

SUMMER ACTIVITY GUIDE 2022

FUN SUN



SUMMERTIME
ACTIVITIES

RIDE THE
RAILS

SEE THE
WATERSKIERS

Music

BY THE LAKE

GEORGE WILLIAMS COLLEGE
OF AURORA UNIVERSITY

SUMMER SOUNDS BETTER HERE.



Saturday, July 16 | 7:30 p.m.

KRISTIN CHENOWETH IN CONCERT: FOR THE GIRLS

Emmy and Tony Award winning actress, singer, and best-selling author known the world over for originating the role of Glinda in “Wicked” and appearances on “The West Wing,” “Glee,” and “Hairspray Live!”



Sunday, July 17 | 4 p.m.

JOFFREY ACADEMY OF DANCE, OFFICIAL SCHOOL OF THE JOFFREY BALLET: RITA FINDS HOME

This original work focuses on a young girl named Rita who is displaced from her tropical home by a hurricane and struggles to redefine her sense of self as her family relocates to the big city.



Sunday, July 24 | 4 p.m.

THE IRISH TENORS WITH THE CHICAGO PHILHARMONIC

The famed trio, always thrilling audiences worldwide with their enchanting Irish repertoire, teams up with some of the highest-level classical musicians performing in the Chicago area.



Saturday, July 30 | 7:30 p.m.

GET HAPPY! MICHAEL FEINSTEIN CELEBRATES THE JUDY GARLAND CENTENNIAL

The Ambassador of the Great American Songbook pays tribute to the unparalleled talent and charisma of the legendary Judy Garland in this, her 100th birthday year.



Saturday, August 6 | 7:30 p.m.

AN EVENING WITH AIR SUPPLY

Now in their 47th year, the much-loved Australian-English soft rock duo continues to tour worldwide, performing chart-topping hits “All Out of Love,” “Even the Nights Are Better,” and countless others.



Sunday, August 14 | 4 p.m.

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Since its founding in 2001, this celebrated orchestra is dedicated to the performance and appreciation of classical music throughout Lake Geneva and surrounding communities.

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Music by the Lake is presented by George Williams College of Aurora University on its Geneva Lake campus, just seven miles from downtown Lake Geneva in Williams Bay, Wisconsin.

Find local events

With COVID-19 still causing delays, cancellations and/or restrictions of area events, we recommend you check with your local chamber of commerce or visitor's bureau for up-to-date information on what's going on in your community.



Events that can foster a strong sense of community

Events that bring residents of a community together in one place have been on the back burner in recent years. As the world has dealt with the COVID-19 pandemic, communities have scaled back on public events in the hopes of limiting crowds and preventing the spread of the virus.

Since 2021, such restrictions have been loosened, especially in spring and summer, as more people get vaccinated and scientists learn more about the virus, including how it's transmitted in outdoor settings compared to indoor settings.

The return of spring and summer mark a great time for local leaders to add more events to their community calendars. The following are some fun event ideas that can help

communities reconnect in the months to come.

Crafts festival

The digital advertising agency NMPi noted in a report titled "Impact of COVID-19 on Arts & Crafts Retail" that the rise in pandemic-related self-isolation led to an increased demand for arts-and-crafts. As the world emerges from the pandemic, community leaders can provide residents an opportunity to showcase their newfound talents by hosting a crafts festival.

Invite established professionals to showcase and sell their wares and encourage local hobbyists to do the same. This is a great way to promote local businesses and connect residents with neighbors who

love to spend time working on arts and crafts.

Concert series

Summer concert series are fun and potentially lucrative for local businesses.

A 2016 analysis of a popular local concert series in northern New York State determined that a summer concert series sponsored by the Disabled Persons Action Organization

allowed more than \$1.6 million to flow through local economies. That's welcome news for local businesses that have been hit hard by the pandemic, and it's also welcome news for leaders who want to rebuild a sense of community in their towns and cities.

Families and local residents

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

The carousel lights lighting up the during last year's Walworth County Fair. Local events like county fairs, crafts festivals, concert series and farmers markets are a fun and effective way to foster a strong sense of community in towns and cities.

CHAD HENSIK Fun in the Sun

2022 SUMMER Fun Guide

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Hobbies that suit a summertime vibe

Summer is the season of R&R. When the mercury rises, who can resist a backyard hammock or the sound of waves lapping against a picturesque shoreline?

The relaxing nature of summer makes it the perfect season to revisit old hobbies or pick up new ones. Hobbies can run the gamut from the complex to the simple, but when choosing a habit to pick up this summer, individuals may want to look to these somewhat relaxing endeavors that are tailor-made for warm days and nights.

