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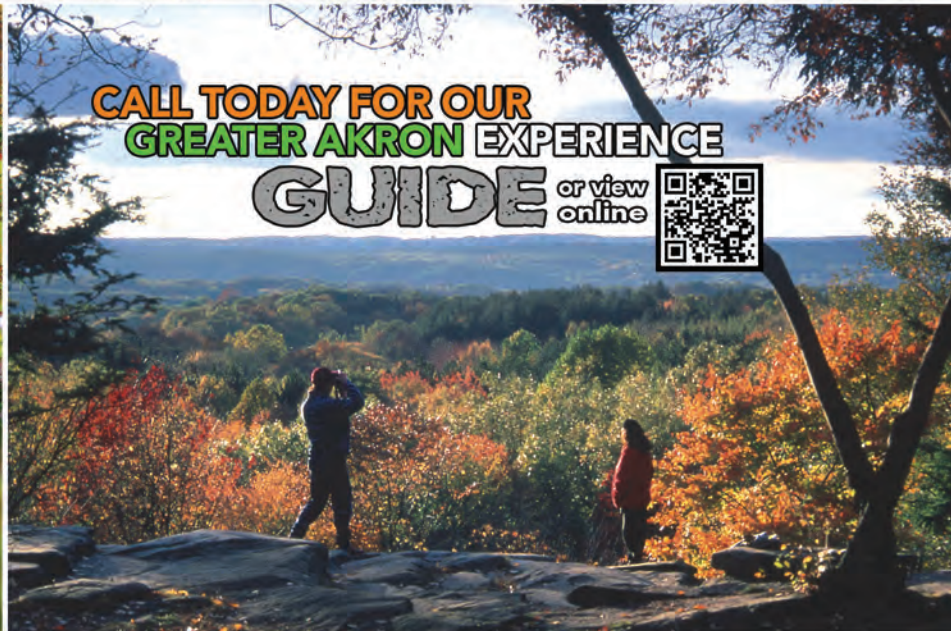
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# A Message from The Editor



Autumn brings some of my favorite things--cooler weather, pumpkins, corn mazes, campfires, crisp fall leaves with beautiful colors and haunted houses. There is nothing more enjoyable than sitting around a fire with friends, discussing each person's latest adventure.

In this issue, we explore new outdoor activities we discovered throughout Ohio, proving that you don't have to travel far to find new things. Ohio is filled with pumpkin activities, ranging from lots of pumpkin-flavored foods partnered with amusement rides to the simple fun of picking your own pumpkins to carve and decorate.

One thing I am looking forward to in October is traveling to Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona and hiking rim to rim. After that, my plan is to visit Zion National Park in Utah. I hope to document my adventures and share them with you, not to mention the tons of pictures I'm sure I will take.

I hope autumn brings you and your family fun, excitement and adventure. Get out and try something you have never done this season.

*Douglas M. Kish, M.A.*

*Editor*

Our Mission at Compass Media is striving to be a leader in Fitness, Health, and Recreation information that educates and inspires readers through print, web, mobile, social media events, and events in Ohio and beyond.

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*Compass Ohio : Celebrating 10 Years!*

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**SMALL TOWN CELEBRATIONS  
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August 17, 1979, around 10 pm, Burton Ervin stepped out of the car onto the New River Gorge Bridge with his parachute ready to be deployed. The temperature hovered around 60 degrees, and he had to act quickly. Word spread about his plans, and local authorities kept a close eye on the bridge. With one step into the darkness, Burton plunged off the bridge, making history and setting the stage for a future for New River Gorge that is still going strong today. Police quickly picked him up unscathed but quite wet in the river below.

# THE THRILLS AND WONDERS OF THE NEW RIVER GORGE BRIDGE

By Trish Mann

Today the New River Gorge Bridge, located in Fayetteville, West Virginia, celebrates 45 years since its completion. At the time of its opening, it was the longest steel arch bridge in the world, with a span measuring 1,700 feet, until 2003 when China's Lupu Bridge beat it by just over 100 feet.

This majestic West Virginia bridge sits 876 feet above the New River, is 3,030 feet 6 inches in length, and weighs over 88 million pounds. It has proven instrumental in improving economic conditions in the area and increasing access and speed for travelers and locals alike.

When Ervin jumped from the bridge, he was not just living a dream he had, but he was showing what future this bridge could have. As an avid BASE (Bridges, Antennae, Spans, and Earth) jumper, Ervin argued that what he did could become a regular event for other jumpers. Fayette County Chamber of Commerce quickly took to the idea, and in 1980 the first Bridge Day was held, and by 1982 BASE jumpers began coming from all over the country.

One day a year, BASE jumpers can soar into the New River Gorge National Park and Preserve off the bridge. To add airtime to their 876' jump, BASE jumpers can add an extra pass to be launched off the Human Rastapault to give them a higher boost off the New River Gorge Bridge.

Each year, Bridge Day is celebrated on the third Saturday of October to embrace the fall foliage and weather. The event draws spectators and extreme sports enthusiasts alike. For runners, Active Southern West Virginia hosts the Bridge Day 5K race. It begins on the bridge and ends in historic downtown Fayetteville and has up to 500 participants.

Rappelling is also part of the celebration and is enormously popular. But you must be skilled. Unlike traditional rappelling, the steel structure provides unique challenges. Rappellers have ranged in age from 8 to 81.

If all this sounds a bit too daring, consider the High Line. It averages 150 participants a year and doesn't require experience. Similar to zip-lining, but the descent is controlled. The drop is 300 feet while sliding 700 feet, allowing for plenty of time to enjoy the scenery on your way down.







Still not sure about all this adrenaline-pumping, chest-pounding excitement? Then perhaps the Bridge Walk is for you. Guided tours of the bridge take place 25 feet below the bridge. Guests get a behind-the-scenes look as they enjoy a 2 to 3-hour tour on the catwalk that is 24 inches wide. But have no fear; everyone is harnessed into a cable for safety. This event is available throughout the year.

For the faint of heart, have no fear. There is something here for everyone; vendors, food trucks, stunning scenery, and best of all, this is the one day of the year when pedestrians can be on the bridge. Traffic is rerouted to ensure a safe environment for everyone. Into the Gorge bus passes are available for spectators who want a different view of the action. Buses will deliver you to the riverside where you can watch the BASE jumpers and view the rappellers under the Bridge.

According to Becky Sullivan, the Executive Director of New River Gorge CVB, Bridge Day has become West Virginia's largest single one-day event and one of the most unique events in America.

The New River Gorge Bridge was not built till the 1970s, but the call for improvements on the steep, dangerous roads around the gorge began many years prior. In 1963, President John F. Kennedy addressed the need for economic development in the Appalachians, and in 1965, The Appalachian Development Highway System was enacted.

Today we recognize The New River Gorge Bridge as an engineering marvel designed by Michael Baker Jr. But without the dedicated, hardworking ironworkers who risked their lives building the bridge, in often harsh and unforgiving conditions, this stunning bridge would never have come to fruition. There was only one death on the project, and it occurred on the side of the hill when a piece of steel came loose and killed the worker.

As this stunning bridge stretches out across the New River Gorge National Park and Preserve, she claims her spot as a crowning jewel in the story of West Virginia's past and future. For more information, please visit <https://officialbridgeday.com/>.



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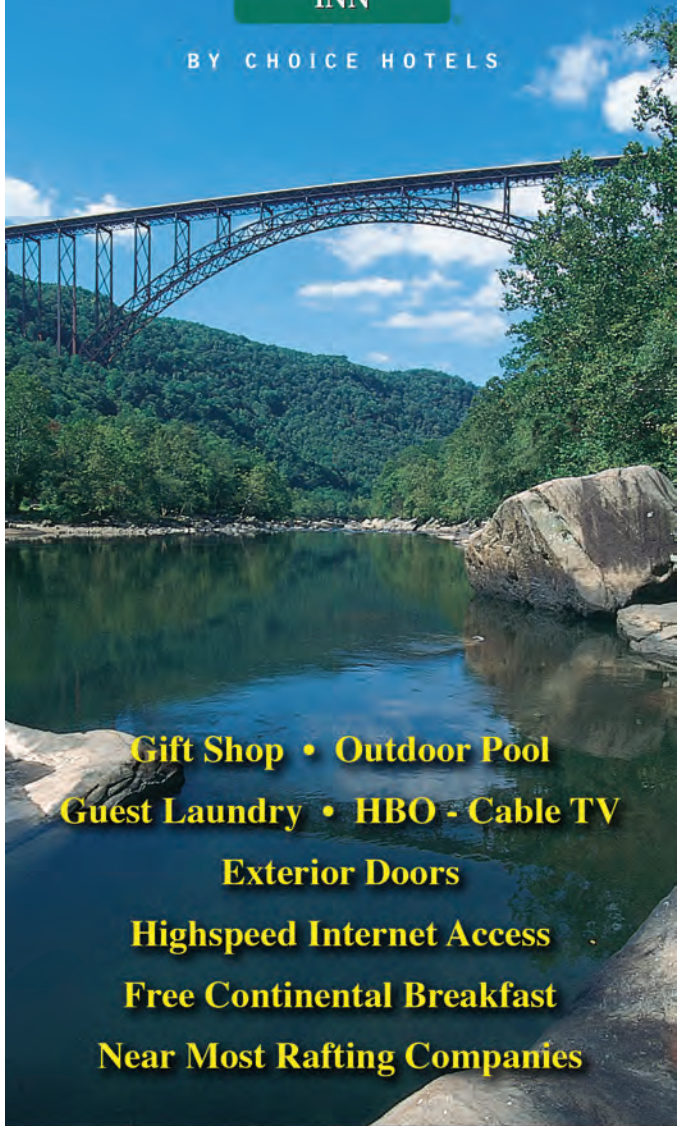


