

# The Northern Camper

May 2009

**FREE**

## Get It In Gear

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✦ **New Monthly Features**

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 Editor's Pencil

# The Leaves Are Coming Out

## *My grandpa used to play this game*

with me every spring. All you had to do to win would be the first to call and say, “The leaves are coming out.” I’m not sure how it started, but in the innocence of youth I’d be more aware of the little green stubs on the end of a branch and usually win. Or maybe he would just let me win.

So win or lose, take a look around. The leaves are finally coming out.

All the wonders of spring surround you and are worth a minute of your busy day. You surely noticed ice melting on the lake, its receding from the shore line, then to big gaps in the center—just like a lung expanding to take its first breath after hibernation for what seemed like a very long winter. If you are really lucky you heard it talk. The expanding of the air under the ice surface makes this buulup, uulup, buulup . . . did anyone else hear it?

And when the lake was done talking the frogs started. Still shy, they stop their croak when they are aware of human approach. Back away and the chorus begins again, loud and strong.

The mornings are now cause for waking early to see what ducks will be playing on the lake. With a cup of coffee and a pair of binoculars smushed to my face, I had a lesson from a pair of Mergansers in mating rituals. Funny—the female looked like she was the mate on the prowl.

No need for the alarm clock if your bedroom window is near a tree. Birds sing to the tunes of the frogs and the ducks and the lake. It’s the lyrics of a song we’re all singing, “Thank God it’s Spring.” Nature’s melody is much prettier than mine, but no happier.

We’re excited to hear the campground reservations are high. The RV show in Cadillac the second weekend in April was busy and there are great deals to be had. Boat slips are full on Lake Missaukee and the local bait shops in downtown Lake City will be sure to have some great fish stories this season.

The local businesses are waiting for you, be it a flower to give your wife for putting the tent up or the manicure you promised her because she broke a nail doing it. The beer and soda is cold in your cooler but don’t forget to stop by and see your old

friends at the local establishments to “tip one” and invite them back to your campfire later.

Of course you need to make a trip to the hardware and RV stores. You wouldn’t be a true camper if you didn’t need to fix something. Get your supplies from the local markets for the three-meal-a-day plus snacks. On a sunny day, take a break from the campfire and break your handicap at the local golf course or driving range. If you don’t have a kayak or canoe, the local sports rental stores are stocked and will give you tips on paddling. And on a rainy day take a trip into town for a little shopping and dining. Let someone else do the cooking since your campfire needs time to dry.

In case you are wondering where you can enjoy all these things, look to the left (page 2). If you don’t know this already, there’s something special about up north businesses. People are just plain nice and fun to talk to. It’s worth a trip just for the stories you’ll hear from the colorful local merchants.

You’ll also want to check out our campground section, beginning on page 19. Some have new owners and some are getting new bathhouses. Most fees are staying the same and the free “park and store programs” are still offered at state facilities. You can route your entire summer around Northern Michigan and keep those fuel prices low.

You’ll also want to check out the Festivities on the back cover. Get your calendars out because you have a lot of activities to get penciled in.

We are blessed to have this time of year with you and thank you for your patronage. I would like to thank Jim for my second year with *The Northern Camper*. The writing is always fun and gathering sponsorships has led to new friends and spending time with old ones.

Take time to enjoy the spring and we’ll look forward to enlighten your appreciation for summer and fall as well. We truly hope your reading around the campfire is a time that takes you away from all the other “stuff.” So unfold that chair, find the perfect log to prop up your feet and enjoy the beginning of the 2009 camping season. ✦

WELCOME TO

# The Northern Camper



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## About The Cover

Loons have fascinated since our earliest memories. Dressed up with deep red eyes and a necklace, they bring back memories of camping trips to the lake in "up north" Michigan.

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Helen Sutton and Lake City's thriving loons.



[www.northerncamper.com](http://www.northerncamper.com)

# GET IT IN GEAR

## Camping Season Is Really Here!

### *It won't be long*

before you are on the road for your first camping trip of 2009 and hear the age old question from the back seat, "Are we there yet?"

Believe it or not, we are! So get off your own "back seat" and get in gear! Be it in your garage, basement and/or storage unit, start pulling out that camping gear.

Hopefully you've attended an RV or camping show over the winter to check out what's new, or how to fix what's old. **Tim and Joy Martin from Manton** made a visit to the **Wex in Cadillac** for the camping shows this winter.

"We come to the shows to see what's new and get motivated for the season," Tim said. One of their favorite campgrounds is the State Recreation area in Ionia and they always attend the B93 Birthday Bash in June with their kids. "We only get out a few times a year but we always have great trips."

Tim also mentioned he has the same problem every year. "No matter how I store our camper, the squirrels find a way into the vent system." The suspense may kill you but we'll have tips on storage in September. For now, checking the vents for winter critter parties is a good idea.

**Mike Rowe, from Northland Trailers in Cadillac**, sees some of the same issues with RVs from year to year. "Pack wheel bearings," Mike said. "We often hear 'everything was working fine last year' as we're fixing the problem.

"Also don't forget the obvious: brake lights and turn signals."

The steps you took last fall for winter storage may also have an

of your faucet after you've arrived at your campground.

"I suggest two tablespoons of bleach in the water tank to sanitize the system and later add a little vinegar to eliminate the bleach smell."

Another thing you need to check for is mold and mildew.

"People forget to check seals in their RV like the skylights and around the A/C," Laurie said. "It's an expensive repair if you have to go into the wall structures to fix moisture, mildew and mold problems and it's an easy fix." She also suggested that tents should be opened up to check for mildew as well.

"We're optimistic about the season," Laurie said. "The

Cadillac RV show had 30 percent more attendees this year than last, and more sales."

Another important preparation and maybe the most fun came from **Laura Marion in Lake City**.

"To prepare? Right now we are arranging with friends and family our dates and reservations.

"Once the summer starts we should have the plans made and the rest just happens!"

Let the rest "just happen" without a hitch! Turn the page for more great tips and a checklist to get you in gear.



*Mike Rowe from Northland Trailers and Laurie Jensen from Jensen's RV Center of Cadillac both suggest to make sure everything is working before you head to the campsite.*

affect on what you deal with this spring.

"Winter can take a toll on the water heater if you didn't winterize correctly, so check that along with all your appliances."

Mike's most practical advice, "Get everything running before you head off!"

**Laurie Jensen from Jensen's RV Center of Cadillac** also has advice for RV owners before heading to the campsite.

"Fire up your furnace and fridge before getting on the road and dewinterize your water system," Laurie stressed. "There's nothing worse than pink water coming out

*(continued on page 6)*

## Get It In Gear (continued from page 5)

### Tent Tips

Whether it's a small, two-person pup tent or similar to a desert sheik's, you need to erect it and check for tears, holes, or any other wear. This is also good practice as you ask yourself, "How did I put that together?" Once you have the tent up, check the zippers and apply seam-seal.

