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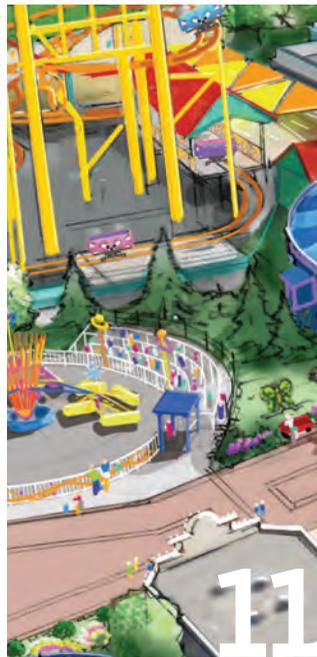
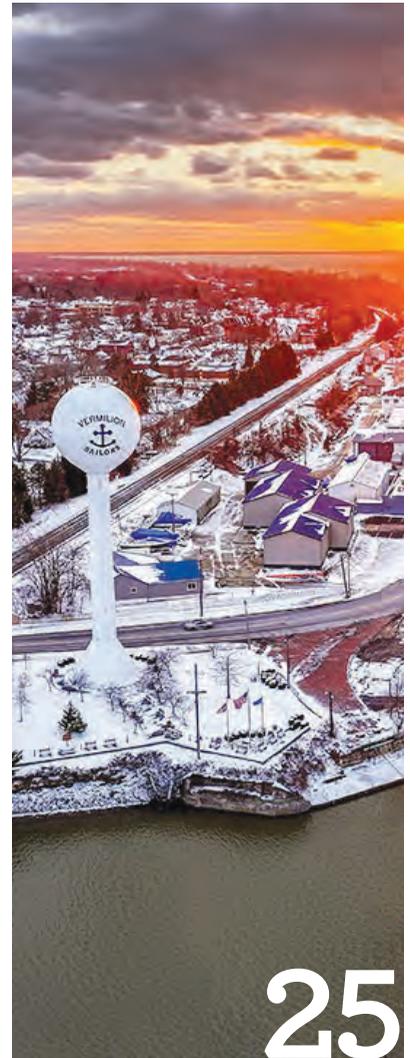
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OGDEN
NEWSPAPERS

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The Advertiser-Tribune

The Courier
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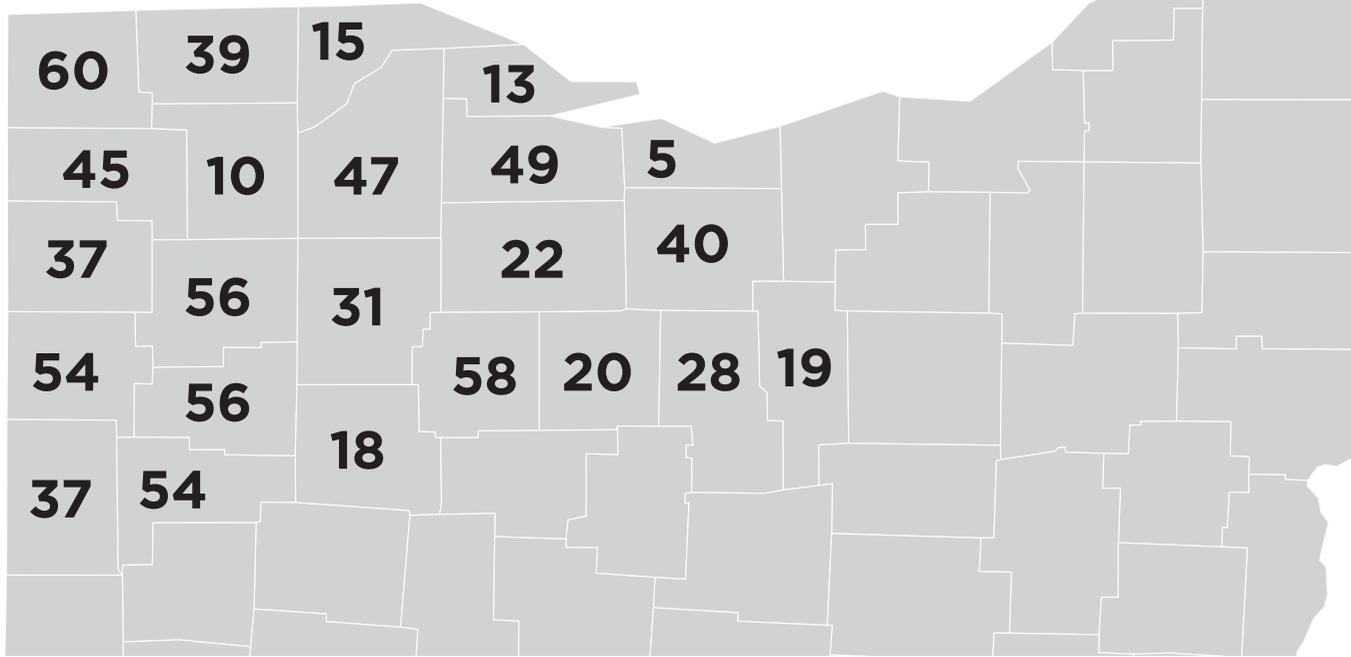
Nonwalk REFLECTOR

Sandusky Register

REVIEW TIMES
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ERIE COUNTY



Can't Miss COMMUNITY EVENTS

OHIO BIKE WEEK

May 26-June 4

Downtown Sandusky

Whether you love riding motorcycles or just like to party, Ohio Bike Week is a must-attend event. The 10-day-long event features numerous band performances, biker rides, food, drinks and more. A full Ohio Bike Week returned to Sandusky in 2022 after years of COVID-related complications, and organizers deemed the event a huge success.

HURON RIVER FEST

July 7-9

Near Huron Boat Basin, Huron

One of the biggest summertime festivals in the north coast region, the Huron River Fest is a must-attend three-day event. Enjoy fireworks, food trucks, live entertainment, a 5K race, rides and more.

IRONMAN 70.3 OHIO

July 23

Start/Finish Lines in downtown Sandusky

The triathlon event that drew more than 1,000 competitors last year is set to return this year. IRONMAN 70.3 makes its way back to Sandusky for a 1.2-mile swim, a 56-mile bike ride and 13.1-mile run. Visit ironman.com/im703-ohio for more.

MILAN MELON FESTIVAL

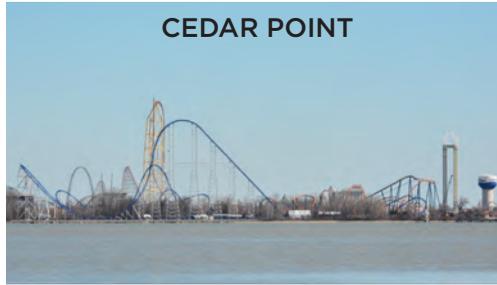
Sept. 2-4

Village Square, Milan

Four words: "melon-flavored ice cream." The tasty treat is the iconic centerpiece of the annual festival in Milan over Labor Day weekend. Stop by for food, music and more at this festival that's been hosted for more than 60 years.

ICONIC

CEDAR POINT



What would a summer in Ohio be without a trip to this amusement park and waterpark on Lake Erie's shores? Located in Sandusky, Cedar Point is one of the most well-known amusement parks in the country. It's synonymous with summertime fun, and people can join in the fun when Cedar Point's 2023 season starts May 6.

HURON LIGHTHOUSE



Boasting more than a century of history, the Huron Lighthouse is one of the most recognizable landmarks in Erie County. Whether you're sailing on a boat or walking along the Huron Pier, the lighthouse on Lake Erie at the mouth of the Huron River is a must-see testament to Huron's history of maritime commerce and travel.

LIVE EVENTS

PIER CONCERT SERIES

Check online for show dates, acts

Jackson Street Pier, Sandusky

Who's ready for a Party on the Pier? Sandusky's Jackson Street Pier played host to a series of musical performances in 2022, including the hip hop group Sugarhill Gang, "American Idol" alumnus Crystal Bowersox and "The Voice" contestant Emily Keener. It was the first year for the concerts — hosted by the Lange Trust, Advantage Entertainment and Sandusky Recreation — which were highly attended, encouraging organizers to keep the ball rolling in 2023.

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.

HALO LIVE/MOHAWK STUDIO

Check shawn-daley-fmb2.squarespace.com for show dates

805 Wayne St., Sandusky

Located inside an old church (originally built in the 19th century) Halo Live offers an incredibly unique venue to listen to live music. The tall ceilings befitting a former church are great for acoustics and the smaller-scale concert space make for an intimate musical experience. Enterprising artists can also seek out the services of the Mohawk Studio, located in the same facility, for music production, recording, mixing, mastering and distribution.

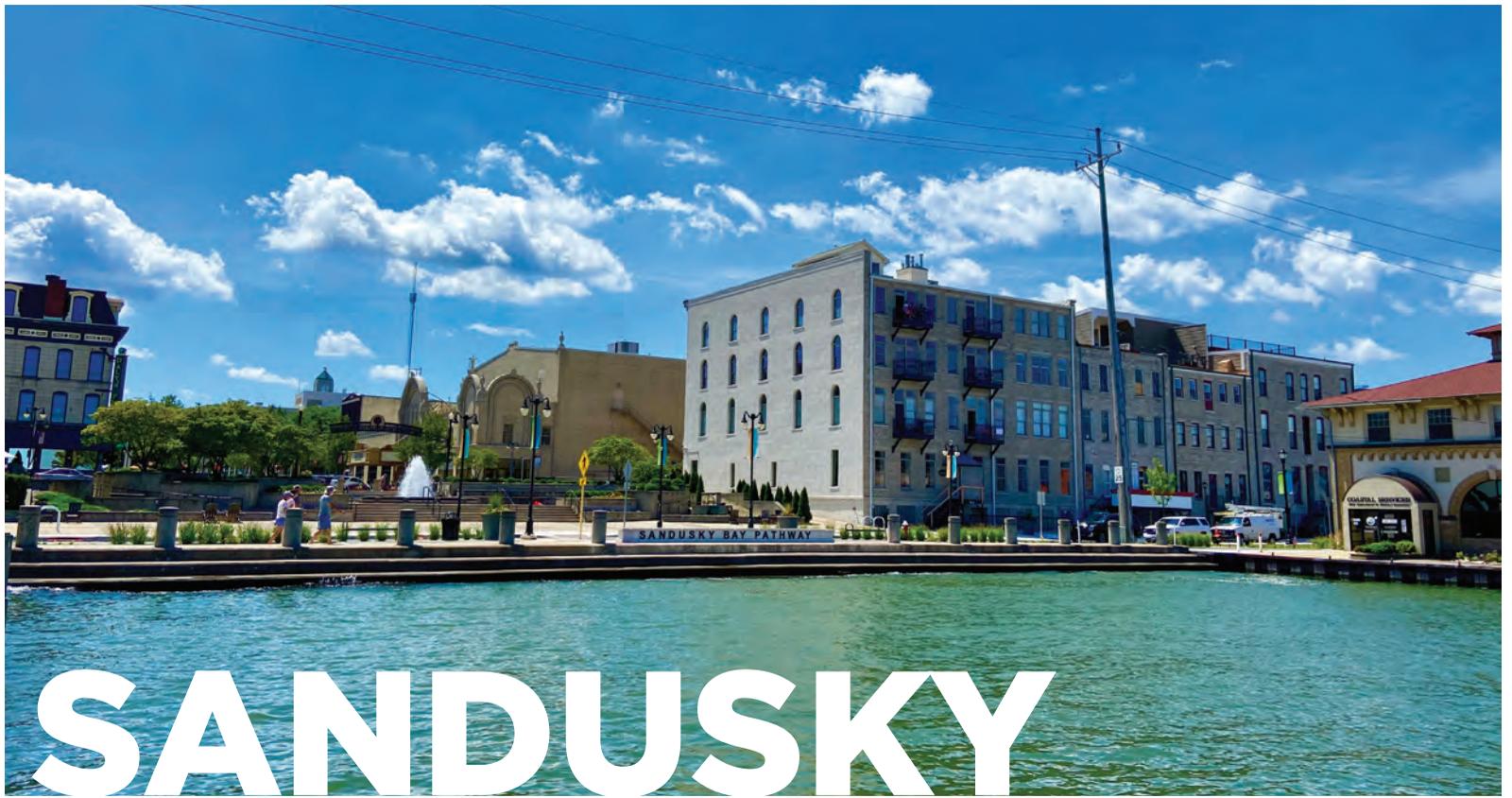
VERMILION THIRD THURSDAYS

May 18, June 15, July 20, Aug. 17, Sept. 21 5 p.m. to sunset

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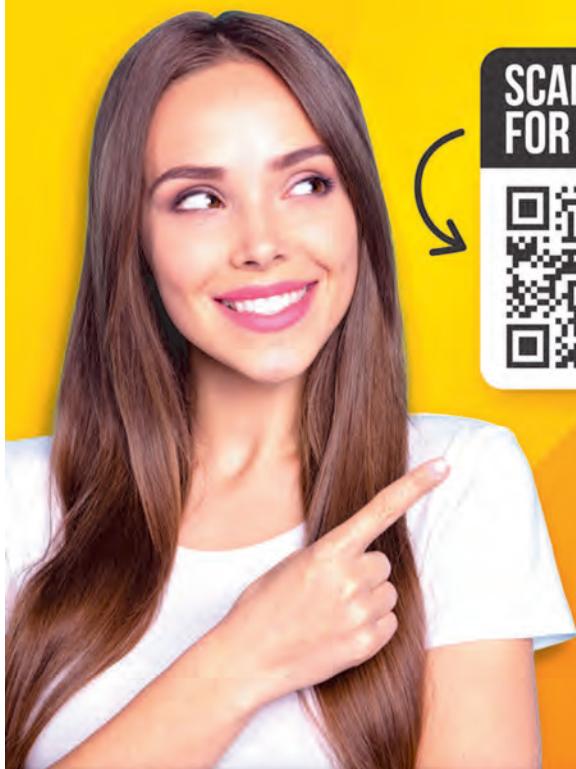
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Friday, July 28 at 7:30 pm - The Red Hot Chilli Pipers
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**Thursday, August 10 at 7:30 pm - Rodney Marsalis
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Friday, September 8 at 7:30 pm - Hit Men of Country
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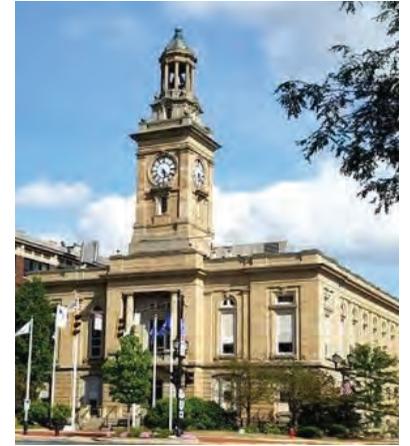
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HENRY COUNTY

ICONIC

SPENGLER'S RESTAURANT AND PUB

Spengler's Restaurant and Pub, 713 N. Perry St., has been located in downtown Napoleon since 1879. Spengler's has provided a traditional meeting place for Henry County residents and serves as a piece of living history. The restaurant features traditional classics along with new menu items daily.

LIVE EVENT



HENRY COUNTY FEAST FEST

The Henry County Feast Fest on June 30 will feature 12 food vendors, filling historic downtown Napoleon with all types of cuisine. Music from Nashville Crush.

Can't Miss COMMUNITY EVENTS

HAMLER COUNTRY FEST

Hamler Country Fest is the "can't miss" event for Henry County. The festival will be held at Hamler Community Park, Ohio 109, Hamler, on May 19-20. The festival will include two days of country music, and will feature area bands Nashville Crush and Redfeather. Chart-topping Nashville recording artist Blackhawk will perform Friday evening.

