

CAMPING GUIDE

Great Outdoors Culture Tour expands for sixth season

BY ANDY TAYLOR-FABE
Record-Eagle staff writer

The Michigan Great Outdoors Culture Tour returns this summer with six weeks of live cultural programs and performances by local musicians, dancers, historical role-players and storytellers.

The tour, now in its sixth year, begins July 1 in Indian River and continues through Aug. 15, with events happening nearly every evening at 7 p.m.

Intended for visiting vacationers as well as local residents, the free programs will take place mostly on campgrounds, in state parks and at community centers across northern Lower Michigan and the Upper Peninsula.

Nancy Mathews, director

of community programs for the Michigan Humanities Council and director of the 2003 Culture Tour, said the events are held mostly in rural areas, deliberately "steering away" from larger cities.

"We are avoiding areas where there is a lot to do," Mathews added.

The tour focuses on more isolated areas where performance-oriented opportunities for cultural exploration are not common.

"We are going where people are captive audiences," Mathews said.

Although this year's program, like the previous Culture Tours, is funded jointly by the Michigan Humanities Council and the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a

grant from the National Endowment for the Arts has allowed the councils to expand the program roster.

The sponsors have gathered performers from northern Michigan cities. On the schedule are long-time Traverse City-based band Song of the Lakes and storyteller Terry Wooten of Kewadin.

The tour also features musicians from southern Michigan locales, including the Dodworth Saxhorn Band of Detroit and folk musician/singer Kitty Donohoe of Ann Arbor.

Donohoe kicks off the Great Outdoors Culture Tour July 1 at Burt Lake State Park in Indian River with her program "Bunyan and Banjos," which features songs about local and



The Traverse City-based Song of the Lakes will be performing at state parks and campgrounds this summer.

national folklore.

She will perform this show as well as "Lighthouses and Legends" during the first week of the tour.

For full listings of the tour schedule and locations, check www.michigan-humanities.org/culture-tour.org

Campgrounds in the region

ALANSON

Camp Petosega 33 sites. 347-6536.
Crooked River RV Park 17 sites. 548-5534.

ATLANTA

Big Oaks 27 sites. (989) 785-4251.
Clear Lake State Park 200 sites. (989) 785-4388 or (800) PARKS.
Mackinaw State Forest: Avery Lake 16 sites. (989) 785-4251;
Jackson Lake 18 sites. (989) 785-4251.

BEAR LAKE

Hopkins Memorial Park 30 sites. 864-3281.
Kampvilla RV Park 92 sites. 864-3757.

BEAVER ISLAND

Wagner Campground 22 sites. 448-2505. (Chamber of Commerce.)

St. James Township Campground 12 sites. 448-2505. (Chamber of Commerce.)

BENZONIA

Homestead Resort: 6 sites. 882-4163 or (800) 686-4163.
Timberline Campground 189 sites. 882-9548.
Vacation Trailer Park 100 sites. 882-5101.

BOYNE CITY

Young State Park 240 sites. 582-7523.

BUCKLEY

Traverse City KOA 119 sites, 5 cabins and 2 lodges. 269-3203.

CADILLAC

Birchwood Resort and Campground 33 sites. 775-9101.
Cadillac KOA 50 sites. 825-2012.
Camp Cadillac 115 sites. 775-9724.

Hemlock 15 sites. 775-8539.
Mitchell State Park 215 sites. 775-7911.

Pere Marquette State Forest, Long Lake 18 sites. 824-3591.
Peterson Bridge South 20 sites. 775-8539.

CEDAR

Leelanau Pines 182 sites, 228-5742.

CHARLEVOIX

Fisherman's Island State Park 81 sites. 547-6641 or (800) 44-PARKS.

CHEBOYGAN

Cheboygan State Park 76 sites. 627-2811 or (800) 44-PARKS.
Waterways Campground 50 sites. 627-7066.

EAST JORDAN

East Jordan Tourist Park 100 sites. 536-2561.

EASTPORT

Barnes Park 66 sites. 599-2712.

ELK RAPIDS

Honcho Rest Campground 50 sites. 264-8548.

ELLSWORTH

Wieland's Whistling Pines 14 sites. 544-6348.

EMPIRE

Sleepy Bear Campground 220 sites. 326-5566.

FIFE LAKE

Pere Marquette State Forest: Spring Lake 32 sites. 824-3591.

FRANKFORT

Betsie River Campsite 100 sites. 352-9535.

FREDERICK

Happi Days Campground and Diner 40 sites. (989) 348-6115.
Trails Campground 63 sites. (989) 348-8692.

GAYLORD

Gaylord Michaywe Wilderness Resort KOA 100 sites. (989) 732-4126.

Otsego Lake State Park 155 sites and one mini cabin. (989) 732-5485 or (800) 44-PARKS.

GLEN LAKE

Glen Lake Trailer Park and Resort four sites and four vacation rentals are available. 334-3419.

GRAYLING

Au Sable State Forest: Au Sable River Canoe Camp 13 sites. (989) 348-6371;

Burton's Landing 12 sites. (989) 348-6371;

Canoe Harbor 54 sites. (989) 826-3211;

Keystone Landing 18 sites. (989) 348-6371;

Lake Margrethe 37 sites. (989) 348-6371;

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