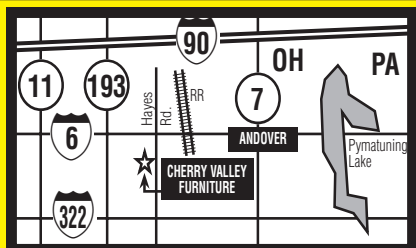


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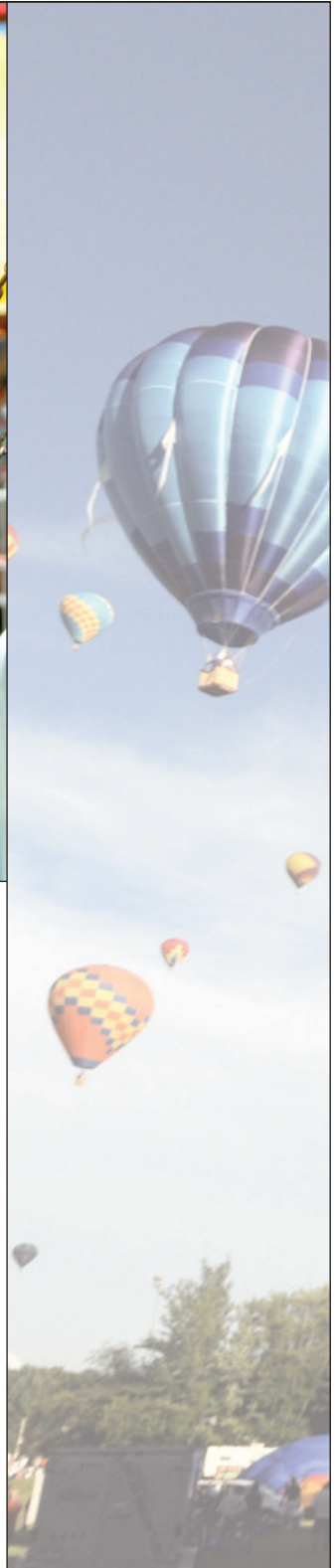


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Stories and photographs for this edition were produced by staff members of the Ashtabula Star Beacon and The Meadville Tribune newspapers

Punderson State Park specializes in winter sports

By Dave Deluca

Punderson State Park is located off Kinsman Road (Route 87) in Newbury, just 25 miles east of Cleveland. It is one of the state's largest parks, featuring 741 acres of land and a 150-acre natural lake. It has a spacious manor house for overnight visitors, many cottages, a golf course and scenic trails.

The park specializes in winter sports like snowmobiling, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, sledging and ice skating. Punderson is also internationally known for the Punderson Dog Sled Classic, which takes place every winter, sponsored by



Cindy Eddy of Butler, Pa., gets a leaping greeting from a Siberian husky before a dog sled race at Punderson State Park.

the Siberian Husky Club of Cleveland.

The race features six-dog Siberian Husky races of four and six miles, six

open dog sled races of four and six miles and open sportsman dog races of three and one and a half miles. This year's classic

took place in February.

Punderson is also known for its stately Manor House, which has room for 31 guests, a lounge, restaurant, and outdoor and indoor swimming pools.

There are scores of two-bedroom cottages, 196 campsites with electricity hookups, and tables and grills at picnic areas.

There is a popular 18-hole golf course visited by thousands of golfers every year. Lake Punderson is an angler's paradise for fishing, with large numbers of local species of fish.

There are all kinds of trails for hikers, with different levels of difficulty. Punderson has 14 miles of trails to explore.



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Ice Wine Festival grows more popular each year

By Mark Todd

Fans of ice wine may have been the only people smiling when winter wouldn't release its fierce grip earlier this year.

Aficionados of ice wine know subfreezing temperatures are absolutely critical to the creation of the liquid, and Mother Nature didn't disappoint in 2014.

"This is the most ice wine ever, Tony Debevc Jr. of Chalet Debonnet said in March at the start of the 11th Ice Wine Festival, which is spread over three weekends.

The festival teams a handful of local wineries to celebrate an unusual by-product of wine-making. Hundreds of people attend-

ed this year's event, which grows more popular each year, organizers said.

Like the name implies, ice wine can be crafted only when weather conditions are ideal: prolonged temperatures around 18 or 19 degrees are a must. When the thermometer says "go," people head into the vineyard to pick grapes — some now the size of raisins — that were deliberately set aside from the fall harvest.

Pickers must be ready to move at a moment's notice, since the grapes must be plucked while still frozen. As a result, some ice wine harvests must be conducted at night.

Happily, persistent cold temperatures this year didn't

make nighttime harvests necessary, growers said.

Various varieties of grapes are used in making ice wine. Sugar concentrations are higher in frozen grapes, making the wine they produce especially sweet. It is generally classified as a dessert wine. Because of the difficulty in harvesting the wine and the small amount of grapes used in the product, ice wine can bring premium prices.

Germany and Canada are the two largest producers of ice wine, but the United States is gaining ground. It is especially prevalent among wineries near Lake Erie in Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania and Ashtabula County — areas that

combine a long growing season, allowing grapes to mature, with subfreezing temperatures.

Local vintners are producing award-winning ice wines. Earlier this year, a 2012 Grand River Valley Vidal Blanc ice wine produced by Ferrante Winery won the Sweepstakes award in the dessert/specialty wine category in a competition sponsored by the San Francisco Chronicle. In April, Laurello Vineyards learned its 2013 Vidal Blanc "Sweet Genevieve" ice wine earned a double gold award at the Finger Lakes International Wine Competition in Rochester, N.Y. More than 3,750 wines were entered.



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Amanda Shannon of Cuyahoga Falls was crowned Ice Wine Queen 2014 at Red Eagle Distillery in Harpersfield Township.



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Miles of Penitentiary Glen hiking trails a big draw

By **Dave Deluca**

Penitentiary Glen Nature Center at 8668 Kirtland Chardon Road in Kirtland is one of Lake County's most valued visitor attractions. With 424 acres of forest, fields and wetlands, it boasts 8.5 miles of hiking trails and plenty of things to do at its Nature Center and Wildlife Center.

The Penitentiary Glen Reservation was originally owned by the Halle family. The Halle family owned Halle Brothers Department Store in Cleveland. They bought the land in 1912 and built numerous structures, but the only original building still standing is the horse barn, which is now part of the Nature Center.

Penitentiary Glen is named for the deep gorge



Penitentiary Glen is just one of the gems of the Lake Metroparks.

GLEN ON PAGE 22

Lake County Metroparks

Lake County Metroparks is one of the most extensive parks systems in the state of Ohio. The park system encompasses all parts of Lake County, from Lake Erie's shore to the river valley forests and wetlands. Two wild and scenic rivers flow through the system, along with many tributaries and streams.

Nearly 2.5 million visitors come annually to hike, visit nature centers, golf and enjoy nature.

There are more than 50 miles of trails in the system. There are 36 parks in the Lake County Metroparks system of all sizes in many kinds of natural environments.

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Sailboat races a good place to learn the sport

By Stacy Millberg

Sailing is as much an intellectual sport as it is a physical sport.

It's not difficult to get involved in the sailing community; all it takes is a willingness to learn, said Jeff Brodsky, sailing chairperson at the Ashtabula Yacht Club.

Brodsky said the easiest way to become a crew member on a sailboat is to know someone or meet someone who has a sailboat.

"That person has to be willing to let you come on board," he said.

Brodsky said anyone interested in learning to sail can also just show up on a race day and introduce themselves.



One of the most important things beginner sailors should understand is there

is a lot of give and take as a crew member, especially if the crew member is not knowledgeable about sailing, he said.

"There has to be a willingness to take direction," he said.

Brodsky said racing often gets rather intense and in the heat of the moment, a command given by a skipper may seem like an insult but it's not.

"The skipper wants three things: For the boat to

move fast, he doesn't want people getting hurt and doesn't want his boat getting hurt," he said.

Sailing is a never-ending learning experience, beginning with the terms and vocabulary. "It's unique to boating," Brodsky said. "Just like every field of endeavor, sailing has its own unique vocabulary."

Next, sailors must learn to understand the concept of sailing — moving the boat through the water by using wind.

Brodsky said sailors also have to determine what type of sailor they want to be. "Some want to cruise, others want to race and some want to do both," he said.

Sailors will race under most weather and lake conditions, he said.

"You learn what to do and when to do it under all conditions," Brodsky said. "The only thing we won't race in is too much wind and lightning. You learn what your boat can handle and learn to sail up to its potential."

Boats typically go in the

SAILING ON PAGE 21



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- Aug. 23: Marko Cup (Wine and Walleye weekend)
- Aug. 31 - Raul's Regatta

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All races start at 10 a.m., with a skipper's meeting at 9 a.m.



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A large bird takes flight from the limb of a tree at Pymatuning State Park. People come from all around the country to bird watch in northeast Ohio. It is an ideal place for both beginners and avid bird watchers alike.



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An Experience for All Your Senses

Lake County region a mecca for bird watchers

By Becca Marrie

People come from all around the country to bird watch in the Lake County area. It is an ideal place for both beginners and avid bird watchers alike.

"Since we are along Lake Erie, Lake County and adjoining counties are prime areas to watch birds, especially during migration, because they stop at south end of lake to rest before," said Pat Morse, Interpretive Manager at Lake Metroparks.

According to Morse, Headlands Beach State Park and Lake Erie Bluff are two of the best places for bird watching in the area.

The east end of Headlands Beach State Park is a premier for bird watching, with many trees and shrubby areas where birds can eat from before they cross the lake.

Lake Erie Bluff is a new park in Perry. It's a natural area around the lake, with no houses or buildings nearby, and plenty of cover for birds to hang out in. This park is hosting free Sunday morning bird walks through May 18 from 7:30 to 10 a.m. on Lane Road. Binoculars and field guides are recommended and beginners are welcome.

Other top spots in the surrounding areas of Lake County:

■ **Magee Marsh Wildlife Area** in Ottawa County attracts bird watchers from all around the world. It boasts some of the best remaining wetlands in the country.

"Really, any natural area you can find along Lake Erie is a great place for bird watching. "There just needs to be trees and shrubs for birds to perch and hide."

PAT MORSE

INTERPRETIVE MANAGER AT LAKE METROPARKS

■ **Chagrin River Park**, partly in Willoughby and partly in Lake County, is a main stop for birds to eat insects as they make their way north.

■ **Conneaut Harbor** in Conneaut is famous for the shorebirds its mudflats attracts. It is also a great place to spot waterfowl.

■ **Walnut Beach** in Ashtabula has wetlands, which make it a prime area for wading birds and shorebirds.

■ **Holden Arboretum** in Lake County offers a variety of habitats, but it does have a membership fee.

■ **Lakeshore Reservation** in Perry and **Penitentiary Glen** in Willoughby are other excellent places nearby for bird watchers.

Nearby, Trumbull County has Mosquito Lake, which consists of forests, fields, ponds, wetlands, and the lake itself, making it fantastic for bird watching. During spring and fall, large numbers of migrating waterfowl can be found here.

Also in Trumbull County are Canoe City and Clarence Darrow parks, where waterfowl are prevalent, and Thomas A.

Swift MetroPark and North Road Nature Preserve, where hunting and prairie birds can be easily spotted, said Zachary Svette, Operations Director of Trumbull County MetroParks.

Svette stated he saw an bald eagle at Clarence Darrow recently.

Both Morse and Svette encourages bird watchers

to explore the areas in northeast Ohio.

"Really, any natural area you can find along Lake Erie is a great place for bird watching," said Morse. "There just needs to be trees and shrubs for birds to perch and hide."

To join in with any of the bird walks in northeast Ohio, contact the local park district of interest and find out where they are.

"It is especially important for a beginner watcher to go out with someone who knows what they're doing," said Morse. "The experienced bird watchers bring along binoculars and field guides for beginners. The people involved with the walks are very helpful."



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Conneaut's D-Day event marks two anniversaries

By Mark Todd

The annual D-Day re-enactment at Conneaut's Township Park on Aug. 22 to 23 will have special significance, thanks to two important milestones.

This year marks the 70th anniversary of this historic amphibious assault, as well as the 15th anniversary of the re-enactment at the lakefront park. Plenty of special activities are planned to commemorate the milestones, said Wayne Heim, spokesman for D-Day Ohio Inc.

"A lot is still up in the air and a lot relies on funding," he said.

One thing is sure: the 2014 version could set records for participants, attendance and the amount



World War II re-enactors prepare for battle.

of military hardware on the ground and in the air, Heim said.

"We're expecting more than 1,000 re-enactors," Heim said. "There will be additional aircraft (including the return of the popular B-25 bomber) and more vehicles."

If estimates hold true,

Conneaut's event could become the biggest World War II re-enactment in the country, Heim said.

"Other re-enactments are seeing a decline in attendance. But we've put 20 percent growth in our numbers," he said.

Three battles are planned for the two days, Heim said. The grand finale, a depiction of the famed Normandy Invasion, will be expanded in honor of the anniversary, he said. This year, the battle will take in more of the beach. British troops will play more of a role, and some German fortifications will be placed in the sand as well as their

usual perch on the bluffs that overlook Lake Erie.

Programs after the invasion will give people a reason to stay after the fighting is finished, Heim said.

