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Spring/Summer 2015





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RITZ HOSPITALITY MAGAZINE

Spring/Summer Edition 2015

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President/CEO

Michael Ritz mikeritz@ritzfamilypublishing.com

Executive V.P. Operations

Robert Davis rdavis@ritzfamilypublishing.com

Sales Manager

David Larsen david@ritzfamilypublishing.com

Office Manager

Angie Hawkins angie@ritzfamilypublishing.com

Secretary

Kay Clover kay@ritzfamilypublishing.com

Ritz Family Publishing, Inc.

www.ritzfamilypublishing.com

Corporate Office

Ritz Family Publishing, Inc. 714 N Main Street Meridian. ID 83642

Sales

For all sales inquiries, call toll free 1(800) 330-3482 or 1(208) 955-0124 sales@ritzfamilypublishing.com

Subscriptions

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Veterans Memorial Museum -Chehalis, WA

"They Shall Not Be Forgotten"

he Veterans Memorial Museum, located in Chehalis, WA, began in 1997 at a storefront in Chehallis, WA. From this humble beginning through perseverance and the help of membership moneys and donations, they were able to open their new facility in 2005. This facility, featuring a 9,000 square foot main gallery, 85 display cases and hundreds of displays honoring our veterans, is visible from Interstate 5 just off Exit 77.

The museum also features a military history reference library with thousands of volumes. There is also a gift shop and a "USO" where you can enjoy a cup of coffee and converse with local veterans.

Many veterans returning from war bury emotions deep inside their minds and hearts and do not learn how to reconcile with them until 20 to 50 years later. Unfortunately some never are able to come to grips with these emotions. One of the major goals of the Veterans Memorial Museum is to sponsor events such as these to help the HEALING process begin.

Desert War Veterans Day

On June 27th they will be honoring the veterans of the Desert War. The guest speaker will be a Global War on Terrorism Purple Heart recipient.

Civil War Battle and Remembrance

On the July weekend of the 25th-26th they will continue their recognition of the Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War. They will be having another large battle and encampment not far from the Museum. These are really exciting events as you watch the battle unfold, learn about life in the 1860's from the living historians and learn about the featured battle.

Vietnam Veterans Day

On the August 1st the Veterans Memorial Museum will continue its recognition of the veterans of the Vietnam War. The guest speaker for this year's event will be a USAF Air Force Cross recipient.

Visit the Veterans Memorial Museum

The museum is open year round Tuesday-Saturday from 10AM to 5PM, and from June 1st through Labor Day in September, it is also open on Sundays from 1PM to 5PM.

All of the museum's programs are intended to HONOR those who serve or have served our country. The freedom our citizens and our County currently have is a direct result of the millions of American servicemen and women who have served their country in peace and war!

For more information, call (360)740-8875 or visit their website at www.veteransmuseum.org.



Massive 20,500 Sq. Ft. Museum Open Year Round from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tues.-Sat. Also, from June 1st through Labor Day Weekend 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday

> June 27, 2015 Desert War Veterans Day

> > July 25-26, 2015

Civil War Battle and Remembrance

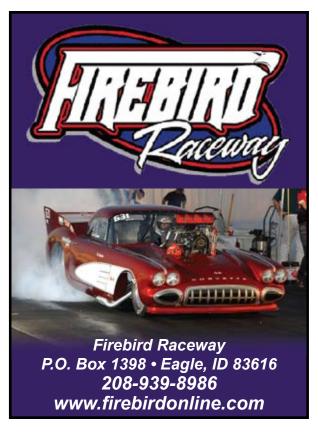
August 1, 2015

Vietnam War Veterans Day

100 S.W. Veterans Way • I-5, Exit 77 Chehalis, WA 98532

For Information Call: (360) 740-8875

www.veteransmuseum.org



Pendleton Round-Up & Happy Canyon

et'er Buck! The Pendleton Round-Up at 105 years old in 2015 continues its tradition of preserving the western lifestyle always the second full week each September.

The Round-Up is more than a rodeo. It is a community and cultural event designated by the State of Oregon as Heritage Tradition location. Annually the City's population of 13,000 grows to more than 60,000 as visitors from around the country and around the world come to enjoy a weeklong celebration.

Smith in 1925, and was copyrighted by the Round-Up Board as the official trademark. The Board also has the copyright to "Let'er Buck." Volunteers are the foundation of the Round-Up, with more than 1,100 people working to produce this famed event. Each volunteer serves under one of the 16 members of the Board of Directors and the Board's president, who also volunteer countless hours throughout the year. Over 400 tipis create the "Indian Village" each year, and most Tribal families have been attending for



The Round-Up began in 1910 when farmers, ranchers and local Indian Tribes gathered to celebrate the western lifestyle and is now famous for its 4 days of exciting rodeo action that features over 800 contestants. These contestants represent the world's best cowboys and cowgirls competing for a half-million in prize money on the Round-Up's unique giant grass arena, surrounded by a quarter mile dirt track and framed by 16 wooden bucking chutes.

The Pendleton Round-Up is also well-known for its famous registered bucking horse logo. The logo was originally painted by artist Wallace generations. The Tribe has played an important role in Round-Up and Happy Canyon since the beginning, with tribal dancing taking place each day in the Round-Up arena during the rodeo. The Happy Canyon Indian Pageant, Oregon's official outdoor pageant and wild west show, depicts the old West as seen by the Indians will be celebrating its Centennial in 2016. Hundreds of tribal volunteers participate in roles that are handed down from one generation to the next.

