

A woman with long brown hair, wearing a black sleeveless top and a silver watch, is smiling and holding a red apple. A young boy with dark hair is also holding a red apple. They are in an orchard with many green leaves and red apples on the trees.

Fall Activity Guide

YOUR MICHIGAN GUIDE TO A FUN FALL SEASON

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OUTDOORS



PHOTOS COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Outdoor televisions have become more popular as more and more homeowners look to extend their living spaces outdoors.

Outdoor televisions up the ante in outdoor living areas

Outdoor living areas provide a great way for homeowners to spend more time outdoors doing the things they love. That includes watching their favorite shows.

Many homeowners take televisions designed for indoors outside when hosting game watches or movie nights under the stars. While such televisions can function outdoors, unless they're specifically designed for outdoor use, chances are they are not protected against the elements. Special enclosures built to protect indoor televisions can do just that, but homeowners also can consider televisions designed for outdoor use.

Outdoor televisions have become more popular as more and more homeowners look to extend their living spaces outdoors, and these uniquely designed televisions can often withstand elements like rain without losing their functionality. Many outdoor televisions also are designed to handle reflection from the sun, ensuring that homeowners won't have to limit their outdoor viewing experiences to evenings or late nights when the sun has set.

When shopping for outdoor televisions, consumers should do their homework and pay attention to features they may not consider when shopping for indoor televisions.



Many homeowners take televisions designed for indoors outside when hosting game watches or movie nights under the stars.

For example, outdoor televisions should offer wide viewing angles, as backyards tend to be bigger than living rooms. That means more people can make it over for backyard game watches and movie nights, which underscores the importance of wide viewing angles that make it easy for people seated all over the yard to make out what's on the screen.

Story courtesy of Metro Creative Connection

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OUTDOORS

How to make the most of kids' first fishing trips

Fishing provides a great way for parents to bond with their children in the great outdoors. The value of first impressions has been well-documented, and parents who want their kids to inherit a love of fishing can take the following factors into consideration so their youngsters' first fishing trips are successful.

Local programs

Fishing need not be an expensive hobby, but the costs can add up. Parents who are not sure if their kids will embrace fishing should look into local programs. Many towns, especially those with reputations for fishing, host free family fishing events. These events give parents an opportunity to see if their kids enjoy fishing before they start buying them gear.

Starting simple

Any fisherman would love to snag a trophy fish such as a largemouth bass on his or her first trip. And while that's possible, it's unlikely, especially for youngsters. Such fish tend to be difficult to catch, even for seasoned fishermen. When taking kids fishing for the first time, fish for something that's somewhat simple to catch and capable of being caught throughout the day. If you aren't familiar with your local rivers or lakes, visit a local outdoors store and ask for advice about which local bodies of water are home to fish that kids might be able to snag. Though it's not imperative that kids catch a fish on their first trip, doing so might make them more enthusiastic about their next trip.

Having fun

Don't make the day all about catching fish, as even



PHOTOS COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Fishing is a family-friendly activity that youngsters can enjoy from the moment they first pick up a rod.

the most seasoned fishermen have their off days when nothing is biting. If the focus is on catching fish, kids might grow discouraged and not want to come back if they don't catch anything on their first trip. Focus on the fun everyone is having rather than the fish they are (or aren't) catching. Some youngsters might just be thrilled to spend a day out on the water with their parents. Encourage that enthusiasm and kids are more likely to remember their

first fishing trips fondly.

Break time

Kids might not have a full day of fishing in them on their first trip. Frequent breaks to explore nearby nature, enjoy a snack or even toss a ball around can keep children from growing bored throughout the day. Fishing is a family-friendly activity that youngsters can enjoy from the moment they first pick up a rod.

Story courtesy of Metro Creative Connection



Don't make the day all about catching fish, it should be about having fun too.

OUTDOORS



PHOTOS COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

For fishing enthusiasts, gear starts with a rod and reel. Afterward, it is important to fill a tackle box with other essentials.

Essentials for your tackle box

Recreational fishing is enjoyed by millions of people. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reported that there was an 8% increase in anglers between 2011 and 2017. Expenditures by anglers nationwide rose 2% during the same time, from \$45 billion to \$46.1 billion.

As more people stay closer to home, they're eager to engage in hobbies that are fun and accessible but still promote social distancing. Fishing checks each of those boxes. Prospective anglers who are eager to get into saltwater or freshwater fishing should know that the right gear is essential. For fishing enthusiasts, that gear starts with a rod and reel. Afterward, it is important to fill a tackle box with other essentials.

- Extra fishing line. Lines get snagged, torn or snapped when reeling in a great catch, so extra fishing line is essential.

- Extra hooks. The traditional J-hook can snag many types of fish, but some anglers like a French hook. No matter which hook you prefer, make

sure you have a variety of sizes on hand so you can switch if need be.

- A set of fishing pliers. Purchase pliers specifically made for fishing. Most come in aluminum so they will not corrode due to the elements. Also, if you're using braided fishing line, be sure the pliers have a cutter made for cutting braid.

- Bobbers in various sizes. Bobbers, also called floaters, help anglers know when a fish is biting. Round clip-on bobbers are popular and widely available. Slip bobbers will slide up and down the line, enabling anglers to get the hook into deeper water.

- Sinkers. The yin to the bobber's yang, sinkers are weights that help weigh down a worm or artificial lure to reach the right level to attract fish.

- Fishing regulations/ruler. A variety of rules govern when and where you can fish. Also, you'll need to know which size fish are keepers and which need to be tossed back. Keep a regulation ruler in the tackle box to avoid fines.

- Pocket knife. Keep a sharp knife for cutting lines and bait. Reserve a special filet knife for cleaning fish.

- Selection of lures. Research which fish you're angling for and then purchase a variety of appropriate lures. Some lures will attract a wide array of fish.

- Stringer. A stringer is a device that is used to hold several caught fish through their gills. It anchors to land and the other end with the fish on it is placed in the water to keep the fish alive until you're ready to pack up and go. It's a good alternative to a cooler or bucket filled with water.

- Fishing license. Many conservation or fish and wildlife departments require a license for fishing for anglers of a certain age. Be sure to have it on hand or you may be susceptible to fines or other penalties.

A tackle box with the right gear can help novice fishing enthusiasts get off on the right foot.

Story courtesy of Metro Creative Connection



A tackle box with the right gear can help novice fishing enthusiasts get off on the right foot.



Parents who are not sure if their kids will embrace fishing should look into local programs.

OUTDOORS

The *dos* and *don'ts* of fire pits

Many homeowners relish any opportunity to retreat to their backyards, where they can put up their feet and relax in the great outdoors. That retreat-like escape is made even more relaxing when sitting around a fire pit.

Fire pits can be found in millions of suburban backyards across the globe. Fire pits have become so popular that a 2016 survey of landscape architects conducted by the American Society of Landscape Architects revealed they were the most sought after outdoor design element. Fire pits remain wildly popular a half decade after that survey. Homeowners who are only now joining the fire pit revolution can keep these dos and don'ts in mind as they plan their summer s'mores sessions.

- **DO** keep the fire pit a safe distance away from the home. Fire pits should be located a safe distance from the home at all times, but especially when they're in use. Home design experts recommend keeping fire pits a minimum of 10 to 20 feet away from a house or other structure, such as a shed or a detached garage. The further away the fire is from houses and other structures, the less likely those structures are to catch on fire.

- **DON'T** place the fire pit beneath trees or next to shrubs. Though fire pits should be kept safe distances away from a house and other structures, it's important that they're not placed beneath trees or next to shrubs. Shrubs and low hanging branches can easily catch embers and be lit ablaze, so make sure fire pits are not placed in loca-



PHOTO COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

A night around the fire pit is a seasonal tradition in many households.



PHOTO COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Fire pits can be found in millions of suburban backyards across the globe.

tions that increase that risk.

▪ **DO** clean out seasonal debris. It can be tempting to let seasonal debris resting inside the fire pit burn away during the season's first s'mores session. But burning debris poses a serious safety risk, as embers can easily be blown out of the fire pit and catch nearby trees or shrubs or even a home on fire. The National Fire Protection Association advises homeowners that em-

bers blowing from a backyard fire pose the same threat to homes as if they are from a wildfire.

▪ **DON'T** let fire pits burn near flammable materials. Store firewood piles a safe distance away from the fire pit while it's in operation. It may be convenient to keep firewood right next to the fire pit while the fire is burning, but that increases the risk that embers will land on firewood and

start a fire outside of the pit.

▪ **DO** check the weather report prior to starting the fire. Windy weather increases the risk of embers blowing around and potentially landing on the house, other structures around the property or trees. If the weather report is calling for gusting winds, burn a fire on another night.

▪ **DON'T** leave a fire pit fire burning. Unattended recreational

fires are illegal and incredibly dangerous. Homeowners should never leave fire pit fires burning unattended or allow fires to burn inside and stop adding wood to the fire roughly one hour before you plan to go inside. Water or sand can be poured on ashes to extinguish the fire. Once homeowners are confident a fire has

been extinguished, ashes can be spread around to ensure there are no hot spots still burning. If there are, start the extinguishing process over again.

A night around the fire pit is a seasonal tradition in many households. Safety must be as much a part of such traditions as s'mores.

Story courtesy of Metro Creative Connection

TRAVEL

Smart ways to keep travel spending in check

With more people getting vaccinated, many are looking forward to reuniting with loved ones and making up for lost vacation time. However, budget is often a primary concern when planning a trip.

To help make your money go further, consider these tips from the travel experts at Vrbo:

Explore a new destination

With pent up travel demand, many popular travel destinations have already been booked months in advance. Instead of visiting traditionally popular locales, consider an under-the-radar destination like Cherry Log, Ga.; Bella Vista, Ark.; or Slade, Ky., which all offer scenic views and outdoor adventures. Before booking, check for any travel advisories or restrictions for your destination.

Be flexible with dates

Rather than selecting your dates first and finding a destination that works for your selected date range, choose a destination then see what accommodations are available. For example, doing an undated search through a vacation rental company like Vrbo can yield a wider selection for a particular destination, including some budget-friendly options. After selecting your lodging, check the dates to determine when it's available or most affordable and plan your trip accordingly.

Fly on off-peak days or times

If flying to your destination is necessary and you're not on a tight schedule, being flexible with the time of



PHOTO COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

These days, remote work and school allows for flexibility while traveling, and there are discounts to be found if you choose to stay for longer than just a few nights.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

With pent up travel demand, many popular travel destinations have already been booked months in advance.



Budget is often a primary concern when planning a trip.



If you research your destination before departing, you'll likely be able to find free or low-cost activities that interest you.

day you fly, the number of stops or having a longer layover can translate to a more affordable price. Generally, flying earlier in the week or later in the day is less expensive than flying closer to the weekend or taking the first flight out.

Book now, pay later

When securing lodging and other amenities like rental cars, you can often book your reservations without paying the full amount up front. Whether you simply place a deposit at the time of booking and pay the rest upon arrival or split the total cost into monthly payments, this type of option can provide an added level of flexibility when budgeting for and planning your trip.

Book accommodations that offer length-of-stay discounts

These days, remote work and school allows for flexibility while traveling, and there are discounts to be found if you choose to stay for longer than just a few nights. In fact, some vacation rental hosts offer discounts for new listings or week- or month-long stays. Vacation rental companies like Vrbo allows travelers to use filters to find discounted properties when searching for a place to stay.

Look for free activities

If you research your destination before departing, you'll likely be able to find free or low-cost activities that interest you. Check community calendars to find events while you'll be in town and consider options like museums, art galleries or national parks, which are often free to the public or offer discounted admission on certain days or at specific times each day.

Take advantage of public transportation

One of the best ways to get to know a city is to walk everywhere, but that isn't feasible in all cities and locations. Rather than renting a car or using ride-sharing services, look for public transportation options such as buses or subways that are more cost-effective when possible. Also consider a frequent-travel card if you'll be traversing your destination more than once or twice.

Visit Vrbo.com more resources and information to save money on your next adventure.

Story courtesy of Family Features



PHOTO BY TODDANDBRADREED.COM COURTESY OF PURE LUDINGTON

Take a scenic drive down Conrad Road in the Ludington area, a popular spot for leaf peepers.

TRAVEL

Fall in bloom

Peak viewing tips and the best spots for catching amazing fall colors in Michigan

By Jane Peterson

For MediaNews Group

Michiganders don't have to wander far from home to see the season's brilliant gold, orange, red and yellow colors. Whether you choose to stay close to home or plan a weekend trip, the Great Lakes state's autumn color display never fails to impress. Check out these fabulous places to view spectacular fall foliage:

Ludington/Mason County

Ludington and Mason County offer a quintessential "Up North" experience that is magical in the fall, said Brandy Miller, executive director, Ludington Area Convention & Visitors Bureau.

"Ludington and surrounding Mason County deliver the perfect combination of unspoiled natural resources and unrivaled outdoor recreation with quaint, small-town charm, making it a perfect fall getaway. A four-hour drive from metro Detroit, it is easily accessible via expressway," she said.

Located on the shores of Lake Michigan, the area offers 28 miles of beachfront plus

2,000 miles of streams and 40 inland lakes that showcase the fall colors. Visitors have many options when it comes to exploring the fall views, such as hiking on 25 miles of trails, driving a cultural trail, paddling, bicycling and fishing.

Ludington State Park is a 5,300-acre piece of paradise with numerous trails in varying lengths for a true fall color experience among nature, said Miller. Favorite hikes include the Lost Lake — Island Trail loop, a two-mile loop clockwise around Lost Lake that offers beautiful views of Hamlin and Lost Lakes plus the trees and the Skyline Trail, a tall staircase that goes to a half-mile wooden boardwalk along a dune



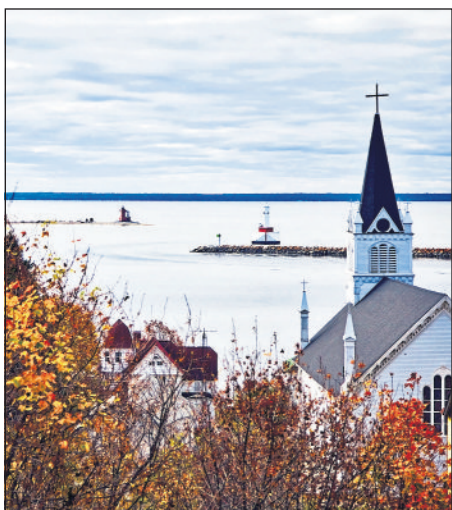
PHOTO COURTESY OF MACKINAC ISLAND TOURISM

Most Michiganders have visited Mackinac Island during its summer splendor, but not everyone has seen its fall transformation.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE PAINT CREEK TRAILWAYS COMMISSION

Along Paint Creek Trail, there are many benches for trail users to take a break, breathe in the fresh air, relax and enjoy nature.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MACKINAC ISLAND TOURISM

Fall colors on Mackinac Island often last longer than other scenic spots, with gorgeous hues often stretching into late October.

ridge, providing breathtaking views. Norhouse Dunes Wilderness Area also has 10 miles of hiking trails along Lake Michigan and in the Huron-Manistee National Forest.

If driving is more your speed, discover more about the area's culture and history by taking the self-guided Mason County Cultural Trail with cell phone-accessible narration. Tour routes include Lumber Heritage, Barn Quilt, Sculpture, Maritime Heritage, Music Heritage and Agricultural. Try the Agricultural route for 17 stops, including autumn-themed places like farm markets with cider, pumpkins, squash and other fall produce. Learn more at mason-countyculture.com/trails.