Gardening

Gardening is another hobby that coordinates well with a summertime vibe. Gardening gets people outdoors, giving them a chance to soak up some summer sun and engage in an activity that's rewarding but not too physically demanding. One of the biggest attractions of gardening is that it can be enjoyed by people of all ages. That makes it an ideal hobby for busy families to enjoy together when their schedules slow down in the

summer. It's also a great way for adults to spend quality time with aging parents.

Photography

Summer seascapes and landscapes are awe-inspiring, making this an ideal time of year to take up photography. Novices can begin by utilizing their smartphone cameras to take snapshots of local landscapes. Once the skill of pointing and clicking has been honed, amateur photogs can graduate to more expensive and precise cameras.

Reading

Individuals who have long wanted to read more should know that they're not alone. A 2019 survey commissioned by the reading subscription service Scribd and conducted by The Harris Poll found that 35 percent of respondents wished they could read more.

Finding time to read more may be difficult during spring, summer and fall, when parents must contend with their own

hectic schedules as well as their children's. Even individuals without children or empty nesters may find it difficult to carve out time to read in a typical day. But people who aspire to read more can take a book to the beach or out on the deck on a warm afternoon or evening. Leave the smartphone inside so you can relax and read distraction-free.

Sailing/boating

Though it might involve a little more physical activity than reading, sailing and/or boating is an ideal summertime activity. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration reports that nearly 40 percent of the United States population lives in a coastal area, making boating and sailing an accessible hobby for a significant percentage of Americans.

Even those who live far away from the ocean undoubtedly live close to a river or lake. What better way to enjoy warm summer afternoons than on a boat?

(METRO CREATIVE)

The best summertime hobbies are often those that help people take the relaxing nature of summer to the next level.

STOCK PHOTO *Fun in the Sun*



10 tips on how to have more family fishing fun

There may be nothing more sweet in this big, wide world than gazing upon photos and videos of your kids or grandkids – with smiles a mile wide – holding up what they think is a huge “monster” fish (even if it’s just a small sunfish or bluegill), or photos of your family all together enjoying a day of fishing and having fun on the water.

If you love fishing and you want to share it with your family, it’s important to put a little planning in up front to help the experience go as smooth as it can to create those lasting memories and those stories that will be told for years of the monsters that were caught, and the big ones that got away.

To help you introduce the ones you love to a lifetime of fishing fun, the folks at Rapala, the legendary lure maker, offer these tips:

Cherish the little wins

If you have smaller kids or beginners in the family, it’s likely they’ll be pulling up smaller catches. Though their sunfish might look measly to you, they might think it’s a monster! Hint, hint: So should you. Snap a picture to remember the beaming look on their faces and use this opportunity to show them how to conserve fish for future generations.



Let them guide you

When and where it’s safe, let the kids “co-pilot” with you by operating your boat’s trolling motor and guiding you to the perfect spot. Kids want to experience what the adults do. Operating a trolling motor will give them experience in positioning the boat and learning how to approach a spot.

Include your partner

Families come in all shapes and sizes nowadays. Use fishing as an opportunity to gather in the great outdoors and share some precious time together. Involve your partner or spouse, uncles and aunts, grandparents and close friends who feel like family. A day on or near the water can be a great way for a family to get away from our always-on digital world.

Use good quality gear

Don’t skimp on cheap fishing gear. If your low-quality fishing gear breaks or malfunctions, it could ruin the moment. Good gear doesn’t cost a fortune. Choose gear with a lot of positive reviews and fishing lures, like Rapala lures, which are well-known for catching fish. Similarly, be prepared for accidents that happen and practice patience if a rod tip gets broken, a fishing rod falls into the water, or a fishing lure gets stuck high up in a tree. Stuff happens.

Safety first

Being in or around water means safety comes first. Make sure everyone has life

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

A little planning goes a long way in making a family fishing trip fun for everyone. Stock up on snacks, get the gear ready and don’t forget to take some videos out on the water.

STOCK PHOTOS *Fun in the Sun*

Making waves

Area waterski shows celebrate anniversaries

By **Sandra Landen Machaj**
CORRESPONDENT

The Southern Lakes Area comes by its moniker for good reason. The multitude of lakes and rivers provide residents and visitors the chance to enjoy fishing, boating and watersports during the summer months.

For many, sitting along the shore to watch the local, award-winning waterski team exhibitions are a favorite activity. From the Burlington Aquaducks to the Twin Lakes Aquanuts to the Southern Wakes United Water Ski Team in Walworth County, there's no shortage of performances on



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Waterskiing was invented by Ralph Willard Samuelson of Lake City, Minnesota, in 1922. One-hundred years ago, Samuelson strapped wooden boards to the bottom of his feet, used a clothesline as a towrope attached to a boat, and attempted to travel across the water on Lake Pepin. He experimented with various sizes of boards and tried many different positions on the "skis" before successfully navigating Lake Pepin's waters and inventing a new sport.

