

# Total Eclipse



# HIO

## Total Eclipse Guide for North East Ohio

A GAZETTE NEWSPAPERS PUBLICATION



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## The 2024 Total Solar Eclipse

The April 8, 2024, eclipse will be a total solar eclipse.

People within a 124-mile-wide band in the State of Ohio will experience a total solar eclipse, including in Ashtabula County and Lake County.

The eclipse starts at 2 p.m., with total darkness expected in this region at 3:15 p.m.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NASA/  
GOPALSWAMY

A view of the Aug. 21, 2017, total solar eclipse from Madras, Oregon.



Location	Partial Begins	Totality Begins	Maximum	Totality Ends	Partial Ends
Cleveland, Ohio	1:59 p.m. EDT	3:13 p.m. EDT	3:15 p.m. EDT	3:17 p.m. EDT	4:29 p.m. EDT

### What is a Total Solar Eclipse?

The April 8, 2024, eclipse will be a total solar eclipse. It will be the last total solar eclipse visible from the contiguous United States until 2044.

A total solar eclipse happens when the Moon passes between the Sun and Earth, completely blocking the face of the Sun. People viewing the eclipse from locations where the Moon's shadow completely covers the Sun – known as the path of totality – will experience a total solar eclipse. The sky will darken, as if it were dawn or dusk.

Weather permitting, people along the path of totality will see the Sun's corona, or outer atmosphere, which is usually obscured by the bright face of the Sun.

### How does the Total Solar Eclipse affect northeast Ohio?

People within a 124-mile-wide band in the state of Ohio will experience a total solar eclipse, including in Ashtabula

County and Lake County.

The eclipse starts at 2 p.m., with total darkness at 3:15 p.m.

A total solar eclipse is a rare and spectacular event. On average, one happens somewhere on the Earth only once every 1.5 years. Only 21 total solar eclipses have crossed the lower 48 states in the entire existence of the United States.

The last total solar eclipse visible in Ohio was in 1806. The next total solar eclipse in Ohio will be in the year 2099.

The dark path across the pictured map is where the largest area of the Sun will be covered by the Moon. People in this path will experience a total solar eclipse. Inside the dark eclipse path are irregular ovals that delineate the Moon's shadow on the Earth's surface. For a total solar eclipse, the ovals are called the umbra and create the path of totality. On the map, the ovals contain times inside



MAP COURTESY OF NASA/SCIENTIFIC VISUALIZATION STUDIO/MICHAEL GARRISON; ECLIPSE CALCULATIONS BY ERNIE WRIGHT, NASA GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER

The Moon's shadow will move quickly during the eclipse. On the map, ovals within the eclipse path show the location and shape of the shadow at different times. For example, during the total eclipse on April 8, 2024, the Moon's shadow will be over Dayton, Ohio, at 3:10 p.m. EDT, but by 3:20 p.m. EDT it will have moved to Buffalo, New York.

See SOLAR Page 44

## 2024 Total Eclipse Ohio

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## 2024 Total Eclipse Ohio Cover

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 Home school of Grand  
 Valley High School



# County to get tourism bump with eclipse

BY ERIC HRIN

Gazette Newspapers

**ASHTABULA COUNTY** – Each summer, Ashtabula County is in high gear with tourism as people flock to places like the popular tourist destination of Geneva-on-the-Lake.

But ahead of the summer season this year, the county will be experiencing an early tourism bump when the total solar eclipse takes place April 8.

The latest projections, as of Feb. 21, that were received by the Ashtabula County Emergency Management Agency showed as much as 30,000 visitors expected.

However, no one knows exactly how many people will show up.

Whatever the number, the tourists coming into the county for the eclipse will be arriving at an unusual time — nearly two months ahead of the official start of summer on Memorial Day.

“Of course, it is definitely affecting tourism, having an impact on the month of April, which is not typically a very busy month,” Ashtabula County Convention and Visitors Bureau (ACCVB) Executive Director Stephanie Siegel said.

Well ahead of April, guests wanting to stay over for the eclipse have been snatching up hotel rooms.

One motel, the Hideaway Retreat Motel at 5196 Fairfax Drive in Geneva-on-the-Lake, is “100 percent booked up,” according to Camri Crandall, who

is part-owner of the motel.

Each year, April tends to be a slower month for the motel. But this year, it’s anything but.

“It’s fantastic,” Crandall said. “If we have any chance of being booked beyond our season, it helps.”

Anchor Motel & Cottages in Geneva-on-the-Lake was also sold out as guests coming to see the eclipse booked rooms.

“We are booked up,” Lynn Finchio, housekeeping manager, said on Feb. 21. “We actually just sold our last cottage yesterday.”

Although bookings begin to pick up a little more in the month of April for the motel and cottages, it still isn’t the peak season, she said.

So, she was impressed to be sold out for that month.

“We’re excited about it,” she said.

Not only lodging places, but wineries are benefiting from the business opportunity presented by the eclipse.

One of the ways wineries will be taking advantage of the eclipse is with a Total Eclipse Wine Trail April 5, 6 and 7.

“The wineries have really banded together, and they have created an Eclipse Trail,” Siegel said.

It will take place in the Grand River Valley in celebration and anticipation of the Total Eclipse taking place on Monday, April 8, according to a description for the event.

“Don’t miss out on this once in a lifetime opportunity,” the description states. “Eclipse-

themed appetizers paired with wine samples at fourteen unique wineries! The Grand River Valley is in the totality viewing area. If you’re visiting Northeast Ohio for the total eclipse on April 8, explore the wineries of the Grand River Valley over the weekend leading up to the eclipse event!”

Of course, this is just one of the many ways that wineries, restaurants and even libraries are taking advantage of the eclipse.

“Our businesses have really created some special experiences, so there will be plenty



for people to do,” Siegel said. “We encourage people to come early and stay late so they don’t travel on that day.”

## Wear proper eye protection for solar eclipse

If you’re one of the tens of thousands of people excited about seeing the April 8 total solar eclipse in Ashtabula County, it is best to start preparing now so you can safely view the historic event.

Ashtabula County Medical Center Ophthalmologist Alexander Taich, MD, said protecting your eyes is your top priority if planning to view the eclipse directly.

“Under no circumstances should you ever look directly at the sun. If you’ve ever used a magnifying glass to start a fire, you can imagine what looking at the sun could do to your sensitive retina,” he said.

The retina is the layer of cells lining the interior of the back of the eyeball. It senses light that is focused by the lens at the front of the eye. If you look directly at the sun, it only takes a few seconds for permanent damage to the retina to occur, causing vision loss.

“There is only one way to safely view the sun and that is with special solar filters, which block out most of the sun’s harmful effects,” Dr. Taich said. “Please be careful in what you purchase. There are a lot of imitation eclipse glasses that do not meet safe standards — especially on the internet.”

The American Academy of Ophthalmology recommends glasses that meet worldwide safety standards labeled ISO 12312-2. These glasses have been inspected and tested to ensure they are safe. Anyone purchasing eclipse glasses should review the recommended supplier list available at <https://eclipse.aas.org/eye-safety/viewers-filters>, which is a page maintained by the American Astronomical Society.

“The American Academy of Ophthalmology whole-heartedly endorses this group, which began warning about eyewear that claimed to meet international standards but does not. Ophthalmologists around the world want people to stay safe when enjoying events like this,” Dr. Taich said.

With so many people planning to see the April 8 eclipse from Texas to Maine, Dr. Taich suggested buying eclipse glasses or solar filters now to ensure the recommended suppliers don’t run out of stock.

More information about preparing for the solar eclipse is available on ACMC’s website. For more information about eye safety, visit [www.acmchealth.org](http://www.acmchealth.org). To schedule an appointment with ACMC Ophthalmologist Alexander Taich, MD, call 440-994-7530.



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# Safety agencies prepping for eclipse

## Check Ashtabula County EMA site for map, closures as eclipse gets closer

BY BOB ETTINGER  
AND STEFANIE WESSELL

Gazette Newspapers

JEFFERSON – For a solar event that will last for a very short period of time, local safety agencies have spent a good deal of time in preparation.

A total solar eclipse will pass over the 48 contiguous United States on Monday,

April 8.

"We started discussing the eclipse early 2023," Mike Fitchet, director of the Ashtabula County Emergency Management Agency, said. "The eclipse will be very short, approximately five minutes."

"We want to make sure it is a safe enjoyable event and our safety forces and partners are aware and prepared," Fitchet continued.

Area fire, police, EMS and health departments have been conducting meetings in preparation of the event in order to ensure local communities are safe.

"We've been having county meetings for quite some time now about what we can do to better prepare the community for an influx in people," Conneaut Health Commissioner Nichele Blood said.

Though no one can predict with any level of accuracy the number of people who will enter Ashtabula County for the eclipse, the safety agencies are prepared for a large number of people.

"What we're preparing for is between 7,000 and 28,000 people," Blood said. "The hotels have seen an influx in people booking. They're making it a weekend-

type of thing."

With a large number of people looking to experience the eclipse, waiting until the last minute to arrive at a location is not advised.

"You need to get to your viewing location early and be prepared with your glasses, wearing them from start to finish," Fitchet said.

With more people in the area, there will be some issues.

"We will have additional traffic from outside visitors causing additional congestion on roads and more people using our resources such as gas stations, bathrooms, restaurants, etc.," Fitchet said.

It is imperative that people view the eclipse with glasses.

"(Wearing glasses is important) to prevent damage to your eyes staring at the in-

### Websites to know

#### Ashtabula County

Ashtabula County - <https://www.ashtabulacounty.us>

Ashtabula County EMA - <https://www.facebook.com/AshtabulaEMA>

#### Lake County

Lake County - <https://www.lakecountyohio.gov/>

Lake County EMA -

<https://www.lakecountyohio.gov/emergency-management-agency/>

#### Ohio

Ohio EMA - <http://tinyurl.com/OhioEMAEEclipseinfo>

National Weather Service Cleveland Office -

<https://www.weather.gov/cle/SolarEclipse2024>

See PREP Page 43




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# Ashtabula County safety information

## Law-enforcement agencies

Andover Village Police Department – 440-293-4555  
 Ashtabula Police Department – 440-992-7172  
 Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office – 440-576-0055  
 Conneaut Police Department – 440-593-7446  
 Geneva Police Department – 440-466-1111  
 Jefferson Police Department – 440-576-0020  
 Ohio State Highway Patrol – 440-969-1156  
 Orwell Police Department – 440-437-1234  
 Roaming Shores Police Department – 440-563-3135

## Fire/Rescue services

Andover Volunteer Fire Department – 440-293-6363  
 Ashtabula City Fire Department – 440-992-3473  
 Ashtabula Township Fire Department & EMS – 440-997-4641  
 Austinburg Fire Department – 440-275-5231  
 Conneaut Fire Station #1 – 440-593-7460  
 Conneaut Fire Station #3 – 440-593-7464  
 Dorset Volunteer Fire Department – 440-858-2424  
 Geneva Fire Department – 440-466-3321  
 Harpersfield Volunteer Fire Department – 440-466-4765  
 Hartsgrove Volunteer Fire Department – 440-474-0415  
 Jefferson Volunteer Fire Department – 440-576-5761

Jefferson Emergency Rescue District – 440-576-4367  
 Kingsville Township Fire Department – 440-224-0775  
 Monroe Township Fire Department – 440-593-7440  
 Morgan Hose Volunteer Fire Department – 440-563-3000  
 North Kingsville Village Fire/Rescue – 440-224-1411  
 Northwest Ambulance District – 440-466-4900  
 Orwell Volunteer Fire Department – 440-437-6470  
 Pierpont Volunteer Fire Department – 440-577-1190  
 Plymouth Township Fire Department – 440-993-4350  
 Poison Control Center – 800-222-1222  
 Rome Volunteer Fire Department – 440-563-3990  
 Saybrook Township Fire Department & EMS – 440-969-1179  
 Sheffield Township Fire Department – 440-224-0870  
 South Central Ambulance District – 440-563-5619  
 Wayne Volunteer Fire Department – 440-293-7648  
 Windsor Volunteer Fire Department – 440-272-5350

## Hospitals

Ashtabula County Medical Center – 2420 Lake Ave., 440-997-2262  
 University Hospitals Conneaut Medical Center – 158 W. Main Rd., 440-593-1131  
 University Hospitals Geneva Medical Center – 870 W. Main St., 440-466-1141

# Lake County Safety Forces

## Lake County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Frank Leonbruno  
 440-350-5620  
 800-899-LAKE x553  
 104 E. Erie St., Painesville,  
 OH 44077

## Ohio State Highway Patrol

Chardon Post • 440-564-5477  
 530 Center St., Chardon, OH  
 44024

## Eastlake:

Police –  
 • 35150 Lakeshore Blvd.  
 • 440-951-1400  
 Fire –  
 • 35150 Lakeshore Blvd.  
 • 440-951-2287

## Kirtland:

Police –  
 • 9301 Chillicothe Road  
 • 440-256-3333  
 Fire –  
 • 8979 Kirtland Chardon Road  
 • 440-256-4706

## Mentor:

Police –  
 • 8500 Civic Center Blvd.  
 • 440-255-1234  
 Fire –  
 • 8467 Civic Center Blvd.  
 • 440-974-5765

## Mentor-on-the-Lake:

Police –

• 5860 Andrews Road  
 • 440-257-7234  
 Fire –  
 • 5860 Andrews Road  
 • 440-257-7223