The festival will feature an autographed memorabilia auction.

Open seating under the roof and lawn chairs are welcome. Tickets can be purchased at the gate for \$30 on Friday and \$30 on Saturday, or in advance online. Primitive onsite camping is available.

HENRY COUNTY FAIR **AUG. 10-17**



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Enjoy the ride

A PREVIEW OF CEDAR POINT'S 2023 SEASON

By Justin Dietz
cpfoodblog.com

While it has been an abnormally warm winter, soon the lakefront community will come alive with boats in the water, a bustling downtown Sandusky restaurant scene, and, of course, the reopening of the Cedar Point amusement park.

When guests come through the gates for the 2023 season, much of the excitement will be located along the former Wicked Twister midway. Following the roller coaster's removal between the 2021 and 2022 seasons, Cedar Point announced that the "Boardwalk" area would be transformed.

Cedar Point opens for the 2023 season on May 6 with Cedar Point Shores opening May 26.

Here's a look at some items of note for the new season:

WILD MOUSE COASTER

Anchoring the area would be the addition of a new Wild Mouse roller coaster and multi-use Grand Pavilion. In addition, the Scrambler and Matterhorn rides would be relocated to the Boardwalk, giving the area new life.

The Wild Mouse roller coaster is not your typical version; it features six mouse-themed vehicles plus one decorated as cheese, each capable of carrying four passengers. In addition, the vehicles will free spin, creating a new experience each time guests ride the attraction.

The Wild Mouse will also feature a unique loading platform that will move continuously and slowly through the station. This should help speed up loading and ensure the line can move quickly.

GRAND PAVILION

The Grand Pavilion will be the new signature facility on the Boardwalk, offering bars and restaurants to serve a variety of tastes.

Additional highlights include original stained glass from the park's Grand Pavilion of 1888 and all the windows will be capable of opening, offering fresh lake breezes hopefully strong enough to blow the mayflies straight onto the midway.

RIDES REDONE

Both the Scrambler and Matterhorn rides received fresh coats of paint for the 2023 season.

While Matterhorn will keep its signature name, the Scrambler will be renamed Atomic Scrambler. The adjacent Tiki Twirl ride will also be renamed and themed as a former park ride, Calypso.



DRAGSTER'S FUTURE?

While the shiny, bright and new Boardwalk midway will get the majority of the attention, guests are also clamoring for what will be coming in 2024, following Cedar Point's announcement that the former Top Thrill Dragster roller coaster is being reimaged.

For diehard coaster fans, their keen eyes will be watching the fence and area surrounding the transformation.

FRONTIER FESTIVAL

For guests looking to add to their visit, Cedar Point has announced the return of the Frontier Festival from May 25 through June 18.

Guests will be able to sample all new menu items around a new theme, as well as all the decorations, adult beverages, and family activities throughout Frontier Town.

LIGHT UP THE POINT AND HALLOWEENDS

Light Up the Point returns on the 4th of July, offering a fireworks display.

Then as the summer sweeps away, and the nights draw colder, the midways come alive with the return of the iconic HalloWeekends select nights from Sept. 14 through October 29.



Photos courtesy of Cedar Point
Cedar Point's 2023 season features a new ride, a revamped Boardwalk area and more.



Can't Miss COMMUNITY EVENTS

BIGGEST WEEK IN AMERICAN BIRDING

May 5-14

Oak Harbor

The Black Swamp Bird Observatory in Oak Harbor has made sure that the annual festival for birders watching the spring bird migrations is a nationally recognized event, with plenty of birding workshops, field trips and other programs. Visit www.biggestweekinamericanbirding.com to learn more.

PORT CLINTON WALLEYE FESTIVAL

May 25-29

Waterworks Park

Downtown Port Clinton

You don't have to enjoy fishing to appreciate the annual festival in Port Clinton, which is known as the Walleye Capital of the World. Yes, there's a Kids Fishing Derby, but there's also live entertainment, a big parade, plenty to eat and drink (including a beer tent), arts and crafts vendors and live entertainment.

PYRATE FEST XV

June 23-25

Put-in-Bay

"Arr" you ready for a weekend of pirates? Pirate Fest returns to DeRivera Park in Put-in-Bay in late June. The family friendly event features parades, cannon demonstrations and more.

OTTAWA COUNTY



ICONIC



MARBLEHEAD LIGHTHOUSE

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

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. 23-24

Put-in-Bay Airport, South Bass Island
Bash on the Bay at the Put-in-Bay has become the area's biggest concert event. This year's shows feature headliner Pitbull on Aug. 23, with Elle King, Fillmore, Ashland Craft and Kaylyn Pace. The headliner on Aug. 24 is Luke Bryan, with the Brothers Osborne, Dylan Scott, Adam Doleac and Cory Farley. For tickets and information, bashonthebay.com.

MUSICAL ARTS SERIES

Port Clinton

The annual Musical Arts Series in Port Clinton provides an annual schedule of inexpensive concerts for local residents to enjoy. While the concerts tend to focus on classical music recitals, the shows also present folk, Celtic and jazz groups. Visit the website at musicalartsportclinton.com to learn about upcoming concerts.

OTTAWA COUNTY FAIR **JULY 17-23**



Tee it up

PLENTY OF CHALLENGING LAYOUTS AWAIT GOLFERS IN THE 419

By Zach Baker, Scott Cottos, Mark Hazelwood and Brian Kollars

Summertime is tee time.

People looking to hit the links this time of year have options aplenty in the 419 area code.

Here's a sampling of some of the top public courses in northwest Ohio:

STONE RIDGE

Location: 1553 Muirfield Drive, Bowling Green

Holes: 18

Par: 72

Total yardage: 7,064

Stone Ridge Golf Club has been open for about a quarter of a century and has been a destination point for area high school golfers.

Often, it's the final stop before state.

For years, the golf course has hosted high school district golf tournaments. It also has hosted the Three Rivers Athletic Conference tournament, among others.

The 18-hole, public course in Bowling Green was designed by the late Arthur Hills, who designed courses all over the United States as well as in Canada, Sweden, Mexico, Croatia and Thailand.

But most of his courses are in Ohio and Michigan — understandable since Hills was a Toledo native.

As for the course itself, Dylan Frazier — a former sports writer for *The Findlay Courier* — listed two of its holes on what he called his "Dream 18," a list of the best 18 holes on courses in the Findlay area.

The first one listed is Hole 1, Stone Ridge's 399-yard par 4. It has water on its left, mounds on the right, and then a bunker greeting a golfer on his or her second shot.

The other Stone Ridge hole that Frazier listed was No. 17, a 368-yard par 4 with a narrow fairway.

It has tall grass on the left and residential backyards on the right. It also sets up what Frazier referred to as "a beast" — a 422-yard par 4.

SAWMILL CREEK

Location: 600 Mariner Village, Huron

Holes: 18

Par: 71

Total yardage: 6,782

Sawmill Creek Golf Club, located just west of Huron on the shores of Lake Erie, is a Tom Fazio design that opened in 1974.

From the tips, Sawmill plays to 6,782 yards and is a par-71 layout.

Sawmill Creek was purchased by Cedar Fair — the parent company of Cedar Point — in 2019 and began the process of making a good course even better.

"Their main focus was the hotel, but the golf course needed a lot of work," said Abbey Cook, who is in her sixth year as Sawmill Creek's director of golf. "It was fast moving, for sure."

Sand traps were improved and dead trees removed. A big upgrade involved drainage improvements. Drainage tile was installed from holes 12 to 18.

Sawmill Creek boasts an assortment of challenging par-3 holes and has fast, large, undulating greens.

The front nine is known as the "Creek Nine" and gives golfers a traditional northern feel with Sawmill Creek meandering around four of the outward nine holes.

The "Lake Nine" is the back nine and features large weeping willow trees protecting lakeside marshes. The course's signature hole is the 600-yard par-5 12th hole that plays into the lake wind, has a marsh on the left, a water hazard on the right and out of bounds behind the green.

Guests of Cedar Point resorts can include golf at Sawmill Creek in their stay packages.

"Any golfer that's up to the challenge in the area would find one at Sawmill," Cook said.

-Story continued on page 16

LUCAS COUNTY



Can't Miss COMMUNITY EVENTS

TOLEDO JEEP FEST

Aug 4-6

Downtown Toledo

Toledo is home to the Jeep, and the 6th annual Toledo Jeep Fest is scheduled for Aug. 4-6. Jeep lovers will love this event as it features fun activities for all ages, from a Jeep car show, competitions, family fun zones and live entertainment.

ICONIC

GLASS CITY RIVER WALL

1306 Miami St., Toledo

The Glass City River Wall is located on the East Bank of the Maumee River and includes 28 silos measuring approximately 170,000 square feet. It features the largest mural in the United States, created by Gabe Gault. Community members recommend visitors try out J&M Cruise Lines as they are known to give guests the best views of the mural while also experiencing a tranquil boat on the Sandpiper boat.

LIVE EVENT

GERMAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL

Aug. 25-27

Oak Shade Grove Banquet Hall, 3624 Seaman Road, Oregon

Come out and experience Toledo's oldest and largest ethnic festival, which is being hosted this year at the Oak Shade Grove banquet hall in Oregon, Ohio. The festival allows guests to savor authentic German cuisine, music, folk dancing, and much more. The three-day festival is scheduled to take place Aug. 25-27.

LUCAS COUNTY FAIR JULY 10-16



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EAGLE CREEK

Location: 2406 New State Road, Norwalk

Holes: 18

Par: 71

Total yardage: 6,603

On the south side of Norwalk sits Eagle Creek Golf Club. The former nine-hole Elks Country Club was transformed into the current 18-hole course located off New State Road in 1995.

The unique layout with offers various challenges, including the location of housing that was also built with the championship-length par-71 course.

However, no golfer will feel like they are in someone's backyard on the front nine, and rarely on the back nine.

Arguably the most unique aspect of Eagle Creek is large bentgrass fairways and greens. Unlike a straight line fairway, Eagle Creek's bentgrass fairways are a winding path toward the hole, but often the landing spots give the rough more of a chance to challenge a golfer.

The course includes a wide variety of white sand bunkers, but is also known for having water hazards on 11 of the 18 holes, providing challenges for golfers of all ages and skill.

Rated 4.5 stars out of 5 by Golf Digest, the course also features seven sets of tees for different skill levels, along with five par 3s and four par 5 holes.

Various tournaments are hosted at the course, along with home matches for the Norwalk and St. Paul High School teams.

The restaurant "Cameo at the Creek" featuring the Sandusky-based Cameo Pizza is also located at the course.

THUNDERBIRD HILLS

Location: 1316 Mudbrook Road, Huron

Holes: North Course (18); South Course (18)

Par: 72 (both courses)

Total yardage: Both courses are about 6,300 yards

Thunderbird Hills is a family owned 36-hole golf facility located on the south side of Huron on the banks of the Huron River.

The North Course opened in 1959 and it is characterized by its mature trees and rolling fairways. An outing facility at the North Course can accommodate up to 300 people.

The South Course is a more modern layout with larger greens and lush bentgrass fairways and tees. It opened in 1995, and was designed and built by Bruce Palmer. This course shares the rolling hills of the North, but it incorporates elevated views of the Huron River through the middle holes of the front nine.

The South has an outing facility overlooking the No. 9 green that accommodates 200.

Both courses are popular par-72 layouts and play to about 6,300 yards from the tips. The North Course is open year-round, and was a popular destination during the mild winter.

"They're always busy, I can tell you that," said Ryan Spicer, PGA Director of Golf at Thunderbird.

The South Course is open from mid-April to mid-October.



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Locally Family Owned & Operated



FOSTORIA COUNTRY CLUB

Location: 747 Independence Ave., Fostoria

Holes: 18

Par: 72

Total yardage: 6,527

The view from Ohio Route 12 on the west outskirts of Fostoria would be enticing to any golf enthusiast.

In season, a drive past Fostoria Country Club & Banquet Facility on the highway at any given time would offer a look at a player attempting any kind of shot common to the sport, not to mention green, gently rolling terrain.

The country club, located two turns off the highway at 747 Independence Avenue, is part of Andy and Renea Clouse's collection of courses known as Clouse House Golf.

Construction of the House began in 2012 and now includes every course in Fostoria - Loudon Meadows Golf Club and Lakeland Golf Course, as well as Fostoria Country Club, along with Birch Run Golf Club in North Baltimore, Hillcrest Golf Club in Findlay and The Country Club of Sebring, located in Sebring, Florida.

Fostoria Country Club is a par-72 public course that measures 6,527 yards from the back tees and 5,324 from the front.

"It's always one of the best-conditioned courses around - as are all of our courses," Andy Clouse said.

According to the Clouse House website, the course is known for its bentgrass greens and fairways and challenging play for all levels of golfer.

Fostoria Country Club was built in 1916 with a log-cabin style clubhouse. The property was redesigned and expanded from 9 to 18 holes by course architect Jack Kidwell in 1971.

Renovations to the clubhouse have included the additions of a full kitchen, the 19th Hole and the Par Room. A perk available to members of any Clouse House course is access to all of its courses. For more information, visit clousehousegolf.com.

SYCAMORE SPRINGS

Location: 11492 Township Road 25, Findlay

Holes: 18

Par: 72

Total yardage: 6,670

Just south of Findlay, in Arlington, Sycamore Springs has plenty to offer every level of golfer.

The course, which was designed by Scotty Wilson, opened as a 9-holer in 1958 and expanded to an 18-hole public course in 1994.

With its long tees - it's a par 72 - it's a common spot for high school matches and tournaments. Last fall, Sycamore Springs hosted three sectional tournaments and one district.

Last spring, when then-Courier writer Dylan Frazier created a "Dream 18" of the best holes from the area's public golf courses, two Sycamore Springs holes made his list: The fourth hole, which is a 540-yard par 5, and the 10th hole, a 370-yard par 4.

Frazier said the fourth hole was a major challenge. It could be a scoring hole, but also presented challenge such as a pond, and people's back yards.

The 10th has plenty of trees on the left and some trees on the right, and it has a big green that slopes downhill.

Sycamore Springs also offers plenty of opportunities to practice your game, from a driving range, a chipping tee with bunkers and putting greens.



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HARDIN COUNTY

ICONIC

OHIO NORTHERN UNIVERSITY

Located in Hardin County since 1871, Ohio Northern University has played a significant part in the history of Hardin County. Martin Luther King Jr. came and spoke at the Taft Memorial Gymnasium on Jan. 11, 1968. A King memorial is located on the southeast corner of the former Taft Gymnasium. Ohio Northern University is also home to one of the few law schools in northwest Ohio. The university also hosts several live performances at its Freed Center for Performing Arts. The Inn at Ohio Northern University is a full-service hotel that offers guests a wonderful stay, just minutes away from all the sights and entertainment that campus has to offer.

LIVE EVENT

OHIO'S BIGGEST SMALL-TOWN CHRISTMAS PARADE

An extraordinary Christmas parade of about 50 floats through downtown Kenton will celebrate the season at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 21. Orchestrated by Kenton Lion's Club, it's been called "Ohio's Biggest Small-Town Christmas Parade" because of its amazing characters and performers. Windows in downtown Kenton will be specially decorated for the event.

Can't Miss
**COMMUNITY
EVENTS**

EATS ON THE STREET

Eats on the Street, a food truck festival which features live music, a car show, beer, wine and activities for kids and families, will be held July 15 in downtown Kenton's Historic Courthouse District. With over 10 food trucks at the event each year, food selections will delight even the pickiest of eaters.