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# MOONVILLE TUNNEL SEES NEW LIFE

By Trish Mann

Traveling the winding roads and hairpin turns of Southeastern Ohio, it's easy to get lost in the rugged beauty of the foothills of the Appalachians and find yourself admiring those who came before and carved out a life among the untamed forests.

One almost forgotten place is the ghost town of Moonville. Yes, you read that correctly, ghost town. In fact, if it wasn't for those before us who decided to stick around a bit longer, you may not even know Moonville existed.

Due in part to the iron boom, in the 1850s the Marietta and Cincinnati Railroad expanded through this challenging terrain of Ohio, and the tiny hamlet of Moonville was born. The railway allowed for quicker shipping of goods and transportation for coal and iron ore. The isolated tracks had no signals resulting in many collisions with oncoming trains, earning it a deadly reputation.

As the region's iron and coal resources were depleted, the small town of Moonville slowly dissolved and was abandoned by the 1940s. Trains continued to run into the 1980s. All that now remains are scattered foundation remnants, the rail bed, and two tunnels, Moonville and King Hollow.

Pedestrians often used the narrow brick-lined Moonville Tunnel to cross through the hill. If someone was caught inside when a train went through and miraculously could align themselves between the walls and the train, the vibrations often caused them to lose their footing and fall into the train.

King Hollow is a short distance from Moonville and is constructed with timber beams. It has one recorded death. According to the Ohio Exploration Society, in 1927, a man named Pleasant Thomas was asleep on the tracks when he was run over by a train.

When the railroad abandoned the rail line, the tracks and bridges were destroyed. However, thanks to the volunteer-based Moonville Rail Trail Association, a new 10-mile rail trail, including 11 new bridges, has been built for public enjoyment.

As Moonville moves into the modern era, there are those who will not let us forget its past. Stories of mysterious sounds, ghostly apparitions, and legends of those who died along the tracks continue to haunt the area. Today, Moonville is a destination not only for outdoor enthusiasts but also for anyone interested in the paranormal.



## Tales of Tragedy

The many deaths along the tracks have conjured tales of ghostly apparitions that have lingered for generations. The rugged terrain, design of the tunnels, and sometimes harsh weather has led to multiple deaths.

In 1859, a brakeman for the railroad was fighting off the freezing weather that night with a bottle of whiskey. This was common practice to stay warm, but he fell under the wheels of a passing train. Reportedly, a ghostly figure has been seen waving his lantern at night and letting out a blood-curdling scream.

People living in the area would use the clear path of the tracks to travel. Because of the winding tracks and hilly woods, the sound of oncoming trains often reverberated against the hillsides. This would lead pedestrians along the tracks into mistaking just how far or close the trains were. The trains often traveled at speeds over 50 miles per hour. One unfortunate woman was on a trestle when a train came and she was forced into jumping to her death in the ravine below. Witnesses tell of seeing a female apparition, followed by the scent of lavender.

Another tale is of a flagman attempting to stop the train during an epidemic of smallpox. The railroad ordered the train not to stop, and the speeding train crushed the man. There were multiple reports years later of train conductors being flagged down by ghosts.

If all this sounds hard to believe, then read this. According to research conducted by YouTuber TheVHSVlog, in 1981 the CSX railroad had to install electronic signals along the tracks because many of the engineers were reporting ghost sightings near the Moonville Tunnel.

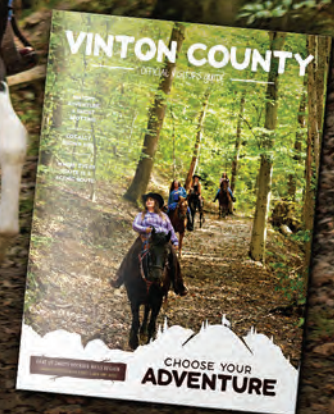
## Midnight at Moonville

In celebration of all things macabre and ghostly about the area, Midnight at Moonville is the place to be. The small festival always takes place the second weekend in October, this year held on October 8 and 9. Hours vary, so it's best to check the schedule posted on the website. Most activities are free, but there is a small charge for parking. The Vinton County Convention and Visitors Bureau hosts the event, which includes: dramatic storytelling, souvenirs and merchandise, wagon rides, historic presentations, live music, regional craft vendors and some roaming spooks—make-believe and real?

The Vinton County CVB recommends wearing comfortable walking shoes and bringing a flashlight. Depending on the paranormal activity that night, you may or may not need your imagination.

With its breathtaking beauty, the Moonville Rail Trail winds through scenic Zaleski State Forest and is just a short distance from Lake Hope State Park. It is a popular trail for nature enthusiasts, hikers, history buffs, and those in search of the paranormal. In 2021, the tunnel was added to the U.S. National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places. It is certainly worthy of a spot on your bucket list.

VISIT OUR MIDNIGHT AT MOONVILLE FESTIVAL ON OCT. 8-9 NEAR LAKE HOPE



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The Vinton County Convention & Visitors Bureau invites you to explore our country roads, scenic lakes, and expansive forests. As part of the Hocking Hills region, our county is home to the second largest state forest in Ohio, in addition to multiple state parks and nature preserves. You'll encounter abandoned historical sites and relics dating back to the early 1800s, hidden away among the wooded hills of Ohio's least populated county. Whether you're interested in hiking our secluded trail systems, visiting our small-town festivals, or simply relaxing at one of our unique lodging facilities, we have something for everyone.

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## — RESORT —

By Hannah Zuccardi

If you are looking for a peaceful getaway nestled amongst the foothills of brilliant fall foliage, look no further than Peek'n Peak Resort in Clymer, New York. The Peak offers a great variety of activities for the entire family to enjoy year-round, however, the autumn season is one to truly take advantage of. Stay in one of the luxurious condos along the ski slopes, or book a room in the charming Inn. Continue reading to learn more about all of the fun activities the Peak has to offer.

Peek'n Peak's Fall Festival is one of their most highly visited events held annually. The festival spans over two weekends in October and is full of activities and attractions for all. This year, Fall Fest will return October 8-9 and 15-16. A juried craft show with more than 130 vendors takes place as well as a farmers' market bringing local art and delicacies to Western New York. Vendors range from local painters and candle makers, to professional photographers and local ironsmiths.

The Pumpkin Cannon and Kids' Zone are Fall Fest favorites that stick around each year as well. The Kids' Zone features horse-drawn carriage rides, free kids' crafts, magic shows, wildlife shows, a rock wall, pony rides, and so much more. To top it off, the Greg Neid Memorial Car show is held the first weekend of the Fall Festival as well. There is a little bit of something for everyone to enjoy.







The Adventure Course at Peek'n Peak is a great activity for the whole family. Climb through 69 obstacles and 8 different courses of varying difficulties. Navigate various elements including ziplines, cargo nets, and ladders amongst the tree tops. The Adventure Course is suited for all ability levels and offers a 3-hour, self-guided experience to explore the course at your own pace. The fun doesn't stop there.



Partner up and soar over the trees on the side-by-side Giant Dual Ziplines. Cruise down 2,000 feet and surround yourself with beautiful views as you reach speeds between 30 and 50 mph. You can also enjoy stunning countryside views while soaring over the resort on the 1,400-foot Soaring Eagle Zipline.



This option is perfect for younger and older guests alike.