Since then waterskiing has grown from a fledgling activity to a top-line competitive sport with worldwide competitions. Individual waterskiing teams compete in local, state and national levels. Sometimes, as they progress, they even compete in international competitions.

Local teams, including the Aquanuts, Aquaducks and

the Southern Wakes United, have been very successful in competition at all levels.

Check the schedule of the team close by, gather family or friends, a folding chair or a blanket and make head out to the waterfront to take in a show. The whole group will enjoy watching the skill and gracefulness of the skiers.

The local teams present shows at their home venues weekly during the summer for the enjoyment of the community. They do not charge to view their performances but all do accept donations to help them with the cost of producing the performance.

Happy birthday, Aquanuts!

Fifty years ago, in the small town of Twin Lakes, a group of water skiers gathered and formed the Aquanuts. Little did they know that this tightly knit group would band

Five-high pyramids impress the crowds at local waterski shows. The Aquaducks created this pyramid in an earlier nationals competition. Skiing expertise and balance of all participants are needed for success.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE AQUANUTS *Fun in the Sun*



above: One of the many tricks the advanced skiers can perform features the skier turning upside down while attached to a ski board. **left:** Lifting a partner high above while maintaining balance requires skill and balance and skill on the part of both participants.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE AQUADUCKS *Fun in the Sun*

together and become one of the premier waterskiing groups, competing in a variety of competitions and winning more than 100 awards for first-, second- and third-place finishes over the years.

In 2021, the team won the Wisconsin state title for the first time in 35 years and finished second in national competition.

The Aquanuts are known for their daring stunts, ballet lines and innovative show themes. Each year more difficult and daring stunts are added to their routines. The clowns were introduced in the early days and have remained a symbol of the Aquaducks, even earning a place on their logo.

While the skiers are the showpiece, they alone are not responsible for the success of the team. The boat drivers, spotters, equipment managers, marketing managers and the local businesses, especially the marinas, which help support them are as necessary as the skiers for success.

The Aquanuts say they are extremely thankful for their partnership with the Village of Twin Lakes, which allows for Lance Park to be their home.

“We are truly a team,” said Heather Buelow, who began attending waterski shows as a spectator in 1994 when she and her husband were dating. “Now our whole family is immersed in the team.”

Two of their daughters will be singing in this year’s show, which is based on Mary Poppins. Buelow’s husband drives a boat and she is involved in marketing.

Practice begins each year before the skiers are ready to hit the water. They work on the exciting three-, four- or even five-high pyramids on dry ground before ever

trying to build one on the water.

The Aquanuts have two separate teams – a Junior Team and a Senior Team – but at times they overlap. The younger skiers, who range in age from 8 to 14 years old, are on the Junior Team as they train to learn the more intricate moves and formations. Sometimes a younger skier may advance to the Senior Team if they have particularly good skills.

“The Senior Team members range from 15 years to in their 50s,” said Mark Gurda, who is the announcer for the team’s shows.

Every two years there is a World Championship Competition where Team USA picks from the best skiers to represent the United States as members of Team USA. This year Aquanuts, Cody Coffey, Kalia Coffey, Kailey Koehler, Bob Koehler and Ethan Shulda have been chosen for Team USA for 2022.

This year, in celebration of 100 years of waterskiing and 50 years of waterskiing for the Aquanuts, there will be multiple celebrations and special programs.

The weekly programs, which are open to the public, are at Lance Park at 6 p.m. Shows are presented Saturdays and Wednesdays each week through Labor Day.

A special Fourth of July weekend celebration will be at Lance Park on July 2 with festivities beginning around 6 p.m. The national anthem, “The Star-Spangled Banner,” will be sung by world-famous anthem singer Jim Cornelison who will open the show. Cornelison is well known for his singing of the anthem at Chicago Blackhawks home games. The Aquanuts will present a special ski show, which will end with the traditional Independence Day

fireworks.

As always there is free admission and parking. Food and beer will be available for sale.

“With support from the city, Munson Marine, Dr. Pepper, Mercury Marine and others, the team progressed,” Gurda said. “We were the first team to utilize a background music soundtrack in 1975, which was quickly copied by other teams.”

Each year there is a theme for the show often based on past popular movies, this year it is Mary Poppins.

Along with providing shows for the public, each year the team supports an adaptive skiing program to bring the sport to those with disabilities.

For more information visit www.aquanutswatershows.com.

Browns Lake Aquaducks

Forty-six years ago, a group of local waterskiers gathered together on Browns Lake and formed the Aquaducks, a volunteer, family-oriented group that began to ski for fun, but went on to compete in both local and national competitions with great success.

In 2019 they became the Division 2 State Champions. In 2021 they moved up to Division 1 in state competition and finished in seventh place while finishing 14th in nationals that same year.