Pere Marquette River is a favorite spot for paddling adventures, especially in the fall. Local outfitters rent kayaks and canoes if needed — or Baldwin Canoe Rental can be hired to spot you in your own watercraft, said Miller, adding that another popular spot to paddle and take in the fall colors is Hamlin Lake in Ludington State Park.

Bicycling is a popular option as well, she said.

"A popular spot to walk or bike is the urban trail system at Cartier Park, a mile north of downtown Ludington," said Miller. "The trail system includes a one-mile paved loop and 3.5 miles of single-track mountain bike path. Visitors enjoying Cartier Park are treated to serene, wooded surroundings and views of the beautiful Lincoln Lake."

Multi-task this fall by viewing the fall colors and catching dinner at the same time by taking a fishing charter trip on Lake Michigan. October brings steelhead with minimum boat traffic, giving anglers the lake and the steelhead to themselves as well as sweeping views of the shoreline.

Many visitors often explore historical sites, restaurants, museums, parks and more during their trip. In the Ludington area, consider adding Ludington State Park, Port of Ludington Maritime Museum, Historic White Pine Village, Amber Elk Ranch, Lewis Farm Market and Petting Farm, golf and disc golf to your itinerary.

Paint Creek Trail — Rochester, Lake Orion

Fall is traditionally the busiest time of the year on the trail, said Trail Manager Melissa Ford.

"The Paint Creek Trail is a lovely place to view fall colors as it is a 8.9 mile long natural, tree-lined trail stretching from the City of Rochester to the Village of Lake Orion with plentiful hardwoods," she said.

The trail was the first non-motorized rail-to-trail in Michigan. Hiking and biking are the most popular ways to view the

fall foliage along Paint Creek Trail, but horseback riding is also permitted north of Dutton Road.

More than 100,000 pedestrians, cyclists, equestrians, anglers, nature enthusiasts and users of all ages and abilities enjoy the trail year round.

The northern section of the Paint Creek Trail, from Silverbell Road to the Village of Lake Orion is more heavily wooded, so it is ideal for beautiful fall displays of color. Foley Pond, north of the Clarkston Kern Road parking lot, is often striking with the pond reflecting the foliage. Along the trail, there are many benches for trail users to take a break, breathe in the fresh air, relax and enjoy nature. In addition, there are two cider mills near the trail on Orion Road in Goodison.

"Many families enjoy visiting the trail and tasting cider, donuts and other treats at the Paint Creek Cider Mill and the Goodison Cider Mill," said Ford.

Families looking to make a day or weekend out of their time at Paint Creek Trail will have no trouble finding plenty of activities to enjoy. At each end of the trail, the City of Rochester and the Village of Lake Orion offer numerous family-friendly entertainment like outdoor concerts, shopping, restaurants, festivals and art shows throughout the autumn season. Plus, if you're looking for even more hiking possibilities, the Paint Creek Trail connects to other trails in Oakland and Macomb counties including the Polly Ann Trail and the Clinton River Trail, which provides access to the Macomb Orchard Trail and Stony Creek Metropark.

"Additionally, Orion Township, Oakland Township and the City of Rochester Hills have nearby parks and recreational facilities including Bear Creek Nature Park, Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve, Rochester Municipal Park, Bloomer Park and the Velodrome and Bald Mountain State Recreation Area," she said.

Mackinac Island

Most Michiganders have visited Mackinac Island during its summer splendor, but not everyone has seen its fall transformation when the porch of the famous Grand Hotel, iconic Arch Rock, peaceful Marquette Park and historic Fort Holmes become the perfect places to view autumn's magnificent color display.

"You have the opportunity to see shorelines along the Great Lakes glowing in a rich patina of copper and gold. More than 80% of the island is forest and in autumn, Mackinac's trees turn vibrant shades of ruby apple red, pear yellow and pumpkin orange," said Tim Hygh, director of Mackinac Island Tourism Bureau.

Although a scenic drive on Mackinac Island is out of the question, there are many other unique ways visitors can embrace the

autumn season. Hygh suggests:

- Biking the 8.2 miles around the island
- Hiking, with more than 70 miles of trails available throughout the island
- Going on an air tour to see the view of fall colors 1,000 feet up and 30 miles of the island in any direction
- Hiring a driver or renting a horse and buggy to experience the island's colors on four wheels (and hooves)
- Riding horseback to Fort Holmes to view the island's gorgeous colors 320 feet above sea level
- Taking a kayak tour around the island
- Enjoying a sunset voyage aboard the Sip N Sail

An added bonus is that fall colors on Mackinac Island often last longer than other scenic spots, with gorgeous hues stretching into late October, he added. Also, those staying on the island in October are in for a spooky treat.

"Mackinac Haunted History Tours run through Oct. 23 and are a 90-minute, one-mile journey through the historic streets of Mackinac Island," Hygh said in an email. "Oct. 22-24 is Halloween Weekend on the Island, and past events included a Haunted Trail and Maze, Halloween-themed family movies, a Haunted Afternoon Tea, tarot card readings and a pumpkin-carving contest."

Visitors can also indulge in other island traditions, like sampling fudge from its 13 fudge shops that make 10,000 pounds of fudge per day, taking in a gorgeous Mackinac Island sunset and attending the Grand Hotel's special Somewhere In Time Weekend, featuring events and costumes from the classic film starring Jane Seymour and Christopher Reeve.

Nichols Arboretum, Ann Arbor

With a huge variety of trees and lots of views and vistas to see them, Nichols Arboretum, or the Arb as it is commonly called, is a great place on the University of Michigan campus to walk, hike and relax, said Joe Mooney, marketing director.

"The diversity of trees gives you lots of different color palettes and every time you turn a corner there's another great fall view," he said. "Ann Arbor is called Tree Town and for good reason. There are a ton of trees. Visitors



PHOTO BY MICHELE YANGA COURTESY OF NICHOLS ARBORETUM

Pictured is a scene from Nichols Arboretum near the peony garden.



PHOTO BY TODDANDBRADREED.COM COURTESY OF PURE LUDINGTON

Consider visiting local sites while in the area viewing fall colors. Amber Elk Ranch is a unique spot in Mason County.

can also check out our other property, Matthaei Botanical Gardens, to see even more trees and wildlife. A walk through the UM central campus is also a great way

to see fall color since campus is loaded with trees."

Hiking and walking the Arb's plentiful trails are two of the best ways to see fall colors and your

dog can even accompany you if it is on a leash. Visitors can also rent a canoe or kayak from the nearby canoe livery and float down the Huron River to get a different perspective.

The Arb is free and open sunrise to sunset daily. Parking is limited near the Arb but there are parking options nearby that relatively short walk.

Lake St. Clair Metropark

Lake St. Clair Metropark is a peaceful, quiet place to enjoy the autumn season. Visitors can walk through the trees thanks to the park's numerous nature trails or boaters can take to the water for a unique view of the shoreline ablaze with autumn color.

Danielle Mauter, chief of marketing for Huron-Clinton Metroparks, said biking and paddling are other great viewing options. The park is chock-full of cottonwood trees and the 1,600-foot boardwalk overlooking the one-mile shoreline makes for a pleasant stroll on a sunny autumn day.

Whichever way you choose to explore, wear comfortable shoes and be on the lookout for diverse wildlife that is plentiful through-

out the park.

"It's a great place for birding," she said. There are more than 230 commonly-seen species at the 938-acre Lake St. Clair Metropark.

Travel tips

Michigan's spectacular fall color season brings all kinds of tourists and visitors to the Great Lakes state, mostly in September and October. Popular destinations can be quite crowded during peak color-viewing season, so local travel professionals provided these tips if you're planning a trip:

- Check on the colors. Weather, temperatures and a variety of other factors impact the peak viewing season. If in doubt, call the local chamber of commerce or visitor's center in the area you're planning to visit to make sure your timing is perfect.

- Book ahead. Peak colors are predicted throughout the state from late September to mid-October and lodging can fill up fast. Call now to book a reservation for the fall season, suggested Brandy Miller, executive director, Ludington Area Convention & Visitors Bureau.

- Take advantage of bargains. Tim Hygh, director of Mackinac Island Tourism Bureau, suggests visiting Mackinac Island from the end of September through the first half of October, a time when many hotels, resorts and bed & breakfasts offer special deals before the island prepares to hibernate for the winter.

- Travel mid-week. If your schedule allows it, said Miller, consider traveling mid-week for less crowds and more lodging choices.

- Seek expert advice. For travel advice or help putting together a fall trip, call the local chamber of commerce or visitor's center in the area you're planning to visit. The Ludington Area Convention & Visitors Bureau can be reached at (800) 542-4600 or visit PureLudington.com. Call the Mackinac Island Tourism Bureau at (906) 847-3783 or visit MackinacIsland.org. For more information about Lake St. Clair Metropark, visit Metroparks.com. For details about Nichols Arboretum, visit mbgna.umich.edu/nichols-arboretum. More on the Paint Creek Trail can be found at PaintCreek-Trail.org.

TRAVEL

5 ideas for a perfect Michigan fall getaway

By Jane Peterson
For MediaNews Group

Why does summer get all the glory?

Road trips and weekend getaways don't have to be limited to the warm weather. While the 90-degree temperatures may be in the rearview mirror for 2021, the fun doesn't have to end. Autumn is a great time to take in the stunning foliage, celebrate the fall harvest, tour Michigan's unique wineries, craft breweries and cideries and attend seasonal festivals.

As a bonus, you're also likely to find more comfortable temperatures, bigger travel bargains and smaller crowds.

So, what are you waiting for? Consider these ideas to jumpstart your planning:

1 TOUR MICHIGAN'S WINE COUNTRY

As one of the oldest wine-producing regions in the state, Old Mission Peninsula is home to numerous distinct and well-established wineries. Ever since its first winery was established in 1974, this region, located on the state's "little pinky" in north-west Lower Michigan, has embraced its rich grape-growing roots.

Old Mission Peninsula received its American Viticultural Areas designation in 1987. Ten wineries produce Chardonnay, Riesling, Pinot Grigio, Pinot noir, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Gewurztraminer in addition to sparkling wines and rare ice wines. They are 2 Lads Winery, Black Star Farms, Bowers Harbor Vineyards, Brys Estate Vineyard & Winery, Chateau Chantal, Chateau Grand Traverse, Hawthorne Vine-



PHOTO COURTESY OF PETOSKEYAREA.COM

Avalanche Mountain Preserve offers many scenic views in Boyne City.

yards, Mari Vineyards, Peninsula Cellars and Tabone Vineyards.

Today, the peninsula, which stretches north 19 miles into Lake Michigan's Grand Traverse Bay and is a mere three miles wide at its broadest point, draws people to its lush landscapes and award-winning wines.

"Old Mission Peninsula Wine Trail is the perfect wine destination for creating a day full of memories with friends or your next weekend retreat. Situated between the East and West Bays, the peninsula offers breathtaking views, beautiful beaches, a lighthouse and farm stands bursting with fresh fruit and vegetables of the season,"

said Sherri Campbell Fenton, managing owner of Black Star Farms in Suttons Bay.

Visitors can choose to spend a day touring the Old Mission Peninsula wineries, sampling wines and walking through vineyards or take some extra time to explore the Leelanau Peninsula, where 27 unique wine destinations are located along the Lake Michigan shoreline and West Grand Traverse Bay, also known as the renowned M-22 corridor for its stunning tree-lined route. Rural farms, farm markets, small lakes and amazing views dot this region of the state.

The Inn at Black Star Farms, said Campbell Fenton, features a rural winery and

equestrian estate that USA Today's Reader's Choice awarded Best Wine Country Hotel 2020. Black Star Farms, she said, has locations on both Old Mission and Leelanau peninsulas — the only winery with this distinction.

"The fall colors and views are incredible at both. In the fall, it is especially fun to visit wineries because of harvest activity. Black Star Farms produces our white wines on Old Mission, and our reds in Leelanau—so there is constant activity at both during the mid to latter part of September into early November," said Campbell Fenton.

2 ENJOY OKTOBERFEST

Frankenmuth, known as Michigan's Little Bavaria, is a wonderful place to visit any time of the year — and many do for chicken dinners, great shopping and scenic views of the Cass River. However, during autumn, this mid-Michigan haven transforms into something truly special.

"The fall is especially nice with all of the mums and the Oktoberfest vibe," said Jamie Furbus, president/CEO, Frankenmuth Convention & Visitors Bureau. "There is a scarecrow competition among businesses that compliments a weekend event making it very festive regardless of if you're shopping or enjoying some outdoor dining at many of the great eateries that feature heated patios."

She said September is one of the city's busier festival months with the Frankenmuth Autofest and Oktoberfest. Many people also visit Bronner's, the World's Large-



PHOTO COURTESY OF PETOSKEYAREA.COM

Visit a Petoskey area winery this fall.



PHOTO BY TWISTED TREES PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF BLACK STAR FARMS

Cyclists pedal past the grapevines at Black Star Farms.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PETOSKEYAREA.COM

Downtown Petoskey is ablaze with color in the fall.

Travel tips

- Remember, reservations — for everything from restaurants and lodging to some wineries — are key this time of the year, so make the appropriate plans.

- Check the Pure Michigan website for peak color time if interested in leaf peeping, but understand that no one has any control on the weather or the color changes. While color in one spot may be great, it may not have even started in another 15 miles away, said Dakins.

- Plan your dining experiences. Many dining establishments, including those in Frankenmuth, use OpenTable for reservations. With employee shortages across the entire state in the hospitality sector and higher demand, many may have longer than normal wait times this fall, said Furbus. “However, if you put your name on the list or get a reservation, you can enjoy downtown Frankenmuth while you’re waiting so it’s just good to plan accordingly,” she said. Takeout is another option when the weather is nice as visitors can take in more natural beauty by eating in a local park, said Dakins.

- Be prepared for crowds on the weekends, said Campbell Fenton. “If you can, travel up mid-week for more personal time visiting with locals or wine educators and mid-week lodging rates,” she said.

- Dress for the weather. Bring layers of clothing if you’re planning on outdoor fun as early morning and evening temps can greatly fluctuate.

Activities to consider

With the leaves falling and the temperatures dropping, fall ushers in an air of adventure. Consider these activities when planning your fall getaway:

- Walk in a vineyard. Although not allowed by all wineries, a stroll among the vines can be intoxicating in itself, said Sherri Campbell Fenton, managing owner of Black Star Farms in Suttons Bay. At Black Star Farms, there are more than three miles of hiking trails on its 160 acre winery estate—the longest of which takes visitors through a forest, past the cherry orchard and to the top of the estate vineyard.

- Set sail. Jamie Furbus, president/CEO, Frankenmuth Convention & Visitors Bureau, recommends a boat tour along the Cass River. The Bavarian Belle Riverboat features a narrated tour of the river on a two-level paddlewheel boat. The Frankenmuth Fun ships offer a wine and chocolate cruise option in smaller electric duffy boats. “Both tours frequently see many of our area’s most beautiful wildlife, including bald eagles. As the trees turn in the fall, these tours become even more beautiful,” she said. Visitors can also take a ride on the Pointer Boat out on Little Traverse Bay, said Diane Dakins, assistant director, Petoskey Area Visitors Bureau.

- Go for a bike ride. Several wineries and paths offer trails and biking adventures.