HARDIN COUNTY FAIR **SEPT. 5-10**



Whitson
PROPERTIES

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conveniently located off I-75,
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INN & SUITES
BY RADISSON



419-422-4200

 **BAYMONT**
BY WYNDHAM



419-420-1776

Can't Miss COMMUNITY EVENTS

CHRISTMAS PARADE, TREE LIGHTING, & FIREWORKS

Dec 2

If you want to feel like you are in the middle of a Hallmark movie, then Ashland, Ohio is the place to be during our annual Christmas Parade, Tree Lighting, and Fireworks. It's a magical evening that your family will be talking about for years to come!

ASHLAND COUNTY



EVENTS

ASHLAND ALE FEST

June 17

Live Music, Food Trucks, and craft brews from around the state! Downtown Ashland is the place to be this Father's Day weekend.

ASHLAND BALLOONFEST

June 22-24

The Ashland BalloonFest will have another fabulous weekend in 2023. Hot air balloons, food & merchant vendors, live entertainment, activities for kids, spectacular balloon glows and much more.

DOWNTOWN DREAM CRUISE & CAR SHOW

July 8

Downtown Ashland will be packed with over 500 classic cars plus live music, food court, and more!

ASHLAND CHAUTAUQUA

July 11-15

We are looking forward to hosting our 24th Ashland Chautauqua. This year's theme is "History's Real Action Figures", featuring Brian "Fox" Ellis as Meriwether Lewis, Karen Vuranch as Jackie Cochran, Becky Stone as Pauli Murray, Joey Madia as Samuel Bellamy, and Larry Bounds as Harry Houdini. Evening performances will be held at the Guy C. Myers Memorial Band Shell in Brookside Park and daytime workshops will be available during the week for different age groups at various locations throughout the county.

ASHLAND COUNTY FAIR SEPT 17-23

Miller Fireworks J & W Fireworks

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Fountains,
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Roman Candles,
Multi Shots &
ReLoadables

Please familiarize yourself w/all federal, state & local laws concerning fireworks.

ASHLAND COUNTY FAIR SEPTEMBER 17-23, 2023

Membership and Season Passes- \$25 (Seven Entries)

Entry - \$5 (Age 10 and Under Free)

Monday-Veteran's Day- Free with ID

Tuesday-Sr. Day-65 and Up- \$1

Shows, Entertainment, Food, Rides, Games, and More



GRANDSTAND EVENTS

OSTPA TRACTOR PULL - Sunday-September 17 6:30 p.m.
HARNESS RACING - Monday-September 18 Noon & 6:00 p.m.
CONCERT-Tuesday-September 19 7:00 p.m.
RODEO-Wednesday-September 20 7 p.m.
MOTOCROSS - Thursday-September 21 6:00 p.m.
STOCK TRACTOR PULL - Friday-September 22 4:30 p.m.
DEMOLITION DERBY - Saturday-September 23 6:00 p.m.

Come Enjoy A Week of Family Fun and Activities

2042 Claremont Avenue, Ashland, Ohio 44805
Phone: 419-289-0466



Use QR code above and visit our website for more events at the Ashland County Fair throughout the year! Follow our posts and events on facebook



CRAWFORD COUNTY

EVENTS

2023 MUSIC AT THE MURAL

The Bucyrus Area Chamber of Commerce is hosting a series of free community concerts on alternate Thursdays from June 1 through September 7 at the mural in Schines Art Park, 300 S. Sandusky Ave.

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

2023 ANNUAL CHAMBER GOLF OUTING

The Bucyrus Area Chamber of Commerce will also be hosting its annual golf outing on Aug. 2, from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. at The Gold Club of Bucyrus, 1330 E. Mansfield St.

The event is a two-flight program to accommodate more teams. The first flight will begin registration at 7 a.m. with tee-off starting at 8 a.m. The second flight will begin registration at noon with lunch for both flights following until 1:30 p.m. Tee-off will be between 1:30 p.m. and 2 p.m.

Both flights are limited to 24 teams, with registration on a first come first serve basis. If you are looking to join but do not have a team, reach out to the chamber and they will help find you one. For more information, email admin@bucyrusohio.com.

Can't Miss COMMUNITY EVENTS

BUCYRUS BRATWURST FESTIVAL

On Aug. 17-19, the Bucyrus Bratwurst Festival will take place at 330 S. Sandusky Ave.

According to the festival webpage, today "it is estimated that over 100,000 people travel from far and wide to the annual event, consuming tons of fire-roasted bratwurst recipes. Our brats were perfected by local butchers whose families emigrated here from Germany."

Festivities include the crowning of Bratwurst Royalty, daily parades, contests, and a stein auction. There is also continuous free entertainment, a craft and art show, rides, games and beer gardens.

For more information email info@bucyrusbratwurstfestival.com

CRAWFORD COUNTY FAIR JULY 17-22



WINE & whisper quiet WASHING MACHINES

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."

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SENECA COUNTY

ICONIC



**FOSTORIA IRON TRIANGLE
RAIL PARK**

499 S. 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 100-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

LIVE EVENTS

ATTICA RACEWAY PARK

100 Fairgrounds Road, Attica
Attica Raceway Park offers a wide range of opportunities including weekly classes and weekly shows. Weekly shows at Attica consist of complete racing programs for the 410 Sprints, UMP Super Late Models, 305 Sprints, and Dirt Trucks. Attica Raceway Park is a 1/3 mile clay oval located on the Attica Fairgrounds.

THE RITZ THEATRE/NATIONAL THEATRE

30 S. Washington St., Tiffin
Let your worries melt away and enjoy an evening of fabulous entertainment. A historic 1928 vaudeville-era 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 texts one mural 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.



SENECA CAVERNS

15248 E. Township Road, 178, Bellevue
Seneca Caverns provides a guided one-hour walking tour through this unique cavern leads you through seven rooms or levels. The largest room is 250 feet in length. Visitors will view "Ole Mist'ry River," the crystal clear flowing stream, which is part of the vast groundwater system which underlies the surrounding region.

NATIONAL CORNER

Corner of E. Market and Jefferson streets.
Visit green space downtown at National Corner for the splash pad, secluded garden, public restrooms, and more! Adjacent to the East Green Amphitheater, visit during concerts, events, or to play in the splash pad.

FROST-KALNOW AMPHITHEATRE 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.

TIFFIN PEDAL COMPANY

145 Madison St., Tiffin
An entertainment service that features a An entertainment service that features a 14-seat party bike. It consists of 10 pedaling seats, 2 non-pedaling seats, and a backbench that can seat two more people. They supply a driver so all you have to worry about is pedaling and having fun! A "go to" for entertainment needs here in Tiffin. The bike will be available to rent for events such as: Bachelor/bachelorette parties, bar crawls, birthdays, anniversaries, beer/wine tastings and more.

Can't Miss COMMUNITY EVENTS

OHIO GEOCLASH 2023

May 31-June 4

Seneca County was chosen by the Ohio Geocaching Association at this year's site for the Ohio GeoClash & Festival. Events will take place throughout the community and be centered at Frost-Kalnow Amphitheater at the East Green in downtown Tiffin. Activities will take place all weekend with the main event 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday. Contact Destination Seneca County at 567-220-6387 or info@destinationsebecounty.org.

ST. JOSEPH'S FESTIVAL

July 8-9

36 Melmore St., Tiffin

The church festival at 36 Melmore St., Tiffin, benefits Calvert Catholic Schools. It features live entertainment, food, games, inflatables, raffles, bingo and a general store as well as chicken dinners cooked by church members and served in the air-conditioned cafeteria on Sunday. The main raffle grand prize is \$10,000 cash.

Festival hours are 2-10 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday. Contact stjoetif@tiffinstjoseph.org, 419-447-5848 or tiffinstjoseph.org.

TIFFIN-SENECA HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Sept. 15-17

In its 44th year, the festival features two venues - Heritage Village located at Tiffin's Hedges-Boyer Park and the downtown portion located at East Market and Jefferson streets in downtown Tiffin. 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, enjoy children's activities and food. The downtown portion features music on the Frost Kalnow Amphitheater stage at the East Green, a Saturday parade, food, children's activities and a German Heritage Tent.

FOSTORIA RAIL FESTIVAL

Sept. 23

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. Admission \$5. Contact 419-435-1781 or ellengatrell@gmail.com, or visit fostoriairontriangle.com

SENECA COUNTY FAIR **JULY 24-30**



181st
Annual

SENECA COUNTY FAIR

July 24-July 30, 2023



Lauren Alaina

Wednesday 7:30
with opening act
Josh Melton

MONDAY & TUESDAY

Harness Racing Pari-mutuels

MON 6 PM
TUES 1PM



Seneca County
Farm Bureau

TUESDAY

Pig Scramble 8 pm

MUST PRE-REGISTER
BY 7/19/23
AT THE FAIR
OFFICE.



North Central Electric
Co-op Day

WEDNESDAY

LAUREN ALAINA

8:30pm
Opening Act:
Josh Melton - 7:30pm

Ag Credit Day

THURSDAY

Draft Horse
& Pony Hitch
Show 9:30am
Seneca County Fair
championship
Horse Pull 6pm

Old Fort Banking Co. Day

FRIDAY

Bulls & Barrels

7 pm

Admission \$7

Mercy Health-Tiffin
Hospital Day

SATURDAY

Demo Derby 7 pm



Admission \$20

RE/MAX Unlimited
Results Realty Day

SUNDAY

O.S.T.P.A.

Tractor Pull, 5pm
2 Tracks -8 Classes

Admission
\$20



Clouse Construction
Corp. Day

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Other Free Entertainment



Denise Ritter &
Whiskey Over Water,
Monday, July 24
7:00-9:00 pm



Jess Kellie Adams,
Tuesday, July 25
7:00-9:00 pm



Eric Sowers Band,
Thursday, July 27
7:00-9:00 pm



Simba Jordan,
Friday, July 28
7:00-9:00pm



Copperhead Road
Band,
Saturday, July 29
7:00-9:00pm



TGMA Gospel
Singers,
Sunday, July 30
11:00 am-4:00 pm

Monday- Free Admission for Veterans, **Tuesday-** Free Admission for Seniors
Sunday- Free Admission for EVERYONE (Admission to the Tractor Pull sold separately)
Come watch magicians, glass blowers, musicians, wood carvers
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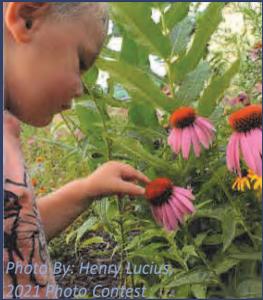


Photo By: Henry Lucius
2021 Photo Contest



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Tiffin, OH

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September 15th-17th

(Always 3rd Full Weekend in September!)

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- Including Living History Reenactors and Demonstrators!
- Ohio Heritage School Days Event on Friday Afternoon!
- Festival Parade Saturday @ 10:30am
- German Heritage Block with German Themed Food, Live Entertainment & Beer Garden!
- JAM's Heritage Market with 70+ Craft & Retail Vendors!
- Farmer's Market

- Car Show
- Downtown Events featuring Food Vendors, Kids Activities, Bounce Houses and More!
- Entertainment & Beer Garden at East Green Amphitheater - Featuring Elektrik Circus on Saturday Night!
- Live Music Friday 5pm - 1am



Living History Village is moving back to Rotary Park on Frost Parkway!



Stroll through downtowns in the 419

CITIES' REVITALIZATIONS BENEFIT LOCALS, TOURISTS

By Brandon Addeo, Leah Alsept, Joe Centers, Jim Forthofer, Tom Horsman and Vicki Johnson

Want to grab a bite to eat? Fancy some shopping? Pick up some drinks?

Downtowns in the 419 — each unique in their own right — offer all of those and more.

One could enjoy dinner and a stroll along the Maumee River in downtown Toledo, or maybe attend a college sports event in Bowling Green and make a day of it in the city.

Those are but a few examples of what the 419 has to offer. Here are some deeper dives into several other area communities:

TIFFIN

Downtown Tiffin has grown exponentially in the last 10 years into an active, thriving city.

“We’ve really grown a lot and changed a lot in the last decade,” said Donna Gross, Downtown Tiffin Main Street manager with the Tiffin-Seneca Economic Partnership. “I think Tiffin has everything that you need, but still has that small town feel to it. It’s a beautiful city right on the Sandusky River.”

Downtown Tiffin has been a state and nationally accredited Ohio Main Street community since 2016 through Heritage Ohio and Main Street America. Both organizations are dedicated to historic preservation while fostering economic development, revitalization and tourism.

Visitors will find shops, restaurants and establishments offering a lively night life as well as museums and art venues such as the American Civil War Museum of Ohio, Tiffin Glass Museum & Shoppe and Tiffin Art Guild & Gallery.

“We have unique shopping and dining,” Gross said. “It would be different from going to any other town.”



On a schedule of Thursdays and Saturdays through the summer season there are outdoor concerts at the Frost Kalnow Amphitheater on the East Green, 155 E. Market St. People are welcome to set up their chairs or put a blanket down for an evening of music that feature local artists on Thursdays and draws regional artists on Saturdays during The East Green Concert Series.

Year-round, the Ritz Theatre offers a variety of indoor concerts and entertainment featuring national performers as well as local and regional acts.

Tiffin Seneca Farmers Market is open every Saturday May through October where people can find in-season produce as well as local baked goods and other local merchandise.

Another monthly event is Downtown Tiffin’s Third Thursdays. This year’s lineup includes Fete de la Musique, a new event June highlighting local musicians; Christmas in July; a Taste of Downtown Tiffin in August; and the annual Downtown Pizza Party in September.

Other major events this summer include the Memorial Day parade on May 29, Ohio GeoClash May 31-June 4, Motors and Music Car Show on Aug. 19 and Tiffin-Seneca Heritage Festival from Sept. 15-17.

Extending into December, Downtown Tiffin will be hosting its second Kris Kringle Markt from Dec. 1-2 during the holiday season.

Whenever there’s something going on downtown, people are invited to buy beverages of their choice through the DORA - Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area - and enjoy them as they take part in outdoor activities.

Find more information at downtowntiffin.org or check for events and updates on Facebook at facebook.com/DowntownTiffinOh or on Instagram at [TiffinDowntown](https://Instagram.com/TiffinDowntown).

-Story continued on page 30





FOSTORIA



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All Veterans Welcome To Join

Lunch Open to The Public
 11 am - 2 pm M-F
 Dinner Open to The Public
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ALCOHOL SERVED TO MEMBERS ONLY

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RED'S PIZZA

BUFFET • Wed & Fri
11:00am-1:30pm

Daily Dine-In Lunch Specials

 **Fostoria Rail Preservation Society**
 Schedule of 2023 Events
419-435-1781

13TH RAILROAD DINNER * 5/24
 LE&W Depot \$25 / Person
 Doors open 4:30 • Dinner 5:30 • Program 6:30

21ST FOSTORIA RAIL FESTIVAL * 9/23
 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


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Fostoria Farmers' & Artisans' Market

Saturdays 9am-1pm & Thursdays 4-8pm

- **Thursday, May 4** "Celebrating Moms & Kids"
Sponsored by: Geary Family YMCA
- **Saturday, May 20** "Let's Go Gardening"
Sponsored by: Don Cochran, Realtor: Dye Real Estate & Land Company
- **Saturday, June 17** "Celebrating Dads & Kids"
Sponsored by: Clouse Construction Corp.
- **Saturday, July 15** "Good Ole Summertime"
Sponsored by: Great Lakes ACE Hardware
- **Thursday, August 3** "Harvest Happenings"
Sponsored by: Mennel Milling
- **Saturday, August 19** "Healthy Living"
Sponsored by: ProMedica Fostoria Community Hospital
- **Thursday, September 7** "Seek Seneca County"
Sponsored by: Destination Seneca County
- **Saturday, September 16** "Creative Arts & Crafts"
Sponsored by: Fostoria Community Arts Council

Corner of Tiffin & Main St.