Save and enjoy these activities with a combo pass. The Combo Pass includes admission to all five Adventure Park activities: a 3-hour climb on the Aerial Adventure Course, a ride on the Giant Dual Ziplines, a ride on the Soaring Eagle Zipline, unlimited chairlift rides, and unlimited rounds of Peek'n Putt mini golf.

If you're ready to graduate from mini golf to the fairway, then head up the mountain to play a round at The Peak's championship-caliber Upper Golf Course. This 72-par course features bentgrass greens and fairways, rolling hills, and deep sand bunkers that offer unrivaled beauty and professional playing conditions, especially during the fall season.

Along with outdoor adventures and premiere golf, guests can enjoy their visit by relaxing at the Serenity Spa and by the Peak's Indoor Pool and Hot Tub complex. Swim with family and friends and relax in the unique hot tub. Enter the hot tub from inside, but enjoy the option to swim into an outdoor hot tub area – even in the fall. The kiddie pool and Play Zone are perfect for the younger ones as well. Additionally, the Serenity Spa offers a soothing range of massages, body treatments, and hand and foot rituals to leave you relaxed and rejuvenated.



Peek'n Peak's convenient location in southwestern New York makes it an ideal spot for your next fall getaway. Planning an overnight stay at The Inn or one of The Peak's luxury condos is the best way to experience everything that the resort has to offer. Numerous lodging options are available that will surely fit any family looking for comfort and home-away-from-home amenities. Plus, with delicious sit-in and grab'n go dining options available throughout the resort, everything you could want is located on property.

Start planning your fall getaway to Peek'n Peak Resort now! Visit [pknpk.com](http://pknpk.com) to learn more and view current overnight packages.

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Take a step back in time and embrace the pioneer era and feel its rich history through the Algonquin Mill Festival as it brings the 1800s to life. Feel the power of the steam-driven engine in the flour mill and watch the steam traction engine at work turning logs into lumber.

According to the Carroll County Historical Society, the original mill was built in the early 1800s. It and another mill were driven by water from the nearby McGuire Creek. Today's mill was built in 1826 and was originally operated by water. In 1890 it was converted to steam power. At the mill's peak, it ground 25 barrels a day of oats, corn, wheat, and buckwheat.

# ALGONQUIN MILL FESTIVAL STEPS BACK IN TIME

By Candy S. Collins, BS

However, the mill closed in 1939, and the steam engine went to fight in WWII. Today the 100-year-old steam engine is used to power the gristmill and grind cornmeal and flour.

With each passing year, the mill has grown into the 75-acre Mill Complex. The pioneer village features two mills, a one-room schoolhouse (the oldest building), a stagecoach inn, a bookstore, an antique print shop, and a New York railroad station featuring an HO model train.

The festival takes place in Carrollton, Ohio on October 7-9, 2022. During the festival's three-day event, one can experience trade demonstrations such as chair caning, wood carving, broom making, candle dipping, rug making, weaving, saw carvers, blacksmith, and many more.



Walking through the festival aromas of fresh-baked bread, sauerkraut, barbecued chicken, pancakes, and more fill the air. The sauerkraut is an enormous hit for everyone as it sells out before the last day of the festival. Each year, about 9 tons of cabbage is used to make the sauerkraut. As of 2021, the Big Brother and Sisters of Central Ohio are using the sauerkraut as a fundraiser to bring awareness to their program.

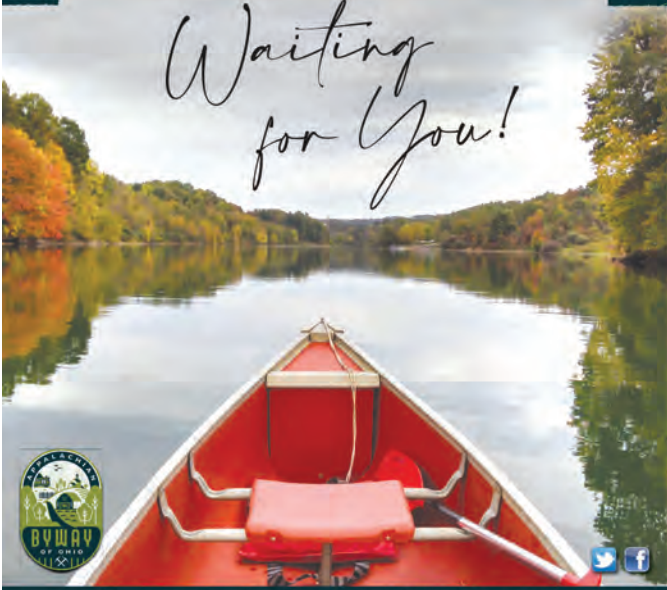
Antique cars and tractors are on display all three days: as well as antique tools, engines, and machinery. High school bands, choirs, bluegrass bands, gospel music, and cloggers provide musical entertainment. The children's area includes pony rides, mini train rides, miniature barn raising, face painting, sand art, and enjoying a variety of farm animals. A church service will be held at 8 am on Sunday.

The Algonquin Mill Festival began in 1971 as a way for the historical society to use the proceeds and pay the loan it took to purchase the 3.8 acres. For more information on the Algonquin Mill Festival and its activities visit <http://carrollcountyhistoricalsociety.com/Mill/Millfest.htm>.



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Ready for an Autumn adventure? Set out on a drive cruising along the Appalachian Byway of Ohio, a scenic route in southeastern Ohio with views and destinations not to be missed. Discover for yourself why this section of State Route 78 has been honored with awards from the National Scenic Byway Foundation and the regional Eastern Ohio Development Alliance.



There's no better escape from the city limits than an Autumn drive winding through the beautiful countryside of southeastern Ohio. Whether you're traveling by motorcycle or car, stop to explore the quaint towns. From the Ohio River Scenic Byway (State Route 7), you can connect with the Appalachian Byway of Ohio, SR78, in Clarington. Or begin your journey from Interstate 77 exit 25 in Caldwell.

In Noble County, you'll find local favorites like West Street Coffee Bar, Lori's Family Restaurant and Patty's Place, known for their mouth-watering daily specials, homemade soups and delectable pies. Looking for a bit

of local lore? The Historic Jail Museum, built in 1882, is nestled in an area of beautiful streetlights, businesses and stores in historic downtown Caldwell. It's just two blocks from the Ball-Caldwell House, which dates back to 1832. Both are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Continue the journey along the Byway to the Big Muskie Bucket at Jesse Owens State Park, an ode to the region's roots in coal mining.

Big Muskie was the largest dragline ever built — a true engineering marvel. Today, only the oversized bucket remains, perfect for fun photo ops.

Autumn is also a great time to explore southeast Ohio's amazing woodlands. Wolf Run State Park offers more than 1,000 acres of scenic, peaceful woodlands for a quiet getaway nestled in the heart of Appalachia. The hills, caverns and trails of Wayne National Forest, the only national forest in Ohio, boasts 340 miles of trails open to hiking, backpacking and horseback riding. Enjoy the sounds of the rippling water while kayaking or canoeing.

# Find an Autumn Appalachian



Great local options like Piatt Park in Monroe County also offer unique hiking and camping options. You will also find Monroe's Piatt Park with great hiking and waterfalls. In Woodsfield, experience the Hollister-Perry House Museum or restaurants like Traditions in the historic downtown.

For avid hunters, Ohio offers some of the best whitetail deer hunting in the country. Hundreds of acres of public and private hunting lands attract hunters (and shutterbugs) from all over. The Appalachian Hills Wildlife Area, dissected by numerous small streams, is rolling to rugged and populated by white-tailed deer, cottontail rabbit, wild turkey, pheasants and ruffed grouse.

The Appalachian Foothills Fall Festival brings the Heritage Park at the Noble County Fairgrounds to life in conjunction with the Old Iron Power Club show the third weekend in September. Visit the one-room schoolhouse, church, log cabin and recently restored covered bridge in Heritage Park.

Enjoy a show at one of the region's iconic theaters. The Twin City Opera House in McConnelsville has been in operation since

1892 (and is rumored to be haunted). The historic Monroe Theatre in downtown Woodsfield, which first opened its doors in 1939, is being restored and is ready to welcome new visitors under its brightly lit, Instagram-worthy marquee. Enjoy classic and first-run movies as well as live theater and entertainment.

There's so much to see in Nelsonville in Athens County along the Byway too. Stuart's Opera House is the cornerstone of the historic Nelsonville public square. The historic 1879 theater has been a part of this southeast Ohio town since the boom times of coal mining in the 19th century. Break away from your routine, experience something new and leave with a story to tell.