- Schedule a unique experience. The Inn at Black Star Farms offers an Ultimate Experience Package that includes a morning activity, cooking class with the estate chef and a wine education and tasting, followed by hospitality hour and a private chef dinner.

- Get paddling. For an interactive experience, rent a kayak from Frankenmuth Kayak Adventures and paddle the Cass River on a nice fall day.

- Take a stroll. Petoskey and surrounding towns are known for their quaint boutiques and shops, so have fun popping in and out of stores.

- Shop the season. Stop by local farm markets that will be bursting at the seams with colorful gourds, crunchy apples and pumpkins of all shapes and sizes, said Dakins.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FRANKENMUTH CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

Frankenmuth offers stunning views during autumn.

est Christmas store, to kickstart preparations for the holiday season.

Visitors who want to view the colorful fall foliage without traveling for hours will get an up-north feel in Frankenmuth and be rewarded with breathtaking views thanks to a new River Walk that Furbus said is a beautiful place for a stroll adjacent to downtown shopping and dining.

“You can also swing through the trees as the colors begin to change at the Frankenmuth Aerial Park,” she said.

3 EXPLORE PETOSKEY

If you’re looking for an easy getaway from Oakland and Macomb counties, the Petoskey area may be just the ticket. It’s about a four-hour drive, yet it will feel like a world away, said Diane Dakins, assistant director, Petoskey Area Visitors Bureau.

“Early fall (Labor Day through September) means guests can really expand their summer with many of the same activities available, but with less people around,” she said. “Shopping, family-owned farm markets, intimate wineries and a world of outdoor activities make the Petoskey Area, including the communities of Petoskey, Bay Harbor, Alanson, Boyne City/Boyne Falls and Harbor Springs, the perfect Pure Michigan Escape.”

Spotty color usually starts to appear in late September and peaks the second to third week of Octo-

ber offering visitors the perfect colorful backdrop as they explore the region.

Hikers and bicyclists will love Petoskey’s multiple trails that have varying degrees of difficulty so everyone can enjoy them. The trails are optimal for viewing fall colors in nature.

“Some people may be up for late season kayaking or hitting the trails on an ATV. Eighteen holes of world-class golf are even more special when the rates have dropped and the colors have increased,” said Dakins, “and for those who may want a bird’s eye view of the reds, yellows and oranges, we recommend a zipline adventure or scenic chairlift ride.”

4 DISCOVER HARBOR SPRINGS AND THE TUNNEL OF TREES

The iconic Tunnel of Trees is a pleasant scenic drive through M-119 in northern Michigan. It starts just outside of Petoskey in Harbor Springs and meanders for nearly 20 miles, ending at the historic Legs Inn, a restaurant serving up Polish specialties and Great Lakes whitefish in Cross Village.

“It is just a beautiful place to be,” said Bonnie P. Kulp, executive director of the Harbor Springs Area Chamber of Commerce. “There are warm, sunny days and cool, crisp nights in the autumn.”

The Tunnel of Trees is more than just a drive. There are plenty of scenic overlooks, cute shops, tasty restaurants and historical pit stops along the way for families to stretch their legs and explore.

Kulp said the winding road is stunning with its canopy of colorful trees in the fall, but there are also places to hike along the way. Little Traverse Conservancy is a hidden gem, she said, which offers hiking trails on protected lands along the route.

Sometimes, she said, a trail seems routine, but then all of a sudden, hikers will come to a vista with a stunning view of Lake Michigan.

Harbor Springs is a lot of fun, too. This October, the skeletons will return to town, dressed in themed costumes. Last year, 45 skeletons were placed around the community, but this year Kulp hopes to double that number.

"It's a wonderful part of the world," she said about Harbor Springs and the Tunnel of Trees. "Everyone should experience upper lower Michigan. All of our communities are uniquely different."

5 VISIT BEER CITY USA

While an ice cold blonde ale hits the spot on a hot summer day, nothing beats a sip of a stout during a crisp autumn afternoon in Grand Rapids, often referred to as Beer City USA.

"Beer City USA provides a wonderful trip experience any time of year, but fall

is perfect. Many of the local breweries will brew special fall beers and food specials and many have great outdoor spaces ideal for enjoying a fall day or evening," said Janet Korn, senior VP at Experience Grand Rapids.

To add to the fun, visitors can check out eight local breweries and become a Beer City Brewsader by downloading the app. In addition, many breweries are also participating with Craft Pass GR. Visitors checking in to six participating establishments are rewarded with a prize.

Overall, Grand Rapids is an ideal destination for a fall getaway because it offers the excitement of a city trip with nearby outdoor fall experiences, said Korn.

"The downtown offers a Riverwalk trail along the Grand River that runs through the downtown which offers fall colors along with the city's skyline. And the city is near by the rich agricultural farms and orchards. The farms provide a wonderful fall harvest of apples, pumpkins, and vegetables," she said.

Leaf peepers won't want to miss some spectacular opportunities in the Grand Rapids area, either. Visit an area park for nature hiking and color touring. A few of Korn's favorites are Fallasburg Park in Lowell, Millennium Park in Walker, Townsend Park in Cannonsburg and White Pine Park in Gowen.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FRANKENMUTH CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

There are many fun fall festivals to enjoy in Frankenmuth this time of the year.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PETOSKEYAREA.COM

The Boyne Highlands Chairlift is a unique way to view fall foliage.

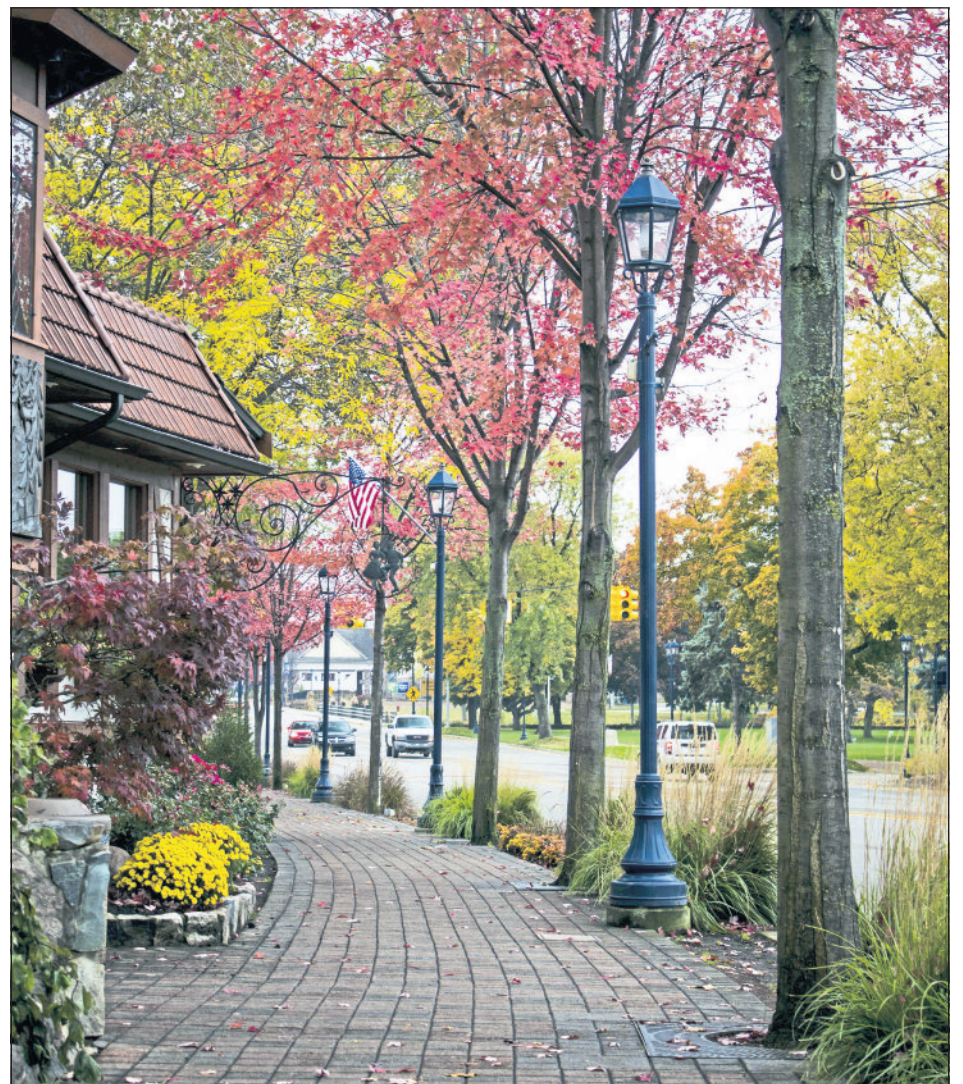


PHOTO COURTESY OF FRANKENMUTH CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

Enjoy breathtaking scenery in Frankenmuth.

ACTIVITIES

Apple orchards, cider mills part of Michigan's treasured fall traditions

By Jane Peterson
For MediaNews Group

There is nothing like autumn in Michigan. When the temperatures dip and the leaves start to change colors, we are ready for apple season.

Young or old, most of us can't resist watching cider being pressed or the temptation to bake an apple pie. That means some of us will be heading out to an apple orchard to pick those fruity gems right off the tree. For others, it's all about a visit

to a cider mill and that first taste of ice cold apple cider paired with a warm doughnut fresh out of the fryer.

For many Michiganders, it's an autumn tradition that they remember as a child and continue as they grow and start their own families.

The good news is that Michigan is home to more than 150 cider mills and most aren't very far from home. You'll often find that orchards are run by generations of families who have proudly served their com-

munities for decades.

Over the years, apple orchards and cider mills have been at the center of agri-tourism, adding a full slate of entertainment options like petting farms, pony rides, hayrides, straw mountains, duck ponds, playgrounds, corn mazes, jumping pillows and other activities. It's an ideal way to enjoy seasonal fun while connecting with agriculture, supporting local business and showing children where their food comes from.



Dozens of different varieties of apples are grown in Michigan.

PHOTO COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION



PHOTO BY JACKSON GILBERT — MEDIANEWS GROUP

Michigan is a top grower of the nation's apples, producing the third largest crop.



PHOTO BY JACKSON GILBERT — MEDIANEWS GROUP

Michigan is home to more than 150 cider mills.

These experiences provide families with high-quality activities they can enjoy together because there's not much that can beat a day on the farm or orchard on a sunny afternoon.

Visitors are often treated to an abundance of sights and smells as many cider mills and orchards also operate shops or bakeries stocked with fresh apple pies, apple butter, tarts, caramel apples, cakes, strudels, cobblers, applesauce, breads, muffins, cider slushies and more. Some produce hard cider or apple wine for adults to enjoy as well.

When visiting an apple orchard or cider mill, expect it to be busy, especially on weekends in September and October.

If crowds aren't your thing, consider visiting earlier in the day on the weekends or during the week.

No matter when you come, dress for the weather and conditions at the orchard. In Michigan, you never know if that's going to mean sunscreen and shorts, umbrellas and rain boots or hoodies and gloves, so be prepared. It's also a good idea to check the social media pages of the business you plan to visit as available produce and hours can change frequently throughout the season due to weather and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Visit michigan.org to find a cider mill or apple orchard near you, but here are some cider mills and orchards to consider planning a visit to this fall:

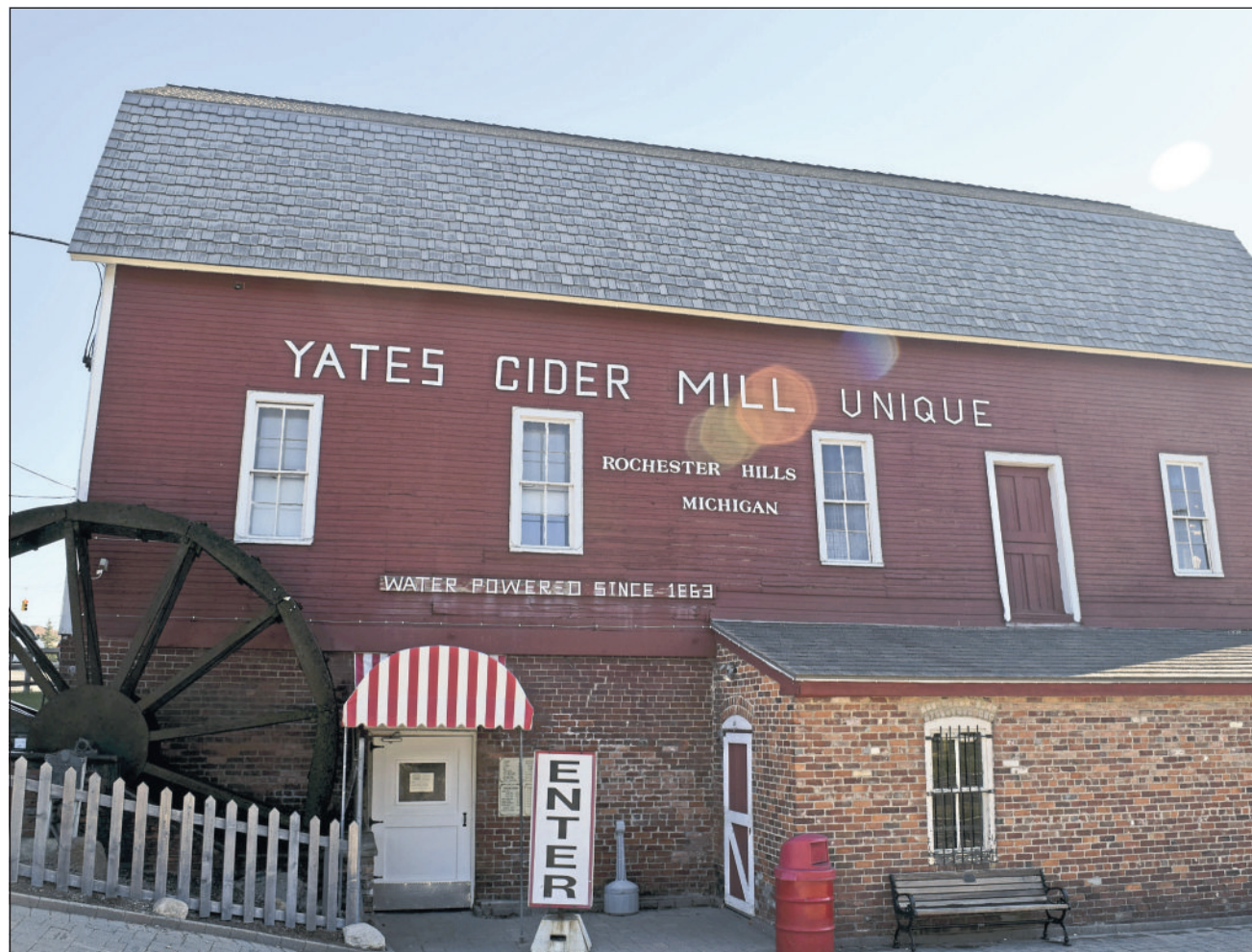
- Yates Cider Mill, Rochester Hills
- Paint Creek Cider Mill, Rochester
- Diehl's Orchard and Cider Mill, Holly
- Goodison Cider Mill, Rochester
- Long Family Orchard, Farm & Cider Mill, Commerce Township
- Rochester Cider Mill, Rochester
- Franklin Cider Mill, Bloomfield Hills
- Stony Creek Orchard & Cider Mill, Bruce Township
- Parmenter's Northville Cider Mill, Northville
- Westview Orchards & Winery, Washington
- Hy's Cider Mill, Bruce Township
- Blake's Orchard & Cider Mill, Armada
- Big Red Orchard, Washington

Apple facts

Michigan is a top grower of the nation's apples, producing the third largest crop. It's easy to see why: According to the Michigan Apple Committee, there are more than 14.9 apple trees in commercial production, covering 34,500 acres on 775 family-operated Michigan farms.