A big surge in German re-enactors is expected and as a result, the German campsite inside the park's picnic grove will be expanded, Heim said. One group may bring an operational German 88mm anti-tank/anti-aircraft artillery piece, he said.

Media attention expected to be paid the 70th anniversary could generate bigger-than-usual crowds this year. Last year, nearly 20,000 people viewed the spectacle and more are expected in 2014, Heim said.

Organizers will also redouble efforts to bring more World War II veterans to the event, Heim said. Last year, 125 vets attended, he said.

Conneaut's event gives folks who don't have a way to participate in commemorations on the June 6 anniversary a chance to pay tribute, Heim said.

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Many festivals draw thousands of tourists each year

By Shelley Terry

Ashtabula's Wine and Walleye Festival has successfully hooked thousands of people on Ashtabula County as a great tourist destination, but it's just one of many festivals that draw visitors to the area every year.

The festival, which features local wines on the Ashtabula River, shopping, live music, walleye and perch meals, a boat parade and a fishing contest, is slated for Aug. 22, 23 and 24 this year.

Here's a list of more festivals this year:

■ **Ashtabula Harbor Beach Glass Festival** on Bridge Street June 28 to 29 on Bridge Street.



Gene Baker, with harmonica in hand, joins Ed Dana on stage during the 2013 Conneaut Dockfest.

■ **The Ashtabula County Jazz Festival** will take place at 7 p.m. July 26 at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 4901 Main Ave., featuring the Buzz

Cronquist Jazz Swingtet, according to organizer Timothy Kalil of Ashtabula.

The concert and reception will be free and open to the public. The concert is sponsored by the Fine Arts Concert Committee of the church.

■ **The 2014 Multi-Cultural Festival**, set for noon to 9 p.m. July 26, and noon to 6 p.m. July 27, will celebrate Ashtabula's cultural diversity, said chairperson Jane Haines.

Sponsored by the Ashtabula Downtown Development Association,

the festival is designed to bring people downtown.

This will be the fourth year for the Multi-Cultural festival, which takes place in Lance Corporal Kevin M. Cornelius Park (the former North Park). On the agenda is an array of activities, games, food, and beverages, as well as a craft fair.

■ **Ashtabula Harbor** will host a summer arts festival of its own called The Arts on Bridge Street. The Lift Bridge Community Association is organizing the event.

The TABS festival is going to be held for two days, July 19 and 20, and will feature local artists, a juried art show, live music and hands-on activities.

Last year, it drew hundreds of artists and art enthusiasts to Bridge Street and Ashtabula County.

■ **Love history?** Conneaut will host D-Day Conneaut Aug. 22 and 23

FESTIVALS ON PAGE 20



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Four-year-old Logan Goddick of Painesville enjoys an amusement ride at Lakeview Park during the 2013 Conneaut Fourth of July Festival.

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Ashtabula County Fair a highlight of summer

By Shelley Terry

One of the highlights of summer in Ashtabula County is attending the fair in Jefferson. Though somewhat smaller than neighboring counties, the local fair is fun, affordable and shows off the best of our agricultural roots.

The 168th annual Ashtabula County Fair is Aug. 5 to 10 this year, featuring the Swon Brothers from NBC's hit show, "The Voice," as the headline entertainment.

An American country music duo from Muskogee, Okla., brothers Zach and Colton Swon finished third in the show's fourth season's finale last June.

Fair organizers said they are fortunate to get this act, which will perform at 8 p.m. Aug. 9. Seating will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

Since their appearance on "The Voice," the Swon Brothers have signed a record deal with Arista, which is part of the Sony group, and they have released their first single,



"Later On," according to the Swon Brothers' website.

Other fair favorites like fair food, carnival rides, 4-H livestock events, agricultural displays, horse shows, 4-H exhibits, demolition derbies, motocross racing and a tractor pull are expected to draw big crowds.

Here's information on other northeast Ohio fairs:

■ The Great Geauga County Fair, held at the Geauga County Fairground in Burton over Labor Day weekend each year, has been delighting residents since 1823.

The five-day event fea-

tures livestock, live entertainment, a midway of rides and lots of fair food, just to name a few attractions.

This is Ohio's oldest fair and one of the oldest agricultural fairs in the United States. It features more than 12,000 exhibitors and more than 2,000 animals.

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The Ashtabula County Fair royalty for 2013 includes (from left) Austin Gruskiewicz, 13, of Kinsman (prince); Craig Butler, 18, of Denmark Township (king); Ellen Darby, 18, of Jefferson (queen); Lindsey Varckette, 18, of Geneva, (queen first runner-up) and Hollie Dalton, 14, of Ashtabula (princess).

■ The Lake County Fair will take place Aug. 12 through 17 at the Lake County Fairground in Painesville. It has been delighting residents each year for more than 90 years.

The six-day event features livestock, live entertainment, a midway of rides, and lots of fair food, just to name a few attractions.

■ The Cuyahoga County Fair was first held in 1893 and is now held each August at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds in Berea.

The fair, Aug. 4 to 10, celebrates the county's

agricultural heritage.

Although Cuyahoga County is now more urban than pastoral, there are still plenty of animal and produce exhibits at the fair as well as rides, music, food and fun.

Among the many events at the Cuyahoga County Fair are arts and crafts judging and demonstrations, farm animals and produce judging, midway rides, harness racing, a horse show, contests, live music and other entertainment, a demolition derby and motocross racing.



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FESTIVALS FROM PAGE 16

at Conneaut Township Park — a premier living history event re-enacting D-Day, June 6, 1944.

■ Austinburg Country Days will be held Sept. 5 to 7 in downtown Austinburg. This year, for the first time, the festival will be opening on a Friday night.

■ The Village Peddler Festival is set in a pastoral setting Sept. 13 and 14 at Lake Metroparks Farmpark, 8800 Euclid Chardon Road, Kirtland. Enjoy the afternoon with 175 artisans and craftsmen.

■ The 51st Grape Jamboree Sept. 27 and 28 in downtown Geneva will boast the best of the vineyards, with two parades, a queen, grape stomping contests, live music, polkas, Slovenian dancers, rides, crafts, vendors and lots and lots of good food, drinks and, of course, grape pie, grape ice-cream and more grapes!

■ The Ashtabula County Covered Bridge Festival will be celebrating its 31st annual festival this year on Oct. 11 and 12 at the Ashtabula County Fairgrounds. The festival

includes souvenirs, crafts, entertainment, demonstrations, a farmers market, a quilt show, contests, a parade, children's rides/games and food.

Gate admission is \$3 per person or \$5 for a two day pass per person, children under age 12 are free. You also can take a tour of the county's covered bridges.

■ Strings of lights decorate Lake Shore Park's trees and hills and glow on a train, toys, elves, snowmen, penguins, a Christmas tree and more at Ashtabula County's Lights on the Lake, starting Nov. 28 this year.

The drive-through holiday light display on Lake Erie in Ashtabula Township will glow from 6 to 9 p.m. every weekend through the end of 2014. Santa Claus promises to greet the children with a candy cane on special nights. Cost is by the carload.

■ Ice Wine Festival, wine growers of the Grand River Valley. March 2015; check website for details, wggrv.com.

■ The Lodge and Conference Center at Geneva-on-the-Lake hosts numerous wine-related events throughout the year.



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SAILING FROM PAGE 10

water the first few weeks of May. About two weeks after the boats are in, the racing season starts, he said.

There are no local sailing classes offered for people interested in getting started; however, there are several national classes offered around the country.

One such school is J. World Performance Sailing School. The school is offered at several different locations throughout the year. Brodsky said he took sailing classes through J World.

Brodsky said the best way to learn how to sail is to just get out and sail. "If you act like you want to learn, you will be taught," he said.

One of Brodsky's crew members, Alan Altonen,

said sailors are willing to teach because sailing is considered an art form.

"Most sailors are willing to share that knowledge," he said.

Sailors are learning from the moment the race starts until the minute it ends.

"We are constantly tweaking the boat," Brodsky said. "Every sail is adjustable."

Communication is also an essential part of racing. Brodsky said he is communicating with his crew constantly during each and every race.

Brodsky said as long as there is a willingness to learn, anyone can sail.

"That's the bottom line," he said. "You don't have to know anything, you just have to be willing to learn. It's fun the whole time."

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GLEN FROM PAGE 8

dividing the reservation.

The gorge is so deep that hikers in the bottom glen of the gorge are surrounded by sheer 100-foot walls, giving the impression of being in prison or a penitentiary. There are regular naturalist tours into the gorge, as well as other hik-

ing tours around the park.

There are miniature train rides that lead right up to the gorge, and thousands of parents take the kids there every year to enjoy the ride and view.

There are free concerts at the Nature Center during the summer entertainment series. There are art shows and other activities. The

Nature Center features a "Window on Wildlife" that allows visitors to interact with birds at the "Nature Calls Center."

At the nearby Wildlife Center, 25 animals — reptiles, mammals, birds and other creatures — are educational ambassadors for Penitentiary Glen. Penitentiary Glen rehabili-

tates wounded animals.

The Nature Center Store stocks nature-related educational merchandise.

Hiking and picnicking remain big attractions at Penitentiary Glen. There are numerous picnic areas with grills. There are bridle paths, biking trails, restrooms and other amenities and attractions.



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ASHTABULA COUNTY**MEMORIAL DAY
TO LABOR DAY**

■ Conneaut Railroad Museum, 363 Depot St., Conneaut. Contact information: (440) 599-7878, Memorial Day to Labor Day.

■ Conneaut Historical Society Museum Conneaut Historical Society, 501 Sandusky St., Conneaut. Contact information: (440) 599-6011, Memorial Day to Labor Day.

■ Craft shows, Old Firehouse winery, 5499 Lake Road E., Geneva-on-the-Lake. Every Saturday in the summer through Aug. 30.

SUMMER TO FALL

■ Cruise to the Lake Lakeshore Cruisers, Lake Shore Park, Ashtabula. Sundays at 5 p.m. Contact information: (440) 992-4089.

■ 1890 Historic Jefferson Depot Village Tours Jefferson Depot, Inc., 147 E. Jefferson St., Jefferson. Contact information: (440) 576-0496. Dates through Oct. 15.

**MAY THROUGH
SEPTEMBER**

■ Conneaut Lighthouse Cruisers Cruise-Ins, Conneaut Township Park, Weekly cruise-ins are held on Thursday evenings 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Enjoy sunsets, classic cars, food and music through September.

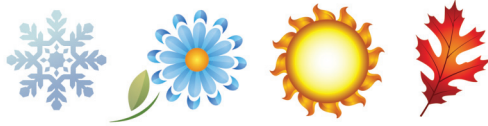
MAY 26

■ Memorial Day Parade Saybrook Township, 7247 Center Road. Parade: 8:30 a.m. Service 8:45 a.m. at Saybrook Cemetery. Contact information: (440) 969-1106, May 28.

MAY 28

■ Tethered hot air balloon rides, Debonne Vineyards-Cellar Rats Brewery, 7840 Doty Road, Madison. (440) 466-3485. Every other Wednesday from 6 to 8 p.m., weather permitting. Reservations required. Tickets are sold in advance, call to reserve. Additional dates through Sept. 17.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**MAY 31**

■ People in the Park, Pymatuning Area Chamber of Commerce Andover Square. All summer long at 7 p.m. every Saturday on the square. Free event. (440) 293-5895.

JUNE THROUGH OCTOBER

■ Farmer's Market, Conneaut Local Farmers, 280 Park Ave., Conneaut. Produce and baked goods from the area. Hours are 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays.

JUNE 1

■ Favorite Carriage Contest, Victorian Perambulator Museum and Art Gallery, 26 E. Cedar St., Jefferson. Vote on your favorite carriage and be entered into a drawing. Winner will be announced June 30.

JUNE 6

■ Burger Bash at Ferrante Winery and Ristorante, 5585 North River Road, Harpersfield. Every Friday night 6-9 p.m. Live entertainment on the outdoor patio.

■ Hot Air Balloon Night, Debonne Vineyards, 7840 Doty Road, Madison. Enjoy a fine meal while watching the balloons illuminate the sky. Reservations required by June 3. Call (440) 466-3485.

JUNE 7

■ Almost Summer, High Tide Tavern, 5504 Lake Road, Geneva-on-the-Lake. (440) 466-7990. Live entertainment. Band to be announced.

■ Field of Honor, Greenlawn Memory Gardens, 3140 Center St., North Kingsville. This moving event

uses Old Glory to honor the military and first responders. Daily events and music through June 14.

JUNE 8

■ Movie under the Stars. Kingsville Public Library. Route 193 and Route 84, Kingsville. (440) 224-0239. Free admission. Bring your own chairs and blankets. Check library for dates and movie listings. Free popcorn; drinks and candy will be available at library concession stand.

JUNE 13, 14, 15

■ Ox roast. Morgan Hose Company Volunteer Fire Department, E. Water St., Rock Creek. (440) 567-2325. Roast beef is cooked on an open spit then sliced for dinners and sandwiches. Lots of family entertainment all weekend long, including fireworks.

■ WOOF WAG & WINE! Grand River Cellars winery & Restaurant, 5750 S. Madison Road, Madison. (440) 298-9838. Bring your favorite pooch for a tour of the vineyards. Enjoy wine tasting, live music,

with great prizes in the silent and Chinese auctions.