QUESTIONS? See www.fostoriaohio.org/fostoria-farmers-market/

Fostoria Area
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITORS BUREAU

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Fostoria

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RICHLAND COUNTY

ICONIC

MANSFIELD REFORMATORY

Mansfield Reformatory - The over 130-year-old prison which was abandoned in the early nineties, has had 5 movies filmed within its walls and is rumored to be haunted. The reformatory now offers a Shawshank Museum, tours, ghosts hunts and walks, rentals and events throughout the year. It is also the site of ParaPsyCon, a three-day paranormal and psychic convention and Inkarceration, a music and tattoo-focused festival.

LIVE EVENT

OHIO HERITAGE DAYS FESTIVAL

Ohio Heritage Days Festival September 23 -24 Malabar Farm This event features crafts, primitives, antique tractors, food, living war camps and horse-drawn wagons. There is also an archeological display at the festival. 2023 will be the 46th annual festival.

Can't Miss COMMUNITY EVENTS

MANSFIELD FAMILY FESTIVAL

Mansfield Family Festival July 29 Richland Carrousel Park Mansfield, known as the Carrousel Capital of Ohio, features this annual event that has vendors, games, entertainment and wouldn't be complete without rides on the carrousel.

RICHLAND COUNTY FAIR **AUG. 6-12**




ROUTE 30 H-D

UPCOMING EVENTS 2023
IN UPPER SANDUSKY

KIDS' FISHING DERBY FREE EVENT FOR KIDS! June 3rd	BIKE WEEKEND VENDORS & LIVE MUSIC July 14&15
ROUTE 30 RUMBLE MMA FIGHT Aug 26th	ROUTE 30 ROAST THE BIG TENT SALE! Sept 30th

FOR MORE INFORMATION, FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!
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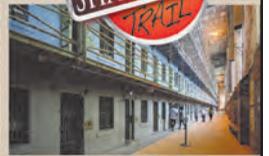
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Hancock County Convention & Visitors Bureau

FOSTORIA

The beauty of a sculpture walk, the history in museums and a trend toward new businesses opening make Fostoria a great stop for a visit.

“We’re seeing a lot of people who love Fostoria invest in Fostoria by starting small businesses,” said Sarah Stephens Krupp, director of Fostoria Area Chamber of Commerce. “We’ve really seen a boost in unique retail in the last couple years, and it’s continuing to grow.”

From Beyond Laser Creations, a new business that makes custom merchandise, to Kominsky Jewelers — a 90-year mainstay — Fostoria has a variety of shopping options.

M Hart Mercantile opened in the spring and the latest winner of the town’s new business contest, Calico Charlie’s Candy and More, is opening in June.

“They’re going to have nostalgic penny candy and different flavors of popcorn,” she said.

Also, in June, an axe-throwing venue is opening.

“There are multiple historical organizations in our downtown corridor,” Stephens Krupp said.

Trains and glass are popular attractions.

For the last five years, Fostoria has been offering walking tours of sculpture artwork as part of the Midwest Sculpture Initiative. The outdoor exhibit, spearheaded by Fostoria Area Visitors Bureau, brings colorful sculptures to the downtown corridor.

“Each spring we get eight new sculptures,” Stephens Krupp said. “It’s ever-changing and it’s kind of neat to see.”

Fostoria also features murals and is part of barn quilt trails in Hancock and Seneca counties.

“Then, as the weather gets warm, we have all sorts of events that take place in our downtown,” she said. “So really there’s just kind of something for everyone.”

From May through September, Fostoria Farmers’ & Artisans’ Market is active on a regular schedule at Market Square Park at the corner of East Tiffin and South Main streets. Thursday markets are open 4-8 p.m. and Saturday events are open 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

“So there’s just a lot of nice little places where you can spend a day,” Stephens Krupp said. “We’re seeing constant additions and changes.”

After a day of touring, visitors can stop for a drink at Seneca County’s only winery – HoneyBee Winery – and the UrbanWoody Brewery. The brewery hosts concerts in the summer as well.

“We’ve got great collaboration between public and private entities,” she said. “Everybody comes together to make Fostoria a great place to live and work. It’s a really exciting time in Fostoria where everybody’s really working together.”



NORWALK

Norwalk is a city in Northeast Ohio and is the county seat of Huron County.

Norwalk, also known as the Maple City, is one of Ohio’s most scenic cities, with historic homes, historic buildings and maple trees lining Main Street. Its close proximity to Lake Erie along with a rich tradition of history has made this a favorite location for individuals and industry.

Uptown Norwalk boasts an eclectic array of beautiful boutiques, restaurants and shops that will keep you busy for hours. Uptown Norwalk is also the centerpiece of several family-friendly events throughout the year.

Visitors will want to take a look at:

The Firelands Museum, 4 Case Ave., which is Ohio’s oldest museum and second oldest Ohio Historical Society. It was founded by the Firelands Historical Society and began collecting artifacts in 1857. The museum will open for the season on June 18. June through August hours are Thursday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. In September and October, the museum is open only on Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m to 3 p.m.

Veterans Memorial Lake Park, 205 S. Old State Road, which is a park with a lake big enough for boating and fishing. Canoes can be rented from May 1 to Oct. 1. Disc golf is available and the city is also installing an amphitheater, which will host music and artistic events.

Ernsthausen Recreation Center, 100 Republic St., which has an indoor walking track, indoor and outdoor pools and a fitness center. There is also a splash pad, which is located at the outdoor pool site and is a great place to bring your family for a day.

Summit Motorsports, formerly known as Norwalk Raceway Park, 1300 Ohio 18, has been a National Hot Rod Association (NHRA) sanctioned facility since 2007 and annually hosts the Summit Racing Equipment NHRA Nationals an NHRA Camping World Drag Racing Series Event and the Cavalcade of Stars, an NHRA Lucas Oil Drag Racing Series Regional Event.

D & D Smith Winery, 401 W Main St., which is run by a family of four and has been making wine for more than a decade.

Sandy Ridge Vineyards and Mercantile, 180 Ohio 61 East. Enjoy from over 8 different wines, bite size foods, and great salads. Sandy Ridge is a historic land that is prosperous to the locals and wine lovers.

–Story continued on page 33

Can't Miss COMMUNITY EVENTS

FINDLAY PRIDE

June 3

Show your pride — or your allyship — at Findlay Pride, a daylong celebration of acceptance, unity and equality. Events are hosted at Riverside Park and include shows, yoga and a volleyball tournament. Food trucks, a resource fair and more round out what's on offer.

MCCOMB COOKIE FESTIVAL

July 23

McComb is CookieTown, USA, with an in-town factory that produces many iconic treats. This unique claim to fame is celebrated at this tasty day-long festival, which includes samples, food trucks, family movies, swimming and a parade.

FLAG CITY BALLOONFEST

Aug. 11-13

This sky-high event draws pilots from around the country for hot air balloon rides, impressive nighttime glow events and lots of family fun.

OKTOBERFEST

Sept. 23

Findlay celebrates German heritage and culture with live music and entertainment, a variety of contests and plenty of authentic German food — and beer!

BOOGIE ON THE BLOCK '23

Findlay's Biggest Block Party returns to MCPA this summer! Live music from Nashville Crush with guests Exploit Deluxe along with food trucks, libations, dancing and fun. Doors open at 6pm. Admission: \$5 for adults, \$3 for children, strollers get in FREE! 200 W. Main Cross St., Findlay

HANCOCK COUNTY



ICONIC



MAZZA MUSEUM

Take a trip through your childhood memories and stop at the Mazza Museum located on the University of Findlay's campus. The museum is filled to the brim with iconic children's books both new and old — parents and kids alike are sure to recognize at least one of the classic children's books on display! Each book displayed is paired with an original drawing of a scene inside the book. Be sure to experience the magic of the Mazza Museum!



DIETSCH BROTHERS

Got a sweet tooth? Dietsch Brothers' iconic candy and ice cream store is a historical icon in Findlay. Located downtown on West Main Cross Street and with a second location on Tiffin Avenue, Dietsch Brothers has been operating since the late 1920's, when Edward Dietsch purchased the C.W. Wickham Candy Company with his two younger brothers Chris and Don. Dietsch offers a variety of candy and ice cream flavors that will make you say: "That hits the spot!"

LIVE EVENTS

FINDLAY ART LEAGUE

The Findlay Art League provides 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? Enter in one of the many shows they hold throughout the year!

FORT FINDLAY PLAYHOUSE

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

RIVERSIDE CIVIC CONCERT SERIES

The Riverside Civic Concert Series will return to Findlay with live entertainment in July at the park's Allen P. Dudley Memorial Bandshell. This free

event series is open to the public. Some of this year's featured acts are the Fostoria Community Band, Findlay Civic Band, and the Great Plains Barbershop Chorus.

CONCERTS AT THE MARATHON CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

A beautiful, modern building in downtown Findlay, the Marathon Center for the Performing Arts brings big-time acts to town, and showcases local talent like Findlay High School's Findlay First Edition show choir and the University of Findlay's Theater Department. There are plenty of events year-round in MCPA's auditorium, as well as creative and popular outdoor events.

HANCOCK COUNTY FAIR **AUG. 30-SEPT. 4**



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SANDUSKY

Downtown Sandusky has experienced incredible momentum over the past few years.

This would include more than \$100 million in public and private investment that included the creation of a new City Hall, the revitalization of our waterfront with the new Jackson Street Pier and Shoreline Drive, the creation of a new college campus, the opening of over 30 new businesses and construction of 100-plus new units of housing, more than anywhere in the city.

In 2021, the city adopted the Downtown Sandusky Master Plan, which was created to guide development and investment in the downtown going forward.

Since then, the city has been working with private partners to move forward on the priorities of the downtown plan.

In late 2022, a new organization called Destination Sandusky was created to help drive programming, marketing and place-making in the downtown area.

The Columbus Avenue project has been ongoing to design a new Columbus Avenue that will better connect to the waterfront, increase the size of the sidewalks and allow for more outdoor dining and public space.

Over the last couple of years, the Party at the Pier and Lange Trust summer concerts have become a staple of summer programming, bringing thousands of residents and visitors to the downtown on a weekly basis.

We have also seen more residential units come online with the newly constructed Hogrefe Building, Water Street Lofts and the soon-to-open Feick Building, among a few other smaller projects.

WHAT MAKES SANDUSKY SPECIAL

There are few places in the country that have the unique assets of Sandusky.

We're uniquely positioned on Lake Erie in a way that gives our residents and visitors unparalleled waterfront access.

The waterfront is integrated with our downtown in a way that is unmatched in Ohio. There are no highways, rail lines or bluffs that separate the city from the water.

Sandusky's downtown is also seamlessly connected to the city's historic neighborhoods. About 40% of Sandusky's population is within a 20-minute walk of downtown. Where else can you walk from your home to a beautiful historic downtown right on the water and also have the option to take a ferry to the country's best amusement park, the Lake Erie Islands, or even to Canada?

LIVING THROUGH THE REVITALIZATION

Downtown Sandusky's revitalization has been a long, ongoing process.

The area was long the hub of all commercial activity in the region, but, like most cities around the country, suburbanization in the mid-20th century led to a long period of decline for downtown and the central city.

Businesses moved out to Perkins Avenue, and later to U.S. 250 and the Sandusky Mall. People stopped coming downtown like they used to.

But thanks to some pioneering local people who decided to take risks in rehabbing some derelict buildings a couple of decades ago, the fortune of downtown Sandusky began to change.

Slowly, people began to realize that the city's historic building stock and its waterfront location was a huge asset and deserved investment.

In recent years, many vacant buildings have been converted into residential units, which has led to a steady increase in the amount of people living downtown.

Even more recently, the city has seen new construction of townhomes and single-family homes in the downtown area for the first time in decades.

Downtown has come a long way, but it still has a long way to go, and it's important to continue to attract new residents to our downtown area as well as increase the amenities for our current residents and visitors.

VERMILION

A lot is happening in Vermilion: a small town on a Great Lake.

Vermilion's downtown Main Street Beach & Park, at the north end of Main Street, is undergoing a major revitalization:

- The land has been cleared of buildings and now offers a beautiful view of the lake with a gently rolling hill perfect for picnics.
- A comfort station has been built, which will provide the public with restrooms, showers and a snack bar with packaged foods and beach rentals called Shore Thing.
- Paved paths from the west end of the park all the way to the Vermilion River are under construction and will let visitors meander the beach and lakefront at their own pace.
- Sunday concerts will be presented by the Vermilion Chamber of Commerce as well as Third Thursdays offering music and a sunset beginning in May.



Also, downtown Vermilion has seen the addition of parking through the recently developed Fulper Lot available to visitors at the corner of Liberty Avenue and Grand Street, a great spot to watch a parade or park for Third Thursdays.

WHY VERMILION IS A SPECIAL PLACE

A historic old maritime downtown recalls Vermilion's beginnings as a boat building and fishing village.

Both a lakefront and river give Vermilion a unique setting for its many shops and restaurants.

The legion of Vermilion volunteers and service organizations — outsized in number for the small community — make sure downtown has a lush display of flowers, a clean beach and hosts constant festivals and special activities throughout the summer season.

The COVID shutdown put a huge strain on shops and restaurants as it did everywhere. But not one establishment closed because of COVID.

The adaptability of our entrepreneurs continued to serve their customers through takeout service or online commerce. Despite a return of “live” customers, those alternative marketing efforts have remained and enhanced their business.

FINDLAY

The city of Findlay boasts a bustling downtown in Northwest Ohio. From unique eats, exciting activities, and one-of-a-kind gifts, there's something for everyone in Findlay.

MARATHON CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Findlay's position as a regional destination is no more cemented than when at the Marathon Center for the Performing Arts, a centerpiece of high-quality entertainment.

The Marathon Center hosts shows in a variety of genres, from nationally renowned music acts to world-class ballet and dance to book talks from New York Times bestselling authors.

It's a place of significant Findlay history, as well. The location was the site of the first Findlay field office for the Ohio Oil Company, which grew into the Marathon Petroleum Corporation. The structure of the current building was constructed as Findlay High School and later became a middle school.

After a new school was built in 2012, the building was transformed into its current state-of-the-art form, equipped with a lobby, lounge, visual art gallery, and of course, a backlit stage and theater seating.

The parking lot also becomes a focal point during the warm weather months, with food trucks lining the asphalt the first Wednesday of every month, May through September. Boogie on the Block, an outdoor concert featuring Nashville Crush and Exploit Deluxe, will take place amid a sea of fun on Friday, June 2.

ELIDA CANDLE COMPANY

Diane Yonut from Elida Candle Company is bringing the community together one wick at a time.

Originally beginning in Elida, Ohio and moving shop to downtown Findlay in the fall of 2020, Yonut only started offering candle-making workshops a few months ago.

“We just started in October and we've had several hundred already so far,” Yonut said about customers coming in to pour candles. “So it's been good.”

Yonut provides over 60 fragrances for customers to choose from. Mixing and matching scents is encouraged.

“It's limitless what you could come up with,” she said.

Candle making workshops at Elida Candle Company are comprehensive. Customers are able to create their fragrance, pick a jar, mix the fragrance oil with melted soy chips, wick and pour their candle — and of course, name their creation.

“We walk them through each step,” Yonut said. “And we explain what we're doing and why we're doing it... you learn a lot about candle making when you do this.”

With scents like coconut, lavender, antique sandalwood, and blueberry cheesecake, personalized scents are easy to create. Yonut often watches customers mix scents she wouldn't have thought to pair together.

“Things work together that I didn't know would,” she said. “A lot of the bakery scents are still the number one thing that people blend together. Seems to be (an) all-time favorite.”

Yonut is proud to be a unique spot in the Findlay community for gatherings — from a girl's night out, to date night, team building and more.

“It is something different to do in town that hasn't been offered before,” she said.