For more information about this area, check these websites: Appalachian Byway of Ohio – [go.osu.edu/abo](http://go.osu.edu/abo); Things to do in Noble County – [visitnoblecountyohio.com](http://visitnoblecountyohio.com); Discover Monroe County – [monroecountyohio.com/visitors/tourism/index.php](http://monroecountyohio.com/visitors/tourism/index.php); Visit Morgan County Ohio – [visitmorgancountyohio.com](http://visitmorgancountyohio.com); and Athens County Ohio - <https://athensohio.com/>.



# Escape Along the Byway of Ohio

By Gwynn Stewart, MS

*Edited by Gwynn Stewart with portions adapted with permission from Escape to Ohio's Countryside by Jill Ross.  
Wild Run State Park photo courtesy of Ohio State Extension  
Twin City Opera House photo courtesy of Morgan CVB  
Background photo courtesy of Tim Lumbatis*

**Great Trail Festival**



**Atwood Fall Festival**



**Algonquin Mill Festival**



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- Sept 10.....Monroe Has Talent @ 7pm
- Sept 18.....Whey Jennings @ 7pm
- Sept 24.....Kenny Stinson @ 7pm
- Sept 30...Schuman Band @ 7pm
- Oct 8...Adryan Mythus.....@ 7pm
- Oct 21,22,28,29 Haunted House @ 7pm

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Picture a pumpkin you would normally purchase from your local farm or grocery store to carve for Halloween. It weighs between 12-25 pounds depending on the size. Now picture a pumpkin weighing 2,195 pounds. This was the weight of the Barnesville Pumpkin Festival's King Pumpkin in 2021 - a new state record. They auctioned it for \$8,500.

You may ask yourself what one does with the pumpkin after it sells? The highest bidder takes custody of the pumpkin for 10 days and they usually display it at a place of business. After the 10 days, they gut the pumpkin and dry the seeds to be sold at the following year's festival.

The Barnesville Pumpkin Festival is an annual tradition for families and friends to come and enjoy one of Ohio's most popular festivals. The festival celebrates the growing and harvesting of pumpkins and other fall harvests and takes place during the last full weekend in September.

"Adults and children will enjoy harvest-inspired arts and crafts, home-style foods, entertainment, weigh-in of giant, champion pumpkins, fun contests, car show, and the Giant Pumpkin Festival. There is plenty to see and do, and best of all, admission is free," said Jackee Pugh, Executive Director of the Belmont County Tourism Council.

The Barnesville Pumpkin Festival dates to 1964 when a resident, Vernon Burkhart, started a fall fair. According to the Belmont County Tourism Council, it was originally held

in the Assumption Catholic Church basement and known as the Barnesville Fall Fair. The purpose was to showcase Belmont County's beautiful acres and the things which grew on the land.

By 1970, the event had expanded to include its first street parade and changed its name to Ohio Pumpkin Festival. Pumpkin ice cream was also introduced and manufactured locally by Damsel's. Throughout the 70s, the King Pumpkin was displayed on Main Street, enjoyed a Banjo and Fiddle Contest, and added the Big Pumpkin Auction.

Once the 80s came around, the Wednesday night weigh-in for the giant pumpkin became popular, and the Saturday morning parade brought in approximately 50,000 spectators. In 2002, they changed the name to the Barnesville Pumpkin Festival. Attendance has grown to over 100,000 spectators over four days, and the festival includes all things pumpkin from food to contests, a car show, a giant pumpkin parade, and a 5K race.

The festival has even seen its share of celebrities throughout the years. In 1999, they featured the festival on the NBC Today Show and The Discovery Channel. The American Bus Association named it one of the top 100 events in the US.

To plan your visit to the Barnesville Pumpkin Festival, visit [www.barnesvillepumpkinfestival.com](http://www.barnesvillepumpkinfestival.com).

## IN BARNESVILLE, OHIO

By Candy S. Collins, BS



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# Ohio

## Clean Hydrogen Hub Alliance

By Leo Jennings



For the past decade the distinctive blue buses that traverse the streets and highways of Stark County and the sleek storage tank that rises above the quiet Canton neighborhood that surrounds its headquarters have served as the outward symbols of the Stark Area Regional Transit Authority's (SARTA) commitment to developing and deploying zero-emission hydrogen fuel-cell technology in the public transportation space.

Now SARTA is using its status as an international leader in the adoption of alternative/renewable energy to form and lead the Ohio Clean Hydrogen Hub Alliance, a broad-based coalition of energy producers, industrial consumers, research institutions, elected officials, and community leaders that is spearheading an aggressive campaign to convince the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to locate a \$2,000,000,000 Clean Hydrogen Hub (CHH) in the state of Ohio. A total of \$8,000,000,000 in funding for the creation of four CHHs was included in the historic \$1.2 trillion Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) passed by Congress and signed into law by President Biden in November of 2021.

"The CHH provisions in the IIJA solidify hydrogen's status as an essential component of America's all-of-the-above long-term energy strategy," SARTA CEO Kirt Conrad said. "We can either be a leader in the hydrogen-fueled zero emission economy of the 21st Century or we can be left standing at the side of the road as the future drives by. SARTA and the 150 members of the Alliance believe Ohio must seize the opportunity to lead."

"Our journey to prominence in HFC transportation is serving as a roadmap for the Alliance," Conrad noted. "We had a vision, we were determined to make it a reality, and we sought out and collaborated with partners who helped us achieve our goals. As a result, we now operate one of the largest fleets of HFC transit vehicles in the Western Hemisphere and Canton, Ohio has become the epicenter of the alternative fuel revolution in transportation."

"Securing a hub will enable Ohio to replicate SARTA's success because it will generate billions of dollars in public and private sector investment, fuel hydrogen and zero emission R&D, create and preserve thousands of skilled jobs, lead to a significant reduction in emissions, maximize use of Ohio's bountiful natural gas resources, and enable leading transportation providers, energy producers, steelmakers, refineries, paper mills, and manufacturers to meet their carbon reduction goals," Conrad said. "And, of course, it will ensure that we have the reliable supply of hydrogen we will need to power our growing fleet of HFC vehicles."

While Ohio is ranked as a top-tier candidate for a CHH, Conrad said competition for the billions of dollars on the table will be fierce. "States across the country have announced they will submit proposals for the funding so we are working tirelessly to ensure that Ohio prevails when DOE officials select the hub locations sometime in the next year."

For more information and to become a member of the Alliance please visit [www.oh2hub.org](http://www.oh2hub.org).



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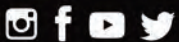


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# AUTUMN

## IN THE ALLEGHENIES

By Linda Devlin

Autumn is in when Mother Nature puts on her show of the year. It is when frosty temperatures change the lush green hillsides of the Allegheny National Forest into a forest covered in a coat of many colors--ruby red, golden yellow, and brilliant orange. Long, slow, leisurely drives take you along two-lane highways, where every turn brings a new delight. Farm markets and local restaurants, along with wineries, breweries, and distilleries, offer you a chance to taste the bounty of the season. So, pack your bag, bring your camera, and set off into the beauty of Autumn in the Alleghenies.

The most celebrated site from which to admire fall foliage is the Kinzua Sky Walk. It is considered "One of the top 10 most scenic skywalks in the world" by the Culture Trip U.K. The skywalk extends 624 feet into the Kinzua Gorge at a height of 225 feet. It features a partial glass floor which offers amazing 360-degree views of the Kinzua Gorge decked out in fall colors.

As one of the highest elevations in McKean County, at 2,136 feet above sea level, the colors usually change early at the park. The last week of September, and the first two weeks of October, are considered prime leaf peeping time. The skywalk is open from 8 am to dusk daily.

The Kinzua Visitors Center, located at the park, offers two floors of interactive exhibits, it is open from 8 am to 6 pm daily. The park is very family friendly. It offers picnic tables, a train-themed children's playground, a park pavilion, and three developed trail systems.

A wonderful way to view the fall colors is while hiking or biking the trails. Kinzua Creek Trail is the most challenging as it goes down the side of the gorge, definitely not a trail to be hiked in flip-flops. The Knox & Kane, an 8-mile linear trail, is an easy hiking or biking trail.

Admission to the park, skywalk and center are all free. Weekends will be the busiest. If you wish to avoid crowds arrive before 10 am or visit mid-week. Dogs are welcome at the park, but not within the visitor center, and they must be kept on a short leash. A food truck, Little Sister's Big Rig, is on-site. Lodging and restaurants are available nearby in Mt. Jewett, Lantz Corners, Kane, and Smethport.



