



# Art Attack booms; heralds season

If we knew how to gauge the coming tourist season, we'd all be millionaires. One indicator, however, might point to a strong summer-- Art Attack. Despite gray skies and occasional downpours, the response from participants has only been bright and cheery.

The event is organized by supporters of the Red Arrow Ride Association including Rita & Jennifer Cochran, Liz Thomas and Chuck Garasic. With backing from the Lodging Association and Chamber and sponsorship from Rubloff Residential Properties in New Buffalo, this handful of dedicated volunteers managed to produce one of the best Art Attacks in its nine year history.

"We've heard some strong reports from some of the

galleries with record attendance," said Rita Cochran. It's quite possible that after almost a decade of trying Art Attack has finally come of age as a springtime venue.

What bodes well for one event, could point to strong showings for the balance of the season. Indicators for tourism point to close destinations for summer travelers and Harbor Country is positioned one hour or less from major markets like Chicago, South Bend and Kalamazoo. Art Attack drew well from nearby Indiana cities of Valparaiso and Chesterton. Marketing plans from the Harbor Country Lodging Association have been set to attract the interest of the nearby visitors.

HCC



(Left) Tina Ullrich with student Amelia Hochberg of Chicago and Three Oaks in front of a show-cased mandala at Comet Slices Studio in Three Oaks.



Michele Rust and Nifodora Krumrie at Scarlet Macaw in downtown Sawyer.



Sculptor Fritz Olsen and wife Martha welcomed many to their Sawyer studio

## Flag Day tradition continues

The tradition continues into its 50th year with the largest Flag Day Celebration in Three Oaks, Michigan starting Thursday, June 13, and continuing into Sunday, June 16. There will be a carnival, arts and crafts, kids games and contests, a Pet Parade, Petting Zoo, food, sports and more. You can't miss the world's largest Flag Day Parade on Sunday, June 16, 2002 at 3:00 p.m. in downtown Three Oaks.

You can be a part of the festivities. They are looking for crafters and artists to be part of the Country Arts and Crafts Show in Carver Park on the corner of Elm Street and U.S. 12 on Saturday and Sunday. They are also looking for entries for the parade on Sunday.

So, mark your calendar for that weekend for some good old fashion fun in the fresh air and sun. For more details or schedule information, call 1-800-362-7251 or 616-756-5621.

## Fireworks set for July 6

Everyone always wants to know where the local fireworks display is going to be on the Fourth of July weekend. Most years, we have to direct them to locations outside of Harbor Country, but not this year! The Three Oaks Business Association is currently holding a raffle to pay for a fireworks display in Three Oaks. The fireworks will be held in Watkins Park behind Harding's Market on Saturday, July 6th, at dusk, about 10:30 p.m.

The \$10 raffle ticket gives you a chance to win money. The first prize is \$500 followed by \$250 for second place, \$125 for third place and \$75 for fourth place. Tickets are available at Alliance Bank, Three Oaks Pharmacy, New Buffalo Savings Bank, the Three Oaks Township Library, and the Harbor Country Chamber of Commerce Office.



**Harbor Country Chamber of Commerce**  
A. J. Boggio, *President*

- Board of Directors:  
A. J. Boggio, President  
Don Jackson, 1st Vice-President  
Karen Gear, Treasurer
- Board Members:  
Chuck Garasic  
Margaret Anderson  
Michael Hojnacki  
Marti Arney  
Gary Ramberg  
John Nelson  
Roger Harvey  
Ron Miller  
Kathy Snyder



**Harbor Country Lodging Association**  
Robert Kemper, *President*

- Board of Directors:  
Robert Kemper, President  
Lisa Werner, Vice-President  
Russ Bulin, Co-Treasurer  
Jerry Welsh, Co-Treasurer
- Board Members:  
Liz Thomas  
John Natsis

**Harbor Country Chamber of Commerce and Lodging Association**  
530 South Whittaker Street, Suite F  
New Buffalo, Michigan 49117  
616-469-5409; fax 616-469-2257  
email: hccc@triton.net  
website: www.harborcountry.org

## Wineries yield new growth as trailblazers

Riding the Red Arrow this year will be so good you can taste it. And for less than the price of a full tank of gas, it also comes in a handy take-home version.