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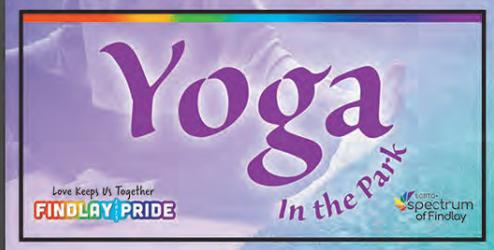
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PRIDE WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS

PRIDE MONTH MIXER

June 1 | 7PM – 9PM, Hancock Hotel

YOGA IN THE PARK

June 3 | 9AM – 10AM, Riverside Park

FINDLAY PRIDE IN THE PARK

June 3 | 10AM – 4PM, Riverside Park

OFFICIAL PRIDE AFTER PARTY

June 3 | 6PM – LATE, Crawford Street, Findlay

DRAG BINGO WITH BRUNCH

June 4 | 11AM – 2PM, Findlay Inn

PRIDE TATTOO FUNDRAISER

June 4 | 12PM – 6PM, Gypsy Tattoo, *by appointment sign up*



SCAN WITH YOUR PHONE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT FINDLAY PRIDE!



Can't Miss COMMUNITY EVENTS

FLAT ROCK CREEK FALL FESTIVAL Sept. 15-17

501 Fairground Drive, Paulding

A celebration of old-time engines and vintage farm equipment with the smells of apple cider, kettle corn, corn on the cob and smoke from hot engines. Enjoy browsing hundreds of craftspeople and flea market stands. Favorites each year include the vendor of old and antique tools and holiday handicrafts. The event features antique tractor pull competitions as well as champion draft horse teams vying for the top pulling honors. Bluegrass, country, and classic rock music draw an audience of thousands. The Antique and Classic Truck Show occurs on the final day of the festival across the street from the fairgrounds at the John Paulding Historical Museum.

PAULDING COUNTY



ICONIC

PAULDING COUNTY CARNEGIE LIBRARY

205 S. Main St., Paulding

In 1912, the president of the Public Library Association in Paulding requested funding from philanthropist Andrew Carnegie to build a library in Paulding. At first the Carnegie Corporation of New York refused, stating that it only provided funding to communities with larger populations, but when the Library Association said it would serve the entire county, which had a larger population, the request was granted. As a result Paulding became the site for the first "county" Carnegie library in the United States, built for a total cost of \$40,000. Carnegie provided funding for 2,811 libraries, of which 1,946 were built in the United States. Placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984, the Paulding County Carnegie Library continues to service the needs of all citizens of Paulding County.

LIVE EVENT

HARNES RACING

June 12-17

Paulding County Fairgrounds
501 Fairground Drive, Paulding

Enjoy the excitement of Ohio county fair racing at the Paulding County Fair. People can watch the horses race over the duration of the Paulding County Fair.

PAULDING COUNTY FAIR **JUNE 10-17**

Can't Miss COMMUNITY EVENTS

CELINA LAKE FESTIVAL July 28-30

121 E. Logan St. Celina

The Celina Lake Festival is one of Mercer County's most significant community events. The festival takes place every July 28-30. Visitors can enjoy fireworks over the lake, a grand parade and the Amphicar Splash-In. Amphicars are a series of cars built in Germany between 1961 to 1968; these cars are "seaworthy." Other activities include a car show, kiddie tractor pulls, craft show, cruise in, a patriotic boat parade and the cardboard duct tape boat races.

MERCER COUNTY



ICONIC

ROTARY LIGHTHOUSE

527 S. Walnut St., Celina

The forty-foot tall Rotary Lighthouse stands on the west bank of Grand Lake in Celina. Grand Lake is Ohio's largest inland lake, and the Rotary Lighthouse gives guests incredible views of the 13,500 acres of land. The lighthouse was built in 1986 by the Celina Rotary Club; the structure features a wrought iron observation deck that encircles the building and gives a "grand" view of the lake.

LIVE EVENT

MARIA STEIN COUNTRYFEST

June 23-25

2291 St Johns Rd, Maria Stein

Maria Stein Countryfest is hosted every year from June 23-25. The festivities are on the Maria Stein Relic Shrine grounds and feature fun activities for all ages. The Tractor Square Dancing event is a unique take on regular square dancing. Enjoy delicious food and beverages with fun contests and shows.

MERCER COUNTY FAIR **AUG. 11-17**



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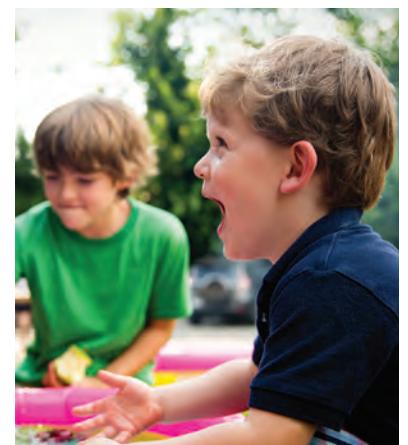
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McComb Community Park



Can't Miss COMMUNITY EVENTS

ANTIQUA MOTORCYCLE CLUB OF AMERICA MOTORCYCLE SHOW AND SWAP MEET

July 14-16

Fulton County Fairgrounds

Motorcycles and parts over 35 years old will be offered by over 700 vendors and there will be vintage motorcycle races. A memorial road run will be held and field games will be available for kids & adults. Tech seminars will be held and there will also be an antique motorcycle show, complete with judging. A free bike corral is available during the whole event, for visitors to sell their motorcycles. Camping is available.

FULTON COUNTY



ICONIC

SAUDER VILLAGE

Sauder Village, in Archbold, is a historic village incorporating old-time homes, barns, gardens and craft shops and offers visitors a place to relax and spend time with family. Families can span time from 1803 to the 1920, exploring a pioneer settlement, theater, grocery store, soda fountain, livery, bank, fire station, car dealership and barbershop. Food and sweets are available at the Barn Restaurant and Doughbox Bakery, and overnight accommodations may be had at the Heritage Inn. A campground is also available, with a splash pad, playland and a lake for fishing.

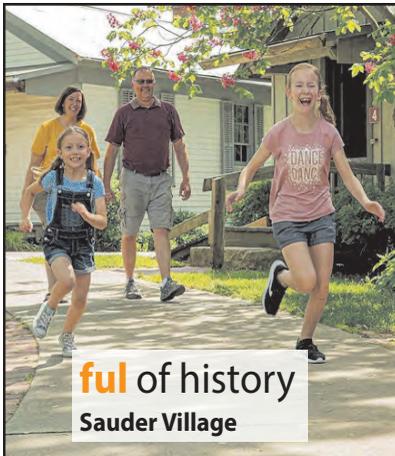
LIVE EVENT

NATIONAL THRESHER'S ASSOCIATION 78TH ANNUAL REUNION

June 22-25

Dozens of steam engines and hundreds of gasoline tractors and engines are on display at the Fulton County Fairgrounds. Daily demonstrations including threshing, a sawmill, shingle mill, veneer mill, plowing and machinery parades. Other events include antique tractor and steam engine pulling displays, operator skills contests, evening spark shows and air-powered engine displays. In addition, a flea market will feature tractor and steam engine parts, authentic and reproduction manuals, antique and new tools, collectibles, signs, decals and other items.

FULTON COUNTY FAIR SEPT. 1-7



ful of history
Sauder Village



artful
Fulton County Fair



restful
Harrison Lake



eventful
Delta Motorsports



playful
Sauder Village



spiritful



peaceful
Bracy Gold Bison Ranc





HURON COUNTY

ICONIC



SUMMIT MOTORSPORTS PARK

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.



VETERAN'S MEMORIAL LAKE PARK

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

SUMMIT MOTORSPORTS PARK

Summit Motorsports Park annually hosts the Summit Racing Equipment NHRA Nationals, NHRA Camping World Drag Racing Series Event, and the Cavalcade of Stars, an NHRA Lucas Oil Drag Racing Series Regional Event. Check summitmotorsportspark.com for specific dates and times.

NORWALK ARTS CENTER

Founded in 2018, the Norwalk Arts Center, LLC, 22 E. Main St., is a growing non-profit organization committed to arts access in the community. The theater will be offering the play "The Drowsy Chaperone," June 9-11.

EXTRAS

MONROEVILLE

ST. JOSEPH PARISH FESTIVAL

Aug. 5-6, 66
Chapel St., Monroeville

NORWALK

HALLOWEEN/PET-N-PUP PARADE

Uptown Norwalk
1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 28.

LIGHT UP NORWALK

Uptown Norwalk
The Saturday after Thanksgiving
Features the Christmas tree lighting, live music, food, kids' events and more.

PLYMOUTH

NIGHTMARE IN THE PARK

Mary Fate Park
October (dates to be announced)

Can't Miss COMMUNITY EVENTS

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL
May 26-28
Uptown Norwalk
 Who doesn't love a good festival? Celebrate all things strawberries along with rides, games, crafts, music and more!

**NORWALK LIONS CLUB
 FOURTH OF JULY PARADE**
July 4
Uptown Norwalk
 Celebrate Independence Day with a good old-fashioned parade. Bands, floats, local businesses, civic clubs and more all participate in this festive annual event.

FESTIVAL IN THE PARK
July 7-9
Willard City Park
561 Laurel St., Willard
 Enjoy music, arts and crafts, food, and more!

WAKEMAN
**FIREFIGHTERS HOMECOMING
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 The last weekend of July
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 35 E. Main St., Wakeman

HURON COUNTY FAIR **AUG. 14-19**



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Unique festivals

By Vicki Johnson and Tom Jackson



FLAG CITY BALLOONFEST

Aug. 11-13
Hancock County

Flag City Balloonfest is returning for another year at Findlay's Emory Adams Park, 1827 S. Blanchard St. The festival features 40-50 hot air balloons filling the sky with color and a nighttime "balloon glow."

Admission is free for the community event dedicated to fostering community pride, growth and prosperity in Findlay and Northwest Ohio while benefitting chosen charitable organizations.

Board member Will Miller said this year's event will follow the same format as previous years.

"We're going to have roughly the same number of hot air balloons," he said.

Friday is Veterans Day, and veterans are treated to free pizza in the veterans tent, sponsored by Flag City Honor Flight and Heavenly Pizza.

For people who want a more up-close view, the festival offers a Balloon Glow Encounter, which offers the purchaser and three other people an opportunity to enter the Glow Encounter area around dusk, an hour before the "glow" begins and watch the spectacle from inside a restricted Glow Encounter area.

Paid balloon rides by SkyCab also are featured. Anyone who would like to take a full-fledged fly-away ride must make reservations in advance on the website, flagcityballoonfest.com. There also will be tether rides during the event on a first-come, first-served basis.

Miller said the weekend also features entertainment, a car and motorcycle show on Saturday and a large vendor area with food, crafts and other things to buy.

There is free parking for the festival on the south side of Emory Adams Park, and paid parking on the north side.

flagcityballoonfest.com
facebook.com/FlagCityBalloonFest

BRATWURST FESTIVAL

Aug. 17-19
Crawford County

Celebrating its 55th year in Bucyrus, the Bratwurst Festival was founded in 1968. The annual three-day event takes place on the full third weekend of August.

It's estimated that 100,000 people visit the town known as the "Bratwurst Capital of America" on festival weekend. They consume tons of bratwurst made by local butchers in the fashion handed down from their ancestors who emigrated from Germany.

One of the annual events is the crowning of Bratwurst Royalty during a pageant, and Saturday morning features a 5K Color Run/Walk.

All weekend long, there's a craft and art show, rides, games, a beer garden, daily parades, an auction and contests such as a bratwurst-eating event.

In addition to bratwurst and a wide variety of other food choices, the weekend has plenty of free entertainment on several stages as well as roaming through the festival grounds.

bucyrusbratwurstfestival.com

-Story continued on page 46



CHURCHES

**ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Weekend Mass Schedule
Saturday, Vigil
 4:30 PM
Sunday
 7:00 AM
 9:00 AM
 11:00 AM
 1:00 PM (in Spanish)
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Sunday 9AM
Sacrament of Reconciliation
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Can't Miss COMMUNITY EVENTS

LILAC FESTIVAL AND STREET FAIR

May 13

Defiance's largest art and craft fair is celebrated in honor of the city's official flower, the lilac. The festival, based at 325 Clinton St., features arts and craft vendors, unique food vendors, and children's activities as well as a 5K race. The first 750 attendees will receive free lilacs.

DEFIANCE RIB FEST

Sept. 30

Music, beverages and "the best BBQ grillin.'" The event, in its 15th year, takes place in downtown Defiance (325 Clinton St.) Admission is \$10. Kids under 10 and adults older than 65 get in free.

DEFIANCE COUNTY



ICONIC

DEFIANCE COLLEGE

With the motto, "Defy the Ordinary," Defiance College is a private institution of higher learning that serves about 500 students.

Founded in 1850 as the Defiance Female Seminary to provide instruction to young women, the school received its current name in 1903.

The school's purple and gold Yellow Jackets and Lady Jackets compete in 17 Division III sports. They compete in the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference that features 10 schools from Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky.

LIVE EVENT

THUNDER ON THE RIVER

June 10-11

A weekend of live, hydroplane boat races. The races occur at the confluence of the Maumee and Auglaize rivers, near Pontiac Park.

WITCHES BREW FOR CASA

Oct. 12

Feeling wicked? Dress up in your favorite witch (or warlock) gear and visit participating shops in downtown Defiance for delicious treats and brews. The 4-8 p.m. event costs \$30 and includes all participating business stops plus a bottle of wine or a specialty brew. The event benefits the Court Appointed Special Advocates program.

DEFIANCE COUNTY FAIR AUG. 19-26

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Shrine Mass Schedule

Weekend Mass Schedule:

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Daily Masses: Monday & Saturday 11 am

Tuesday through Friday 7 am & 11 am

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TIFFIN-SENECA HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Sept. 15-17

Seneca County

In its 44th year, Tiffin-Seneca Heritage Festival has been a mainstay in Seneca County since 1979.

The event has traditionally had two parts - Heritage Village at a city park and the downtown portion in downtown Tiffin.

This year, however, board President Rudi Feasel said the two sections are joining into one as Heritage Village moves downtown. Reenactors and the rest of the village participants will set up in greenspace on Frost Parkway along the Sandusky River for the first time since the early 1980s.

The traditional downtown portion of the event will be centered at National Corner and the Frost Kalnow Amphitheater.

The downtown portion features a Saturday parade, an expected 80 craft and food vendors, children's activities and a German Heritage Tent with free admission. In the daytime, attendees can eat genuine German cuisine at the German History Tent, as well as take part in children's games, all surrounded by music straight from Oktoberfest.

Local bands will be playing on the Frost Kalnow Amphitheater at the East Green.

In addition, the car show, which was previously at the park, will be moving downtown.

Evening activities include more music as well as a beer tent.

In the Heritage Village portion of the festival, visitors 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, hear period music from local bands and grab lunch or a snack.

tiffinfestival.com



APPLEBUTTER FEST

Oct. 8

Wood County

Since 1977, the Applebutter Fest in Grand Rapids has been known for its historical re-enactments, handmade crafts, live music, food, and apple butter.

The one-day festival officially takes place 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on the second Sunday each October.

This year marks the 46th since members of the Historical Society of Grand Rapids Ohio started to raise funds by making and selling applebutter.

Within a few years, the festival began to expand, and today the town hosts roughly 40,000 people on that one day.

However, preparations for making applebutter begin two weeks prior to the event when volunteers gather at the Steve Kryder Farm near McClure to stir up four kettles of applebutter at what has become known as the "Big Stir." The applebutter is pressure-canned and ready for sale. Volunteers are welcome to assist.