Air it out in nice weather, but also leave it out during the rain. This is a good way to make sure the seams are watertight.

Are the poles in good shape and folding out easily? Do you have enough straight tent pegs? Or is it time to price out new tents? These days you may find something light and spacious at very cheap prices. Some small tents actually just flip open, eliminating a lot of work.

### Sleeping Bags

Just like a tent, open them up! Shake them out, check for any smells (a sign of possible mold or mildew), check zippers for smooth operation, check the drawstring around the hood, and look for any holes, rips, or tears. A good wash

is in order! If it's too large for your own washer, remember your local laundry mat has the bigger machines. Take an issue of *Northern Camper* to read while you wait!

### Boots & Clothes

Boots can last for years – as can jackets – but if you haven't worn them during the winter, you need to get them ready for spring.

Check the boot soles for wear. You can waterproof them for the upcoming season, although mink oil isn't recommended since it can break down leather.

Similarly, waterproof your jacket, either with a spray (let it dry in an airy place) or by using a special wash.

### Backpacks

Clean and air out backpacks. Inspect the stitching, especially on the shoulder straps and along the seams. Also check the zippers and clasps.

### First Aid Kit

If the kit is more than two years old check expiration dates. Discard outdated medicines and restock. At

the same time, visually inspect all of the packages for any damage.

### Coolers

Check for mold, mildew, or rancid smells. As with cook stoves, it's best to clean them thoroughly before you put them into storage. A little chlorine bleach and mild detergent will clean them up.

### Lanterns

Check mantels for need of replacement and make sure the relief valve on the pump is not clogged.

### Cook Stoves

Clean the burners, make sure they are unclogged, and make sure all the fittings are tight. The best advice for cook stoves is to clean them thoroughly *before* you put them into storage.

### Fuel

If you use gasoline, you should know that gas held over 60 days tends to get gummy. Get that gas out of your motor or use it fast. The residue can gum up the works. Also make sure propane tanks are full. ✦

## PRACTICE IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD

*"This picture was taken at the end of last season in September. Ben and Braden found the hole in the back lot. Immediately it became "the campsite." They cleared away brush, made the hole bigger, lined it with stones. They worked on it continually for days! Our family celebrated the finished "campsite" by having s'mores by a real fire.*

*"I think kids can never get enough of the campfire at night—it is what they wait for all day! The people they love are all in one place and close together sharing stories.*

*"Now that the snow has left the wooded area—guess what is the first to be cleaned up . . . yup! They are preparing for another camping season!"*

~ Laura Marion, Lake City



# CAMPING GEAR



## BASICS

- Chairs
- Flashlight, Batteries, Bulbs
- Ice, Ice Chest
- Lantern
- Poles, Stakes, Rope
- Propane/Fuel
- Radio
- Tents, Tarps
- Water Jugs
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## CAMPFIRE

- Axe, Hammer, Mallet
- Bucket
- Matches, Lighter
- Shovel
- Torches
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## SLEEPING

- Air Mattress, Air Pump
- Blankets
- Pillows
- Sleeping Bags
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## HIKING

- Backpack
- Canteen
- Compass
- Maps, Camp/Hiking Guides
- Pocket Knife
- Whistle
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## COOKWARE

- Coffee Pot
- Grill, Stove
- Pots, Pans, Skillet

## DISHES

- Bowls, Mixing Bowls
- Coffee Mugs, Cups
- Plates, Platter
- Pitcher
- Storage Containers
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## UTENSILS

- Bottle Opener/Cork Screw
- Can Opener
- Dinnerware (Knife, Fork, Spoon)
- Knives (Carving)
- Measuring Cup
- Pot Holders
- Serving Spoons
- Spatula
- Tongs
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## CLEAN-UP/PAPER

- Dish Towels
- Dishwashing Bucket
- Foil, Plastic Wrap
- Paper Plates
- Paper Towels, Napkins, Wet Wipes
- Plastic Bags
- Scouring Pads
- Soap
- Trash Bags
- Whisk Broom
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## FOOD

- Bread
- Cheese
- Fruit
- Meat
- Snacks
- Vegetables
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## DRINKS

- Alcoholic Beverages
- Coffee, Tea
- Hot Chocolate
- Juice
- Milk
- Soda
- Water
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## CONDIMENTS

- Butter, Margarine
- Ketchup, Mustard
- Mayonnaise
- Peanut Butter, Jelly

- Pickles, Relish
- Salad Dressing
- Salt, Pepper, Seasonings
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## CLOTHING

- Bathing Suit
- Gloves, Mittens
- Hat, Visor
- Jacket
- Jeans
- Long Johns
- Rain Gear
- Shoes (Boots, Sandals, Tennies)
- Shorts
- Socks (Thick & Thin)
- Sunglasses
- Sweat Pants/Shirts, Sweaters
- T-shirts
- Underwear
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## SUNDRIES

- First Aid Kit
- Insect Repellent
- Prescription Meds
- Shampoo, Soap
- Sunscreen
- Toilet Paper, Tissues
- Toothbrush, Toothpaste
- Towels, Washcloths
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## ENTERTAINMENT

- Books, *The Northern Camper*
- Camera
- Cards, Games
- Fishing Poles, Tackle, Bait
- Swimming Tubes, Life Jackets
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## FIDO

- Collar, Leash
- Food, Treats
- Food & Water Dish
- Rabies Certificate (Canada)
- Toys
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**LOOK BEFORE**

# YOU LAUNCH

**How important** are our lakes and rivers to you? Do your grand kids come to stay for the summer? Of course they visit because they love you, but also to enjoy all the water toys you have bought them.

And what are your plans with friends? Did you get that perfect weekend scheduled for tubing or canoeing? The guys have their fishing and hunting dates set, and all families will enjoy beautiful evenings on the porch, watching the wildlife that congregates around our beautiful lakes and rivers.

## *Do you really understand how all this is at risk?*

Zebra mussels and Eurasian watermilfoil are just two of the invasive species that have invaded lakes in Northern Michigan. They are called invasive species because they cause ecological harm. “Hitching” a ride with anglers, boaters and other water recreationists is the primary way these species are spread from water body to water body. And unfortunately they are not like fish—they can survive out of water for days.

Zebra mussels will attach to hard surfaces, especially the hull of a boat and boat trailers, anchors, water skis and diving gear.

Eurasian watermilfoil gets tangled in boat propellers, anchors and even depth finders. It will attach to keels and rudders of sailboats. Stems can get caught or lodged in any watercraft apparatus or sports equipment that moves in the water.

Please make it a habit to follow these few simple procedures after enjoying your time on any body of water.

