

Day Trips

Sedalia Democrat Warrensburg Star-Journal

Let's go Caving

There are sights to amaze underground

By Chris Howell
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If you're looking for some underground sight-seeing, Missouri, also known as the 'Cave State' has almost 6,400 documented caves.

Four of the natural formations, Onondaga Cave and Cathedral Cave at Onondaga Cave State Park, Ozark Caverns at Lake of the Ozarks State Park, Fisher Cave at Meramec State Park have tours April through October guided by State Parks employees.

Jacob's Cave is just 35 miles from Sedalia at 23114 St Hwy TT in Versailles.

Shakolla Stacy, the manager, said Jacob's Cave was discovered by Kentucky lead prospector Jacob Craycraft in 1875.

"It was a good source of income for the prospectors in the late 1800s," Stacy said. "He was digging in an area in search of this lead when he discovered a small opening with cool air coming from it so as he continued to open this opening up and it brought him into a tunnel system."

Jacob carved his name near the cave entrance and at least three other places.

"Today our visitors get to come and navigate through the same tunnel system that Jacob used," Stacy said. "The tunnel system leads into the main room of the cave."

The Grand Room leaves visitors awed by its cavernous size and the exquisite calcium carbonite formations inside.

"They are impressed by the size of the room," Stacy said. "It's large; it holds two reflecting pools. What's interesting about this first room is there are some soda straws and cave formations along one wall and in the center of the room is one big stalactite and stalagmite on the floor."

The smooth surface of parts of the cave takes on an otherworldly appearance.

"The ceiling almost looks like a moon pattern kind of rock," Stacy said. "It's very, very, beautiful."

Fully guided walk-through tours are a comfortable 52° year-round and Jacob's Cave has many mysteries to uncover.

"We have fossil petrified sea coral that is evidence from the great flood," Stacy said. "There are some unique formations this cave is known for; towards the back of the cave is very active with thousands of cave formations. There's a spring that feeds into this cave and a stream that runs all the way through it."



Fantastic Caverns offers guided tram tours year-round just north of Springfield at 4872 North Farm Road 125 and the temperature is always 60°. PHOTO COURTESY OF VISIT SPRINGFIELD MISSOURI

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The Sanctuary Brew Pub is just a short drive away



By Faith Bemiss-McKinney
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If planning a trip to the Lake of the Ozarks area, one should consider taking a break at The Sanctuary Brew Pub & Event Center in Osage Beach — it's just a short drive from the local area.

Brian and Jennifer Roberts own the Brew Pub. They opened the business in a former church in July 2023, hence the name "The Sanctuary." Brian Roberts said he likes the word "sanctuary" because it has "multiple meanings."

"The idea of a sanctuary, plus we have a physical sanctuary here," Brian Roberts said. "So, it seemed like a very good term to describe it. Plus, I was looking for the feeling of some place you could go to get some peace and refreshment. Like a personal sanctuary. While it's no longer physically a church, it did exist in that manner at some point, so I thought it was appropriate."

Visitors at The Sanctuary Brew Pub & Event Center can sample a wide variety of handcrafted beers created by Brian Roberts. The Brew Pub can also be leased for events such as weddings, parties, and conferences. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SANCTUARY BREW PUB & EVENT CENTER

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Whether you're on Truman Lake, or strolling our riverfront trails, Benton County offers something for everyone. Check out the historical sites, scenic parks, or paddle board on the Osage Arm of Lake of the Ozarks. The possibilities are endless! With great proximity to major cities, you don't have to travel far to find your next adventure. Learn more at VisitBentonCoMo.com





The Arrow Rock Historic District is home to many sites including the Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre. PHOTO COURTESY OF ARROW ROCK LYCEUM THEATRE



The Bothwell Lodge property has a 3-mile hiking and mountain biking trail. FILE PHOTO BY KAYLA NILGES | SPECIAL TO THE DEMOCRAT



The Harry S. Truman Library in Independence features over 50,000 artifacts related to the Truman family. PHOTO BY AARON FUHRMAN | VIA VISIT MISSOURI

Visit these Central Missouri historic sites and museums

By Zach Bott
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Whether you're a historian looking to find your next piece of history or a novice looking to learn about the past, Central Missouri has it for you with its many historic sites and museums.