Keith Hauch says, "Being a winemaker covers everything from A to Z...from planting grapes to driving a fork lift." As assistant winemaker for Buchanan's Tabor Hill winery for the past 10 years, Keith and his co-workers along with a helping hand from Mother Nature, have worked together to produce and bottle one of Tabor Hill's newest releases, Red Arrow Red, an oenological tribute to one of Michigan's most historically traveled and scenic rural highways.

This dry red table wine contains a blend of 50% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon and 20% Cabernet Franc and is made from all locally grown grapes. Keith and Tabor Hill's other wine experts describe Red Arrow Red's taste as possessing "tannin and oak with a hint of dark chocolate...finishing with black cherry and spices and just of hint of plum."

It's also indicative of what Hauch calls the "fruit forward style" of wines made in our lake effect climate. Hardier grape varieties such as Chardonnay and Riesling adapt well to cooler climates but traditional warm weather grapes such as Pinot Noir and Cabernet Sauvignon, which are more sensitive to harsh Midwestern winters known for frequent and unpredictable temperature fluctuations, present a greater growing challenge this close to Lake Michigan.

Keith points out, "A couple of degrees makes a lot of difference." Several lesser known types of grapes such as Baco Noir, Traminett, (a hybrid of the Gewürztraminer grape) and Vignoles, successfully

thrive here and are partly responsible for designating this small corner of the state as a federally approved American Viticultural Area (AVA), classified as the "Lake Michigan Shore" appellation. The wines produced here have developed their own unique characteristics or terroir.

This French concept means the sum total of every environmental influence on a vineyard...from the number of sunshine hours it experiences to the kind of soil it's made up of to how often it's rained on.

Regrettably, the delectable but rather improbable task of trying to single-handedly consume the nearly 40,000 cases of wine produced in one year by a small to mid-sized winery such as Tabor Hill seems a bit overzealous, even by bacchanalian standards. Thankfully, for wine lovers and wineries alike, there's a more practical and more profitable method of discovering the world of wine in our own backyard.

Last December, Tabor Hill joined with nine other wineries from Southwest Michigan, including two additional Harbor Country Chamber members, Heart of The Vineyard winery in Baroda and the St. Julian winery tasting room in Union Pier, to form the Southwest Michigan Wine Trail Association. The association's main goal is to encourage "agri-tourism" in Southwest Michigan and promote the wineries of the Lake Michigan Shore appellation. Cathy Fielding, who works as Hospitality Manager at Tabor Hill, is the group's President and is excited about the association's potential. The organization is made up of 10 member wineries located in other nearby Southwest Michigan "Fruit Belt" communities such as Berrien Springs, Coloma, Paw Paw and

**See WINE TRIP page 3**

### Harbor Country Connection

**Harbor Country Connection** is published once a month by the Harbor Country Chamber of Commerce and the Harbor Country Lodging Association, 530 South Whittaker Street, Suite F, New Buffalo, Michigan 49117 and is distributed to its membership through the U.S. Postal Service. Additional copies are available at the office. DEADLINE for all editorial matter is the 20th of each month for publication in the following month's issue. COPY may be sent via fax, e-mail, or regular mail to:

### Artistic Energy Group, Inc.

P.O. Box 6, Three Oaks, MI 49128  
Fax: 616-756-9071 • Voice: 616-756-9070  
email ~ mhojnacki@triton.net  
Michael & Marisue Hojnacki, Editors

**FINE PRINT:** Though every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of stories and information in this publication, the Harbor Country Chamber of Commerce, Harbor Country Lodging Association, their respective Boards of Directors, and the editors of the Harbor Country Connection are not responsible for errors or misinformation in copy submitted by any organization or group.

## Create a more visual link with our website "tile ad" sale

The Michigan Travel organization has announced that tourism for the state is on the rise. Now is the time to get the word out while visitors are making their travel plans. This is your window of opportunity to strike while the iron is hot.

In response to many requests, we are now making affordable advertising spots available in new places on the Chamber's web site. Take advantage of our Business Directory Tile Ad Sale on the web site, which is ever increasing its reach and exposure, exceeding 4 million hits a year.

For only \$100 (1-year ad run) you can display your ad on one of the highly accessed Chamber's business directories, such

### WINE TRIP from page 2

Fennville. Fielding says in order for the group to be eligible to apply for financial grants through the Michigan Department of Agriculture, each winery was required to donate equal shares of money necessary to help establish a minimum \$5,000 bank account. The group was recently awarded \$5,000 to help offset the costs of designing and printing the group's first brochure that Fielding hopes to have out by Memorial Day.