Today, the second full week in September features the Pendleton Round-Up and the Happy Canyon Indian Pageant a Saturday night concert, 2

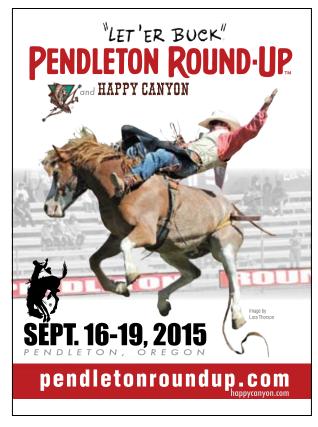
nights of the Professional Bull Rider's Tour, two parades, Indian Beauty Contests, street shows, carnival, and a every morning Cowboy Breakfast. There is also the Hall of Fame and Museum to visit where the history of the Round-Up and Happy Canvon is shared. The U.S. Bank/Pendleton PBR Classic features 45 of the world's top bull riders and the sport's toughest, meanest bulls in a grueling two-day event that has bull riding fans on the edge of their seats. The concert lineup each year has been a "Who's Who" in the music world. Reba McIntire, George Strait, Brooks and Dunn, Kenny Chesney. The Steve Miller Band. the Beach Boys, Ras-cal Flatts, Leann Rimes, Willie Nelson, Randy Travis, the Oak Ridge Boys, Alabama, Jo Dee Messina, John Michael Montgomery, Sawyer Brown, Tracy Byrd, Brad Paisley and Josh Turner just to name some of the entertainers that have opened the big week in Pendleton.

The Westward Ho! Parade winds its way through town Friday morning as the largest non-motorized parade in the country, with displays of fine horses, hitches, teams, Oregon Trail wagons and elegant coaches. The Indian Beauty Pageant and native dance competitions provide an opportunity to photograph the finest Native American regalia anywhere, some centuries old, in the midst of an authentic Indian tipi village. A Children's Rodeo, a Tough Enough to Wear Pink day, and a Patriot Day add to the fun. In addition, the Main Street Cowboys provide the 'Greatest Free Show on Earth' starting downtown each day at 2 p.m. with free entertainment. Pendleton itself features the home of

Pendleton itself features the home of Pendleton Woolen Mills and Pendleton Whiskey is just one libation that helps make Pendleton, Oregon the place to be on the second full week of September. For tickets and more information, visit these websites: www.pendletonround-up.com and www.happycanyon.com. Or call 1(800) 45-RODEO.

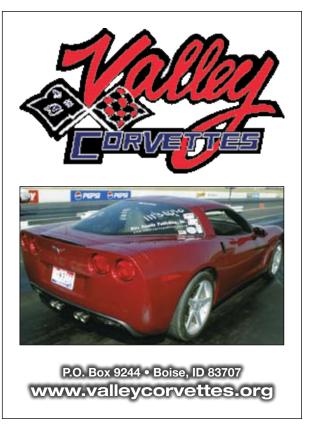












Welcome To Ontario, Oregon Home of "America's Global Village Festival"

ntario, Oregon is nestled on the lush banks of the Snake River and is proud to be the first Oregon city you encounter when traveling west from the Idaho border. Once you enter the uniquely rugged landscape of the Treasure Valley, you will come to understand why many people never want to leave. Those who choose to live here understand the meaning and importance of a quality, family oriented lifestyle. Thus, the community reflects the energy, distinction, and diversity of its surrounding geography and residents.



And speaking of diversity, this year the Ontario Chamber of Commerce will host the 15th annual America's Global Village Festival in Lions Park on June 6th – the first Saturday in June. The festivities begin at 10:00 a.m. with a multicultural parade through the park followed by a flag ceremony.

The Festival celebrates the authentic cultural villages of African, Basque, German, Hawaiian, Japanese, Mexican, Pioneer, Scottish and Native American cultures. Each village features food, arts and crafts, cultural demonstrations and free youth activities. The main stage will highlight cultural entertainment throughout the day.

Upon entering the park for the Festival, visitors will be given a souvenir passport. With each visit to the villages, the passport will be stamped. When children have a full passport, they will receive a free prize. Adults who turn in a complete survey will have a chance to win one of two \$50 gas cards.

While Ontario is the kind of laid-back town you dream about when you want to get away from the hectic schedule of a busy, big city lifestyle, it also boasts a myriad of recreational activities for all ages, interests and skill levels within driving distance from its downtown area. Here you can enjoy mountain biking, hiking, golfing, camping, sport fishing, bird watching, kayaking, river rafting, horseback riding and much more. Ontario is situated only two hours from four separate ski resorts, including the world renowned Tamarack Ski Resort in Cascade, Idaho. You can not only downhill ski to your heart's content, but also snowmobile, cross country ski and ice skate as well. There are also 61 acres of lush parks within the city if you're looking for a place to just relax and enjoy the landscape.



Ontario is a town where you will find the people are genuine, authentic, friendly, and down to earth. It is a town with a fascinating history, rich traditions, and a diverse population. It is also a place filled with things to do, places to see, and four distinct and beautiful seasons, so any time you choose to visit will be the perfect time. Visit us on our website at www.ontariochamber.com

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roups and individuals can escape civilization and experience the Hanford Reach – the last free flowing stretch of the mighty Columbia River.

of viewing this federally protected area where vehicle access is limited.

As the twin-engine shallow draft jet boat motors upstream, signs of civilization disappear as you enter the seldom monumental hulks of long-silenced nuclear reactors, the only visible signs of the top-secret Manhattan Project, the captain will tell how the project shaped the area's history.

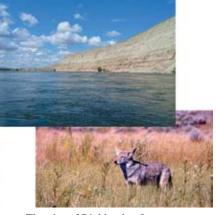


A trip with Columbia River Journeys showcases the scenery and wildlife of the Hanford Reach National Monument. Passengers will enjoy a 40 mile trip upstream from Richland, Washington into a stretch of unbridled river flows through a landscape of the White Bluffs, dunes and desert plateaus. Columbia River Journeys provides groups and individuals with one of the only ways



seen lands and waters of the Hanford Reach. Wildlife sightings are common. Passengers may see great white pelicans, osprey, blue heron, great white egret, mule deer and many other animals. The boat captain will provide an interesting narrative that explains the geology of this area that is accessible only by water.

As the boat passes the ghostly,



The city of Richland, a former government town, was built to support the Manhattan Project as part of the effort to end World War II. The B Reactor that was built at Hanford was the world's first full-scale nuclear reactor and produced the plutonium that was used in the atomic bomb dropped on Nagasaki, thus ending World War II. Passengers also learn about the Native Americans who lived along the Hanford Reach as well as some of the area's earliest settler's.

Columbia River Journeys currently runs the Chinook Wind a Coast Guard certified, 20 passenger jet boat. An onboard restroom is provided on the vessel. Tours run daily from May to mid October, though groups can book tours outside of the regular season. Group discounts are available.

