

Summer 2020

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*A guide to the very best
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ANN HOSMAN WORDEN
Editor/Publisher
ann@buzzbookonline.com

VICKI SELHORST
Graphic Designer
graphics@buzzbookonline.com

MILTON & SUSAN DEANER
Benefactors

HONEY BEES

KATHY CHIRDON

JUDY LANG

LAURIE WURTH PRESSEL

JIM WORDEN

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



Yikes, I am NOT a fan of rollercoaster rides, and this COVID outbreak has certainly been one, wreaking havoc on us financially, spiritually and for many, physically.

Charles Darwin said, "It is not the strongest species that survives, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change." As I witnessed the pivoting of small businesses embracing the change with "open houses", I realized that YES, we are all anxious to greet and support each other.

Please embrace these beautiful businesses featured. Call for a perfect outfit, birthday present, mother's/father's day gift, hair supplies, wedding gown, jewelry making kit, garden decor, knitting project, carpet, furniture, books.....show your appreciation for their uniqueness. Look up and out — we are changing for the better! Bless you all.



HELP DURING TRYING TIMES

Due to these challenging times, we may not feel our best. The Wood County ADAMHS Board (pg.7) wants to help. **Dial 2-1-1 to be connected to mental health and addiction services.** Help is here.

SUNRISE, SUNSET: CATCH NATURE'S SHOW

By Laurie Pressel

Perrysburg photographer Norman Fairman has watched sunrises and sunsets all across the U.S., Europe, the Caribbean and Africa. "I am happy to say that Northwest Ohio stacks up very well as a place with amazing and awesome beginning and end of day light shows," he says.

A phenomenon called "light scattering" causes the special colors and patterns in the sky as the sun appears and disappears on the horizon every day. "Light rays strike dust and other particles and then bend the light to create different colors along the color spectrum," explains Norman.

According to Norman, the best conditions for spectacular sunrises and sunsets are on days that have some clouds in the sky, but not heavy cloud cover. On days with crystal clear skies with less densities of dust and other particles in the air, the sky may still be colorful at sunrise and sunset, but you won't see the patterns and layers that create dramatic visual displays, says Norman.



In Northwest Ohio, you can view and photograph beautiful sunrises and sunsets almost anywhere due to our flat landscape. However, Norman recommends seeking out places with topographical relief (cliffs, bluffs, manmade structures) or with backgrounds of urban skylines, woods, barns, farmhouses, animals grazing or running in farm fields, lakes, ponds, rivers, or streams.

"A common problem for viewers is impatience," says Norman. "Sunrises and sunsets can take some time to form, build to the height of their visual greatness and then actually take a good amount of time to diminish and eventually disappear completely." If you leave too soon, you might miss the most dynamic moment of the light show, he warns, which often happens a half an hour after the sun sets.

In a summer of uncertainty, when people are forced to slow down and spend more time at home, sunrise and sunset viewing can offer a time for reflection and peace. "Once you gain an appreciation for these gifts of nature, you simply can't get enough of the pure joy a good sunrise or sunset can bring to your eyes, heart and soul. They're particularly profound when you get to share them with others you love," says Norman.

A photographer since 1970, Norman Fairman specializes in nature, landscapes, and the creative use of natural light. You can view his amazing photographs and order prints at grassycreekphotography.com.

SHELTER IN PLACE WITH BOOKS

By Laurie Pressel

Make a reading list for Summer 2020—you'll need it for your sanity! While many favorite summer pastimes are being upended by the Covid-19 pandemic, reading is a pleasurable activity that's never required social distancing. Denise Phillips, owner of **Gathering Volumes** (pg. 50), the lovely independent bookstore in downtown Perrysburg, suggests adding these 10 must-reads to your list.

1. ***Simon the Fiddler* by Paulette Jiles.** An atmospheric story set in Texas at the end of the Civil War about an itinerant fiddle player, his ragtag band of musicians, and the charming Irish lass who steals his heart.
2. ***Network Effect* by Martha Walls.** When Murderbot's human associates are captured and another not-friend from its past requires urgent assistance, Murderbot must choose between inertia and drastic action.
3. ***Take Me Apart* by Sara Sligar.** A spellbinding novel of psychological suspense that follows a young archivist's obsession with her subject's mysterious death as it threatens to destroy her fragile grasp on sanity.
4. ***The Hilarious World of Depression* by John Moe.** A moving portrait of depression, from the host of the podcast *The Hilarious World of Depression*.
5. ***The Glass Hotel* by Emily St. John Mandel.** An exhilarating novel set at the glittering intersection of two seemingly disparate events—a massive Ponzi scheme collapse and the mysterious disappearance of a woman from a ship at sea.
6. ***Valentine* by Elizabeth Wetmore.** An astonishing debut novel that explores the lingering effects of a brutal crime on the women of one small Texas oil town in the 1970s.
7. ***The Southern Book Club's Guide to Slaying Vampires* by Grady Hendrix.** Steel Magnolias meets Dracula in this '90s-set horror novel about a women's book club that must do battle with a mysterious newcomer to their small Southern town, perfect for fans of Stephen King.
8. ***Darling Rose Gold* by Stephanie Wrobel.** A psychological thriller about an extremely twisted mother-daughter relationship.
9. ***28 Summers* by Elin Hilderbrand.** Once a year, Alice and Tom have met on Nantucket to rekindle the passionate love affair they began 28 years earlier. Each married to someone else, with busy lives and happy families, they've managed to keep their secret, and to keep their love alive, but could their 28th summer together be their last?
10. ***More Miracle Than Bird* by Alice Miller.** This sweeping debut novel charts the love story of two of literature's most fascinating characters: Georgie Hyde-Lees and her husband, W. B. Yeats.



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OUTDOOR FUN WITH KIDS

By Laurie Pressel

Introduce the little ones in your life to the simple fun you remember from your childhood. These old-fashioned activities are a joyful way to spend a summer afternoon!



Hopscotch – all you need is sidewalk chalk to draw a court on your driveway and a stone to toss.

Jump rope – if you can't remember your favorite chants, Google can refresh your memory and teach you new ones. "All in together girls, how do you like the weather girls, January, February, March, April"

Colored eggs – a group is required for this fun game that has players in the roles of Mother Hen, the Big Bad Wolf and Colored Eggs. The Big Bad Wolf tries to "guess" which egg color each player has picked, and when he or she guesses right, the player has to run to home base before the Wolf can tag him/her. Don't forget the required dialogue: "Knock, Knock." "Who's there?" "The Big Bad Wolf." What do you want?" Colored Eggs." "What Color?"

Leaf rubbings – embark on a nature walk through your neighborhood or a local park to gather leaves in a variety of shapes and sizes. Take them home, put them under paper, and use bright colored crayons to make artistic rubbings.

Water sprinkler – get ready for squeals of laughter because nothing beats the sheer delight of running through a sprinkler over and over again on a hot afternoon. Popsicles are a must afterwards.

Hammock swing – if you have a big tree and limb in your backyard, throw a rope over it and attach an oversized hammock chair. There are hours of fun to be had daydreaming or reading.

Gardening – plant a small patch of sunflowers, zinnias, pumpkins, carrots or green beans, just for your child or grandchild. Let him or her help with planting, watering, weeding and harvesting. It's a great way to teach an appreciation for nature and where our food comes from!

LOOKING TO GET "SOCIAL"

By Mary Tebeau, Chateau Tebeau Winery (see pg. 23)

A family friendly "hidden gem" in the words of our customers, where you can enjoy wine, cider, beer, food and live entertainment. This "hidden gem" will have all the safe guards in place and plenty of space both inside and out to enjoy a relaxing get away and continue to social distance.

STROLL THE LAVENDER

By Rebecca White-Schooner,
Schooner Farms (see pg. 34)

Looking for something new to do? Check out the Lavender Labyrinth & Lavender Covered Serpent Mound at Schooner Farms. Over 2000 beautiful lavender plants to stroll through. You'll be relaxed and rejuvenated.

Visit Schooner Farms to experience over 9 varieties of Lavender in our fields. U-Pick is also available.



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PICK THE PERFECT SUNGLASSES

By Laurie Pressel



Don't squint in the bright summer sun—reach for the shades! Sunglasses play a vital role in protecting your eyesight from damaging light rays, says Mary Nyitray, LDO, owner of Optical Arts, 2934 W. Central Ave., in Toledo.

"There are various price ranges on sunglasses, just like there are for cars, from the basic to the Cadillac," says Mary. So, what should you look for when buying sunglasses?

First, consider the material that houses the lenses, usually plastic or metal. Plastic frames can be basic or premium grade. Metals can range from cheap to the expensive titanium. Some quality frame companies use a combination of metals to create frames. "Keep in mind that the frame material needs to be compatible with your skin," says Mary. "Cheap eyewear can cause allergic reactions in some people."

If you buy metal-framed sunglasses, have an optician adjust them to your face. "A good quality metal frame will feel better on your face and will stay in place once adjusted," says Mary.

Design is also a big consideration when buying sunglasses. The latest styles can cost more. Often so-called "designer" frames with a celebrity name attached to them really haven't been designed by the celebrity, the manufacturer simply paid the celebrity for the use of his or her name, explains Mary. The best strategy is to pick sunglasses that appeal to your sense of style and look good on you.

Finally, make sure you get quality lenses in your sunglasses. The lenses in cheap drugstore sunglasses are often just stamped from plastic, and many people are uncomfortable with the distortions they cause. "Pay more and get ophthalmic quality ground/surfaced lenses," advises Mary.

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ACCESSORIZE!

By Pam Hamlin,
Trends on Main
(see pg. 38)

Accessories can provide you the pop of color for your outfit and be as special as a hidden gem. Check out our latest accessories by visiting trendsonmain.com.