Another three kettles of the sweet stuff are made and canned the day of the festival. That batch is placed into jars, which require refrigeration.

Historically, Kryder said entire communities of families and neighbors, young and old, came together in the fall to preserve part of the apple crop by making apple butter. This tradition continues at the annual event, where copper kettles are set up over log fires in Village Park adjacent to the Town Hall. Volunteers stir the apple butter with a wooden paddle. Festival attendees are welcome to take a turn at stirring.

It takes a day to boil down 50 gallons of cider to about 10 gallons of condensed cider. On another day, 15 bushels of apples are peeled and prepared, and the mixture is cooked a third day.

In addition to applebutter making in the park, the event has grown to include other history-related areas such as a classic car show, a military encampment, reenactors on the towpath, a historical farm area and a children's area.

Visitors also can see and buy crafts and enjoy a variety of food in downtown Grand Rapids as well as in two other parts of town.

Live entertainment featuring local musicians can be heard at several stages.

People planning to attend should note they cannot drive to Grand Rapids that day. The village is closed to vehicular traffic 7 a.m.-5 p.m. on festival day. Non-residents must park in designated lots outside of town and take buses to the festival in town. A parking fee of \$15 per vehicle is the only admission cost.

applebutterfest.org

-Story continued on page 50

WOOD COUNTY



Can't Miss COMMUNITY EVENTS

BLACK SWAMP ARTS FESTIVAL Sept. 8-10

Downtown Bowling Green

It's free, open to the public and involves art, music and food, so what's not to like? The art is featured in a juried show on all three days of the festival and an invitational for two days, which is open to artists from Wood County. Those wanting to check off gift-giving occasions may well be able to do it here. If all of the art browsing works up a hunger, there will be a number of food trucks available with nearly any edible anyone could want. As for liquid refreshments, visitors are frequently drawn to the beer garden, though other options are available in spots as well.

ICONIC

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

The school consumes 1,338 acres and almost immediately comes into view as one exits Interstate 75. A total enrollment of more than 19,000 students includes those studying in more than 200 undergraduate programs. Shops and restaurants surround the campus, offering the classic college-town vibe. For those interested in rooting for the Falcons in their athletic endeavors, attractive facilities include Doyt Perry Stadium for football, the Stroh Center for basketball and the Slater Family Ice Arena for hockey. BGSU's teams compete in the NCAA Division I Mid-American Conference.

LIVE EVENT

NATIONAL TRACTOR PULLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Aug. 17-19

The Wood County Fairgrounds transform into Pulltown, USA each summer as thousands are drawn to the world's largest tractor-pulling event. A variety of activities surround the event, which began as the National Tractor Pull in 1967. Since then, crowds estimated at 65,000 have visited the fairgrounds during the weekend to take in pulls involving tractors, trucks, diesels and pro stocks. The operation is guided by the Bowling Green-based Northwestern Ohio Tractor Pullers Association and includes a purse of \$250,000, along with contingency prizes.

WOOD COUNTY FAIR **JULY 30-AUG.6**



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WOOD COUNTY MUSEUM

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Can't Miss COMMUNITY EVENTS

DOWNTOWN FREMONT CAR SHOW

July 1

Great fun to showcase your car at the 2nd of the 3-date series of the Downtown Fremont Car Shows on Front Street between Croghan and Hayes plus parking lots for more space. Pre-registration for Car Show is highly suggested. Trophies and door prizes will be given out. Restaurants and other food vendors will be open. Use 105 S. Front St., Fremont as an address if searching our location using GPS. Check out the Facebook Page for this event: www.facebook.com/DowntownFremontCarShow. For more information, find us on Facebook at: @DowntownFremontCarShow.

THE CROP CIRCLE

Sept. 22-23

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

FIFTH ANNUAL CHOCOLATE WALK

Oct. 20

Tickets go on sale the beginning of September. Each ticket allows a person 21 years and older to visit businesses in Downtown Fremont to shop and receive a gourmet chocolate item. This is a fundraiser for Downtown Fremont Inc. and the Relay for Life of Sandusky County. Rain or Shine!

SANDUSKY COUNTY



ICONIC



The Hayes Presidential Center, Inc. operates and manages the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library & Museums. A non-profit entity, it receives the majority of its funding through the Rutherford B. Hayes-Lucy Webb Hayes Foundation. The State of Ohio also provides an annual appropriation administered through the Ohio History Connection (formerly the Ohio Historical Society).

The Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library & Museums is America's first presidential library and the forerunner for the federal presidential library system. HPLM is located at President Hayes' 25-acre wooded estate, called Spiegel Grove.

The building opened on Memorial Day (May 30) 1916, and was called the Hayes Memorial.

In 1965, the last generation of the Hayes family, who lived in the Hayes Home, turned the structure over to the state of Ohio. It was later opened to the public for tours.

In 1968, the museum/library building was expanded again. Two wings, built onto the east and west ends of the structure, added 35,874 square feet of space. The project supported expansion of the facility's educational outreach through increased exhibit and library space and the construction of an auditorium.

In 1981, the facility's name was changed to the Hayes Presidential Center.

In 2015, the facility's name changed again to the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library & Museums to more accurately reflect what the site offers the public.

HPLM comprises the presidential library; the museum, which was renovated in 2016 with the installation of all-new exhibit galleries; the 31-room Victorian home of Rutherford and Lucy Hayes, which was restored in 2012 to look as it did when Rutherford and Lucy lived there; the tomb of the president and first lady; and a mile of paved walking trails. Each entrance to Spiegel Grove is marked with original White House gates, which were used at the White House during Hayes' presidency and later brought to Spiegel Grove.



The 1840s Dungeon is located underneath the Sandusky County Courthouse and the Gallows Exhibition Hall featuring the gallows used for the last hanging in Sandusky County.

The dungeon was built in the early 1840s after local officials experienced multiple escaped prisoners in a short time from the less secure, above-ground jail.

When the first prisoners were incarcerated in the 1840s dungeon, they saw little daylight in the subterranean space, with the only illumination coming from kerosene lamps. Despite the terrible conditions, the dungeon was used for more than a decade before it was finally shuttered. Today, the Sandusky County Courthouse sits atop part of it, and guided tours of the Sandusky County Historic Jail & Dungeon have been offered since 2013.

LIVE EVENTS

FREMONT COMMUNITY THEATRE

1551 Dickinson St., Fremont

Entering its 63rd season, FCT is the premier live theater venue in Sandusky County, Ohio. The Fremont Community Theatre and Literary Society were founded in 1956 by several Fremont residents who had the desire to perform live theater.

A non-profit organization, FCT is an all-volunteer theater that depends on the continued support of its members, patrons, and guests.

Able to seat nearly 200 audience members in the auditorium. Programs are offered for area youth ages 8-12, teens 13-19 and five main season shows with a wide assortment of hilarious comedies, musicals and dramas, as well as special event performances.

SANDUSKY COUNTY FAIR **AUG. 21-28**



OHIO BIKE WEEK

**May 26 - June 4
Erie County**

Ohio Bike Week, held in downtown Sandusky and in other areas of Erie County, has become one of the area's biggest festivals, attracting motorcyclists and other people who simply want to have a good time.

The "10 days of ridin' and rockin' on the shores of Lake Erie" is scheduled for May 26 through June 4 this year.

At press time, the band lineup for this year's bike week had not been announced, but past bike weeks have featured plenty of concerts. Announcements are being made at the Ohio Bike Week website and at the festival's Facebook page.

The 2022 Ohio Bike Week featured more than 30 bands, including Mark Farner's American Band, Jackyl, Molly Hatchet, and Lita Ford. Steelheart, Slaughter, The Earthquakers and Jasmine Cain. (Farner is best known for his Grand Funk Railroad music incarnation, which included the hit, "We're An American Band.")

Concerts during Ohio Bike Week typically are held in multiple locations, including a big outdoor stage in downtown Sandusky and at the Barrel House Saloon, also in Sandusky's downtown.

A big part of Bike Week is the block party in downtown Sandusky, featuring lots of music, food offerings, beer and vendors.

Mad River Harley Davidson on U.S. 250 always goes all out to welcome bikers to the festival. Last year, it hosted a Miss Ohio Bike Week contest for fans of beautiful women, provided registration for the daily rides, hosted an "Ohio Bike Week Tattoo Expo" and provided dealership and vendor items of interest to motorcyclists.

Bike Week has persisted as a major festival despite having to battle setbacks brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. The onset of the pandemic forced the cancellation of Bike Week in 2020, and with the pandemic persisting in the next year, the 2021 return of Bike Week was a reduced affair that was forced to omit the downtown block party.

The party atmosphere returned to normal in 2022 and this year's organizers apparently are confident they can put together a full festival.

Riders keeping track of events at Ohio Bike Week are invited to download the Bikers Info USA App, available for both Apple and Android smartphones.

The festival dates back to 1999, when the state HOG (Harley Owners Group), which hosted annual events in various parts of Ohio, moved it to Sandusky. Things went well, so it returned to Erie County in 2000.

The event then became the North Coast Thunder Rally in 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004 and in 2005 it was rebranded as Ohio Bike Week.

The festival has had to endure periodic setbacks.

Roeder Harley Davidson, a major sponsor for the event, went out of business in 2009, just two weeks before Ohio Bike Week was set to begin. Local businessmen such as Bryan Kasper and supporters such as Lake Erie Shores and Islands rallied to save the event, which was able to go on. Mad River Harley Davidson took over as the local dealership and has provided support to the festival for years.

MILAN MELON FESTIVAL

**Erie County
Sept. 1-4**

There are plenty of reasons to visit the historic village of Milan in southern Erie County.

Known as the birthplace of Thomas Edison, Milan welcomes visitors to the Edison Birthplace Museum and to the Milan History Museums. Visitors also can stroll through the town square, admiring the village's many old buildings.

But the annual Milan Melon Festival also gives visitors a reason to pay attention to Milan.

This year's Milan Melon Festival is scheduled for Sept. 1 through 4 this year.

The event has taken place for more than 60 years and draws about 100,000 people to the small village. It goes back to a time when the Milan area had many melon growers.

The festival includes such traditions as a Milan Melon Festival Queen contest and the consumption of treats such as watermelon sherbert and cantaloupe ice cream. The festival's ice cream offerings, typically only available during the festival, are produced locally by Toft Dairy in Sandusky.

The special ice cream is very popular. In 2021, when the pandemic made normal fund raising difficult for local sports, the Edison Athletic Booster Club arranged a special sale in March of packages of cantaloupe ice cream and watermelon sherbet. Hundreds of people showed up to purchase thousands of containers of the special Toft offerings.

A melon eating contest also usually features as an event in the festival.

The 5K Road Race is billed as one of the oldest road races in Ohio.

Other events at past Milan Melon Festivals include a parade, a car show, a beautiful baby contest, live entertainment and a kiddie tractor pull.

The vendors include food offerings and crafts, so that no one is in danger of returning home hungry or without a souvenir.

One relatively new feature of the festival is the One in a Melon Home Makeover contest, which this year will take place for the third year.

"We're inviting all of you to show your spirit by decorating the outside of your home in all things melon! The home with the most spirit will receive a gift basket including Milan and Melon Festival treasures!" says an announcement at the festival's home page.

"Judging will take place Sept. 1st and the winner will be announced via Facebook before kicking off the 2023 Milan Melon Festival!"



WOOLLYBEAR FESTIVAL

Erie County
October 2023, date TBA

The woollybear caterpillar isn't a very big creature, so perhaps it's appropriate that the first Woollybear Festival wasn't very large.

The first festival took place in 1973 in the small community of Birmingham in Florence Township in eastern Erie County. The parade for that festival was so small, the participants went on the parade route twice, just to make it look bigger.

That extra effort isn't needed any longer. The festival, moved to Vermilion, now features a parade that lasts for about two hours.

The festival was created by beloved Cleveland weatherman Dick Goddard, who died in 2020 at age 89. Known for his long tenure as a weatherman at WJW-TV in Cleveland and for his love of animals, Goddard came up with the idea of a Woollybear Festival because of the creature's alleged ability to do winter forecasting.

According to folklore, the number of black bands on the caterpillar predict how severe a winter is going to be. The National Weather Service, however, has concluded it cannot rely upon the insect for winter predictions:

"Even though it is widely believed that the woollybear caterpillar can predict the upcoming winter's severity, the truth is that this caterpillar can't predict what Old Man Winter has in store for us in the upcoming winter."

The PTA at the local elementary school in Birmingham, looking for a fundraising event, heard about Goddard's idea and contacted the weatherman. With Goddard's help, the first festival took place. The event grew too big for Birmingham and it was moved to Vermilion.

The festival is always around Oct. 1, on a Sunday when the Cleveland Browns either are not playing or are out of town at a road game. At press time for this article, the Browns' 2023 schedule had not been announced yet, so the day of the festival hasn't been set yet by the Vermilion Chamber of Commerce.

The festival is known for its woollybear costume contest, with children and even pets dressed up to resemble the caterpillar which produces the Isabella Tiger Moth.

Because of Goddard's involvement, the first small parade featured TV personalities from Goddard's TV station, along with the Firelands High School marching band, a few Boy Scouts and the Florence Township Fire Department.

The modern parade usually includes plenty of TV and radio personalities, marching bands with around 2,000 musicians, vintage cars, floats, festival queens and clowns. If your wardrobe lacks woollybear clothing, you can buy woollybear clothes from the Chamber of Commerce booth.

Aside from the annual festival, Vermilion is a popular place for visitors because it is such a pretty city. Many visitors like to walk through the downtown, looking out at Lake Erie, visiting the shops and admiring the boats and the marine atmosphere.

WALLEYE FESTIVAL

Ottawa County
May 25-29

Which town is the Walleye Capital of the World?

There's no shortage of pretenders. Baudette, Minnesota, has tried to call itself that. So has Garrison, North Dakota, and several other towns.

Fortunately, residents of north central Ohio realize that Port Clinton is the real Walleye Capital of the World.

Being the real Walleye Capital comes with duties. You really ought to ring in the New Year with a walleye drop. Fortunately, Port Clinton officials have shouldered the solemn responsibility, and they celebrate New Year's Eve by dropping a 20-foot, 600-pound fiberglass walleye named Wylie Jr. from the sky.

Also, if a city is the authentic Walleye Capital, it ought to have an annual festival. And Port Clinton has indeed held an annual walleye festival for more than four decades.

The 42nd Annual Main Street Port Clinton Walleye Festival will be on May 25-29, Memorial Day weekend, at Waterworks Park, on the shore of Lake Erie in the city's downtown area.

Expect free live concerts, a Kids Fishing Derby and a parade, known as the "Grande Parade" to separate it from the more ordinary parades by other festivals.

There will also be educational programs and activities, and plenty of opportunities to get something to eat or drink, including a beer tent. There are also plenty of crafts and gifts vendors. The Port Clinton Chamber of Commerce says it expects to get 130 vendors from around the nation, so checking out all of the offerings seems likely to take awhile.

Lake Erie is known for its excellent walleye fishing, and in fact the lake itself sometimes is known as the "Walleye Capital of the World." Officials at the Ohio Department of Natural Resources say the walleye population in Lake Erie has been excellent in recent years, and that seems likely to continue, as the 2022 walleye hatch in the Western Basin of Lake Erie was well above average.

Visit the Lake Erie Shores and Islands website at www.shoresandislands.com for suggestions on hiring a charter boat captain at Port Clinton and other Lake Erie locations for a memorable fishing trip out on the lake, or use your favorite internet search engine to search "Port Clinton Ohio fishing" for plenty of suggestions.



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AUGLAIZE COUNTY

ICONIC

ARMSTRONG AIR & SPACE MUSEUM

500 Apollo Drive, Wapakoneta
This landmark is located in the hometown of aviator and astronaut Neil Armstrong, the first man to set foot on the moon. Opening in 1972, the museum chronicles Ohio's contributions to the history of aeronautics and space flight. The Armstrong Air & Space Museum celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2022.