JUNE 14

■ 7th Annual Fireman's Roundup, Old Firehouse Winery, 5481 Lake Road E., Geneva-on-the-Lake. Contact information: (800) 862-6751. Noon to 7 p.m. Sign up in advance.

JUNE 13

■ "Peter Pan Jr." at the Straw Hat Theatre, Ashtabula Arts Center. June 13 to 15, 19 to 22 and 26 to 28. Tickets and info call (440) 964-3396.

JUNE 14-15

■ Father's Day Weekend AC&J Scenic Line, Inc., Board Site 161 E Jefferson St., Jefferson. Contact information: (440) 576-6346. Take an hour-long train ride with Dad in vintage coaches pulled by first-generation diesel. Discover the good old days with Dad.

JUNE 15

■ Grand River Cellars Winery & Restaurant, 5750 S. Madison Road, Madison. Bring Dad out for a day of wine, food and entertainment.

JUNE 15

■ Session I Sheldon Calvary Camp, 4411 Lake Road, Conneaut. (440) 593-4381. This week-long overnight program gives children ages 8-16 a full recreational camping experience.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

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Every Thursday

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Sunday School (all ages)
8:45 a.m.
Worship 10 a.m.

Second Congregational Church

319 Lake Ave.
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Pastor: The Rev. Enrique DeJesus

Adult Sunday School 10 a.m.
Worship, Children's Church 11 a.m.

(Call church for summer hours)

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The Rev. Mary Susan Pisano

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Sunday School
10 a.m. Worship

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Sunday Fellowship 9:45 - 10:25 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
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During 10:30 Service

Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Children's Church 6:30 - 7:45 p.m.

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After Labor Day
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
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Church & Pre School
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Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Bible Study
Thursday 10:30 a.m.



First Presbyterian Church

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The Rev. Stephen R. Long

Starting June 1st thru August 31st

Summer Worship at Main Pavillion at
Lake Shore Park 8 a.m.
Sunday Service in Fellowship Hall
10:45 a.m.

After Labor Day
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:45 a.m.

First Assembly of God

389 W. Main Rd. (Rt. 20)
Conneaut, Ohio 44030
440-599-8852

The Rev. George Fink

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship, Children's Church
& Nursery 10:30 a.m.

Bible Study Sunday 6 p.m.
Family Night Wednesday 7 p.m.

Saybrook United Methodist Church

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JUNE 16 to 27

■ **Art Camp at the Conneaut Arts Center**, 1025 Buffalo St., Conneaut. (440) 593-5888. Two one-week camps for children. Camp runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday to Friday. Only 60 children per week. Ask about scholarships. Will start taking applications in May.

JUNE 18

■ **Geneva Area Chamber Golf Outing** Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce, Annual four-person scramble. Contact information: (440) 466-8694, Cost: \$70 for 18 holes golf, cart, lunch, steak dinner, and prizes.

JUNE 20 to 22

■ **10th Anniversary. Honoring Our Ancestors Powwow**, 4026 St. Route 322, Ashtabula County Antique Engine Club Grounds, Wayne Township. United Eastern Lenape Nation. Native American dancing, storytelling and drumming. Contact information: (440) 992-7397.

JUNE 21 to 22

■ **27th Annual Strawberry Festival - Craft Bazaar** Jefferson Depot, Inc., 147 E. Jefferson St., Jefferson. Contact information: (440) 812-1100. Strawberry shortcake, live band and entertainment. Children's games and food.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



JUNE 21 to 22

■ **Lake Erie Wine Fest**, Old Firehouse Winery, 5481 Lake Road E., Geneva-on-the-lake. Ohio wine and food demonstrations, live bands and many wine-related artists and crafters displaying their wares. 1 to 8 p.m. Contact information: (800) 862-6751.

JUNE 21

■ **Steak fry at Buccia Vineyard**, 518 Gore Road, Conneaut. (440) 593-5976. Reservations required. 7 p.m.

JUNE 22 to 23

■ **Antique & Classic Car Show**, Jefferson Depot, 147 E. Jefferson St., Jefferson. (614) 507-5246. Family fun. Cars for Dad, crafts for Mom, games for children.

JUNE 22

■ **Session II Sheldon Calvary Camp**. June 22 to 28.

JUNE 27

■ **Winey-Margarita Party**, Grand River Cellars Winery & Restaurant, 5750 S. Madison Road, Madison. Party begins at 7 p.m. Come out for an

evening of wine margaritas and Latin jazz. Luau attire highly recommended. Reservations not required but recommended.

JULY 28 to 29

■ **Beach Glass Festival** with beach glass artisans, crafts and works of art, Bridge Street, Ashtabula Harbor. Contact information: (440) 964-8453.

JUNE 29

■ **Jazz on the Vine Concert** at Debonne Vineyards-Cellar Rats Brewery, 7840 Doty Road, Madison. A unique festival featuring great music, wine, beer and food. Winery opens at 1 p.m.; Concert 2-6 p.m. Free admission. Rain or shine. A \$5 parking donation will go to the Boy Scouts.

JUNE 29 to JULY 2

■ **Ready Set Camp!** Sheldon Calvary Camp, 4411 Lake Road, Conneaut. (440) 593-4381. Half-week program for ages 7 to 12 offers all activities of full-week camp.

JUNE 29 to AUG. 15

■ **Summer Concert series**, Conneaut Arts Center, 1025 Buffalo St., Conneaut. Eight concerts with eight different musical genres at 7 p.m. Sundays in June and July. August concerts start at 6:30 p.m., and a special D-Day con-

cert on Aug. 15 starts at 6 p.m. Free. Concessions available.

JULY 1

■ **Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital Month**, Victorian Perambulator Museum and Art Gallery, 26 E. Cedar St., Jefferson. 50 cents of your admission will be donated to Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital in Cleveland. Through the month of July.

JULY 2 to 5

■ **Annual Fireworks Art Exhibit** at the Conneaut Community Center for the Arts, 1025 Buffalo St., Conneaut. Contact information: (440) 593-5888.

JULY 2 to 5

■ **July 4th Festival City of Conneaut**, Lakeview Park, Erie St., Conneaut.

JULY 4 to 6

■ **33rd Annual July Show**, featuring Canadian-built tractors and engines, at the Ashtabula County Antique Engine Club, 4026 Route 322, Wayne Township. Display of tractors, antique cars and trucks, blacksmithing, working sawmill, two museums, country store, one-room schoolhouse, crafts, flea market, parades, tractor pulls, music and good food. \$5 donation. Exhibitors, members and children under



12 free. Seniors on Friday, \$3.
Contact information: (440) 576-5418.

JULY 4

■ **Fireworks 2014** Geneva-on-the-Lake. See the fireworks from the golf course or the strip, Geneva-on-the-Lake. Contact information: (800) 862-9948. Starts at 10 p.m. but get there early for a good parking spot.

JULY 5 and 6

■ **"A Dream is a Wish in Concert,"** in conjunction with the Castle on a Cloud Entertainment at the Ashtabula Arts Center. Children can meet and greet their favorite princesses. Go early for Princess Storytime and tea both days at noon. \$8 each. Reservations required. (440) 964-3396.

JULY 5

■ **"High School Musical 2,"** Ashtabula Arts Center, Straw Hat Theatre, July 5 to 6, 10 to 13, 17 to 20 and 24 to 26. For tickets and more information

call (440) 964-3396.

JULY 11

■ **Carson & Barnes Circus:** The World's Biggest Big Top! West Main Street, Geneva. It's the largest traveling circus in the USA and partners with local hosts to raise money for charity. Victoria's Country Corner (440) 466-7236 or Luisa's Mexican Grill (440) 466-3327. Shows go on rain or shine. Four shows: July 11, 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and July 12, 2 p.m. and 5 p.m.

JULY 12 to 13

■ **10th Annual "Early America Live" 1890 Reenactment Festival.** Jefferson Depot. 147 E. Jefferson St., Jefferson. 1890 comes alive as you enter the gates. Reenactment in all buildings. Make and take crafts. Fashion show, concerts, games, contests and food. Dixieland band.

JULY 19

■ **Feed Our Community.**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



Ramblin Rose Alpacas. 6316 Rt. Road, Conneaut. (440) 594-1900. Food drive. Food, fun entertainment, corn hole, horseshoes, Pick-a-prize auction to support the Conneaut food pantry. Bring non-perishable food item to donate. \$1 admission.

JULY 19

■ **Ashtabula Lighthouse Preservation Annual Fish Fry,** Lake Shore Park, Ashtabula. Contact information: (440) 224-0750 or (440) 228-2441. 2 to 7 p.m.

JULY 19

■ **Pet Day at Debonne Vineyards-Cellar Rats Brewery,** 7840 Doty Road, Madison. Bring your favorite

pet for judging at 4:30 p.m. All pets must register when they enter the grounds. Prizes.

JULY 19

■ **Christmas in July** at High Tide Tavern, 5504 Lake Road, East Geneva-on-the-Lake. (440) 466-7990. Donate school supplies or cash to the local elementary school. Live entertainment, band.

JULY 19

■ **Steak fry** at Buccia Vineyard, 518 Gore Road, Conneaut. (440) 593-5976. Reservations required. 7 p.m.

JULY 19 to 20

■ **The Arts on Bridge Street Festival,** Ashtabula Harbor, organized by the Lift Bridge Community Association. Local artists, a juried art show, live music and hands-on activities.

JULY 26

■ **The Ashtabula County Jazz Festival** at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 4901 Main Ave., Ashtabula, featuring the



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festival
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North East, PA 16428 • 814-725-4262

Buzz Cronquist Jazz
Swingtet. 7 p.m. Free.

JULY 26 to 27

■ Multicultural Festival,
Ashtabula Downtown
Development Association,
downtown Ashtabula. Noon to
9 p.m. Saturday, Noon to 6
p.m. Sunday in Cornelius
Park. Food, music, parade,
historical and entertainment.
Free to public.

JULY 27

■ Bandit Hold-up Train
w/live steam AC&J Scenic
Line, Inc., 161 E. Jefferson
St., Jefferson. An hour-long
ride with hapless robbers in-
tent on taking what they can
find. Lots of laughs. Contact
information: (440) 576-6346.

JULY 27

■ Jazz on the Vine
Concert. Debonne Vineyards-
Cellar Rats Brewery, 7840
Doty Road, Madison. Music,
wine and beer. Winery opens
at 1 p.m., concert 2 to 6 p.m.
Free admission. A \$5 parking
donation to go to Boy Scouts.

AUGUST

■ Sand-Sculpting Contest.
Conneaut Public Library,
Conneaut Township Park
Beach, 480 Lake Road,
Conneaut. Annual contest that
takes place in the afternoon at
Township Park. Prizes await
the most creative sculptor.
Call the library to register at

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



(440) 593-1608.

■ Car/Truck/Bike Cruise-In.
Good Shepherd Lutheran
Church, Evergreen Lake Park
and Campgrounds. (440) 599-
8802. Noon to 6 p.m. enter-
tainment, silent and other auc-
tions, craft and vendor fair and
more.

AUG. 1

"Once Upon A Mattress,"
Ashtabula Arts Center, Straw
Hat Theatre, Aug. 1 to 3, 7 to
10, 14 to 16. Call for tickets or
more information (440) 964-
3396.

AUG. 1 to 2

■ 20th Vintage Ohio Wine
Festival. Ohio Wine
Producers Association, 8800
Euclid Chardon Road,
Kirtland. (800) 227-6972.
Taste exceptional regional
wines and sample a range of
fine cuisine. Music.

AUG. 1

■ Miniature Carriage
Exhibit. Victorian
Perambulator Museum and
Art Gallery, 26 E. Cedar St.,
Jefferson. (440) 576-9588. On

display Aug. 1 to 31.

AUG. 2

■ Family train ride. AC&J
Scenic Line, 161 E. Jefferson
St., Jefferson. No theme, just
a long train ride on a vintage
train. Great for younger chil-
dren to introduce them to a
train ride.

AUG. 2 to 3

■ Pymatuning Lake
Festival, Andover Area
Chamber of Commerce,
Route 85 and Pymatuning
Lake Road, Andover. A family
extravaganza held at
Pymatuning State Park.
Crafters, vendors, food, fire-
works and entertainment.
Free. Contact information:
(440) 293-5895.

AUG. 5 to 10

■ Ashtabula County Fair,
167 N. Poplar St., Jefferson.
Rides, livestock shows, con-
tests for children, food and
live musical entertainment, in-
cluding the Swon Brothers
from "The Voice." Contact in-
formation: (440) 576-7626.

AUG. 9 to 10

■ Wild West Weekend
AC&J Scenic Line, Inc., Board
Site 161 E. Jefferson St.,
Jefferson. Meet up with some
heroes and villains of the Old
West. Walk the streets of a
western town and shop period
merchants. Picnic food avail-
able by the Lions Club of

Ashtabula. Contact informa-
tion: (440) 576-6346.