MAKE THE MOST OF ELDERBERRIES

By Ann Worden, adapted with permission from the Wellness Mama

People have used elderberry for its health benefits for hundreds of years. Elderberry contains antioxidants, and many believe it can relieve colds, fight the flu, and boost the immune system. Here is how you can make elderberry syrup in your kitchen.

In a saucepan: bring to a boil 2/3 cup dried black elderberries or 1 1/3 cup fresh/frozen, 2T grated ginger, 1t cinnamon, 1/2 t ground cloves.

Simmer until it is reduced by almost half. Remove from heat, let it cool a bit. Mash the berries carefully using a flat side of a spoon.

Pour through a strainer into a glass jar or bowl and cool until lukewarm. Add 1 cup raw honey, stir well. Pour into a sterilized 16 oz bottle or jar and keep covered in the refrigerator.

Some sources recommend taking 1/2 - 1 t for children and 1/2 to 1T for adults during cold/flu season.



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Let us be grateful to people who make us happy: they are the gardeners who make our soul blossom.
 – Marcel Proust
 (Thanks Rebecca White-Schooner for this one.)

A CUP OF JOE FOR THE YARD

By Ashley Guercio,
 G-Force Property Maintenance & Landscaping
 (see pg. 11)

Did you know you can improve the health, beauty, and vitality of your garden with used coffee grounds? Coffee grounds naturally improves soil texture, acts as fertilizer, and repels critters, insects, and fungi.

Enjoy your growing season!!

WATER FEATURES IN A JIFFY!

By Judy Lang

If the sound of trickling water relaxes you, a solar-powered water feature may be a simple, inexpensive way to bring that ambiance to your outdoor space. With no plumbing or electricity required, a fountain can be created simply by placing a solar-powered water pump into a container, bird bath or small pond. There are many styles available and, as always, you should do a little homework before purchasing one. Ask these questions:

- How much sun is required to “power” the pump?
- Does the kit include a back-up battery that can store additional power for use on a gloomy day?
- Does the pump have adjustable solar panels that can be manipulated to catch the most rays?
- Does the pump work best in shallow water or deep water?
- Does the pump float on top of the water, or can it also be affixed to the bottom of the vessel?
- Are several different spray nozzles included so you can choose the height and style of spray that works best in your environment?
- Is a solar-powered fountain the best option for you, or would a more permanent installation work better?

As always, be sure to see what our knowledgeable, local experts recommend; visit oakparkwatergarden.com/water-gardening.



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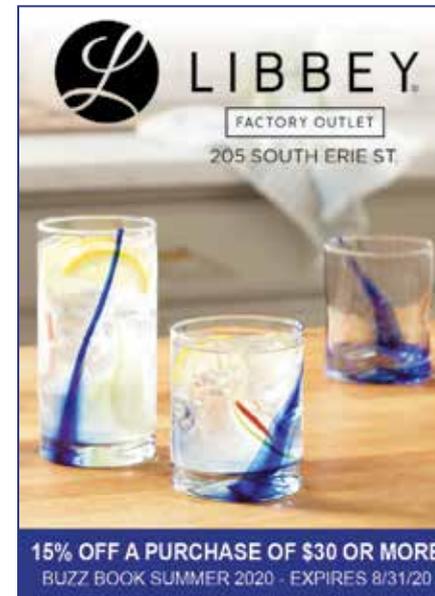
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SHOP WITH A PURPOSE AT FAIR TRADE STORES

By Judy Lang

In Maumee - Sit, Sip and Shop at Georgette's

Just as Georgette's Grounds and Gifts in Maumee (pg. 37) provides work opportunities for the developmentally disabled, it also gives a leg up to businesses from developing nations. By selling fair trade coffee in its popular café—and offering a curated array of fair trade products in its adjacent gift store—Georgette's is giving everyone the opportunity to thrive. Equally important, all proceeds are used for the programs of Sunshine Communities, in support of people with developmental disabilities.



In Archbold - Visit Ten Thousand Villages

The largest fair trade store in Northwest Ohio, Ten Thousand Villages (pg. 32) offers a unique selection of handmade global gifts, home decor, oriental rugs, jewelry and personal accessories that represent the diverse cultures of its artisan partners in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Middle East. They also offer a gift registry at tenthousandvillages.com/archbold.



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A SPECIAL TREAT AFTER A GREAT RIDE

By Kathy Barbee, Christy's Corner Café
(see pg. 31)

There's no better reward than a refreshing drink, Tofts® hand-dipped ice cream and some lunch after a long bike ride or walk on the North Coast Inland Trail—a real hidden gem in northwest Ohio. This paved bike trail starts in Elmore at Walter Ory Park and goes through some picturesque countryside for 28 miles to Bellevue. When you're finished on the trail, head on over to Christy's Corner Café in Elmore for your special treat.



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HIDDEN GEMS: PLACES TO ENCOUNTER NATURE

By Laurie Pressel

Tucked throughout Northwest Ohio are little-known places where you can soak up nature's beauty.

Roadside Ditch Garden, Delta

Take a country drive and see how one determined gardener has transformed a roadside ditch into a showstopping garden. Cheryl Metro, a retired nurse, spends hours every day tending her garden which extends more than 1,000 feet along the roadway and is bursting with color from perennial hibiscus, lilies, sunflowers, amaranth, phlox, hollyhocks, sunflowers, Russian sage and more. Fun garden ornaments are scattered throughout.
County Road 8-1 near County Road J in Fulton County

Daylily Farms, Findlay

Refresh your soul by strolling through row upon row of colorful daylilies at two peaceful daylily farms in Hancock County. The Perennial Plant Peddler and McClelland's Daylilies both grow and sell hundreds of named varieties. Visit in July when daylilies are at their peak. You'll probably end up taking a few home, and that's OK. Daylilies are easy to grow even if you don't have a green thumb.
Perennial Plant Peddler, 8755 Township Road 25, Findlay; McClelland's Daylily Farm, 9728 County Road 37, Findlay

Simpson Garden, Bowling Green

Explore a delightful, 11-acre urban garden in the heart of Bowling Green. The Simpson Garden highlights plants that grow well in Northwest Ohio, and contains many special areas including a Peace Garden, Healing Garden, Sculpture Garden and Sensory Garden. It's the perfect spot for unwinding and getting plant and landscaping ideas.
1291 Conneaut Ave., Bowling Green

Goll Woods State Nature Preserve, Archbold

Go back in time to the Black Swamp forests. Goll Woods in Fulton County is the least disturbed woodland in Northwest Ohio and features some of the largest trees in the state of Ohio. Encounter giant bur oaks, white oaks, chinquapin oaks, and cottonwoods dating 200-400 years old on the 321-acre preserve. Be prepared for mosquitoes if you visit in the summer.
26093 Country Road F, Archbold, Ohio

The 577 Foundation, Perrysburg

Situated alongside the Maumee River, this lovely estate/urban farm will remind you of the joy and importance of gardening and the natural world. Little ones will delight in the interactive children's garden that features sand to play in, tunnels, a tree house and vegetable garden.
577 East Front Street, Perrysburg

- continued next page

Schedel Arboretum & Gardens, Elmore

Filled with many exotic and unusual species of trees and over 10,000 annual plants, the Schedel Arboretum and Gardens, located along the banks of the Portage River, is a treasure trove for nature lovers. Discover a Japanese Garden, a Peony Garden, a Bonsai Display, a Tropical Garden and much more on the 17-acre garden estate.
19255 W. Portage River South Road, Elmore



The Norma Stark Memory Garden & Labyrinth, Perrysburg

Nestled in a residential neighborhood, this memorial garden and labyrinth is "a sanctuary for peace, prayer, meditation and healing." A labyrinth is a circular path that leads to the center, and walking a labyrinth is a meditative practice. The garden is open from dawn to dusk all year long.
345 W. Boundary Street, Perrysburg



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INA GARTEN'S CHOCOLATE CAKE

Photo and recipe credit to theviewfromgreatisland.com/ina-gartens-chocolate-cake-recipe

FOR THE CAKE

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Butter two 8-inch round cake pans and line the bottoms with parchment paper discs.
2. Whisk all the dry ingredients together well in a large bowl.
3. In a separate bowl, whisk together all the wet ingredients EXCEPT the coffee.
4. Slowly add the wet ingredients to the dry ingredients, mixing as you go. Once incorporated, add the hot coffee, and mix everything until there are no pockets of dry flour left. The batter will be very thin.
5. Divide the batter between the two cake pans. Bake 35 minutes until risen and a toothpick inserted into the center of the cake comes out without wet batter clinging to it.
6. Allow the cakes to partially cool in the pans, then turn out onto a cooling rack to completely cool before frosting. The cakes can be made a day or two ahead and kept in the refrigerator before frosting.

FOR THE FROSTING

1. Melt the chocolate in a double boiler or in the microwave using short bursts. Stir until smooth and set aside to cool slightly.
2. Beat the room temperature butter in the bowl of a stand mixer with the paddle attachment for a couple minutes until smooth and noticeably paler in color. Slowly add the powdered sugar, salt, and vanilla, beating on a low-medium speed until everything is smooth.
3. Whisk the sour cream into the partially cooled melted chocolate. This both cools down the chocolate and warms up the sour cream so that both are more-or-less room temperature before adding to the butter mixture.
4. Add the chocolate and sour cream mixture to the mixer bowl and beat on low speed until everything is smooth and combined.
5. If your frosting seems a little too loose, you can refrigerate it for 10-15 minutes to allow it to firm up a little bit. Then give it a good stir before frosting the cake.



Dry Ingredients

- 1 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 cups granulated sugar
- 3/4 cup cocoa powder
- 2 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp salt

Wet Ingredients

- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 2 large eggs
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 cup hot coffee

For the frosting

- 6 ounces semisweet chocolate, chopped
- 1 cup unsalted butter (2 sticks), room temperature
- 3 cups powdered sugar, sifted
- 1 pinch salt
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup sour cream

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TWO NEW BIKE PARKS PROMOTE SKILLS AND THRILLS!