## Painesville:

Police –  
 • 28 Mentor Ave.  
 • 440-392-5840  
 Fire –  
 • 66 Mentor Ave.  
 • 440-392-5852

## Wickliffe:

Police –  
 • 28730 Ridge Road  
 • 440-943-1234  
 Fire –  
 • 29885 Euclid Ave.  
 • 440-943-1212

## Willoughby:

Police –  
 • 36700 Euclid Ave.  
 • 440-953-4212  
 Fire –  
 • 37000 Euclid Ave./  
 2080 Lost Nation Road  
 • 440-953-4343

## Willoughby Hills:

Police –  
 • 35405 Chardon Road  
 • 440-942-9111  
 Fire –  
 • 35455 Chardon Road

• 440-942-7207

## Willowick:

Police –  
 • 30435 Lakeshore Blvd.  
 • 440-585-1234  
 Fire –  
 • 30435 Lakeshore Blvd.  
 • 440-585-1202

## Fairport Harbor:

Police –  
 • 220 Third St.  
 • 440-354-3434  
 Fire –  
 • 220 Third St.  
 • 440-352-3620, option 5

## Grand River:

Police –  
 • 205 Singer Ave.  
 • 440-352-1287  
 Fire –  
 • 205 Singer Ave.  
 • 440-352-9133

## Kirtland Hills:

Police –  
 • 8026 Chillicothe Road  
 • 440-974-9090  
 Fire –  
 • 8979 Kirtland Chardon Road  
 • 440-256-4706

## Madison:

Police –  
 • 126 W. Main St.  
 • 440-428-3421

Fire –

• 840 River St.  
 • 440-428-1522

## North Perry:

Police –  
 • 4449 Lockwood Road  
 • 440-259-5016  
 Fire –  
 • 3742 Center Road/  
 3870 South Ridge Road  
 • 440-259-2880/440-259-3251

## Perry:

Police –  
 • 3758 Center Road  
 • 440-259-5004  
 Fire –  
 • 3742 Center Road/  
 3870 South Ridge Road  
 • 440-259-2880/440-259-3251

## Concord Township:

Fire –  
 • 440-354-7508  
 Fire Station No. 1  
 • 440-354-7509  
 Fire Station No. 2

## Leroy Township:

Fire –  
 • 440-254-4124

## Madison Township

Police –



# Lake County EMA prepares for total solar eclipse

BY GABRIEL MCVEY

*Gazette Newspapers*

MENTOR – Lake County will experience a Total Solar Eclipse on April 8, 2024. The eclipse will enter Ohio near Greenville in Darke County and exit Ohio near Avon Lake in Lorain County. The eclipse will occur local time at approximately 3:12 p.m. and last four minutes.

According to a press release from the Lake County Emergency Management Agency (EMA), Lake County will have several “prime” viewing areas, with the center line of the eclipse traversing Lake Erie approximately 10 miles due north of the eastern and western boundaries of the county and the center line of the eclipse approximately five miles due north of Mentor.

“We look forward to this exciting total solar eclipse as it is truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience. We are working hard alongside the LCEMA to prepare for this event,” said Commissioner John Hamercheck.

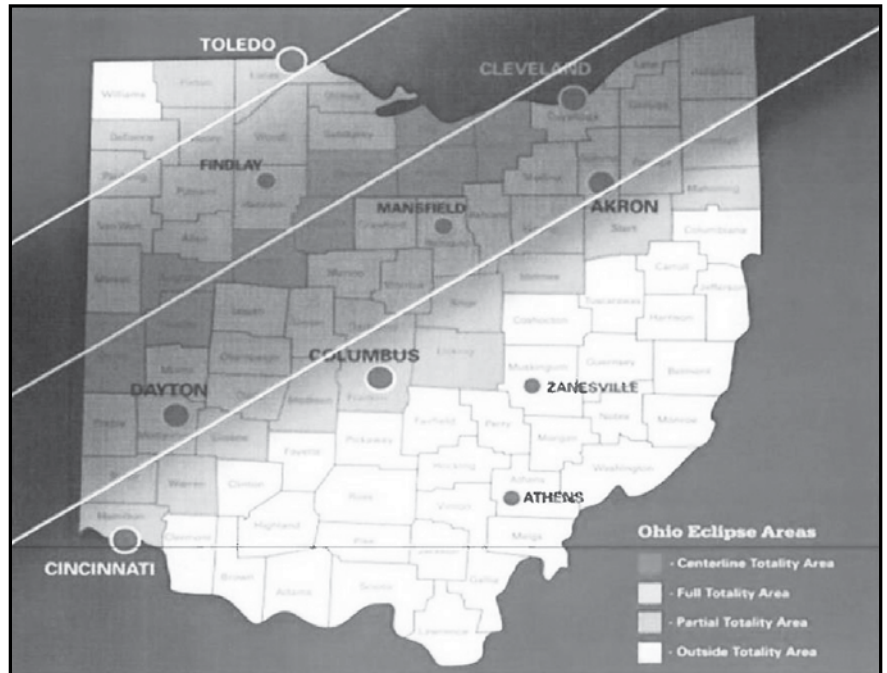
The total solar eclipse, along with an anticipated increase in population, will require the coordination of local, state and potentially federal resources. The Lake County Emergency Management Agency (LCEMA), as a planning agency, is in the process of preparing a plan to address the potential issues within Lake County and their surrounding counties associated with the 2024 total solar eclipse.

“Witnessing a total solar eclipse on the shore of Lake Erie

will be an incredible experience for all, and I am grateful we have such wonderful teams to help us prepare to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for the thousands of visitors to Lake County,” said Commissioner John Plecnik.

Lake County EMA Director Joe Busher added, “The Lake County Emergency Management Agency, working with county stakeholders, has begun early planning, promoting and preparing for this event. Taking lessons learned from previous large gatherings (solar eclipse of 2017, NBA Championship parade, etc.) and incorporating those into the planning process will give Lake County the ability to lessen the impact of the Total Solar Eclipse on our infrastructure making it safe and enjoyable for everyone!”

“There is a vast amount of planning required before the not-to-be-missed total solar eclipse that is expected to reach Lake County next year. We are taking all precautions necessary to ensure our community is prepared,” said Commissioner Richard J. Regovich.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The center line of the April 8 eclipse will traverse Lake Erie approximately 10 miles due north of the eastern and western boundaries of Lake County and the center line of the eclipse will be approximately five miles due north of Mentor.

The last total solar eclipse to appear in the United States was on Aug. 21, 2017. This eclipse will be the last one to appear in North America until 2044. The next total solar eclipse in Ohio will be 2099, with Cleveland in 2444. The last total eclipse in Ohio was 1806.

Challenges for eclipse viewers are expected to include, but are not limited to:

- Heavy traffic conditions before, during and after the eclipse, increases in potential for gridlock.

In 2017, the eclipse event ex-

tended a normal five-hour trip from Columbus to Hopkinsville, Kentucky, to a 17-and-a-half-hour slow-crawling commute.

- Travelers stopped in roadways with overheated vehicles, out of gas, stopped for food or bathroom breaks.

- Distracted driving during the eclipse.

- Limited cell service due to heightened network use.

- Potentially limited gasoline availability due to an increase in travelers.

- Restaurants and grocery stores running out of food.



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# The Lake County Visitors Bureau welcomes you

**LAKE COUNTY** – We are excited to welcome so many visitors to the area! Our local businesses and attractions have been creative in organizing eclipse-related events and menu items such as the Eclipse Wine Trail in the Grand River Valley and solar eclipse watch parties at Holden Arboretum and Headlands Beach.

The Lake County Visitors Bureau is offering a Solar Eclipse Grant Program, which will support our members who are planning events around the Total Solar Eclipse this April. Members of the bureau who host an event on Monday, April 8, the day of the eclipse, can apply for a \$500 grant for their event. Members who host a multi-day event before and/or during the day of the eclipse can apply for a grant of up to \$1,000. For more information, visit <https://www.mylakeoh.com/eclipse>

The bureau functions like a chamber of commerce, and the roughly 125 current members are mostly in the travel and

tourism industry. Memberships for the bureau are very inexpensive.

We are hopeful that our eclipse events will encourage visitors to return to Lake County during every season, especially the summer and fall, to see what Lake County additionally has to offer! We have a little bit of everything for weekend or day trips and extended stays; for families, history enthusiasts, nature-lovers and foodies. Our local boutique stores in each city have such charm and their own special identity and our restaurants have unique flavors and inviting atmospheres.

Lake County is in the direct path of totality, so we are looking forward to having a front-row seat for this moment.

We live in Ohio, so the weather can be rather unpredictable. We are hoping for clear skies and warm weather, but in case we are having a moody, April day, there are so many eclipse-related festivities to enjoy on your visit that your time spent will still feel worthwhile.

Here is some information regarding the Wine Trail: <https://ohio.org/festivals-and-events/events/total-eclipse-wine-trail>

The Total Eclipse Wine Trail takes place April 5-7 from noon to 5 p.m. in the Grand River Valley in celebration and anticipation of the Total Eclipse taking place on Monday, April 8. \$10 per person at each location. Purchase a PASSPORT in advance and pick up your Passport Package at your first (chosen) location. Package includes a keepsake bound passport booklet, one official Total Eclipse Wine Trail T-Shirt and \$5 off on ONE Trail package at each location (with your passport).

Fairport Harbor's "Total Eclipse of the Port" - <https://www.facebook.com/events/1051456255968367>

The village will have a weekend full of things to do, as the eclipse date coincides with the annual spring open house for the businesses in town, which will be April 6! Then on April 8, the Village of Fairport Harbor will be hosting a viewing party!

Stay tuned as we will continue to add all the happenings for the extended weekend! #lifeisbetterinabeachtown

The Village of Fairport Harbor will be hosting an Eclipse Viewing Party on Monday, April 8, on the Lighthouse Hill. The Viewing Party will take place from 1-5 p.m. and there will be music and food trucks for visitors to enjoy, as we wait for the main event, which should take place around 3:15 p.m.

Total Eclipse of the Arboretum - <https://holdenfg.org/events/holden-arboretum/total-eclipse-of-the-arboretum/>

Total Eclipse of the Arboretum will be THE viewing event in the area, featuring food trucks, activities and plenty of space to take in the eclipse. Bring chairs and blankets, a picnic and even the dog to experience the eclipse with family and friends in a stunning outdoor setting. The Canopy Walk will be open to ticketholders during event hours, and the Emergent Tower will be open from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

## Visit & Explore



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5467 CENTER RD., MONROE TWP.



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405 CREEK ROAD, CONNEAUT



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RIVER METROPARK**  
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# Eye safety during a Total Solar Eclipse

Except during the brief total phase of a total solar eclipse, when the Moon completely blocks the Sun's bright face, it is not safe to look directly at the Sun without specialized eye protection for solar viewing.

Viewing any part of the bright Sun through a camera lens, binoculars, or a telescope without a special-purpose solar filter secured over the front of the optics will instantly cause severe eye injury.

When watching the partial phases of the solar eclipse directly with your eyes, which happens before and after totality, you must look through safe solar viewing glasses ("eclipse glasses") or a safe handheld solar viewer at all times. Eclipse glasses are NOT regular sunglasses; regular sunglasses, no matter how dark, are not safe for viewing the Sun. Safe solar viewers are thousands of times darker and ought to comply with the ISO 12312-2 international standard. NASA does not approve any particular brand

of solar viewers.

Always inspect your eclipse glasses or handheld viewer before use; if torn, scratched, or otherwise damaged, discard the device. Always supervise children using solar viewers.

Do NOT look at the Sun through a camera lens, telescope, binoculars or any other optical device while wearing eclipse glasses or using a handheld solar viewer — the concentrated solar rays will burn through the filter and cause serious eye injury.

If you don't have eclipse glasses or a handheld solar viewer, you can use an indirect viewing method, which does not involve looking directly at the Sun. One way is to use a pinhole projector, which has a small opening (for example, a hole punched in an index card) and projects an image of the Sun onto a nearby surface. With the Sun at your back, you can then safely view the projected image. Do NOT look at the Sun through the pinhole!

Learn more about this method



PHOTO CREDIT: NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**A crowd uses handheld solar viewers and solar eclipse glasses to safely view a solar eclipse.**

at <https://eclipse.aas.org/eye-safety/projection>.

Do NOT use eclipse glasses or handheld viewers with cameras, binoculars or telescopes. Those require different types of solar filters. When viewing the partial phases of the eclipse through cameras, binoculars, or telescopes equipped with proper solar filters, you do not need to wear eclipse glasses. (The solar filters do the

same job as the eclipse glasses to protect your eyes.)

Seek expert advice from an astronomer before using a solar filter with a camera, telescope, binoculars, or any other optical device. Note that solar filters must be attached to the front of any telescope, binoculars, camera lens, or other optics.

**See SAFETY Page 8**

## Safety guidelines

Here are some important safety guidelines to follow during a total solar eclipse:

—View the Sun through eclipse glasses or a handheld solar viewer during the partial eclipse phases before and after totality.

—You can view the eclipse directly without proper eye protection only when the Moon completely obscures the Sun's bright face — during the brief and spectacular period known as totality. (You'll know it's safe when you can no longer see any part of the Sun through eclipse glasses or a solar viewer.)

—As soon as you see even a little bit of the bright Sun reappear after totality, immediately put your eclipse glasses back on or use a handheld solar viewer to look at the Sun.