Bothwell Lodge State Historic Site

Take a trip to Sedalia and visit its Bothwell Lodge State Historic Site. The 31-room, 12,000-square-foot lodge was built atop two natural caves by Sedalia lawyer John Homer Bothwell. The lodge originally served as a retreat until construction was completed in 1928.

Most of the furnishings in the house are original since the Missouri Department of Natural Resources purchased the lodge in 1974. The property also has a 3-mile hiking and mountain biking trail.

In 2024, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources began updating the lodge's roof to what it looked like almost 100 years ago, with a red and gray diamond checkerboard pattern.

Confederate Memorial State Historic Site

In 1889, Missouri Confederates needed a place to stay after retiring from the Civil War. During an annual reunion in Higginsville, they realized their communal need and later purchased 365 acres of farmland and built a community for veterans to live for the next 60 years.

Now owned by the state of Missouri, the site serves as Missouri's Confederate historical home.

The site has lost a bit of its stature, now holding over 135 acres, but still has the charm it started with. During your trip, you can find visits to its chapel, park cemetery, cottage, farmhouse and hospital building. The chapel and cemetery are both listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Fort Osage National Historic Landmark

Closer to Kansas City, you can find the Fort Osage National Historic Landmark in Sibley. William Clark, joint commander of the Lewis and Clark Expedition across America, directed the building of the fort in 1808 to serve as a trade center and an outpost for soldiers. The fort overlooks the Missouri River and gives

visitors a look into the life of military, civilians and Native Americans in the area.

Arrow Rock Historic District

To the northwest, you can take a short drive to Arrow Rock Historic District and learn about its history as a National Historic Landmark District, which it was declared in 1963. Here, you'll find the Arrow Rock State Historic Site, where you can find the oldest continuously operating restaurant west of the Mississippi River, J. Huston Tavern and plenty of places to camp, fish and enjoy nature.

America's National Churchill Museum

When former United Kingdom Prime Minister Winston Churchill delivered his "Iron Curtain" address to Westminster College, he made history doing so. The speech, which occurred in 1946, marked the beginning of the Cold War and gave Fulton, Missouri, a link to one of history's most infamous figures.

Today, the museum on Westminster's campus tells the story of Churchill's legacy. For its dedication to Churchill, the museum, which was originally established in 1969 as the Winston Churchill Memorial and Library in the United States. The museum was renamed by act of Congress in 2009 as "America's National Churchill Museum."

Battle of Lexington State Historic Site

The Civil War's history in Missouri also takes place at the Battle of Lexington State Historic Site in Lexington. The site is the home of the Anderson House, where visitors can see the scars of bullet and cannon shots from the 1861 battle that gave Confederates control over northwestern Missouri. Visitors can explore the house and walk the battlefield trail, too.

Harry S Truman National Historic Site

Last, but not least, the Harry S Truman National Historic Site in Independence remains an integral part of Missouri's history as it houses the home of the 33rd United States President, Harry Truman.

Visitors can explore with a guided tour of Truman's former 14-room home at 219 North Delaware St. and the over 50,000 artifacts related to the Truman family.

Zach Bott can be reached at 660-747-8123.

The German Table

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Located in the heart of Cole Camp, Missouri is the German Table. Established in 2012, this gem, listed on the National registry for historical locations, serves a German based menu passed down for generations. Whether you are there for one of their German beers and wines or simply craving schnitzel, the German Table is truly where friends and family gather.

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Adventure is Calling, Will You Answer?

JUNE

6-7 - **Cole Camp City Wide Garage Sale**
7 - Antique and classic cars will be displayed downtown.
7 - **Benton County ArtsFest (Warsaw)** - Experience the Arts in Benton County with local artists, makers and performers! Art competition (cash prizes), artisan demos, live performances and demonstrations, Kid’s Art Village and more! This event is in conjunction with Jubilee Days and will be on Seminary and Main Streets and the Open Mic is at The Locker Room.
6-8 - **Warsaw Jubilee Days** - This family-friendly festival makes Warsaw come to life and will include a carnival, live music, contests, turtle races, car show, craft tents, parade, 5K run, and more!