“We have about 100 members in our skiing club,” said Monica Shultiis, who provides whatever help the team needs. “They range in age from 8 years to 67 years. Our oldest member at 67 continues

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



WATERSKI • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

to barefoot water ski, that is he skis on the water without skis just using his feet.”

The team began on Browns Lake and continues to make Fisher Park their home.

While the team receives a lot of support from the community and local business, they also give back in various ways. One such way is the adaptive-skiing program

started by Rick and Denise Legios in honor of their daughter.

The program allows those with disabilities to experience the joy of waterskiing. Using special adaptive equipment and the support of a skier on either side for balance it is possible for people with disabilities to have a

waterskiing experience. The Aquaducks host the free program several times a year.

Honoring the 100 years of waterskiing, the Aquaducks began their season with their first every blessing at Fisher Park May 21.

The boats, including the water-patrol boat, and the police watercraft were be

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blessed in a non-denominational service led by officiant Tom Ripple.

The May 21 program not only commemorated the 100 years of waterskiing but also honored all branches of the military since it was also Armed Forces weekend. Flags of all branches of the military were seen flying in all the Aquaducks vessels.

A highlight of the day was the introduction of the Aquaducks new mascot. Fittingly it is a big blue duck.

The team offers free shows to the public from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day on Thursday evenings in Fisher Park at 6:30 p.m. weekly. Starting June 23, the team will be joined by a junior show at 5 p.m.

Check the website, www.aquaducks.com.

org, for updated information on shows and special events.

Southern Wakes United

In the 1950s, the Lauderdale Lakes Aqua Skiers were formed by a group of young skiers who wanted to perform. They produced a single show each year on Regatta Day in front of the Sterlingworth Motor Hotel and were given dinner for their performance. By the 1980s they were competing in the state tournament with some success.

The Whitewater Lake Sports Club named its ski team the Minneiska Water Ski Team. The team organized and presented its first show in July of 1974 for the Lions Club and

began competing in tournaments in 1975.

The Southern Wakes United Ski Team is a merger of the Lauderdale Aqua Skiers and the Whitewater Lake Sports Club (Minneiska) team, and are the only waterski team in Walworth County.

The team's goal is to encourage both young and young at heart to work together to build confidence, while learning new skills. The team also encourages leadership development, water safety and sportsmanship as noted on their website.

Southern Wakes United competed in the 2021 Wisconsin State Tournament and placed third in Division III.

The team encourages skiers and those who want to be skiers to join the team. New members are always welcome. The team is a family-oriented group who work together for the benefit of all.

For those not ready or able to commit to a full membership with the team, they offer a pay-to-play option. Individuals who must be a member of the USA Water Ski org. and love to ski can pay a daily \$5 fee to ski with the team.

The show schedule for Southern Wakes United is a bit more complicated than that for the other teams because they present shows at three different locations – Whitewater Lake at Scenic Ridge Campground, Lauderdale Lakes at Lauderdale Landing in Elkhorn and the Elkhorn Lake show at Babe Mann Park.

Ski show times vary depending on the location. Check the website, www.southernwakesunited.com for current schedule.



above: For this ski line it is not all eyes forward as the 14 members of the line are facing alternate directions while skiing on one ski. **left:** The Aquaducks perform a four-high pyramid to the delight of their fans.

opposite: The Aquanuts form a 28-skier ballet line in brightly colored costumes and ski in synch across the water.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE AQUANUTS
Fun in the Sun

The water is calling



4 easy ways to enjoy fun and freedom on a boat this summer

Ready to make the most of your summer? Grab your friends and family and get out on the water. Boating gives you the freedom to explore the outdoors and offers added wellness benefits. Studies show being on the water improves emotional health, relaxation and creativity.

“The water is open to everyone and provides the perfect summer escape,” said Ellen Bradley, Discover Boating senior vice president. “If you’re looking to get away and spend time with your loved ones, it doesn’t get much better than being on a boat where you get to choose your own adventure, experience the unique joys of disconnecting from stress on land and have fun.”

From day cruising to fishing, sailing and watersports, boating offers something for everyone, and it’s more accessible than you may think. In fact, boaters come from all walks of life, backgrounds and areas of the country, with an estimated 100 million Americans

going boating each year, according to the National Marine Manufacturers Association.

Discover Boating is the leading resource for all things boating whether you already own a boat, you’re just getting started or simply want to test the waters. These insider tips provide easy ways to get on the water and make the memories of a lifetime this summer.

Rent or share a boat

Rental options are available on most waterways and provide hourly, daily or weekly access to a variety of boat types. Rental outfitters should provide tutorials on operating a boat, share safety instructions and offer suggestions on destinations. Another option is peer-to-peer boat rentals, where most services allow you to search by zip code, find a boat near you and then connect with the boat’s owner, gather the details and hit the water.