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Welcome to Snohomish Washington! The Authentic **Destination**

nohomish was founded in 1859. Founder E.C. Ferguson was looking to settle and prosper by providing a ferry crossing of the Snohomish River for a Military Road planned to connect Fort Stelacoom and Fort Bellingham. The road was never completed, however, the City of Snohomish became a busy logging, milling and farming community. Snohomish was the original county seat until it was moved to Everett in 1897.

Today you can find authentic Victorian era architecture represented in the nationally registered commercial and residential historic districts. Walking tour maps are available for both districts. From the River Trail just below First Street in downtown Snohomish, vou can view one of the few remaining family owned lumber mills in the State of Washington, Look east up the River to see the River Trestle built in the late 1800's. Up until a few years ago the trestle was still in use by the Burlington Northern Railroad servicing the feed mill that was located where the Snohomish Library now stands.

Snohomish has become known as the Antique Capital of the Northwest. Malls and antique shops offer antiques and collectible from 450 dealers. The historic downtown business district provides a fascinating shopping experience. Home and garden décor shopping is equally as popular and Art Galleries showcase area superior talents. Dining opportunities abound for long luxurious afternoon tea, sumptuous seafood, delectable homemade pie, and almost any cuisine in between.

For accommodation and visitor information contact the Snohomish Chamber of Commerce. 360-568-2526 www.cityofsnohomish.com

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17th Anniversary of the Western Legends Round-Up

he 17th Annual Western Legends Round-Up is a celebration of Film, Music, Poetry and Western Heritage. It will be held August 27th-29th, 2015 in Kanab, Utah. During the Western Legends Round-Up, the streets of Kanab are transformed into an authentic Wild West town where you can enjoy activities and events that foster an appreciation for the legacy of the Old West.

These activities include the Western Art Street Fair. The Street Fair provides an opportunity for you to learn about the arts and culture of the region. During the street fair there will be two stages providing continuous cultural music, dancing and cowboy poetry. Other activities are a Wild West Comedy & Stunt Show, Pie Eating Contest, Covered Wagon Rides, classic tractor

pull, antique farm equipment displays, celebrity panels, western parade and much more.



The Western Legends Round-up features Kanab's role as "Utah's Little Hollywood". Many classic western movies were produced in Kanab because of its dramatic landscapes. There will be a film festival showcasing these films. There are also tours of western movie sets and film lectures. The Western Legends Round-Up is

a star-studded event. This year our visiting movie stars include Bruce Boxleitner, Barry Corbin, Clint Walker and many more!

Each night of the Western Legends Round-Up will feature an exciting musical concert. The headliners will be The Sons of The Pioneers and Suzy Bogguss. There will also be a tribute concert to Patsy Cline and Marty Robbins

The Western Legends Wagon Train Experience during August 24th-27th is like stepping back in time. You get to travel by covered wagon down the same trails that the pioneers, John Wayne, and others trekked while settling the west and in the great western movies. Please visit www.westernlegendsroundup.com to view a full list of activities and purchase your tickets!



Web.com and Albertsons Boise Open Presented by Kraft & Nabisco Enters 26th Year

The week of July 6-12, 2015 the Albertsons Boise Open presented by Kraft & Nabisco returns to Hillcrest County Club in Boise, Idaho. The tourney, historically one of the favorite stops on the Web. com Tour, is one of only a very few that has existed every year of the Web.com Tour's existence, and it is the only one that has been at the same venue with the same title sponsor every year in the 26 year history of the Web.com.

On February 2, 1990, in Bakersfield, California, former PGA TOUR Deane Beman struck the ceremonial first shot at Bakersfield Country Club, which officially launched what would eventually become the Web.com Tour. A field of 131 players teed off that day in the Bakersfield Open.

Twenty-five years later, both the PGA TOUR and the Web.com Tour have experienced incredible growth. In 2015, the Web.com Tour opened its 26th season with six of the first seven events outside the U.S. - in Panama, Columbia (2) tourneys), Brazil, Chile and Mexico. By the end of this season, the tour will have featured 24 events and included stops in six countries outside the United States.



This year, when the first ball was stroked off the tee January 29th at the Panama Claro Championship in Panama City, Panama, it was the beginning of the 26th year of the Web.com Tour – the last two proving to truly be

The Path to the PGA TOUR.

After returning to the U.S. for the next 5 events, the tour goes north of the border to Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, before finishing up in the states for the final 10 regular season events, plus the season-ending Web. com Tour Championship the first week

For the almost 300 players on the Web.com Tour, the focus will of course be on securing one of the fifty PGA TOUR cards for 2016 that will be awarded to the Tour's 25 leading money winners at the end of the regular season and another 25 based on a separate money list for the four Web.com Tour Finals events.

But the real winners of the Albertsons Boise Open presented by Kraft & Nabisco are the local charities. Last year's event raised \$1.45 million for local charities.

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Discovering The Grand Canyon

he next time you plan a vacation trip, you may find a destination with a variety of options to match almost any taste: one of the most amazing natural sites in America-the Grand Canyon. In addition to the fabulous views, the Grand Canyon has something for just about everyone.

IMAX: Learn about the history of the Grand Canyon-spanning from the original Native American inhabitants to the great explorers-in the most watched IMAX film in history, Grand Canyon: The Hidden Secrets. Visit the National Geographic Visitors Center for show times.



Jeep Tours: Experience the wildlife, history and geology of the Grand Canyon on an outback, back-road Jeep tour. While adventuring in open-air, four-wheel-drive safari vehicles, professional guides discuss the early settlers, the cowboys, native wildlife, history, and the facts and folklore of the canyon.

National Geographic Photo Gallery: Take a walk through time at the National Geographic photo gallery. Located at the National Geographic Visitors Center, the award-winning photos include images from the National Geographic archives encompassing three major themes: John Wesley Powell, Native Americans and Mapping the Canyon.

Helicopter Tours: Up for a birds-eye view of the Grand Canyon? Experience the excitement of a Canyon air tour in state-of-the-art helicopters with specifically equipped vista view windows on a Papillon helicopter tour. You can find more information at papillon.com

Bus Tours: Not up for the adventure but want to live the experience? Grand Canyon bus tours take you to the most popular scenic overlooks and historic sites in a quiet, comfort-controlled tour bus.