JULY

5 - **Drake Harbor Fireworks** - Mark your calendars for this one-of-a-kind spectacular fireworks show overlooking the Osage Arm of Lake of the Ozarks at Drake Harbor!
5 - **Cole Camp Jaycees MSTPA Sanctioned Truck & Tractor Pull**
26 - **Cole Camp Zucchini Races** - You heard it right! Come down and race your zucchini or enter it for best decorated for prizes or be a spectator. Where else can you see zucchini’s on wheels?
New location: Ezekial Williams Park Pickleball Court.

AUGUST

2 - **Smokin’ Hot Harborfest** - Don’t miss this unique event in beautiful Drake Harbor! Live music, beer garden, food trucks, kid’s zone and more!
29-30 - **Benton County Rodeo** - MRA and URA Sanctioned Rodeo with saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling, cowgirl’s barrel race, bareback bronc, calf roping, bull riding, mutton busting, contest ages 4-7, break away roping, team roping, sheep scramble for kids 10 years and younger and more!

SEPTEMBER

4-6 - **Cole Camp Fair** - This fair has the most unbelievable floats in MO - must-see! Carnival rides, food vendors, contests, competitions, car show, 5K, and much more!
13 - **Lincoln Fly-In** - “Fly-in” to the last of the remaining grass roots airstrips in MO and have a bite to eat, chat with the pilots and enjoy all of the unique planes that come in.
13 - **Lincoln Fall Market/Balloon Glow/Strongman Competition** - Activities include a Farmer Strongman Competition, Pie Auction, Pumpkin Growing Contest, Live Music & Beer Garden all day, Hot Air Balloon Glow, Dinner and Rides, Beer Garden with The Groove Pilots following the Balloon Glow!
18-20 - **Mozarkite Rock and Gem Show** (Lincoln)
27 - **Cole Camp Oktoberfest** - Live German music, food and traditional festivities held in Downtown Cole Camp!

27 - **Antique Farm Show (Cole Camp)** - They have apple cider press, apple butter, churned butter, beekeeper, blacksmith, wheat threshing & straw baling, sugar cane & molasses press, corn meal, sawmill, Grandma Kitchen Museum.

OCTOBER

18-19 - **Warsaw Heritage Day** - Over 200 handmade craft booths, food vendors, live music and more!
18-19 - **Kaysinger Heritage Days** - Live demonstrations at this working 1800’s pioneer village with log cabins, a General Store, tradesman, craftsman,
24-25 - **Cole Camp Haunted House at RiOak**
25 - **Cole Camp Pumpkin Fest** - This unique Halloween event includes a Spirit Stroll, pumpkin carving contest, spooky scavenger hunt, haunted house, food vendors, 5K Zombie Run & Walk, food trucks and more!
31 - **Warsaw Halloween Hoopla** - A big safe Halloween experience downtown Warsaw. Businesses set up cover about 6 blocks. Main and Van Buren. Booths open at 6 pm. Costume Contest by Creative Palette.
31 - **Lincoln Frightfully Fun Family Night** - Join us at the big city park in Lincoln for Halloween activities and a trunk or treat for the whole family!

NOVEMBER

14-15 - **Benton County Boutique Crawl** - Shop small-town boutiques, home décor and specialty shops with specials and fun things to do and get entered into drawings for cash prizes!
22 - **Cole Camp Christbaumfest** - Over 50 quality crafters, music, Santa and Mrs. Claus and more.

DECEMBER

5 - **Cole Camp Christkindlmarket** - This is a family-friendly event featuring shopping in stores, hot apple cider, food trucks, pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus, wagon and carriage rides, carolers, living windows and more!
7 - **Cole Camp German Christmas Concert** - Community Concert choir of mixed voices performing songs in German.
5-6 - **Kaysinger Christmas** - Visit the pioneer village decorated for Christmas! Stroll the candle lit trails between the historical buildings and duck inside to warm your mittens by an open fire. Immerse yourself in an 1800’s style Christmas with warm food, cider, and hot chocolate for the kid in all of us.
13 - **Lincoln Christmas Parade, Craft Fair & Soup & Chili Supper** - Enjoy the spirit of the season with the Christmas Parade on Main Street, Craft Fair at the Lincoln School and the Benton County 4-H/FFA Youth Fair will be hosting a Free Will Donation Chili/Soup Dinner in the school Cafeteria.
13 - **Hallmark Christmas in Warsaw** - Breakfast with Santa, Children’s craft projects, food trucks and holiday market, live nativity scene, horse drawn carriage rides.