Amazing views from the Kinzua Sky Walk, Mt. Jewett, PA

The Longhouse National Scenic Byway is the premier scenic drive in Pennsylvania. Starting from Kane, Pennsylvania, it is a 27-mile loop around the Allegheny Reservoir. From Kane, travel east on Route 6, then head north on Rt. 321. As you enter the Allegheny National Forest, now traveling on the byway, look to the left to view Osprey nests high above the water.

Further north is Red Bridge Campground which offers full-service cabins, campsites, and a fishing dock. For fall reservations, reserve early by calling 1-877-444-6777 or online at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov). Other attractions along this section of byway include a trail head for the



Jakes Rocks is the premiere mountain biking trail in the ANF.

North Country Trail, the Old Powerhouse Museum, and the Bradford Ranger Station. At the intersection of Rt. 321 and Rt. 59, turn west.

Rt. 59 will take you past Morrison Trail, one of the most scenic trails in the Forest. Next are three developed overlooks: Rimrock Overlook, Kinzua Point, and Jakes Rocks. Rimrock Overlook offers picnic areas, a short

hiking trail to the massive rock overlook from where you can view the lovely colors of the fall forest as they meet the shoreline



Rimrock Overlook is a favorite site in the ANF for "leaf peeping"

of the Allegheny Reservoir. Jakes Rocks also has a trailhead for the best mountain biking trails in the ANF.

After enjoying the amazing views, drive south along the byway past Dewdrop and Kiasutha campgrounds, before returning to Rt. 321. At Route 321, turn south to return to downtown Kane.

Kane features a fresh farmers market at Bell's Market, shopping for local artisan wares at Artwork at the Summit, plus an excellent selection of locally owned restaurants. Table 105 is farm to table, Texas Hot Lunch/4 Sons offers a local favorite, their Texas Hot Dog. Nearby you can sample wines or spirits at Bear Creek Winery, Flickerwood Wine Cellars & Cocktail Lounge, CJ Spirits and Wilds Sonshine Factory.

Two distinctive historic properties, the Kane Manor Inn and Olmsted Manor, offer unique lodging experiences. Other lodging choices in Kane, or nearby Kane, include Kane Tourist Home & Motor Inn, Flat on Fraley, the Spoonwood Inn and Lantz Corners Getaway.

This is just a sampling of sights to see. PA Route 6 makes a delightful drive for fall foliage viewing, as does the History Trail Highlands of the Alleghenies, a three-day, 2-night suggested itinerary of sites to visit.

Fall foliage viewing is extremely popular; be sure to make your lodging reservations in advance to avoid disappointment. For more information go to [www.visitANF.com/lodging](http://www.visitANF.com/lodging) then download the Adventure Guide & Maps or call 800-473-9370 to request a free print copy.



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An Autumn Adventure in  
Fairfield County, Ohio

By Fran Tharp



Autumn is everyone's favorite season. Fairfield County, only 30 minutes southeast of Columbus, is the perfect place to experience the season. We offer beautiful fall foliage, fresh produce, fall festivals, haunted experiences, outdoor adventures...basically, we have all the sights, tastes, and activities that you can only find in autumn.

Folks love to visit us when the leaves are turning bright gold, red, and orange. Listen to the leaves crunching underfoot as you make your way through thousands of acres along our biking and walking trails and in our beautiful parks and nature preserves. Visitors and locals alike enjoy a birds-eye view of the gorgeous autumn foliage from the top of Mt. Pleasant.

However, many would argue that there is nothing more beautiful than a covered bridge in autumn. Fairfield County is home to 15 of these historic architectural masterpieces. Sitting along country roads or preserved in parks, covered bridges are a marker of the past. When we explore the bridges today, we can imagine what it would have been like to ride a horse-drawn carriage through them on a crisp autumn evening 100 years ago.

The "fair fields" of our county yield an incredible produce harvest. You'll love all the fresh crops available throughout the region. Stop by one of our fruit farms to pick your own apples or watch apple cider being pressed. Pumpkin patches dot the landscape. You can stroll through the fields and pick out seasonal décor like pumpkins, gourds, Indian corn, and corn stalks. Many farms provide photo ops and selfie stations, special programming, corn mazes, hayrides, and lots of fun activities for the whole family.

Speaking of fun activities, Fairfield County offers a wide variety of special events that celebrate all things autumn. The Harvest Celebration at Smeck Park (September 24-25) showcases the Fairfield County Antique Tractor Club. Visitors learn about early farm machinery and help harvest potatoes, gourds, pumpkins, maize, popcorn, and sunflowers. You can even take some of the fresh crops home with you. Enjoy music, vendors, food trucks, demonstrations, pumpkin painting, candle dipping, and more at this free family-friendly event.

Fall always brings pumpkins to mind. Bremen's Pumpkin Walk on October 8 features live music, concessions, a pumpkin arch, bonfires, and pumpkins from the area's local favorite, Shriner's Farm. Alley Park presents a Pumpkin Hike on October 22. Come early in the morning and help carve the 500+ pumpkins that will be on display during the hike. At dusk, you can explore spooky scenes, roast a hot dog at the bonfire, drink apple cider, and walk through the half-mile path lit by jack-o-lanterns.

If Halloween is your favorite part of autumn, we've got you covered. Check out the Haunted Farm, a long-time attraction in Pleasantville. Take a terrifying tour of the Haunted Barn Maze, try to survive the Harvester Hayride, or simply watch fire-spinners and other live entertainment by the bonfire.

Want to ramp it up a few notches? The Fairfield County Infirmity is one of the most haunted destinations in Ohio. Built in the 1820s, the Infirmity has served as a poor house, orphanage, morgue, and a facility to house mentally ill patients. Recorded paranormal activity here is off the charts! Summon your friends – and your courage – to explore 41,000+ square feet of history with supernatural occurrences around every corner.

No matter what you love most about autumn, you're sure to fall for the Trail of Scarecrows. Recently named the "Scarecrow Capital of Ohio," Fairfield County holds a scarecrow contest in each of its communities throughout the month of October. Businesses, families, organizations, and individuals join in the fun and demonstrate their creativity with clever or spooky displays. Hundreds of scarecrows line the streets in our cities, villages, and rural areas.

Check out all the scarecrows and vote for your favorite. A prize is given to the People's Choice Award winner in each community. Look out for live scarecrows who will meet visitors at special events throughout the county this season.

You're sure to find a scarecrow or two at our awesome county fair (October 9-15). Fairfield County hosts the final county fair in the state – truly, the last and best of the season! Stroll the midway and win a prize at one of the many games of chance. Get your ticket for an exciting ride – swings and teacups for the little ones, and some heart-pounding thrills for the grownups in the crowd. Plenty of fun events such as a demolition derby, tractor pulls, combine derby, live music, and more can be enjoyed from the beautiful grandstands.

In a nod to our community's past and current ties to agriculture, there are shows and judgings of livestock in buildings throughout our historic fairgrounds. You'll also find an art show, quilt exhibition, pie baking contests and, of course, all your favorite fair food. A trip to the Fairfield County Fair is the perfect way to cap off the perfect autumn day.

You are sure to find something to fall in love with when you visit Fairfield County. We can't wait to share our Autumn Experience with you! For more information, check out: [VisitFairfieldCounty.org](http://VisitFairfieldCounty.org). To plan the perfect trip, download our Visit Fairfield County app for Google or Apple devices.

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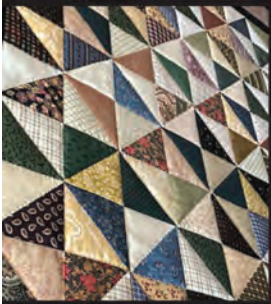
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Photo by Doyle Koder



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## Pleasant Hill Lake Park Hosts 2022

# BIGFOOT BASE CAMP

By Candy S. Collins, BS

Pleasant Hill Lake Park will host its first-ever Bigfoot Base Camp on September 9-10. Matt Moneymaker, founder, and president of the Bigfoot Field Researchers Organization (BFRO) and host of Animal Planet's *Finding Bigfoot* will present at the event. Charles Kimbrough, investigator, and author of *Squatchin' 101* will also be attending. This is an event for all avid bigfoot hunters.

"This will be a family-friendly and educational event open for anyone interested in learning more about Bigfoot and their habitats. Even if you are a Bigfoot nonbeliever, we will have something for everyone to enjoy this weekend," stated Louis Andres, Program Specialist.

Ohio ranks 5th in the nation with over 315 sightings. There have been five recent sightings in the Pleasant Hill and Mohican areas in the last two years. The event will be the first time they will use HD thermal drone cameras during an active search, during a LIVE stream from around the park.