For more information on these and other activities visit the National Geographic Visitors Center-one mile south of the South Rim Entrance to Grand Canyon National Park-or go to www.grandcanyonimaxtheater.com

Albuquerque, New Mexico

rom its birthplace in historic Old Town in 1706, Albuquerque has grown from small pueblos and Spanish farms to one of the Southwest's premier metropolitan centers. Albuquerque is New Mexico's largest city with just over 750,000 residents. Built on the diversity of Spanish culture and Native American tradition, Albuquerque is home to world class cultural events, unique attractions, a vibrant heritage, 16 museums, shopping, outdoor recreation, spectacular hot air ballooning, and championship golf courses.

Experience New Mexico's rich cultural history as you hike among the ancient cliff dwellings and petroglyphs to learn about the lifestyles and beliefs found in the area's earliest civilizations. Albuquerque is the gateway to Pueblo Indian culture. Learn about the state's 19 Indian pueblos at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center. Indian dances, artist demonstrations and bread baking take place at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center every weekend. Experience living cultural traditions on a guided tour of Acoma Pueblo just 45 minutes west of Albuquerque.

Albuquerque is a four-season destination with 310 days of sunshine per year. This provides visitors with endless possibilities for outdoor activities under a clear blue sky. A hot-air balloon ride in the "hot air balloon capital of the world" is unlike any other experience; balloon rides are offered throughout the year. Get a bird's eye view of the Rio Grande Valley by riding the Sandia Peak Aerial Tramway from 6,500 feet to more than 10,000 feet. Once at the top, hit the trails for hiking and exploring. Take in a view of more than 11,000 square miles on a clear day.

The climate and high desert landscape are ideal for hiking, biking and golfing. Set out for a hike along one of many trails winding through the Cibola National Forest on Sandia Peak or challenge yourself with a ride on a mountain bike over the rugged terrain. Road biking is also abundant in the area with numerous trails linking throughout the city. Combine the milehigh elevation and varied landscape of central New Mexico with warm sun, low humidity and very affordable green fees, and you have a fantastic golf destination. With more than 15 golf courses in the metro area, golfers of every skill level will enjoy a picturesque round of golf in Albuquerque.

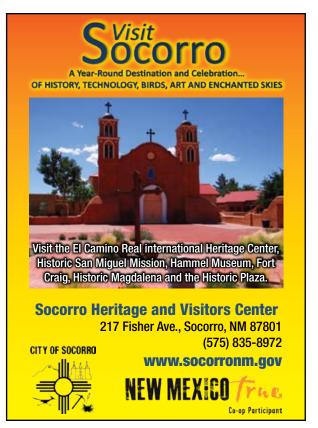
For the authentic New Mexican experience, be sure to sample some chile. New Mexico's state question, "Red or Green?" refers to the type of chile you prefer. Add some spice into your life and order "Christmas style" and you'll get both red and green chile on your plate. Albuquerque offers a variety of dining options from a quaint and casual atmosphere to an elegant fine dining ambiance.

Take a piece of New Mexico home with you – an authentic art piece that is. Albuquerque offers an array of Southwestern art from hand-made pottery and jewelry to tin work, paintings and rugs.

For more information, visit www.visitalbuquerque.org









As home to *The World's First Rodeo*, we have heritage of western hospitality and a reputation for fun. We invite you to come and visit a hot spot in adventurous Far West Texas.

Annual Events

Jan: Reeves County Jr. Livestock Show
March: Texas Proud in Pecos
May: Annual Toro Diablo Bull Riding
Relay For Life
June: Golden Girl of the Old West Revue
Little Miss Cantaloupe Pageant
Old Timer's Reunion
West of The Pecos Rodeo
July: Night In Old Pecos/Cantaloupe Festival & Food Show
Aug: Annual Cantaloupe Fly-In
Sept: 16 de September Festival
Oct: County Fall Fair & Livestock Show
County Sheriff's Posse BBQ Coo-Off
Dec: Annual Christmas Parade
Christmas Lighting & Fireworks

www.pecsotx.com Visit our Facebook Page Pecos Area Chamber of Commerce/CVB



Pecos, Texas The Hot Spot for adventure in Far West Texas

here in the heart of West Texas sits the community of Pecos with a friendly western smile waiting to invite you to come in find the true cowboy in you. With its rich history of cowboys and rodeo, Pecos has one of the best historical attractions in West Texas, the West of the Pecos Museum. Over 50 rooms occupying three floors of western heritage, artifacts and West Texas lore can be found in it describing the proud history that is the roots of this Pecos community and the surrounding area. Speaking of preserving history, just a couple of blocks south of the West of the Pecos Museum there is a place that exists just for the auto historians.



The Memory Lane Car Museum takes you back in time with their excellent antique auto collection for your enjoyment. With Pecos also known as Home of the World's First Rodeo there is a certain pride in wearing cowboy boots on an

there is a certain pride in wearing cowboy boots on an everyday basis. Back in 1883, on Independence Day, local cowboys with great skill decided to compete in the world's first Rodeo right there in Pecos! Now, annually cowboys from all over gather in the historical Buck Jackson Arena to compete in Rodeo action for that coveted recognition four exciting nights in the West of the Pecos Rodeo. What a site it is! Visitors from all over the world travel to this laid back, friendly community to celebrate Rodeo heritage. And speaking of cowboys, located in the Pecos Area Chamber of Commerce/CVB is the Texas Rodeo Hall of Fame where cowboys from Pecos and the area have been inducted in recognition for their Rodeo accomplishments. While you are out in the west drop in for a visit, spend some time and walk away with your own western smile, compliments of Pecos, Texas.