LIVE EVENT

PARTY IN THE PARK SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

June 12-17
Wapakoneta Heritage Park, 30 E Auglaize St.
Fridays May 19-June 30
This continuous event offers free concerts in downtown Wapakoneta's Heritage Park from 7-10:30pm in May and June along the Auglaize River. Bring your lawn chairs, enjoy the live music and food trucks. Each concert features a different band as well as the DORA beer tent, where a local nonprofit gets the opportunity to run the bar and keep the proceeds, thereby spreading the community's support to a different agency each week.

AUGLAIZE COUNTY FAIR **JULY 30-AUG. 5**



VAN WERT COUNTY

ICONIC

BRUMBACK LIBRARY

The Brumback Library opened at the beginning of the 20th century as the first county library in the United States. The library has a collection of 235,000 items for children and adults, including an expanded newspaper and periodical collection. The Brumback Library now has branches in Convoy, Middle Point, Ohio City, Willshire and Wren.

LIVE EVENT

FEEL GOOD FRIDAYS

Musical talents spanning a generation of hits bring family and friends together for 10 free Friday night concerts at Downtown Fountain Park, inside of Van Wert's DORA district, between May 26 and Aug. 4. Music starts at 7:30 p.m. and food, bars and other festivities make downtown a perfect summer destination.

VAN WERT COUNTY FAIR **AUG. 29-SEPT. 4**

Can't Miss COMMUNITY EVENTS

WAPAKONETA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL

5-9 p.m. Sept. 16, Auglaize County Fairgrounds, 1001 Fairview Drive

This festival celebrates the success of local Ohio breweries and will showcase more than 40 of their chosen selections making it one of the largest craft beer festivals in the region. Included in the ticket price are unlimited beer tastings, delicious food, great live music, and raffle prizes! Indoor and outdoor areas with plenty of room to relax and enjoy the band, food and friends with your tastings. Appetizers included with admission are from our local restaurants: Join the fun Brewery Competition by casting a vote for your favorite beers. Spend your Saturday with great friends, amazing beer, delicious food and live music.

Can't Miss COMMUNITY EVENTS

SPRING FEST

May 5-6

For all the green thumbs, Spring Fest is a great way to start prepping your outside lawn and garden. Plant and landscaping equipment sales, partnered with local landscapers giving tips, will make your yard look the best it can. Outdoorsmen will also get a kick out of a wide array of hunting, fishing and camping vendors.

Reflecting our communities

PUBLIC ART DISPLAYS CREATIVITY, CULTURE OF THE 419

Intro by Bret Nye, Photos by Kevin Bean, Joe Centers, Scott Cottos, Elizabeth Keefe, Mike Magnuson, Jeremy Speer and Nicole Walby

Public art plays an integral part in building the culture of a community. Murals, paintings, sculptures and installations placed in the public sphere are seen daily by the denizens of a town and catch the attention of distant travelers making their way through Main Street on their way to their next destination. First impressions can be lasting, so deciding what to commission and exhibit in public is not an easy decision on the part of communities' civic leaders.

Peruse the aesthetic offerings of the 419 in this story, which seeks to capture some notion of the feeling of driving through the towns in this region of Ohio, and take in the sights and artistic labors of the people that inhabit it.



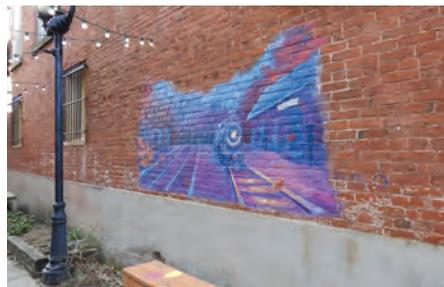
This Findlay mural, at 301 S. Main St., features images of the University of Findlay's Old Main building and the Griffith Memorial Arch, complete with students, the courthouse and other parts of the city. The artwork, painted by area muralist Oscar Velasquez, was meant to portray the relationship between the city and university.



This homage to Vincent Van Gogh's famous painting "Starry Night" was completed on the side of a building at 116 E. Main Cross St. in Findlay by artist Oscar Velasquez.



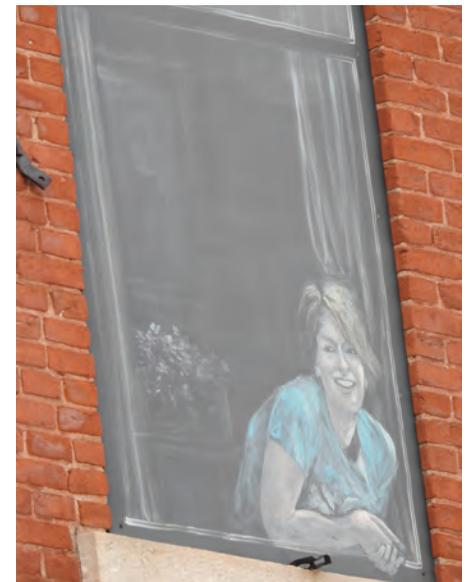
World-renowned artist Oscar Velasquez, who moved to Putnam County from Texas in 1953 and spent the next half-century or so painting many of the region's murals, completed this Findlay mural in 2015 on the back wall of a building at 319 S. Main St. It depicts the cover of Pink Floyd's classic album, "The Dark Side of the Moon."



The south side of Fremont's former Masonic Hall building, in the 100 block of Front Street, displays this train mural.



This downtown Norwalk mural shows off the town's date of origin, 1817.



A smiling woman, painted in the trompe l'oeil style, leans out of a window on the old Masonic Hall building in the 100 block of Front Street, Fremont.

-Story continued on page 57



ALLEN COUNTY

ICONIC

ALLEN COUNTY MUSEUM

The Allen County Museum has been preserving and promoting cultural heritage since 1908. It is the essential source and destination for enrichment, inclusiveness and creativity by celebrating history and art. The museum is home to two important paintings of Senator Calvin Brice and his family.

LIVE EVENT

3RD ANNUAL PUBLIC CAR SHOW

The 3rd Annual Public Car Show is open to all makes and models of cars, trucks and motorcycles. Sponsored by the Western Buckeye Region of the Vintage Chevrolet Club of America and the Lima Auto Mall, the car show includes Top 25 participant judging plus special awards, a 50/50 raffle, door prizes, a DJ and activities for kids, creating a fun-for-all environment on Saturday, June 3.

ALLEN COUNTY FAIR **AUG. 18-26**



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

LIMALAND MOTORSPORTS PARK RACES

Various dates

Racing fans can enjoy motor spectacles at this venue in Lima. A number of contests involving multiple different vehicle classes are planned for this spring and summer — representing Limaland's 88th season. Visit limaland.com for a full race schedule.

PUTNAM COUNTY FAIR **JUNE 19-24**

Can't Miss
**COMMUNITY
EVENTS**

COUNTY FAIR

Aug. 18-26

HARDY, a country music singer, will be performing Saturday, Aug. 19 at the Allen County Fair at a sold-out show. HARDY has written songs for and previously toured with Georgia Florida Line, Chris Lane, Blake Shelton and more. HARDY is the reigning American Country Music Songwriter of the Year. He has written 12 No. 1 singles since 2018, including "ONE BEER" featuring Lauren Alaina and Devin Dawson.

Can't Miss
**COMMUNITY
EVENTS**

LIVE COMMUNITY EVENTS

Thursdays at the Rex

Rex Pavilion, in downtown Ottawa, is a hub of live music, food trucks, farmers market vendors in a family-friendly atmosphere from 5 to 8:30 p.m. Thursdays through the summer. Bring your cooler, chairs, blankets, family and friends.



Chelsea Mullins has been painting professionally for almost nine years, with a focus on commission work, portraits, murals and performance art. Her contribution to Tiffin's traffic box art displays is located at the intersection of East Perry and South Washington streets.



Maelin Bowman's abstract traffic box artwork is located at South Washington and Madison streets. The piece brings a fun twist to downtown Tiffin.



The canvas used for this Tiffin traffic box art at South Washington and Hudson streets by Stephen Thornbury was a live art piece originally created for a show at Milo Arts Center in Columbus, Ohio, called "Deepwater."



This abstract blue face cheerily greets visitors to Williams Park, 410 E. Stone St., in Gibsonburg.



Located on the north wall of the Supance and Howard Building in Tiffin, this mural was painted to honor and give tribute to Tiffin and Ohio. Commissioned by Leadership Seneca County, artist Kymberlee Wood pays tribute to Tiffin in the mural's first arch, and honors Ohio in the third arch. The middle arch is meant to depict 1950s Tiffin.



A whimsical donut umbrella makes a perfect mural for the side of Gibsonburg's iconic Ideal Bakery, 101 W. Madison St.



"The Spirit of the American Doughboy," by E.M. Viquesney of Spencer, Indiana, is located in Fostoria's Fountain Cemetery, at 702 Van Buren St. It depicts a World War I soldier holding a rifle waist high in his left hand and a grenade over his head in his right. The statue was dedicated on the grounds

of the former Fostoria High School on High Street in 1927. In 1969, damages were repaired and it was moved to Fountain Cemetery and rededicated. The Doughboy was rededicated in 1996.



The "Great American Crossroads" mural, depicting the past and present of Bucyrus, the seat of Crawford County, is the crown jewel of a locally-funded and maintained park at 108 S. Sandusky Ave. in Bucyrus. The mural, created by artist Eric Grohe in 1999, is as realistic as it gets, depicting various aspects of life in the city and the area that surrounds it.



This Ohio 13 railroad scene has attracted the eye of people in Mansfield since the 1970s.



The Boy with the Boot statue represents Sandusky so strongly that the city placed it on its new seal. People can find two different versions of the iconic statue — with a more than 100-year history — in Sandusky. The original statue stands inside the City Hall building on Columbus Avenue. Another version of the statue is more prominently featured inside a fountain outside

the Erie County Courthouse. The fountain fixture features colored lights, which can be set to different colors for special occasions.



WYANDOT COUNTY

ICONIC

WYANDOT COUNTY COURTHOUSE



A short drive to Wyandot County can take you back in time hundreds if not thousands of years. During the Great Ice Age, Native Americans used the Sheridan Cave near Carey. Parts of the county later became home to the Wyandot Indians. In Upper Sandusky proper, the 1899 Wyandot County Courthouse is considered a unique structure for its style and interior paintings. A 10-foot tall, 200-pound copper statue of Lady Justice stands atop the courthouse's dome. The third floor courtroom was used for scenes in the 1994 movie, "The Shawshank Redemption," while the former Stephan Lumber Co. on South Eighth Street, built in 1908, served as the prison woodshop in the movie. The courthouse was added to the National Register of Historic Places, along with the neighboring jail, in 1973.

BASILICA AND NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF CONSOLATION



Construction on the original Shrine church began in 1868. Once the building was completed enough for a dedication, it was given the name of St. Edward. Care of the church was given to Father Joseph Peter Gloden, pastor of the church of St. Nicholas in Frenchtown. He encouraged the faithful to complete the construction of the church and asked them to direct their prayers to Mary, the Mother of God, under the title of Our Lady of Consolation, the patroness of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. Gloden and the congregation promised to rename the church in honor of Our Lady of Consolation, and he procured a replica of a statue of Our Lady of Consolation. On May 24, 1875, the statue was carried in procession from St. Nicholas' Church to the Carey church. Although the storm raged, no rain touched the statue or anyone in the procession.

LIVE EVENTS

STAR THEATRE

121 W. Wyandot Ave, Upper Sandusky
For more than 80 years, the brick building in the 100 block of West Wyandot Avenue has been a theater; first for film and later live performances. The theatre goes back to the 1930s and was originally owned by Leo T. Jones. The theater closed sometime in the early 1970s. Its rebirth came a few years later in 1977 when a group of people interested in live theater formed the Star Players. The building was divided with the theater in the back half and the entrance was moved to the side of the building on the alley. More changes came in the early 1990s when the theater group was able to purchase the original front part of the theater. Seasons include live productions and movies.

WYANDOT MISSION CHURCH

Church Street, Upper Sandusky
The Wyandot Indian Mission was founded by John Stewart in 1816. Three years later, the Wyandot Mission became the first officially recognized mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church in America. The stone mission church was built in 1824 under the supervision of the Rev. James B. Finley. The Wyandot Indians worshiped at the Mission Church until 1843. The building was restored in 1889 and designated a national historic shrine by the General Conference of the Methodist Church in 1960. The landmark is open during the summer months of June, July and August, and worship services are held at 8 a.m. each Sunday, May 7 through Aug. 27.

Can't Miss COMMUNITY EVENTS

WYANSTOCK

June 30-July 1, Wyandot Co. Fairgrounds

Live music, local food and brews will be available as the Wyandot County Young Professionals bring the Wyanstock festival to the county fairgrounds. Among the performers during the two-day event are The Bootleg City Band, Gopher Baroque Band, Glass Forest, The Fret Mashers, Bourbon & Vinyl and Almost Chili Peppers. Camping is available. Admission is \$5 Friday or \$10 for the weekend. Proceeds support local scholarships and charitable causes.

CAREY FEST

Aug. 4-5, downtown Carey

The 42nd annual town festival features a parade, music, games and food. Hours are 3-9 p.m. daily. As part of the fun, shoppers can scout out special treasures made by small businesses, home businesses and artists at the Artisan's Corner in the parking lot on the corner of East Findlay and South Patterson streets. The event kicks off Aug. 3 with a business expo. Entry into the festival is free.

CHRISTMAS IN CAREY

Dec. 1, downtown Carey

The village holds a five-block party every year on the first Friday in December. Many downtown businesses have open doors during the evening, and visitors can enjoy activities, crafts and snacks. An annual tree lighting at the gazebo at John Carey Park on East Findlay Street is held, and Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive on a fire truck. Traditionally there are horse-drawn wagon rides, along with a lawn mower train and puppet show.

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Dec. 2, downtown Upper Sandusky

This fun-filled holiday-themed event is held annually in downtown Upper Sandusky with events for the family. Christmas at the Wyandot County Museum features as many as 30 decorated trees. On Dec. 1, the museum can be observed by Christmas tree light from 5-7 p.m. There will be an open house from 2-8 p.m. Dec. 2 with another open house from 1-5 p.m. Dec. 3. Santa visits the museum on Dec. 5 from 5-7 p.m. Open houses are also planned from 2-8 p.m. Dec. 9 and 1-5 p.m. Dec. 10.

WYANDOT COUNTY FAIR **SEPT. 11-16**



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WILLIAMS COUNTY

ICONIC

THE WILLIAMS COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Corner of Main and High streets in Bryan
Architect E.O. Fallis of Toledo designed the courthouse in the Romanesque Revival style, which was nationally popular in the late nineteenth century.

The design for the courthouse was approved by the county in 1888, and the building's cornerstone was placed the next year. Construction was completed in 1891. The courthouse was added to the National Register of Historic Places on May 7, 1973.

LIVE EVENT

GET THE SCOOP

May 13, 1:00 p.m.

Fountain City Amphitheater

Get a free scoop of ice cream while supplies last, enjoy the fountains, and get the scoop on the 2023 amphitheater summer schedule!

Can't Miss COMMUNITY EVENTS

COMEDY UNDER THE STARS

July 7 and Aug. 11

Two family-friendly comedy nights are scheduled this year at the Fountain City Amphitheater.

WILLIAMS COUNTY FAIR SEP. 9-16



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August 9 — Draft Pony Pulls

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Events IN THE 419

May 3, June 7, July 5, August 2 & September 6
FINDLAY

FOOD TRUCK WEDNESDAYS AT MCPA

Marathon Center for the Performing Arts
200 W. Main Cross St.
Food Trucks are coming back for the summer! First Wednesday of the month, May through September. Save the dates and check MCPA.org or visit @MCPAFindlay on Facebook for each month's line-up of vendors.