### **Boating**

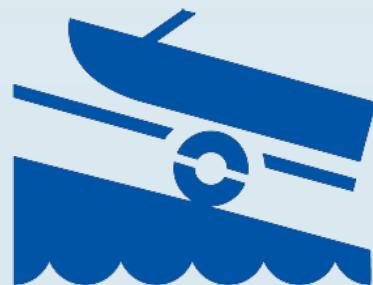
- **Inspect and Remove** – Check your boat, trailer and boating equipment (anchors, centerboards, rollers, axles, etc.) and remove any species or plant that are visible before leaving and prior to entering any body of water.
- **Drain** – Empty the water from your engine or outboard motor, live-well, bilge and transom well

while on land before leaving any water body parking area.

- **Dispose** – Empty your bait bucket on land before leaving the water area. Never release live bait into a water body, or release aquatic animals from one water body to another.
- **Rinse & Dry** – Wash and dry your boat, tackle, down riggers, trailer and other boating equipment to kill harmful species that may not have been visible at the boat launch.

### **Other Water Activities**

- **Shore and Fly-fishing** – Clean mud from waders and boots. Don’t forget to drain that bait bucket and clean those poles from any plant or animal life.
- **Personal Watercraft** – Don’t drive through areas where you can see the plant growth! Run engine for 5-10 seconds on the trailer to blow out water and vegetation from the internal drive. Remove debris from water intake grate, steering nozzle, hull and trailer.
- **Sailing** – Check hull, centerboard or bilge board wells, rudder post area and trailer.
- **Scuba Diving** – Remove mud and vegetation from equipment. Drain water from buoyancy compensator (BC), regulator, tank boot and other containers. Rinse suit and inside of BC with hot water.
- **Waterfowl Hunting** – Remove vegetation and mud from boat and trailer, waders, hip boots, decoy lines and anchors (elliptical and bulb-shaped anchors can help reduce snagging aquatic plants). Cut cattails or other plants above the waterline when they are used for camouflage or blinds.





# CAMPER'S GADGET

If you're camping but had enough of "cowboy coffee" to last a lifetime, here's a gadget that will

set you free to enjoy gourmet style coffee at a moment's notice. Designed to be used with coffee "pods," this little unit will make your life easier, and there are many flavors from which to choose, from French Vanilla to hard core, delicious Espresso. Prices start at \$70.

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					6			7
	5	8				4		
4				1				
			7		5			
				2				8
		1				6	7	
3			5					
				4	9	2	1	

ANSWER ON PAGE 23

**New!**

12 Refreshing Real Fruit Smoothies!!!

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# COOKIN' CAMPER'S

## STEAK

- 1 steak per person, cut of your choice
- pinch lemon pepper
- pinch garlic
- pinch black pepper

With a very hot bed of coals (no or very little flame), lay your seasoned steaks on the grill. Let it cook until the bottom is almost golden, turn, and do the same to the other side. The trick is to not salt before cooking because this draws moisture to the surface. Turn as many times as necessary to keep from burning until done to your taste. By cooking the outside fast, the juice is sealed in. By turning, you keep from burning the outside until the meat is done to your taste. Servings as needed.

## MEAT ON A SKEWER

- 1 1/2 pounds stew meat
- 1 cup plain yogurt
- 1 cup Italian dressing
- 1 teaspoon Jamaican Jerk Seasoning Paste

Cut meat into nice sized chunks and marinate for at least one hour in a mixture of the yogurt and salad dressing. Add the Jerk Seasoning, if you like it spicy. This recipe produces great grilled meat flavor, so you may want to take more meat than you usually plan on. The skewers are sharp and difficult to pack out, so burn them in the fire or charcoal grill after you are done cooking. This recipe works well with stew meat, other inexpensive beef, or game meat (like antelope).

## CAESAR LAMB CHOPS

- 6 lamb chops
- 3 cloves garlic, chopped
- coarse ground black pepper
- kosher salt
- 1 teaspoon mustard
- 1/2 lemon, fresh squeezed juice
- 2 dashes Worcestershire sauce
- 2 dashes Tabasco sauce
- fresh chopped parsley
- fresh chopped rosemary
- 1/2 cup olive oil

Mix all the ingredients with a whisk, and then marinate the chops overnight. The next day, get a good bed of hot coals going in the fire ring and toss in two potatoes wrapped in foil. If you like to eat the skin, brush them with a little oil and sprinkle some salt on them before wrapping in foil. Thirty minutes later, after the potatoes are done, pull them out of the main heat to keep warm. Throw on some hickory chips and grill the chops over that smokey mound of intense heat until desired doneness. The same recipe is good with beef or chicken too.

## APPLE DESSERT

- 3 - 4 apples
- shelled walnuts
- butter or maple syrup

Cut apples into slices and take out core. Place apples on aluminum foil. Add walnuts and butter or maple syrup. Fold foil leaving an opening for ventilation. Place on campfire and cook at least 45 minutes, or until apples are soft, not mushy. Serves 4.

## BREAKFAST IN A BAG

- eggs
- bacon or ham
- cheese
- tomatoes
- onions
- salt and pepper
- sealable baggies

Crack two eggs and put them into a medium size sealable bag along with bacon, cheese, tomatoes, onions or whatever you like. Salt and pepper to taste. Take all the air out of the bag and seal. When you are ready for breakfast drop the baggy into a pan of boiling water. Cook 13 to 15 minutes at a boil. Take out of water and roll out of baggy onto a plate. It is a neat way to have campers mix their own ingredients and voila!

## CAJUN RUB

- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon cayenne
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/2 teaspoon onion flakes
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- 1 teaspoon sweet basil
- 1 teaspoon thyme
- 1/2 teaspoon white pepper

If you like Cajun, you'll like this rub, which you can make from common spices. Replace the basil with oregano and use the mix on fish, shrimp, pork chops, or steak. If you use fish or shrimp, reduce cooking time to 3 or 4 minutes per side.



4 Blocks East of Lake Missaukee Campground  
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**Jerry's PHARMACY**

# This Old Camper



## A Do-It-Yourself Guide For Camping Maintenance

by Gerry Bandelow

*You've been meaning to fix that camper* in your backyard or maybe purchase a used one. Yet when you look at old campers, they seem to need work and you're just not sure if you are up to the job. Well, don't give up. Repairing an old camper can not only save loads of money but you gain the satisfaction of knowing you brought it back to life with your own hands.

Trust me—it's much easier and cheaper than you think. I realize when deciding whether or not to try repairs that everybody has a different skill level and knowledge base. But you can do this. A positive "I-can-do-it" attitude is the most essential tool!

In this issue of *The Northern Camper* I will be covering roof repair, the leading cause of camper damage. Did you know that one drip per minute through a pinhole leak adds up to 1,440 drips per day? So if it rained for 40 days and 40 nights, you would have 57,600 drops or about one gallon of water. That's only a pinhole—can you imagine a screw hole or crack?

First the water damage will most likely appear inside the camper. Ceiling panels will be sagging or even have brown spots. Sometimes the water damage may have occurred long enough that the roof rafters have



deteriorated. In this case they will need to be replaced. Mold can also form in these damp areas.