Discover Dalhart, TX

ituated in the northwest corner of the TEXAS Panhandle, no matter what time of year you visit Dalhart there is always something FUN!! For information and list of upcoming events: TEXT – visitdalhart to 40691



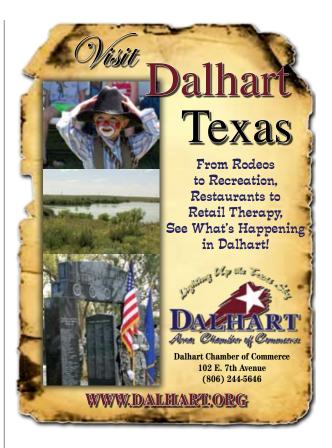
Rita Blanca Lake Area – Features prime bird-viewing year round. Improved trails for hiking, horseback riding, running or just walking are accessible year round weather permitting. RV Hook-ups are available along with picnic tables, playground facility, large Pavilion for large outdoor gatherings and the Rita Blanca Disk Golf Course. The Texas Parks & Wildlife stocks the nearby fishing pond in the winter months with trout. In the spring the City hosts a fishing derby for the local kids.

The XIT Museum is a great place to stop. The museum offers a wealth of history and features a unique wildlife exhibit, cheese making exhibit, farming, ranching and pioneer exhibits and more. The museum is currently working on an exhibit so visitors can learn about the Dust Bowl. There is also a large archive of information about the Dalhart Army Airfield, XIT Ranch, business history, photographs and much more. The museum is open Tuesday - Saturday each week, www.xitmuseum.org

The largest and most-well know community celebration is the Annual XIT Rodeo & Reunion still going for nearly 80 years. The event originated when ranch hands from the XIT Ranch decided to get together to swap stories and rodeo. Now, the three-day festival held the first Thursday, Friday & Saturday in August features the world's largest free barbeque, nightly PRCA Rodeo, dance, XIT Melodrama and free pork chops and more. Other activities included Fiddlers Contest, Street Parade, Antique Tractor Pull, XIT 1k & 5k run/walk, Mud Bogs, Arts & Crafts Show and more. www.xit-rodeo.com

The Jewel of the Plains, the La Rita Performing Arts Theatre, nestled in Downtown Dalhart is the home of the XIT Melodrama held during the annual XIT Rodeo & Reunion. Other performances about once a month include poetry gatherings, local productions and various programs from area WTA&M University. This 1920's movie theatre has been fully restored to its full grandeur and is a great venue for singers & musicians. For information and upcoming shows visit www.larita.org or call 806-244-5646.

These are just a few of the highlights, learn more at, www.dalhart.org











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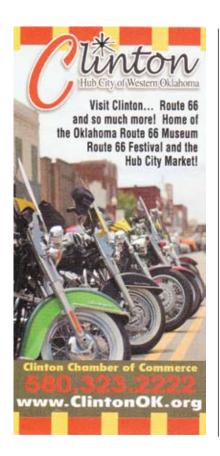
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and antique shopping in one of many historic downtown areas. Experience an Oklahoma sunrise- or sunset - and relish in the natural beauty found here. Relax, Learn, Eat, Explore- we've got a little bit of it all waiting just for you.

You'll find a range of events as diverse as our great state taking place all over Great Plains Country: rodeos, theatrical performances, powwows, fairs, festivals . . . we keep our calendars busy throughout the year!

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Oklahoma's Great Plains Country or
to request your FREE Great Plains
Country Travel Guide, call 866-GPCOKLA or visit us at
www.GreatPlainsCountry.com
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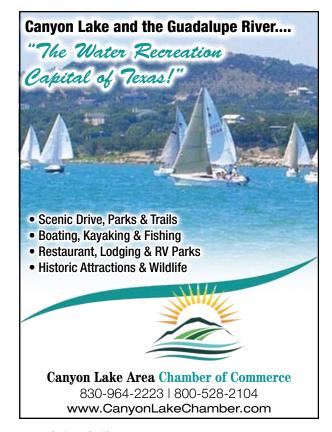
The Perryton-Ochiltree Chamber of Commerce would like to invite

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erryton, Texas. A small town community with big-city spirit! Located in the Northeastern Texas Panhandle, we are the Wheatheart of the Nation! Perryton is a proud community that strives to be the best and provide the best. We tell our visitors that what makes Perryton unique is something that can't be purchased, it's the people! The people of Perryton are generous, caring, and very hospitable to everyone they meet. Which is why Perryton doesn't just satisfy tourists, it creates a culture of loyal customers who keep returning to Perryton based on the quality of products and customer

service they receive. Too often towns of our sized are plagued by empty storefronts and boarded windows, but not Perryton. Our Main Street, much like our community, is full of life! People are often awed by the beauty of our Downtown Main Street and astounded by the spectrum of goods we have to offer. Whether searching for furniture, flowers, or food, Perryton truly has something for everyone! For more information on Perryton, please visit www.perryton.org, www. ptnchamber.com, or contact the Chamber of Commerce at 806-435-6575 or at ptnchamber@gmail.com. We hope to meet you soon!







The World's Largest Hand-Dug Well

he story of the World's Largest Hand-Dug Well began in the 1880's when both the Santa Fe and Rock Island Railroads were laying tracks across the plains of Kansas and needed a reliable water source. In 1887, the city granted a franchise for a water works system to cost approximately \$45,000. The well served as a source of water for the city until 1932.



Construction of the well is a masterpiece of pioneer engineering. Crews of 12 to 15 farmers, cowboys, and transients worked using shovels, picks, half barrels, pulleys and ropes and were paid fifty cents to a dollar a day. The stone used for the well casing was brought in wagons from the Medicine River 12 miles south of Greensburg. Dirt from the well was

hauled away by the same wagons which had slatted beds. By opening the slats and dumping the dirt in low spots, streets and roads to the quarry were leveled.

A wide shaft was cribbed and braced every 12 feet with two by twelve inch planks that reached from wall to wall in a wagon wheel type support as the digging progressed. The braces were sawed off after the stones were fitted around them.
When the desired depth was achieved, numerous lengths of perforated pipe were driven horizontally at the bottom of the wall into the water bearing gravel. This served to increase the flow of water into the well basin.

The Big Well is 109 feet deep and 32 feet in diameter. The well was opened as a historic attraction in 1937. Over three million visitors from every state in the nation and many foreign countries have descended the metal stairway the well. On January 29, 2008 the Big Well was named one of the 8 Wonders of Kansas by Governor Kathleen Sebelius.