The state grows dozens of different varieties, including Braeburn, Cortland, Empire, Fuji, Gala, Ginger Gold, Golden Delicious, Honey-Crisp, Ida Red, Jonagold, Jonamac, Lodi, McIntosh, Northern Spy, Paula Red and Zestar among many others. Half of these apples will be sold fresh, ready to eat while the other half will be processed into other products like apple juice and applesauce.

For more information about Michigan apples, including the different varieties and how to use them, visit MichiganApples.com.



PHOTOS BY JACKSON GILBERT — MEDIANEWS GROUP

Yates Cider Mill is a longtime local favorite in southeast Michigan.



When visiting an apple orchard or cider mill, expect it to be busy, especially on weekends in September and October.

ACTIVITIES

5 museums that everyone should visit at least once



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GILMORE CAR MUSEUM

The Gilmore Car Museum has more than 400 cars on display.



PHOTO BY GARRY SCHMIDT COURTESY OF THE GILMORE CAR MUSEUM

The recreated 1930s Shell Station on the campus of the Gilmore Car Museum.

By Jane Peterson
For MediaNews Group

Michigan has many great assets it is known for around the world, like cars, Motown and the Great Lakes. The state's many museums preserve the artifacts related to these industries and share their histories.

From art museums, wildlife exhibitions, science museums, cultural institutions, children's museums and more, visiting a museum can be a fun, interesting and educational experience. Even if you think you know everything there is to know about the Great Lakes state, be sure to put these five museums on your Michigan bucket list.

Detroit Institute of Arts

The Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) has one of the largest and most significant art collections in the United States. With more than 65,000 artworks that date from the earliest civilizations to the present, the museum offers visitors an encounter with human creativity from all over the world.

"A hallmark of the DIA is the diversity of the collection. In addition to outstanding American, European, Modern and Contemporary, and Graphic art, the museum holds significant works of African, Asian, Native American, Oceanic, Islamic and Ancient art," said Communications Coordinator Laura Vestrand in an email. "In 2000, the DIA established the General Motors Center for African American Art as a curatorial department in order to broaden the museum's collection of African American art."

Founded in 1885, the museum covers 658,000 square feet that includes more than 100 galleries, a 1,150-seat auditorium, a 380-seat lecture/recital hall, an art reference library and a state-of-the-art conservation services laboratory. Originally located on Jefferson Avenue, it moved to its current site on Woodward Avenue in 1927 due to its rapidly expanding collection. Two wings were added in the 1960s and 1970s, and a major renovation and expansion that began in 1999 was completed in 2007.

Due to COVID-19, the DIA is requiring visitors to make advanced reservations. Members of Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties receive free admission thanks to their millage support. The museum hours have also changed to ensure proper cleaning procedures.

Exhibits this fall include Detroit Style: Car Design in the Motor City, 1950–2020, which closes Jan. 9, 2022 and Black Is Beautiful: The Photography of Kwame Brathwaite, which will be open Oct. 8, 2021-Jan. 16, 2022.

Detroit Style: Car Design in the Motor City, 1950–2020 demonstrates how Detroit designers have always led the



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE HENRY FORD

A 1909 Model T.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE HENRY FORD

F-150 assembly inside the Ford Rouge Factory Tour.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

The Detroit Institute of Arts has one of the largest and most significant art collections in the United States.

way in car design. Organized by the Detroit Institute of Arts, the exhibition highlights the artistry and influence of Detroit car designers working between 1950 and the present day, bringing together 12 coupes and sedans designed across that 70-year period to highlight significant achievements in style and technology. Design drawings allow visitors to imagine the creative and innovative processes that bring a vehicle from the drawing board to the street while a selection of paintings and sculptures highlight the conversation between the American art world and the car culture from the 1950s to the present day.

Black Is Beautiful: The Photography of Kwame Brathwaite features more than 40 large-scale color and black-and-white photographs by Kwame Brathwaite, whose work helped advance one of the most influential cultural movements of the 1960s, “Black Is Beautiful,” when black women and men turned to natural hairstyles and African-inspired clothing. This is the first major exhibition dedicated to Brathwaite, a vital figure of the second Harlem Renais-

sance. Inspired by activist and black nationalist Marcus Garvey’s writings, Brathwaite, along with his older brother, Elombe Brath, founded the African Jazz Arts Society and Studios (AJASS), a collective of artists, playwrights, designers, and dancers, and the Grandassa Models, a modeling agency for black women, founded to challenge white beauty standards.

In addition, the museum’s family programs are currently virtual although it does present special editions of Wimage LLC’s engaging and live online show for kids — Wimee’s Words. Wimee is a lovable robot that inspires kids to learn through creativity. Each DIA episode features interactive songs, wordplay and more inspired by exhibitions and works at the DIA. Audience members can interact directly with Wimee through the DIA’s Facebook or YouTube page through the chat options and suggestions become a part of the episode.

Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum

While many enjoy activities like swimming, fishing and boating on the Great

Lakes every day, the waters that surround the state definitely provide excellent recreational use. However, they are also a critical element in Michigan’s shipping industry that have proven to be quite dangerous — and deadly — in the past.

The Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum, located in Paradise on Whitefish Point, is a reminder of the perils of maritime transport on the Great Lakes, especially Lake Superior. Widely recognized as the most treacherous of the Great Lakes, Lake Superior is the site of numerous shipwrecks, including the sinking of the famous Edmund Fitzgerald, where 29 lives perished on Nov. 10, 1975 as the result of a fierce storm. Most shipwrecks on the Great Lakes are caused by weather events or collisions. According to the museum’s website, of the 550 known major shipwrecks in Lake Superior, at least 200 of them are near the Whitefish Point area, leading it often to be referred to as Lake Superior’s Shipwreck Coast.

The museum experience includes several artifacts recovered from Lake Superior shipwrecks, sharing stories about the crew,

vessels and what happened to the ships. Visitors are able to view the bell from the Edmund Fitzgerald as well as other historic structures on the campus, like the lightkeeper’s quarters.

The Henry Ford

The Henry Ford is a unique campus where inspiration and hands-on learning is emphasized. Its five distinct attractions — Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation, Greenfield Village, The Ford Rouge Factory Tour, The Henry Ford Giant Screen Experience and the Benson Ford Research Center — represent innovation, ingenuity and resourcefulness, focusing not only on how these breakthrough discoveries impacted Michigan, but America as a whole.

Greenfield Village is a must-see for school-aged children. Historic structures and living history farms bring the past alive, allowing them to explore Henry Ford’s childhood home and Thomas Edison’s Menlo Park laboratory. They have the opportunity to see firsthand what led to some of the greatest innovations that con-



A GTO in front of the Gilmore Car Museum's Heritage Center.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GILMORE CAR MUSEUM

tinue to impact how Americans live, work and innovate today.

The Henry Ford Archive of American Innovation holds some of the most significant objects and documents that further represent that can-do spirit including The Wright Brothers' Home & Bicycle Shop, Buckminster Fuller's Dymaxion House, one of Steve Jobs' and Steve Wozniak's 1976 Apple-I computers and Henry Ford's Quadricycle.

The Ford Rouge Factory Tour, a joint partnership between The Henry Ford and Ford Motor Company, provides an insider view at the birthplace of the Model A, the V-8, Mustang and the Thunderbird while taking a look at the future of manufacturing through the assembly of the F-150.

The Henry Ford also is home to unique festivals and events, including America's longest-running antique car show, Old Car Festival powered by Hagerty, which returns to Greenfield Village Sept. 11-12 and Hallowe'en in Greenfield Village, beginning Oct. 7.

This year's Old Car Festival celebrates Women at the Wheel, showcasing how early automobiles supported women in making inroads in American life.

Hallowe'en in Greenfield Village will continue its 2020 format, allowing guests to stroll the event at their own pace. New this year, programming will transition from a family-friendly harvest-themed atmosphere complete with Fall Flavor Weekend elements during daylight hours, to the traditional Hallowe'en atmosphere at night. The popular Hallowe'en Express, also introduced last year, is back for 2021. Public tickets go on sale on Sept. 8.

Holocaust Memorial Center

The Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus is a 55,000-square-foot museum and Library Archive in Farmington Hills that teaches powerful lessons about the Holocaust by showing examples of those who risked their lives to save others, sharing video testimonies and displaying artifacts such as a World War II-era boxcar and paintings. There's even a sapling from the tree located outside Anne Frank's hiding place window that is described in her diary.

Through Dec. 30, visitors can view the exhibition "The Girl in the Diary: Searching for Rywka from the 'Ghetto,'" presented in cooperation with the Galicia Jewish Museum, Kraków, Poland. The starting point for this exhibition is a diary written by Rywka Lipszyc, a teenager in the "Ghetto," between October 1943 and April 1944. The contents were the testament of a Jewish girl who lost her siblings and parents, but never lost hope despite moments of doubt. More than 60 years after its discovery in the liberated Auschwitz-Birkenau Camp, the diary traveled to the United States, where it was translated from Polish, supplemented with

"Objects like this are especially important as the years continue to pass. They remind us once again that despite the massive scope of the Holocaust, the individual victims were anything but faceless. Rywka's deeply personal reflections — especially regarding her faith — are poignant and moving."

— Derek Hastings, an associate professor of history at Oakland University, on the Holocaust Memorial Center exhibition

commentaries and published in book form.

The exhibition also includes unique historical artifacts and documents from museums in Poland, the United States, Israel, Germany and Belgium. Historical objects from the "Ghetto" and Chełmno (Kulmhof) Death Camp are on loan from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington and the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw, Poland. These provide a moving testament documenting the personal dimensions of the Holocaust.

"Objects like this are especially important as the years continue to pass," said Derek Hastings, an associate professor of history at Oakland University in a press release. "They remind us once again that despite the massive scope of the Holocaust, the individual victims were anything but faceless. Rywka's deeply personal reflections — especially regarding her faith — are poignant and moving."

Hastings will speak about the time in history when Rywka penned her diary on Sept. 1 in a lecture titled "A Girl Lost, A Diary Found: Life in the 'Ghetto.'" It will give an up-close and historical perspective on the brutal conditions of the "ghetto." The lecture begins at 7 p.m. at the Holocaust Memorial Center. The program also will be streamed live on the Holocaust Memorial Center website, www.holocaustcenter.org/.

With a focus on education, above the museum is a Library Archive that is an important resource for academics, the media and families researching their heritage. The Holocaust Memorial Center serves more than 100,000 Michiganders each year.

Gilmore Car Museum

A trip to the Gilmore Car Museum is worth the effort. As you're driving along in the countryside, seemingly out of nowhere the car museum and its pristine lawns,

white fencing and beautiful red barns pops up.

"While unassuming on the outside, the inside houses some of the best automotive history in the country. Everything here has a story to tell from the vintage structures to the cars and everything in between. It truly feels like taking a step back in time," said Emily Wiegand, marketing manager.

The Gilmore Car Museum has more than 400 cars on display and offers activities like a free, chauffeured ride through its 90-acre campus, a slot car track, and Pedalville, an area where young children can play and drive in vintage pedal cars. In addition, an Automotive Activity Center allows children to build and race their own cars down the track, see how well they do in the assembly line putting cars together, and take part in some fun and unique photo opportunities.

The Corvette exhibit The Greatest Generation will be on display in the main gallery through March 2022. It is a presentation of Chevrolet Corvettes from each generation from early fiberglass-bodied roadsters with 150-horsepower inline six-cylinder engines and two-speed transmissions, to today's fire-breathing, mid-engined C8 Corvettes with more than 600 horsepower and 200+ mile per hour top speeds.

Along with nearly two dozen of the rarest and most significant Corvettes in existence from all over the United States, some exceptional cars in the exhibit include:

- GM MOTORAMA presentation of two 1954 Corvette concept cars: Nomad Station Wagon and Corvair "dream cars"
- Incredibly rare 1969 Corvette L-88 Stingray Coupe with high-performance 427ci V8
- An "airborne" Joie Chitwood Auto Thrill Show 1958 Corvette
- Top secret Alpha Build C5 Corvette test car, in unrestored "as-tested" condition
- Six concept, styling and development cars never previously displayed together

The Gilmore Car Museum started in the early 1960s when Donald S. Gilmore began collecting vintage automobiles. Some of the first vehicles in his collection included a 1927 Ford Model T, a 1913 Rolls Royce, and a 1920 Pierce Arrow. Over the years that followed, Donald continued collecting some of the world's most renowned automobiles. To accommodate his collection, he acquired 90 acres of land in Hickory Corners. It was his wife Genevieve who had the idea of turning the collection into a museum. They established a nonprofit foundation and opened the museum to the public in 1966.

Today, the Gilmore Car Museum is North America's largest auto museum with more than 190,000 square feet of exhibit space. The museum's campus features numerous vintage structures including a restored and fully-functioning 1941 Silk City diner, a recreated 1930s Shell Station, seven on-site Partner Museums and more.

For more information

- The Detroit Institute of Arts is at 5200 Woodward Avenue in Detroit. Hours are 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday-Friday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Admission is \$14/adults; \$6/youth ages 6-17; and free for children age 5 and under. Residents of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties receive free admission thanks to their millage support. Learn more at dia.org.

- The Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum is located 18335 N. Whitefish Point Road in Paradise. It is open daily from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. through Oct. 31. Admission is \$14/adults; \$10/children 17 and under; and children under age 5 are free. There are also family ticketing options available. For more information, visit ShipwreckMuseum.com.

- The Henry Ford is located at 20900 Oakwood Blvd. in Dearborn. Tickets to all four of The Henry Ford's featured attractions, any combo of multiple attractions or a single attraction can be purchased at TheHenryFord.org. Be sure to review hours for each attraction, as times may vary.

- The Holocaust Memorial Center is located at 28123 Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills. Hours are 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday. Admission is \$8/adults; \$6/seniors age 62+ and college students; and \$5/students. For more information, visit holocaustcenter.org.

- The Gilmore Car Museum is located at 6865 W. Hickory Road in Hickory Corners. It is open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m.-6 p.m. weekends. Admission is \$16/adults; \$11/youth ages 11-17; and free for children ages 10 and under. Admission includes access to shows and meets and all museum buildings and exhibits. Parking is free. For details, visit GilmoreCarMuseum.org. Due to COVID-19, always call ahead to check current hours and attendance policies before making the trip as these may change depending on the current nature of the pandemic.



PHOTO COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

A nature walk can soothe the soul and provide a slice of quiet time in an otherwise busy season.

ACTIVITIES

10 free activities for you and your family this fall

By Jane Peterson
For MediaNews Group

There is nothing like the sights, sounds, tastes and smells during autumn in Michigan. People can spend a small fortune visiting apple orchards, pumpkin farms, cider mills, corn mazes, haunted houses and other attractions in September and October. These are definitely fantastic activities that shouldn't be missed, but if you're short on cash, you don't have to miss out on all the fall fun.