Inspect the roof to see if you can locate the source of

the leak. Most likely, this will be at the seams along the edge or around the vents.

Remove the old vents and drip rails and replace them with new ones. Don't forget to use putty tape sealer. RV dealerships have repair supplies in stock or can order what you need. I found my local RV dealership, Jensen's RV in Cadillac to be knowledgeable and helpful.

Most hardware will be less expensive than you think. A complete roof vent runs around \$35, plumbing vents

are under \$3 and a standard drip rail is under \$20 for 16. Old roof coating will also need to be scraped off using a putty knife and new sealer will need to be applied.

As for the interior water damage there are two ways to replace the rafters (if needed). One way is to separate the roof sheeting at the seam where it meets the siding and roll it back. The other is to insert the rafters from the inside. This step is based on how extensive the damage is. On my camper I chose to replace the damaged rafters from the inside.

Some rafters will need to be cut and bolted back together (over bathroom or cupboards) after they are in place. I also opted to replace the old thin insulation with 1 polystyrene (about \$5 for a 4' x 8) that I found at my local Home Depot.

I constructed the rafters using 2" x 4 studs sandwiched between plywood for extra strength. The rafters will need to be taller in the center and tapering smaller out to the ends. Also place plywood where lights will be located for backing.

You can purchase OEM vinyl covered ceiling panels, but I chose to use 4' x 8 tile board panels (Home Depot #A346-428). The tile board panels were less expensive (under \$15), stronger and gives an updated look. The smooth fiberglass is also easier to keep clean. I attached the tile board to the rafters using 8 x 1 1/4" mod truss screws and #8 hinge caps.

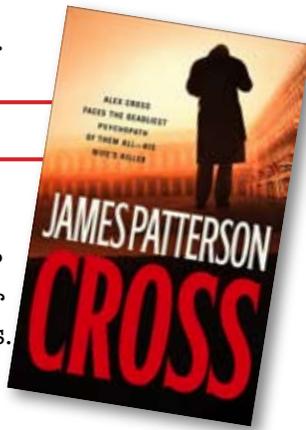
Send questions to [TheHappyCamperGuy@yahoo.com](mailto:TheHappyCamperGuy@yahoo.com). Look for the next issue where I cover exterior updating. ✦



# Book Review

Mel Danielson, Reed City

Do you like being out in nature and reading a good book while you are camping? James Patterson is an author that writes a variety of books. He writes an Alex Cross and Women's Murder Club series. Both series are a murder mystery style of book.



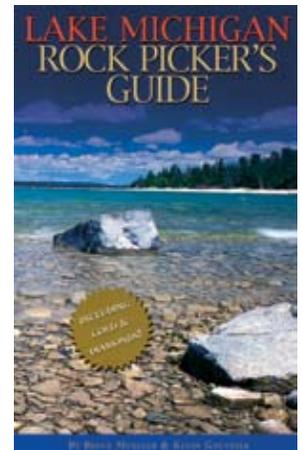
One of the newer books I read recently was Cross. Alex Cross is an FBI agent and psychologist. All of the books in the series focus a lot on Cross with his work and home life. He endures many personal and professional setbacks and heartbreak.

Cross works as a psychologist full time but finds himself working with the FBI again to catch a killer that murdered someone very close to him. Cross' former FBI partner and friend, John Sampson, calls him on the case. The murderer is on a killing spree and is found to have a connection to Cross. The book describes all the ups and downs they go through and how Alex endures the case.

I enjoy reading James Patterson's books because of his writing style. It's easy to read and he often writes very short chapters. I always find myself drawn in and wondering what is about to happen next when I read these books. Even if you cannot read or find the whole series, I feel the author gives you enough background you can read Cross without feeling like you missed anything by not reading the earlier books in the series.



The Northern Camper is pleased to have Kevin Gauthier, co-author of the "Lake Michigan Rock Picker's Guide" and owner of Korner Gem in Traverse City sharing his wit and wisdom on rock collecting. He also has a rare collection of Petoskey Stones and we may get a sneak peak! Look for Kevin's articles in the June, July and August issues.



And if you are already an admirer of our much treasured state stone, join the celebration, "Everything Petoskey," at Antrim County's Barnes Park in Eastport, on Saturday, May 23rd, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Admission to this festival is free!

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# HISTORY CORNER

## *Since History is a process*

of “looking back” sometimes it’s fun to find out where you’re from by looking over your shoulder and seeing your “home” in a different, historical light. If you’re from Detroit, you know the roots of your city reach deeper than baseball, hockey and the automotive industry. You might even know that there’s a tip of the hat deserved by the French for the founding of that fair city.

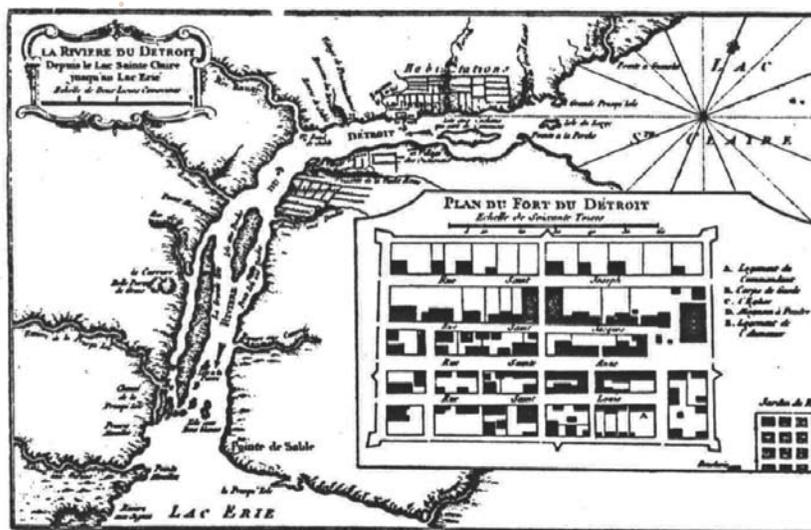
Fort Pontchartrain du Détroit or Fort Détroit was a fort established by the French officer Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac in 1701. The location of the former fort is now in the city of Detroit, Michigan, an area bounded by Larned Street, Griswold Street, and the Civic Center.

Fort Detroit began on the Detroit River built to try to keep the British from moving west of New England and to monopolize the fur trade in North America. Before he built Fort Detroit, Cadillac was commandant of Fort de Buade, another French outpost in North America. Fort de Buade was abandoned in 1697 due to conflicts with religious leaders over the trading of alcohol to the Native Americans. Cadillac then persuaded his superiors to let him build a new settlement. He reached the Detroit River on July 23, 1701.

When he landed on the site he held a celebration to formally take control of the area. In honor of Louis Phélypeaux, Comte du Pontchartrain (or his son, Jerome), Minister of Marine to Louis XIV he named the new settlement Fort Ponchartrain du Detroit. The storehouse and the stockade were started immediately, but the first building completed was Ste. Anne’s Church. The stockade came next and was made of logs rising about 12 feet into the sky with towers in each corner.