On May 4, 2007 95% of Greensburg was destroyed by an EF5 tornado, including the Big Well Gift Shop & Visitors Center. The Big Well survived with little damage, but was closed to tours until the new museum was completed. The new Big Well Museum re-opened on May 26, 2012 allowing visitors to once again descend in the Big Well via a new spiral staircase. The museum features exhibits about the founding of Greensburg and the digging of the Big Well, the tornado that devastated Greensburg May 4, 2007 and the rebuilding as a sustainable community. To learn more about Greensburg, Kansas and The Big Well, please visit www.greensburgks.org

Kansas Cosmosphere And Space Center

Center started out as the Hutchinson Planetarium. It now consists of 105,000 square feet dedicated to space science exhibits and educational programs, including a planetarium, an IMAX® Dome Theater and the internationally recognized Hall of Space Museum.

The Cosmosphere houses the most significant collection of U.S. space artifacts outside of the National Air and Space Museum, and the largest collection of Soviet space artifacts in the Western world, The Cosmosphere tells the story of the Space Race in a way that no other museum can.

The Cosmosphere's collection includes one-of-a-kind artifacts such as the Apollo 13 command module Odyssey, the space capsule Gemini X, the SR-71 Blackbird #961, and rare V-1 and V-2 rockets. It also has on display a complete set of Mercury, Gemini and Apollo spacecraft juxtaposed with a complete set of Russian Vostok, Voskhod and Soyuz spacecraft. It is also the permanent home of the Mercury capsule, Liberty Bell 7, which the Cosmosphere and Discovery Channel recovered from the ocean floor.

Approximately 150,000 visitors visit the Cosmosphere yearly from every state and dozens of foreign countries. Named one of the first affiliates of the Smithsonian Institution in 1998, students visit the facility every year as part of school field trips.

For more than 25 years, students have attended nationally recognized camps at the cosmosphere. Camps are designed for students as young as those going into the second grade through high school age. The Cosmosphere also offers camps for adults, scouts, and custom camps tailored to any group.

Named an official project of Save America's Treasures by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the White House, the Cosmosphere is known worldwide for its space artifact restoration program including the complete restoration of Apollo 13 and Liberty Bell 7.

When Liberty Bell 7 completed its nationwide tour late in 2005 and returned for permanent display at the space museum, the Cosmosphere became one of only three locations in the world to have flown Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo spacecrafts.

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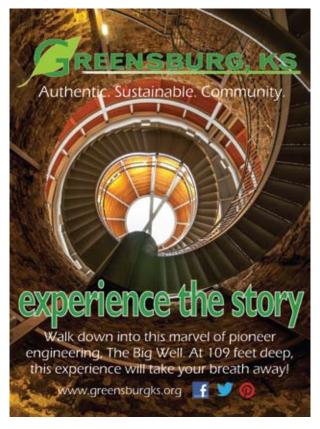
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Lexington Convention and Visitor Bureau

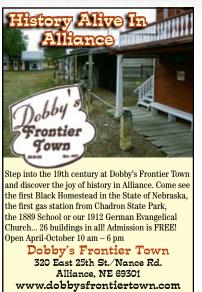
Lexington has to offer: wineries, antique shops, historic trails, museums and many other events and attractions. Check them on our website: www.visitlexington.org

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Experience Garden City, Kansas

Tust the name Garden City evokes visions of dreamy fields and breathtaking sunsets and as you enter our corner of southwest Kansas you will be transported by the amber waves of grain and the fresh tilled fields. But wait there is so much more...

Garden City boast one of the area's largest Zoos. The Lee Richardson Zoo has 50 acres of discovery, with over 350 animals from around the world and a variety of botanicals from the area. You will experience the majesty of the mighty elephant all the way to tenderness of the tiniest bird. The Zoo also takes an active role in global conservation programs aimed at protecting the many rare and endangered species. Look for the species survival plan symbol throughout the Zoo. For your convenience a cell phone tour is available to guide you through the Zoo and as an AZA accredited (Association of Zoos and Aquariums) facility you are assured you are visiting a facility that is dedicated to providing excellent care for the animals and a great experience for

you and your family.

If wondering through our lovely Zoo is not for you then let hit the greens for the best golf Kansas has to offer. Buffalo Dunes the municipal course was rated the number one municipal course in the nation by Golf Digest in 2009. This challenging regulation course is co-host the Southwest Kansas Pro-Am annually. Over 400 golfers come to Garden City the first week of August to compete in one Kansas longest running Pro-Am tournaments. The Golf Club at Southwind (co-host) is also a regulation golf course and host many events including weddings, banquets and much more in their large dining area. The Golf Club is also reciprocal with other country clubs.

After a long hot day on the course cool down in the World's largest Hand Dug Pool. One city block of pure refreshment for visitors and the community to enjoy. Built in 1922 as a part of President Roosevelt's work program it is a part of history that is still making a huge splash nearly 90 years later. Always moving for-

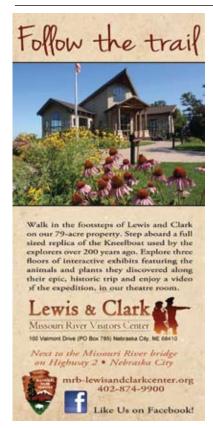
ward Garden City has added a new splash park to further enhance the pool park.

Garden City is also host to several festivals such as Beef Empire Days and a PRCA Rodeo, the Tumbleweed Music Festival and The Southwest Kansas Riverless Festival just to name a few.

Finally top off your evening with at one of Garden City's many fine eateries. With such a diverse community base you can travel the world from restaurant to restaurant, foods from Vietnam, Mexico, that good ole Southwest Kansas steak and anything else your heart desires.

We invite you to come experience Garden City, Kansas. For more information please call 1-800-879-9803 or visit us on the web @www.finneycountycvb.com RH















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Saratoga/ Platte Valley

By: Stacy Crimmins, Executive Director

n the pristine Platte Valley, you will find areas where you can hike without crowds, hear creeks rushing by, smell the scent of evergreens, or listen to aspens sway in the wind. Want more? Immerse yourself in the free hot pool, where legend has it that these waters were enjoyed by ancient Indian tribes.

Winding through the town of Saratoga is the Upper North Platte River. The Encampment River flows through Riverside and feeds into the Platte River. These rivers boast some of the best Blue Ribbon trout fishing anywhere.