AUG. 15 to 16

■ Annual Bluegrass
Festival, featuring several
bands. Show goes on rain or
shine under tent. Food avail-
able until 9 p.m. both days
with a special dinner bell su-
per on Sat. Friday 6 p.m. til
midnight and Saturday noon
to midnight. Ashtabula County
Antique Engine Club grounds,
4026 Route 322, Wayne
Township. Contact informa-
tion: (330) 442-3377.

AUG. 21, 22, 23

■ D-Day Reenactment
Weekend! D-Day Ohio, 480
Lake Road, Conneaut
Township Park, Conneaut. See
hundreds of re-enactors storm
the beach at Normandy with
authentic equipment — planes,
boats and bombs. Weekend
also features a patriotic concert
USO dance and more.

AUG. 22, 23, 24

■ Wine & Walleye Festival,
1005 Bridge St., Ashtabula.
Music, wine samples, car show,
boat parade and a lot more.
Plenty of fresh Lake Erie wall-
eye and perch to go around.

AUG. 23

■ Celtic Feis 2014. Old
Firehouse Winery, 5481 Lake
Road E., Geneva-on-the-
Lake. Northeast Ohio's largest
Scottish and Irish Festival now
in its 26th year. Entertainment,
food and merchandise. Music
starts at noon. Free.

AUG. 30 to 31

■ Labor Day Weekend Arts
and Crafts Fair, Ashtabula
County Antique Engine Club,
4026 Route 322, Williamsfield.
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rain or shine.
Lots of vendors. Donation for
admission to show. Food avail-
able. ACAEC's two museums
will be open.

AUG. 30 to 31

■ Bandit Hold-Up Train
AC&J Scenic Line, Inc., Board
Site 161 E. Jefferson St.,
Jefferson. Hapless robbers re-
turn for second try at holding
up passengers. Hour long, 12
mile round-trip in vintage
coaches. Contact information:
(440) 576-6346.



SEPT. 5, 6, and 7

■ 5th Annual Rib Burn Off & Chili Cook Off, Conneaut Human Resource Center, Conneaut Township Park. Ribs, chili, vendors, crafts and entertainment. Contact information: (440) 593-5373.

SEPT. 6 to 7

■ 6th Annual Crafts in the Park, Lake Shore Park, Ashtabula. Contact information: (440) 645-5740.

SEPT. 6 to 7

■ Austinburg Country Days, Corner of routes 307 and 45, Austinburg. Parade, live music, pet show, frog jumping, car show and antique tractor show and more.

SEPT. 6 to 7

■ Thunder on the Strip, Geneva-on-the-Lake. Motorcycles and more.

SEPT. 6

■ Pig roast. Buccia Vineyard, 518 Gore Road, Conneaut. Reservations required. 7 p.m. (440) 593-5976.

SEPT. 6 to 7

■ Blakeslee Log Cabin Days, Ashtabula County Historical Society, Seven Hills Road, Plymouth Township. Craft demonstrations, home-made bean soup and pies, crafts. No admission charge. See life in the 1800s.

SEPT. 7

■ Lobster & Leaves. Ferrante Winery & Ristorante, 5585 N. River Road, Geneva. (440) 466-8466. Sit back and relax while you feast on the chef's three course meal. Pre-paid reservations only.

SEPT. 12

■ Clam bake. Debonne Vineyards-Cellar Rats Brewery, 7840 Doty Road, Madison. (440) 466-3485. Make reservations for clam bake and chicken or steak and chicken bakes, dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m.

SEPT. 13

■ Halloween 2014 Monster Crawl, The High Tide, 5504 Lake Road, Geneva-on-the-Lake. Hay rides, earn the

Monster Crawl T-shirt or just visit businesses during Sept. and Oct. to get your shirt. Sept. 13 through Oct. 31.

SEPT. 13 to 14

■ Clambake & Food Extravaganza at Old Firehouse Winery, 5499 Lake Road E., Geneva-on-the-Lake. Live music, Reservations required. (800) 862-6751.

SEPT. 19, 20, 21

■ Rib Burn Off, Lake Shore Park, Ashtabula. National ribbers, concessions, free live entertainment. Contact information: (440) 964-3819.

SEPT. 20 to 21

■ Annual Fall Show and Flea Market Ashtabula County Antique Engine Club, 4026 Route 322, Ashtabula County Antique Engine Club Grounds, Wayne Township. Contact information: (440) 576-5418, Show on Saturday only. Flea market both days. Country store and one-room school house open. Food Saturday only.

SEPT. 27 to 28

■ National Alpaca Farm Days, Ramblin Rose Alpaca Farm, 6316 Root Road, Conneaut. Contact information: (440) 594-1900. Feed the alpacas, tour the farm, visit the gift shop. Bring a picnic lunch to eat on the farm. Both days noon to 4 p.m.

■ Geneva Grape Jamboree, Downtown Geneva. Contact information: (440) 466-5262. One of the largest festivals in Ohio. Rides, food, grape stomping, grape ice-cream, grape pie, crafts, two parades, beauty queens, Slovenian dancers and just great family entertainment.

OCTOBER THROUGH HALLOWEEN

■ Haunt on Williams Street. 585 Williams St., Conneaut. Wonderful Halloween display. Open nightly.

■ Hayrides and more at Deb's Tree Farm, 5062 Wetmore Road, off Route 84, Conneaut. (440) 599-8744. Hayrides every night on weekends in October.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



■ Early Transportation. Victorian Perambulator Museum and Art Gallery. 26 E. Cedar St., Jefferson.

OCT. 4

■ Mesopotamia Fall Heritage Day. End of the Commons General Store, 8719 Route 534, Mesopotamia 44439. (440) 693-4295. Featuring leather working, soap making, candle dipping, blacksmithing, rug weaving, Amish bake sale and kettle corn. Free event for whole family.

■ Kid's Pumpkin Train AC&J Scenic Line, Inc., Board Site 161 E. Jefferson St., Jefferson. Contact information: (440) 576-6346. Additional dates Oct. 5 to 26.

■ Pymatuning Area Chamber Fall Festival. Pymatuning Area Chamber of Commerce. Andover Square. (440) 293-5895. Parade, entertainment, music, crafts, children's activities. No admission charge.

OCT. 4 to 26

■ Fall Festival at Kelly's Gardens, 4220 N. Ridge W., Saybrook Township. Fun for whole family every weekend in October. Hayrides, bouncy house, face and pumpkin painting, petting zoo and food. Pumpkins, gourds, straw, cornstalks and more for sale.

OCT. 10

■ The Mad Hatter's All Hallows Tea Dinner Theater. Old Firehouse Winery, 5481 Lake Road E., Geneva-on-the-Lake. The Mad Hatter throws a tea party at Halloween. Special prizes for guests in costume. Five course dinner and show. \$50 per person. \$5 discount if reservation is made 2 weeks in advance. Reservations are required. (800) 862-6751.

OCT. 11 to 12

■ Ashtabula County

Covered Bridge Festival, the Ashtabula County Fairgrounds, Jefferson. Contact information: (440) 576-3769. Two-day festival celebrating the county's 18 bridges. Craft vendors, food, entertainment, rides, antique cars, a parade and more.

OCT. 11

■ Harvest Book Sale & Lunch. Kingsville Public Library, 6006 Academy St., Kingsville. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Used book sale, fresh baked bread, pies and cookies, locally grown mums, baked potato lunch.

OCT. 22

■ Geneva Area Chamber Candidates Night. Geneva Community Center, 72 W. Main St., Geneva. Come meet the candidates and hear about the levies. Free.

OCT 25

■ Trick or Treat on Main Avenue, Ashtabula Downtown Development Association. Open to the public from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. participating merchants will be giving treats to all the little ghosts and goblins on Main Avenue. Contact information: (440) 812-6670.

■ Adult Hay Ride/Halloween Party. High Tide Tavern, 5504 Lake Road East on Geneva-on-the-Lake. DJ/Karaoke. (440) 466-7990.

NOV. 1

■ HalloWine Party. Debonne Vineyards-Cellar Rats Brewery, 7840 Doty Road, Madison. Costume contest. Winery opens at noon. Music 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. Prizes.

■ Christmas Spectacular. Victorian Perambulator Museum and Art Gallery, 26 E. Cedar St., Jefferson. Nov. 1 to 30.

NOV. 7 to 8

■ Holiday Art & Craft Market. Conneaut Arts Center, 1025 Buffalo St., Conneaut. Two days of holiday shopping. Three floors of vendors and crafts. Small fee for admission.

NOV. 8

■ Wine growers of the Grand River Valley Turkey Trot, Grand River Cellars Winery & Restaurant,

5750 S. Madison Road, Madison. Debonne Vineyards, 7840 Doty Road, Madison. \$5 per person per winery. Join Debonne, Ferrante, Grand River Cellars, Laurello Vineyards and St. Joseph Vineyards for an afternoon of wine sampling and tasty appetizers. All wines paired with dishes from traditional Thanksgiving Feast to help you choose your wines for the holidays.

NOV. 9

■ Christmas Craft Show. Ferrante Winery & Ristorante, 5585 N. River Road W., Geneva. Do your Christmas shopping while enjoying a Sunday afternoon at the winery.

NOV. 20

■ Voices of Hope Christmas Concert, Conneaut Human Resources Center, 327 Mill St., Conneaut. A traditional Christmas concert featuring local talent and schools.

NOV. 21

■ An Enchanted Christmas Celebration and the Ashtabula Christmas Parade, Ashtabula Downtown, Development Association. 5-8 p.m. Enjoy the sights and sounds of Christmas. Lighting of the trees in Cornelius Park and then at 7 p.m. the parade, featuring floats, bands, scouts, dancers, carolers, elves, fire trucks, police cars, baton twirlers, big trucks and more, including Santa Claus. Contact information: (440) 812-6670.

NOV. 26

■ Thanksgiving Eve Skate at the Roller Den Ashtabula Family Roller Den, 2255 West Ave., Ashtabula. Fun for the whole family. Skate. Bounce House. Contact information: (440) 964-8200.

NOV. 28

■ Tannenbaum Trail Ohio Wine Producers Association, A self-driving tour at participating wineries in Northeast Ohio. Collect ornaments along the way to decorate the 15-inch tree you receive at the first winery. Contact information: 800-227-6972, ohiovines.org. Nov. 29 to Dec. 13.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



■ Ashtabula County Lights on the Lake, Lake Shore Park, Ashtabula Township. Thousands of twinkling, beautiful lights on displays, trees and hills of Lake Shore Park. The area's largest drive-through holiday light display. \$5 per carload. Contact information: (440) 964-3819, aclotl.com, Nov. 28 to Dec. 28.

■ Annual Lights of Love Ceremony and Christmas Parade, Downtown Conneaut, Conneaut Area Chamber of Commerce, 235 Main St., Conneaut. Parade begins at 7 p.m. Contact information: (440) 593-2402.

NOV. 29

■ Santa on the Train AC&J Scenic Line, Inc., Board Site 161 E. Jefferson St., Jefferson. Contact information: (440) 576-6346, Additional dates Nov. 30 to Dec. 14.

■ A Christmas Carol Dinner Theater, Old Firehouse Winery, 5481 Lake Road E., Geneva-on-the-Lake. 1-(800) 862-6751. Join Ebenezer Scrooge as he makes the heartwarming transformation.

DECEMBER

■ 21st Annual Christmas Concert, Ashtabula Area Orchestra, Ashtabula. Lakeside High School's Performing Arts Center. Date TBA. Enjoy holiday classical and popular tunes.

■ The Nutcracker, Ashtabula Arts Center, 2928 W. 13th St., Ashtabula. Contact information: (440) 964-3396. Call for dates and times.

DEC. 6

■ Holiday events and Christmas parade in Jefferson. The day-long celebration includes a street light sale, craft show, free concerts, and the annual holiday parade at 6 p.m. Stores stay open late for shopping, and Santa Claus makes an appearance.

■ An Old-fashioned Williamsburg Christmas Party. Step back in time with horse-drawn sleigh bell wagon ride. Free family fun starting at 3 p.m. at the Jefferson Depot, Inc., 147 E. Jefferson St., Jefferson. Contact information: (440) 576-0496.

■ Carols and scripture, Jefferson Depot, 147 E. Jefferson St., Jefferson. Carols and scripture in candlelight will be presented in the 1848 Church in the Wildwood by the Jefferson United Methodist Church choir at 4:30 p.m. Add'l date Dec. 7.

■ Reindeer Romp, Gingerbread Fantasy, Candlelight Walk, Jefferson Depot, 147 E. Jefferson St., Jefferson. 5-6 p.m. Live nativity. Gingerbread Fantasy in the 1872 Railroad Station. Gingerbread house entries accepted 3 to 4 p.m. Additional date Dec. 7.

DEC. 6

■ Christmas Treasures Sale. Conneaut Community Center for the Arts, 1025 Buffalo St., Conneaut. Donated gently used and new Christmas items for sale. Trees, lights, wreaths, toys, stockings and ornaments. Contact information: (440) 593-5888.

■ Holiday Trek, High Tide Tavern, 5504 Lake Road E., Geneva-on-the-Lake. (440) 466-7990. Call for tickets and reservations. DJ, Karaoke. 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

DEC. 7

■ Santa House & Carriage Rides, Conneaut Board of Tourism, 340 Erie St., Conneaut. Santa comes to Conneaut the first three Saturdays in December. Enjoy Central Park carriage rides and the lights at Lakeview Park. Donations only. Lots of free photo opportunities. Check web site for exact dates and times. Additional dates Dec. 17, 21.