During the American Revolutionary War, Detroit was far to the west of the

main area of action. The fort’s main contribution was to arm American Indian raiding parties who attacked American settlements to the southeast. American revolutionaries, particularly George Rogers Clark, hoped to mount an expedition to Detroit in order to neutralize these operations, but could not raise enough men to make the attempt. Clark did manage to capture Henry Hamilton, the Lieutenant-Governor of Canada and senior officer at Fort Detroit. While Hamilton was a prisoner of war, in late 1778 Captain Richard B. Lernoult began construction on a new fortification a few hundred yards to the south of the original fortification. It was



BEURBIE 1752

Printed in the 1840's Printing Office

Detroit Historical Museum

named Fort Lernoult on October 3, 1779.

Under terms negotiated in the Jay Treaty, Fort Detroit, Fort Lernoult and the surrounding settlement was surrendered by the British to the Americans on July 11, 1796, 13 years after the Treaty of Paris ended the war and gave the area to the United States. It is claimed that only Fort Lernoult survived the 1805 fire which destroyed Detroit, so presumably no parts of the original Fort Detroit remained after this time. Fort Lernoult was renamed Fort Detroit in 1805, then renamed Fort Shelby in 1813.

Michigan has a unique places in the chapters of American history. While you are exploring this beautiful state in your RVs, it can be fun and informative to explore our local history and we at *The Northern Camper* look forward to exploring with you. ✦

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- Police & Fire Emergencies ..... 911
- State Police – Cadillac .....231-779-6040
- State Police – Houghton Lake.....(989) 422-5103
- Missaukee County Sheriff.....231-839-4338
- Roscommon County Sheriff.....(989) 275-5101
- Wexford County Sheriff ..... 231-779-9211
- Cadillac Police Department..... 231-775-3491
- Great Lakes Family Care – Cadillac .... 231-775-6521
- Mercy Hospital – Cadillac .....231-876-7200
- Mercy Hospital – Grayling ..... (989) 348-5461

**About Cell Phones and 911**

Local jurisdictions are installing systems that can identify a 911 cell phone call made from any location. Older cell phones cannot report location. Other areas of Wexford, Missaukee, Osceola and Roscommon Counties may not have cell phone reception. Check with your provider.

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Make a turn around a post with the free end running underneath the standing part. Take a second turn around in the same direction and feed the free end through the eye of the second turn. Pull tight.



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A Week



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**Pull Tabs**

# Loon of Sapphire Ranger Lake

*This year it happened April 6.*

And with the help from friends and neighbors, the Sapphire Lake loons' arrival did not go unnoticed.

"They're in, they're in," was a call from first, **Pat DeVos** then **Judy Boughner**. "And I think they're the same ones as last year!"

**Helen Sutton** was on it, filling in the log, one of her duties as Sapphire Lake's loon ranger. She is very humble about her title.

"It takes all of us," Helen said, "and I try to get residents on different spots around the lake so people can notify me when they fly in.

"**Dixie Lockwood** was the Loon Ranger for over 25 years," Helen said. "She and her husband **Joel** loved the loons like the rest of us, but I was thrilled for the opportunity to be the new loon ranger."

This will be Helen's third year. "I love the loons and so do most of the people on this lake," Helen said. "And that's what you really need for the loons to thrive. If it wasn't a joint effort, you couldn't do it."

The loons nest on the northwest corner bay of Sapphire Lake in Lake City, near Helen's house. "My main responsibility is to monitor them," Helen said, "and I can really keep a close eye on them when they are on the nest. But there are several people around the lake who will monitor as well."

This year, they arrived on the main part of the lake, close to Judy's house. "The bay was still frozen, but there was enough open water in the big part of the lake," Helen said. "So with Pat and Judy's calls, along with others—**Dee Lafata**, and **Doris Garrison**—I have notes from the day they fly in."

Helen sadly lost her husband **Joe** last year, but he was just as much a part of loon duties as Helen. "You're gonna tip us over," he would joke when they put the nesting platform in.

"This year, I put out the nest Easter Sunday [April 12], the first day the bay was open," Helen said. "I tied it on the back of my paddle boat and paddled it over there."

The nesting platform is made of 4 foot by 4 foot capped

pvc pipe, green snow fencing, landscape cloth, straw, cattail reeds, and sod. It has two lines on either side with anchors that you have to stretch to make sure it remains stable in the lake. And Helen got the job done, even though one of the lines got looped around her paddle. "I know Joe was upstairs in heaven, tickled at the sight of how I was doing this without his expert advice," Helen laughed, "and I know one line has more leeway than last year, too!"

Though the loons can be very particular about where they nest, they must appreciate Helen's effort and don't seem to notice the slacked line.

"They knew where the nest was and went right to it," Helen said. "It has to be instinct, but when I saw them, they swam around it and then jumped right on it." And she is happy to report they nested the weekend of April 25.

Another factor that makes the nesting platform critical to the loons survival are high water levels. "This year they really need that platform," Helen said.

Not only do they nest on the platform, they mate there as well, and only once per year. Being the watchful loon ranger she is, Helen has actually caught them in the act. "After they copulate, they go and take a bath, preen and get back on the nest."

Loons can be extremely territorial during the mating season. They will fight another loon to the death. They have up to a two-mile radius for their territory.

"We had a battle out in the lake last year," Helen said. "They raise themselves out of the lake and make their shrill, tremolo wail which means danger."

Loons usually lay one to two eggs, but have been known to lay three. "But if they lay three, the third one won't survive," Helen said. "And another of the ranger's duties is to send in the egg if it doesn't hatch."

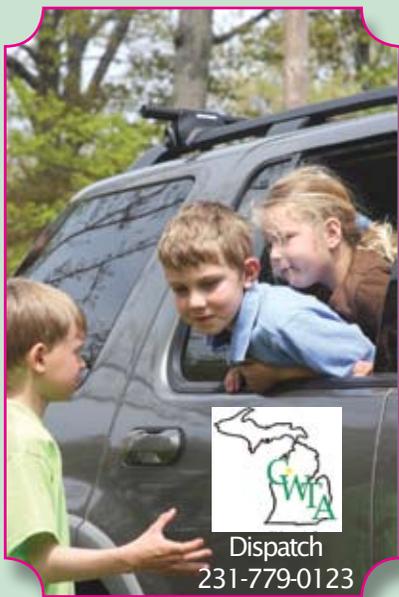
Thankfully, Helen has not had to figure out how to ship an egg. "Most often you just have one chick," Helen said. "But we have been fortunate enough to have two chicks in my three years and Dixie was quite successful, too."



*(continued on page 18)*

*Sponsored by  
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Magazine*

STARTING MAY 22ND!