Travel the boardwalk at the Storer-Saratoga Lake Wetland Project, nesting habitat to many bird species and adjacent to the popular Saratoga Lake. While in the area, you can tour the National Fish Hatchery.



The Town of Encampment has a rich mining history, and at the Grand Encampment Museum, you can relive the past through colorful exhibits and authentic cabins. Displays and dioramas at the Saratoga Museum also illustrate times gone by, offering interpretive presentations as well as a beautiful outdoor pavilion.

Shopping the Valley is a unique opportunity with specialty shops to fill every need. Whether looking for something special for you, your family or your horse, you'll find it here.

The breathtaking Sierra Madre and Snowy Range Mountains majestically surround the Valley. Ideal for hiking, camping and wildlife gazing in the summer, these mountains are also perfectly suited for wintertime cross country skiers and snow-mobilers with over 300 miles of groomed trails.

For more information about the Platte Valley and our community events, visit www.saratogachamber.info or call 307-326-8855.

Welcome to our little corner of **Big Sky Country!**

The Glendive Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture welcomes you to our little corner of Big Sky Country! Glendive, a thriving community that still offers that smalltown hospitality, is tucked between the Yellowstone River and the Badlands. Come see the part of Montana that offers a much different landscape than the Western part of this beautiful state.



We are the proud home of Makoshika State Park which is Montana's largest state park with just over 11,000 acres of primitive terrain and is home to many dinosaur fossils. We welcome you to walk the same trails once roamed by the mighty dinosaurs. Bring your camera to capture the wildlife that call this oasis home such as eagles, turkey, vultures and deer. Once your hike in the park is over, head over to the historic Bell Street Bridge. No longer open to motorized traffic, this is a wonderful way to view the infamous Yellowstone River by strolling at your own pace across this ¼ mile bridge. If you'd like to learn more about Glendive's history, take a trip in time at the Frontier Gateway Museum. They boast items from clothing to farm equipment to photos from eras gone by. If that doesn't take you far enough back into time, visit one of the area's dinosaur museums. Ever wonder what a 38-foot Tyrannosaurus Rex looks like? Well, here's your chance! Visit the Makoshika Dinosaur Museum and be amazed by the giant that once roamed the earth. Next stop should be the Glendive Dinosaur and Fossil Museum, the largest of its kind, where you will find many full size dinosaur and fossils exhibited and ready to be enjoyed by all!

If you want to get a glimpse of what farm life is all about, you've come to the right place! Glendive is considered the agricultural hub of Eastern Montana and Western North Dakota! Head down any country road and see the farms & ranches that Eastern Montana is known for.

For more information on the area, please stop in and visit us at the Glendive Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture and we will be more than happy to help make your visit here as enjoyable as possible! Enjoy your time in Glendive...where good people are surrounded by badlands!



Come and enjoy...

Makoshika State Park, Dawson County Fair, fishing, hunting, boating, hiking, tennis, mountain biking, folf course, rifle and trap shooting, fossil digs, rodeos and more!

Glendive Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture

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ays Inn West Yellowstone is America's favorite summer base camp and winter hideaway destination.

Base camp your next spring, summer, fall or winter adventure in the heart of West Yellowstone, Montana-the closest access to Old Faithful in Yellowstone National Park.



Days Inn West Yellowstone offers the best accommodations in town from our deluxe to our standard rooms with many amenities to make every guest feel at home. Our Trapper's Family

Restaurant offers a delicious, hearty breakfast to start your day off.

Don't forget to bring your swim trunks! Days Inn West Yellowstone offers an indoor pool with a 100 foot water slide along with hot tubs to relax in after a hard day of exploring all of the natural wonders around us.

Summer time, West Yellowstone is known for its "blue Ribbon trout Streams" in the surrounding area. You can always try your hand at flyfishing in Yellowstone National Park, Henry's Fork of the Snake River, or the Madison and Gallatin Rivers. Just ask our front desk staff and they can help you select a fly-fishing guide. We have some of the best in the world just 2 blocks away!

Winter time, Days Inn West Yellowstone works with Traveler's Snowmobile Rentals providing top-of-the -line Polaris snowmobile rentals, guided tours and snowmobile/ room packages. We offer a variety of

snowmobile adventures from "soft" to "heart pounding".



Explore the back country on groomed snowmobile trails that begin right in town. Enjoy one or more days from a snowmobile taking in breath taking views. See sights you've never seen before other than on post cards. View the ghost trees on Two Top or play in the open fields blazing new trails. Take those once in a lifetime photos. Travel down the surrounding 400 miles of groomed and mapped snowmobile trails in the National Forests next to Yellowstone National Park.

After a day of activities, you can enjoy the IMAX Theater or the Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center. They are only a few blocks away-a nice evening stroll.

No matter the season, Days Inn West Yellowstone can help bring your adventure to life. We can arrange for the many outdoor adventures available in Yellowstone Country-no matter which of the four seasons you choose to visit. Call us at 1-800-548-9551. One call does it all. RH













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Laura Ingalls Wilder's "Little House" Books Come Alive on South Dakota Prairie

-De Smet, SD

ocated on the quarter-section Charles "Pa" Ingalls earned through the Homestead Act, Silver Lake, The Long Winter, Little Town on the Prairie, and These Happy Golden Years.



Photo courtesy of South Dakota Tourism

visitors to the Ingalls Homestead in De Smet, South Dakota experience Laura Ingalls Wilder's beloved little house stories through pioneer activities. Laura lived on the land from age 13 until she married Almanzo Wilder. It is featured in the books By the Shores of

All of the pioneer activities are handson and help visitors imagine, or sometimes reminisce about, our agricultural history. These activities include driving a covered wagon, making jump ropes and corn cob dolls, washing clothes and attending a one-room school session. The Ingalls Homestead loves sharing Laura's history, but their main focus is always to help families have fun and make good memories.

Many families enjoy camping on-site. Covered wagon camping is the most popular, but the Ingalls Homestead also offers RV hookups, tent sites and a bunkhouse – which is a simple one-room cabin for the less adventurous. The covered wagons are built similar to a sheepherder's wagon and are a unique way to experience the prairie. Reservations are recommended and can be made over the phone

While in De Smet, families can also tour historic homes at the Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society and visit The Loftus Store. This July visitors from around the world will attend the Laura Ingalls Wilder Pageant production of By the Shores of Silver Lake. This outdoor play is held in the evenings on the prairie overlooking cottonwood trees planted by Charles Ingalls. De Smet has two lovely B&Bs and two friendly, clean motels.