By Judy Lang



Oak Openings FitPark Ride

“Roller Coaster,” “Teeter-Totter” and “Snake Ladder” are just three of the 21 obstacles now challenging cyclists at FitPark Ride in Oak Openings. Sponsored by Mercy Health to help riders of all ages develop new mountain bike skills, the course enables cyclists to navigate the types of obstacles they might encounter on an actual trail.

Where’s the best place to try out their new moves? Right at Oak Openings on the Beach Ridge Singletrack, where riders can take the easier route or bring on the fun of the obstacles. Both the FitPark and trail are located near the park entrance at 3520 Waterville-Swanton Road, Swanton. For information, go to metroparkstoledo.com.

Rudolph Bike Park

The highly-anticipated Rudolph Bike Park, scheduled to open in mid-July, will provide a basic bike training area for young kids, plus exciting new challenges for more experienced riders. Two “pump” tracks—that have built-in bumps, turns and berms—will enable intermediate and advanced mountain bike riders to enhance their skills (and get some thrills!) as they learn to navigate these more difficult courses.

Located just off of the Slippery Elm Trail in Rudolph, the park was developed as a joint effort between the Wood County Park District and Right Direction. It is free of charge and will be open daily. To learn more, go to wcparks.org.

TOLEDO’S 200 YEAR OLD GEM

By Holly Egan, Libbey Glass Factory Outlet (see pg. 11)



Libbey has been in business for over 200 years. However, many would consider our amazing outlet store a hidden gem. Nestled in downtown Toledo’s Warehouse District. You can expect your shopping experience to be like that of a treasure hunt. You’ll find yourself shopping amongst the largest selection of glassware and tabletop items you’ll ever see in one place. Save on hundreds of glassware, dinnerware, bakeware, home decor and gift items. You’ll be sure to find a gem of a gift for a loved one or yourself!

MASSAGE FOR PREVENTION

By Cindi Britt, Salvatore Capelli e Estetica Spa & Beauty (see pg. 47)

Massage can be preventative for many things that ail you. Migraines, knots, arthritis, etc. A warm massage table and our fabulous Massage Therapist Brian can help prepare you for the warmer weather.

CRAFTERS ‘KNIT’ THE ROAD FOR YARN CRAWL

By Kathy Chirdon

The I-75 Yarn Crawl is a multi-day event — this year it is Friday, July 31–Saturday, Aug. 8 — where knitters, crocheters and other fiber-arts enthusiasts travel from yarn shop to yarn shop to see what’s new for the busy 2020 fall season, experience the ambiance of each shop, get to know owners and staff, win prizes, and of course, engage in a little retail therapy. Many participating shops offer special sales, classes by guest artists, and other activities. Last year’s crawl included 59 shops along I-75 in Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky, and Tennessee.



Yarn expert and class instructor Christie Alter of Elmore’s **Crafty Needle Yarns & Threads** (pg. 31), says the shop looks forward to the event every year: “The crawl is a wonderful opportunity for knitters and crocheters to get a taste of what each shop has to offer. Shoppers buy a passport and collect a stamp at each shop they visit. These stamps count toward entries for various prizes. As a bonus, most shops offer something extra just for the crawl. At Crafty Needle we will have a trunk show featuring an indie dyer, a meet-and-greet with local podcasters 2 Purls in a Pod, and various freebies and giveaways. This is such an exciting event for both crawlers and participating shops!”

For more information, visit the crawl’s website (thei75yarncrawl.com/home) or Facebook page.

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TAKE A TRIP AROUND TOLEDO EXPRESS AIRPORT FOR SOME FUN AND UNIQUE EXPERIENCES

By Diane Giddens

Western Lucas County and Eastern Fulton county have many hidden gems. Just off turnpike exit 52, are several garden shops — **Oak Park Garden Center** (see pg. 55), with their Fairy Village, pond displays, and an abundance of plants and garden gifts, **Loch's Greenhouse** and **Sadowski's Greenhouse and Farm Stand**, featuring the best sweetcorn you will ever taste! Other shopping opportunities in the area include **Swan Creek Candle**, **C K Sweets Coffee and Bake Shop** — filled with baked treats and delicious coffee, **You-nique Bou-tique** for cute clothes and accessories, **Posh Pallet**, and **Benfield Wines**, featuring great wines, fun classes and live entertainment.

For outdoor adventure, the area is host to **Oak Openings Metropark**, open for hiking, camping, and enjoying nature's beauty. Mountain bike trails at **Oak Openings** and **Beach Ridge** area offer free entertainment for bikers of all ages and skill levels, as does the **Rails to Trails** corridor. The area's newest outdoor destination is the **Cannaley Treehouse Village**. Spend the night amongst the treetops at this new attraction.

No need to pack a lunch. The area has lots of places to enjoy a meal. From the usual fast-food fare, to **Charlie's Coney Island**, **The Mail Pouch Saloon**, and **Loma Linda's Mexican Restaurant**.



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Get a group together for a friendly challenge: work, church, scout, school, club, sorority/fraternity. The 3-hour trash pick-up challenge ends with a gathering, a t-shirt and an overview regarding watershed health. To participate, check out partnersforcleanstreams.org or call (419) 874-0727.

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HANDMADE JEWELRY TRENDS 2020

By Bonita Bead Boutique (see pg. 41)

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According to *Consumer Reports* chemist Rico dePaz, who tests laundry detergents, only 13 of the 40 tested, earned an Excellent score for removing sweat and odors. *Hint: try Tide Plus Ultra Stain Release (#1)*

Washing instructions:

- Wash immediately after a workout
- Turn them inside out
- Cold water, to prevent fading and shrinkage
- Wash without heavier fabrics, like jeans, that can wear down the fibers
- Don't use excess detergent
- Try an extra rinse
- Don't use fabric softener (clogs the fabric pores/prevents wicking)
- Air dry/lay flat to protect the shape and fit



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CHECK YOUR DECK!

By Judy Lang

According to Justus Lambrose of **Signature Decks** in Maumee, (pg. 29) a well-built wood deck can last 20 to 30 years. Premium, low-maintenance decking can extend that lifespan to 30 to 50 years. But, he cautions, it's imperative that homeowners inspect their structures annually to ensure they're safe.



"Look for split or decaying wood," he says. "Pay special attention to any areas that tend to remain damp or are regularly exposed to water. Check the flashing to make sure it is sound and firmly in place. It's also important to check for small holes in the wood, which may indicate insects," he adds.

Railings should be secure, and steps firmly in place, especially if a deck is high off of the ground. Make sure that the deck or stairs appear even, with no sagging, and that they don't sway or move when tested. Loose or corroded fasteners should be tightened or replaced.

For a detailed guide to deck safety and maintenance, download this 10-point checklist at nadra.org/deck-safety.

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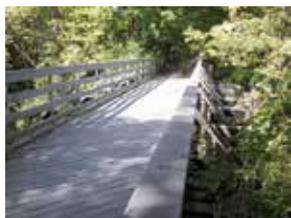
WHEEL AWAY THE HOURS ON BIKE TRAILS THIS SUMMER

By Judy Lang

Whether you're an experienced cyclist, or just getting started, northwest Ohio offers a bevy of bike trails that will accommodate short rides or full-day excursions. While many of the area parks feature great paths for biking, hiking and in-line skating, there also are a number of other bikeways that span the region with interesting stops along the way. Visit trailinks.com to learn more about these popular trails and where to access them.

North Coast Inland Trail

Elmore to Bellevue
- 28 miles total



Starting in Elmore near a restored railroad depot, this paved route travels through Fremont, crosses the Sandusky River via a spectacular bicycle/pedestrian bridge and then takes riders through Clyde and on to the western edge of Bellevue. Charming towns and shops, beautiful countryside and a side visit to the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library & Museums in Fremont offer plenty of opportunity for adventure along the way.

Slippery Elm Trail

Bowling Green to North Baltimore
- 13 miles total

This well-loved, paved trail runs south from Bowling Green through

Portage, the small town of Rudolph (where a bike park and bike skills training center will open in July) and ends in North Baltimore. Along the way you'll see lots of wildlife, native plants, the Rudolph Savanna and also, if you choose, you can take a brief side-trip to Cricket Frog Cove, a wildlife habitat with hiking trails

Blanchard River Greenway Bike Trail

Findlay
- 1.5 miles

This short but enjoyable asphalt trail runs along a former Baltimore & Ohio Railroad corridor on the riverfront in downtown Findlay. It primarily courses through woodlands, with river views and a bridge crossing over Howard Run. Spur trails lead to River Landings Park and Swale Park. The 15-mile Heritage Trail, which is mostly unpaved, connects to this trail and, though scenic, is recommended for hiking, not biking.

University/Parks Trail University of Toledo to Sylvania

- 6.3 miles total

A wide, paved trail that extends from the University of Toledo to King Road in Sylvania, this route is as popular during the week as it is on weekends. Despite its suburban setting, it runs primarily through a wooded corridor with the occasional meadow or wetlands along the way. In the east, the trail provides convenient access to the University of Toledo, while a spur trail north of Central Avenue leads to Wildwood Preserve Metropark, where an additional bike trail is available.

Richard D. Ruppert Rotary Trail

East Toledo
- 2.36 miles total



Circling International Park, the National Museum of the Great Lakes and the Col. James M. Schoonmaker Museum Ship, this paved trail runs along the east bank of the Maumee River between the Main Street bridge and Navarre Avenue. Make it a day!

Wabash Cannonball Trail

Lucas County to Fulton County
- 62.9 miles total

The Wabash Cannonball Trail is actually two trails in one: its North Fork runs east-west for 46 miles and its South Fork makes up the balance. The forks

converge in Maumee, near Fallen Timbers Battlefield National Historic Site, and then jackknife away on their separate routes. The east-west route goes through Oak Openings Preserve Metropark, then on to Wauseon and Montpelier. The 17-mile southern route goes through Whitehouse and Neapolis, ending in Liberty Center. Both routes feature beautiful scenery and charming towns; the trails are paved for many, but not all, sections of the routes.