Visit Springfield, urban chic meets outdoor adventure



Restaurants like Kai After Dark help make Springfield a fine dining destination with Peruvian Chinese, Japanese, Lebanese, Thai cuisine and good old fashioned steaks and burgers. PHOTO COURTESY OF VISIT SPRINGFIELD MISSOURI

By Chris Howell
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Springfield, Missouri is only 102 miles due south and makes a great daytrip, but there is so much to do you might as well stay over a few nights.

“Honestly, you could fill up a whole week with things to do in Springfield,” Visit Springfield Missouri content

coordinator Madison Yohn said. “We have Wonders of Wildlife National Museum and Aquarium, we have a variety of caves to visit, we also have Big Shots Golf and then we are home to the original Bass Pro Shops in Springfield. So, there are five free museums that you can go through inside.”

Johnny Morris’s wonders of wildlife National Museum and aquarium is billed as the largest immersive wildlife attraction in the world featuring

wildlife exhibits and towering tanks where sharks, octopus and other sea creatures are only inches away from excited visitors.

If you work up an appetite visiting Wilson’s Creek National Battlefield, Springfield is Missouri’s third largest city and has a world of places to dine.

“We just have a really unique restaurant scene as well,” Yohn said. “You can eat around the world in Springfield; you have Peruvian cuisine, you

have Chinese, Japanese, Lebanese, Thai cuisine... you can eat everywhere.”

Kai After Dark offers sushi rolls and creative cocktails with an Asian fusion flare in a chic bi-level venue at 306 South Campbell Avenue while Civil Kitchen’s hip style and outdoor seating offer diners a view overlooking Park Central Square.

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For more information, visit: facebook.com/PioneerHeritageDays

A Day Trip to Versailles

won't disappoint

By Faith Bemiss-McKinney
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One won't be disappointed with a day trip to the small town of Versailles this season. Information supplied by the Sedalia Convention & Visitors Bureau noted that Versailles, nestled between the rolling Ozark Hills and the Lake of the Ozarks, offers a delightful mix of natural beauty, cultural heritage, and small-town charm. Whether one is an outdoor enthusiast, a history buff, or simply seeking a relaxing getaway, Versailles has something for everyone.

Explore Jacob's Cave

The Visit Versailles website tells visitors that Jacob's Cave is a must-see attraction renowned for its reflective pools, mineral formations, and evidence of six ice ages. As the first commercial cave in the Lake area, it has been welcoming visitors for over 80 years. The cave also hosts one of the Midwest's largest swap meets, attracting around 30,000 attendees per event and offering antiques, crafts, and more.

Catch a Show at The Royal Theatre

Located in downtown Versailles, the Royal Theatre is a hub for local performing arts, noted by Visit Versailles. This historic venue showcases a variety of productions throughout the year, including a grand musical during the annual fall Apple Festival. Past performances have featured classics like Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" and "Mary Poppins." Coming up this year, guests



Valerie Kirchhoff, with the St. Louis band Miss Jubilee Jazz, sings a tune on Saturday, April 4, at the Royal Theatre in Versailles. FILE PHOTO BY FAITH-BEMISS-MCKINNEY | DEMOCRAT



In October 2019, Members of Central High School Kiltie Drum & Bugle Corps, of Springfield, perform during the 40th annual Olde Tyme Apple Festival Parade, in Versailles. The festival is hosted each October.



While visiting Versailles, don't forget the Lake of the Ozarks is only 15 minutes away.

Tee Off at Rolling Hills Country Club

And don't forget there is golf in the area. Visit Versailles noted that golf enthusiasts can enjoy the 18-hole Rolling Hills Country Club, managed by PGA Golf Professional Steve Nolawski. The course features gently rolling terrain, three lakes, bunkers, and native grass hazards, providing a challenging yet enjoyable experience. Additional facilities include a natural grass driving range and practice green.