The weekend will kick off with a VIP dinner on Friday with Moneymaker followed by a meet and greet. Afterward, settle in with your blanket and pillow to watch *Harry and the Hendersons* (PG) on the big screen. Later there will be a night hike with naturalists and BFRO volunteers to learn about Bigfoot sightings in the area. You will want to make sure you are using all your senses to find wildlife.

Andres continued to say, "This event will give people a safe place to share their Bigfoot experience with professional Bigfooters from the area."

Moneymaker's first Bigfoot experience was in northeast Ohio. He describes his first encounter (found on YouTube) as a "tall hairy thing stepping out of curtain-like growth, and it growled." Because of this face-to-face incident, they created the BFRO.

In his recent data collection of bigfoot sightings, he noted Pleasant Hill Lake Park and Mohican have seen a recent dramatic increase in activity and incident, which is leading him to explore the area to gather evidence.

According to the BFRO, the term "sasquatch" is an anglicized derivative of the word "Sesquac," meaning "wild man." Many believe that Bigfoot's body features include height ranging from 6 to 10 feet, reddish-brown, gray, or black fur. The creature has piercing and reflective eyes (like deer at night). Bigfoot calls can sound similar to ape-like howls, wood knocks, screams, moans, chatter, and growls.

Make sure you stop by the Welcome Center to purchase your Bigfoot souvenirs, Bigfoot Root Beer, or a Squatch Orange soda. A variety of local food trucks will be onsite to provide food, drinks, and ice cream with a "Bigfoot" theme.

For more information about tickets and scheduled events throughout the weekend, visit [www.mwcd.ticketleap.com](http://www.mwcd.ticketleap.com).



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# FALL BRINGS FOOTBALL, TAILGATING, AND EXCITEMENT

By Candy S. Collins, BS

Hey football fans, who doesn't love tailgating? From the food to the big game, tailgating is a rite of passage for football fans at every level. But it is so much more than just a beer and a brat.

Tailgating is the time-honored tradition of celebrating your team with friends, family and strangers who quickly become like family. Well, that is as long as you are rooting for the same team. If you are on opposite sides, well then good luck!

You can find many rivals throughout Ohio, whether it be professional, college, or high school. Everyone knows about the Ohio State Buckeyes vs. Michigan, and of course, the Cleveland Browns and Cincinnati Bengals share a rival against the Pittsburgh Steelers. At the high school level, you have Massillon Tigers vs. McKinley Bulldogs; and Avon vs. Avon Lake, to name a few. No matter where football is played, there are rivalries that run deep in the hearts of the fans.

There is much debate where "tailgate" originated from. One story tells that in 1869, Rutgers and Princeton played each other for the very first game of football and fans grilled food at the "tail end" of the horse. According to [www.campuscolors.com](http://www.campuscolors.com) in 1919, the Green Bay Packers took credit for the phrase "tailgating" during the first game since fans packed food and beverages in the back of their pickup trucks and headed to the game. Even though there is no evidence to support this claim, the Packers fans are sticking by it.

Today, fans in their sports team gear line up with their trucks, decked out buses, campers, and cars in the early morning hours to grab their spot. Once inside, the aroma of barbecue, burgers, and beer chicken greets you. And of course, there are red solo cups everywhere.

However, it is not all about the food and the big game. Competition happens right in the parking lot as fans play games like corn hole, ladder toss, Kan Jam, and the nailing game.

If you aren't one of the lucky fans to have tickets to the game, you can still enjoy the day tailgating and watching your game at the same time. Many fans bring TVs and radios so they don't miss any of the excitement of the game from their favorite chair while enjoying all the extra festivities.

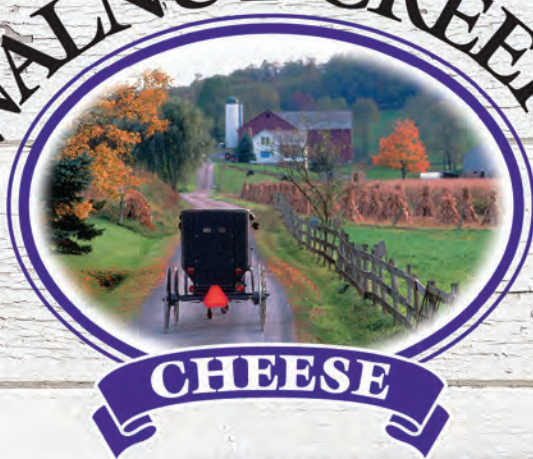
According to a recent tweet study, Cleveland Browns were found to be the #1 tailgater in the nation in 2021. No matter your team favorite we can all agree that football brings people from all walks of life together.







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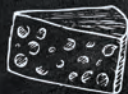
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# FINDING MY FLOW IN ATHENS COUNTY, OHIO

By Joel Prince

It was a chilly October morning. A gentle fog hovered over the Hocking River as the first light of dawn was emerging in the eastern sky. I loaded my bike, gear, snacks, water and grabbed the ever-critical travel mug filled with my favorite blend of coffee. Temperatures were typical for this time of year; morning lows around 40° (F) and highs in the mid 60's with mostly clear skies forecasted.

I knew the trails were dry and likely to provide premium riding. All my pre-adventure checklist items were...well...checked. I was ahead of the world this morning and excited to be the first one on the trails. I live in Athens, Ohio, the county seat of Athens County. This area is abundant with public lands, trails and waterways. Having places to explore outside my back door is a major reason I call this place home.

Within an hour of Athens are three Ohio State Parks, the Wayne National Forest, five state forests, and several nature preserves. Wherever you are in the county, there is a trailhead within a ten-minute drive. If you love the outdoors, you'll love what you can do here — biking, hiking, kayaking, hunting, fishing, trail running, ATV, motorcycling and more.

My adventure on this particular morning was riding mountain bike (MTB) trails at the Baileys Trail System in the Wayne National Forest. "Baileys" — as many call it for short — currently has 31 miles of flowing singletrack to explore. Plans are in place to continue building up to an 88-mile trail system. When complete, it will be the largest, continuous trail network east of the Mississippi River.

Designed with MTB in mind, Baileys opened up during the first year of the pandemic, a time when many of us

were looking for new outdoor activities. It has quickly gained popularity as a destination for experienced MTB enthusiasts in the eastern United States, but it's also suitable for beginners, like myself.

This trail system is the first place I ever rode on an unpaved trail. It's not uncommon to see parents with young kids riding some of the easier trails. In fact, those kids are usually better than me. Regardless, Baileys has something for riders of all skill levels.

Upon arriving at the trailhead, I saw two other vehicles with bike racks already there. Apparently, I'm not the only one with this great "dawn patrol" idea. Well, maybe they'll clear the cobwebs for me, I thought, trying to reckon with not being the first out. The sun was just beginning to rise and light was hitting the trees on the highest hills, revealing the brilliant fall colors that were already beginning to show. I saddled up, and into the woods I went.

Regardless of how aggressive you bike, the experience of riding through the forest demands concentration. I often find myself in a state of flow, thinking of nothing beyond the trail in front of me. That's what I'm looking for in all of my recreational activities, a focused distraction from the day-to-day. Typically, it's the first ascent that gets me focused as I huff and puff my way up, then during the exhilaration of a smooth downhill, I begin to feel that flow.

Orange and brown leaves stir up as I ride across them, creating a distinctive whoosh sound that you only hear in the fall. My focus is ahead and I begin to anticipate my next movements feeling "one with my bike" and the trail. For a short part of my day, it's just me and the beautiful fall colors of southeast Ohio.



**More time in Athens, means more time to ride. Here's just a few reasons you should plan to stay overnight:**

1. There are a lot of places to ride. In addition to the Baileys Trail System there are two state parks with well-established trails for MTB, a bikeway, a rail trail, and a brewery tour by bike. Each trail network has its own style and all of them are worth checking out when you visit Athens County, though it may take a few days. For more information on bicycle adventures in the area, visit: [bikeathensohio.com](http://bikeathensohio.com).

2. There are many ways to explore. As I mentioned earlier, there are lots of outdoor activities you can experience. For most activities you can find guides and gear rentals to equip you with what you need. Yes, even ATV rentals are available at Adventure Pro Outdoors.

3. Athens County has great places to eat, drink and be merry, with the highest concentration of food, drink, and shopping options located in Uptown Athens, Ohio, where the City of Athens and Ohio University campus meet.