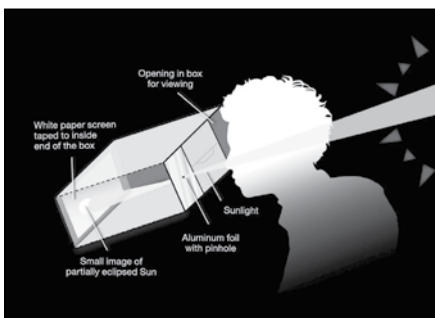


IMAGE COURTESY OF NASA

**You can make your own eclipse projector using a cardboard box, a white sheet of paper, tape, scissors, and aluminum foil. With the Sun behind you, sunlight will stream through a pinhole punched into aluminum foil taped**

over a hole in one side of the box. During the partial phases of a solar eclipse, this will project a crescent Sun onto a white sheet of paper taped to the inside of the box. Look into the box through another hole cut into the box to see the projected image.



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Be sure to bring your protective glasses on Monday, April 8

# 2024 Total Eclipse: What to Expect

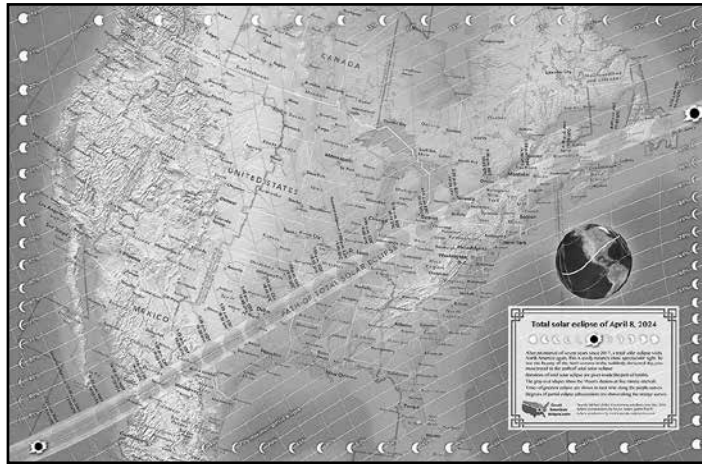
The eclipse on Monday, April 8, 2024, will be a total solar eclipse. It will be the last total solar eclipse visible from the contiguous United States until 2044.

A total solar eclipse happens when the Moon passes between the Sun and Earth, completely blocking the face of the Sun. People viewing the eclipse from locations where the Moon's shadow completely covers the Sun – known as the path of totality – will experience a total solar eclipse. The sky will become dark, as if it were dawn or dusk. Weather permitting, people along the path of totality will see the Sun's corona, or outer atmosphere, which is usually obscured by the bright face of the Sun.

A total solar eclipse is the only type of solar eclipse where viewers can momentarily remove their eclipse glasses (which are not the same as regular sunglasses). It is only safe to remove your eclipse glasses during what's known as totality, the brief period of time when the Moon is completely blocking the Sun.

What you can see during a total solar eclipse depends on the weather and the location from which you view it.

Weather: You need clear skies



CREDIT: ©2021 GREAT AMERICAN ECLIPSE, LLC, USED WITH PERMISSION.

**The total solar eclipse path crosses from Mexico, through the United States from Texas to Maine, and up through Canada.**

to have the full eclipse experience, with a clear view of the Sun and Moon. However, the eerie daytime darkness associated with eclipses is still noticeable with cloud cover.

Location: To see all stages of a total solar eclipse, you must view it from somewhere along the path of totality: the locations on Earth from which the Moon's shadow completely covers the Sun. The path of totality for the April 8, 2024, total solar eclipse is shown below in yellow. Observers viewing the eclipse from outside

the path of totality may observe a partial eclipse, where the Moon covers most but not all of the Sun. Eclipse glasses are required for the entire duration of the eclipse when viewing from outside the path of totality.

## Stages of a Total Solar Eclipse

There are several distinct stages of a total solar eclipse that observers can watch for. You must not remove your eclipse glasses until the Moon

has completely covered the Sun, the portion of the eclipse known as "totality."

## Partial Eclipse

As the Moon passes between the Sun and Earth, at first it does not completely cover the Sun. The Sun appears to have a crescent shape. For most locations, the partial eclipse phase will last between 70 and 80 minutes. You must wear your eclipse glasses when viewing the Sun during the partial eclipse phase. The moment when the Moon first "touches" the Sun is also called the first contact.

## Shadow Bands

Shadow bands are rapidly moving, long, dark bands separated by white spaces that can be seen on the sides of buildings or the ground just before and after totality, though they can be very faint and difficult to photograph. Earth's upper atmosphere contains turbulent cells of air that distort the sharp-edged light from the solar surface, the same way it distorts starlight and causes stars to twinkle.

See EXPECT Page 9

## SAFETY

From  
Page  
7

## Skin safety

Even during a partial or annular eclipse, or during the partial phases of a total eclipse, the Sun will be very bright. If you are watching an entire eclipse, you may be in direct sunlight for hours. Remember to wear sunscreen, a hat and protective clothing to prevent skin damage.

Find more Tips to Stay Safe in the Sun from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration at <https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/tips-stay-safe-sun-sunscreen-sunglasses>

(Information courtesy of NASA)



IMAGE COURTESY OF NASA/  
MAMTA PATEL NAGARAJA  
**You can wear eclipse glasses to safely view the Sun during the partial eclipse phases of a solar eclipse, before and after totality.**

When watching the partial phases of the solar eclipse directly with your eyes, which happens before and after totality, you must look through safe solar viewing glasses ("eclipse glasses") or a safe handheld solar viewer at all times.

Do NOT look at the Sun through a camera lens, telescope, binoculars, or any other optical device while wearing eclipse glasses or using a handheld solar viewer — the concentrated solar rays will burn through the filter and cause serious eye injury.

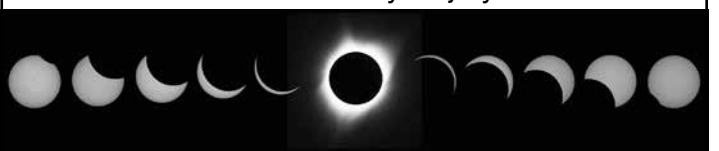


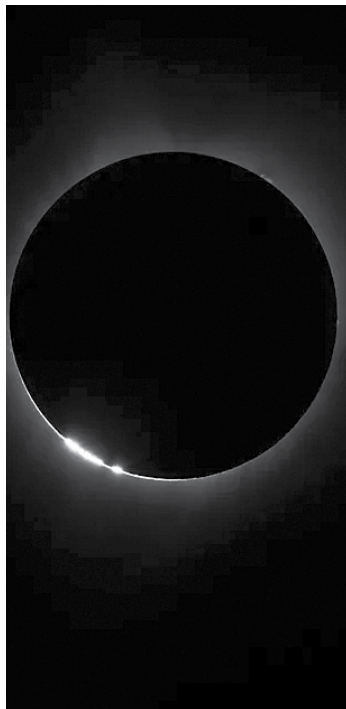
IMAGE COURTESY OF NASA/AUBREY GEMIGNANI  
**This composite image of eleven pictures shows the progression of a total solar eclipse over Madras, Oregon, on Aug. 21, 2017.**



# EXPECT

From  
Page  
8

## Baily's Beads


CREDIT: NASA/  
AUBREY GEMIGNANI

Baily's Beads appear as the Moon makes its final move over the Sun during the total solar eclipse on Aug. 21, 2017 above Madras, Oregon.

As the Moon continues to move across the Sun, several points of light shine around the Moon's edges. Known as Baily's Beads, these are light rays from the Sun streaming through the valleys along the Moon's horizon. Baily's Beads are very short-lived, and may not last long enough to be noticeable to all observers of the total solar eclipse.

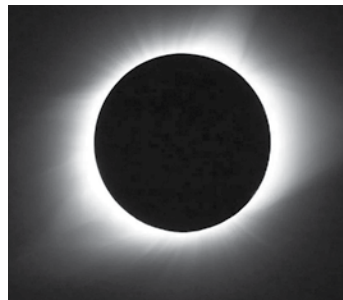
## Diamond Ring


CREDIT: NASA/  
CARLA THOMAS

The diamond-ring effect occurred at the beginning and end of totality during a total solar eclipse. As the last bits of sunlight pass through the valleys on the moon's limb, and the faint corona around the sun is just becoming visible, it looks like a ring with glittering diamonds on it.

Baily's Beads will begin to disappear until eventually only a single bright spot will remain along the edge of the Moon's shadow. This bright spot resembles the diamond in a giant diamond ring formed by the rest of the Sun's atmosphere. Totality is almost here – but keep those eclipse glasses on!

## Totality


CREDIT: NASA/  
NAT GOPALSWAMY

This image of the Aug. 21, 2017, total solar eclipse was taken from Madras, Oregon.

Once the diamond ring disappears and there is no longer any direct sunlight, you may remove your eclipse glasses and look at the total eclipse safely with the naked eye. This moment is also called second contact. During totality, viewers may be able to see the chromosphere (a region of the solar atmosphere, appearing as the thin circle of pink around the Moon) and the corona (the outer solar atmosphere, appearing as streams of white light). Be vigilant to protect your eyes and put your eclipse glasses back on before totality ends. Totality may last only a minute or two in some locations.

During totality, take a few seconds to observe the world around you. You may be able to see a 360 degree sunset. You may also be able to see some particularly bright stars or planets in the darkened sky. The air temperature will drop and often an eerie silence will settle around you. It is also worth stealing a peek at the

people around you – many people have a deep emotional response when the Sun goes into totality.

## Brightening Reappears

As the Moon continues to move across the face of the Sun, you will begin to see brightening on the opposite side from where the diamond ring shone at the beginning. This is the lower atmosphere of the Sun, beginning to peek out from behind the Moon and it is your signal to stop looking directly at the eclipse. Make sure your eclipse glasses are back on – or you are otherwise watching the eclipse through a safe, indirect method – before the first flash of sunlight appears around the edges of the Moon. This moment is also called third contact.

## Diamond Ring, Baily's Beads, and Shadow Bands – Again

Once your eyes are protected again, you may continue to watch the final stages of the eclipse as the end process mirrors the beginning: You will again see the diamond ring, Baily's Beads, and shadow bands before the entire Sun is visible.

Fourth contact is the moment that none of the Sun is covered by the Moon's shadow. This is when the eclipse is completely over, but most likely you will have already packed up your things to begin planning your next eclipse adventure. (Information courtesy of NASA)

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# Frequently Asked Questions about the Total Solar Eclipse

*NASA has shared these Frequently Asked Questions about the Total Solar Eclipse*

## General

*How long will the 2024 total solar eclipse last?*

The longest duration of totality is 4 minutes, 28 seconds, near Torreón, Mexico. Most places along the centerline (path of totality) will see a totality duration between 3.5 and 4 minutes.

*What does the path of totality mean?*

The path of totality is where observers will see the Moon completely cover the Sun.

*How much will daylight change during a total solar eclipse?*

In the path of totality, where the Moon completely covers the Sun, the sky will become dark, as if it were dawn or dusk. For those who only experience a partial solar eclipse, the sky will appear slightly darker than it was before the eclipse, depending on how much the Moon blocks the Sun in their location.

*How big of a temperature drop do you get during a total solar eclipse?*

You can expect the temperature to drop about 10 degrees Fahrenheit (5 degrees Celsius) depending on the humidity and cloud cover at your location.

## Safety

*How do you safely view a total solar eclipse?*

The Sun's surface is so bright that if you stare at any portion of it, no matter how small, it produces enough light to damage individual retinal cells. It takes

a few seconds for this to happen, but afterward, you will see a spot as big as the solar surface you glimpsed when you look away from the Sun at some other scenery. Depending on how long you gazed at the Sun and how badly the retinal cells were damaged, this spot will either fade away in time or remain permanent. You should never assume that you can look away quickly enough to avoid eye damage because every person is different in terms of their retinal sensitivity, and you do not want to risk being the one who damages their eyes just to try to look at the Sun.

If you want to see what the Sun looks like, use a properly-equipped telescope or solar viewing glasses. You could also go online and view thousands of pictures taken of the Sun by telescopes and NASA spacecraft!

*Why is it not safe to look at the Sun even when only a small part of it is visible?*

The rods and cones in the human retina are very sensitive to light. Normally during daylight conditions, the iris contracts so that only a small, safe amount of light passes through the lens and then reaches the retina. However, the Sun's surface is so bright that even a thin sliver of its light can still damage the eye if you were to look directly at it. When exposed to direct sunlight, retinal cells will become damaged, sometimes permanently. This can happen even after a quick glance at the Sun so it is very important to never look at the Sun directly. To look at the Sun, use solar viewing glasses or a property-equipped telescope.

*Is it true that you should not*

*look at the Sun even during a total solar eclipse?*

When the bright photosphere of the Sun is completely covered, only the faint light from the corona is visible, and this radiation is too weak to have any harmful effects on the human retina. There is a misunderstanding that during a total solar eclipse, when the Moon has fully blocked the light from the Sun, there are still harmful rays that can injure your eyes. This is false.

During other types of solar eclipses, viewers must wear solar viewing or eclipse glasses or use an alternative viewing method the entire time, as at least part of the Sun is always visible. During a total solar eclipse, viewers should take those protective measures before and after the Sun's visible disk is completely blocked. However, once it's completely blocked – called totality – viewers can look directly at the eclipse without any special eye protection.