*Who Said There Was No Such Thing As A*

## **FREE RIDE?**

**How about a Free Daily Round Trip ride from Mitchell State Park Campground to any place in Wexford County?**

From Monday through Friday, 5 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. the **Cadillac/Wexford Transit Authority (CWTA)** will be offering campers a Free Daily Round Trip ride to and from their destination. Any extra travel requests would be at the passenger's expense.

The free bus trips will be available from the third week in May through the end of August.

**Just look for the Bus Stop sign on the eastern side of the Campground!**

Also, for residents, visitors and vacationers a special discounted monthly bus pass is available for June, July and August.

**To make your reservations call 779-0123 or Toll Free 1-866-647-5465**

## *Loon Ranger* (continued from page 17)

Another loon ranger duty, and the success of community effort, is the notice she hand delivers to each home on the lake. "I make up a flyer to let people know the loon has nested, where they are, and to be careful not to scare them off." This year, her flyer included a photo of what the loon looks like when it is afraid.

"Last year it was April 28 when they nested," Helen recalled. "The male and female take turns so one will be on the nest at all times."

After 27 to 30 days, the eggs will hatch. And if there are two, they will be born within 24 hours of each other. "The chicks are off the nest almost immediately," Helen said. "They have this down covering which is so buoyant, it allows them to float. They can't even go under water until they lose it, but once they do, they start diving and are a lighter color."

Helen will make another notice to let people know the chicks are born. "It's a lot of work to go around to each house but also a lot of fun," Helen said. "You would not believe how many people have loons on their mailboxes, on the side of their house, loon rugs . . . everyone loves the loons!"

The love for the loons is relevant to the loons love for each other. "They do mate for life," Helen said, life being up to 30 years. "But they do divorce," she laughed. "And, do you know what causes a divorce? When they do not reproduce success-

fully, they will separate and hopefully find another mate."

The loons are a protected species in Michigan, but this is not the case in all states. Lake City is blessed to be one of the most southern areas in the state to even have a nesting area for loons. "Blessed because they are an endangered species here," Helen added, "another reason we have loon rangers."

Loons do go south for the winter, leaving late August to early September. And there is a segregation between the east and west side of the country. "The loons that are here will stay on this side of the U.S., maybe migrate to the coast of the Carolinas or Florida," Helen said. "And loons on the west coast, say in Oregon, would stay west, maybe fly for the winter to Southern California."

But once a Sapphire Lake Loon, always a Sapphire Lake loon. "Loons will come back to nest at the same lake their entire life," Helen said. "I think the reason we are so successful here is that we all help to make it a loon-safe environment where they can thrive.

"I just love the loons," Helen said. "I have a choice to stay here or go to Lansing with my kids. But I just can't leave here . . . it's so beautiful."

The Sapphire Lake loons must think so, too.



# Campground Directory



## Missaukee County

Campgrounds in Missaukee County are private, city, county or State of Michigan

### PRIVATE

#### Rustic Rafters

Located at 9446 Nelson Rd., Moorestown; (231) 229-4433. Five heated log cabins, 17 sites for trailers with electricity and water. Playground, horseshoes, volleyball, badminton, bath house w/ toilets and showers. Pavilion, Sanitation Station. Reservations suggested for cabins, especially during holiday weekends.

### CITY

#### Maple Grove Campground

Located in Lake City, four blocks east of Lake Missaukee on Union Street. The camp has 33 campsites with all full hook-ups. There are modern restrooms and showers as well as a community building with kitchen facilities for large gatherings. There is a baseball field and horseshoe pits and a short, four block stroll to Lake Missaukee's sandy beach.

### COUNTY

#### Lake Missaukee Park

- Lake Missaukee Park is on the northern edge of Lake Missaukee, in Lake City. The park has 117 campsites with electricity and most with full hook-ups. There are also 4 rustic cabins. The park has over 1,000 feet of sandy beach and excellent swimming. The west end of the park has a large, paved boat ramp and 71 boat slips. The 33 acre park features a playground with a new playscape, a beach house, pavilions, picnic areas, ball fields and horseshoe pits.

#### Crooked Lake Park

- Located on the southern edge of Crooked Lake, near Jennings, the Crooked Lake Park has 35 sites with electricity and 17 primitive sites. There are a number of hiking trails in the area, a pavilion, picnic area and boat launch. The park has 600 feet of sandy beach and covers more than 60 acres of wooded, hilly land. There are hand water pumps, and toilets and a sanitation station.

#### Ben Jeffs River Park

- This 66 acre park, 16 miles east of Lake City where M-55 crosses the Muskegon River, has 17 primitive camps. There is a hand well, toilets and a pavilion.

(continued on page 20)



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Regular 9 Holes.....\$8.00  
Seniors (60+).....\$7.00  
Children Under 10.....\$5.00

Regular 18 Holes.....\$15.00  
Seniors (60+).....\$12.00  
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### GROUP DISCOUNT

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### ELECTRIC CARTS

9 Holes.....\$6.00 per person  
18 Holes.....\$10.00 per person

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**FAMILY REUNION, BIRTHDAY  
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**Stoney Creek Golf Course**  
**231-839-7777**

**4664 S. Morey Rd. (M-55/M-66)**

From Cadillac: Take M-55 east, 8 miles to M-66, turn left (N) and go 1/4 mile.

From Lake City, take M-66 South 4 miles.



### Rainy Day?

Come in and hit some balls at our "Covered" all weather driving range. Small Bucket: \$5. Medium Bucket: \$6. Large Bucket: \$7

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**9 Holes of Golf**  
**Only \$6**  
Any Day Monday through Friday  
Must Present Coupon  
Hurry! Expires June 5th, 2009



# Campground Directory (continued from page 19)



## STATE

### Hopkins Creek Trail

This rustic camp has 23 sites, water and toilets. It is 5.5 miles north of M-42, up Lucas Rd.

### Goose Lake

Located just 2.5 miles from Lake City, south of M-42, off Al Moses Rd. to the west. (231) 775-9727. 54 sites for tent and small trailer.

### Long Lake

There are 20 sites in this campground, on the lake, with water and toilets, 3.5 miles northwest of Lake City.

## Wexford County

*Campgrounds in Wexford County are private, State of Michigan or U.S. federal land campgrounds.*

## PRIVATE

### Birchwood Resort and Campground

6545 E. M-115, Cadillac. Thirty-three campsites, full hook-ups. (231) 775-9101

- **Camp Cadillac**
- 10621 E. Boon Rd, Cadillac. Camp has store and pool, 115 campsites. (231) 775-9724
- **Kestelwood Campground (Wellston)**
- Located on M-37, Kestelwoods Campground offers RV campsites featuring fire pits, picnic tables, an outdoor heated pool, showers, a children's playground, a pavilion and a camping store for camping supplies and groceries. 10860 West 48 1/2 Road Wellston, 231-862-3476
- **Lake Billings RV Park & Campground**
- 232 East Elmore Street, Manton, MI. (231) 824-3572; 37 full hook-ups, 48 w/ elec. & water, dump station, hot showers, fire wood, playground.
- **Cadillac Woods Campground**
- 23163 M-115, Tustin, MI. (231) 825-2012; 50 sites. Cabins. Electric & dump station. Open May through Oct.
- **Northern Exposure Campground**
- 289 Manistee River Dr., Mesick. (231) 885-1199. 220 sites w/ water & elec., 100 waterfront sites, 40 prim. sites, seasonal camping, dump station, firewood, bait, ice, beach, trails.