**Find more information for planning your trip to my hometown on [athensohio.com](http://athensohio.com).**



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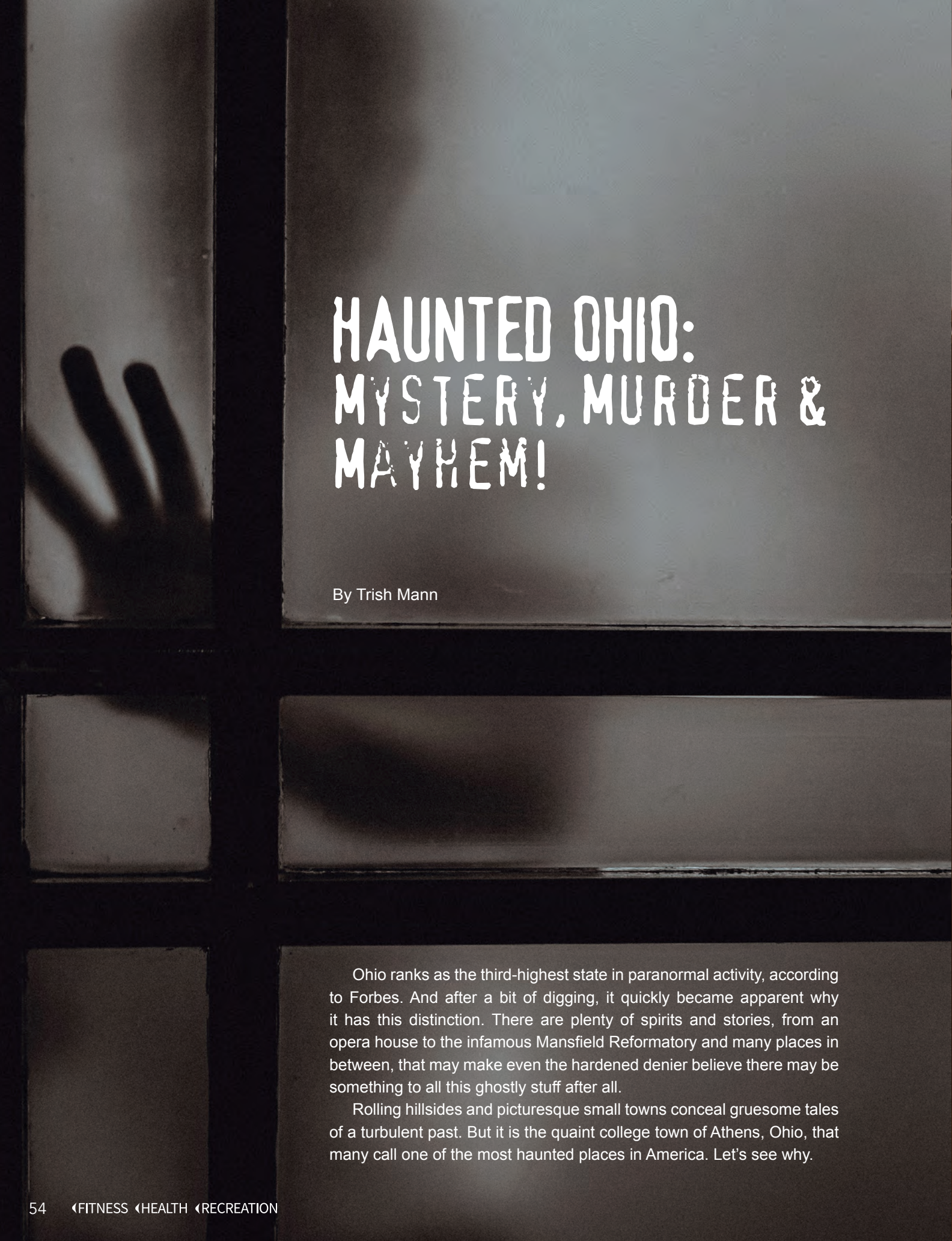
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# HAUNTED OHIO: MYSTERY, MURDER & MAYHEM!

By Trish Mann

Ohio ranks as the third-highest state in paranormal activity, according to Forbes. And after a bit of digging, it quickly became apparent why it has this distinction. There are plenty of spirits and stories, from an opera house to the infamous Mansfield Reformatory and many places in between, that may make even the hardened denier believe there may be something to all this ghostly stuff after all.

Rolling hillsides and picturesque small towns conceal gruesome tales of a turbulent past. But it is the quaint college town of Athens, Ohio, that many call one of the most haunted places in America. Let's see why.

## THE RIDGES

Lying at the foothills of the Appalachians is Ohio University, and the city of Athens. But behind the hallowed walls of the school and across this area lies tales of horror and mystery.

The Athens Lunatic Asylum opened in 1874 and by the early 1900s had become increasingly overpopulated. During this time, the hospital gained a reputation for using many practices which are now considered inhumane and unethical, such as lobotomies, psychotropic drugs, hydrotherapy, restraints, and electroshock. It had at one time represented the gold standard of treatment.

When a patient died and not claimed by family, the staff would bury them in a cemetery on the property. During the Asylum's disturbing history, 1,930 people died here, and many only had a number to mark their grave. Today, the buildings and surrounding areas, known as the Ridges, are part of Ohio University. Although only a part of the original buildings house OU offices and classrooms, the rest remain vacant.

Perhaps the most famous patient at the Asylum was Margaret Schilling. She went missing, and her body was not discovered for over a month in a sealed-off part of the hospital. Her body left an imprint on the floor, which remains evident today even after multiple attempts to remove it. Witnesses tell tales of seeing a woman standing at the window where she died, and others claimed to have seen her roam the halls in other parts of the building.

But there is more. Other reports include hearing squeaking gurneys, screams from patients shackled in the basement, and cries from patients who are believed to have suffered abuse by staff of the asylum.

## OHIO UNIVERSITY

Ohio University in Athens first opened its doors in the early 1800s and was the first university in Ohio. While students come from all over for exceptional education, they often get more than just an education.

"The building felt very unsettling. I would have violent nightmares every few nights, and more than once, I would wake up and feel as if something was watching me."—Teddi Konowal (former OU student and resident of Armbruster Hall)

Armbruster is just one of the many dorms which share tales of hauntings and mysterious disturbances. But Wilson Hall, established in the 1800s, is the creepiest and most chilling of all the residences, especially room 428. According to multiple sources, students reported objects flying around the room and strange voices. Horrible faces would appear in the door, and they replaced the door many times, yet the faces continued to appear.

Legend tells of a young man in the early 1970s who died in the room. Later, a young woman moved into the room, and many think she was involved in an occult ritual when she slit her wrists and died. Many believe her spirit still inhabits the space. Since then, whoever lived in the room experienced strange behaviors, including seeing poltergeists and hearing strange voices. Decades ago, the University sealed off the room, and now **no one can get inside or out!**

Yet, many residents on the fourth floor still report unusual sounds, objects flying off the walls, and a general feeling of being watched. There have been claims that Wilson Hall is at the center of a pentagram formed by five area cemeteries. Research in the 1980s reveals it is built on a cemetery of the Athens Mental Hospital, formerly the Athens Lunatic Asylum.

Surrounded by death and despair, Athens, Ohio, might just be the scariest place on earth. But if you are not convinced, here are hosts of other creepy places in Ohio that might just scare the bejesus out of you. Punderson Manor draws paranormal experts and thrill-seekers from afar for its numerous ghost sightings. The Franklin Castle in Cleveland has a tragic history of death and mystery. Malabar Farm is where in 1896, Ceely Rose, a teenager, poisoned her family at breakfast.

And what would a scary story be without a graveyard? Chestnut Grove Cemetery is where you will find a mass grave for 92 men, women, and children who perished when a train bridge collapsed, plunging the passenger cars into a ravine below. Many were burned alive in the wreckage. Unexplained sounds and sightings have occurred near a memorial to the deceased.

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# The Greatest Free Show on Earth

By Nanisa Osborn



You are invited to the “Greatest Free Show on Earth,” the 115th Circleville Pumpkin Show, which will take place Wednesday through Saturday, October 19-22, 2022. Admission is FREE. The Circleville Pumpkin Show is a festival that takes place each year on the downtown streets in Circleville Ohio just 30 miles south of Columbus.

The Pumpkin Show is dedicated to everything pumpkin and includes food booths selling all types of p u m p k i n delicacies including pumpkin pie and pumpkin donuts, as well as pumpkin burgers, pumpkin pizza, pumpkin chili, pumpkin cream puffs, and many other pumpkin goodies.

Giant pumpkin growers compete each year to see who can grow the largest pumpkin and in 2021 Steven Thornhill’s giant weighed 1850.5 pounds. While his pumpkin was the largest, there were 36 other giant pumpkins entered. The Giant Pumpkin Weigh-In starts at 9:15 am on Wednesday, October 19.