Visit the Lake of the Ozarks

Also, just a short 15-minute drive from downtown Versailles brings one to the north shore of the Lake of the Ozarks. Information supplied by Visit Versailles said visitors can relax at popular spots like Coco-nuts Bar & Grill, which offers a pool with a swim-up bar, sand volleyball, and lake trampolines. Boat and water toy rentals are also available for those exploring the Lake.

Step Back in Time at the Martin Hotel Museum

While in the area, don't forget to visit the Martin Hotel, now home to the Morgan County Historical Museum. The museum has operated as a hotel for 119 years since 1853. During the Civil War, it housed both Union and Confederate troops. Today, the museum offers a glimpse into the area's rich history, including stories of notable guests like outlaw Jesse James.

Old Tyme Apple Festival

Once fall arrives, there are still fun things to see and do in Versailles. Held every October, the Olde Tyme Apple Festival is a cherished tradition celebrating over 45 years of community spirit. The festival features a grand parade, live entertainment, craft vendors, and plenty of apple-themed treats. It's a family-friendly event that draws visitors from across the region.

Whether one decides to explore natural wonders, enjoy local theater, or delve into history, Versailles offers a variety of day trip experiences that cater to all interests.

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can see the Abbey Road Warriors concert on June 7, and a children's theatre performance of "Never Eat a Talking Lobster" on June 27 through 29.

Discover Mennonite Country

Just outside Versailles lies a thriving Mennonite community in the village of Excelsior. Visit Versailles noted that since the 1970s, this area has blossomed into a destination with over 100 merchant shops open to the public. Visitors can explore bakeries, bulk food stores, quilt shops, furniture makers, and more, offering a unique farm-to-table experience.

Enjoy Outdoor Recreation

The City of Versailles said the town boasts four beautifully maintained parks: Versailles City Park, Memorial Park, East Side Park, and Dunham Park. These parks offer playgrounds, sports courts, picnic areas, and a disc golf course. Dunham Park features a new dog park and little free libraries, enhancing community engagement.

The Versailles City Pool provides a refreshing escape during the summer months, with affordable admission and seasonal passes available.



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CAVING

Continued from Page 15

Madison Yohn, Content Coordinator of Visit Springfield Missouri told the Democrat there are a variety of caves to explore only a few hours south of Sedalia.

“We have Fantastic Caverns,” Yohn said. “It’s a little bit north of Springfield and it’s one of the only ride-through caves in North America, so you can get in a tram and never have to leave your seat.”

Crystal Cave in Springfield opened as a commercial showcave in 1893 and features many natural formations of stalactites, stalagmites and helictites, unusual cave formations that seem to defy gravity and grow in any direction.

“But you have to do a little bit of squatting and a little bit of crawling,” Yohn warned. “So that’s more of your wild cave tour.”

Just south of Springfield is Civil War Cave with a huge, six-story opening.

They do a lot of cool tours there,” Yohn said. “They do a wild cave tour and, in the fall, they also do Lantern tours as well.”

Comfortable walking shoes and a light jacket are recommended for cave tours.

Most Missouri cave tours range from \$10-\$34, and some are included with park admission.

Chris Howell can be reached at 660-530-0146.

SANCTUARY BREW PUB

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Brian Roberts, owner of The Sanctuary Brew Pub & Event Center in Osage Beach, recently held a keg at the business. Roberts has 14 handcrafted beers on tap. PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE SANCTUARY BREW PUB & EVENT CENTER

Brian Roberts said that all his beers are brewed in-house in small batches. What once was a hobby is now a career.

“Up until this point, I’ve been brewing one barrel of beer, which is roughly finished, 30 gallons,” Brian Roberts said. “Which is very difficult to keep up with, given the number of beers we have on tap. Right now, I have 14 of my own beers on tap. That’s a lot of juggling to keep that many beers flowing.”

Brian Roberts recently renovated and can now brew five barrels at a time.

“It does give me a lot of additional flexibility,” Brian Roberts said. “And that will allow me to start our canning line so we can provide canned, packaged craft beer here for sale out the door — so we’ll be doing that this summer.”