*How are eyes damaged by staring at the Sun?*

Typically, eye damage from staring at the Sun results in blurred vision, dark or yellow spots, pain in bright light, or loss of vision in the center of the eye (the fovea). Permanent damage to the retina has been shown to occur in ~100 seconds, but the exact time before damage occurs will vary with the intensity of the Sun on a particular day and with how much the viewer's pupil is dilated from decongestants and other drugs they may be taking.

Even when 99 percent of the Sun's surface (the photosphere) is obscured during the partial phas-

es of a solar eclipse, the remaining crescent Sun is still intense enough to cause a retinal burn. Note, there are no pain receptors in the retina so your retina can be damaged even before you realize it, and by then it can be too late to save your vision!

*Where can I get the right kind of solar filter to view the eclipse?*

For a list of trusted solar filter vendors, please see the American Astronomical Society's website at <https://eclipse.aas.org/eye-safety/eyewear-viewers>

**Note** that some locations in Ashtabula and Lake counties are giving away glasses to people who attend their watch parties.

*Is it only the bright light that is dangerous when viewing the Sun?*

Although solar filters and eclipse glasses safely block the intense sunlight that is known to damage retinas, the infrared 'heat' from the Sun can also make viewing uncomfortable as it literally warms the eye. This is why staring at the Sun for minutes at a time even with proper filters can still overheat the tissues and fluids in the eye. The consequences of this heating can be dangerous. To avoid this problem, frequently look away from the Sun to cool your eyes while using filters.

*Can I photograph the eclipse with my smartphone?*

Yes, but you need to have the specialized eclipse filter between your camera and the Sun. See the American Astronomical Society website at <https://eclipse.aas.org/imaging-video/images-videos> for more detailed instructions.

See QUESTIONS Page 43



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# Total solar eclipse fascinates local residents

BY ERIC HRIN

*Gazette Newspapers*

Kayla Schmidt of Austinburg is looking forward to experiencing the total solar eclipse with her children.

"I think it will be pretty cool," she said. "It's not something you get to experience every day. We're hoping we have a good view."

She said her kids are very excited and want to get the special glasses to view the eclipse on April 8.

"They were a little worried at first because they were closing schools," she said.

Her son, Liam, 8, was a little anxious. He was concerned about the dangers of looking at the eclipse without protection.

Schmidt's daughter, Kiley, 10, said she was scared of the eclipse at first, but now she's more used to it and thinks it will be fine.

"And now she talks about it every day," Schmidt said, with a laugh.

Tristan Kujanpaa had viewed an eclipse back in the 1990s.

"It was a big event," he recalled. "My dad actually pulled me out of school for that day and everything."

He said astronomy was a hobby for his late father, David Kujanpaa.

He thinks this eclipse will be just as amazing as the one in the 1990s.

He plans to get together with a lot of people at his property in Austinburg and watch the

eclipse.

Amanda Briggs de Lavin, who owns the Dark Room Brewery in Geneva, said the brewery will do a dark beer release just for the eclipse.

The special beer will be called "Throwing Shade."

"And we're using coffee from Wall Street Coffee Co. in Jefferson, too, for the brew," she said.

The brewery will have an Eclipse party featuring live classic rock and country music by Mike Barker from 1-2 p.m. and 3-5 p.m., as well as a food truck out front. It will also be handing out solar glasses.

She said she's been following the total solar eclipse for years.

"I knew it was going to be a big deal, and so everybody's saying it's going to be double the population and I can't wait," she said. "I think it will be really good for this area to show off a little bit."

It's not the first time Irene Hrisco, who operates the popular Honeybee's restaurant in downtown Geneva, has seen an eclipse.

"This is my second time that I've experienced an eclipse, and I'm really fascinated about it," she said.

She said it gives her goosebumps.

She saw her first eclipse in the Philippines in the 1990s.

Hrisco said it was "amazing."

"And now I'm going to see it again in my lifetime," she said. "That's amazing, too. So, I'm looking forward to seeing it again."

"I think the eclipse is going to be an interesting event," Ashtabula City Council President John Roskovics said. "It's so cool that it's happening

now and we are in the direct path. It's always fun to have these once-in-a-lifetime experiences and to be able to view or be part of them."

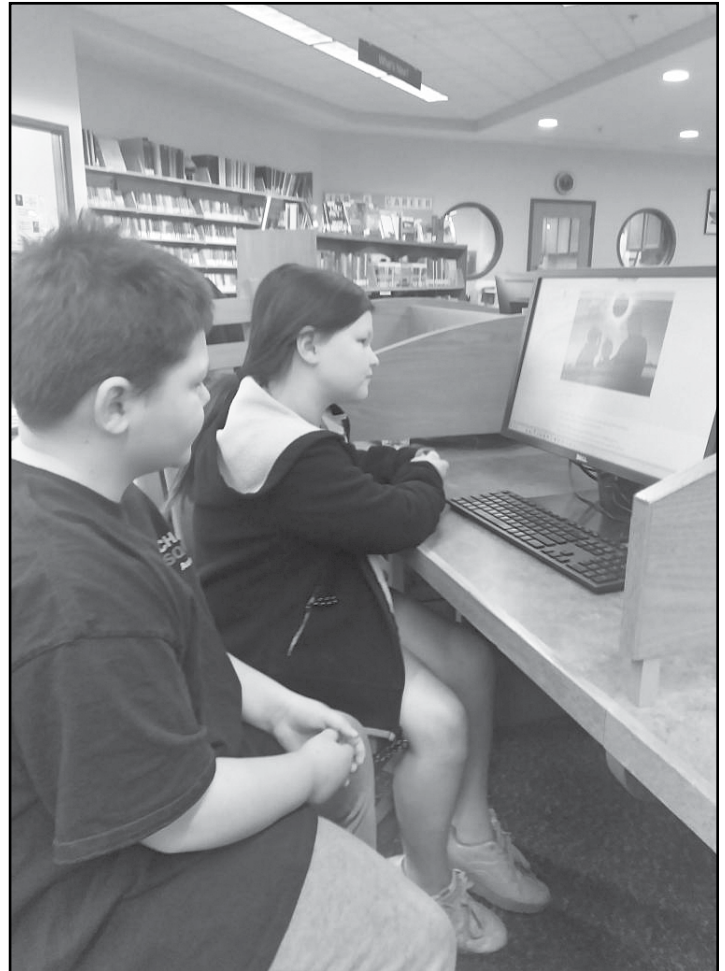


PHOTO BY ERIC HRIN

Kayla Schmidt of Austinburg is looking forward to experiencing the total solar eclipse with her children, Kiley and Liam. Here, Kiley and Liam look at some information about the eclipse on a computer at the Geneva Public Library.

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# Eclipse activities abound in Ashtabula

BY ERIC HRIN

Gazette Newspapers

ASHTABULA – Viewing the total solar eclipse will be the main thing to do in Ashtabula on April 8 – but it won't be the only thing.

From shadow drawing to dining by candlelight, people of all ages will be able to take part in a variety of activities that day.

At the Cloven Hoof Brewery at 1308 Bridge St., adults will be able to attend an "Eclipse Day" celebration.

According to a description of the event on the Ashtabula County Visitors Bureau website, those buying the first 100 beers get their very own eclipse glasses.

The brewery will be opening early at noon for the event. Gio's Pizza lab will be set up for pizza and beer.

"This is going to be a very fun and cool day to witness," the description states.

Another event is an Eclipse

Dinner by Candlelight at Rennick Meat Market at 1104 Bridge St., Ashtabula Harbor.

"Join Rennick Meat Market for a candlelight dinner on the night of the Solar Eclipse, Monday, April 8," a description states.

The time is 5-9 p.m., and reservations are highly recommended.

Owner Jennifer Pociask said she got the idea last year when the power went out.

"We had candles everywhere, but people loved the ambience," she said.

She noted the meal will be the normal menu for dinner.

"It likes the normal dinner service, just lights and candles everywhere," she said.

Pociask thought people seemed pretty excited about the dinner.

"We already have a handful of reservations," she said.

Weather permitting, a viewing will be held in the outdoor fencing of the restaurant, with the purchase of a drink or lunch.

For the family crowd, the Ashtabula Public Library will have a free "Glimpse the Eclipse" party on the lawn from 12-4 p.m. April 8 for children and accompanying adults.

"We are having a party to celebrate and view the rare Total Eclipse that is happening right over Ashtabula County," a description states. "Bring your own picnics, blankets, and be ready for games and fun times together while waiting for this extraordinary event! We will have Solar Glasses to pass out to those that participate in the program."

Youth services manager Stephen Moncrief said the library is excited about the event.

"The goal is to help people be able to see the eclipse in a safe way and to have fun," he said. "It's a lot of outdoor activities for parents and kids to take part in together, and the eclipse is quite an event, from what I hear."

While activities were still in the planning stages as of mid-February, Moncrief said a "playing with shadows" activity was among the activities on the schedule.

He said people will be able to draw their shadows on the sidewalk with chalk, weather permitting.

Another activity that is planned is making homemade glasses out of cereal boxes to view the eclipse.

He noted there will be back-up indoor activities if the weather is inclement.

Adults are asked to be engaged with their child for the program as no drop-offs will be permitted.

From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday, April 8, the Ashtabula Arts Center will have a Solar Eclipse Party.

Passports are \$5 each and include eclipse glasses for the first 200 passport buyers and a full day of hands-on art projects, according to an announcement about the event.

The announcement notes there will also be a free Shadow Dance Party on stage in 13th Street Theatre, and Cosmic Concerts featuring Arts Center singers, which will all lead up to the main event of the eclipse.

Food from Bomb Dogs as well as concessions and souvenirs will be available.

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## Ashtabula Arts Center to hold Solar Eclipse Party

Celebrate the celestial with the Ashtabula Arts Center on Monday, April 8, from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at its Solar Eclipse Party.

Passports are \$5 each and include eclipse glasses for the first 200 passport buyers and a full day of hands-on art projects.

There will also be a free Shadow Dance Party on stage in 13th Street Theatre, and Cosmic Concerts featuring Arts Center singers - all leading up to the main event. Food from Bomb Dogs will be available, as well as concessions and souvenirs.



Original eclipse artwork by Ralph Bacon.

### Ohio eclipse times:

Start of partial: 1:51 p.m.  
Start of totality: 3:08 p.m.  
End of totality: 3:19 p.m.  
End of partial: 4:30 p.m.



## Tips for safely viewing the Total Solar Eclipse from Ohio EMA

With the exception of the very brief total phase of a total solar eclipse, when the Moon completely blocks the Sun's bright face, it is not safe to look directly at the Sun unless you are using eye protection specifically for solar viewing.

Do not view any part of the bright Sun through a camera lens, binoculars, or a telescope without a special-purpose solar filter secured over the front of the instrument as this will instantly cause severe eye injury.

Homemade filters or ordinary sunglasses, even very dark ones, are not safe for looking at the sun. They transmit thousands of times too much sunlight and could damage the eyes.

### Travel & Parking Dos and Don'ts

- Pre-plan your route. Know your destination in advance and where you plan to safely park to view the eclipse.
- Do not pull off the side of a roadway to view the eclipse as it could impede traffic and is unsafe.
- Do not park on privately owned land (empty lots or farm fields) unless arrangements have been made with the owner of the property.
- In the event your GPS does not work, keeping a paper travel map in your preparedness kit is smart.
- Keep your gas tank topped off.
- If it is a rainy week prior to the eclipse date, be mindful of parking in grassy areas such as fields. The ground may be soft and your vehicle may get "stuck in the mud."
- Ohio's Move Over Law requires motorists to cautiously shift over one lane – or slow down if changing lanes is not possible – when passing any vehicle with flashing lights on the side of a road.
- Do not call 9-1-1 for traffic jams unless it is a life-safety emergency.

### Water / Boating Safety

- Water temperatures on Lake Erie in early April average in the upper 30s to low 40s F, so viewing the eclipse from a small boat will be dangerous. Water temperatures below 55°F can cause

cold water shock, leading to death within one minute of falling into the cold water. Without a dry suit, survival of more than five minutes is unlikely due to hypothermia. The average death rate for boating accidents is 45% when the water temperature is colder than 50°F but only 11% when the water temperature is 70 to 79°F.

• Learn more about wearing a life jacket on a boat at <http://tinyurl.com/lifejacketsonboats>. Ohio follows federal rules for life jackets and flotation devices for boating.

• Signs of cold-water shock are gasping for breath, rapid breathing, sudden spike in heart rate and blood pressure, and cognitive impairment. Viewing the eclipse from a boat without a dry suit is not recommended.

• Historically, the Lake Erie water temperature offshore of Cleveland on April 8 average 39°F.

## Wearing red or green during the April 2024 eclipse could enhance the experience

Experts suggest that wearing shades of reds and greens during the Total Solar Eclipse could enhance the viewing experience.

A spokesperson at Solar Eyeglasses, a California-based solar eclipse glasses company, explained that there's a science behind how humans perceive colors in low light called the "Purkinje Effect."

The Purkinje Effect is when reds and yellows fade and greens and blues appear brighter as the light dims.

The Purkinje effect occurs at the transition between primary use of the photopic (cone-based) and scotopic (rod-based) systems, that is, in the mesopic state: as intensity dims, the rods take over, and before color disappears completely, it shifts towards the rods' top sensitivity.

The effect occurs because in mesopic conditions the outputs of cones in the retina, which are generally responsible for the perception of color in daylight, are pooled with outputs of rods which are more sensitive under those conditions and have peak sensitivity in blue-green wavelength of 507 nm.