Join a boat club

Find a boat club near you to access a variety of boats. You’ll pay a monthly fee and be able to book your time on the water online. Most boat clubs take care of docking, cleaning, maintenance and boat training courses.

Take a class

Take the helm and become a confident boater. Sign up for a boating lesson to hone your powerboating, sailing or watersports skills by mastering the basics while having fun along the way. On-water training courses, watersports camps, youth boating programs and more are offered across the U.S.

Find your dream boat

Chart your own course to boat ownership by visiting DiscoverBoating.com, where you’ll find a boat finder and loan calculator tool to help determine your budget and identify the different types of boats that fit your lifestyle and interests.

Visit Discover Boating’s Go Boating Today tool to start planning your summer adventures. Use the social media hashtag #SeeYouOutHere to share your boating moments.

(BPT)

From day cruising to fishing, sailing and watersports, boating offers something for everyone, and it’s more accessible than you may think.

STOCK PHOTO *Fun in the Sun*



How the railroad came to be in East Troy

The East Troy Railroad Museum owns, maintains and operates historic electric trolley and interurban railroad cars on track completed by The Milwaukee Electric Railway & Light Co. in 1907. The rail line between Mukwonago and East Troy is the last remnant of The Milwaukee Electric Railway & Light interurban rail system, which once operated more than 200 miles of track in Southeastern Wisconsin.

Since the East Troy line was the only form of public transportation in the area in 1907, it was designated as a U.S. Mail route. And since there were no competing railroads serving East Troy, TMER&L decided to offer freight service on the line. This was profitable for the railroad and led to the growth of several businesses in the area, including a Standard Oil Distribution Center, East Troy Lumber, a United Milk Products Plant, and Equity Co-op's feed and fuel plant.

With the development of better roads and highways, interurban lines gradually lost passengers as more and more people drove their own cars. By the late 1930s, the lines to Watertown, East Troy and Burlington were all experiencing financial difficulties. In October of 1938, TMER&L Co. was broken up into two separate companies.

The Wisconsin Electric Power Company operated the power plants and handled electrical distribution; the Milwaukee Electric Railway and Transport Company (TMER&T) operated its transportation properties. In 1939, TMER&T petitioned the Public Service Commission to abandon the lines to Watertown, Burlington and East Troy.

The other lines were approved for abandonment, but the Village of East Troy and a group of concerned citizens opposed the abandonment of their line because the freight service was so important to area businesses.

After several hearings and almost a year of negotiations, TMER&T

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On the right track

East Troy Electric Railroad celebrates 50 years

By **Tracy Ouellette**
EDITOR

The first electric tourist trolleys left from East Troy on May 27, 1972. Fifty years later, the first trains of the 2022 regular season are ready to roll in East Troy. The trains travel along a 7-mile railroad line between East Troy and Mukwonago, with a stop at the Elegant Farmer along the way.

The East Troy Electric Railroad opened its 2022 season April 23 and East Troy Railroad Museum President Ryan Jonas said they were happy to a good showing.

"Opening weekend went wonderfully, we had great weather and had a really decent turnout," he said. "Our takeaway from the weekend was that people are excited to get out and do things again and we're happy to



Ryan Jonas

provide opportunities for them to do that."

While the COVID-19 pandemic didn't shut the railroad down in 2020 or 2021, riders were required to wear face masks on the trains during the last two seasons. That has changed for this year because the federal transportation mask requirement has been lifted, Jonas said.

"Come on out and have a great, fun time," Railroad Operations Manager Jim Feyerherm said.

"We've been cooped up for two years now, get out join us for a train ride."

Celebrating the railroad

The railroad's 50th birthday is cause for celebration and there are special events planned all season long.

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The East Troy Electric Railroad restores historical railway cars like this one, called the Sheboygan Trolley.

SUBMITTED PHOTO *Fun in the Sun*

East Troy Railroad 2022 Dinner Trains

GOURMET MAC-N-CHEESE

June 4

Cavatappi Noodles with Three-cheese blend with Pulled Pork, Bacon, Broccoli, and Mushroom Toppings

FATHER'S DAY

June 18

Wisconsin Cheese Board, Wedge Salad, Stuffed Pork Chop wrapped with Black Forest Bacon, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Sautéed Seasonal Vegetables

STARS AND STRIPES

July 9

Artisan Salad, Bacon-Wrapped Filet, accompanied by Twice Baked Potatoes and Sautéed Seasonal Vegetables

THAT'S AMORE

July 23

Italian Garden Salad, Italian Meatballs in House made Marinara Sauce, Pasta Bundles, Sautéed Farm Fresh Vegetables