Towpath Trail

Waterville to Grand Rapids
- 9.1 miles total

For much of its route, the Towpath Trail traces the Maumee River, paralleling US 24 from a distance. It traverses Farnsworth, Bend View and Providence Metroparks, as it follows the former Miami & Erie Canal. It is a peaceful, tree-lined route dotted with historical sites, such as the old mill in Grand Rapids. Riders love this trail but caution that the pathway has a crushed stone and dirt surface that can be a little rough in some places.

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HOW TO REOPEN YOUR SMALL BUSINESS DURING A PANDEMIC

By Amy Luck, RCO Law Labor & Employment Attorney (see ad pg. 24)

Whether you own a small business in Ohio or Michigan, the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting Stay Home Orders have surely affected your business operations. Knowing whether and how to reopen may be just as challenging. An effective reopening will require smart planning, compassion, and thinking through your approach regarding the matters below.

Determine the Rules that Apply

By now there are federal, state, and possibly local “rules” (e.g., statutes, regulations, guidelines, codes, or ordinances) that apply to your business’s operations. Determine which of these rules apply to your business by asking questions:

- What has the Governor ordered or recommended for businesses in my state?
- Are Stay Home Orders still in effect?
- Is your business subject to the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA). If so, do your employees qualify for paid leave or expanded family medical leave under the Act?
- Did you receive Paycheck Protection Program funds, and are you obligated to retain employees in order to be eligible for that loan to be forgiven?

Map out what you know and consult with legal counsel to confirm you’ve covered everything.

Take Care of Employees

- Evaluate your staff and decide who you need to come back now, according to business needs and the employees’ job functions.
- If your business has successfully shifted staff to working remotely, consider whether the business can continue to function with these employees working from home.
- Determine how you can operate safely – consider capacity, spacing and flow issues; arrange adequate cleaning processes; obtain masks for your employees; and develop a plan for handling a positive COVID-19 case.
- Create a plan for performing daily health symptom assessments and require employees to stay home if symptomatic.
- Talk to your employees! Your candid conversations with your employees will help demonstrate that you value them and are committed to being transparent about these challenges. With understanding, together you may arrive at great solutions.

Take Care of Customers

- Continue to offer curbside pick-up or delivery where possible. Use remote meeting methods to limit exposure to employees and customers.
- Display clear expectations for customers regarding building capacity levels, mask use, and aisle flow that allows for social distancing.
- Train employees to be consistent and courteous with customers to re-enforce new rules.
- Get creative with your services, menus, and goods offered. Meet customer needs and they will know your business is a safe refuge to which they can return.

We know this is an unprecedented time, but with understanding and creativity, your business can not only survive but thrive during this transition of reopening.



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DESIGNED FOR SUMMER

By Mandy Parker, Hutchison Fine Furniture (see pg. 38)

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- Maya Angelou



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HIDDEN GEM ON THE RIVER

By Katherine Stark, *Bella River Boutique* (see pg. 23)



We have actually been described as a “hidden gem tucked on River Road” by a customer. We opened late in 2019 to fill a void and we quickly became many ladies’ favorite new

place to browse. Our online store, *bellariverboutique.com*, features many of our designer pieces such as this “like new” Limited Edition Coach Purse which retailed for \$798, but can be bought for just \$200. What a GEM!

MAKE TIME FOR FRIENDS WITH TEA

By Karla & Karrie, *Summer Kitchen Interiors* (see pg. 8)



One of our little “gems” that you can share with your friends is our Tea-riffic Tea Boxes, choose one on our website or call us to customize your own! We also carry a wide variety of teas, jams and lovely tea pots, cups and saucers. thesummerkitchengirls.com

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5 NOSTALGIC FLOWERS TO ADD TO YOUR GARDEN

By Laurie Pressel

Some garden flowers transport you back to your grandmother's garden and simpler times. Add these old-fashioned beauties to your garden and enjoy wonderful cut-flower bouquets.



Peony: Fragrant and romantic, peonies require little care and faithfully return every spring for many decades. Plant in full sun where you intend them to stay, because they don't like to be moved. Even though peonies have a short bloom time, peony foliage stays green and lush all season. Try heirloom varieties: Festiva Maxima (1851) – white; Sarah Bernhardt (1906) – pink; or Karl Rosenfeld (1908) – magenta red. Or, try modern varieties Coral Charm – coral pink; or Bartzella – lemon yellow.

Lilac: A harbinger of spring, lilacs can perfume an entire room with their sweet fragrance. These shrubs thrive in Northwest Ohio's alkaline soil. They need full sun and average soil and can grow 5 to 15 feet tall and wide. Heirloom varieties often offer the best fragrance, although they are hard to find. If there is an old lilac shrub in your neighborhood that you admire, ask the owner if you can dig up a shoot to replant in your yard. Or, purchase these tried-and-true varieties: Beauty of Moscow (soft white with pinkish lavender flowers) or President Grevy (classic lavender).

Gladiolus: These exotic-looking, tall flowers with spiky leaves, are surprisingly easy to grow. Gladiolus are corms that you plant in the spring in full sun. Stagger your planting time to ensure a longer period of colorful flowers. The corms won't survive in the ground over the winter, so you will need to dig them up in the fall and store. Gladiolus make wonderful bouquets! You can buy gladiolus corms at a garden center or on-line, with many beautiful colors to choose from.

Snapdragon: A classic annual, snapdragons prefer cooler weather and bloom in late spring and early fall. Bright, colorful and easy to grow, they like full sun. Plant snapdragons from seed or purchase plants in the garden center. Snapdragons often reseed in the garden and come back the following spring. Try the Rocket Hybrid Mix (tall, mixed colors) or Black Prince (velvety red).

Zinnia: A bouquet of cheery zinnias can't help but make you smile. Zinnias are easy to grow, and come in small (12-18 inch) or large (3-5 feet) varieties. Plant them in full sun and they'll bloom from mid-summer until frost. You can plant seeds directly in the garden or purchase plants in the garden center. Try the tall varieties "State Fair Mix," "Queen Red Lime," and "Peppermint Stick."

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THE BENEFITS OF NATURE

By Jamie Sands, Wood County Parks
(see pg. 7)

Being in nature is healthy. Experience the benefits of being outside while entertaining your mind with the Wood County Park District free activities Nature Bingo and Nature Quest. Nature Quest is a self-guided multi-park scavenger hunt. Nature can also be appreciated from the comfort of your home with Park District video series Just Nature, Backyard Naturalist, and Skits for Snake. Check out what's new: wcparks.org/whats-new



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THE BEST BAKING TIPS FOR LAYER CAKES

Adapted from *The View at Great Island*

theviewfromgreatisland.com/my-best-baking-tips-for-layer-cake-recipes

Don't you love layer cakes? There's something about a soft moist cake combined with a thick creamy frosting that brings back sweet childhood memories. And even as we're all cutting back on sugar these days, there's a time and place for a great layer cake — what would a birthday be without one? Here are my baking tips for making yours the BEST!



Tip #1 – Room Temperature Ingredients

It's important to have your ingredients at room temperature when mixing up cake batter — when soft butter and sugar get beaten together, they form an emulsion that traps air, and that makes the most divine texture in cakes. Here are my little tricks for warming up your butter and eggs pronto:

- Soften paper-wrapped butter in the microwave for 5 seconds, on each of the four sides. BTW, you can also do this with cream cheese.
- Place cold eggs in a bowl of very warm tap water as you gather the rest of your ingredients, then use.

Tip #2 – Mixing

It is best to place the sugar/s in the bottom of your mixing bowl before adding the butter, so you won't get the buttery mess at the bottom.

Cream ingredients for a full 4-5 minutes, don't give up after 30 seconds. It helps to add extra air and volume into your batter, making it a better cake.

Tip #3 – Preparing Pans

Butter the whole pan, add a circle of parchment to the bottom! Eyeball pouring batter into the desired number of pans, a bit at a time, adjusting and spooning from one to another if needed.

Tip #4 – Temperature

Check the temperature of your oven with an oven thermometer — most ovens are off a bit and this needs to be correct. Adjust as needed. And unfortunately, oven thermometers need to be regularly replaced so keep a spare handy.

Tip #5 – Frosting Fixes

Oops, is your frosting too runny? Don't panic, put it in the refrigerator for 15-60 minutes to firm up then give it a good stir. Still too runny, add 1-2 T cornstarch.

Is it too lumpy or have too many air bubbles? Put it in the food processor for a minute for a silky-smooth texture.

Tip #6 – Chill Before Slicing

Use a long knife to cut and chill the cake one hour for smoother slicing. Clean your knife between cuts.

DISCOVER A RARE GARDEN

By Rod Noble, *Schedel Gardens* (see pg. 30)

Rare plant species, themed gardens, world class bonsai display, breathtaking annual flower beds all await at this 17-acre mecca for nature, history and gardening. A grove of dawn redwood trees, 30-foot waterfall, two stocked lakes and more. Discover this "hidden gem" in Elmore!

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BUCKWHEAT, NOT WHEAT

Did you know this interesting fact? Buckwheat is not actually related to wheat or any other grain. Used for Japanese soba noodles, Russian blinis and buckwheat pancakes for its distinctive nutty flavor, buckwheat does not contain gluten-forming proteins and it soaks up water faster than most flours. *Cook's Illustrated* suggests that you don't try to substitute it in equal amounts for white flour, but instead use 25% of the flour volume called for in a recipe.



Check out the healthy, whole grain Buckwheat Chocolate Chip Cookie recipe, courtesy of theviewfromgreatisland.com/buckwheat-chocolate-chip-cookies.