As for summer beers, Roberts is stocking up on his handcrafted fruit-infused brews, such as the Kolberry Blue-

berry Kolsch, Sunburn Strawberry Cream Ale, and the Tan Line Tropical Wheat, brewed with passion fruit, pineapple, peach, and mango. When Roberts brews his beer, he uses real fruit, not flavorings. He introduced the last two beers in early May and sold out of the first batch of Strawberry Cream Ale within a week.

“All three are on tap ... in addition to all our standards, and some other specialty beers,” Brian Roberts said.

Roberts added that when brewing, he uses fresh fruit or fresh purees.

“So, we can get a genuine fruit flavor for the finished product,” Brian Roberts said. “Versus using imitation flavorings that are typically sweeter and more medicinal. I just made the decision early that if I can’t source the ingredients, then I don’t brew the beer; it has to wait.”

“That’s the nice thing about craft brewing, if you thought you needed to zag sometimes, you can zig,” Brian Roberts said. “And just come up with something new and inventive and try it out.”

Besides the summer fruit beers, Roberts

also offers a variety of standard brews. The Sanctuary always has the Holy Grail Cream Ale, a light, crisp offering, and a Bavarian Hefeweizen, a German-style wheat beer. Malt styles include the Ozark Amber Ale and Wildflower Honey Red. The darker malts include the D’s Nut Brown Ale and Dad Bod Oatmeal Stout.

“In addition, IPAs are wildly popular,” Brian Roberts said. “So, I have three, and I’ll always have one on (tap) and generally it’s the River Bottom Nightmare IPA, which is a traditional West Coast hazy IPA.”

Besides those, he also cycles the City to City Pineapple Habanero IPA as a tap offering.

“That beer is interesting,” Brian Roberts said. “Because it’s not meant to be an overly fruity beer, even though it has pineapple in it. I use pineapple sparingly to balance the heat and flavor of the habaneros.”

His last IPA being offered is The Sanctuary After Dark, a black IPA. This beer is for those who like a maltier beer, similar to an oatmeal stout, but with a “nicely balanced hop finish.”

“Rather than a real pungent, citrusy hop, it uses a very earthy and wood-spiced hop to match the malt in the grain of that black IPA,” Brian Roberts said. “It’s

dark and has a nice rich head, because I do use oats while brewing that.”

The Brew Pub also offers food: a charcuterie plate, a meat and cheese plate, flat breads, soft pretzels, beer cheese mac’ n cheese, and small plates of olives, nuts, cheese-stuffed dates, and chips and dip. Roberts will soon also be offering whole bean roasted coffee at the Brew Pub.

The Sanctuary welcomes events such as weddings, birthday parties, baby showers, conferences, etc. When events are large, the Brew Pub will close to the public and allow people to lease the space.

“You name it, we do it,” Brian Roberts said. “Whether they need The Sanctuary space for conferences, we (also) have a banquet hall downstairs where we do painting classes and other art project-type events, in addition to meetings for local groups.”

The Sanctuary Brew Pub & Event Center, 5716 Osage Beach Pkwy. in Osage Beach, is open from 3 to 9 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday and from 1 to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday. For more information, call 573-693-0038 or visit Facebook or the website, the-sanctuarybrewery.com.

Faith Bemiss-McKinney can be reached at faithb@sedaliademocrat.com.

The Sanctuary Brew Pub & Event Center is a nice day trip getaway. It is conveniently located in Osage Beach at the Lake of the Ozarks and is owned by Brian and Jennifer Roberts.



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SPRINGFIELD

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The Dickerson Park Zoo has more than 450 exotic animals such as a Maned wolf, known as one of the zoo’s stinkiest animals, Golden Lion tamarins, kangaroos and bears.

Springfield is a civilized city nestled in the deep woods of the surrounding Ozark mountains.

“Springfield, Missouri, we’re the City of the Ozarks, so you can do a lot of outdoor activities in the city,” Yohn said. “You can be floating on the James river and then be at a Broadway show in 20 minutes. We have a little bit of both things; you have the city feel and you have the outdoor feel.”

The Springfield Botanical Gardens

at the Nathanael Greene/Close Memorial Park, 2400 South Scenic Ave. with walkways and specialty gardens including the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden, a seven-acre garden featuring a koi lake, a tea house and traditional Japanese landscaping.