*(continued on page 22)*

## Northland Trailers

### Sales & Service

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Starting At \$4,995



**Realite/Palomino  
Truck Campers**

**We Install Hitches!**  
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**903 N. Mitchell St., Cadillac, MI 49601**

## Mitchell State Park Renovates Canal



Mitchell State Park in Cadillac, Michigan is rebuilding the wall structure on the Park side of the canal. Construction is projected to be completed by Mid-June but certain camp sites (approximately 20) along the canal will not be open until July 1st. to allow for the new grass to take hold. Call ahead to enquire about availability of sites. All other campsites will be unaffected by this construction.

**231-779-1321**

# ANIMAL CRACKERS

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
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54					55		56		57			58	59	60
61					62				63					
64					65					66				
67					68					69				

## Across

- 1 Yule visitor
- 6 Earring sites
- 11 Fenway team, on scoreboards
- 14 Appeals for donations
- 15 Brings in
- 16 Attendance fig.
- 17 Broken-off piece of an animal cracker?
- 19 Munched on
- 20 Magic flier
- 21 Partner of green eggs
- 22 Sloth's hangout
- 23 Slaughter in baseball
- 25 Biblical sage
- 27 Drudge of the Internet
- 30 1954 Fellini Oscar winner
- 32 Inventor Whitney
- 33 Ticklish Muppet
- 34 Cricket and croquet
- 37 Access the Web
- 39 Boxer, slangily
- 41 Invite for coffee, say
- 42 Dictation takers
- 44 Egyptian Christian
- 46 Notable time
- 47 Family reunion attendee
- 49 Instruction unit
- 50 Title incorrectly
- 52 Mouth, slangily
- 54 Bounce back
- 55 USNA grad
- 57 Double-checks, in a way
- 61 Narc's org.
- 62 Taste of an animal cracker?
- 64 Blow it?
- 65 Green-card holder
- 66 Fraser of tennis
- 67 "Don't \_\_, don't tell"
- 68 Ford dud
- 69 Packing a piece

## Down

- 1 Job detail, briefly
- 2 \_\_ breve (music marking)
- 3 \_\_-do-well
- 4 Valve mover, in an engine
- 5 Extremely pale
- 6 Grid great Dawson
- 7 Inauguration Day highlight
- 8 Chicken serving
- 9 Captivates
- 10 Estonia, once: Abbr.
- 11 Where to buy animal crackers?
- 12 Prefix meaning "bone"
- 13 Dutch master Jan
- 18 Coral formation
- 22 Brouhahas
- 24 Cornmeal mush
- 26 Wash gently against
- 27 Diner on "Alice"
- 28 "Thanks \_\_!"
- 29 Unscrupulous animal cracker salesman?
- 31 Sans \_\_ (carefree)
- 33 \_\_ Gay (WWII bomber)
- 35 Poop out
- 36 Go ballistic
- 38 Bridge bid, briefly
- 40 Poli sci subj.
- 43 When repeated, "Nothing new"
- 45 Crooner Como
- 48 Serena's sport
- 49 Less meaty
- 50 Jason's wife, in myth
- 51 Pastry prettifiers
- 53 Insurance giant
- 56 \_\_-Ball (arcade game)
- 58 Circle bisector: Abbr.
- 59 Roy's cowgirl partner
- 60 Husky's burden
- 62 Al Capp's Daisy \_\_
- 63 Like a sgt. or cpl.

# Campground Directory (continued from page 20)



## WEXFORD COUNTY PRIVATE (continued)

### Pat's RV Park

Located at 2981 North 7 Road, Mesick, at Hoodenpyle Dam on the Manistee River. Campground has 87 sites, some cabins, boat rental. (800) 665-9890 or (231) 885-1056

## STATE

### Mitchell State Park

Located between Lake Mitchell and Lake Cadillac, just west of the city of Cadillac on M-115, this 334 acre park has 221 campsites with hookups. Beaches, playgrounds, a picnic area and shelter, boatramps to both lakes, and other facilities, including a visitors center.

### Old US 131 Campground

Located about 7 miles north of Manton off old US 131 on the Manistee River. This rustic campground has 25 sites.

### Baxter Bridge Campground

This rustic campground on the Manistee River has 25 sites, with 3 that can accommodate a 40 ft trailer.

## FEDERAL

### Hemlock Campground

Located in the Huron Manistee National Forest, this 2,600 acre camp has 19 campsites nestled on the west end of Lake Mitchell. Tables and fire rings only, wildlife viewing.

## Western Roscommon County

*Campgrounds in Western Roscommon County are private.*

## PRIVATE

### Houghton Lake Travel Park

Located one block east of U.S. 127 and M-55 at 370 Cloverleaf Lane, this campground has 60 sites, 16 with sewer hook-ups. Camp also has rental cabins and dump station. (989) 422-3931 or (800) 659-9379.

### West Houghton Lake Campground

Located about a mile east of U.S. 127 and M-55 and about 1/2 mile north on Houghton Lake Drive, at 9371 Houghton Lake Drive. Campground has 127 sites, many with sewer hook-ups. Near Houghton Lake public access. (989) 422-5130.

### Wooded Acres Family Campground

Located a couple miles east of U.S. 127 and M-55. Take M-55 east to the second light (Loxley Rd.) and go south 1.7 miles to Federal Ave. Campground is on the left at 997 Federal Ave. Campground has 101 sites, some with sewer hook-ups, and some cabins. (989) 422-3413.

## Osceola County

*Campgrounds in Osceola County are private.*

## PRIVATE

### Rose Lake Park

Located in 48 acres of pine and hardwood forest, 1300 feet of frontage on beautiful Rose Lake. Group camping is available. Pavilions available by reservation for groups. Store, electric, swimming, water hook-ups, fishing, showers, playground, picnic shelter, 110 site available. 11726 Youth Drive • Leroy, MI 49655. 231-768-4923

### Rambadt Park (Reed City)

Open Mid-May to the end of October (weather dependent). Spaces on a First Come/First Serve Basis. Visitors on Friday and Saturday nights during summer months can attend the free Music Concerts in the park. 13 New Campsites with electricity and water hookups. Restrooms with Showers, Playground Area, Horseshoe Area, Caretaker. Picnic Pavilion, Band Pavilion. Visitors on Friday and Saturday nights during summer months can attend the free Music Concerts in the park. 231-832-2884 for more information.