BUCKWHEAT CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, just barely softened
- 1/4 cup white sugar
- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 1 Tbsp. vanilla extract
- 1 egg
- 1 cup buckwheat flour
- 3/4 cup white whole wheat flour
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 1/4 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. cornstarch
- 1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips

Instructions

1. Set oven to 350F
2. Beat the butter and sugars for several minutes until fluffy.
3. Add in the vanilla and egg, beat well.
4. Whisk the above dry ingredients together, then add to the wet ingredients.
5. Mix well, and fold in the chocolate chips.
6. Drop by medium sized scoops onto a silpat or parchment lined baking sheet.
7. Bake for about 10 minutes. The cookies will appear slightly underdone. Let them cool on the baking sheet for a few minutes, then transfer to a rack.

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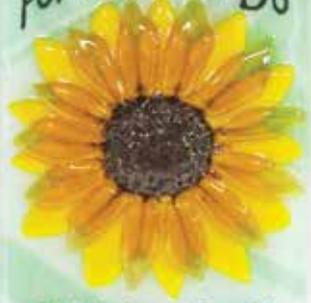




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When a Cardinal appears in your yard, it is a visitor from Heaven

LIGHTHOUSE SOCIETY BURNISHES LOCAL TREASURE

By Kathy Chirdon



Lighthouses have been a part of our nation from its inception, and most have stood steadfast through world wars, epidemics, economic booms and depressions, and all manner of societal change. The Great Lakes have more than 400 of the beacons in place, with close to 70 on Lake Erie alone.

The Toledo Harbor Lighthouse, which marks the entrance to the busy Toledo Shipping Channel, is located about 5 miles out in the lake from the beach at Maumee Bay State Park. The chunky, steel-framed Romanesque structure — 4,000 sq. ft. in area and 85 ft. high — is architecturally unique among lighthouses. Its original cost was \$152,000, and its light was illuminated for the first time in 1904. The lighthouse was initially operated under the U.S. Lighthouse Service and had living quarters for the chief, assistant keeper, and their families, along with a commissary and general store. According to Sandy Bihn, president and founder of the Toledo Lighthouse Preservation Society, “People lived in the lighthouse until the mid-1960s, when the light was automated.” Today the society, which seeks to preserve, restore and provide public outreach and access, owns the lighthouse, and the Coast Guard maintains the light. The beautiful original Fresnel lens is displayed at the Maumee Bay State Park nature center.

Ordinarily, the society sponsors an annual Waterfront Festival at Maumee Bay State Park to benefit its restoration efforts — this year’s dates are July 11 and 12. The festival attracts about 75 regional artists and crafters, many offering nautical-themed items, and features live entertainment, kids activities, storytelling and

educational talks, food (seafood, barbecue, ice cream and more), a silent auction, and boat rides around the lighthouse. For up-to-date information about the festival, visit toledolighthousefestival.com.

To read more about the history of the lighthouse and ongoing restoration efforts, visit toledoharborlighthouse.org.



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EMBRACE YOUR OUTDOOR SPACE

By Judy Lang

This summer, more than most, you may be looking for ways to make your outdoor spaces feel more inviting. Whether you're tight on cash or can invest some money for improvements, these professional design tips will set you in the right direction. Our thanks to Janet Hanley, Design Consultant for **Ethan Allen** at Levis Commons (pg. 45), for these ideas:

- Think of your patio, deck or porch as an extension of your indoor space. Consider what type of atmosphere you wish to create—calm, cozy, cheery, natural?
- Use classic furniture with simple lines and comfortable cushions. Then brighten things up with trendy pillows or perhaps an unusual accent table.
- Arrange your seating for easy conversations and connect it all by placing it on an outdoor rug.
- Remember to include some elements of nature such as water, wind and fire. Consider a fountain feature, some calming wind chimes, lanterns or a fire table.
- And don't forget lighting! String lights are all the rage right now, as are the many varieties of solar lighting. If you want to take it one step farther, install deck lighting, sconces or even a weatherproof chandelier. If your space is protected, consider an interesting lamp.
- Accent a wall or two with a painted trellis or bamboo screening. Or, hang a fade-resistant curtain for additional ambiance or privacy.
- Last but not least, be sure to have pots or other interesting containers filled with colorful flowers or lush greens.



RAIN BARREL & COMPOST BIN

The Lucas Soil & Water Conservation District is selling rain barrels and compost bins for \$50 each. The rain barrel holds 55 gallons, and diverters are available for \$25. The compost bin holds 77.8 gallons and has a twist lock lid.

Available at the Lucas Soil & Water Conservation District
130-A W. Dudley Street, Maumee | 419.893.1966 | lucasswcd.org

WALKING WILL SOOTHE THE SOUL

By Norma Stark
Memory Garden & Labyrinth (pg. 35)

Take time to relax with a visit to the Norma Stark Memory Garden and Labyrinth. A walk on the labyrinth has a calming effect. Stop to enjoy the variety of sun and shade plants in the back yard as well as around the side and front of the house.

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f i s t d

PEACH BUTTER

Adapted from *The View at Great Island* (theviewfromgreatisland.com/peach-butter)

Yield: makes 1 pint +

Easy Peach Butter — you'll kick yourself if you don't make a big batch of silky Peach Butter before the peaches are all gone for the year! This small batch fruit spread is sheer heaven on a piece of toast, a warm biscuit, or just by the spoonful!

Ingredients

- 4 lbs fresh peaches (about 10 good sized peaches)
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup water (if your peaches are juicy omit water)
- 2 Tbsp fresh lemon juice

Instructions

1. Peel and rough chop the peaches.
2. Add the peaches to a heavy pot along with the water and sugar. Heat on medium, stirring to dissolve the sugar. When the mixture comes to a boil, lower the heat slightly and cook for about 20 minutes until the peaches are completely tender. Stir occasionally.
2. Add the lemon juice to the peaches, and then, working in batches, puree the fruit until it is completely smooth. Don't rush this step, let the processor or blender run long enough to get all of the lumps.
3. At this point, strain the puree through a mesh strainer just to make sure it is completely smooth. Push it firmly with the back of a spoon to get all the puree through. Discard any lumps. If your puree is smooth enough, you can skip this step.
4. Put the puree back into the (rinsed out) pan and bring back up to a boil. Lower the heat and cook gently until it is greatly reduced and thickened. This will take about 25-30 minutes or so, depending on the size of your pan. Stir very frequently during this step so the fruit doesn't scorch. I like to use a splatter screen because it does splatter.

TIP: The longer you cook the peach puree, the thicker the butter will be. You know it's ready when it starts to darken slightly, and your stirring starts to leave trails in the mixture. Ladle the hot peach butter into a clean jar or jars and let cool before capping and refrigerating. The peach butter will thicken as it cools. Consume within a couple of weeks.

If you would like to can this recipe

1. Follow safe canning practices and ladle hot peach mixture into sterilized jars, leaving 1/4-inch headspace. Wipe jar rims. Close lids to fingertip-tight.
2. Place jars in boiling-water canner and process jars 10 minutes, adjusting for altitude. Turn off heat; remove lid, and let jars stand 5 minutes. Remove jars and cool.



Downtown Fremont Events!

Markets are on Saturdays



Farmer's Market & CAR SHOW!
Saturday June 20, 2020 9:00am - 1:00pm



CAR SHOW & FIREWORKS!
Thursday July 4, 2020 5:00pm - 8:00pm



July 18 | **Farmer's Market**
Upcycle, Repurpose & Reuse Events | 9am - 1pm

August 1 | **Farmer's Market**
All Together Fremont Event | 9am - 1pm

August 15 | **Farmer's Market**
Things That Go! | 9am - 1pm

September 5 | **Farmer's Market**
Block Party Events | 4pm - 8pm

AUTO SHOW!
Friday Sept 11, 2020 5:00pm - 8:00pm



September 19 | **Farmer's Market**
Street Play Saturday Event | 9am - 1pm

September 25 | **Chocolate Walk!** | 5pm - 8pm

Check times on our website!

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METROPARKS PLAYGROUNDS

By Kathy Chirdon

The spring shutdown of our playgrounds added a new challenge for families weathering a lockdown that closed schools. When off-limits, we gained a new appreciation for those brightly colored clusters of swings and climbers that allow kids to head outdoors in the fresh air to exercise, explore, develop social skills, and simply enjoy being young.



Cedar Creeks Preserve playground,
Wood County Park District

At press time, playgrounds in Ohio remained unavailable, but when it's safe to return to them, here's where to go:

WOOD COUNTY PARK DISTRICT, wcparks.org

- **Cedar Creeks Preserve**, 4575 Walbridge Road, Northwood, offers a Tot Lot appropriate for ages 2–5, as well as equipment for kids 5–12.
- **Bradner Preserve**, 1275 Caldwell Road, Bradner.
- **Otsego Park**, 20000 West River Road, Bowling Green.
- **William Henry Harrison Park**, 644 Bierley Avenue, Pemberville.
- **WW Knight Nature Preserve**, 29530 White Road, Perrysburg, provides a Nature Playscape, which, according to Jamie Sands, Volunteer Services & Communications Specialist, Wood County Park District, is a “woodlot that encourages imaginative play with stumps and logs for climbing, jumping and balancing, and large sticks for building forts.”

METROPARKS TOLEDO, metroparkstoledo.com

- **Oak Openings Preserve**, 4139 Girdham Road, Swanton. Kids can climb a two-story “oak tree” to get a squirrel’s-eye view of Mallard Lake. The playground also features elements like a zip line and large, climbable hill with slides.
- **Farnsworth Metropark**, 8505 S River Road (U.S. 24), Waterville. At the Boat Launch Area playground a larger-than-life turtle and Great Blue Heron welcome children to explore the riverine ecosystem. The area also includes a huge buckeye leaf and tunnel slides that lead to a kid-sized climbing wall. Accessibility is a key feature of this play experience.
- **Pearson Metropark**, 761 Lallendorf Road, Oregon. Beyond traditional swings and slides, a giant tree stump filled with fun play elements — spiders, water lilies, woodpeckers — allows children to explore the wonders of the Great Black Swamp.