For those too worn out to make it back to Sedalia the same day, Springfield, the birth place of Route 66, a stay at the Moxy Springfield Downtown, offering vibrant style and energy in the heart of downtown with the Eyrie Rooftop Bar and Kitchen’s fantastic view of this fascinating city.

Chris Howell can be reached at 660-530-0146.

BEAT THE HEAT WITH THESE SWEET TREATS

By Zach Bott
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With the summer heat soon setting in, and seemingly sticking around for the foreseeable future, you and your loved ones are gonna be needing some nice, cool and chilling snacks. Lucky for you, Central Missouri is home to some of the best local creameries, ice cream and shaved ice stands.

Of course, you could go to your everyday grocery store that carries ice cream or the national fast food chains like McDonald's, Culver's, or Sonic.

But, supporting local businesses is not only crucial to their survival, but also helps foster community involvement and economic prosperity.

Magnolia Market

Magnolia Market, located at 202 N Holden Street in Warrensburg, offers plenty of options for everyone to enjoy. Whether you're looking for sea salt caramel, mint chocolate chip ice cream, plain vanilla, or chocolate, the market has it all. Ice cream mixed with alcohol is also available to adults who want to spice up their summer afternoons.

If you are unsure what to get, sample an ice cream flight containing four different flavors in either a cup, a waffle cone, or blended into a milkshake. Ice cream floats and ice cream sandwiches are made with house-baked chocolate chip cookies.

Not feeling up to ice cream, how about some pie or a milkshake? Magnolia offers house-made fresh milkshakes and sliced pie or cheesecake as well. The market also sells breakfast, lunch, coffee, smoothies and offers a kids' menu.

118 Cakery

Just down the block from Magnolia, 118 Cakery offers ice cream along with its daily

flavor cupcake deals and cookies. There is nothing better than beating the heat with ice cream and a cupcake and no better place to do it than at 118 W. Pine Street. If you are walking by with your dog, you can bring them inside 118 for a pupcake, a dog-friendly dessert topped with a milkbone made for your furry friends.

Johnny Penguin's Shaved Ice

Johnny Penguin's Shaved Ice has only been in Warrensburg for two years, but its sweet treats have caught the attention of the public. The family-owned and operated stand located at 501 N Maguire Street offers plenty of flavors and ice to aid your tongue from the sweltering heat. With flavors like its "Tiger Bite", "Pool-er Bear", "Ninja Turtle", and others, there is always something to come to Johnny Penguin's for. The stand also offers lemonades, limeades, and root beer floats.

A.J.'S Dairy Bar

A.J.'s Dairy Bar, a longtime favorite in Cole Camp, crossed 10 years under the ownership of Amber Benn in February.

Originally established in 1961, the restaurant, located at 511 W. Main St., has remained a staple of the community for over six decades, serving both locals and travelers with quality food and friendly service.

While A.J.'s Dairy Bar is widely known for its famous ice cream, its menu offers far more than just sweet treats. Guests can indulge in a variety of homemade favorites, from hand-breaded tenderloin sandwiches to hearty chili, juicy burgers and crispy fries.

Skelly's Ice Cream Shoppe

Take a trip back in time by visiting Skelly's Ice Cream Shoppe, a gas station turned ice cream shoppe/drive in.

Skelly's is located at 401 W. 2nd St. in Stover, and serves sweet treats along with speciali-



Toddlers from All Stars Preschool/Childcare line up and wait to receive ice cream from the Ice Burg Frozen Treats truck on Tuesday, July 2, 2024. FILE PHOTO BY ZACH BOTT | STAR-JOURNAL



AJ's Dairy Bar's soft-serve ice cream remains a customer favorite, with options like classic cones, rich sundaes, thick milkshakes and its signature hurricanes. PHOTO COURTESY OF AMBER BENN

ty products, beef hotdogs, smash burgers and more.

In terms of ice cream, options include sundaes and shakes.

5&50 Drive-In

Driving east on 50 through Tipton, it is not hard to miss the 5&50 Drive In, 318 U.S. 50 Highway.

The Drive-In includes ice cream, shakes and floats.

The typical diner set of burgers, fries, hot dogs and other sandwiches is also included.