DEC. 31

New Year Eve Skate at the Roller Den Ashtabula Family Roller Den, 2255 West Ave., Ashtabula. Contact information: (440) 964-8200.

GEAUGA COUNTY

APRIL THROUGH NOVEMBER

■ Century Village Museum Tour Season, 14653 East Park St., Burton. Contact information: 440-834-1492.

APRIL 24-27

■ Geauga County Maple Festival, the oldest maple festival in the U.S., celebrates maple production in Geauga County and Northeast Ohio. Lots of events and pancakes, maple syrup, maple candy, parades — all on Historic Chardon Square, Chardon. maplefestival.com.

MAY 2

■ "Wizard of Oz," Geauga Lyric Theater, 101 Water St., Chardon. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$15 for students/seniors, \$10 for children. Go to: geaugatheater.org or call (440) 286-2255. May 2 - May 18.

MAY 3

■ Spring Drive It Yourself Tour Geauga County Tourism, 14907 N. State Ave., Middlefield. Contact information: (440) 632-1538, TourGauga.com.

MAY 3-4

■ Sunrise Farm's Spring Garden Party, with colorful flowers and herbs, gourmet teas, cakes and sweets served in a setting. It's become a Mother's Day tradition. Sunrise Farm, 13115 Kinsman road, Burton. (440) 834-1298.

MAY 4

■ All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast, Punderson Manor Resort & Conference Center, 11755 Kinsman Road, Newbury, Ohio. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

MAY 21

■ Hastings Dairy: Cow Tales Adventure, 13181 Claridon Troy Road, Burton. An event for children 5-years-old and younger and an adult caregiver. Plan to arrive by 10 a.m. and be at the farm until noon to take part in all of the activities. Watch the cows milking, pet the calves, and to the barn to see where the cows live. Ride the Chugga Chugga Moo Moo train, get

in the corn box and play on the farm-themed playground. Add'l dates June 3, Sept. 17, Oct. 2.

MAY 31

■ Summer Concert Series, Geauga Park District, Big Creek Park, Frances Hall Amphitheater, 9160 Robinson Road, Chardon. Live polka music by Joey Tomsick and the JTO under the stars. Held indoors if bad weather. Refreshments served. 7 to 8:30 p.m.

JUNE 6

Punderson Manor Live Birds of Prey, 11755 Kinsman Road, Newbury. 4:30 to 6 p.m. Add'l dates July 11, Aug. 1, Sept. 5 and Oct. 3.

JUNE 9

Strawberry Season at Ridgeview Farm Ridgeview Farm, 5488 Kinsman Road, Middlefield. Contact information: (440) 693-4000, June 9-14.

JUNE 14

■ Burton Antique Market, Geauga County Fairgrounds, 14373 N. Cheshire, Burton. Contact information: (740) 998-5300.

JULY 5-7

■ Mespo Ox Roast Mespo Fire Department, 8719 Route 534, Mesopotamia. Great food and live entertainment.

JULY 19

■ Ma and Pa's Buggy Rides, Ma and Pa's Gift Shack, 15161 Main Market, Burton. Saturdays only 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. See Geauga County's countryside in a buggy. Rides are ½ hour, about three miles long. Reservations required. Call (440) 548-5521. Add'l dates July 26, Aug. 2, Aug. 9, Aug. 16 and Aug. 23.

LABOR DAY WEEKEND

■ The Great Geauga County Fair, 14373 N. Cheshire St., Burton. Contact information: (440) 834-1846. Aug. 28-Sept. 1.

OCTOBER 4

■ Fall Fun Weekends at Ridgeview Farm Ridgeview Farm, 5488 Kinsman Road, Middlefield. Contact information: (440) 693-4000, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday in October.

OCTOBER 4-5

Huntsburg Pumpkin Festival, 16534 Mayfield Road, Huntsburg. Contact information: (440) 636-5197.

OCTOBER 10-11

■ Ox Roast, Burton Log Cabin & Sugar Camp Burton Chamber of Commerce, 14590 E Park St., Burton. Information: (440) 834-4204.

OCTOBER 11-12

■ 66th Apple Butter Festival, Century Village, 14653 East Park, Burton. Contact information: (440) 834-1492.

OCTOBER 25

■ Ghosts of Burton Historical Tour, 14485 N. Cheshire St., Burton. Contact information: (440) 834-5050.

NOVEMBER 29

■ Country Hearth Christmas & Christmas in the Village, Burton Log Cabin & Sugar Camp Burton Chamber of Commerce, 14590 E Park St., Burton. Contact information: (440) 834-4204. Additional dates: Through the holidays.

NOVEMBER 29

■ Christmas at Century Village. Nov. 29-30, Dec. 6-7. 14653 East Park, Burton. Contact information: (440) 834-1492.

DECEMBER

■ Ma and Pa's Horse Drawn Sleigh Rides, Ma & Pa's Gift Shack, 15161 Main Market, Burton. Contact information: (440) 548-5521. Call when the snow flies!

DECEMBER 21

Candle Light on the Longest Night, Geauga Park District — The West Woods Nature Center, 9465 Kinsman Road, Novelty. Contact information: (440) 286-9516.

LAKE COUNTY

MAY 2-3

■ Wine N Bloom Ohio Wine Producers Association, A self-driving tour at participating wineries in Northeast Ohio. Enjoy wine samples, complimentary appetizers and

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



collect spring flower items along the way. Contact information: (800) 227-6972, ohiowines.org, Additional dates May 9-10.

MAY 3-4

■ Railroads in the Park, Lake Metroparks Farmpark, 8800 Euclid Chardon Road, Kirtland. Contact information: (440) 256-2122. Great fun for children of all ages and railroad hobbyists.

MAY 11

■ Mothers Day Celebration Grand River Cellars, 5750 S. Madison Road, Madison. Contact information: (440) 298-9838.

MAY 16

■ Downtown Painesville Classic Car Show, Veteran's Park, Painesville. 5 to 9 p.m. Additional dates: Every Friday through Sept. 26, show off your classic car or stop by peruse the show.

MAY 17

■ Downtown Willoughby Rib-Burn-off, 3rd Annual DTW Rib Burn-off returns with ribs, activities and live music. Noon to 8 p.m.

MAY 26

■ City of Painesville Memorial Day Parade & Concert, parade: Riverside Cemetery (Riverside Drive) to Madison Avenue to Evergreen Cemetery; concert: Veteran's Park, 1 Liberty St., Painesville. Contact information: (440) 392-5912, or visit painesville.com.

JUNE 6

■ The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, The Fine Arts Association, Coming Auditorium, Reserved Seating. 38660 Mentor Ave., Willoughby. Additional dates: June 6-22. Call (440) 951-7500.

JUNE 6

■ Night Glow Dinner at Debonne Vineyards Debonne

Vineyards, 7743 Doty Road, Madison. Enjoy a fine meal while watching hot air balloon light up the sky. Contact information: debonne.com, (440) 466-3485.

JUNE 7

■ Hot Air Balloon Rally and Kids' Carnival at Debonne Vineyards, 7743 Doty Road, Madison. Winery opens at noon. Contact information: debonne.com, (440) 466-3485.

JUNE 7-8

■ Working Dog Weekend, Lake Metroparks Farmpark, 8800 Euclid Chardon Road, Kirtland. Contact information: (440) 256-2122.

JUNE 12

■ The 54th Annual Kirtland Kiwanis Strawberry Festival, Kirtland High School, 9150 Route 306. June 12-15.

JUNE 14

■ 7th Annual Fireman's Round-up at Old Firehouse Winery at Geneva-on-the-Lake. Noon to 7 p.m.

JUNE 15

■ Fathers Day Celebration Grand River Cellars, 5750 S. Madison Road, Madison. Contact information: (440) 298-9838.

JUNE 17

■ Sounds of Summer Concert Series. The Holden Arboretum, 9500 Sperry Road, Kirtland. Contact information: holdenarb.org, (440) 946-4400, Tuesdays June 17 - Aug. 5.

JUNE 27-29

■ Ohio Celtic Fest, Lake County Fairgrounds, 1301 Mentor Ave., Painesville. 5-11:30 p.m. Three days of Celtic and American music, song and dance on five stages, including a children's stage. Three bagpipes and four Irish dance schools. Vendors, food and drink. ohiocelticfest.com.

JULY 2-4

■ Fairport Mardi Gras, Lake Metroparks Fairport



Harbor Lakefront Park, 301 Huntington Beach Drive, Fairport Harbor. Contact information: (440) 352-0806, parade, 5K run, Kid's Day, rides, food, music and prizes.

JULY 4

■ Fireworks, Civic Center Park, Mentor. 9:45 p.m.

■ Ice Cream Weekend, Lake Metroparks Farmpark, 8800 Euclid Chardon Road, Kirtland. Contact information: 440-256-2122. Every weekend in July, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

JULY 19-20

■ Pickleball Tournament, Civic Center Park, 8500 Civic Center Blvd., Mentor. Get in on the pickleball craze. Pre-registration and fee required. Call (440) 974-5720.

JULY 25

■ Wine-Margarita Party Grand River Cellars, 5750 S. Madison Road, Madison. Contact information: (440) 298-9838. 7 to 10:30 p.m.

AUGUST 1-2

■ Vintage Ohio Wine Festival Ohio Wine Producers Association, 8800 Euclid Chardon Road, Kirtland. Contact information: (800) 227-6972.

AUGUST 12

■ Lake County Fair, Lake County Fairgrounds, 1301 Mentor Avenue, Painesville. Contact information: 440-354-3339. The six day event features livestock, entertainment, a midway, rides and lots of fair food. lakecountyfair.org. Aug. 12-17.

AUGUST 22-23

■ Mentor City Fest, 8500 Civic Center Blvd., Mentor. Local food, live music, fun and games for entire family. 4-11 p.m. Friday; Saturday a parade at 10 a.m. from Veterans Park on Hopkins Road ending at Civic Center Park.

SEPTEMBER 13-14

■ Village Peddler Festival Village Peddler Festival, 8800 Euclid Chardon Road (Route 6), Kirtland. Contact information: (800) 366-FARM.

OCTOBER

■ Halloween Hay Rides, Lake Metroparks Farmpark,

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



8800 Euclid Chardon Road, Kirtland. Contact information: (440) 256-2122. Call for dates.

OCTOBER 5

■ 25th Mentor Fall Bridal Gala, Holiday Inn Mentor, Mentor. Noon to 4 p.m.

OCTOBER 4-5

■ Goblins in the Garden, The Holden Arboretum, 9500 Sperry Road, Kirtland. Contact information: hold-enarb.org, (440) 946-4400.

NOVEMBER 23

■ Christmas Train and Toy Show, Lakeland Community College, Kirtland. 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

DECEMBER 1

■ Gingerbread House Contest and Display, Mentor Municipal Center, 8500 Civic Center Blvd., Mentor. Create your own house and enter it in this contest. (440) 974-5720. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. 12/1 - 12/19.

DECEMBER 6

■ Lunch with Santa. Grand River Cellars, 5750 S. Madison Road, Madison. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Enjoy holiday games followed by pizza and pasta buffet before the arrival of St. Nick. Songs and Christmas cheer. Every child will have an opportunity to sit on Santa's lap so bring your camera. Tickets sell out fast.

DECEMBER 7

■ 35th Wildwood Holiday Display and Craft Show, 7645 Little Mountain Road, Mentor. More than 25 vendors, including the Wildwood Garden Club featuring fresh greens for purchase, entertainment, refreshments and more. Cost: \$1. Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

DECEMBER 7

■ Crafts, Corks & Christmas, Grand River Cellars, 5750 Madison Road, Madison. Enjoy two rooms

filled with juried crafters to help with holiday gift giving. Drink specials available all day and live music at 4 p.m. 10 percent anything in the Grand River Cellars gift shop. 1-5 p.m.

DECEMBER 12

■ Wildwood Singers Free Concert, Mentor Senior Center, 8484 Munson Road, Mentor. Free parking. 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

DECEMBER 31

■ New Year's Eve celebration, Grand River Cellars, Madison. 6:30 p.m. to 1 a.m.

NORTHWEST PENNSYLVANIA

MAY 1-24

■ Regional Juried Photo Exhibit, Meadville Council on the Arts, 910 Market St., Meadville, (814) 336-5051

VARIOUS DATES STARTING MAY 2

■ 'On Golden Pond,' Meadville Community Theatre, 400 N Main St., Meadville, (814) 333-1773 or mctbackstage.com.

MAY 3

■ Engine Start-Up Day, the steam engine that powers the replica of Drake's engine house and the nearly 100-year-old Olin engine that powers the Central Power exhibit go back into operation at the start of the summer season, Drake Well Museum, 202 Museum Lane, Titusville, (814) 827-2797 or drakewell.org.

MAY 15

■ Crappie Fishing Seminar, Pymatuning State Park Environmental Classroom at the Jamestown Marina, free from 6 to 8 p.m. Tickets must be obtained in advance due to limited seating. Tickets are available at Espyville Outdoors, Hill's Country Store, Richter's General Store, Jigger Tackle and the Crawford County Convention and Visitors Bureau at 333-1258.