- **Secor Metropark**, 10001 W Central Ave., Berkey. Two playgrounds! Walnut Grove has traditional swings and slides for toddlers and school-age kids. At Secor Barrier Free Playground (Phase 1), wide ramps, low handrails, and other accommodations enable all kids to play with their friends.
- **Side Cut Metropark**, 1025 W. River Road, Maumee, has a Big Lot playground and a Tot Lot playground.
- **Swan Creek Preserve Metropark**, 4301 Airport Hwy., Toledo. Airport Hwy. entrance playground has two net climbers with slides — one for toddlers and one for ages 5–12 — among other equipment. Equipment at the Glendale entrance playground includes tot and handicap-safety swings.
- **Wildwood**, 5100 W Central Ave., Toledo, has a play area with a forest-and-field concept, incorporating natural features such as turtles, frogs, bees, and butterflies, with an accent on accessibility. The equipment at Wildwood FitPark Playground is designed for aerobic and balance exercise, core and muscle strengthening, and accessibility.
- **Providence Metropark**, 13827 S. River Road, Grand Rapids.
- **Toledo Botanical Garden**, Elmer Drive, Toledo. The Secret Forest, a new, multi-level children’s discovery area, connects kids with the garden and nature.



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PLENTY OF SUMMER FUN IN OREGON
By Denise Martin, Martin & Martin Insurance (see pg. 22)

Having spent 37 years supporting the 43616, I can say that Oregon is overlooked! Enjoy lazy summer drives by the water to a family afternoon filled with sports at the Oregon Recreation fields. Don't forget the ice cream at Dairy Depot!



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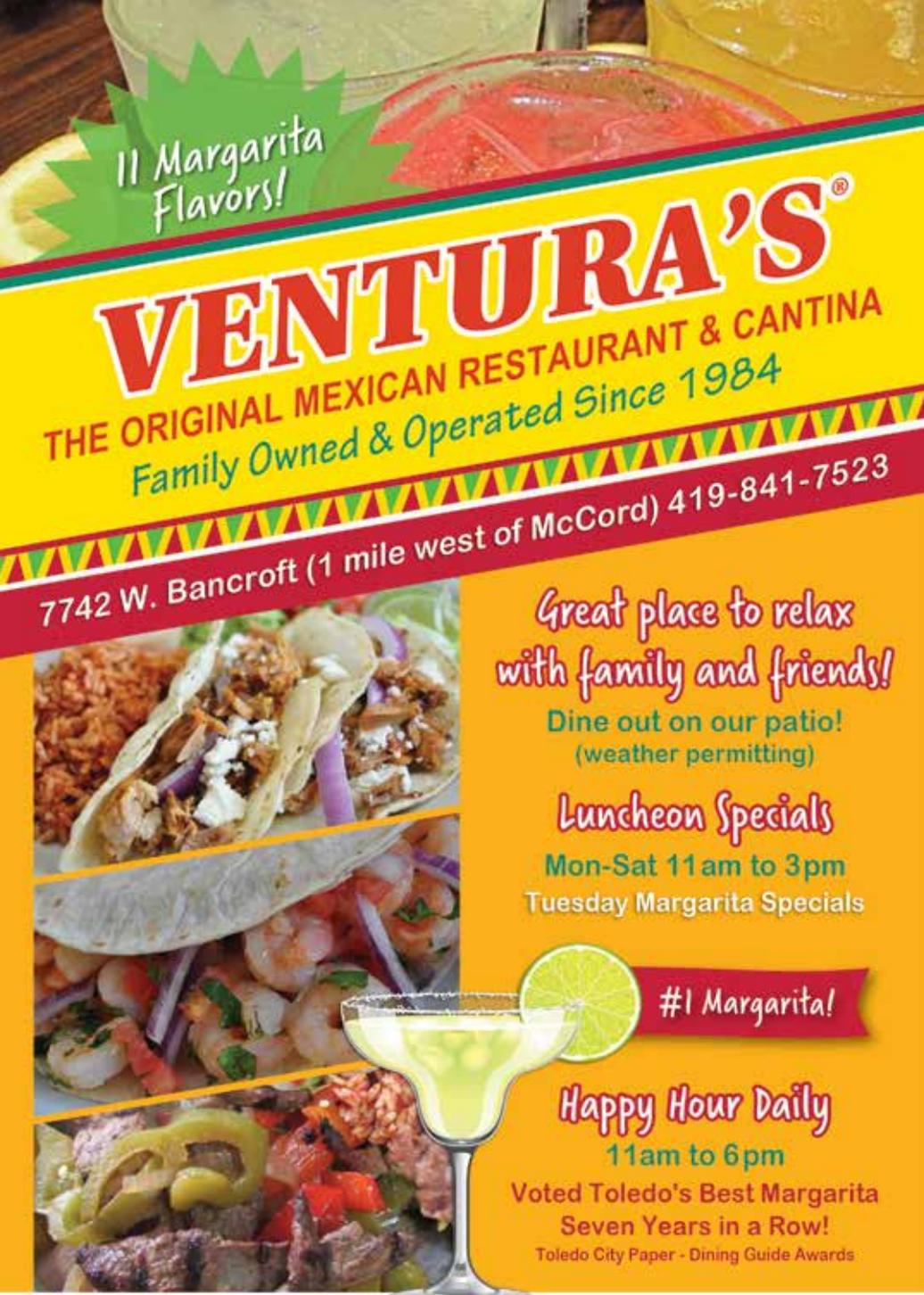
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RAINBOW BEAN SALAD WITH SWEET AND SOUR DRESSING

Photo and article courtesy of theviewfromgreatisland.com/rainbow-bean-salad-with-sweet-and-sour-dressing-recipe

Yield: serves 8-10

Rainbow Bean Salad with Sweet and Sour Dressing — a healthy bean salad recipe takes all the good stuff from the classic potluck salad and makes it pop. This is grandma's bean salad — but so much better!

Ingredients

1 cup each or approximately 140 grams each:

- canned black beans
- canned garbanzo beans
- canned kidney beans
- canned white navy beans
- edamame beans (thawed from frozen)
- 2 cups or 260 grams assorted colorful bell peppers, cut in small dice
- 1/3 cup or 50 grams sliced black olives
- 1/3 cup or 50 grams very finely diced red onion
- 1 cup or 150 grams small cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1/2 jalapeño or Serrano pepper, minced (leave out if you like)
- 1/4 cup finely chopped fresh parsley

Dressing

- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 1/2 cup Sherry vinegar (you can use red wine vinegar if you like)
- 2 Tbsp granulated sugar
- good pinch of white pepper
- 1/2 tsp celery seed
- 1 tsp onion salt
- 2 tsp Dijon mustard

Instructions

1. Make sure all your beans are drained and rinsed well to remove any 'canned' flavor. Place all the beans in a large bowl, along with the rest of the salad ingredients.
2. To make the dressing, blend the ingredients together with a stick blender or in a small food processor, until emulsified and creamy. Taste to adjust any of the seasonings.
3. Toss the salad in enough dressing to thoroughly moisten, you won't use all of it. Refrigerate until ready to serve, and then toss with more dressing.

Notes: Double the recipe to use a whole 15 ounce can of each of the beans.

Make this rainbow bean salad your own by adding tuna for a complete meal, or small balls of fresh mozzarella or crumbled feta cheese might be nice.



HIDDEN GEM ALONG THE PORTAGE RIVER

By Ruth Neal, Extras by Maams (see pg. 47)

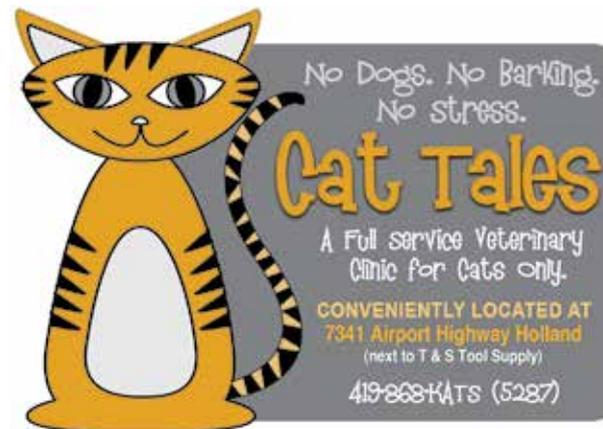
One only needs to stop by the quaint village of Pemberville to see that it is full of hidden gems. Visit all of the local businesses, including Extras by Maams, and stroll the historic downtown located above the Portage River. You'll be glad you made the trip!



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LET NATURE INSPIRE YOUR DECOR

By Carolyn Beyersdorf, *Decorating Den Interiors* (see pg. 41)

Hidden Gems can be found in the beauty of the glacial grooves of Kelleys Island or the magnificent trails at Wildwood Preserve Metropark. When decorating your home, let the many gems of natural beauty found in Northwest Ohio be your inspiration, and bring a little peace of mind (and nature) into your home.



Natural elements add a touch of the unexpected. They provide a place for the eye to rest and something for the mind to contemplate while you are relaxing at home. Live edge tables, a slice of agate displayed on a mantel, or natural fibers woven into a wall sculpture, bring simplistic yet complex beauty to your home. These items speak to the senses in ways unparalleled by the mass-produced product so commonly found in the market place.

Decorating Den Interiors specializes in bringing customization to your home. With our talent and resources, we can make beautiful happen—whether your look is modern with a touch of imperfect beauty, or traditional with an eye for artistry.