There are plenty of ways to enjoy the autumn weather and seasonal goodies without spending a lot of money. Consider these budget-friendly ideas:

"Baking and baked goods are so emotional," said Pam Turkin, a local baker who teaches baking skills online. "Whenever we work together in the kitchen you are building memories that can last for generations to come."

Turkin said that Michigan has the best apples in the country and there are a ton of varieties. She loves to explore different apples and mix them to create unique pies. She said when making an apple pie from scratch, it is important to make sure the butter is cold.

"Also, research your apples, make sure they are the right apples for your desired taste and texture," she said. "One last tip: I always toss my sliced apple in flour before adding them into my pie shell. It helps to thicken the juices."

Lisa Mulvenna, head of Children's and Teen Services at the Clinton-Macomb Public Library, said there is nothing better as the nights start getting cooler for the family to all get in their pjs and read sto-



PHOTO COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Kids will be more apt to help with leaf raking duty if they know there's a reward at the end of work time.

ries together.

"Especially with younger kids, I like to choose books that explore the world and

seasons books do that," she said. "Children absorb so much new information as they have new experi-

ences, even if those experiences are through books. This helps set them up for learning later in life."

A BONUS FOR BAKERS

Baking is a wonderful way to spend quality time with friends and family that doesn't have to cost a lot of money. Plus, the results can be absolutely delicious!

Whether you bake together in the same kitchen or get online and cook virtually together, preparing a seasonal treat provides plenty of time for conversation and laughter. Pam Turkin, a local baker who teaches baking skills online and is administrator of the Babka Brigade, a Facebook group where members can share their baking achievements and provide encouragement to others, shared this recipe for a tasty crumble that can be used to top all kinds of seasonal pies. She said it freezes great for future use, too.

CRUMBLE

6 Tbsp. butter
1/3 cup white sugar
1/4 cup brown sugar
2 cups flour

Melt the butter, add in both sugars and combine. Add in flour and work in until crumbled. Add generously to the top of any pie.

To begin a family story time, Mulvenna suggests picking a time that works for your family whether it's bedtime or after school, and sticking to it so it becomes routine. She said if you have an older child, take turns reading aloud because even big kids love to have stories still read to them and don't feel discouraged if a younger child is not sitting next to you while reading the story because they are still listening.

When choosing books, she said remember that you don't have to be serious. Use a funny voice when you read and laugh when parts are funny.

"Laughing is contagious and if your child sees you laughing, they will too," said Mulvenna.

If you don't have a home library or are looking for new books, visit your public library for new ideas and let your child pick out the

book whenever possible.

"Kids' favorite books are the ones that they have picked out themselves," said Mulvenna.

Here's a list of her reading suggestions for fall:

- "Apples and Pumpkins" by Anne Rockwell
- "Fall is Not Easy" by Marty Kelley
- "Fall Leaves Fall" by Zoe Hall
- "Fall Mixed Up" by Bob Raczka
- "In the Middle of Fall" by Kevin Henkes
- "Leaf Man" by Lois Ehlert
- "There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed Some Leaves" by Lucille Colandro
- "We're Going on a Leaf Hunt" by Steve Metzger

However you choose to fill this brief fall season, make sure to get out there to create memories and make the most of the season's sunny days before the snow starts to fall.



PHOTO COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Gamers can enhance their experience with various accessories designed to make gaming more comfortable and immersive.

ACTIVITIES

Accessories to enhance your gaming room

To say that gaming is popular would be a significant understatement. According to WePC, a firm that specializes in helping gamers build the best gaming rigs for their budgets, as of 2019 there were more than 2.7 billion gamers across the globe.

If that number raises an eyebrow, it should, as data from the U.S. Census Bureau indicates that the world population was right around 7.7 billion at the end of 2020. That means roughly 35% of the world population qualifies as gamers. Gamers come from all walks of life, but one thing many have in common is the desire to

make their gaming environments as enjoyable as possible. Various items can help gamers accomplish just that.

▪ **Chair.** In its “State of Online Gaming 2020” report, Lime-light Networks found that gamers spend an average of six hours and 20 minutes each week playing games. That amount of time playing requires a comfortable chair. Many modern gaming chairs, which resemble office chairs, combine comfort with functionality. For example, some chairs may come with lumbar or full-body support and also include Bluetooth capability and built-in

speakers.

▪ **Extra monitors.** Extra monitors can help gamers take their gaming to the next level. When configuring monitors, make sure they’re on sturdy surfaces and elevated slightly above eye level, which should reduce risk for neck strain.

▪ **Backlighting.** Television backlights are strips that can be easily affixed to the back of a gamer’s television and help reduce eye strain without adversely affecting the gaming experience. Many backlights come with an array of color options that can make gamers’ setups more impressive to

look at, even if gamers are more focused on the look of their favorite games than they are their immediate surroundings.

▪ **Gaming lapboard.** Many PC gamers play their favorite games while sitting at desks. A gaming lapboard can be ideal for gamers who want to periodically venture away from their desks while gaming. A gaming lapboard sits right on a gamer’s lap, serving as something of a portable desk for gamers who would rather play while sitting on a favorite armchair or couch.

▪ **Gaming backpack.** Gamers who are on the go can benefit from

a gaming backpack designed to protect their gear as they travel from place to place. Gaming backpacks may feature soft inner linings designed to hold and protect laptops. Extra compartments also provide places to store accessories like keyboards, headphones and portable speakers.

Gaming is incredibly popular across the globe. Gamers can enhance their experience with various accessories designed to make gaming more comfortable and immersive.

Story courtesy of Metro Creative Connection



Gaming is incredibly popular across the globe.

PHOTO COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

ACTIVITIES

How to plan a perfect game night

Shared experiences are ideal ways to make new friends or solidify established relationships. Bonds can be strengthened even further when those shared experiences include entertaining activities. This is a great reason for adults and families to incorporate routine game nights into their social calendars.

Game nights are nothing new. Perhaps your parents or grandparents gossiped over a few games of gin rummy or weekly poker gatherings? Before the widespread proliferation of digital video games, board games were a go-to way to have fun. Even now, game nights can provide the perfect way to slow down, have fun and get together with friends and family.

Hosting a game night can be an ideal way to have fun at home without turning on the television. The following are a few things to consider when planning a game night.

The number of people dictates which games can be played

How many people are invited to game night will determine the games that can be played. Game nights tend to be more successful with a guest between four and eight players. Keeping people engaged in a game can be more challenging if there are more than eight individuals, and most games are designed for a maximum of eight players.

Plan for finger foods

Game night etiquette typically dictates that hosts will provide refreshments. In lieu of a sit-down meal, offer finger foods, which are easier to manage while en-

gaged in game play. Pre-made party platters are an option if you want to spend more time entertaining and less time preparing food. Guests also can be encouraged to bring small dishes, such as sandwiches, chips and dips or other snacks.

Have a variety of games on hand

Let the course of the night be relatively fluid, even if you have a certain game in mind. If guests are not fans of a particular game, make sure you have others at the ready. Music or a sports game playing in the background also can be a way to keep guests entertained between turns.

When deciding on games, consider these criteria, courtesy of Game Night Gods, an online game night resource:

- The game should be easy to learn.
- The game should be relatively fast-moving.
- The game should pique interest and be strategic.

Get out of your comfort zones

Acting zany and engaging in games that push people out of their comfort zones can help guests get to know one another and laugh along the way. Games also are a perfect way to learn something new with little to no pressure. A game night can unite existing friends and help people interested in making new acquaintances find common ground. If in-person game nights are not doable, gather virtually through video chat applications.

Story courtesy of Metro Creative Connection



PHOTOS COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Games are a perfect way to learn something new with little to no pressure.



Game nights can provide the perfect way to slow down, have fun and get together with friends and family.



Before the widespread proliferation of digital video games, board games were a go-to way to have fun.

ACTIVITIES

Explore these relaxing hobbies

Stress is a part of many people's daily lives. A recent survey from the American Psychological Association found that 44% of Americans feel their stress levels have increased over the past five years. Children also are struggling, with almost a one-third reporting that they have experienced a health symptom associated with stress, such as stomach aches, trouble sleeping and headaches.

Calming activities that can tone down the body's stress responses are great ways to alleviate stress. Fall is an ideal time of the year to embrace relaxing activities as the school year picks up and life gets busy again following the slower-paced summertime. These hobbies and other interests can help tame stress by promoting calm.

- **Listen to and/or play music.** Music can be energizing or calming, depending on which music you choose. Researchers at Stanford University found that rhythmic music may have therapeutic effects for treating a range of neurological conditions, as it stimulates the brain and can perhaps change how it functions. Familiar melodies and gentle music can reduce the level of the stress hormone cortisol.

- **Gardening.** Gardening or doing some fall cleanup in your yard lets a person tend to living things while getting some fresh air. Both the sunlight and the activity itself can be soothing and have a positive effect on mood. A study from the *Journal of Health Psychology* found that gardening, like listening to music, lowers cortisol levels.

- **Grab a good book.** Taking the time to unwind and



PHOTO COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Taking the time to unwind and read can help ease tension in the muscles, lower one's heart rate and induce calm.

read can help ease tension in the muscles, lower one's heart rate and induce calm. Research from the consultancy Mindlab International at the University of Sussex found reading reduced stress levels by 68%.

- **Start painting or craft-**

ing. Engaging in a creative hobby sharpens the mind and improves focus. You may also want to try focusing emotions onto the canvas to help release tension. A 2014 study published in the *British Journal of Occupational Therapy* found

that 81.5% of respondents with depression reported feeling happy after knitting.

- **Take a dance class.** A form of art and music, dancing can promote well-being through exercise and expansion of creative ability. It also can be good for

the mind. A study from Swedish researchers that was published in the *Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine* found that a dancing intervention program, twice weekly for eight months, helped teenage girls struggling with

stress, anxiety, depression, and other problems. Many relaxing activities can tame stress, and these activities can be perfect for winding down after a busy fall day.

Story courtesy of Metro Creative Connection

FESTIVALS & EVENTS

Algonac Art Fair promises great art, food and views

By Jane Peterson
For MediaNews Group

The 49th annual Algonac Art Fair promises to be a spectacular event not to be missed. After cancelling last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, art lovers are ready to take in the sights of this year's fair, which will be held Sept. 4-5 along the boardwalk of the St. Clair River in Algonac.

"The Algonac Art Fair is a great option for Labor Day Weekend. It is a beautiful fair, and the setting couldn't be any better — watching the boats, listening to music and enjoying our beautiful boardwalk," said Julie Mytinger, treasurer/advertising.

This year's art fair will be held from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sept. 4 and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sept. 5 at Algonac City Park.

Visitors will marvel at the creativity and inspiration behind each one-of-a-kind piece they see. Fairgoers will be pleased to see returning favorites as well as some new artists added

to the mix this season. The Featured Artist for 2021 is Brady Harris, a popular local artist who paints waterways and boats that are reminiscent of days gone by. Sponsored by the Algonac Art Fair Committee, artists are judged, then awarded ribbons and cash prizes.

In addition to the fantastic art, the event also includes live entertainment, a car show, food and activities for children. Performing Saturday will be Jimmy Allen, Dynasty, the Blue Water Band and Lucas Music while the Blue Water Band and Lucas Music return for Sunday along with Ian Smith and the Greg River Band.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Algonac Air Fair has been a community tradition since 1972. For more information, visit algonacartfair.com.



This year's art fair will be held from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sept. 4 and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sept. 5 at Algonac City Park.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE ALGONAC ART FAIR COMMITTEE

In addition to the fantastic art, the event also includes live entertainment, a car show, food and activities for children.



The Algonac Art Fair is a beautiful fair set along a beautiful boardwalk.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE ALGONAC ART FAIR.

Rosco the Clown will entertain children from noon-5 p.m. both days with funny antics and cool balloon art. A LifeCare Martial Arts Demo is also scheduled from 2-3 p.m. Saturday.

The 7th annual Rumble on the Riverfront car show runs in conjunction with the art fair from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Sept. 4 at Algonac City Park. Dash plates are awarded to the first 100 cars and music, raffles and refreshments make the event festive and fun for all.

“We offer a variety of food and beverages including fudge, kettle corn, fancy nuts, ice cream and lemonade. After walking through the fair, there are many places to sit and watch the boats in the river, along with freighters. It is such a beautiful area,” said Mytinger.

The Algonac Art Fair is truly a community event. It has been organized and nurtured by volunteers in the community, including

artists, and today is one of Algonac’s premier events that people from all around look forward to attending each year. Its committee promotes artistic endeavors among the area’s youth by holding a Youth Art Fair at the Maritime Museum each summer. Winning art pieces from that event as well as the 2021 scholarship winner from Algonac High School will also be on display.

Proceeds from the art fair are used to benefit the community as scholarships are awarded, donations made to the local Goodfellow’s organization and local food pantry and Christmas gifts purchased for families in need.

Free shuttle service will run continuously during the art fair. Campers at Algonac State Park and boaters from the Algonac Harbour Club have easy access to the shuttle while other stops include West Marine and the Algonac/Clay Library.



Rosco the Clown will entertain children from noon-5 p.m. both days with funny antics and cool balloon art.

FESTIVALS & EVENTS



PHOTO COURTESY OF SOARING EAGLE ARTS, BEATS & EATS PRESENTED BY FLAGSTAR BANK

Soaring Eagle Arts, Beats & Eats presented by Flagstar Bank is a Labor Day tradition in Oakland County.

More than 190 musical acts to perform at Arts, Beats & Eats

By Jane Peterson
For MediaNews Group

Soaring Eagle Arts, Beats & Eats presented by Flagstar Bank is a Labor Day tradition in Oakland County. The four-day event is a celebration of everything related to art, music and cuisine in downtown Royal Oak. After a scaled-down year in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic,

this September Arts, Beats & Eats is back full force and thousands of hungry music and art enthusiasts can't wait for the fun to begin.

"We've had lots of positive buzz on social media," said Producer Jon Witz. "We have a strong music lineup."

Stone Temple Pilots will headline this year's schedule, which also includes more than 190 other local

and national musical acts. The rock band will take the stage at 10 p.m. on Sept. 3. Popular alternative rock band The Gin Blossoms will perform at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 6 followed by R&B and hip hop recording artist Bobby Brown at 8:30 p.m. Witz said Sunday, Sept. 5 is dedicated to country music lovers with performers Mac Watts on stage at 6:30 p.m. followed by Frank Ray at

7:30 p.m. and Justin Moore at 9 p.m.

In all, there are seven musical performance stages as well as a Kids Stage with engaging acts for the younger set. The House of Dank Performance Area will feature a wide range of genres from Celtic/folk, dueling pianos and indie selections to blues rock, break dancers and techno/dance performances.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Arts, Beats & Eats is an interactive festival filled with great food, good music and beautiful art. It runs from Sept. 3-6 in Royal Oak. Admission is free on Friday up until 5 p.m., after which the price is \$10. On Saturday, Sunday and Monday, admission is \$5 before 3 p.m. and \$10 after 3 p.m. Admission costs support the festival and 14 nonprofit partners. Children under age 3 are always free.

For parking and additional information, visit artsbeatseats.com.



PHOTO BY ROY J. AKERS — FOR MEDIANEWS GROUP

Festival organizers have taken additional safety precautions this year due to the ongoing pandemic, including placing hand sanitizing stations throughout the grounds and installing signage to encourage mask wearing and social distancing.



PHOTO BY ROY J. AKERS — FOR MEDIANEWS GROUP

New this year, Arts, Beats & Eats isn't requiring festival goers to purchase food and drink tickets.