For more information call 800-776-3594, email mail@ingallshomestead. com, or check them out online at www.ingallshomestead.com



Fargo-Moorhead

Small-City Atmosphere, Big-City Vibe

argo-Moorhead is one of the friendliest places in America! This is a fun, warm-hearted community of 2 cities in 2 states with a population of over 210,000. Fargo-Moorhead is located at the intersection of interstate highways I-29 and I-94.

Fargo-Moorhead is the home of Bonanzaville, USA, a recreated frontier town and museum that allows visitors to experience a small community of the late 19th century. Nowhere but in Fargo-Moorhead will you find a museum dedicated to baseball great Roger Maris, a Fargo native. Fargo-Moorhead is also home to the Plains Art Museum, the Rourke Art Museum and the Fargo Air Museum, that specializes in flyable war planes.

You might also want to visit the Historical & Cultural Society of Clay County. It documents the history of the region's Norwegian immigrants who, along with Canadians.

Germans and Icelanders, settled much of the area. The museum contains the Hjemkomst, a replica of an ancient Viking ship, which completed a voyage to Norway in 1982 as well as the Hopperstad Stave Church which is a full scale replica Norwegian Church.

Fargo-Moorhead isn't entirely about past events. It is the largest shopping destination between Minneapolis/St. Paul and Spokane, WA. With superior shopping, a variety of over 350 restaurants, cultural events, museums, a historic downtown and professional and amateur sports make it a great destination for visitors.

Download the Official Visitor Guide for the full scoop on Fargo-Moorhead at www.fargomoorhead.org





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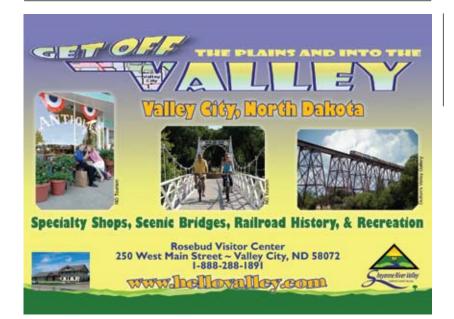
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nique to the typically flat lands of North Dakota is the mile wide 300 foot deep glacial meltwater trench called the Sheyenne River Valley. Found only an hour west of North Dakota's largest city (Fargo) on I-94, it is a short trek to Valley City to take in the beauty of a natural river val-

ley and enjoy the history and beauty of the region. The Sheyenne River Valley National Scenic Byway, a 63 mile drive, showcases the area with 28 interpretive panels. You can explore the history, geography, geology, nature and take in the stories of the Norwegian immigrants that developed the valley. Begin in Valley City at the Rosebud Visitor Center and view the one of a kind 1881 Northern Pacific Superintendent's railcar. Specialty shops sprinkle Valley City and you can enjoy the City of Bridges tour. Fort Ransom, a village south on the byway, hosts Sodbuster Days. You can experience farming with horse drawn equipment. North of the byway, travel to Cooperstown to visit Oscar Zero, a cold war missile site. Go down into the missile silo and see how our military lived during those dramatic times. Come and enjoy the beauty and hospitality of eastern North Dakota! RH





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ocated on the south shore of Lake Sakakawea, Beulah is a bustling community with a lot to offer visitors. You will find everything you need to make your stay comfortable. Beulah offers adventure for everyone, including golfing, the beautiful Lake Sakakawea, unique energy & mine tours, museums, recreational facilities, a new water park that provides fun for the whole family, dining to suit all tastes, and friendly service throughout our community.

You will find culture and history throughout the area that provides recreational opportunity and adventure for the entire family. Explore the unique wildlife museum which hosts trophy's from all over the world, the history of Mercer County can be discovered at the Historical Museum where the exhibits trace back time to the early settlers and their lives

Lake Sakakawea is located just



minutes away from Beulah and offers a wide range of water-based recreational activities and facilities. Beulah Bay and Dakota Waters Resort provide a full range of amenities and services for both camping and fishing enthusiasts.



Little Norway Resort

ittle Norway Resort offers a lakeside family getaway one mile south of Itasca State Park, the beginning of the mighty Mississippi River in northern Minnesota. Families have gathered on the shores of Little Mantrap Lake at Little Norway for 40 years to relax, fish, and spend time with their families.

The resort offers a fully equipped, modern lakeside retreat with two types of cabins. Our modified A-frames are three bedrooms, newly upgraded in 2011 with great views of the lake through windows and glass patio doors while our conventional two and three bedroom/2 bath cabins, new in 2005 have an excellent view of the lake through large picture windows. All cabins are pine paneled and feature decks overlooking the lake with charcoal grills and deck chairs for your use. Campfire rings and picnic tables are numerous throughout the resort grounds close to the cabins.

Each cabin comes fully equipped for your family's vacation stay.

Resort activities include swimming at our sandy beach, playtime for kids on our fully equipped playground, volleyball, 1/2 court basketball, as



well as our water activities. Kayaks, paddleboards, canoes, and paddle boats are free to resort guests. Boats/motors and pontoons can be rented for a fee. Our lodge offers a small convenience store with candy/pop, ice cream, light

groceries, bait and boat motor gas as well as a large gathering room, a preschool playroom and a game room.

Little Mantrap Lake offers family fishing for largemouth bass, northerns, walleyes, and panfish along its 11 miles of shoreline and many bays. Fisherman may try their luck in its 548 acres of clear springfed waters while kids can always catch sunfish off the many docks at the resort.

Itasca Park, one mile to the north has many hiking and biking trails as well as an interpretive center among its pristine pine forests and the Mississippi River beginnings.

The Park Rapids area has several public golf courses, unique shopping experiences, as well as an amusement park nearby.

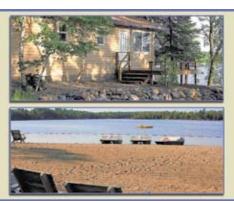
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