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SAUDER VILLAGE TO OPEN 1920'S MAIN STREET

By Kathy Chirdon

Ohio's largest living-history destination, **Sauder Village** (pg. 32) is a place to unplug, slow down, and spend quality time with family and friends. The Sauder Village experience transports guests from our fast-paced contemporary life into a world that celebrates sights, sounds, and memories from the past.

New this season, a 1920s Main Street will open mid-summer as part of Sauder Village's Walk Through Time. This time-travel concept portrays more than 120 years of Great Black Swamp history, from Natives and Newcomers (1803), to Pioneer Settlement, (1830–1890), the 1920s Grime Homestead, and finally the 1920s Main Street.

Often referred to as the "Roaring Twenties," this decade was a period of transition into America's modern age. From advancements in transportation, communication, and technology, to changes in the economy and social pastimes, there are many stories to be shared.

As families stroll down Main Street, the 1920s will come to life through authentic reproduction buildings, historic artifacts, and fun hands-on experiences. Guests can stop by the theater to take a peek at what's playing on the big screen, explore a grocery store, sip a cherry phosphate at the soda fountain, check out the latest fashions at the dry goods store, meet horses at the livery, buy sweets at the candy store, take an antique car ride, and wander through the bank, fire station, and even a speakeasy. They will feel like they have truly stepped into the 1920s as they tour a barbershop, gas station/auto dealership, depot, jewelry store, and more.

Sauder Village is located just minutes from Ohio Turnpike Exit 25. Other must-visit amenities at the village include a restaurant, bakery, campground, country inn, banquet facilities, and shopping. A variety of special events are held throughout the season. For information on planning a memorable getaway to Sauder Village call 800.590.9755 or visit saudervillage.org.



OFF THE BEATEN PATH: RAINY DAY OPTIONS AROUND THE REGION

By Judy Lang

Too rainy? Too hot? Too bored? Looking for something to do that your family hasn't yet experienced? Check out these "hidden gems" that provide indoor entertainment, education and food treats throughout the area.

FINDLAY

University of Findlay's Mazza Museum

The world's largest collection of original art work by children's book illustrators.
mazzamuseum.org

Children's Museum of Findlay

Fun, interactive STEM exhibits for children ages 10 and younger.
cmfindlay.com

Dietsch Brothers Fine Chocolate and Ice Cream – Findlay

Nationally renown candy and ice cream, made from family recipes.
Dietschs.com



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Spanglercandy.com

The Magic Corner – Wauseon

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LAKE ERIE SHORES

Merry-Go-Round Museum – Sandusky

Working carousel, woodcarving shop and display of artifacts illustrating the history of the merry-go-round.
merrygoroundmuseum.org

Ghostly Manor Thrill Center – Sandusky

Indoor roller skating, 3D mini-golf, laser maze, escape room, XD 4D motion theater, haunted house, bounce house, jungle gym and arcade.
ghostlymanor.com

Liberty Aviation Museum and Tin Goose Diner – Port Clinton

Interesting collection of World War II aircraft, vehicles, watercraft and memorabilia; food served in the authentically restored Tin Goose Diner.
libertyaviationmuseum.org

The Erie Social and The Sandwich Shoppe – Marblehead

Indoor shuffleboard, corn hole, darts, billiards and board games; gourmet sandwiches and creative cocktails.
theeriesocial.com

BOWLING GREEN

Snook's Dream Cars – Bowling Green

Impressive classic car museum featuring beautifully restored autos from the 1930s to the 1960s; wide array of "automobilia."
snooksdreamcars.com

Wood County Driving Tour

Self-guided driving tour, with narratives and music, that reveals the historical significance of towns in Wood County.
woodcountyhistory.org

PERRYSBURG / MAUMEE

Fort Meigs – Perrysburg

Education center featuring the history of Ohio in the early 19th century, the role of the fort in the War of 1812 and the people who fought in the battles there.
fortmeigs.org

The Wolcott House Museum – Maumee

Historical home and museum complex that takes visitors back to the early 1880s for a peek at what pioneer life was like in the Maumee Valley.
wolcotthouse.org

Perrysburg Area Historical Museum – Perrysburg

Historic Spafford House Museum describes the character of the Native Americans and early settlers who carved a town out of the Great Black Swamp.
perrysburgareahistoricmuseum.org

Maumee Valley Chocolate and Candy – Maumee

Freshly made chocolates, retro candies, ice cream, popcorn and a wide variety of hand-crafted sweets and treats.
valleycandy.com

TOLEDO

National Museum of the Great Lakes – Toledo

Awe-inspiring stories of our Great Lakes told through photography, videos, artifacts, and 40 hands-on, interactive exhibits, including the Schoonmaker Museum Ship.
nmgl.org

Toledo Firefighters Museum – Toledo

Fire house featuring a vintage fire truck and other historic equipment, memorabilia and the fascinating stories of fires fought and lives lost in the line of duty.
toledofirefightersmuseum.org

Boyd's Retro Candy – Toledo

A blast from the past featuring all your favorite candies from the 50s through the 90s.
boydsretrocandy.com



Since COVID-19 restrictions were not yet known at press time, please contact these attractions directly to determine if and what hours they are open.

What's Buzzin' this Summer

Due to Covid-19, the events listed in this guide may be changed or cancelled. Please check the website or Facebook page of the event's sponsoring organization for the most up-to-date information.

~ JUNE ~

6 & 7

Take a trip down memory lane to the by-gone era of farming at the **Power of Yesteryear Tractor Show** on the **Wood County Historical Center Grounds** in Bowling Green. The free event features tractor displays, demonstrations of corn shelling, plowing, tillage and planting, blacksmith, fiber arts and chair caning demonstrations, kiddie pedal pulls and more! Saturday, 10am-5pm; Sunday, 10am-3pm. woodcountyhistory.org

11-13

Explore life on the farm—from poultry to dairy, wheat to corn, at **Agriculture Adventures at Sauder Village**. Each day is devoted to a different theme and will feature visits from regional agricultural organizations. Hands-on activities will bring out each guest's inner farmer. The event concludes with an Antique Tractor Show on Saturday, June 13. 10am-5pm. Visit saudervillage.org for ticket information and event details.

13

The special little girl in your life (and her American Girl doll) will love the **Victorian Front Porch Tea** at the **Hancock Historical Museum** in Findlay. Enjoy tea and treats and learn proper tea etiquette from Victorian-costumed ladies. For children ages 6-12 accompanied by an adult. Dress for the occasion and bring your American Girl doll. \$30 per pair for members, \$35 per pair for non-members. 11am-1pm. hancockhistoricalmuseum.org



20

Fremont Farmers' Market. Pick up assorted cheeses, salsas, pickles, fresh produce and more and make a creative charcuterie board! Saturdays, 9am-1pm, 315 Garrison Street. June 20; July 18; Aug. 1, Aug. 15, Sept. 1; Sept. 19; Oct. 3; Oct. 17

History with a Twist: Craft Cocktail Competition at the **Hancock Historical Museum** in Findlay combines history with the art of mixology. Some of Findlay's finest bartenders will create original craft cocktails that pay homage to American, state or local history, whether in technique, title or ingredients. Guests can taste each cocktail and enjoy live music and refreshments. 4-7pm. hancockhistoricalmuseum.org

Alla Prima Plein Air Painting with Beth Genson at **Schedel Arboretum & Gardens** in Elmore. In one sitting outdoors (plein air) you will create a wet-on wet (alla prima) piece. All supplies are included. 9am-1pm. Fee \$61.80. Visit schedel-gardens.org/calendar to make your reservations.

20 & 21

At **Muster on the Maumee** at **Fort Meigs**, you can see the evolution of the common soldier. Soldiers, artisans and civilians will give demonstrations and period military camps are open for visiting. More info at fortmeigs.org/muster

20 & 21

MS Bike to the Bay takes riders through the Northwest Ohio countryside with 35, 50, 75 and 100 mile options. The ride is fully supported with rest stops, bike mechanics, medical and safety volunteers and support vehicles. A fantastic finish awaits with great food and music. nationalmssociety.org

26-28

Ahoy, Matey! Don't miss the **Put-in-Bay Pirate Fest**. The event includes a cardboard boat regatta, kids and adult costume contests, historic displays on cooking, medicine, weapons and navigation. More than 50 re-enactors in pirate gear will be roaming around downtown. Free and open to the public. visitputinbay.org

Make Your Own Summertime Fun!



- Try your hand at making a homemade pie—strawberry, peach, cherry or lemon meringue!
- Take an early morning stroll through your garden with a cup of tea or coffee and enjoy nature awakening.
- Pack sandwiches, chips, pickles, cookies and lemonade and head to a secluded location with your significant other for a picnic lunch or dinner.
- Explore ways that you can preserve summer's bounty for the winter by canning and freezing fruits, vegetables and jams.
- Grab a novel and a tall glass of lemonade or iced tea, head to a shady hammock or lounge chair, and immerse yourself in another world for an afternoon.

What's Buzzin' this Summer

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~ JULY ~

Check your local newspaper or google search for the date, location and time of your city's **Fourth of July Fireworks** display. Scope out a prime viewing location, grab a blanket or lawn chairs, pack a picnic and celebrate summer and our nation's independence!