Plans are also underway to construct a web site that should be up and running soon. Although optimistic they can raise more funds to promote the Southwest Michigan Wine Trail and wine related events, Fielding and the association realize they are confronted with the numerous details and difficulties facing any new organization. Hopefully by this time next year, more thirsty winegoers from across the country visiting the Lake Michigan harbor towns of New Buffalo, St. Joseph, South Haven and Saugatuck will stop to taste and buy many award winning wines from the area proudly proclaimed by the association as "The Lake Michigan Shore—the Other West Coast."

## There's still time to tie into Michigan ad campaign in Chicago Trib

The Chicago Tribune has developed an offer to tie in with the State of Michigan's advertising this spring. Travel Michigan will be advertising in the Sunday Travel Section on May 29 and June 2, 9 and 23. Michigan advertisers wishing to advertise in those issues can do so at a reduced black and white rate of \$354 per column inch, versus the open rate of \$422 pci. However, the ad will not appear on the same page as the Travel Michigan's ad, per the state's request. Also, for an additional \$230 your ad also will appear on the Trib's web site that same day.

The Trib is also putting together separate Michigan color advertising pages that will run June 2 on the page facing the Travel Michigan ad. The Tribune is picking up the color cost. Rates for ads on these pages (2 column by 2 inch minimum) are \$335 pci. These advertising pages also will appear on the Trib's web site on that date at no additional charge.

Space reservation deadline is May 20. Material deadline is May 23. If you would like to take advantage of these opportunities or want additional information, contact Ileen Kelly at 312-222-4008.

as Shops-Galleries, Dining, Lodging, Builders-Services, Real Estate, Professional Services, etc.

To see some examples go to [www.harborcountry.org/lodging.htm](http://www.harborcountry.org/lodging.htm). We already have some business owners who have signed up: Warren Woods Inn, White Rabbit Inn and Union Pier Summer House.

If you already have a hyperlink on one of these directories, you can upgrade to a tile ad (which is also hyperlinked) and you will receive a credit for your text link listing. For more information on policies and details go to the following web address: [www.harborcountry.org/TileAdSale](http://www.harborcountry.org/TileAdSale)

Let the Internet and your Business Directory Tile Ad do the work for you, and get the word out to the world wide web that you are doing business in Harbor Country!

This program is available only to in-area Chamber members in good standing. To sign up, call Sue Harsch at the Chamber office for a registration form: 616-469-5409.

One last note, for those who missed our e-mail Broadcast, the Harbor Country Connection newsletter is now online at: [www.harborcountry.org/connection](http://www.harborcountry.org/connection)



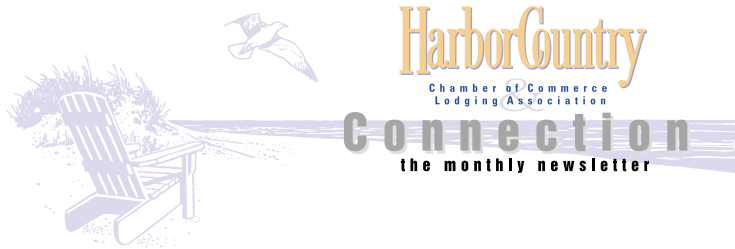
- Beach House in Harbor Country**  
320 North Chicago St.  
New Buffalo, MI 49117  
312-337-0755
- Eric & Colleen Christensen, Owners**  
Cottage Rental
- Firefly Resort**  
15657 Lakeshore Rd.  
Union Pier, MI 49129  
616-469-0245
- Phil Hamilton & Jeff Jones**  
Cottage Rental
- Butterfly Bungalow**  
16032 F Lakeshore Rd  
Union Pier, MI 49129  
312-371-4656
- Dave & Su Oliveria**  
Cottage rental
- Barney's Market**  
10 North Thompson St  
New Buffalo, MI 49117  
616-469-1210
- G.L. Pontius**  
Grocery Store
- Field of Dreams Real Estate, LLC**  
8073 West Elm Valley Rd.  
Three Oaks, MI 49128  
312-259-1113  
Jeff Peterek  
Real Estate
- Drake Cottages**  
912 North Honore  
Chicago, IL 60622  
773-235-7948  
Phil & Tracy Koerner  
Cottage Rental
- MEMBER ON THE MOVE**  
Classic Imports is now open at their new location at 18777 West U.S. 12 in New Buffalo. Formerly located on Red Arrow Highway in Union Pier, they appreciate the support they have received from Chamber members for the past 11 years and hope to continue their tradition of quality service. Their phone number is 616-469-2007.