MAY 16

■ 'Murder Mystery at the

Riverside Inn,' One Fountain Ave., Cambridge Springs, (814) 398-4645 or theriversideinn.com.

MAY 18

■ Birding by Kayak, Pymatuning State Park, for experienced kayakers 18 and older. Kayaks must be 12-foot or longer to participate. You must have your own kayak and gear. We will kayak in the morning and have lunch at the take out point. Preregistration is limited and is required by May 14, (724) 932-3142

MAY 23

■ Opening day at Conneaut Lake Park, adamsamusementllc.com.

MAY 24 and 25

■ Hot glass blowing demonstrations with Herb Thomas, Campbell Pottery Store and Gallery, 25579 Plank Road, Cambridge Springs, (814) 734-8800 or campbellpottery.com.

MAY 31

■ Oil Valley Blacksmiths demonstrations, Drake Well Museum, 202 Museum Lane, Titusville, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., (814) 827-2797 or drakewell.org.

JUNE 5

■ Jim Croce Tribute Dinner Concert at the Baldwin-Reynolds House, 639 Terrace St., Meadville, 6 p.m. (814) 333-1258 or baldwin-reynolds.org.

JUNE 6

■ Jim Croce Tribute Concert, Barco Chapel, 31 N. Park Ave., Meadville, 7 p.m. (814) 333-1258 or baldwin-reynolds.org.

JUNE 7

■ Oil Creek & Titusville Railroad Opening Day, 409 S. Perry St., Titusville, train departs the station at 1 p.m. for a three-hour trip, (814) 676-1733 or octrr.org.

■ Pioneer Steam & Gas Engine Society Spring Antique Tractor Pull, Route 198 just off the Interstate 79 Saegertown exit, email Dave Goodwill at daveg@neo.rr.com, call (814) 663-1291 or go to pioneer-



'Gentle Giants' in the skies over Meadville at the Thurston Classic.

steamandgas.com.

JUNE 12 TO 16

■ **Thurston Classic Hot Air Balloon Event**, Allegheny College, Robertson Field, Meadville, (814) 336-4000 or thurstonclassic.com.

JUNE 13 TO JULY 26

■ **Merging Media**, Meadville Council on the Arts, 910 Market St., Meadville, featuring Rachel Burke, Bill Hess, Ben Lambert and Brian Millspaw, opening reception June 13, 7 to 9 p.m., (814) 336-5051.

JUNE 14

■ **Blues Festival**, Conneaut Cellars Winery, 12005 Conneaut Lake Road, Conneaut Lake, noon to 6 p.m., (814) 382-3999 or ccw-wine.com.

JUNE 14 TO 28

■ **Oil Creek & Titusville Railroad Train Show and Sale**, 409 S. Perry St., Titusville, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., (814) 676-1733.

JUNE 14

■ **Moonlight Paddle** at Beach 2, Pymatuning State Park, Jamestown, bring your

own kayak or borrow one from the park, participants must be 18 years or older, call the park office to register, (724) 932-3142.

JUNE 15

■ **Oil Creek and Titusville Railroad Father's Day Special**, 409 S. Perry St., Titusville, bring dad to ride and get a discount of \$9 per ticket with the purchase of a full-price admission, train departs at 1 p.m., (814) 676-1733, octrr.org.

STARTING JUNE 20

■ **'She Loves Me,'** a revival of the musical on which the movie 'You've Got Mail' is based, (814) 337-8211, theacademytheatre.org.

JUNE 21

■ **World War II Reenactment** on the Oil Creek and Titusville Railroad, 409 S. Perry St., Titusville, (814) 676-1722 or octrr.org.

JULY 5

■ **Fireworks** at Canadohta Lake, starting at dusk, rain date is July 6, (814) 392-4116 or visit canadohtalake.org

■ **Boat Parade** at Canadohta Lake, (814) 392-

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



4116 or canadohtalake.org.

■ **Pymatuning Sailing Club** open house, north end of Lake where Phelps Road hits the water, near Linesville, free sailboat rides and a hot dog lunch, (814) 406-9772 or <https://sites.google.com/site/pymatuningsailingclub/>.

JULY 9

■ **Advanced Kayaking**, Beach 2, Pymatuning State Park, Jamestown, bring your own kayak and gear. Personal flotation devices are required, preregistration is required by July 3, (724) 932-3142.

JULY 11

■ **Moonlight Paddle**, Spillway, Pymatuning State Park, bring your own kayak or borrow one from the park, participants must be 18 years or older, call the park to register, (724) 932-3142.

STARTING JULY 11

■ **Young Adult Showcase**,

Meadville Community Theatre, 400 N. Main St., one acts, monologues, scenes, vocal selections, dance, (814) 333-1773 or mctbackstage.com.

JULY 18 TO 20

■ **Pioneer Steam & Gas Engine Society Summer Show**, featuring John Deere Tractors and Stover Engines, Route 198 just west of Exit 154 off Interstate 79, contact Dave Goodwill at daveg@neo.rr.com, (814) 663-1291 or pioneerandgas.com.

JULY 23

■ **Kayaking** 101, Beach 2, Pymatuning State Park, bring your own kayak or borrow one from the park, call the park to register, (724) 932-3142.

JULY 26

■ **Murder Mystery Dinner Train Ride**, Oil Creek & Titusville Railroad, Perry Street Station, 409 S. Perry St., Titusville, (814) 676-1733 or octrr.org.

JULY 26 AND 27

■ **Pymatuning Pioneer & Arts Festival**, Pymatuning State Park, Jamestown, (724) 927-9473 or pymatuningpioneerdays.com.

AUG. 8 THROUGH SEPT. 13

■ **Converging Points of View**, Meadville Council on the Arts, 910 Market St., Meadville, featuring Linda Cordell, Harmony Motter, Jim Stefanucci and Richard Sayer, opening reception, Aug. 8, 7 to 9 p.m., (814) 336-5051.

AUG. 9

■ **Conneaut Valley Canal Park Summer Music Festival**, Canal Park, Route 18, Conneautville, (814) 587-3598.

■ **Oil Creek and Titusville Railroad Speeder Excursions**, 409 S. Perry St., Titusville, ride on one of the vintage track repair cars either 9 a.m. or 7 p.m., reservations required, no one under 6 years of age., appropriate footwear required, (814) 676-1733 or octrr.org.

AUG. 16 to 23

■ **Crawford County Fair**, Crawford County Fair

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



Grounds outside Meadville, largest agricultural county fair in the state, (814) 333-7400 or crawfordcountypa.net.

AUG. 16

■ **GeoTrain**, Oil Creek and Titusville Railroad, 409 S. Perry Street, Titusville, caches in the downtown Titusville area through noon, board the train at Perry Street Station for departure at 1 p.m. to Drake Well Museum where lunch will be served from 1 to 2, many prizes, preregistration needed, (814) 676-1733 or octrr.org.

AUG. 23

■ **Murder Mystery Dinner Train Ride**, Oil Creek and

Titusville Railroad, Perry Street Station, 409 S. Perry St., Titusville, (814) 676-1733 or octrr.org.

AUG. 23 AND 24

■ **Drake Day Circus**, Drake Well Museum, 202 Museum Lane, Titusville, (814) 827-2791, drakewell.org.

AUG. 27

■ **Woodcock Lake Paddle**, Woodcock Lake Park, Saegertown, a quiet early morning paddle along the shores of Woodcock Lake Park, bring kayak, gear, binoculars and drinking water, a limited number of kayaks may be available to borrow, contact the park to register and reserve a kayak, (724) 932-3142.

SEPT. 7

■ **Harvest Picnic**, Conneaut Cellars Winery, 12005 Conneaut Lake Road, Conneaut Lake, (814) 382-

3999 or ccw-wine.com.

SEPT. 13 THROUGH OCT. 31

■ **Fall Harvest Festival**, Port Farms, 2055 Stone Quarry Road, Waterford, (814) 796-4500 or portfarms.com.

SEPT. 20

■ **Fall Gas Up**, Drake Well Museum, 202 Museum Lane, Titusville, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., antique engines, farm and oil field equipment, cars, trucks and models, (814) 827-2791 or drakewell.org.

SEPT. 20 AND 21

■ **Hand blown glass bead making demonstrations**, Campbell Pottery Store & Gallery, 25579 Plank Road, Cambridge Springs, noon to 4 p.m. both days, (814) 734-8800 or campbellpotterystore.com.

■ **Pymatuning Waterfowl and Outdoor Expo**, Conneaut Area Senior High, 219 West

Family fun at the Pymatuning Waterfowl Expo.



School Drive, Linesville, py-matuningexpo.com.

OCT. 3 THROUGH NOV. 1

■ 40th Annual October Evenings Juried Exhibit, Meadville Council on the Arts, 910 Market St., Meadville, opening reception, Oct. 3, 7 to 9 p.m., (814) 336-5051.

OCT. 10 THROUGH 12

■ 24th Annual Fall Pumpkin Fest, Conneaut Lake Park, Conneaut Lake, (814) 853-5833 or pumpkinfest.conneautlake.com.

STARTING OCT. 10

■ 25th Annual Medieval Feast, Riverside Inn, One Fountain Ave., Cambridge Springs, (814) 398-4645, theriversideinn.com.

OCT. 11 AND 12

■ Pioneer Steam & Gas Engine Society Fall Harvest Show, Route 198 just west of Exit 154 off Interstate 79, contact Dave Goodwill at daveg@neo.rr.com, (814) 663-1291, pioneersteamandgas.com.

OCT. 24 AND 25

■ Halloween Dinner at the Baldwin Reynolds House Museum, Meadville, catered, Downtown-themed masquerade dinner, (814) 333-1258, baldwinreynolds.org.

OCT. 25

■ 48th Annual Halloween Parade, downtown Meadville, (814) 853-0738 or meadville-halloweenparade.com.

OCT. 25

■ Train of Terror — The Final Stop, murder mystery on the Oil Creek and Titusville Railroad, Perry Street Station, Titusville, (814) 676-1733, octrr.org

NOV. 14 THROUGH DEC. 13

■ Photographic Arts Society of Northwestern Pennsylvania, Meadville Council on the Arts, 910 Market St., Meadville, opening reception, Nov. 14, 7 to 9 p.m., (814) 336-5051.

NOV. 16

■ Erick Kand: Comedy Hypnotist, Academy Theatre,

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



275 Chestnut St., Meadville, self-selecting audience volunteers will be hypnotized, (814) 337-8211, theacademytheatre.org.

STARTING NOV. 21

■ Trees of Christmas, Nov. 21 to 23 and Nov. 28 to 30, Baldwin Reynolds House Museum, 639 Terrace St., Meadville, presented by the Meadville Garden Club, Friday through Sunday, noon to 8 p.m., baldwinreynolds.org.

NOV. 28 THROUGH DEC. 23

■ Christmas at Port Farms, 2055 Stone Quarry Road, Waterford, (814) 796-4500, portfarms.com.

NOV. 29 AND DEC. 6

■ Santa Express, Oil Creek and Titusville Railroad, Perry Street Station, Titusville, ride

with Santa Claus through the snow-covered Oil Creek Valley, train departs at 1 p.m., (814) 676-1733, octrr.org.

DEC. 12 AND 13

■ Fezziwig's Christmas Party, Baldwin Reynolds House Museum, 639 Terrace St., Meadville, (814) 333-1258 or visit baldwinreynolds.org.

DEC. 17 TO 19

■ A Nostalgic Christmas, Riverside Inn & Dinner Theatre, One Fountain Ave., Cambridge Springs, (800) 956-9490, (814) 398-4645, theriversideinn.com.

STARTING DEC. 20

■ Bah Humbug! Scrooge's Christmas Carol, Academy Theatre, 275 Chestnut St., Meadville, (814) 337-8211, theacademytheatre.org.

DEC. 31

■ Tammy Pescatelli — Happy New Year!, Academy Theatre, 275 Chestnut St., Meadville, cash bar and concessions open at 6:30 p.m., (814) 337-8211, theacademytheatre.org.



Giant Pumpkin vs. small car at Pumpkin Fest.

Plenty of room for fun at sprawling Pymatuning State Park

MEADVILLE TRIBUNE

Whether it comes in the form of boating and fishing, camping, sightseeing at Pymatuning State Park's famous Spillway or another activity, there's plenty of space for fun at the park: 21,000 acres, in fact.

Occupying the vast majority of that acreage at 17,088 acres, Pymatuning Lake is the largest lake in Pennsylvania (about three-quarters of it are located in Crawford County, Pa., and the remaining quarter is in Ashtabula County, Ohio). Its size, recreational opportunities and proximity to larger population areas like Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Erie help attract around 3.3



More information

For more information about Pymatuning State Park and its public facilities and events, call (724) 932-3142, email pymatuningsp@pa.gov or visit dcnr.state.pa.us.

million visitors a year.

That not only makes Pymatuning the second-most visited of Pennsylvania's state parks,

according to a Penn State University study issued early this year — it's also the one with the largest economic impact of them all.