3-5

Looking for an **Old Fashioned 4th of July Weekend?** Head to **Sauder Village** in Archbold. Make hand-cranked ice cream, play croquet, listen to patriotic songs and explore living history. A U.S. District Court Naturalization ceremony takes place on Saturday the 4th at 11am, so you can celebrate with people taking the last step to become U.S. citizens. Fri. and Sat., 10am-5pm, Sunday, noon to 4pm. saudervillage.org

4 & 5

Find treasures at the **Tiffin Flea Market** at the **Seneca County Fairgrounds**—one of the largest in the state! Rain or shine Saturday 9am-4pm; Sunday 9am-3pm. Additional Tiffin Flea Market dates: August 15-16; September 12-13; and October 3-4. tiffinfleamarket.com

July 9 – August 27
Jazz in the Gardens at **Toledo Botanical Garden**, another Toledo Region favorite. Every Thursday evening from 6:30-8:30pm. Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance. \$10 general admission, \$5 Metroparks members (each – 2 people per card); \$64 for season pass; \$32 for Metroparks members. Children 12 and under are free. Guests are encouraged to bring their own chair or blanket. toledogrows.org/events13

10 & 11

What's more mouthwatering than cheesy slices of pizza oozing with toppings and flavor?! **Pizza Palooza** at **Centennial Terrace** in Sylvania features lots of local pizza and dessert vendors, a pizza eating contest, and entertainment. Vote for the highly coveted People's Choice Award. \$1.50 per slice, \$2 for specialty pizza. Tickets are \$6 per adult; \$4 for ages 5-12; children 4 and under are free. sylvaniachamber.org

18

Celebrate summer at the **TMA Block Party** at the **Toledo Museum of Art**. Enjoy art demonstrations, entertainment, kids' activities, food and music. 6-10pm. toledomuseum.org

The **Toledo Water Lantern Festival** at **Maumee Bay State Park** is filled with happiness, hope and great memories. 5-10pm. Ticket info at waterlanternfestival.com

18 & 19

The **Oak Ridge Festival** in **Attica** (the intersection of US Route 224 and State Route 4) features 40 acres of fun, including 130 vendors, antique farm equipment, living history displays, delicious "country vittles" and music. oakridgefestival.com

20-26

The **LPGA Marathon Classic** at **Highland Meadows Golf Club** has provided hours of fun and made the hopes and dreams come true for many children. Always a favorite! marathonclassic.com

23

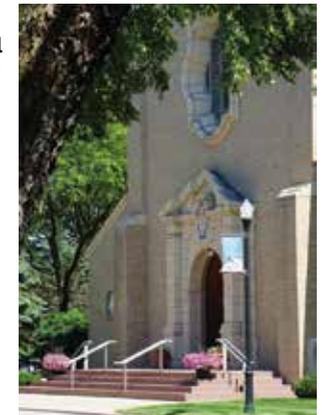
Create a **Fused Glass Garden Stake** at **Schedel Arboretum & Gardens** in Elmore. You will create your own design and take it with you after they are fired. 6-8pm. Fee \$36.05. Visit schedel-gardens.org/calendar to make your reservations.

25

The **Rally For Women**, taking place at the historic **Sauder Village** in Archbold, will celebrate 100 years of women's right to vote. The local Ohio League of Women Voters will present the inaugural performance of "Rally" an outdoor reenactment of a 1920s era women's rally. Guests will be able to make sashes, signs and participate in the march. 10am-5pm. saudervillage.org

July 31 – August 8

Get in your car and explore yarn shops in Michigan and Ohio. The **I-75 Yarn Crawl** features over 50 shops, including Crafty Needle Yarns & Threads in Elmore. For details, visit facebook.com/i75yarncrawl.



Like St. Francis of Assisi, the Sisters of St. Francis of Sylvania, Ohio are filled with joyful servanthood among all people and share this thought from Pope Francis.

"Embracing the Lord in order to embrace hope: that is the strength of faith, which frees us from fear and gives us hope."
– Pope Francis
(Urbi et Orbi)

What's Buzzin' this Summer

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~ AUGUST ~

1 & 2

Get Wild About Art at the **Toledo Zoo!** Set among the wild beauty of the zoo, this two-day event will feature local and regional artists, entertainment, interactive activities and more. Saturday, 10am-6pm and Sunday, 10am-4pm. toledo zoo.org

2-8

Hailed as "Michigan's Finest Fair," the **Monroe County Fair** on the Monroe County Fairgrounds features a parade, midway, animals, stellar entertainment, food, rides, you name it! monroecountyfair.com

3-10

The 146th annual **Wood County Fair** in Bowling Green is eight days of exhibitions, rides, food and fun! woodcounty-fair.com

7 & 8

Summer fun at its best! The **Maumee Summer Fair**, held on the beautiful tree-lined streets in the historic uptown district, features around 150 arts and crafts booths, a kid's zone of inflatables, classic car show and more. Regional rock bands and a beer tent in the evening for the 21-and-older crowd. Friday, 5pm-midnight and Saturday, 9am-midnight. maumeesummerfair.com

14-16

Don't miss the brilliant display of hot air balloons at the **20th Annual Flag City Balloon Festival** in Emory Adams Park in Findlay. You can fly in one or stay grounded with the many fun activities offered on land, including the night glow when all the balloons are lit up after dark! flagcityballoonfest.com

15

Celebrate Port Clinton's maritime heritage at the **Port Clinton Lighthouse & Maritime Festival**. Event includes lighthouse tours, art and education programs, food and merchant vendors, music and stunning views of Lake Erie. Lighthouse Park in Port Clinton. portclintonlighthouse.org

22

Your furry friend will have a barking good time at the **Toledo Area Humane Society's Bark in the Park 2020!** The pet-friendly, 10K, 5K, and one-mile leisure walk takes place at The Shops at Fallen Timbers in Maumee. Games, contests including "The Great Peanut Butter Lick Off," food, and live entertainment for humans of all ages and pets! toledohumane.org

23

The **Wood County Living History Day** is a free event you won't want to miss as the museum honors some of Wood County's firsts. The event kicks off at 2pm at the Wood County Historical Center in Bowling Green. woodcountyhistory.org

27-30

The **German American Festival in Oregon** is Toledo's oldest, largest and greatest ethnic festival. Come enjoy traditional German food and beer, music, folk dancing and entertainment. germanamericanfestival.net

Brighten Someone's Summer Day!



- Write a cheery letter or note of encouragement to a family member or friend and send it in the mail!
- Surprise someone you love by leaving a bouquet of fresh cut flowers and a homemade dessert on their porch.
- Pay for the coffee or meal for the next person in line.
- Students graduating have had a disappointing spring. Show them some love by giving a random student a gas card or gift card to a local restaurant for some takeout.
- Leave a box of goodies in your mailbox for your mail carrier, they've worked through four seasons and a pandemic to deliver your mail.
- Don't forget the UPS and FedEx people. Show them some love with a personalized note and small token of your appreciation.
- Mow your neighbor's lawn.
- Buy a gift card at a local restaurant or boutique for your child's favorite teacher.

Above all, watch with glittering eyes the whole world around you, Because the greatest secrets are always hidden in the most unlikely places.

Those who don't believe in magic will never find it.

– Roald Dahl

Photo by Norman Fairman



ST. URSULA ACADEMY

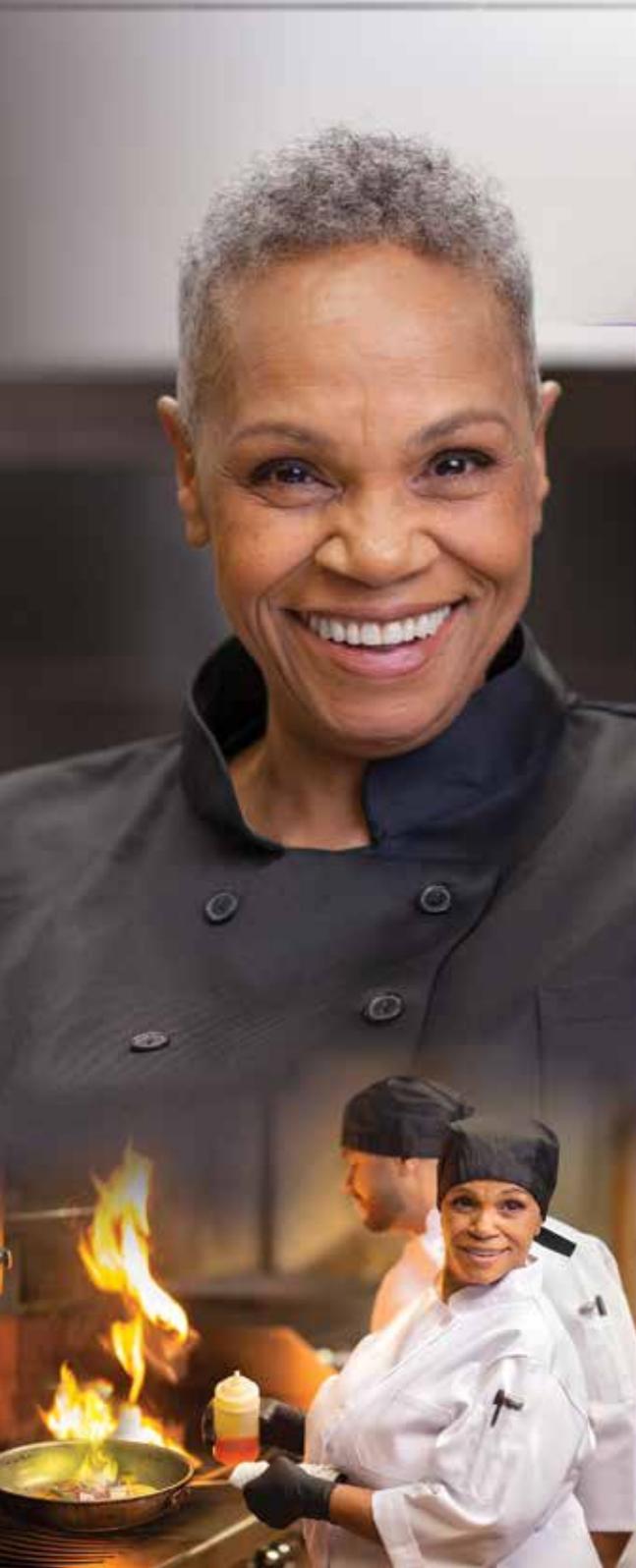
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To learn more, visit www.toledosua.org/admissions.



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