The Beaumont Health Juried Fine Art Show will showcase more than 90 artists from across the nation. These artisans will display a wide variety of mediums, including digital art, ceramics, leather and fiber work, drawings, printmaking, glass, jewelry, photography, metal, painting, sculpture and more.

On the food side, Witz is excited about a number of new restaurants as well as returning eateries, representing a diverse selection of cultural offerings. More than 50 restaurants and food trucks are scheduled to attend, specializing in barbecue, seafood, soul food, Mexican, European, fried chicken, ice cream, baked goods, pizza, German, African, Polish, Hawaiian, Korean, Italian, burgers and more.

Among the newcomers are fine dining Royal Oak restaurant *Imagine*, which sources its fresh ingredients from local farmers markets; *La Feast*, a Royal Oak establishment serving Mediterranean fare; and *Niko's Greek Food Truck*. Crowds will also enjoy returning vendors like *Wahlburgers* and its fresh ground beef burgers and *Crepe Day Twah* food truck serving sweet and savory crepes.

New this year, Arts, Beats & Eats isn't requiring festival goers to purchase food and drink tickets. In order to avoid an additional touch point, people can use cash and credit at each concessionaire, paying as they go.

Last year, Arts, Beats & Eats was officially cancelled but continued to support the music, art and restaurant community with virtual and small-scale events.

Despite encouraging news with the vaccines, the pandemic remains a concern, so festival organizers have taken additional safety precautions this year, including placing hand sanitizing stations throughout the grounds and installing signage to encourage mask wearing and social distancing.

According to Witz, Arts, Beats & Eats has generated \$6 million for area nonprofit organizations since it first began in 1999 in its original Pontiac location. In 2010, the festival moved to Royal Oak, where it has continued to grow with hundreds of thousands attendees each Labor Day weekend, making a multi-million dollar impact on the region.

"It's a great opportunity to interact with small businesses and artists," said Witz. "No matter your music or art interest, you'll find something you like at Arts, Beats & Eats."



PHOTO BY ROY J. AKERS — FOR MEDIANEWS GROUP

The Beaumont Health Juried Fine Art Show will showcase more than 90 artists from across the nation.



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More than 50 restaurants and food trucks are scheduled to attend this year's event.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SOARING EAGLE ARTS, BEATS & EATS PRESENTED BY FLAGSTAR BANK

After a scaled-down year in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this September Arts, Beats & Eats is back full force.

FESTIVALS & EVENTS

Labor Day weekend filled with fun, family and festivals

By Jane Peterson

For MediaNews Group

The Labor Day holiday pretty much means three things to Michiganders: Cookouts, the Bridge Walk and, of course, local festivals. From Arts, Beats & Eats and the Michigan State Fair to the Romeo Peach Festival and Detroit Jazz Festival, there is plenty of fun to be had close to home this holiday weekend.

Some events are a last hurrah to summer, a way to transition into the more routine ways of fall when children return to the classroom and lazy days at the beach give way to more structured activities. Other events are designed as a kick-off of the fall season, embracing the cooler temperatures and cozy nights that are sure to come.

Most of these festivals and events are long-standing traditions in their communities, but Blake's inaugural Sunflower Festival is a new entry to this year's lineup, focusing on nature's "happy" flowers.

"These flowers are unique in that they have the ability to provide energy in the form of nourishment and vibrancy—attributes which mirror the sun and the energy provided by its heat and light," said Kaley Pittsley, director of customer experience.

Plus, who doesn't smile seeing a field of sunny sunflowers? Farm scene photo stations will be strategically placed throughout the fields of flowers and visitors can also wander through a sunflower maze, cut their own bouquet of sunflowers and assorted wildflowers and even enjoy homemade sunflower-inspired food, drinks and treats.

A highlight will be the open air artisan market



PHOTO COURTESY OF BLAKE FARMS

The sunflower field will take center stage during Blake's Sunflower Festival.

featuring 100 artisans and their handcrafted items. Visitors can take a train ride, purchase apples and other seasonal produce and enjoy a beer garden and live music. Other areas of the property will also be open for family fun, for a separate fee, including Lovey's Lavender Market, Blake's Tasting Room, Blake's Cider Mill and its famous Funland featuring an animal

petting farm, corn maze, straw mountain and numerous other fun activities.

Blake's Sunflower Festival will be open from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sept. 4-5 and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sept. 6. Pittsley suggests wearing comfortable shoes and dressing for the weather, whether that means bringing along a sunhat, umbrella or light jacket. Tickets, which are \$7/person (children ages

10 and under are free), can be purchased in advance online at blakefarms.com/event/blakes-sunflower-festival.

For many Michiganders, Labor Day weekend wouldn't be the same without the 63rd Annual Labor Day Bridge Walk. The bridge walk has been an annual event since 1958, with the exception of 2020. Be-

tween 25,000 and 30,000 people have participated in recent years. Based on the success of the 2018 and 2019 events, the Michigan Bridge Authority will again start the 2021 Annual Bridge Walk from both St. Ignace and Mackinaw City.

The Romeo Peach Festival is another treasured Labor Day tradition. Past year's events have included

a Peach Queen and Court, children's parade, pancake breakfast, parade, craft show, car show, 5K and 10K runs and walk and more. For schedule updates, visit RomeoPeachFestival.com.

Detroit may be known for its Motown sound, but it's the Detroit Jazz Festival that draws the crowds on Labor Day weekend. Produced by the Detroit Jazz Festival Foundation, an independent, nonprofit organization, the festival is the signature event for the foundation and the largest free jazz festival in the world. The festival is also a major tourist attraction for the City of Detroit, with 26% of its audience coming from out of state. For more information and details about this year's lineup, visit detroitjazzfest.org.

Of course, nothing says fun like a fair with its fried food, awesome rides, interactive exhibits and up close view of farm animals. Pack the family in the car and plan a trip to the Dickinson County Fair in Norway, Chippewa County Fair in Kinross Charter Township or the Michigan State Fair in Novi.

The Michigan State Fair presented by Ram Trucks is looking forward to celebrating Michigan's agriculture, traditions and community Sept. 2-6. This year visitors can expect an expanded Entertainment Pavilion featuring live music, a beer tent, and fair food. Don't forget to check out the Beginning of Life exhibit to visit baby animals, carnival midway and Rock-N-Roll K-9's Performance Team show. Of course, a trip to the Michigan State Fair isn't complete without seeing the Michigan Butter Cow, a sculpture made with hundreds of pounds of butter.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MICHIGAN STATE FAIR

Enjoy the carnival midway at the Michigan State Fair.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BLAKE FARMS

Blake's inaugural Sunflower Festival is a new entry to this year's lineup, focusing on nature's "happy" flowers.



PHOTO BY DAVID ANGELL — FOR MEDIANEWS GROUP

The Romeo Peach Festival is another treasured Labor Day tradition.



PHOTO BY DAVID ANGELL — FOR MEDIANEWS GROUP

When Labor Day rolls around on the calendar, there is no shortage of ideas for family fun.

Admission to the fair is \$8/adult or \$6/child for the fair only. Ultimate wristbands that include fair entry, unlimited carnival rides and circus performances are \$30/each. The fair is open Sept. 2-6. For more information, visit michiganstate-fairllc.com.

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If you're in the mood for fireworks, Highland's Red White & Blues Fireworks Festival features fireworks that will be launched at dusk on Sept. 4 from the field at the corner of M-59 and John Street. The festival, which runs from 4-11 p.m., also includes activities at the Save-a-Lot Plaza, 722 Highland Road in Highland. Enjoy children's activities, food and craft vendors and music.

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Grab some bargains courtesy of the Village of Rochester Hills Labor Day Weekend Sidewalk Sales Sept. 3-6. For families that enjoy movies, Movies in the Parks at Stony Creek Metropark on Sept. 4 will feature "Toy Story 4." Parking at the Bay-point Beach Overflow Lot opens at 6 p.m. and the movie begins at dusk. There is no cost but a Metroparks vehicle pass is required. Call (586) 781-4242 for more information.

One thing's for sure: When Labor Day rolls around on the calendar, there is no shortage of ideas for family fun, so get out there and enjoy!

Due to COVID-19, always call ahead to check current hours and attendance policies before making the trip as these may change depending on the current nature of the pandemic.

FUN LABOR DAY IDEAS

Other Labor Day events to consider are:

- The 28th Annual Copper Harbor Trails Fest, Sept. 3-5 in Copper Harbor. Enjoy races, music, beer and fun times
- The Torch Lake Labor Day Art & Craft Sept. 4-6 at Pioneer Park in Alden. The event features national and local artists with their paintings, art, yard art, sculptures, bath and body items, jewelry and more
- Muskegon's Labor Day Cars for Cancer Show and Cruise, Sept. 5-6 in Norton Shores. There will be a car show, car cruise and pancake breakfast.

FESTIVALS & EVENTS

Plenty of unique, handmade finds at Berkley Art Bash

By Jane Peterson
For MediaNews Group

Nearly 100 artists, artisans and makers will fill 12 Mile Road in Berkley from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sept. 11 for a popular art fair that feels more like a festive block party. The leisurely pace of the annual Berkley Art Bash invites attendees to pause and see what Berkley is all about and what its businesses have to offer residents and visitors alike.

"The chamber of commerce has been putting this anticipated event on for the past 18 years. It attracts 10,000 people to our downtown and truly benefits the businesses that are part of it," said art bash organizer and Berkley business owner April McCrumb.

The fun environment brings art to everyone with affordable handmade finds

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Come visit the Berkley Art Bash from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sept. 11. For more information, visit BerkleyArtBash.com.

from talented people in the community. Some fan favorites returning to this year's event are Sassy Olive stretchy headband, Andy Ozark and his robot sculptures made out of discarded mechanical pieces and Blue Turtle garden art. Many artists are local or from across Michigan and offer unique pieces that can't be found anywhere else, including colorful jewelry, carefully crafted stained glass, candles, signs, woodwork, soaps and more.

Focus will remain

squarely on the artists, especially since some of the elements the art bash has included in the past won't be making an appearance this year. Because of the COVID-19 health pandemic, organizers chose to skip live music and bounce houses. In addition, artist tents will be more spread out to encourage better flow of patrons.

Still, there will be plenty to see and do at the Berkley Art Bash. McCrumb said patrons will be able to enjoy sweet and savory treats and children can create cute crafts to take home with them.

"Plan to make an afternoon of it and enjoy lunch or dinner at one of many great restaurants," she suggested.

There will be plenty of free parking on the side streets off of 12 Mile Road.

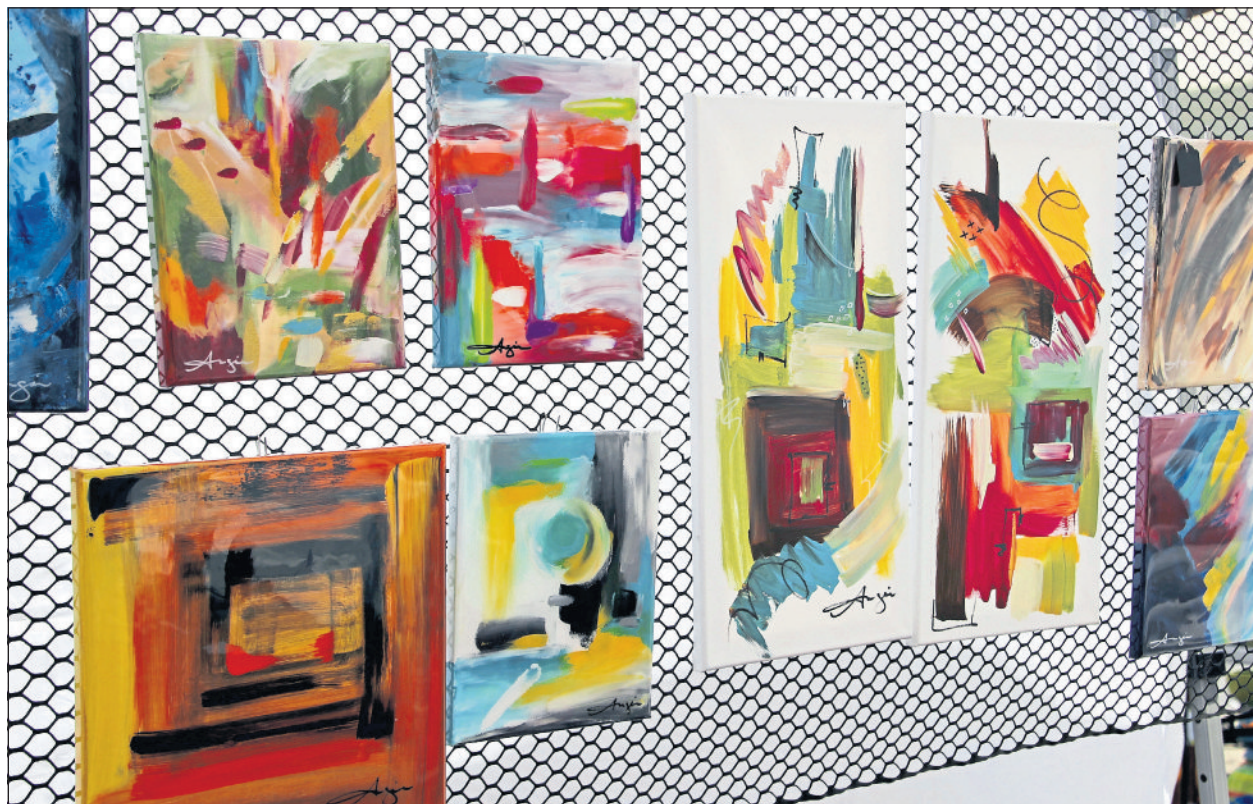


MEDIANEWS GROUP FILE PHOTOS

Artist tents will be more spread out this year to encourage better flow of patrons.



The leisurely pace of the annual Berkley Art Bash invites attendees to pause and see what Berkley is all about.