B&G Scoops

You'll find B&G Scoops just off U.S. Hwy 50 in north Knob Noster. Located at 421 N State St., B&G offers delicious

hand dipped ice cream, floats, milkshakes, cinnamon rolls & cheesecake. If you feel like having a meal prior to your sweet treat, B&G also has espresso, pizza and wings on its menu. Pay attention to B&G's Facebook page too, as it offers specials like one dollar off its milkshakes on "Milkshake Monday" and one dollar off single and double scoops on "Waffle Cone Wednesday."

Ice Burg Frozen Treats

If you're looking to rekindle your childhood again, you won't have to go far as the Ice Burg Frozen Treats truck makes its way through every neighborhood in Warrensburg.

Along with its small school bus frame, the Ice Burg truck can be seen from miles away with its pink and blue color scheme and be heard thanks to the iconic ice cream truck jingle.

"The history and the nature of an ice cream truck is to drive through the neighborhoods, have the kids come running out of the house to stop (you)," Ice Burg owner Andy Weldon said. "That's the nostalgia of it. (It) happens a lot, where they just fly out of the houses, and it's a mixture of kids and adults."

To track where The Ice Burg is going next, visit the truck's Facebook Page.

Zach Bott can be reached at 660-747-8123.

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Aug 7-16 Aaron Radatz Magical Entertainer
Aug 11 Dave Perryman & the Country Revue
Aug 12-16 The Ables
Aug 17 Missouri Fiddling Championship

- SUPERIOR SLEEP STAGE**
Aug 7 & 8 Dixie Union
Aug 7-17 Honey Bear Dancers
Aug 9 & 10 Finley River Boys
Aug 11 & 12 The Huckleberries
Aug 13 Dave Perryman & the Country Revue
Aug 14 Ragtime Music
Aug 15 The Huckleberries
Aug 16 & 17 Bittersweet

- KIDS STAGE**
Sponsored by your local McDonald's
Aug 7-17 Team T&J
Aug 7-11 Mr. Stinky Feet
Aug 12-17 Kenny Ahern

- GROUNDS ENTERTAINMENT**
Aug 7-17 Off Axis Stunt Show
Sponsored by AOK RVs
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Hedrick's Racing Pigs
Sponsored by Jim's Tire Service
Anastasini Circus
Children's Barnyard
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Story Time with Bart

- STROLLING ENTERTAINMENT**
Aug 7-17 Rock-It the Robot
Bartholomule
Professor Farquar & Polecat Annie
Aug 9 Mid-Missouri Pipe Band

STATE FAIR GRANDSTAND

Concerts begin at 7:30 pm, unless otherwise noted. Ticket prices listed below include potential fees.

WEDNESDAY • AUG 7
Wynonna Judd
The War and Treaty
\$45-60

THURSDAY • AUG 8
Blues Traveler
& Gin Blossoms
Spin Doctors
\$55-70, *Starts at 7 pm

FRIDAY • AUG 9
Oliver Anthony
Davisson Brothers Band
\$25-60

TUESDAY • AUG 12
An Acoustic Evening
with John Anderson
Exile
\$35-45

WEDNESDAY • AUG 13
Josiah Queen
Claire Leslie
\$25-40

THURSDAY • AUG 14
Hudson Westbrook
Chancey Williams
\$35-50

FRIDAY • AUG 15
Flo Rida
Paul Russell
\$45-60

SATURDAY • AUG 16
Jon Pardi
\$65-80

MOTORSPORTS

- AUG 10 Missouri State Fair**
Shoot Out Truck & Tractor Pulls
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\$15-40, FREE Kids 5 & Under
- AUG 11 Pro Pulling League State**
Fair Shoot Out
7 pm \$15-40, FREE Kids 5 & Under
- AUG 17 2025 POWRi 410 Sprint Cars,**
B Modifieds & Super Stock Races
Hot Laps 6 pm | Heat Races 7 pm
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ALL STATE FAIR GRANDSTAND TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
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SECURITY POLICY: For guest safety, prior to entering concerts at the State Fair Grandstand, all guests attending will be subject to screening using metal detectors or similar devices. Weapons are not permitted. All bags are subject to search. Any prohibited item must be returned to the guest's vehicle. MSF will not hold any items. Unattended items will be discarded.