -Food Truck availability will be posted on Facebook. There is room to spread out, so bring your chairs or blankets to sit on. Full line-up can be found at MCPA.org.



August 24 LAKESIDE LAKESIDE ANTIQUE SHOW

Wesley Lodge 510 Central Ave. Lakeside, OH 43440 More than 85 dealers will display antiques indoors and outdoors from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. lakesideohio.com/calendar







August 24 LAKESIDE JEFFERSON STARSHIP

Hoover Auditorium 115 W. Third Street Lakeside, OH 43440 One of the most successful rock groups of the 1970s and '80s performs "Count on Me," "Runaway," "Jane" and "Find Your Way Back" at 7:30 p.m. lakesideohio.com/calendar

August 25 NORWALK OLDE WRESTLING

Extravaganza! Huron County Fairgrounds 940 Fair Road Norwalk, OH 44857 The vintage-themed wrestling event that's fun for the whole family. Step back in time to the roaring 20's with wrestling characters that'll have you cheering HUZZAH! General admission \$18, kids 10 & under \$5. 3 p.m. bell time.

August 27 FINDLAY LUNCHTIME LIVE SERIES WATERFALL PAVILION AT RIVERSIDE PARK

231 McManness Ave Findlay, OH

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. This event features FREE, family-friendly live music performed by local artists for people of all ages. Plan on bringing a lunch -Food Truck availability will be posted on Facebook. There is room to spread out, so bring your chairs or blankets to sit on. Full line-up can be found at MCPA.org.



August 30-September 2

LAKESIDE LABOR DAY WEEKEND in Lakeside 800 Maple Avenue Lakeside, OH 43440 Fun for the whole family enjoy the music of The Sounds of Soul, a holiday cookout and concerts in the park. lakesideohio.com/calendar

September 7-8 BELLEVUE HISTORIC LYME VILLAGE PIONEER DAYS

Historic Lyme Village 5001 State Route 4 Bellevue, OH 44811 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Step back in time to the 1800's, when settlers first arrived in the Firelands. Experience life in the "old days" with costumed reenactors, artisans, crafters and demonstrators. All buildings in the village will be open. The Carriage House Cafe will be open for lunch.

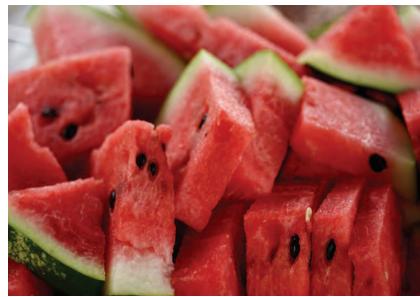


October 12 LAKESIDE LAKESIDE-MARBLEHEAD LIGHTHOUSE FESTIVAL

800 Maple Avenue Lakeside, OH 43440 Fun for the family all day Marblehead Lighthouse tours, live entertainment, arts & crafts vendors, hayrides, farmers' market, pumpkin-decorating contest and more. Free admission and parking.









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200 W. MAIN CROSS ST. IN DOWNTOWN FINDLAY, OH!



Tickets are just \$7 at the door!

FREE EVENTS



Waterfall Pavilion at Riverside Park, Findlay, OH from 11:30 AM - 1 PM July 9 / Ryan Parker July 16 / Kyle White July 23 / Bliss July 30 / Jason Wagner August 6 / Jake Heil August 13 / Chris Crickett August 20 / Bridge Live Duo August 27 / James Adkins

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Millstream Grea

Allen P. Dudley Bandshell at Riverside Park, Findlay, OH @ 7 PM with guests Eric Sowers Band

O MCPA.org

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June 19 / Fostoria Community Band June 26 / Findlay Civic Band July 3 / Night Jazz July 10 / Findlay Civic Band July 17 / Northwest Ohio Low Brass Collective July 24 / Lake Plains Barbershop Chorus



Scan, the QR code to learn, more & buy tickets at MCPA.org



IMAGINATION MOVERS Saturday, August 17 @ 2 PM Tickets: \$25 for Adults, \$15 for those under 18

All this and MORE! Visit us at MCPA.org

Saturday, July 20

(a) 7:30 PM

Tickets: \$25