"This isn't just an eclipse thing," the Solar Eyeglasses spokesperson said in a written statement. "It's similar to how we observe garden flowers in the evening. Reds turn darker, almost black, while



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# One lighthouse plus one Total Eclipse equals a unique opportunity

BY ROBIN LUTHANEN

Gazette Newspapers

**FAIRPORT HARBOR**—Fairport Harbor Maritime Museum and Lighthouse, 129 Second St., will raffle the opportunity to view the April 8 total eclipse from its lighthouse tower.

The online raffle, Encounter the Eclipse: A Towering View, will allow five winning tickets to be drawn. Each winner may invite a guest to enjoy the view. Museum representatives will draw names at noon Wednesday, March 20.

"We realized that this area is in the path of totality to view the eclipse and that huge numbers of visitors are expected in Lake County," Marty O'Gara, museum president, explained in a recent email. "We decided the lighthouse tower would be an ideal spot. After discussion and research, we decided ten spots," she added.

Each winning ticketholder will receive two eclipse eyeglasses, two box lunches, two special edition eclipse t-shirts, two lighthouse ornaments and admission to the museum for the day.

Online \$75 ticket purchases opened Wednesday, Jan. 17, and will continue through Monday, March 18. To purchase raffle tickets, go to the museum's website, [keeper@fairportharborlighthouse.org](http://keeper@fairportharborlighthouse.org).

O'Gara noted that proceeds from the raffle will help with restoration and preservation projects, including the following:

- Replacement of roofs on both the lighthouse keeper's house and garage;

- Extensive work on the mast of the U.S.S. Michigan which has incurred damage from weather and wear;

- Recent work replacing the boiler and hot water tank;

- Repair and reinforcement of the pilot house roof.

"We don't receive any funding on a regular basis; we are sustained by memberships, donations, and grants," O'Gara explained. "Grant money is not as plentiful as in the past. So, we see this as an opportunity to raise money for the museum's needs and provide a unique experience for ten lucky people," she continued.

The museum is a 501c3 non-profit organization.

## Holden Arboretum announces exclusive solar eclipse viewing event

**KIRTLAND**—Gear up for the once-in-a-lifetime total solar eclipse over northeast Ohio on Monday, April 8, at 3:13 p.m. at Total Eclipse of the Arboretum.

Celebrate this extraordinary event from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday, April 8, at northeast Ohio's iconic Holden Arboretum.

Advanced tickets required. Purchase your tickets now at [holdenfg.org](http://holdenfg.org).

A total solar eclipse occurs when the moon passes between the sun and Earth, completely blocking the sun. The moon's shadow will darken the sky for almost four minutes. It is rare to be in the path of totality and this occurrence won't happen again in northeast Ohio until the year 2444.

Just 20 minutes from downtown Cleveland with 3,500 acres of gorgeous grounds, Total Eclipse of the Arboretum will be the ultimate viewing event featuring food trucks, activities and plenty of space to take in the eclipse. Bring chairs and blankets, a picnic and even the dog to experience the eclipse with family and friends in a stunning outdoor setting. The Canopy Walk will be open to ticketholders during event hours and the Emergent Tower will be open from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Come early to claim a viewing spot and spend the day at the Arboretum.

Tickets are \$15 for members and \$30 for nonmembers. Tickets include solar eclipse glasses, parking for one vehicle, admission to the Arboretum, entertainment

by DJ Kris Koch and access to onsite activities and food trucks. A limited number of tickets will be available and they will sell out quickly.

Please note due to an increase

in local traffic expected throughout Lake and surrounding counties, your travel time will be impacted. Sperry Road will be closed to non-ticket holders all day on April 8.



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# South County libraries are going all out with solar eclipse community parties

BY CORINNE SCHOREN

*Gazette Newspapers*

**SOUTH ASHTABULA COUNTY** – The southern part of Ashtabula County is getting ready for the upcoming solar eclipse this April, and organizations are ready for the event with several eclipse themed parties to choose from.

The solar eclipse will take place on Monday, April 8, and Ashtabula County is in the path of totality for the event – places around the region are taking advantage of the solar event to throw some exciting community parties to gather and watch the eclipse together.

Andover Public Library is hosting a special Solar Eclipse Party for the community from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Pymatuning Valley School District Campus, located at 5571 US-6, with a family-friendly tailgating atmosphere that is open to everyone for free.

“We are always looking for ways to serve the community. The next solar eclipse to pass our way will be in 2099 so I thought we should celebrate this one in a big way,” Nancy Logan, director at Andover Public Library said.

“This once in-a-lifetime event is a pretty big deal. If you mix in Andover’s location in the path of the eclipse and the availability of the PV school campus (due to school closure that day) to hold the party at, why not take advantage of that?” Maria Firkaly, community relations coordinator, said.

The event will be held at the Pymatuning Valley School Campus and at 1:30 p.m., community members will be allowed entrance to the football stands to watch the eclipse together.

Food will be available for purchase, provided by the Twisted Egg Roll Food Truck and the PV Athletic Booster Concession stand, as well as a photo booth, music and karaoke with DJ Floyd and a warming tent if needed.

The Andover Public Library will be giving away one free pair of solar eclipse glasses per person at the event while supplies last.

“We hope folks bring chairs, outdoor games and decorate their set up for the eclipse. Our goal is a family-friendly party atmosphere,” Firkaly said.

Additionally, the Andover Public Library has several programs in March leading up to the event for local community members of all ages to come out and learn more about the solar eclipse.

- **Learn at your library: Solar Eclipse** at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, March 20 – families can learn about the solar eclipse and what to expect from Gene Zajac, NASA Solar System Ambassador.

- **DIY Solar Telescope** at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, March 26 – families can make their own solar telescope using recycled materials.

- **Become a Solar Eclipse Soundscape Observer** at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, March 26 – all ages can learn what it takes to be a soundscape observer during the solar eclipse and learn what to

record during the eclipse.

- **Solar Eclipse DIY T-Shirt** from 4 to 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 28 – all ages are welcome to come in and create their own solar eclipse themed T-shirt.

The Andover Public Library is located at 142 West Main Street. For more information on these events and the Solar Eclipse Party, check out the Andover Public Library’s website at [andover.lib.oh.us](http://andover.lib.oh.us) or give them a call at 440-293-6792.

In Orwell, the Grand Valley Public Library is hosting their own special Solar Eclipse Party for the community from 1 to 4 p.m. at Chaffee Park, located on North Maple Street, and the new library grounds across the street.

The Grand Valley Public Library will be giving away free books, fun space-themed crafts and cupcakes during the party, and other vendors will be set up throughout Chaffee Park.

The viewing for the eclipse will be held at the new library grounds right across the street, and the library will be giving out free solar eclipse glasses while supplies last.

“We are going to do a community event. Chaffee Park is a public park – they gave us the okay to use it,” Jackie Vasko, director of children’s services at the Grand Valley Public Library, said.

“I had planned ahead of time and had gotten around 1,500 glasses ordered for the community,” Vasko said. “We’ll be giving away free glasses up until the event, and I’m also keeping some for the day of the event – I don’t

want to give them all away. And once they’re gone, they’re gone.”

Vasko said that she is planning for this to be a large family friendly community event for anyone to come out to.

“I have a DJ lined up to play family-friendly music as well. It should be a fun time. We’re going to kind of make it a community thing rather than just a library thing,” she said.

The Grand Valley Public Library is located at 1 North School St. For questions or more information about the Grand Valley Public Library’s Solar Eclipse Party, contact the library at 440-437-6545 or email Jackie Vasko at [Jvasko@seolibraries.org](mailto:Jvasko@seolibraries.org).

The Kinsman Free Public Library will be hosting their own Solar Eclipse Viewing Party on the day of the eclipse at the library, located at 6420 Church Street from 2 to 4 p.m.

The Kinsman Free Public Library will have live music and activities during the special party, and anyone is welcome to come out and enjoy watching to total solar eclipse together.

The Kinsman Library will also be giving out free protective viewing glasses while supplies last on the day of the event.

The Kinsman Free Public Library will be closed during the program, but will reopen for regular services from 4 to 5 p.m.

No matter where you find yourself in the southern part of the county, there is a library you can head to and enjoy a fun community-oriented total solar eclipse viewing party.



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## Ferrante Winery releases limited-edition eclipse wines

HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP - Ferrante Winery has released limited-edition, once-in-a-lifetime eclipse wines — ECLIPSE White and ECLIPSE Red.

"The 2024 Solar Eclipse is going to be truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience for most of us, so why not have a wine to enjoy this special moment in 2024," winemaker Nick Ferrante said.

The ECLIPSE White is a beautiful blend of Traminette and Gewurztraminer with soft floral aromatics and citrus flavors with a hint of sweetness on

the finish.

The ECLIPSE Red is a blend of dry red varietals with dark berry fruit aromatics and flavors, with a soft finish.

Both wines are 1.5-percent residual sugar. ECLIPSE White is only 20.24 a bottle & ECLIPSE Red is 24.08.

These wines are available now at the winery, online at [www.ferrantewinery.com](http://www.ferrantewinery.com) and will be arriving on local store shelves soon.

During the first weekend in April, the winery will be featuring Chef Kelly's Eclipse Filet Mignon, Casa Luna Ravi-

oli, signature cocktails like the Lunar 8, live entertainment and gift shop items.

Enjoy all the Grand River Valley has to offer for the April Solar Eclipse with the Solar Eclipse Trail, which features eclipse-themed appetizers paired with wine samples at fourteen unique wineries. The trail runs Friday, Saturday, Sunday from 12-5 p.m. \$10 per person at each location.

**SUBMITTED PHOTO**  
Ferrante Winery has released two limited edition wines in honor of the solar eclipse on April 8.



## Downtown Painesville Organization Eclipse T-shirts

PAINESVILLE – Everyone has heard by now that Painesville will be in the path of totality for this year's solar eclipse. This is definitely a once in a lifetime event.

The Downtown Painesville Organization would like to help capture the cosmic spectacle of a lifetime with a Total Solar Eclipse Painesville T-shirt.

Crafted to commemorate the celestial marvel of the eclipse, this exclusive design features vibrant hues blending

seamlessly into the darkness of space, mirroring the mesmerizing dance of the sun, moon and earth.

Printed with high-definition precision, the T-shirt showcases the awe-inspiring moment when the moon perfectly aligns with the sun, casting a breathtaking corona against the backdrop of the star-studded sky. Each detail is meticulously rendered to convey the sheer magnitude and beauty of this rare phenomenon.

Made from premium quality fabric, this T-shirt ensures both comfort and style, making it the perfect attire for witnessing this extraordinary event or as a cherished keepsake to commemorate the occasion.

Embrace the wonder of the cosmos and seize the opportunity to own a piece of history with our Total Solar Eclipse t-shirt. Limited edition, unlimited awe!

Go to <https://go.rallyup.com/totaleclipsestshirtpainesville/> Campaign/Details to order.

Pre-orders through March 20, 2024.

Pick up at the Gage House (47 S. State Street, Painesville) the week of April 1-4 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Pickup is also available the day of the event at Lake Erie College's Eclipse Viewing event (1-4 p.m.)



**SUBMITTED PHOTO**  
The Downtown Painesville Organization would like to help capture the cosmic spectacle of a lifetime with a Total Solar Eclipse Painesville T-shirt.

## Bunny Hop Wine & Cocktail Trail to be held April 1-30

Join the members of The Grand River Valley on a trail to find the perfect wines to pair with your favorite Spring dishes with a chance to win a Grand River Valley Get-away when you complete the trail.

At Grand River Cellars, Debonné Vineyards, Cask 307, South River Vineyard, Red Eagle Distillery and Black Door Tavern, enjoy two wine samples and an appetizer for \$8 per person at each location.

Try the featured signature cocktail/sangria at an additional cost.

Pick up a trail card at any location and finish by April 30 to qualify for the drawing.





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# Spire to hold Solar Eclipse Festival

BY BYRON C. WESSELL

Gazette Newspapers

HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP - Spire Institute will be hosting a solar eclipse festival on April 8. The event will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Several ticket packages will be available for those wishing to watch the eclipse at Spire.

"Join SPIRE, with your friends and family, for a rare total solar eclipse and exciting

activities on campus, as the moon's shadow crosses Mexico, sweeps northeast from Texas to Maine, and darkens the Canadian Maritimes," according to the Spire website.

The cost for entrance and buffet for adults is \$20 advanced and \$25 at the door. Kids' tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Kids under 5 eat for free. All tickets include eclipse glasses. Admission is free for kids 5 and under,

though advanced admission ticket is required. To sign up for tickets, go to: [spireacademy.com](http://spireacademy.com).

An eclipse t-shirt will also be available for purchase and will cost \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Shirts are limited in both quantities and sizes and will be first come, first served.

Other discounted packages that include admission, eclipse glasses, unlimited buffet and shirt are available. The adult bundle package is \$50, and the kids bundle package is \$40 per kid. There is also a family ticket bundle available for two adults and two kids for \$180, which includes admission for four, four pairs of glasses, four buffets and four shirts.

No outside food, beverage or alcohol are allowed.

There will be games and competitions for all ages located at the SPIRE Fields and Courts building. There will also be great music and entertainment for kids including Jungle Terry.



There will also be a Vendor and Farmers' Market consisting of local crafters and producers.