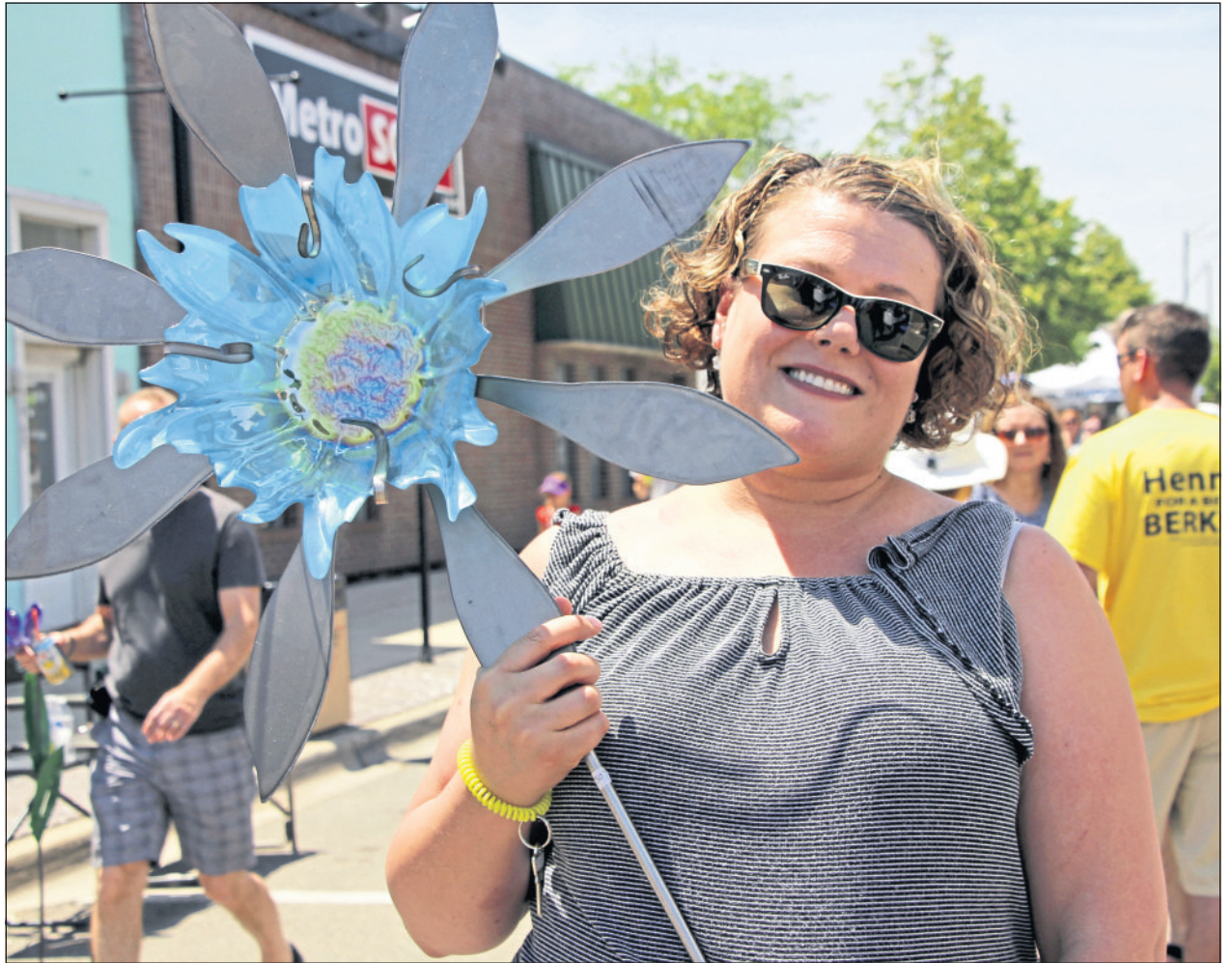


There will be plenty to see and do at the Berkley Art Bash this year.



MEDIANEWS GROUP FILE PHOTO

Many artists are local or from across Michigan and offer unique pieces that can't be found anywhere else, including colorful jewelry, carefully crafted stained glass, candles, signs, woodwork, soaps and more.



MEDIANEWS GROUP FILE PHOTO

Nearly 100 artists, artisans and makers will fill 12 Mile Road in Berkley for the 2021 Art Bash.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BERKLEY ART BASH

The Berkley Art Bash attracts 10,000 people to the downtown area each year.

Fall in Michigan events calendar

Editor's Note: Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, time and dates of events listed may change and some events have not yet been confirmed. Always call ahead to check current hours and attendance policies before making the trip.

September

SEPT. 1-30

▪ Harvest Days 2021 takes place Sunday-Friday from Sept. 1-30. The event provides ticket holders the opportunity to experience what it's like to be a club member at each of the more than 20 participating wineries along the Leelanau Peninsula Wine Trail. Each winery will have a slightly different and unique experience, as they are all geared towards their respective member program. The ticket holder will have access to all these benefits during one visit to each winery throughout September. Information: lpwines.com/harvest-days.

SEPT. 3-4

▪ The Boyne City Kiwanis Labor Day Weekend Car Show is Sept. 3-4 in Veteran's Memorial Park, Boyne City. The event includes a Friday Night Preview from 6-9 p.m. Sept. 3 and continues with a Saturday Car Show from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Sept. 4. Details: petoskeyarea.com/event-detail/boyne-city-kiwanis-labor-day-weekend-car-show.

SEPT. 4

▪ An Evening Kayak Tour is 5-6:30 p.m. Sept. 5 at Lake St. Clair Metropark in Harrison Township. Kayakers will enjoy a guided tour, through a cattail marsh habitat. Observe animals that are active during the later hours of the day, including many different bird species and see just why these habitats are so important. Previous kayak experience is recommended; kayaks available to rent or bring your own. Kayaks are an additional \$15 to rent and must be done by calling the Nature Center after registering for the program. Please note, a limited number of kayaks are available. This program is suitable for ages 10 and older. Pre-register by calling (586) 463-4332.

SEPT. 6

▪ The 14th annual Labor Day Virtual Bridge and Run will start at the Rochester Municipal Park Kiwanis Pavilion on Sept. 6. Participants can choose between either a one-mile walk or a 5K run on the Paint Creek Trail. Onsite registration starts at 8 a.m. and the event begins at 9 a.m. This is a free community event, with a suggested donation of \$5. Online registration opened in mid-

August. All attendees will receive a purple coneflower seed packet or Paint Creek Trail logo sticker while supplies last. Details: paintcreektrail.org/wordpress/events/labor-day-bridge-walk.

SEPT. 9

▪ Frankenmuth's Annual Food Truck Festival at Frankenmuth River Place Shops is set from 2-9 p.m. Sept. 9. The event will feature around 20 trucks from across Michigan with a variety of cuisine and desserts, live music, craft beer and non-alcoholic beverage sales, designated handicap parking area, and additional activities for families. Details: frankenmuth.org/events/funtown-chowdown-food-truck-festival.

SEPT. 10-12

▪ The 38th Annual Frankenmuth Auto Fest is a three-day event full of food, fun, music and cars Sept. 10-12 in Frankenmuth's Heritage Park. Friday night is the Big Block Party on Main Street. Enjoy show cars parked up and down Main Street. There will also be live bands playing different types of music all night long. Saturday nearly 2,500 cars register each year. Sunday ends with another car show, an award ceremony and a tribute to veterans. Cost is \$10 for one day pass, \$20 for three day pass. Information: frankenmuth.org/events/frankenmuth-auto-fest.

▪ The Mexican Heritage Association Fiesta Mexicana will be held Sept. 10-12 at Calder Plaza in Grand Rapids. Information: facebook.com/mexicanheritageassociation.

SEPT. 11

▪ See stunning fall colors and views of the Big Sable Point Lighthouse in Ludington during the Sable Points Lighthouse Keepers Association's Bus Day Sept. 11. Buses will run from noon-5 p.m. and there will be music at the lighthouse from 1-3 p.m. featuring Joe Irlan. Information: splka.org.

▪ A Hummingbird Hike is 10-11:30 a.m. Sept. 11 at Lake St. Clair Metropark in Harrison Township. Celebrate the fall migration of Ruby-throated Hummingbirds. Find out how far these tiny travelers migrate and how they prepare for the long journey south. Hike through a unique wetland habitat and discover why Lake St. Clair Metropark is known as an important "stop-over point" for birds during migration. If conditions are right, a federally licensed bird bander will be working to band and record data for songbirds. Cost is \$3/child, \$5/adult. This program is suitable for ages 7 and older.



MEDIANEWS GROUP FILE PHOTOS

Pumpkin decorating and pumpkin carving events for kids are held in many Michigan communities.



There is plenty of fall fun to be had in Michigan this season.

Pre-register by calling (586) 463-4332.

▪ The Harbor Springs Cycling Classic begins at 8 a.m. Sept. 11 at the Birchwood Inn in Harbor Springs. Cost is \$30/adults; \$20/children ages 6-12; and free for those age five and under. This classic ride is a favorite of cyclists from all over the state. There are three distance routes to choose from, refreshment stops and a lunch at the finish. The leisurely bike ride includes some of the most scenic roads of northern Michigan, such as M-119, locally known as Lake Shore Drive, better known as the "Tunnel of Trees." Information: petoskeyarea.com/event-detail/harbor-springs-cycling-classic-1.

SEPT. 16-19

▪ Frankenmuth Oktoberfest, a German festival with a large wooden dance floor, food, drinks and souvenirs, will be held Sept. 16-19 in the Harvey Kern Pavilion

in Heritage Park. Information: frankenmuth.org/events/frankenmuth-oktoberfest.

SEPT. 16-OCT. 3

▪ More than 1,000 artists from around the world will display their newly created works all over downtown Grand Rapids for visitors to see, absolutely free, in the hopes of earning cash prizes during ArtPrize Sept. 16-Oct. 3. Details: experiencegr.com/events/annual-events/artprize.

SEPT. 17-18

▪ Balloons Over Bay Harbor will take place from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sept. 17 and 18 at 4160 Main St., Bay Harbor. Bay Harbor will host some of the best pilots in the nation, who will compete in national festivals across the country and overseas. There will be flight activity throughout the weekend and the "night glows" taking place on the marina lawn panel scheduled for both Friday and Saturday evenings. Informa-

tion: BayHarbor.com.

SEPT. 17-19

▪ PLEIN AIR will feature artists creating urban landscapes as well as street musicians located throughout the downtown Grand Rapids area with a performance stage and artisan village on Calder Plaza Sept. 17-19. Details: facebook.com/FestivalGR.

SEPT. 18

▪ The 26th Annual Taste of Harbor Springs will be held from noon-3 p.m. Sept. 18 along the Harbor Springs Waterfront. Details: HarborSpringsChamber.com.

▪ The MSU Gran Fondo will be held from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Sept. 18. This is a fun, non-competitive cycling event to support Michigan State University College of Human Medicine's skin cancer awareness, prevention and research. Cyclists of all skill levels can join as individuals or teams and ride along scenic 8-10, 25, 40 or 80-mile routes from downtown Grand Rapids to Lake Michigan. Riders enjoy gourmet food stops along the route and celebrate at the Finish Line Festival with live music, craft brews and food trucks. Information: experiencegr.com/event/msu-gran-fondo/70998.

SEPT. 23-25

▪ Confluence is a three-day multi-sensory festival that explores what's possible when art, music, science and technology converge. Located throughout Calder Plaza in downtown Grand Rapids, the event welcomes

innovators, scientists, musicians and entrepreneurs to share their work via conversations, art takeovers and music showcases. The goal is to bring world-class thinkers and doers to Grand Rapids and to introduce the public to the remarkable high-tech innovation currently underway throughout the region. Details: confluencefest.com.

SEPT. 24

▪ The Final Friday Experience events take place on the last Friday of the month in downtown Ludington. The event features a late farmers market, food, live music and activities in the plaza. For details, visit downtownludington.org/Friday.

▪ The Inaugural Grand Rapids Bourbon Fest will be held from 5-11 p.m. Sept. 24 at Studio D2D, 401 Hall St. SW in Grand Rapids. The festival will feature 100+ whiskeys, 30+ store picks and a high-end bottle section. The majority of the list is bourbon but there will be a few non-bourbon options such as Rye whiskey, Tennessee whiskey and Japanese whiskey. In addition to the great whiskey selection, there will be a food truck, live music, vendors and more. Information: experiencegr.com/event/inaugural-grand-rapids-bourbon-fest/70866.

SEPT. 24-25

▪ Oktoberfest is Sept. 24-25 in downtown Ludington. Activities include a Chili Walk, entertainment tent, live music, lawn games, pub crawl games, pony rides, Baby Badger train rides and more. Details: downtownludington.org/oktoberfest.

▪ Oktoberfest Grand Rapids is Sept. 24-25 in Riverside Park, 2001 Monroe Avenue NW. The event will include live music, beer, food and more. Details: oktoberfestgr.com/events.

SEPT. 25

▪ The Boyne City Harvest Festival is scheduled from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Sept. 25 in downtown Boyne City. Enjoy the expanded Farmers and Crafters Market and shop at vendors and unique downtown shops. Stop for a bite to eat in one of the many restaurants. Listen to live music and enjoy attractions for kids of all ages. Details: boynecitymainstreet.com/main-street-events.

▪ The 2021 African American Arts & Music Festival will be held from noon-10 p.m. Sept. 25 in Studio Park, 123 Ionia Avenue SW in Grand Rapids. This event celebrates the contributions of African-American artists through the visual and performing arts, immersing the community in art, music, dance and food reflecting

the many facets of the city's diversity. Details: experiencegr.com/event/2021-african-american-arts-%26-music-festival/70924.

▪ **Get Outside Family Fun** is 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Sept. 25 at Lake St. Clair Metropark in Harrison Township. Enjoy an afternoon of fun in the great outdoors. Participate in guided nature hikes, a straw-bale maze, lawn games and more. There will also be snacks, scavenger hunts and nature-themed crafts to take home. This program is suitable for all ages. Details: (586) 463-4332.

▪ **Global Water Festival GR 2021** is 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Sept. 25 in Canal Street Park, 941 Monroe Avenue NW in Grand Rapids. This family-friendly event on the Grand River will feature Dragon Boat Races, free paddle boarding lessons, professional water jet demonstrations and a globally-themed variety of food vendors, artisan booths, live music and entertainment. A tent and social area for adult beverages will be available. Admission is free. Information: globalwaterfestgr.com.

SEPT. 25-26

▪ **Fall Festival weekend** is Sept. 25-26 at Lewis Adventure Farm & Zoo, 4180 West M-20 in New Era. Pick a pumpkin, get lost in a maze and make memories with friends and family. Information: visitlewisfarms.com or (231) 861-5730.

October

OCT. 1-2

▪ **Michigan's Big Country Fest** is Oct. 1-2 in the Harvey Kern Pavilion in Frankenmuth's Heritage Park. Information: frankenmuth.org/events/michigans-big-country-fest. Oct. 1-3

▪ **The Michigan Hemingway Society Fall Conference** is Oct. 1-3 at Terrace Inn and 1911 Restaurant in Bay View. The Michigan Hemingway Society hosts its annual in northern Michigan — a place that heavily influenced the author's writing. The event is open to the public for the full weekend. Details: michiganhemingsociety.org.

OCT. 1-31

▪ **The Leelanau Peninsula Wine Trail** hosts The Hunt for the Reds of October weekdays throughout the month of October. The event allows consumers to explore the many red wines available on the Leelanau Peninsula. Details: lpwines.com/the-hunt-for-reds-of-october.

OCT. 2-3

▪ **Fall Festival weekend** is Oct. 2-3 at Lewis Adventure Farm & Zoo, 4180 West M-20 in New Era. Pick a pumpkin, get lost in a maze and make memories with



MEDIANEWS GROUP FILE PHOTOS

Detroit Zoo Boo is a popular fall event for the whole Family. Zoo Boo was canceled in 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

friends and family. Information: visitlewisfarms.com or (231) 861-5730.

OCT. 9

▪ **DeutscheMarques Oktoberfest**, a fall color cruise-in and Oktoberfest festival for German vehicles, hosted by DeutscheMarques, will be held Oct. 9 at the Gilmore Car Museum in Hickory Corners. All car years are welcome. Details: GilmoreCarMuseum.org.

▪ **The Michigan Adventure Race, Ludington Edition** is Oct. 9 at Ludington State Park. Participants will canoe, bike and trek on foot, navigating by map and compass during either a 5-hour beginner/intermediate race or 10-hour experienced race, including a post-race meal, awards and raffle. There will also be a family-friendly event. Information: miadventurerace.com.

OCT. 9-10

▪ **Fall Festival weekend** is Oct. 9-10 at Lewis Adventure Farm & Zoo, 4180 West M-20 in New Era. Pick a pumpkin, get lost in a maze and make memories with friends and family. Information: visitlewisfarms.com or (231) 861-5730.