The Circleville Pumpkin Show includes displays of locally grown pumpkins and squash, as well as fruits and vegetables, baked goods, canned goods and honey, a flower show, a show of home arts and crafts, and a Fine Art Show.

There are 7 parades over the 4-day show each with a different theme, one at 3:30 pm and another at 8 pm each day except Saturday which has only an 8 pm parade. Amusement Rides are presented by Poor Jack Amusements with something for “kids” of all ages. There are approximately 240 vendors with food, retail, and craft items for sale. Live entertainment takes place each day on the Pumpkin Show Park stage and includes a pumpkin pie eating contest for both kids and adults.

So, mark your calendar and come join us for the Circleville Pumpkin Show starting each year on the third Wednesday in October. For more information visit our website at [www.pumpkinshow.com](http://www.pumpkinshow.com).

A large display of pumpkins of various sizes and colors (orange, white, green) arranged on tables in front of a brick building. The building has "The Savings Bank" written on it.

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# Fall in Love with Coshocton's Historic Roscoe Village

By Mindy Brems



There's something magical about Autumn in Coshocton. The rolling foothills of the Appalachian Mountain region serve as the backdrop for a visit to Historic Roscoe Village. The colors of changing leaves in the surrounding hillsides make for a scenic journey to "America's Canal Town."

Historic Roscoe Village is a charming place to visit while leaves swirl on the brick sidewalks. Taking a stroll through the historic neighborhood, stopping for a bite to eat, and browsing the shops makes for a great day out. Cooler temperatures usher in favorite area traditions that include the Apple Butter Stirrin' Festival, Fall Farm Markets, Corn Maze, and the Fall Farm and Foliage tour.

Plan to add a visit to the nationally recognized Johnson Humrickhouse Museum, too. Its collection of Prehistoric artifacts, East Asian Art and Ohio History and limited engagement gallery exhibits make this eclectic museum a must-see while visiting Coshocton.

The 51st Annual Apple Butter Stirrin' Festival takes place October 21-23. The smell of fresh apple butter fills the air during this event that recaptures the flavor of an old-time harvest celebration. Enjoy homemade Apple Butter, live music, free crafts for kids, more than 100 craft & food vendors, History Tour of the Canal Town, Spirit Tours, and more.

The Shops of Roscoe Village are not to be missed during a visit. All are locally owned and housed within historic buildings. There are four restaurants in the village along with shops that offer handmade leather goods, locally made food and wines, home decor, personal care items, women and children's clothing, fine jewelry, old-fashioned candy and sodas, American-made flags and much more. For more information, visit [roscoevillageshops.com](http://roscoevillageshops.com).



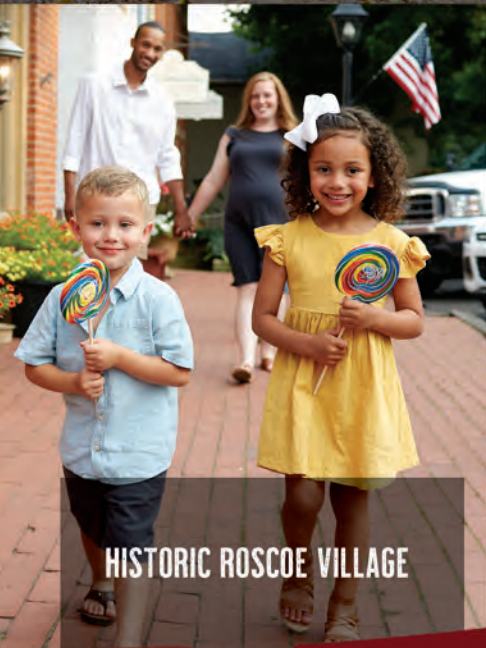
Beginning in October, Historic Roscoe Village will offer a brand new "Spirit of Roscoe" tour. "The self-guided tour allows guests to experience the village at their own pace," said Marketing Director Angel Jones. "Our new interactive content will include family-friendly spooky stories featuring Roscoe's past residents. Some of our Living History exhibits will also feature costumed interpreters, giving guests a chance to ask questions and learn more about our 1830's Ohio and Erie Canal Town."



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## AN EVERY DAY ISLAND GETAWAY



**August 13th**  
**LAKEVIEW VALLEYBALL: BATTLE OF PUT-IN-BAY**  
Put-in-Bay hosts a day long volleyball tournament in McCann's Field.

**August 24th-25th**  
**BASH ON THE BAY**  
Bash on the Bay returns to Put-in-Bay with Brad Paisley and the Zac Brown Band headlining the two-day country music festival!

**September 10th**  
**ART IN THE PARK**  
Regional arts and craftspeople display and sell their original works from 10am-5pm in DeRivera Park.

**September 17th**  
**PUT-IN-BAY MUSIC FESTIVAL**  
Celebrate peace through music, great food, fun and games at this family-friendly festival.

**September 17th**  
**NEW YEAR'S EVE AT THE BAY**  
Island businesses celebrate New Year's Eve with Monte Carlo street games from 6-11pm.

**September 17th**  
**HALF-WAY TO ST. PATRY'S DAY**  
Celebrate the half-way mark to St. Patrick's Day. Hooligan's Irish Pub sponsors a Drum and Bagpipe Band. Decorate your golf cart and join the parade!

**September 17th**  
**PUT-IN-BAY ROAD RACES**  
Vintage MG's, Porsches, Triumphs and other rare sports cars return to the Put-in-Bay Road Races Reunion. Join us, race viewing is free!

**October 1st**  
**ISLAND WINE FESTIVAL**  
Enjoy good food and excellent wine at the Put-in-Bay Winery. Admission includes a souvenir glass! 11am-5pm

**October 8th-9th**  
**OKTBERFEST**  
The annual festival with German food, hot spiced wine and cold beer! Saturday, 11am-7pm and Sunday, noon to 5pm.

**October 22nd**  
**HALLOWEEN AT THE BAY**  
It's a little spooky with a lot of fun! Local taverns decorate and people in costumes flood the downtown streets of Put-in-Bay.

VISITPUTINBAY.COM



# Another Season of Screams is upon us... Welcome to the Haunted Hydro!

Looking for the ultimate Halloween experience this fall that blurs the lines between reality and a haunted attraction? We have found it and it's in a creepy old abandoned Hydroelectric plant along the Sandusky River in Fremont, Ohio.

Never one to turn down an opportunity to check out a "Dark Attraction" I gathered a couple of my bravest friends, and we made our way to Fremont to the Haunted Hydro Dark Attraction Park. As we turned into the parking lot and I caught a glimpse of the building, I already knew this was going to be good.

This former hydroelectric plant, located in Fremont, Ohio, began operating in 1911 and was in use until 1943. Millions of gallons of water flowed through this structure back when it was generating hydroelectric power for the city of Fremont and the building survived two devastating floods that killed hundreds in the area. Many believe the structure was cursed from the beginning because it was built on sacred Indian land. There are also rumors of men who were buried alive during the construction of the building so take your pick as to why the location is believed to be truly haunted.

Before I go any further about my experience, I want to stop a moment to talk about the husband-and-wife team behind this haunted attraction. For over 33 years now, Bob and Beth Turner, the owners of the Haunted Hydro, have dedicated their lives to scaring the yell out of victims... I mean patrons. They work year-round with their team of dedicated haunt specialist to change the entire experience so none of the rooms, themes or sets are reused from the previous year. All this ensures that you are always walking into the unknown with new surprises each visit. Each year tens of thousand of people descend on Fremont to experience the Hydro for themselves and its popularity has grown over the years with their best seasonal attendance of over 43,000 people.

Now back to my visit, walking into the gated compound, the atmosphere was creepy, almost carnival like. Actors were sneaking around, fully immersed in their roles with some of the best special effects makeup and costumes that I have ever seen. No details were overlooked even down to the special effects contact lenses in the actors' eyes. As we approached the door of the hydro, "Crazy Bob" the owner divided us up into a small group and sent us in. The building was open and sprawling in some areas but as you walked along the trail through fog and shadows, creatures whispered and lurked behind us. With each turn the rooms got narrower and darker and eventually we were in a maze leading from room to room of macabre displays and actor led scenes. After about 30 minutes, we were relieved to finally escape in one piece, with hearts still pounding from the many unexpected jump scares waiting at each turn.

I would list the many awards and accolades that the Haunted Hydro has received over the years including MSNBC Top 20 Haunted attractions in the USA but in looking at their full list, it is just far too many for my short article. What I do recommend is that you follow them on Facebook, @TheHauntedHydro or visit their website for more information and ticket info. [thehauntedhydro.com](http://thehauntedhydro.com).

Article by: David Thornbury  
Sandusky County Visitors Bureau





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