"Come for the immersive experience, stay for the buffet. Gather for the unique total eclipse (glasses provided) and enjoy a full day of fun and entertainment," the Spire website says.

Those wishing to become a vendor can contact Lindsay Bell at [lbell@spireacademy.com](mailto:lbell@spireacademy.com)

A space with a table is \$75; space only is \$50 and a \$25 electrical hook-up.

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## Mooned in Jefferson, Ohio

JEFFERSON - The Village of Jefferson has planned its own watch party for the coming Eclipse, "Mooned in Jefferson," for Monday, April 8, from noon to 6 p.m. at Giddings Park.

Bring some chairs and enjoy food trucks, craft vendors and get an official Eclipse T-shirt.

The Jefferson Area High School band will perform and the Art Department will have selfie spots set up. The Science Department will also have a display.

Solar glasses will be provided, while supplies last.

"Mooned in Jefferson" is Monday, April 8, from noon to 6 p.m. at Giddings Park, 104 E. Jefferson St., Jefferson Village.

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# Mentor is planning an Eclipse party open to all

BY GABRIEL MCVEY

*Gazette Newspapers*

MENTOR – The City of Mentor is planning an Eclipse Watch Party for Monday, April 8, from 1-5 p.m. at the Mentor Civic Amphitheater.

An Eclipse watch party will be held from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Mentor Civic Amphitheater. Guests can enjoy a number of fun games and activities and track the progress of the eclipse on the video screens. A DJ will be on hand spinning favorite tunes as visitors count down to the big moment at 3:14 p.m., when

they'll experience three minutes and 48 seconds of totality.

Food from some of the area's favorite food trucks, as well as beverages, will be available for purchase. Admission and parking at the event is free. A limited number of eclipse glasses will also be available free of charge.

Mentor is an easy drive from the east coast. Mentor is just two-and-a-half hours from Pittsburgh, six hours from Washington, D.C. and nine hours from Charlotte, making it an ideal place to see the Eclipse.

Mentor is convenient and

has plenty of free parking. Mentor is home to nine hotels, 325 retailers and over 170 restaurants, as well as one of the largest malls in the region.

Mentor is also home to over a dozen parks with unobstructed views and paved parking.

There's more to do! Stick around for a day or two and experience some great local attractions including the James A. Garfield National Historic Site, Mentor Marsh, Mentor Lagoons Nature Preserve & Marina, Headlands Beach State Park & Nature Preserve and more.

This is simply something you're not going to want to miss because the next eclipse isn't scheduled to cross North America until 2044. Mentor is centrally located in Lake County and a wide array of other local attractions are mere minutes away.

Check out nearby Lake Metroparks Farmpark, Historic Kirtland, Holden Arboretum, Lake County Captains and all of the things that Lake County has to offer.

The Mentor Civic Amphitheater is located at 8600 Munson Road, Mentor.

## Geneva area in eclipse mode

BY ERIC HRIN

*Gazette Newspapers*

GENEVA – It won't be just another Monday in the Geneva area, April 8.

On that day, people will be able to view the extremely rare total solar eclipse.

And there will be plenty of activities to go along with that viewing.

The Geneva Public Library will have a free "Glimpse the Eclipse" party on the lawn from 12-4 p.m. for children and accompanying adults.

"We are having a party to celebrate and view the rare Total Eclipse that is happening right over Ashtabula County," a description states. "Bring your own picnics, blankets, and be ready for games and fun times together while waiting for this extraordinary event!"

Lauren Webster, the Geneva branch manager at the library, said everyone at the library is excited about the party.

"With most of the area schools not having school that day, it provides us an opportunity to have a learning opportunity related to the eclipse and space, and also use our (library) spaces to view the eclipse," she said.

That afternoon, the library will be doing some projects ahead of the eclipse, she said.

One will focus on creating

eclipse viewing boxes out of cereal boxes, Ritz cracker boxes or even shoe boxes.

"We know there's a limited supply of eclipse glasses," Webster said. "By creating these eclipse viewing boxes, people have an alternative to learn about and view the eclipse outside of those viewing glasses."

She said it's all about educating people about the eclipse and safely viewing it.

Webster also said there will be kid-friendly events related to the eclipse or space. She expected one of these to be shadow drawing.

At SPIRE at 5201 Spire Circle, Geneva, an Eclipse Festival will be held.

"Join SPIRE, with your friends and family, for a rare total solar eclipse and exciting activities on campus," a description states. "As the moon's shadow crosses Mexico, sweeps northeast from Texas to Maine, and darkens the Canadian Maritimes, the SPIRE Fields & Courts building will be bustling with games and competitions for all ages, great music and kids' entertainment with Jungle Terry, a Vendor & Farmers' Market hosting local crafters and producers."

All tickets include eclipse glasses. Family Ticket & Swap Packages are available. There are Buffet, Individual Tickets, and a la Carte options.

In Geneva-on-the-Lake, there will be an Eclipse Viewing Party at The Cove at 5326 Lake Rd.

"What better excuse to come see The Cove's renovations than a total solar eclipse!?" a description states.


The Cove will be open at 11 a.m. with drink specials. There will be viewing glasses to watch the eclipse from the Cove's patio.

Learn about more viewing parties in the calendar of events, starting on page 26.

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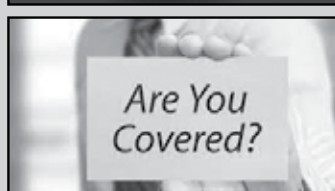


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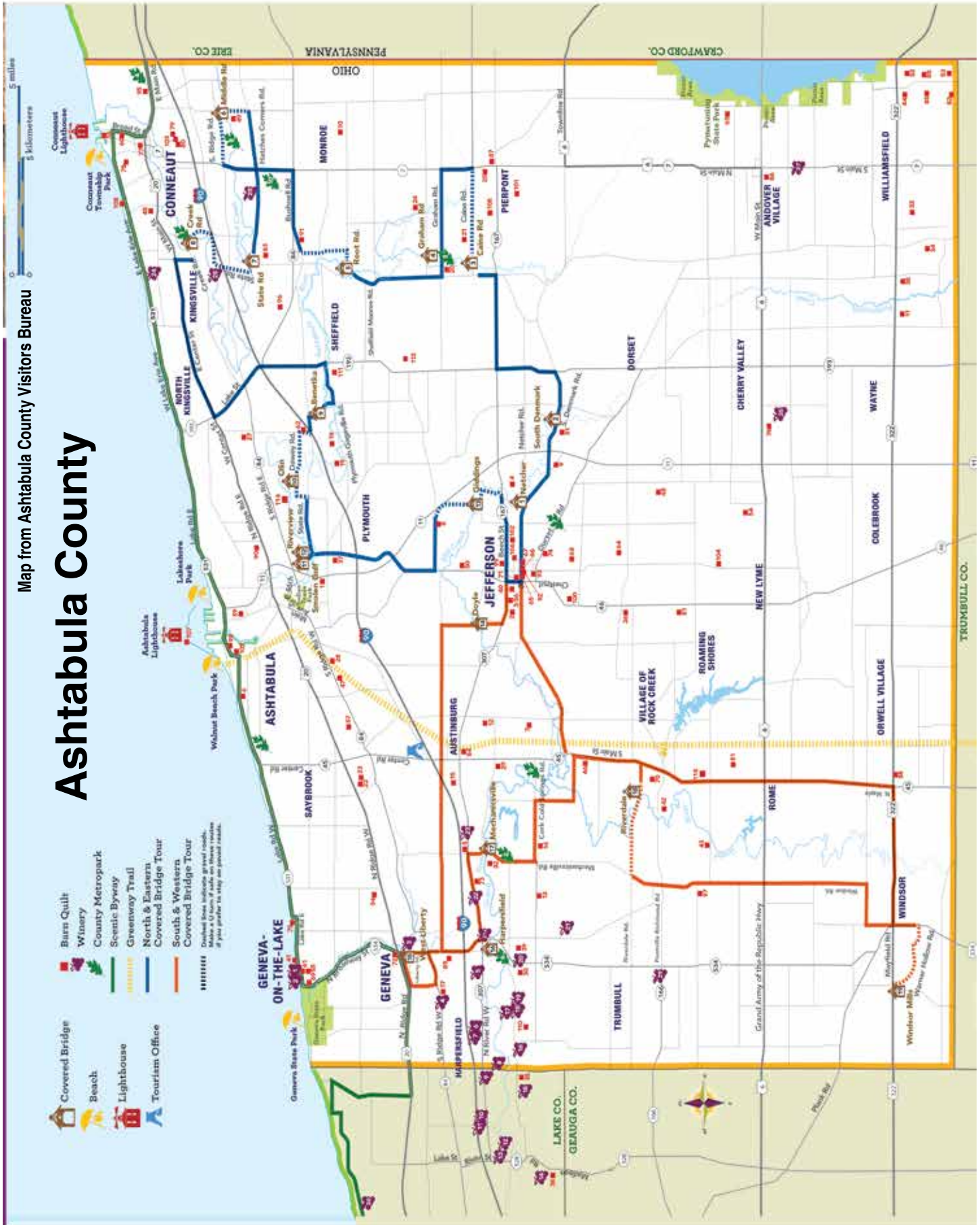


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Map from Ashtabula County Visitors Bureau

# Ashtabula County







# Conneaut, Kingsville libraries hosting eclipse events

BY BOB ETTINGER

Gazette Newspapers

CONNEAUT – There has been plenty of talk about the eclipse going back a long time, but few understand just how big the event really is.

The Conneaut and Kingsville public libraries, however, are doing their best to not only promote the event, but educate about it with different events.

"This is an international event," Mariana Branch, executive director at Kingsville Public Library, said. "This is not just a local event. That's where I think people have the misperception. They don't understand. I was told people from Peru are coming here because that is a cultural thing that is part of their spirituality. They worship the sun and that's something that they will come here for. There will be people coming here from all over the world. Maybe they're coming to our area because it's less crowded or because it's cheaper to stay. If you talk to the hotels and the different lodgings, they'll tell you they are pretty much booked at this point."

Conneaut Public Library will host events for people of ages ranging from educational to crafts and trivia games while Kingsville Public Library is hosting an informational event and a festival on the day of the eclipse.

The Conneaut Public Library events will include a side-by-side Sun and Moon Painting event (March 11, 4:30 p.m.), space-themed trivia (March 13,

3:30 p.m.), a chance to make an astrology bullet journal page (March 14, 10:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.), create a galaxy painting (March 18, 10:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.), an opportunity to create a DIY eclipse bracelet (March 20, 3:30 p.m. and March 21, 3:30 p.m.) and Kahoot online quiz available only through our Facebook page (March 27, 6 p.m.).

Leading up to the eclipse on April 8 are a number of fun and informational events at both libraries.

KPL will hold a Solar Eclipse Viewing Festival in Kingsville Township Park on Monday, April 8, from 1 to 4 p.m.

"We're going to do a viewing here in the park," Branch said. "The Simak Welcome Center will be open as a warming center and for the restrooms. We're hoping that the Friends of the Library are going to do a bake sale and we'll have some hot chocolate and some refreshments there. We'll give away free popcorn and we're trying to plan a few other things to integrate, for instance, if the weather's going to be super cold, we are going to try to get some fire pits in the park, but we need permission from the fire department to do that and their blessing. We are going to shut Academy Street down between 1 and 4 p.m. for safety."

The library will have family-friendly eclipse activities, educational opportunities and refreshments available for purchase.

The festival is a ticketed

event and pre-registration opened on Feb. 23.

Aside from the events tied to the eclipse, the libraries will also have displays with information and books related to the eclipse.

"We're going to do a huge display in our window with educational items, safety items, take home crafts and coloring pages," Branch said. "There'll be a lot of information and that display is going to be in the front window."

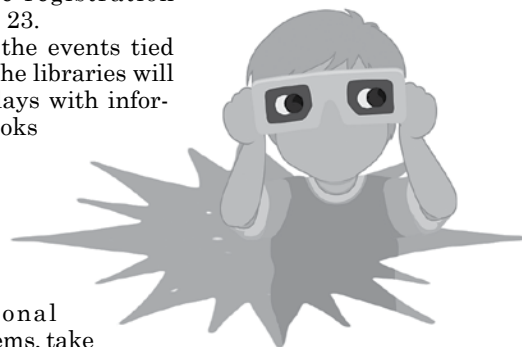
KPL will remain open during the eclipse, but will suspend services while it is happening.

"We just won't be providing services like copies, faxes and computer usage because we want to have all the staff available to help people coming here to view the eclipse. After the event, we'll reopen like normal," she said.

Pre-registering for events at the libraries is imperative.

"Probably the biggest thing is that we're asking that everyone who plans on attending pre-registers," Branch said. "I wasn't here for the last one where there was the great eclipse fiasco. There weren't enough glasses to go around, so we're trying to make sure that everybody pre-registers so that everybody who comes in has glasses and everybody's safe."

Register for events at Conneaut Public Library by visiting the website at <https://www.conneaut.lib.oh.us/>.



[neaut.lib.oh.us/](https://www.conneaut.lib.oh.us/).

Register for the Kingsville Public Library events through the website at <https://www.kingsville.lib.oh.us/>.

"Preregistration is important because the day of the eclipse, we won't have time to be managing the glasses and distribution of that and we do have a limited supply. We have 2,000 pairs. We anticipate a big crowd. We acquired enough glasses to cover our library service area. We wanted to make sure that we could get everybody in in the area, but we're also limited to supplies from where we got them because we didn't purchase them," she said.