OCT. 15-17

▪ **Enjoy Grand Hotel's Annual History Weekend** with a unique look into the story behind the wood structure built in 1887. Learn about the history of Mackinac Island and Grand Hotel with Bob Tagatz, Grand Hotel's resident historian. Then, take part in a special history presentation. Plus, enjoy a welcome reception and breakfast and dinner daily. Details: GrandHotel.com.

OCT. 16-17

▪ **Fall Festival weekend** is Oct. 16-17 at Lewis Adventure Farm

& Zoo, 4180 West M-20 in New Era. Pick a pumpkin, get lost in a maze and make memories with friends and family. Information: visitlewisfarms.com or (231) 861-5730.

▪ **The Gilmore Fall Color Tour** will be held Oct. 16 at the Gilmore Car Museum in Hickory Corners. Enjoy one last drive through the beautiful Michigan countryside to enjoy the changing colors, ending with a Gilmore Cruise-In. Details: GilmoreCarMuseum.org.

▪ **Scarecrow Fest — Dog Weekend** is Oct. 16-17 with activities from noon-6 p.m., including arts and crafts, pumpkin painting, pumpkin bowling, Grandpa Tiny's Barrel Train Ride and the ever-popular pumpkin catapult, where participants can launch their own pumpkin high up in the air before it comes smashing down on a huge dump truck target. Dogs Weekend features the Rock N Roll K-9 performance team putting on a total of six shows near the Cass River Bar and Grill, a pet parade and doggie costume contest. Some activities have a small fee; there is no entry fee for the Scarecrow Fest event. Information: frankenmuth.org/events/scarecrow-fest-dog-weekend/.

OCT. 22-24

▪ **Celebrate Halloween** on Mackinac Island with the Great Turtle Trail Run, trick-or-treating for kids through downtown shops, and Halloween costume parties for adults throughout island establishments in the evening. Information: MackinacIsland.org.

▪ **Join Mackinac Island's Grand Hotel** in October for an interactive Murder Mystery Weekend presented by The Murder Mystery Company, founded in Michigan. The intrigue begins Friday

night and the crime is solved Sunday morning. The 2021 Murder Mystery Weekend Theme is "What happened in 1887?" Details: GrandHotel.com.

OCT. 23

▪ **The 25th anniversary** of the Great Turtle Half Marathon & 5.7 Run/Walk will be Oct. 23 on Mackinac Island. This is one of the most scenic trail events in the state with a capacity of 3,000 participants running and walking the inside trails of Mackinac Island. Participants will receive commemorative medals, unique Great Turtle swag, special Halloween events for adults and kids, end-of-season sales — plus the beauty of late fall on the Island. Details: runmackinac.com.

OCT. 23-24

▪ **Scarecrow Fest — Kids Weekend** is Oct. 23-24 with activities from noon-6 p.m., including arts and crafts, pumpkin painting, pumpkin bowling, Grandpa Tiny's Barrel Train Ride and the ever-popular pumpkin catapult, where participants can launch their own pumpkin high up in the air before it comes smashing down on a huge dump truck target. River Place Shops will also host a Kids Costume Parade on Oct. 24 throughout the complex from 5:30-6 p.m. starting at the Fest Platz. Kids who participate will receive a treat bag on a first-come, first-serve basis. Some activities have a small fee; there is no entry fee for the Scarecrow Fest event. Information: frankenmuth.org/events/scarecrow-fest-kids-weekend/.

▪ **Fall Festival weekend** is Oct. 23-24 at Lewis Adventure Farm & Zoo, 4180 West M-20 in New Era. Pick a pumpkin, get lost in a maze and make memories with friends and family. Information:



From pumpkin patches and hayrides to cider mills and festivals, there is so much to do in Michigan during fall.

visitlewisfarms.com or (231) 861-5730.

OCT. 24

▪ **Mackinac Island's Grand Hotel** welcomes Legacy Five back to the Grand stage on Oct. 24. When the Legendary Cathedral Quartet retired in December of 1999, Scott Fowler and Roger Bennett decided to continue the rich musical tradition of Southern Gospel Quartet singing. Legacy Five was organized and had their official debut in January 2000 in Atlanta. Details: GrandHotel.com.

OCT. 28-30

▪ **The Gilmore Car Museum's Spooktacular & Haunted Hunt** will be held Oct. 28-30 at the Gilmore Car Museum in Hickory Corners. Details: GilmoreCarMuseum.org.

OCT. 29-31

▪ **Somewhere in Time Weekend**, one of the most popular and special events during the Grand Hotel season, is set for Oct. 29-31. It's the perfect time for movie lovers who want to know the cinematic secrets of the timeless romantic classic, and a chance to visit with many people who played a role in the movie. The weekend includes a screening of the film, discussions of the movie's production process and appearances by returning cast and crew. Guests are invited to make a cameo appearance in costume at the cocktail receptions and costume promenade. Breakfast

and dinner are also included daily. Details: GrandHotel.com

OCT. 30

▪ **A Full Moon Dinner** will be held on Oct. 30 at Black Star Farms in Suttons Bay. This multi-course culinary experience will feature seasonal ingredients paired with the winery's award-winning wines. The evening begins with a welcoming reception featuring a specialty-themed craft cocktail. Then, the chef will share the inspiration behind the evening's menu during service and a winery representative will talk about the wine pairings with updates on new releases and vintages. Tickets: blackstarfarms.com/arcturos-dining-series/.

▪ **A Downtown Trick-or-Treat & Jack O'Lantern Walk** begins at 10 a.m. Oct. 30 in downtown Petoskey. Trick or Treat in downtown Petoskey and bring your already carved pumpkin down to Pennsylvania Park throughout the day Saturday for the Annual Jack O' Lantern Walk, where jack o' lanterns will be lit at dusk for participants to walk through and enjoy. Information: petoskey-downtown.com/events.

OCT. 30-31

▪ **Fall Festival weekend** is Oct. 30-31 at Lewis Adventure Farm & Zoo, 4180 West M-20 in New Era. Pick a pumpkin, get lost in a maze and make memories with friends and family. Information: visitlewisfarms.com or (231) 861-5730.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Exercise shouldn't be a chore. With the right gear, a great attitude, and a sense of adventure, getting fit this season can be fun for all involved.

FITNESS

4 ways to get fit with friends and family this fall

With mild temperatures likely to linger for awhile following an unseasonably warm summer, it's easy to find ways to stay fit in the fall without a gym. And while you may squeeze in a solo workout here and there, making fitness a social activity can keep participants motivated and accountable.

Fall can be a perfect time to establish new fitness routines with friends or family members. If you're new to finding workout buddies, here are four ways to get started:

1. Create your own fun run. In-person races may still be few and far between with the Delta Variant on the rise in some areas, however, it's still possible to enjoy the love of running. Map out a nature trail to hit once a week, sign up for virtual fun runs, or set up a series of running relay events in the neighborhood.

2. Try a new outdoor activity together. From hiking and biking to kayaking and rock climbing, there are various ways to experience healthy activities as a group while adhering to social distancing guidelines. This can also be a great time to offer younger children the opportunity to try something new!

3. Participate in an online class. Whether you enjoy Zumba classes or strength training programs, the online options to exercise are abundant these days. If you have several workout friends, set up a shared calendar and let everyone pick a class.

4. Lead by example. The next time you go for a run in the park or hit the court for a quick pick-up game, bring the kids. By highlighting the value of exercise and modeling proper form, you can help them gain the skills they need to be active for life. (Plus, the enthusiasm you have for your favorite hobby can be contagious!)

Exercise shouldn't be a chore. With the right gear, a great attitude, and a sense of adventure, getting fit this season can be fun for all involved!



Fall can be a perfect time to establish new fitness routines with friends or family members.

FITNESS

The game of golf can benefit your health



PHOTO COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Playing golf regularly can help you stay fit, improve muscle tone and endurance, and lose weight and body fat.

Golfers can rest assured that their time on the course is as healthy as it is fun. A recent experiment from Dr. Steve Otto, director of research and testing at The R&A, found that the average distance golfers walked during a round of 18 holes at the Royal County Down Golf Club in Northern Ireland was 6.6 miles. That's great news, as walking has been

linked to a host of health benefits, including improved cardiovascular fitness.

If you walk 18 holes three to five times a week, you'll get an optimal amount of endurance exercise for your heart, according to the Better Health Channel. If you pull or carry your own clubs, you'll burn even more calories each round and benefit even

more.

Playing golf regularly can help you stay fit, improve muscle tone and endurance, and lose weight and body fat.

Preventing golfing injuries

Compared to other sports, the overall risk of injury is low in golf. However, injuries still can and do occur as a result of overuse, incor-

rect technique, hitting the ground instead of the ball, or aggravation of a previous injury. Whether you are new to the sport entirely or are a seasoned player, take advantage of the following tips from the Better Health Channel to help avoid potential injuries:

- Warm up and stretch before playing, paying particular attention to your back, shoulders and

arms.

- Take lessons. Good technique is your best defense against injuries.

- Stand at least four club lengths away from a swinging club. Stand behind a swing in progress in your group.

- Use good equipment including shoes, socks, gloves and clothing.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Compared to other sports, the overall risk of injury is low in golf.

- Wear sun protection (clothing, hat, sunglasses and 30+ sunscreen) between September and April where heat and UV is at its highest.
- Drink water before, during and after a game.
- Know and practice the basic rules and etiquette of the game. Check that no one else is standing close by before you swing. Don't play until the group in front is out of the way. Shout 'fore' to warn of danger to players and spectators. Give way to ground staff and wait until they call you to play on.
- Lift and carry clubs safely and, when necessary, use a golf cart.
- In times of extreme heat, you may need to reconsider the playing conditions for further play. Consider playing in the early morning or twilight to avoid the hottest period of the day.

*Story courtesy of Metro Creative Connection/
Better Health Channel*



If you walk 18 holes three to five times a week, you'll get an optimal amount of endurance exercise for your heart.



PHOTO COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

The fall is an excellent time to recognize the many benefits of this healthy habit, as well as outfit yourself with everything you need to embrace your inner adventurer.

FITNESS

Tips to embrace the healthy habit of bicycling

Whether rediscovering the joy of riding a bike or taking a ride for the first time, cycling saw a boom during the pandemic, and many believe this trend is here to stay.

The fall is an excellent time to recognize the many benefits of this healthy habit, as well as outfit yourself with everything you need to embrace your inner adventurer. Huffy Bicycles is offering the following tips and insights to celebrate cycling.

Recognize the Benefits

Bicycling is a heart-healthy cardiovascular exercise that strengthens your lower body, yet is low-impact on joints, making it a terrific workout for adults of all ages, as well as kids and families. It's also great for the mind, and has been shown in studies to boost mood and improve cognitive function. But the benefits extend beyond the individual. Biking as a substitute for driving a car is good for the planet and your local community, cutting down on greenhouse gas emissions and air pollutants and improving traffic congestion.

Find Time to Bike

Changing or creating a single habit can have unexpected and wide-reaching effects. Even with a jam-packed schedule, you can establish the habit of biking by seamlessly incorporating it into your current routine. Here are a few ideas for doing so:

- Pick one to two days a week to commute to work by bike.

- Swap out sedentary activities you do to unwind with your family, such as watching TV, with bike



Bicycling is a heart-healthy cardiovascular exercise that strengthens your lower body, yet is low-impact on joints, making it a terrific workout for adults of all ages.

rides.

- Are weekends the time you spend connecting with friends? Suggest your next meet-up start with a bike ride.

- Whether you're a runner, swimmer or love working out at home, swap at least one workout a week with cycling. Cross training emphasizes different muscle groups and helps build out a more well-rounded fitness routine.

Go Electric

Electric bikes are great alternatives for all adult riders, no matter your level of experience. An e-bike helps you get back on a bike if it's been a while since your last ride, if you have physical limitations that make riding a standard bike difficult, or if you want to keep up on a ride with more experienced friends. The pedal-powered boost can also provide a less intense alterna-

tive to traditional biking, especially for those looking to commute without breaking a sweat. Whether it's to ease back into biking or you just want a cool bike, the e-bike offers the same joys as a conventional bike ride with a bit of a kick.

Get Equipped

Consider a one-stop brand, such as Huffy Bicycles to ensure each member of your family is equipped

with the bike that best meets their needs. Whether you're an adrenaline seeker in need of a tough, durable mountain or gravel bike, or a day tripper seeking a cruiser or comfort bike, Huffy offers a range of models in every style. They have tricycles, bicycles, scooters and battery-powered ride-ons, for kids of all ages, from those still experimenting with foot-to-floor and first-bike fun, to active kids seeking adven-

ture. Finally, if you're an RV-er or plan to regularly commute by bike, they also offer fun-to-ride electric bikes that make it easy to ride more miles and power up hills. For more information, visit huffy.com.

This year, pave the way for a healthy habit you and your family can enjoy together for years to come.

Story courtesy of StatePoint Media



PHOTOS COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Whether you're a seasoned RV enthusiast or a first-time camper, being prepared to hit the road is essential.

OUTDOORS

Must-have gear for your outdoor trips and adventures

If you're like many Americans, your family has spent the past year discovering — or rediscovering — the joys of vacationing in the great outdoors.

Nearly half of all campers either started camping for the first time in 2020 or restarted after having not camped in recent years, according to KOA's North American Camping Report. Plus, a recent GoRVing.com study conducted by Ipsos reveals RV ownership is at a record high, with 11.2 million American households owning an RV in 2021, up 62% over a 20-year period.

Whether you're a seasoned RV enthusiast or a first-time camper, being prepared to hit the road is essential. In time for the warmer months ahead, here are some tips to tackle all your excursions into the great outdoors with confidence.

Drinkable Water

For obvious reasons, ensuring you have a surplus of drinkable water for the duration of your trip needs to be a top priority. As you plan, take a cue from experts in preparedness, the U.S. Armed Forces, and put Scepter Military Water Cans on your "must-have" list of gear. Standard issue to the U.S. and Canadian Armed Forces, these easy-to-carry, virtually indestructible containers are up to the task of camping trips, sports expeditions, boating and more. They're also BPA-free to keep chemicals, odors and tastes out of your water, as well as corrosion- and fungus-resistant, so your drinking water is clean and safe. A quick-pour option makes it possible to empty up to 5 gallons of water in under seven seconds through the 4-inch wide cap open-



All your outdoor activities will be much more enjoyable when you have the confidence that comes with the right gear and preparation strategies.

ing. Or, you can set up the container for practical personal use at your campsite conveniently, thanks to an optional dispenser spout for when you need to fill cups or bottles.

Hassle-Free Refuels

Making the best use of

your supplies and avoiding waste is key to successful adventures, especially when you're far from creature comforts. However, fuel containers can be heavy and often bulky to use, increasing the likelihood of spills. Having a comfortable and

convenient way of refueling sporting equipment, recreation vehicles and other gear can make your travel prep and on-the-go fill-ups clean, fast and hassle-free. Check out durable, easy-to-manage fuel storage options, like those from Scepter SmartCon-

trol. The line-up is available in 1-, 2- and 5-gallon sizes for gasoline, diesel and kerosene, and come in different shapes and with different handle options to fit the application, for controllable flow and no-mess usage.

From rugged off-roading

escapades to serene nature hikes, all your outdoor activities will be much more enjoyable when you have the confidence that comes with the right gear and preparation strategies.

Story courtesy of StatePoint Media

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