### Crittenden Park (Sears)

Located on the East shore of Big Lake. The park is grassy with many large pleasant shade trees throughout, DNR boat launch adjacent, pavilion available for reservations by groups. 60 Site available. East of Evert on US10 to 50th Avenue (Sears), South 2 miles on 50th to park entrance on Right. Store, electric, swimming, water hook-ups, fishing, playground, picnic, shelter. 3641 50th Avenue, 231-734-2588

### River Country Campground (Evert)

Quiet, friendly campground. Large sunny/shaded sites on the Muskegon River. Clean modern restrooms. Canoe, kayak and innertube rentals, miniature golf, video arcade room, horseshoes, volleyball, playground, pavilion, camp store and seasonal rates available. Golfing, hunting, fishing and state land located nearby. 105 sites available. 6281 River Road, Evert, MI., 231-734-3808. E-Mail: info@campandcanoe.com



## The Coffee Cup

**“Biggest Breakfast in the North”**

**Open 7 am–3 pm 7 Days  
Daily Specials**

*For everything from the best cup of coffee  
to a complete meal!*

Locally Owned  
and Operated  
231-839-4859

84 N. Morey Road, Lake City  
(1 block North of M-55)



# Camper's Puzzle Answers

## Sudoku from page 9

6	2	4	3	8	7	5	9	1
1	3	9	4	5	6	8	2	7
7	5	8	1	9	2	4	3	6
4	9	6	8	1	3	7	5	2
2	8	3	7	6	5	1	4	9
5	1	7	9	2	4	3	6	8
9	4	1	2	3	8	6	7	5
3	6	2	5	7	1	9	8	4
8	7	5	6	4	9	2	1	3

## Crossword from page 21

S	A	N	T	A		L	O	B	E	S		B	O	S
P	L	E	A	S		E	A	R	N	S		E	S	T
E	L	E	P	H	A	N	T	E	A	R		A	T	E
C	A	R	P	E	T		H	A	M		T	R	E	E
			E	N	O	S		S	O	L	O	M	O	N
M	A	T	T		L	A	S	T	R	A	D	A		
E	L	I		E	L	M	O		S	P	O	R	T	S
L	O	G	O	N		P	U	G		A	S	K	I	N
S	T	E	N	O	S		C	O	P	T		E	R	A
		R	E	L	A	T	I	V	E		S	T	E	P
M	I	S	N	A	M	E		T	R	A	P			
E	C	H	O		E	N	S		R	E	A	D	D	S
D	E	A		M	O	N	K	E	Y	T	R	I	A	L
E	R	R		A	L	I	E	N		N	E	A	L	E
A	S	K		E	D	S	E	L		A	R	M	E	D



## CARL T. JOHNSON Hunting & Fishing Center

**231-779-1321**

.....  
MAY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 9 Morel Mushrooms and Other Edibles  
Heather Hallen Adams of MSU, Noon to 2pm
- 16 Boater Safety Class, 8:30am to 5pm  
Pre-registration required, call 231-779-1321
- 23 Happy Memorial Day Weekend!  
Activities throughout the day on Saturday  
Live Michigan Turtles! Jim Mcgrath of  
Nature Discovery, 10am - Noon & 1pm - 3pm  
Float Fishing in the Canal, 3pm to 5pm  
Pellet Gun Range & Archery Range, 6pm - 8pm
- 24 Float Fishing on Canal, Noon to 2pm  
Shooting Ranges, 3pm to 5pm  
Laser Shot, 6pm to 8pm
- 30 Family Range Day—Both Ranges Open  
Noon to 3pm  
Float Fishing on the Canal—3pm to 5pm

### Carl T. Johnson Hunting & Fishing Center

Mitchell State Park – Cadillac (across from campground)

Join Us For Summer Fun  
**Visit our gift shop!**

Books, Plush, Shirts, Souvenirs

Nature Programs • Exhibits

Archery and Pellet Gun Ranges

Open 7 days a week 10-6

**231-779-1321**

Bring this ad in for 10% off your purchase at our gift shop.

# FESTIVITIES

## Cadillac

### May 9 - 11 • Camp Cadillac

BBQ! Bring your favorite dish to pass and some healthy appetites!

### May 23 - 26 • Camp Cadillac

Memorial Day weekend! The pool will be open and lots of activities are planned.

### May 15 • Music Downtown Cadillac

The Cadillac Footlites will be having 50 oompaloompa's from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory play walking up and down the downtown streets promoting the Art Walk during the month of May.

### May 9, 2 pm • Gopherwood Concert

Cooley School, Tickets \$5

### May 23, 10 am - 4 pm • Cadillac Downtown Art Walk

Meet and Greet the Artists, Refreshments

### May 25 • Rotary Stride for Strive 5K

Carl T. Johnson Hunting & Fishing Center

### May 25 • Memorial Day Parade, 10am

### May 30 • Backdoor BBQs—Join the Fun!

See [www.downtowncadillac.com](http://www.downtowncadillac.com)

### June 14 • Moose Lodge Car And Motorcycle Show

### June 27 • Wolverine Morgan 20th Annual Open Horse Show

Wexford Civic Arena

## Ewart

### May 22 - 23 • Flea Market & Craft Show

### July 16-19 • Dulcimer Festival

Osceola County Fairgrounds, \$3 gate fee, camping \$15 nightly.

### July 26 - Aug. 1 • Osceola County 4-H & FFA Fair

## Falmouth

### July 31 - Aug. 7 • Missaukee Agricultural Youth Show

## Houghton Lake

### May 30, 9 am - 1 pm • Roscommon County Solid Waste Recycling Committee Spring Household

### Hazardous Pick Up

Roscommon County Health Dept.

### June 19 • 20th Annual O'Mercy Golf Classic

Fox Run Country Club

## Lake City

### May 16 • 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Garage/Yard Sale

### June 30 - July 5 • Greatest Fourth in the North -

Parade, Ox Roast, Entertainment, Beach Volleyball Competition, fun run, Battle of the Bands, Arts & Crafts Fireworks

## Leroy

### 1st Weekend in June • Community Garage Sales

## Merritt

### May 15-17, 11 am - 4 pm • Community Yard Sales

Golden Agers lunch on 16th at Park Pavilion

### June 26 - 28 • Hootenanny

Chicken BBQ, Bingo, Dance, FREE Camping

### MERRITT SPEEDWAY

May 9 • Mothers Day Special

May 16 • Saturday Night Special Zip Code Night

May 23 • Car Load Night

May 30 • Spring Season Championships

June 6 • WKLT Fantasy Night

June 10 • Lane Automotive Presents the "WHO 55"

June 13 • USA Autocross Derby

June 20 • "Topless 100"

June 27 • Winged Outlaw, MORA Sprints

## Mesick

### May 8-10

Mesick – Mushroom Festival 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

## Reed City

### May 15, 6 pm • Michigan Week Dinner

Reed City High School

### May 25, 9 am • Memorial Day Parade

### June 12 • RCACC Golf Outing

Spring Valley