Kingsville Public Library received free glasses from Star Net for the event.

"I would like that to be very clear to the community," Branch said. "They gave glasses to libraries for free and that's why there's no charge for them. I know a lot of other community places are passing them out and that's wonderful, but they had to purchase them. We're very lucky that there was no cost."



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# Pymatuning State Park hosting full weekend of events for solar eclipse

BY CORINNE SCHOREN

Gazette Newspapers

ANDOVER – The Pymatuning State Park (OH) is hosting an entire weekend of events for the solar eclipse, and it's sure to be a solar-powered fun time.

Starting on Saturday, April 6, to Monday, April 8, the Pymatuning State Park is hosting over 20 different programs about the solar eclipse and other celestial bodies.

With the Pymatuning State Park being in the line of totality for the solar eclipse on Monday, April 8, the park decided what better way to show off the importance of nature and the world around you.

Chris Reeher, Pymatuning State Park manager, emphasized that the park is anticipating a large number of visitors that weekend for the eclipse.

"We understand that attendance is going to be dependent on weather and cloud cover that weekend. But we are planning for up to 10,000 people or more," Reeher said.

As Reeher explained, the campgrounds at the state park are filling up quickly, while the cabins have been fully booked for months.

"We do have a lot of reservations in the campground; part of the campground is closed for electrical upgrades," he said. "Our cabins have been 100 percent booked since November."

The solar eclipse provides an excellent way of highlighting

the natural world and everything that the state park has to offer for nature lover.

"We want to highlight the importance of the state park - it's a continuing effort to highlight what we have here," Reeher said. "We're one of the few states that don't charge any admission for the state parks. We believe that state parks are a wonderful place, free to go, and do something like watch the eclipse."

Pymatuning State Park is prepared for the exciting solar event, with areas in the park set up to view the eclipse and a limited supply of eclipse glasses for those without, while supplies last.

"We've set up preferred viewing areas within the park," Reeher said. "We're preparing for an increase in traffic to help minimize the traffic impact."

The Pymatuning State Park is going to be a great place to view the solar eclipse on Monday, April 8, with all sorts of educational and engaging events leading up to the eclipse.

Here are all the different programs at Pymatuning State Park that you can check out to learn about the solar eclipse:

- **Dark Side of the Moon:** Saturday, April 6, from 2 to 3 p.m. at the Nature Center - Join the park naturalist for an interactive explanation of Moon cycles, the Moon's orbit and how the Moon affects our high and low tides. Additionally, visitors will learn how the moon plays its part in the Solar Eclipse.



PHOTO BY CORINNE SCHOREN

**Pymatuning State Park (OH) has an entire weekend full of educational and engaging programs and events leading up to the total solar eclipse – the state park will make an excellent place to view this celestial event.**

- **Eclipse Science:** Saturday, April 6, from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Nature Center - Come to the Nature Center to craft your own models of the Sun, Moon, and Earth. While the paint dries, you will learn the science behind a Total Eclipse. Visitors will learn about the alignment of the planetary objects, significance of the total solar eclipse, different types of eclipses and be able to demonstrate how the eclipse happens with our planetary models.

- **Batty About Night Hikes:** Saturday, April 6, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the Nature Center - Come play a fun interactive game about Bats and echolocation. Visitors will play the game right before going on an

easy two-mile hike through the campgrounds. You will allow your eyes to adjust to the dark like a nocturnal animal would. Wear closed-toed shoes or boots and dress for the weather.

- **Starstruck:** Saturday, April 6 from 9 to 10 p.m. at the Nature Center - Close out the night stargazing with the naturalist. Visitors will attempt to locate constellations in the night sky and discuss apps that can help locate them. After looking for constellations, visitors will venture inside the Nature Center where they will create constellation flashlight discs. Bring your own flashlight

See PARK Page 42



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# Conneaut embracing eclipse with events

BY BOB ETTINGER

Gazette Newspapers

CONNEAUT – The Conneaut Convention and Visitors' Bureau is anticipating an influx of visitors to the area for the eclipse at the beginning of April.

With that in mind, the organization and its members are planning to welcome all comers.

"It's big because the businesses see it as an opportunity to jumpstart the season," Executive Director Connie Naylor said. "We'll have businesses that are not normally open on Mondays, like Biscotti's, Heavenly Creamery, Buccia Vineyards and Markko Vineyard and Winery, open on that day."

The CCVB and its members are working toward making the eclipse on Monday, April 8, as enjoyable as possible.

"The CCVB is partnering with businesses in the community," Naylor said. "We've purchased eclipse glasses with a Conneaut logo on them. We'll have at least a thousand available at businesses and watch parties all over town. The CCVB will have gift bags available at businesses in town that will include promotional items and information for visitors."

"Even Lake Erie Automotive is offering car rental specials. This has really been taking off," Naylor continued. "We

started to write our members in January. We said this could be big."

The CCVB has little idea as to how many visitors will visit Conneaut, but it has been preparing for the event for quite some time.

"They're predicting the numbers will be D-Day high, but we have no idea how big it will be," Naylor said. "The CCVB had to go into production of materials in January. We just had 500 more maps dropped off. We're excited. It's been a much busier time earlier in the year for us and it's exciting."

## Events in the city on April 8 will include:

- Solar Eclipse Party at Rainbow Café – Food and Drink Specials, Dine in the Dark, make a reservation at Rainbow Café, 263 Main St., 440-593-2504.

- The Great Gig in the Sky – Buccia Vineyards, 528 Gore Road, 1-4 p.m., featuring the music of Pink Floyd, lunch buffet, special drinks and eclipse viewing glasses. Tickets \$15 preorder, \$20 at door. Includes admission, music, glasses. Call 440-593-5976 for more information.

- Total Eclipse of the Vines – Makko Vineyard and Winery, 4500 South Ridge Road W., 2-5 p.m.

- Eclipse Viewing Party – Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 876 Grove Road, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., parking by donation, food vendors, souvenir eclipse glasses for reasonable amount. Located within walking distance of Conneaut Township Park and Lake Erie.

- Eclipse Viewing Party – Conneaut Arts Center, 1025 Buffalo St., food, raffles, live music and more. Visit the CAC on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/conneautartscenter> for a schedule of events.

- Eclipse Weekend at Sparky's, 1001 Broad St., visit Facebook for more information, <https://www.facebook.com/sparkysconneaut>. Eclipse Cocktail Party, noon to 6 p.m. including a special mix of music including Pink Floyd's Dark Side of the Moon in its entirety, ending as the eclipse reaches its totality.

- Eclipse Treats – Heavenly Creamery, 264 Sandusky St., will be open for the eclipse. Visit the shop on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/heavenlycreamery>, for more information.

- Biscotti's Italian Restaurant – The restaurant, 186 Park St., will be open all weekend and on Monday, April 8. Call for a reservation, 440-593-6766.

- Castaways Pizza and Grill

– The restaurant, 877 Broad Street, will be open all weekend and at 11 a.m. on April 8 with eclipse specials, special edition eclipse shirts and glasses.

- Eclipse Weekend – Conneaut Pizza and Sub Shop, 223 Broad St., open Friday through Sunday, 3 to 10 p.m. with lots of specials, call 440-593-5600.

- Car rentals – Rent a car at Lake Erie Auto. For car rental specials, call 814-315-6331.

The CCVB is happy so many businesses are participating.

"It's wonderful," Naylor said. "We're really excited for our businesses. If people want something to eat and they're in town, they can make a reservation and go eat."

Conneaut's parks will be open for the eclipse, but there will be some limitations.

"The parks will be open, but the facilities (restrooms, etc.) won't be open," Naylor said. "They can't turn on the utilities for just the one day. People will be welcome in the parks, but there will be no facilities open."

For anyone looking for assistance or guidance while visiting the city, the CCVB will have people stationed throughout the city.

"The CCVB will be located at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for anyone needing any visitor information," Naylor said. "We will also have CCVB people located all over town."



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# Come see the eclipse at the Lake County Executive Airport

BY GABRIEL MCVEY

Gazette Newspapers

**WILLOUGHBY** – One of the many, many events planned for the April 8 total solar eclipse will be a watch party put on at the Lake County Executive Airport from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Patty Fulop, the airport manager, said the party is being sponsored through a \$1,000 grant from the Great Lakes Science Center, and there is also a \$500 grant request in with Remarkable Lake County, which she said she anticipates receiving as well.

Airport management is preparing for the solar eclipse watch party at the airport on April 8, 2024.

Fulop said Tim and Suzanne Cahill have signed on as ambassadors for the party. They attended training on Nov. 15, when the Cahills picked up a grant check, special glasses and supplies for the party.

Fulop said she has three food

trucks committed for the event: Kiko's Kitchen, East Coast Custard and County Line Concessions. She said the restaurant at the nearby sports complex will likely be open as well.

Willoughby-based Absolutely Unbelievable Entertainment will be providing musical entertainment and there will be fun and activities for the whole family to enjoy.

Fulop said there will be a telescope – with a safety filter – that visitors can view the eclipse through prior to totality, there will also be flight simulators hosted by the Civil Air Patrol, a lunar lander craft put on by the Alliance for Working Together and some family games: solar- and aviation-themed.

There will be plenty of other kids' activities as well, such as reading stations, sidewalk chalk and activity pages.

Fulop said there will also be souvenirs available for purchase, though at the time of this interview, what those would be



SUBMITTED PHOTO  
Lake County Executive Airport

were still being worked out.

Since most of the parking at the Lake County Executive Airport is on the grass and early April is just too wet, muddy and messy for that, parking for local visitors to the airport will be at Grant Elementary and Bellflower Elementary, with shuttle buses taking visitors to and from the airport.

There will be a small number of ADA-reserved parking spots at the airport for people with limited mobility to use, Fulop added.

The watch party is a fly-in event, but pilots should make

reservations by calling Fulop at 440-321-9036 or by email at [pfulop@ldauthority.org](mailto:pfulop@ldauthority.org).

"We want to show our neighbors that we're grateful to them for putting up with our noise all year 'round," Fulop said. "And we want them to come out and enjoy their airport – and it is their airport."

The Lake County Executive Airport is located at 1969 Lost Nation Road, Willoughby.

Parking is available at Grant Elementary, 2838 Lost Nation Road, Willoughby; and Bellflower Elementary School, 6655 Reynolds Road, Mentor.

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# Eclipse-related events and watch parties in northeast Ohio

## Eclipse Dinner by Candlelight at Rennick Meat Market

April 8, 5-9 p.m.

Join Rennick Meat Market, 501 Hulbert Ave. (Bridge Street), Ashtabula Harbor, for a candlelight dinner on the night of the Solar Eclipse. Reservations are highly recommended to 440-964-6328.

## See You on the Dark Side of the Moon at The Lodge - April 8

Special programming and exclusive merchandise is being offered at the Lodge, 4888 North Broadway, Geneva-on-the-Lake.

## Eclipse Watch Party at Yankies Bar and Grill - April 8

Yankies Bar and Grill, 5482 Lake Rd., will be open at 11 a.m. with tons of drink specials and will provide customers with viewing glasses to watch from the front patio or fresh, new back patio.

## Solar Eclipse Party: Rainbow Café - April 8

Rainbow Café will offer food and drink specials. Dine in the Dark, make a reservation at Rainbow Café, 263 Main St., 440-593-2504.

## Great Gig in the Sky - April 8

Buccia Vineyards, 528 Gore Road, will host The Great Gig in the Sky, 1-4 p.m., featuring the music of Pink Floyd, lunch buffet, special drinks and eclipse viewing glasses. Tickets \$15 preorder, \$20 at door. Includes admission, music, and glasses. Call 440-593-5976 for more information.

**NOTE: Advanced registration is required for some events. Call hosting establishments for details.**

## Total Eclipse of the Vines - April 8

Markko Vineyard and Winery, 4500 S. Ridge Rd., West, will host Total Eclipse of the Vines, 2-5 p.m.

## Eclipse Viewing Party: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

April 8

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 876 Grove Road, will host an eclipse viewing party, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., parking by donation, food vendors, souvenir eclipse glasses for reasonable amount. Located within walking distance of Conneaut Township Park and Lake Erie.

## Eclipse Viewing Party: Conneaut Arts Center - April 8

Conneaut Arts Center, 1025 Buffalo St., will host an eclipse viewing party with food, raffles, live music and more. Visit the CAC on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/conneautartscenter> for a schedule of events.

## Eclipse Weekend at Sparky's - April 8

Sparky's, 1001 Broad Street, will host an eclipse cocktail party, noon to 6 p.m. including a special mix of music including Pink Floyd's Dark Side of the Moon in its entirety, ending as the eclipse reaches its totality.

See EVENTS Page 27

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## EVENTS

from  
Page  
26

### Eclipse Treats - April 8

Heavenly Creamery, 264 Sandusky St., will be open for the eclipse. Visit the shop on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/heavenlycreamery>, for more information.

### Biscotti's Italian Restaurant - April 8

Biscotti's, 186 Park St., will be open all weekend and on Monday, April 8. Call for a reservation, 440-593-6766.

### Castaways Pizza and Grill - April 8

Castaways Pizza and Grill, 877 Broad St., will be open all weekend and at 11 a.m. on April 8 with eclipse specials, special edition eclipse shirts and glasses.