SURF-N-TURF

Aug. 13

Wisconsin Cheese Board, 6-ounce Filet topped with Jumbo Shrimp, Truffle Oil Potatoes, Sautéed Farm Fresh Vegetables

FAMILY PICNIC TRAIN

Aug. 20

All Beef Hot Dogs with assorted toppings, with Kettle Crunch Potato Chips, pickles and Fresh Fruit

SOUTHERN DELIGHT

Aug. 27

Southern Shrimp Dip with Alabama Crackers, Slaw Salad, Baby Back Pork Ribs with Bourbon BBQ sauce, Creamy Buttermilk Mashed Potatoes, Summer Kernelled Corn

TASTE OF EAST TROY

Sept. 10

Wisconsin Cheese and Sausage Board, Skordalia, Smoked Ham on a Pretzel Roll, Country Bratwurst Bites, Mac-N-Cheese, Potato Salad

FALL HARVEST

Sept. 24

Chopped Salad, Beef Bourguignon or Orange Rustic Roughy, Roasted Garlic Smashed Potatoes, Roasted Farm Fresh Vegetables

OKTOBERFEST

Oct. 1

Cucumber and Radicchio Salad, Sauerbraten, Brussels Sprouts, German Dill Mashed Potatoes, Soft Pretzel Roll

AUTUMN GLOW

Oct. 8

Wisconsin Cheeseboard, Mixed Green Salad, Whisky Glazed Brisket, Cheddar Mashed Potatoes, Sautéed Asparagus

SWEETEST DAY

Oct. 15

Wisconsin Cheese Board, Autumn Walnut Salad, Beef Tenderloin or Blackened Salmon, Red Skin Mashers, Roasted Seasonal Vegetables

SURF-N-TURF

Oct. 22

Wisconsin Cheese Board, 6-ounce Filet topped with Jumbo Shrimp, Truffle Oil Potatoes, Sautéed Farm Fresh Vegetables

ADULT HALLOWEEN

Oct. 29

Spooky Salad, Cider Marinated Short Ribs or Bourbon Brown Sugar Chicken Quarter, Smoked Cheddar Scalloped Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables



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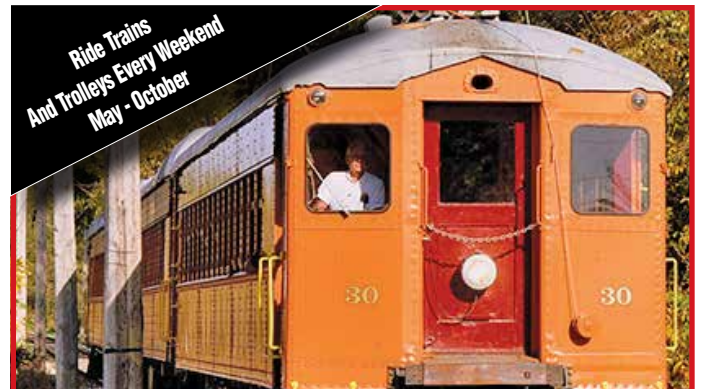


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“This year will be special for our volunteers and a great time for people to come out to ride our trains,” Jonas said. “When you take a ride on our trains, you’ll hear about the history of the electric railroad line, which has been in continuous use since 1907. This year you’ll also hear about the hundreds of volunteers and what they have done to maintain this railroad and restore its trolleys, streetcars and interurban cars for 50 years. It really is an amazing story.”

“We’ve been here a long time,” Feyerherm added. “We picked it up in 1972 and we’ve come a long way. The fact that we’ve been here for 50 years is a pretty big deal, and with all the ups and downs, we’re still here, we’re still alive and growing.”

Tickets for the regular trains are available in advance at www.easttroyrr.org. Walk-up tickets can be purchased on a space-available basis. Guests are advised arrive early and pick up their tickets in the depot before boarding.

Dinner Trains return

The Dinner Train season began in May with a special Kentucky Derby Train, followed by 16 more Dinner Train departures through the fall.

“Our dinner trains are the only electric train dining in North America,” Jonas said. “We provide the opportunity to sit back, relax and enjoy a four-course meal with a full bar on the rails.”

Feyerherm added that the East Troy Depot hosts live music before each Dinner Train.

The popular Sunday Brunch Trains are also back, with departures starting June 12.

For more information and to purchase dining event tickets, visit the railroad’s



above: The East Troy Electric Railroad’s Minneapolis Streetcar travels past Army Lake Camp in East Troy on its way to Mukwonago. **below:** South Shore Car 30 rides the rails from East Troy to Mukwonago on the last section of the Milwaukee Electric Railway & Light interurban rail system, which is now operated by the East Troy Electric Railroad.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS *Fun in the Sun*

website.

Special events in 2022

The East Troy Railroad is hosting several special events this year, including old favorites and a few new ones.