**WOMEN'S WELLNESS CENTER**

**GRAND OPENING!**  
10% Off Women's Wellness Center services to Chamber members

**Feel Better!** Therapeutic massage, herbal baths with aromatherapy, reflexology, ear coning, guided meditation—all at modest prices in a serene and private environment. For an appointment, call Lisa Werner, R.N., C.M.T.

**Women's Wellness Center**  
**(616)469-3100** 311 East Buffalo Street, New Buffalo, MI 49117



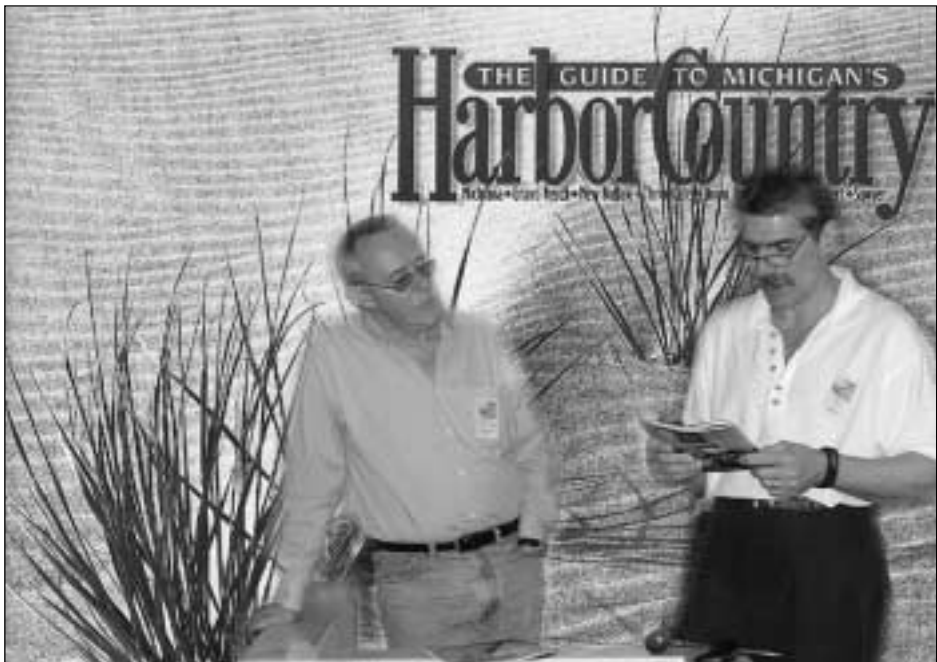
BULK RATE  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
 UNION PIER, MI  
 49129  
 PERMIT NO. 7

530 south whittaker street, suite f, new buffalo, mi 49117

**the season starts**

**wine tripping**

**website ad sale**



**COME AND GET IT!** Guide committee chair, Roger Harvey, and chamber president, A.J. Boggio, officially unveiled the 2002 Harbor Country Guide at the April 18 Guide Party held at Miller's Restaurant. Attendees at this celebration were able to pick up "hot-off-the-press" copies of the popular tourism publication. Many of the guides have now been delivered to area businesses, but if for some mysterious reason you've been missed, come to the Chamber office to pick up a case or two.

**d o i t**

**MAY 23-27- St. Mary of the Lake Festival** in New Buffalo raises funds for the local Catholic elementary school. The event features a midway serving festival fare, carnival rides, children's games, live entertainment and dancing and a beer tent.

**MAY 25- Community Heritage Days** At the New Buffalo Railroad Museum, S. Whittaker Street, this event offers family fun with an ice cream social, tours of historic railroad cars and a chance to see the wonderful model train layout housed in the museum.

**MAY 27- Lakeside Memorial Day Observation** This annual hometown parade steps off at noon from the Post Office in downtown Lakeside. Children on decorated bikes follow the New Buffalo American Legion Post members to Lakeside Cemetery where an observance is held.

**Coming in June-** Music in Dewey Cannon Park, Phil's Car Show, Flag Day.