Pymatuning's visitors spent a total of more than \$83.6 million on their trips to the park in 2010, according to the "Economic Significance and Impact of Pennsylvania State Parks" study, which was conducted by PSU in coordination with the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. That spending, according to the study, directly resulted in more than \$78.3 million in commercial sales; the creation of 1,178 jobs; \$27.3 million-plus in labor income; and more than \$43.5 million in "value added" — that includes profits, rents, indirect business taxes and more — to the region's economy.

The economic impact of Pennsylvania's most-visited park, Presque Isle State Park in Erie — which had roughly 4 million visitors in 2010 — ranked just under

Pymatuning in terms of economic impact, according to the study's findings.

Today, the park provides a diverse assortment of recreational opportunities such as camping, boating, swimming, fishing, picnicking, hiking, hunting and sightseeing and even snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, ice boating, sledding, ice skating and ice fishing in the winter.

Boating and fishing

Pymatuning allows boats to use motors with up to 20 horsepower. Boat marinas are located at Jamestown, Espyville and Linesville and they offer boats, canoes and motors for rent. The lake has four swimming beaches in Pennsylvania open Memorial Day through Labor Day — three are in the Jamestown area and one is at Linesville. Jamestown and Linesville No. 1 both have bathhouses, sanitary facilities, food concessions and/or vending machines.

There is a 2,500-acre area at the northeast end of the lake that is off-limits to fishing. It's used as a propagation area for migratory waterfowl during their flights north and south.

Camping

Tent and trailer camping areas are available at the Linesville Camp-ground. And for those who prefer "roughing it" with all the comforts of home,



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Birthplace of oil industry now a state-of-the-art facility

MEADVILLE TRIBUNE

Thanks to an extensive renovation completed recently, Titusville's Drake Well Museum — a 152-year-old National Historic Landmark — is a truly state-of-the-art facility.

Nearly \$8 million in capital investment funds have been poured into the oil industry birthplace's museum due to the renovation project. The new exhibit gallery project is now open, welcoming visitors to check out everything the museum has to show off now.

What visitors will find there includes a number of eco-friendly features that have been introduced to the museum's main exhibit building. Some of those features include energy-efficient windows; a sophisticated motion-activated lighting system; a floor made from recycled tires; and

You can go

The Drake Well Museum is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m. Admission to the museum is \$10 for adults, \$8 for senior citizens and \$5 for youth ages 3 to 11. Children under 3 are admitted for free.

The Drake Well Museum is located at 202 Museum Lane, Titusville.

■ **More information:** Call Drake Well Museum at (814) 827-2797.

a geothermal heating and cooling system that utilizes 30 wells drilled 400 feet into the earth that pump heat into the building when it's cold out or pull heat out of the building when it's warm.

That, according to officials, all ties in with the future exhibit's overall theme: "There's a drop of oil in your life every day."

The way the museum explores that theme is by taking contemporary issues regarding energy and using the lens of history to understand how the country got to this point. It seeks to increase awareness of how fossil fuels play a role in everyday life, but also look at what alternate energies are feasible.

The orientation center also now offers a new-and-improved view of the museum's outdoor attractions, including the replica of the famous oil well drilled by "Colonel" Edwin Drake in 1859 that sparked America's first oil boom.

The rest of the museum's grounds — which includes many other working examples of antique oil field equipment — is also open for the 2012 summer season, which runs through September.

CAMPING FROM PAGE 38

Pymatuning has 25 modern cabins available — 20 in the Jamestown area and five in the Linesville area.

The Linesville-area cabins all meet Americans with Disabilities Act standards for accessibility, as does one in the Jamestown area. Each cabin has a furnished living area, a kitchen/dining area, toilet/shower room and either two or three bedrooms. Occupants must bring their own linens, towels, cookware and tableware.

Throughout each summer season, Pymatuning staff and area experts and volunteers offer a variety of environmental education and interpretive programs for visitors — including hands-on activities, guided walks and evening events.

Reservations for Pymatuning may be made by calling (888) PA-PARKS or (888) 727-2757.

Sightseeing

There are a number of places for sightseers to visit at Pymatuning State Park. Some of the most popular include:

■ The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission hatchery — One of the largest warm-water fish hatcheries in the world — is just north of the Linesville-Espyville causeway.

■ Pymatuning's famous Spillway, just down the road from the hatchery, where visitors can feed bread (lots of bread) to the carp (lots of carp). So many, in fact, that it's become known as the place where "The Ducks Walk Across the Fishes' Backs."

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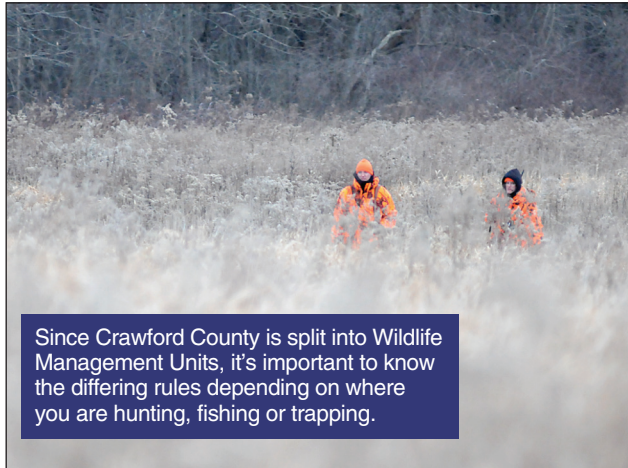
By Dan Walk

MEADVILLE TRIBUNE

Crawford County and Pennsylvania's hunting success grew for the third consecutive year in 2013-14.

Pennsylvania saw an increase of about 3 percent in the number of deer harvested during the 2013-14 hunting seasons. There were more than 9,000 more deer harvested throughout the state, according to Pennsylvania Game Commission harvest reports.

Crawford County encompasses two Wildlife Management Units, 1A and 1B. 1A consists of southwest Crawford County, western Venango County and all of Mercer



County, while 1B includes most of Crawford County, all of Erie County and parts of Venango and Warren counties.

WMU 1B had some 6,800 antlered and 10,800 antlerless deer harvested in

2013-14 compared to 7,000 and 11,100, respectively, in 2012-13. WMU 1A saw 6,400 antlered and 13,900 antlerless deer shot in 2013-14 after the previous season produced 6,100 and 11,900 respectively.

The southeastern tip of Crawford County is also part of WMU 2F.

There is an abundance of wildlife to hunt throughout the area in addition to deer. Crawford County is known to have a good deal of waterfowl hunting and has Conneaut Lake, Canadohta Lake, Pymatuning Lake and Woodcock Lake, among

others, to fish. The lakes are known for having a good number of muskies, bass and trout.

Since the county is split into two units, it's important to know the differing rules depending on where you are hunting, fishing or trapping.

"You have to know where you're at at all times and get your landowner permission," said John Crooks, a Crawford County resident and Meadville Tribune outdoors writer who has been hunting for more than 50 years and has written for a number of outdoors publications. "Anywhere in the state when you're hunting you have to have landowner permission unless you're on a state game land" or national forest.

There are also about a dozen state gamelands in Crawford County.

Visit the Pennsylvania Game Commission's website at pgc.state.pa.us to learn all the rules and regulations within Crawford County's two Wildlife Management Units and State Game Lands.

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Directory

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By Jean Shanley

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uled breakfast tours to see the area from the lake while enjoying narration of the area's rich history.

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toons and others are used by visitors to enjoy the serenity of relaxing on the beautiful waters and enjoying the sun away from the cares of everyday life.

Fireman's Beach provides a place for visitors to

LAKE ON PAGE 46



Church Directory

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Saturday, June 28, 2014 4:00 - 7:30pm

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Saint Hippolyte Church

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Office: (814) 789-2022

Weekend Mass Schedule: Sunday 10:30am

118th Annual Frenchtown Ham or Chicken Dinner

Sunday, July 27, 2014

Dinners Served Noon - 6:00pm

LAKE FROM PAGE 45

swim for free or to just relax on a towel on a beach while the children play in the sand.

While the lake is the big attraction, there's more to the town than the large body of water, which attracts thousands of visitors each year.

The borough has a library with Internet service. There are small shops, including antiques and gift shops, and restaurants ranging from fine dining to pizza and sandwiches and a café to relax in and enjoy the view of the lake.

The Conneaut Lake Area Historical Society museum showcases a touch of yesteryear, focusing on the lake's rich history and allowing visitors to see such treasures such as



woolly mammoth bones found in the lake from thousands of years ago.

Conneaut Cellars Winery has won numerous awards for its fine wines. Located near the shores of Conneaut Lake, it also offers visitors the opportuni-

ty to learn more about the art of winemaking and the chance to taste the locally made wines.

Visitors can choose to camp at local campgrounds, stay at historic Hotel Conneaut, or any number of local motels while they spend their time in this vacation hotspot.

Of course, a visit to Conneaut Lake Park and its famed Blue Streak roller coaster for the thrill seeker often is on many visitors' agenda. The park also offers other rides, Kiddieland, miniature golf or a walk on the lakeside boardwalk.

Many events are scheduled throughout the year at Conneaut Lake ranging from car cruises to concerts, art festivals, house tours, wooden boat shows and more for those who want something special to do in addition to enjoying the destination itself.

For those who just like to soak in the sun, Ice House Park provides that opportunity. There's even something for the dogs at Conneaut Lake as the Conneaut Lake Bark Park offers off-leash areas as well as a walking trail, instruction areas and educational programs.

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July 28th: Crawford County Youth Field Days

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Pea-Nut making encore appearance at Thurston Classic

By Mary Spicer

MEADVILLE TRIBUNE

Fans — you know who you are — who just couldn't get enough of Pea-Nut the Flying Elephant during the 2013 Thurston Classic Hot Air Balloon Event will have a second chance when the 26th annual salute to the glory of hot air takes to the Father's Day Weekend skies over Meadville.

During last year's Thurston, which marked her first official festival appearance, the weather, well, rained a bit on Pea-Nut's parade. However, she made it up often enough to win over the hearts of local fans. Thurston aficionados weren't the only ones to fall in love with Pea-Nut, however. Before her debut season was over, she captured the most popular balloon award at the 2013 International Balloon Festival in Saint-Jean-Sur-Richelieu, just south of Montreal in Canada's Quebec province.

The first-ever inverted elephant balloon, Pea-Nut stands on her front feet,



waving her hind legs joyfully overhead.

The popular event that fills the Father's Day Weekend skies over Meadville with more than 30 balloons participating in four scheduled launches is under the direction of Balloonmeister Maury Sullivan, a veteran pilot from Canton, Ohio, who balloons internationally and has flown in all of the

25 Classics.

The four-day event begins at sundown Thursday night and ends with a final flight early Sunday morning.

Celebrating the event's 26th anniversary, the 2014 Thurston is scheduled for June 12 through 15. As usual, activity will center around Allegheny College's Robertson Athletic Complex at 195 Park Ave., just north of the Allegheny

College campus.

Pilots and their balloons often arrive a day or two early, so folks on the ground can never be sure what might be spotted drifting overhead. Hot air balloons are most likely to fly during early morning and early evening hours, when conditions are calmest.

Drivers making their way through the area are urged to be especially alert on competition days. Even though local law enforcement officials urge drivers to keep their eyes on the road and off the sky, vehicles do tend to brake — suddenly — when balloons pop into sight. With elephant sightings a distinct possibility, drivers should be especially prepared for quick stops this year.

Travelers are advised to plan ahead. All Thurston Classic events are free and open to the public, but local lodging is booked far in advance for this annual extravaganza.

Visitors planning more than a day trip should be sure to make reservations.

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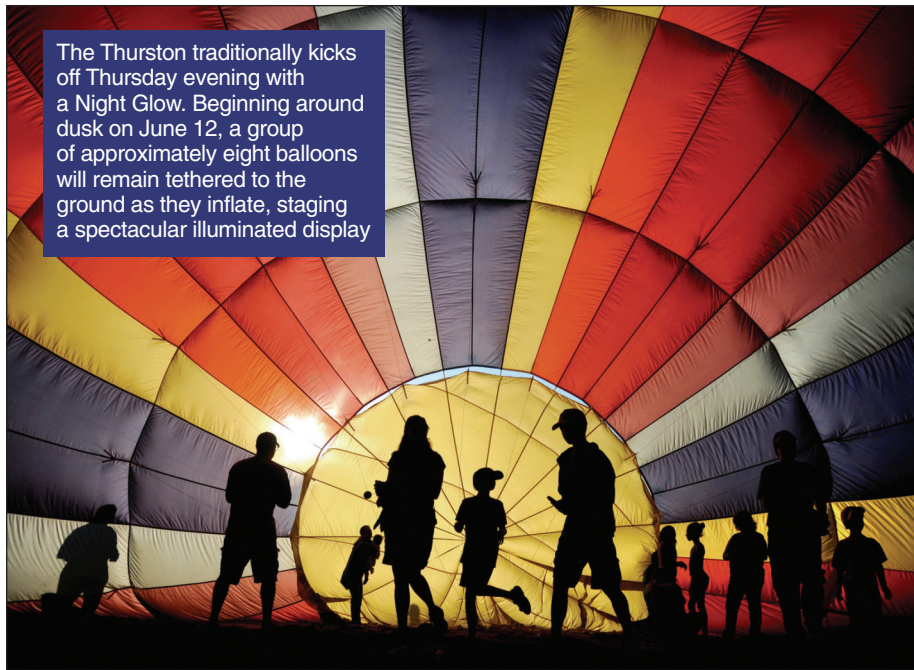
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The Thurston traditionally kicks off Thursday evening with a Night Glow. Beginning around dusk on June 12, a group of approximately eight balloons will remain tethered to the ground as they inflate, staging a spectacular illuminated display



Spectators gathering at Robertson Field are encouraged to bring along blankets and chairs because grassy spots are plentiful but on-site seating is extremely limited.