East Troy-Mukwonago Day was May 27 and residents of the area were able to ride for free.

Other upcoming events include:

- June 22 – Railfan Day where all equipment is on display, with a different historical train running every hour;
- July 16 – Milwaukee Day, featuring the Milwaukee Streetcar, North Shore Car and TMER&L equipment;
- Aug. 13 – Chicago Day with 1920s

CTA Cars, South Shore Interurbans and NPS Rangers; and

- Sept. 17 – Beer Tasting Train with Black Point Estate).

Fun in the fall

Starting Sept. 10, the railroad celebrates Harvest Fest in conjunction with The Elegant Farmer. Trains depart hourly on Saturdays and Sundays during Harvest Fest. See the website for more details.

“The Fall Harvest Fest is always a big hit,” Feyerherm said. “We take people down to the Elegant Farmer, they can pick apples and shop and then come back.”

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

Train schedule and tickets

The trains on the East Troy Electric Railroad run:

Saturdays from April 23 to Sept. 3, departing from the East Troy Depot at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., noon, 1 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Sundays from April 24 to Sept. 4, departing from the East Troy Depot at 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m.

Fridays from June 3 to Sept. 2, departing from the East Troy Depot at 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m.

Free Parking is available in East Troy. The railroad cars are heated and rest rooms are available at the East Troy Depot and the Elegant Farmer.

Cost is \$9.50 for children age 3 to 14, \$15 for adults, \$12.50 for seniors. Children age 2 and younger ride for free with adult. People can ride all day long on their ticket.

Tickets available at www.easttroyrr.org.



agreed to sell the line from Mukwonago to East Troy to the Village of East Troy for \$10,000. The agreement included an interchange with the Soo Line Railroad, which would allow freight traffic to continue. The Village of East Troy passed a referendum approving the purchase by a vote of 321 to 11.

TMER&T crews continued to operate and maintain the electric railroad from Mukwonago to East Troy five days a week. Throughout the 1940s the railroad carried between 800 and 1,000 cars of freight each year. But because of increasing maintenance expenses and its desire to get out of the railroad business, TMER&T declined to renew its operating agreement in 1949, forcing the Village of East Troy to take over operation of the railroad in 1950. At this time the railroad officially became known as the Municipality of East Troy Wisconsin Railroad.

In the early 1970s, The Wisconsin Electric Railway Historical Society began operating weekend trolley rides on the line using its own restored trolley equipment. In 1984, the Village of East Troy cancelled the Historical Society's operating lease and began looking for an organization to lease and operate the entire railroad. The village

approached the Wisconsin Trolley Museum, which had a strong core of volunteers restoring trolleys at the old Milwaukee Road depot in North Prairie. The village asked if they would move to East Troy and take over the line.

The Wisconsin Trolley Museum agreed, entering into a 25-year operating lease. In the spring of 1985 it moved its collection of seven trolleys to East Troy and took over operation of the railroad. A new trolley car barn was built in East Troy, and a new power supply was installed to provide power to the overhead catenary system.

In 1993, the Friends of the East Troy Railroad began to negotiate with the Village of East Troy to purchase the property outright. The sale was completed on January 13, 1995. So, since 1985 the East Troy Railroad Museum has operated and maintained the East Troy Electric Railroad and since 1995 the non-profit corporation has owned the railroad as well.

The line no longer handles freight, but maintains an interchange with the Canadian National Railroad at Mukwonago.

Visit www.easttroymuseum.org to learn more.

Additionally, in October the railroad is introducing its new Halloween Trains where children can trick-or-treat along the line.

About the railroad

The East Troy Railroad Museum operates 14-mile round trip train rides from its historic East Troy depot and museum to Indianhead Park in Mukwonago, with a stop at the popular Elegant Farmer store and deli.

The non-profit museum is operated, maintained and managed by more than 130 volunteers dedicated to engaging visitors in the heritage of electric interurban railways and trolley systems through restoration, preservation and operation of historic equipment.

"We're always looking for volunteers," Feyerherm said. "Join in on the fun and volunteer with us, we have all kinds of things to do, from mowing the grass to running a train."

Feyerherm added that while the railroad operates from late spring to fall, with the addition of the Christmas Trains, volunteers work year round.

"We have a lot of dedicated, passionate folks and there's someone working on a train every day," he said. "We do a lot of restoration on the cars, and fully restore almost one car a year and they do a great job, the cars look fantastic, just like they did way back when."

For more information, visit www.easttroymuseum.org or call 262-642-3263.

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Ready for a summer getaway?

3 tips for planning a family vacation

Summer vacations are an excellent opportunity to unwind, bond with your family and make memories. Summer is also one of the most popular times to travel, so it's time to start planning to make sure you can secure your ideal destination.