May 12
FINDLAY

JOE N SHUEY

The Baker's Cafe
408 S Main St.
Join us for LIVE MUSIC from 6-9 p.m.
Happy hour drink prices Limited Menu



May 26-29
LAKESIDE

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND IN LAKESIDE

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May 20
FINDLAY

FAMILY FUN DAYS

Northwest Ohio Railroad Preservation
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Learn more at www.nworrrp.org

June 2
FINDLAY

BOOGIE ON THE BLOCK

Marathon Center for the Performing Arts
200 W. Main Cross St.
Findlay's Biggest Block Party returns to MCPA this summer! Live music from Nashville Crush with guests Exploit Deluxe with food trucks, libations, dancing and fun. Doors open at 6pm. MCPA.org
Tickets sold at the door. \$5 for adults, \$3 for children, strollers are FREE!
*Please note that this is a family-friendly event, but there will be no Kid's Zone this year!



June 3
LAKESIDE

WHOSE LINE IS IT ANYWAY?

Hoover Auditorium
115 W. Third St.
At 7:30 p.m., improv comics Colin Mochrie & Brad Sherwood perform a hilarious show complete with audience participation.
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of Marketing
419798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com



June 10
LAKESIDE

SPIN DOCTORS

115 W. Third St.
Popular 1990s rock & roll band known for hits "Little Miss Can't be Wrong" & "Two Princes" performs at 7:30 p.m.
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com



June 13
LAKESIDE

CLARK KELLOGG

Hoover Auditorium
115 W. Third St.
Ohio State University basketball legend & prominent CBS Sports college basketball analyst speaks at 7:30 p.m.
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com

June 17
Carey Chamber of Commerce
FIRST ANNUAL GALA "THE RECEPTION"
5-11pm at
Moreno's Vault, 119 W. Carey St.

June 17
FINDLAY

FAMILY FUN DAYS

Northwest Ohio Railroad Preservation
12505 CR 99
Learn more at www.nworrrp.org



LAKESIDE
COLLECTOR CAR SHOW

Hotel Lakeside Lawn
150 Maple Ave.
From 1-7 p.m. get an up-close look at 50+ vintage cars at this fun, family event.
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com



June 20, June 27, July 11, July 18,
July 25 & August 1
FINDLAY

LUNCHTIME LIVE SERIES

Waterfall Pavilion at Riverside Park
231 McManness Ave
From 11:30am to 1pm. These events
feature FREE, family-friendly live
music performed by local artists for
people of all ages.

*There will not be any food offerings,
so people are encouraged to bring
their own lunch. There is room
to spread out, so bring chairs or
blankets to sit on. Full line-up can be
found at MCPA.org!

June 21, June 28, July 5, July 12,
July 19 & July 26
FINDLAY

RIVERSIDE CIVIC CONCERT SERIES

Allen P. Dudley Bandshell at
Riverside Park
231 McManness Ave
FREE civic and community band
concerts beginning at 7pm each
Wednesday beginning June 21
through July 26.
Full line-up can be found at
MCPA.org!

JUNE 24 BOWLING GREEN CRUISE-IN FOR A SAFE SUMMER

Wood County Museum
13660 County Home Rd
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Free Community Event!
Service vehicles, fire trucks, 1st
responders, safety fair & more
Car cruise-in also taking place.
New & antique cars welcome! Food
trucks on site.



JUNE 24 LAKESIDE POSTMODERN JUKEBOX

Hoover Auditorium
115 W. Third St.
Energetic ensemble transforms pop
hits of today into classic sounds of
yesterday at 7:30 p.m.
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of
Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com

June 24
FOSTORIA
GUITAR FEST
Corner of Main & Tiffin
4 p.m. to Midnight
NO COVER CHARGE
Folk, Country, Rock-n-Roll
Food trucks, beer, 50/50 drawings
Sponsored by Fostoria Community
Arts Council

Saturdays in July and August
VERMILION
MARKET IN THE PARK
10am - 2pm in Victory Park
Fresh produce + artisan crafts +
community
www.mainstreetvermilion.org/mip



July 4
LAKESIDE
FOURTH OF JULY
236 Walnut Ave.
Celebrate the holiday with a
parade, cookout, concerts in the
park, fireworks & more
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of
Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com



July 8
LAKESIDE
BLOOD, SWEAT, TEARS
Hoover Auditorium
115 W. Third St.
1970s Grammy Award-winning
classic rock band performs hits
"You've Made Me So Very Happy" &
"Spinning Wheel" at 7:30 p.m.
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of
Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com

July 8
VERMILION
ALL WASHED UP
10am - 3pm in Exchange Park
Vermilion's driftwood art contest,
NEW activity for kids + more!
[www.mainstreetvermilion.org/
driftwood](http://www.mainstreetvermilion.org/driftwood)

July 9
FOSTORIA
FOSTORIA GARDEN CLUB
TOUR AND FLOWER
SHOW
12 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Visit 7 beautiful home gardens plus
the library and Flower Show at
Fostoria Learning Center. Pre-sale
tickets \$7 or \$10 day of tour.

July 14
LAKESIDE
EVIL WOMAN: THE
ELECTRIC LIGHT
ORCHESTRA EXPERIENCE
Hoover Auditorium
115 W. Third St.
Tribute to the iconic ELO with
hits "Livin' Thing", Don't Bring
Me Down" & "Telephone Line"
performs at 7:30 p.m.
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of
Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com

July 15 & 16
FINDLAY
FINDLAY GARDEN CLUB
ANNUAL GARDEN TOUR
Sat. 10-5 p.m. &
Sun. Noon-5 p.m.
FREE-Donations will be accepted.
Maps & locations will be available at
findlaygardenclub.org
Find us on Facebook: Findlay
Garden Club
For more information email:
findlaygardenclub@gmail.com



July 15
LAKESIDE
LOS LOBOS
Hoover Auditorium
115 W. Third St.
Celebrating 50 years, this Grammy-
winning band performs at 7:30 p.m.
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of
Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com



July 16
LAKESIDE
LAKESIDE WOODEN
BOAT SHOW
Hotel Lakeside
Lawn & Dock
150 Maple Ave.
Fun for the family, Lakeside's
waterfront transforms into an
outdoor showroom of classic
wooden boats from 12-4 p.m.
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of
Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com



July 22
LAKESIDE
CROWDER
Hoover Auditorium
115 W. Third St.
Dove Award-winner & Christian
singer-songwriter known for "Good
God Almighty" "In the House" &
"Come as You Are" performs at
7:30 p.m.
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of
Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com



July 25
LAKESIDE
SCOTT SIMON
Hoover Auditorium
115 W. Third St.
Author & Emmy Award-winning
NPR host of Weekend
Edition Saturday & podcast Up
First speaks at 8 p.m.



July 27-29
LAKESIDE

LAKESIDE CRAFT & ART SHOW

Hotel Lakeside Lawn
150 Maple Ave
Rain or Shine, shop 9 a.m.- 5 p.m.
Thursday and Friday and 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Saturday
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com



July 28
LAKESIDE

LAKESIDE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA "MUSIC OF THE KNIGHTS"

Hoover Auditorium
115 W. Third St.
A celebration concert of three of Britain's most legendary songwriters - Sir Paul McCartney, Sir Elton John & Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber starts at 7:30 p.m.
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com

July 29
FINDLAY

FAMILY FUN DAYS

Northwest Ohio
Railroad Preservation
12505 CR 99
Learn more at www.nworrp.org

July 29
FINDLAY

FINDLAY ROCKS THE 60S

Marathon Center for the Performing Arts
200 W. Main Cross St.
A celebration of music's greatest era - the 60's - honoring the local bands that ruled the day, the national acts that graced Findlay's historic venues and the people who made it all possible. 7:30 PM | Tickets: \$25* | MCPA.org
*Ticket price also includes one-time admission to the "Findlay Rocks!" exhibit at the Hancock Historical Museum, July 26-30



July 29
LAKESIDE

MANU RAJA

Hoover Auditorium
115 W. Third St.
Award-winning CNN Chief Congressional Correspondent speaks at 7:30 p.m.
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com



August 3
LAKESIDE

JIM TRESSEL

Hoover Auditorium
115 W. Third St.
Hall of Fame football coach speaks at 7:30 p.m.
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com

August 4-6
DOWNTOWN TOLEDO

TOLEDO JEEP® FEST

Join us for the 6th annual Toledo Jeep® Fest in Toledo, Ohio - Home of the Jeep! This weekend-long, family-friendly event includes an all-Jeep parade, historic Jeeps, a Vendor Midway, live music, food trucks, kid zones, and more. Don't miss the kick-off concert Friday night with Scotty McCreery live at Promenade Park! Plan your trek at ToledoJeepFest.com.



August 5
LAKESIDE

PAUL REISER

Hoover Auditorium
115 W. Third St.
Multi-talented actor, comedian, writer & producer shares comic observations on his life & career at 7:30 p.m.
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com

August 5
VERMILION

CHALK IT UP!

10am - 2pm in Victory Park
Beautiful chalk artwork by local artists of all ages.
www.mainstreetvermilion.org/chalk

August 6
FINDLAY

CAR TUNES ON MAIN CAR SHOW

1-4 p.m.
Vehicles register at flagcitycorvettes.com



August 19
LAKESIDE

LONESTAR

Hoover Auditorium
115 W. Third St.
Multi-platinum country band with No.1 hits "No News" & "Come Crying to Me", as well as crossover songs "I'm Already There" & "Amazed" performs at 7:30 p.m.
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com



August 25
LAKESIDE

THE TEXAS TENORS

Hoover Auditorium
115 W. Third St.
An evening of country, gospel, Broadway & pop favorites starts at 7:30 p.m.
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com

August 26
FINDLAY

FAMILY FUN DAYS

Northwest Ohio
Railroad Preservation
12505 CR 99
Learn more at www.nworrp.org



August 26
LAKESIDE

LAKESIDE ANTIQUE SHOW

Wesley Lodge
510 Central Ave.
More than 85 dealers will display antiques indoors and outdoors from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com



August 26
LAKESIDE

JIM BRICKMAN: BRICKMAN ACROSS AMERICA

Hoover Auditorium
115 W. Third St.
Grammy-nominated songwriter & chart-topping pianist known for "Valentine" & "The Gift" performs at 7:30 p.m.
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com



September 1-3
LAKESIDE

LABOR DAY WEEKEND

800 Maple Ave.
Fun for the whole family
Enjoy The Music of Billy Joel starring Michael Cavanaugh, fireworks, a holiday cookout & concerts in the park.
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com

September 9
VERMILION

HISTORIC WALKING TOUR

Local history, nostalgia, facts & legend in an easy one-hour stroll that includes sea captains' homes.
www.mainstreetvermilion.org/tour

September 9 & 10
BELLEVUE

PIONEER DAYS AT HISTORIC LYME VILLAGE

5001 SR 4
Experience the arts and crafts and life in the 19th century during Pioneer Days at Historic Lyme Village. All buildings will be open including our Second Empire Victorian Mansion, country farmhouse, log cabins, one-room school, log church and many more. The National Post Mark Museum will also be open. Hours are 10-5 p.m. both days. Cost is \$12 for adults, \$10 for ages 60 & older and \$6 for children 6 to 12.

September 15 & 16
TIFFIN

44TH ANNUAL TIFFIN SENECA HERITAGE FESTIVAL

September 15th- 17th
www.tiffinfestival.com
Living History Village is moving back to Rotary Park on Frost Parkway!
Including Living History Reenactors and Demonstrators!
Ohio Heritage School Days Event on Friday Afternoon!

FESTIVAL PARADE

Saturday at 10:30 a.m.
German Heritage Block with German Themed Food, Live Entertainment & Beer Garden!
JAM's Heritage Market with 70+ Craft & Retail Vendors! Farmers' Market Car Show
Downtown Events featuring Food Vendors, Kids Activities, Bounce Houses and More!
Entertainment & Beer Garden at East Green Amphitheater--Featuring Elektrik Circus on Saturday Night!
Live Music Friday 5pm--1am



September 16
LAKESIDE

MIKE ALBERT & THE BIG "E" BAND

Hoover Auditorium
115 W. Third St.
Celebrate the music of Elvis Presley in this ultimate tribute show at 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$15-\$20.
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com

September 23
FOSTORIA

FOSTORIA RAIL FESTIVAL

TWO LOCATIONS!
Fostoria Elementary
1202 HL Ford Drive &
Fostoria High School
1001 Park Ave
Model train layouts
Buy and Sell Trains
Children Train Rides
fostoriairontriangle.com
For more information call Ellen Gatrell at 419-435-1781



October 7
LAKESIDE

COMEDIAN BRAD UPTON

Hoover Auditorium
115 W. Third St.
Comedian Brad Upton brings his hilarious show to Hoover Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$15-\$20
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com



October 14
LAKESIDE

LAKESIDE-MARBLEHEAD LIGHTHOUSE FESTIVAL

800 Maple Ave.
Fun for the family all day - Marblehead Lighthouse tours, live music, arts & crafts vendors, hayrides, farmers' market, pumpkin decorating contest & more. Free admission & parking.
lakesideohio.com/calendar
Alex Stelzer, Senior Director of Marketing
419-798-4461, ext. 331
astelzer@lakesideohio.com



STAY CLOSE, GO FAR.

**IT DOESN'T MATTER
HOW FAR YOU TRAVEL
FOR COLLEGE. IT'S HOW
FAR YOU WILL GO IN
YOUR CAREER.**



TIFFIN UNIVERSITY OFFERS OVER 40 PROGRAMS

in the arts and sciences, business and criminal justice fields on campus, online and at our extended learning locations. With national rankings in academics and athletics, a diverse community with a small-town feel and many opportunities to grow and lead, TU could be the school you've been looking for.

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 **800.968.6446**

 admiss@tiffin.edu



Office of Undergraduate Admissions
155 Miami Street, Tiffin, Ohio 44883

 @TIFFINU

SUMMER AT MCPA



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



Friday
June 2
DOORS OPEN
at 6pm

Tickets are just \$5
at the door!

Boogie ON THE Black '23



Nashville Crush
with guests Exploit Deluxe

Presented by your
Local Credit Unions



FREE EVENTS!

WOLFIES NUTS
EST. 1985

Lunchtime LIVE

Waterfall Pavilion
at Riverside Park, Findlay, OH
from 11:30 AM - 1 PM

- June 20 / Melanie Klakamp
- June 27 / Kai Robert from The Kai & Sarah Project
- July 11 / James Adkins
- July 18 / Missy from Bliss
- July 25 / Eric Sowers
- August 1 / The Bridge Live! Duo



FREE EVENTS!

RIVERSIDE CIVIC CONCERT SERIES

Allen P. Dudley Bandshell
at Riverside Park, Findlay, OH
@ 7 PM

- June 21 / Fostoria Community Band
- June 28 / Findlay Civic Band
- July 5 / Night Jazz
- July 12 / Findlay Civic Band
- July 19 / Great Plains Barbershop Chorus
- July 26 / FHS Pantasia



LaRiche CHEVROLET CADILLAC

Findlay Rocks the '60s!

GOES LIVE!

Saturday, July 29 | 7:30 PM
Marathon Center for the Performing Arts, Findlay, OH

A celebration of music's greatest era - the 60's - honoring the local bands that ruled the day, the national acts that graced Findlay's historic venues and the people who made it all possible.
Tickets: \$25* at MCPA.org

*Ticket price also includes one-time admission to the "Findlay Rocks!" exhibit at the Hancock Historical Museum, July 26-30



ALL THIS AND MORE! VISIT US AT MCPA.ORG