On-site parking, which is also free, is also limited.

Go with the glow ...

The Thurston traditionally kicks off Thursday evening with a Night Glow. Beginning around dusk on June 12, a group of approximately eight balloons,

including Pea-Nut, will remain tethered to the ground as they inflate, staging a spectacular illuminated display allowing viewers an unprecedented view of the balloons, which tower as much as seven stories above the ground when fully inflated. A local band will perform beginning around 7:30 p.m.

Friday, June 13, is the sponsors' night to fly. With pilots heading off from Robertson Field to the destinations of their choice, the

Sponsor's Flight offers opportunities for sightings from multiple locations.

The Classic is organized by a committee com-

prised of about dozen volunteers who coordinate countless more volunteers from throughout the greater Meadville community and beyond.

Funding comes from event sponsors, from donations collected during the flights by hopeful-looking volunteers circulating through the crowd with buckets, and through the sale of official souvenirs at Robertson Field and downtown Meadville's historic Market House.

Donations may also be mailed to the Thurston Classic Committee in care of Watts & Pepicelli PC, 916 Diamond Park, Meadville, Pa. 16335.

For up-to-the-minute information about the classic and all its participants, visit thurstonclassic.com.

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Northwest Pennsylvania a hotbed for cold-weather fun

MEADVILLE TRIBUNE

Winter is a wonderland of outdoor recreation in northwest Pennsylvania thanks to numerous public parks, several businesses and the many lakes.

Pymatuning State Park offers tourists and residents several opportunities for outdoor recreation. And it doesn't end after the summer months.

The park also caters to those who love snow and winter with cross country skiing and downhill skiing as well as ice fishing, winter hunting and winter hiking and backpacking. Most areas of Pymatuning State Park are open to cross-country skiing, while the

slopes of the dam are good for sledding.

For snowmobilers, Fries Road Trail by Tuttle Campground and the abandoned railroad grade by the spillway provide nearly five miles of trails.

The state parks system in general provides ample winter activities. Eight miles of trails are marked for cross country skiing for the beginner and expert skiers at Maurice K. Goddard State Park, located near Greenville. Oil Creek State Park near Oil City has 10 miles of trails for beginner and intermediate skiers. The area includes a large parking area, warming hut and restroom facilities.

Most open areas of



Avalanche Xpress, located at Whispering Pines Golf Course, has been billed as the region's longest and steepest tubing park.

Presque Isle State Park are also open for cross country skiing.

At Maurice K. Goddard State Park, snowmobiling trails are also available. Mount Pleasant of Edinboro has trails for alpine skiing, snowboarding and tubing and is equipped with four lifts and a lodge that includes refreshments and equipment rental facilities.

Avalanche Xpress, located at Whispering Pines

Golf Course, has been billed as northwestern Pennsylvania's longest and steepest snow tubing park.

For fishing enthusiasts, the numerous waterways in northwest Pennsylvania are perfect for ice fishing, including Pymatuning Lake, Conneaut Lake, Woodcock Creek Dam, Tamarack Lake and Canadohta Lake. Conneaut Lake and Canadohta Lake have held annual ice fishing tournaments.

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Music, vendors mark Conneaut Lake Pumpkin Fest

By Jane Smith
MEADVILLE TRIBUNE

Plans for the 22nd annual Conneaut Lake Pumpkin Fest scheduled for Oct. 10 to 12 at Conneaut Lake Park are continuing with more than 55 vendors already signed up to participate in the festival and the Shriners lined up to participate in the parade.

Co-chairman Doris Henderson said she has had contact with at least 15 bands who want to perform and she is excited about the event.

Pumpkin Fest, sponsored by the Conneaut Lake Area Business Association, is described as a family-oriented event and includes arts and crafts, food vendors, music



and entertainment.

The event begins Oct. 10 with the vendors and crafters at the park. A huge parade is set for Oct. 11.

Co-chairman Joan Kozlowsky said the Shriners have said they too will be back this year with various units. The Shriners have various units with

members riding all types of vehicles while performing intricate drills as the parade moves down the route.

One of the most popular events each year is the "big pumpkin drop." A huge pumpkin is lifted via a crane into the air and then dropped hundreds of feet onto an automobile.

"We have two pumpkins being raised for the Pumpkin Drop," said Henderson with excitement in her voice about the upcoming festival.

A preview to Pumpkin Fest is the crowning of new queens at the Pumpkin Fest Pageant Oct. 4 at Conneaut Lake Middle School. Six categories of competition are scheduled. They are: Tiny Princess (ages 4, 5 and 6); Tiny Prince (ages 4, 5 and 6); Little Princess (ages 7, 8, 9 and 10); and Little Prince (ages 7, 8, 9 and 10); Junior princess (ages 11, 12, 13 and 14) and Junior Miss (ages 15, 16, 17 and 18).

■ **More information:**
Visit pumpkinfest.conneautlake.com.



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Crawford County Fair

Fair week creates region's most bustling 'Main Street'

By Keith Gushard

MEADVILLE TRIBUNE

Crawford County's biggest event of the summer rolls into the Meadville area for its 69th edition this August.

Billed as Pennsylvania's largest agricultural fair, the Crawford County Fair is set for Aug. 16 through 23 at the fairgrounds just east of Meadville.

The fair annually has between 70,000 and 80,000 total paid admissions during fair week. However, the fair's total attendance is estimated at double that as exhibitors and vendors are allowed to enter on passes.

The fair annually trans-



Evenings bring out much of the crowd as people gather on their way to see top-name entertainment or enjoy the food and games that line the midway.

forms into northwest Pennsylvania's biggest "Main Street" during the eight days of the event.

"A lot of people go just to see friends and relatives they've not seen all year," said Diana Perry, a member of the Crawford County Fair Board where she serves as treasurer. "People come from all over."

Evenings bring out much of the crowd as people gather on their way to see top-name entertainment or enjoy the food and games that line the midway.

Though it is Pennsylvania's largest agricultural fair, the fair

board schedules a broad cross-section of entertainment to attract all ages.

This year's fair, with opening day Aug. 16, features several popular events and a country music concert with Hunter Hays. A farm and antique tractor pull is set in the morning in front of the grandstand while a professional wrestling show is in the Youth Show Arena.

The Hunter Hays concert with special guests

FAIR ON PAGE 56



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FROM PAGE 54

Dan+Shay and Sam Hunt begins at 7:30 p.m. at the grandstand.

The Miss Crawford County Fair Pageant is set for Aug. 17 at 7 p.m. and is open to young women ages 16 through 20 who reside in Crawford County who aren't a current title holder of another pageant. The winner is required to appear at various events at the fair throughout the week to help promote the fair.

The nights of Aug. 18 and 22 both feature a USA-East Regional truck and tractor pull at the grandstand. The program starts at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 18 and 7 p.m. Aug. 22.

Country music highlights two other nights of the fair.

On Aug. 19, at 7:30



Check out the Crawford County Fair online at crawfordcountyfairpa.com or visit its Facebook page.

p.m. there will be a free concert at the grandstand by Chris Higbee, founder of the PovertyNeck Hillbillies band.

On Aug. 20, at 7:30 p.m. country superstar Lee Brice will take the stage with Frankie Ballard the opening act. Brice, a four-time Academy of Country Music nominee, is a well-known singer and songwriter.

Tickets for both the Dan+Shay and Sam Hunt; and Lee Brice and Frankie Ballard shows feature racetrack and grandstand seating options. Tickets are available now online at either crawfordcountyfairpa.com or startickets.com; or at the Crawford County Courthouse, 903 Diamond Park, Meadville.

On Aug. 21, David Martin's Bullride Mania returns once again as the featured entertainment that evening. The performance, set for 7:30 p.m. at the grandstand, features bull riding and barrel racing.

The fair closes out its grandstand entertainment Aug. 23 with demolition derbies set at both 2 and 7 p.m. that day.

There also are a variety of other entertainment options.

An all-make car show is Aug. 17 at 10 a.m.

A traditional free viewing event at the fair — harness races — are scheduled for noon Aug. 18 through 21.

All the animals at the fair aren't in the livestock barns and pens, either.

The Zerbini Family Circus returns Aug. 18 performing free shows. There will be free shows twice a day from Aug. 18 through 22 and three shows on Aug. 23. It features aerial acts, juggling, balancing acts and animal acts.

There are amusement rides and games for all ages.

However, the life blood of the fair is its exhibits. Livestock of all types are corralled at one end of the fairgrounds while at the other end are thousands of entries in such things as arts and crafts and photography to canned and baked goods to quilts.

There also are numerous special events like educational forums and demonstrations throughout the fair schedule.

On Aug. 18 and Aug. 19 those age 65 and older are admitted for free from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Many locals and visitors utilize the trail for recreation, exercise or just to get closer to nature as the trail winds around hills, cuts through marshes and runs alongside the rolling creek.

Ernst Trail offers scenic view of Crawford County's lush countryside

By Konstantine Fekos
MEADVILLE TRIBUNE

The Meadville area's Ernst Trail offers walkers, joggers, runners, bicyclists, horseback riders and more about seven miles of recreational pathway along the biologically diverse French Creek Valley.

Open dawn to dusk year-round, the paved trail follows much of the Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad, abandoned in the 1970s, and offers a scenic view of Crawford County's lush countryside.

Many locals and visitors utilize the trail for recreation, exercise or just to get closer to nature as the trail winds around hills, cuts through marshes, runs alongside the rolling creek or under the forest of thick pines.

As many as 60,000 visitors take advantage of what the trail has to offer each

year, according to local officials, whether they walk, run, jog, hike, bike, ski, rollerblade or ride horses.

With an approximate 2-mile extension completed last summer, the Ernst Trail now has four access points: Next to Bean's Auto on Conneaut Lake Road (Route 322); on Mercer Pike near Wilson Chutes Road; on Krider Road near Perry Highway (Route 19); and the newest trailhead on Bailey Road near its intersection with South Watson Run Road.

The trail was originally created in 1997 by members of the French Creek Recreational Trails organization, which continues to maintain the trail, and community volunteers.

The FCRT has since expanded its plans with an eye on connecting the eastern end of the Ernst Trail

ERNST ON PAGE 60

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ERNST FROM PAGE 58

to Bicentennial Park in Meadville by winding the trail along French Creek through Kerttown.

A Meadville connection has been in the works for several years and is current-

ly waiting on permits pending from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

Beyond that, future plans for the FCRT include extending the trail as far west as Conneaut Lake.

Did you know?

■ Ernst Trail is open year-round and can be enjoyed by walking, jogging, running, biking, skating, horseback riding and skiing.

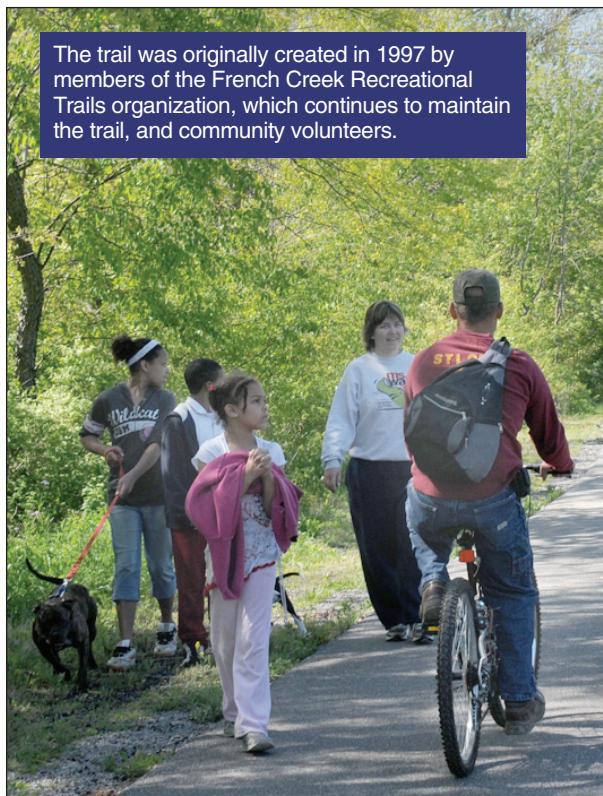
■ With a mixture of rich bottomlands, dry shale hillsides and glacial deposits, the trail runs through land with a diverse variety of plant species.

■ The trail parallels the Conneaut Marsh and also runs along French Creek, home to nearly 70 species of fish and almost 30 species of mollusks.

■ The trail's original right-of-way was donated by Calvin Ernst, owner of a neighboring business, Ernst Conservation Seeds.

■ The trail is one of more than 80 former railroad lines in Pennsylvania which have been converted into popular hiking and biking trails, making part of the Rails to Trails network.

The trail was originally created in 1997 by members of the French Creek Recreational Trails organization, which continues to maintain the trail, and community volunteers.



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