However, planning a family getaway can be challenging, especially if your family members are of different ages and have different interests. If you haven't planned one before, or it's been awhile since your last family vacation, it can be a bit daunting to know where to start.

Here are three tips for planning a summer getaway everyone in the family is sure to enjoy.

Brainstorm together

Start planning your trip by brainstorming ideas together as a family. Consider where you've already visited and what kind of experiences you've had. Are there any places you want to revisit? What did you like or dislike about previous vacations? What locations do you want to visit and which experiences do you want to enjoy?

Brainstorming your family vacation will likely involve several conversations before picking a destination. Have each family member list their top destinations and activities. If there's any overlap, you'll find it easier to narrow your vacation list.

Pick your destination

Once you have a clear picture of what your family wants out of your vacation, it's time to pick a spot! While you may not be able to accommodate everyone's desires, you can choose a destination that provides a variety of activities. Resorts are an excellent choice for a family vacation because they offer several attractions and experiences. With so many choices, vacation planning is simplified.

Kalahari Resorts & Conventions, home of America's largest indoor waterparks, has everything your family will enjoy under one roof. All resort locations feature well-appointed guest rooms, a full-service spa, a family entertainment center, on-site signature restaurants, unique retail shops and a state-of-the-art convention center.

"Make this the best summer yet for your loved ones with a trip they won't forget," said Todd Nelson, CEO and owner of Kalahari Resorts. "From the adventure-seeker to the foodie to the spa-lover, there is something for everyone at Kalahari Resorts."



top: It's time to start planning your summer family getaway! With some advance planning, you can make your summer vacation a trip the family won't soon forget. **above:** Waterparks are full of fun and adventure for the kids and a welcome break for their parents.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS *Fun in the Sun*

Getting there

Now that you've picked your destination, it's time to consider transport. How far are you willing to travel? Do you have young children or grandparents who will need travel accommodations? Do you prefer to drive, take a train or fly? These are all important questions to ask yourself and your family when planning your summer vacation.

One of the most classic summer family vacation experiences is road trips, and there

are plenty of benefits too. You can make stops along the way to your destination to stretch your legs and see the sites on your route.

Kalahari Resorts offers convenient, drivable locations for many families with four locations across the nation (Wisconsin Dells; Sandusky, Ohio; Poconos Mountains, Pennsylvania; and Round Rock, Texas). From the comfort of your family's car, you can start making memories as soon as you hit the road.

(BPT)

FISHING FUN • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

jackets, stays hydrated, and that you brief the kids on hook and water safety before handing over the rod. Remember to check the weather ahead of time so you can bundle up if it's a crisp morning, and bring sunscreen and hats if the sun is blazing.

Bring a scale

Practice catch-weigh-photo-release to get the family in the swing of things. You can even have a competition to see who had the heaviest catch! Weigh the fish caught with a Rapala scale, perfect for taking photos that display just how hefty your catch is.

Don't forget the snacks!

Make everyone's day and keep spirits high by bringing special treats along for the ride. Ask each family member their favorite snack beforehand to make sure everyone is included. The only 'hangry' ones on your fishing trip should be the fish!

Think beyond fishing

Tell stories, take pictures, and bring coloring books for the little ones if they need a break. And remember, it's okay if not everyone wants to fish. Some members of your family may not be too keen on fishing. Make sure they feel welcome and

invite them to read a book or do another activity while others in your family are fishing. They will surely want to be there when the others are showing their catches off.

Fishing is about learning

Fishing can be fun, but it's also an opportunity to be part of nature and experience other precious moments, such as watching other wildlife (turtles, frogs, ducks, squirrels), identifying plants and trees, learning how a boat works, and trying different types of presentations to see which one is most effective in catching fish. If some members of your family really turn on to fishing, feed that passion with videos about fishing. Rapala has more than 600 informative videos on its YouTube channel alone.

Make a video

Take lots of photos and videos of your fishing trips with the family, then create a short movie with iMovie to help them relive the memories of fishing when it's cold and wet outside. It'll be fun to make, and the final product will be a memento your family will cherish forever.

(BPT)

EVENTS

• CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

can enjoy live music and take pride knowing that each ice cream cone, hot dog or cold beverage they buy at a concert is helping local businesses rebound from a tough stretch.

Farmers market

Another way to promote local businesses and public health is to host weekly farmers markets. Buying locally grown foods greatly reduces food miles, a term that refers to the distance food travels before it reaches grocery stores.

Reduced food miles means less fuel consumption and reduced air pollution, both of which benefit the environment and human health. But farmers markets do more than that, as they provide access to healthy foods to individuals who might otherwise be unable to find fresh fruits and vegetables. And farmers markets support local farmers and growers, reassuring consumers that their hard earned money is going back into their own communities.

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