### Solar Eclipse Viewing Party at East End Bar and Grill

Get ready for an unforgettable Solar Eclipse Viewing Party at East End Bar and Grill, 5236 Lake Rd., Geneva-on-the-Lake. Enjoy live acoustic entertainment by Eric Andrews while witnessing this extraordinary event. Receive special viewing glasses and indulge in food and drink specials from the mezzanine or wrap-around patio. Opening early at 11 a.m.

### VIP Private Watch Party at Fitzgerald's Wine Bar

Fitzgerald's Wine Bar Restaurant and Shop, 1023 Bridge St., Ashtabula, will hold a VIP Private Watch Party. Limited tickets available for \$75. Enjoy an eclipse crafted cocktail or mocktail, an array of small plates, a glass of bubbly and solar eclipse viewing glasses. Private outdoor terrace for viewing. Additional beverages available for purchase. Purchase tickets at <http://tinyurl.com/VIPAshtabulaEclipse>

### Eclipse Festival at Spire - April 8

Join SPIRE, with friends and family, for a rare total solar eclipse and exciting activities on campus. As the moon's shadow crosses Mexico, sweeps northeast from Texas to Maine, and darkens the Canadian Maritimes, the SPIRE Fields and Courts building, 5201 Spire Circle, Geneva, will be bustling with games and competitions for all ages, great music and kids' entertainment with Jungle Terry, a Vendor and Farmers' Market hosting local crafters and producers. Come for the immersive experience, stay for the buffet. Gather for the unique total eclipse (glasses provided) and enjoy a full day of fun and entertainment. All tickets include Eclipse glasses. Family Ticket and Swag Packages available. Buffet, Individual Tickets, and a la Carte Options. Learn more at <https://www.spireacademy.com>.

### Solar Eclipse Party, Ashtabula Arts Center

April 8 from 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Celebrate the celestial with us on Monday, April 8, from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at our Passports are \$5 each and include eclipse glasses for the first 200 passport buyers and a full day of hands-on art projects. There will also be a free Shadow Dance Party on stage in 13th Street Theatre, and Cosmic Concerts featuring Arts Center singers - all leading up to the main event. Food from Bomb Dogs will be available, as well as concessions and souvenirs.

### Glimpse the Eclipse, Ashtabula County District Library branches in Ashtabula, Geneva

April 8 from noon to 4 p.m.

ACDL is having a party to celebrate and view the rare Total Eclipse that is happening right over Ashtabula County! Bring your own picnics, blankets, and be ready for games and fun times together while waiting for this extraordinary event! There will be Solar Glasses to



## for Our Events throughout the 2024 Year!

The Village of Jefferson is having music in the park. With food trucks June 13 • July 11 • Aug. 15 • Aug. 17 • Sept. 5 • Time will be 6 to 8 p.m.

### APRIL

TBD- Jefferson Historical Society Spring Rummage Sale (two weekends)

### MAY

10-11 - Jefferson Depot Mother's Day May Sale

29 - Memorial Day Parade, downtown, 11 a.m.

### JUNE

8-9 - Jefferson Depot Strawberry Festival

14 - Movie in the park (starts at dusk)

28 - Friday Night out's, center of town, 5-8 p.m. Food trucks, live music, and vendors

### JULY

12 - Movies in the park (starts at dusk)

26 - Friday Night out's, center of town, 5-8 p.m. Food trucks, live music, and vendors

### AUGUST

TBD - Jefferson Historical Society Annual CORNFEST, Tailgate Sale and Grandma's Attic Sale

6-11 - Ashtabula County Fair

16 - Water Wars with the Safety Services in Jefferson

16 - Movies in the park (starts at dusk)

30 - Friday Night out's, center of town, 5-8 p.m. Food trucks, live music, and vendors

### OCTOBER

5 - Jefferson Depot Fall Festival

10-12 - 40th Annual Ashtabula County Covered Bridge Festival

19 - Harvest Festival 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### NOVEMBER

30 - Shop Local

### DECEMBER

7 - Annual Chamber Country Christmas Day parade, merchant sale and kids' events. Breakfast with Santa, JCRC Craft show, 2024 Theme (A Hollywood Christmas)

7 - Jefferson Depot Victorian Christmas

# Total Eclipse Wine Trail dawns in the Grand River Valley Wine Region

MADISON—The Grand River Valley Wine Region is in “the path of totality” for the upcoming solar eclipse on Monday, April 8, and the wineries are ready.

The GRV branding group has created an eclipse-themed weekend event called Total Eclipse Wine Trail that will run Friday, April 5, through Sunday, April 7.

Fourteen wineries have chosen to participate, each offering an eclipse-themed small plate, paired perfectly with two wine samples. The fee is only \$10 per person at each winery. All the wineries are within a few minutes of each other, making it an easy drive from one location to the next. Those who register in advance by purchasing an official Eclipse Wine Trail Passport will receive \$5 off at each location and a commemorative wine trail t-shirt.

Passports are \$70 each and can be purchased at [https://](https://valleywinegroup.com/total-eclipse-grv/total-eclipse-passport)

[valleywinegroup.com/total-eclipse-grv/total-eclipse-passport](https://valleywinegroup.com/total-eclipse-grv/total-eclipse-passport). These passports will only be available while supplies last and will be cut off two weeks before the trail begins, so those interested are encouraged to purchase them soon.

One of the main organizers of the trail is excited to introduce the Grand River Valley Wine Region to visitors from near and far.

“When I learned of the total eclipse and the fact that we are in the path of totality, I knew it was an opportunity for us to create something fun and new,” Cindy Lindberg, president of Grand River Cellars Winery & Restaurant, said. “We want visitors to experience our region, not just spend the night here.”

Loretta Todd, marketing manager for Debonné Vineyards and co-creator of the trail, expanded on the idea.

“We have encouraged wineries to create events themed

around the eclipse for that weekend. The trail runs from noon to 5 p.m., giving visitors time in the evenings for other experiences,” she said. “Many wineries have created special wines in celebration of this event such as Bethany Ann Cellars ‘Lost Chardonnay,’ which is a 10-year aged Chardonnay, or Grand River Cellars ‘Celestial,’ which is a three-year aged, port-style, dessert wine.”

Many of the wineries are also organizing watch parties on the actual day of the eclipse.

“Many visitors booked their overnight hotel rooms months ago,” Maria Yost, brand manager, said. “This trail gives

people a reason to extend their stay in the Grand River Valley and taste our internationally award-winning wines.”

Participants who purchased the passport and visit all 14 wineries will be entered into a drawing for an overnight package in the Grand River Valley, including hotel accommodations and gift certificates to various wineries.



## Total Eclipse Wine Trail participating wineries and appetizers:

**April 5-7, 2024, noon to 5 p.m.**

**Grand River Cellars**, 5750 South Madison Road, Madison Township, 440-298-9838/[www.grandrivercellars.com](http://www.grandrivercellars.com).

**Appetizer:** “To the Moon, Alice!” Bacon, gouda mac & cheese

**Debonné Vineyards**, 7840 Doty Road, Madison Township, 440-466-3485/[www.debonne.com](http://www.debonne.com).

**Appetizer:** Corona Chicken Sliders with Solar Flare Sauce

**Cask 307**, 7259 Warner Road, Madison Township, 440-307-9586/[www.cask307.com](http://www.cask307.com).

**Appetizer:** Black & White Cookies

**South River Vineyards**, 6062 South River Road, Harpersfield Township, 440-466-6676/[www.southerivervineyard.com](http://www.southerivervineyard.com).

**Appetizer:** Galaxy F-Bomb Truffles

**Kosicek Vineyards**, 636 State Route 534, Harpersfield Township, 440-361-4573/[www.kosicekvineyards.com](http://www.kosicekvineyards.com).

**Appetizer:** Cosmic Pasta Salad

**Harpersfield Vineyard**, 6387 State Route 307, Harpersfield Township, 440-466-4739/[www.harpersfield.com](http://www.harpersfield.com).

**Appetizer:** Moonshine-Roasted Mushrooms & Meatballs

**Stonegait Winery**, 4275 Bates Road, Madison Township, 440-

307-9571/[www.stonegaitwinery.com](http://www.stonegaitwinery.com).

**Appetizer:** Space Balls Cocktail Meatballs

**Rosabella Winery**, 3951 State Route 307, Austinburg Township, 440-275-5218/[www.rosabellawinery.com](http://www.rosabellawinery.com).

**Appetizer:** Total Eclipse of the Cheesecake Tart

**The Winery at Spring Hill**, 6062 South Ridge Road W., Harpersfield Township, 440-466-0626/[www.thewineryatspringhill.com](http://www.thewineryatspringhill.com).

**Appetizer:** Path of Totality Trail Mix

**Virant Family Winery**, 541 Atkins Road, Harpersfield Township, 440-466-6279/[www.virantfamilywinery.com](http://www.virantfamilywinery.com).

**Appetizer:** Potato Moon Soup

**Laurello Vineyards**, 4573 State Route 307 E., Harpersfield Township, 440-415-0661/[www.laurellovineyards.com](http://www.laurellovineyards.com).

**Appetizer:** Dark Chocolate Bean Dip & Crackers

**Ferranté Winery**, 5585 State Route 307, Harpersfield Township, 440-466-8466/[www.ferrantewinery.com](http://www.ferrantewinery.com).

**Appetizer:** Casa Lunar Ravioli

**Silver Crest Cellars**, 4511 Bates Road, Harpersfield Township, 440-428-0677/[www.silvercrestcellars.com](http://www.silvercrestcellars.com).

**Appetizer:** Chocolate Eclipse

**Hundley Cellars**, 6451 State Route 307, Harpersfield Township, 440-361-3088/[www.hundleycellars.com](http://www.hundleycellars.com).

**Appetizer:** Moon over My Hammy



# Eclipse programs at Madison Public Library

MADISON TOWNSHIP – Are you ready for the Eclipse, the biggest astronomical event to pass over our part of Ohio since 1806?

The total eclipse of the sun in Madison will begin at 3:14:50 p.m. and last for three minutes and 46 seconds on April 8.

Before you venture out to view the moon covering the sun, learn all about eclipses at a program sponsored by Friends of Madison Library and the Madison Historical Society on Thursday, March 21, at 6:45 p.m. at Madison Public Library, 6111 Middle Ridge Road.

Speaker Kirk Lombardy, now retired after 34 years with the National Weather Service, will speak about them and what you need to know to view the April 8 event safely.

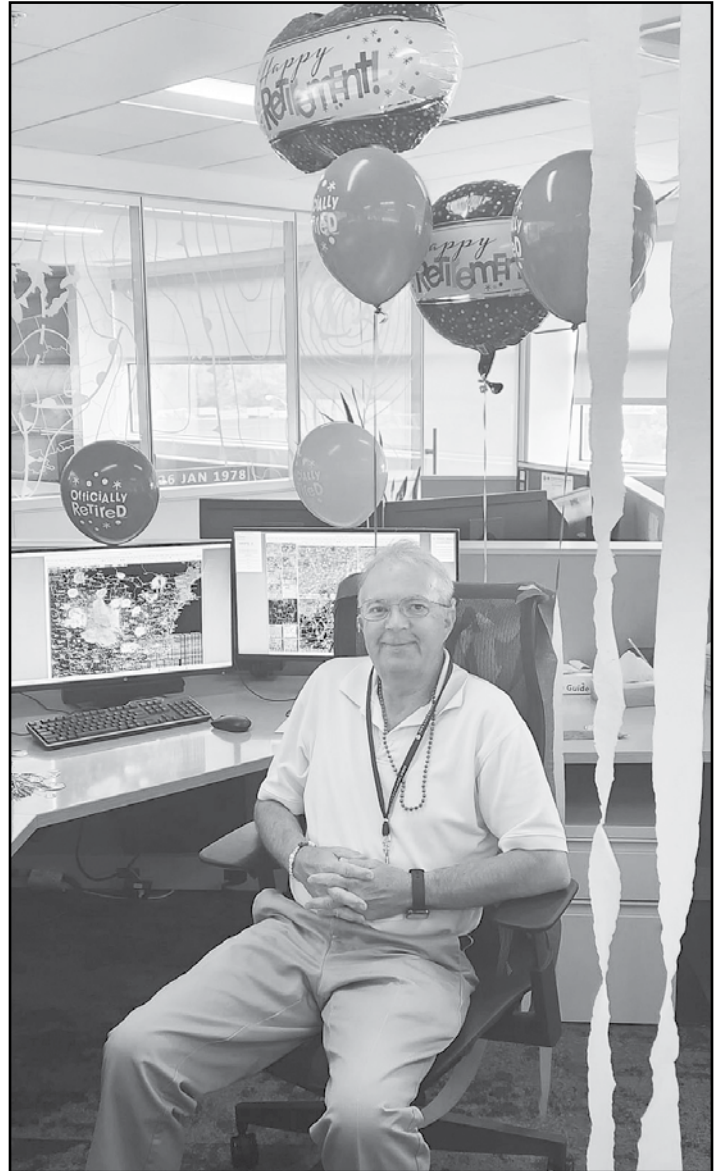
Lombardy grew up in northeast Ohio and fell in love with the weather that northeast Ohio has to offer. After attending Parks College of St. Louis University, he moved to Wilmington, Delaware, to begin his career with the National Weather Service. He spent four years in Delaware as an intern and became a forecaster in Binghamton, New York.

Lombardy was able to return home to northeast Ohio in 1998 as a forecaster to work for the National Weather Service in Cleveland, Ohio. Over the 25 years in Cleveland, Kirk had responsibility for maintaining the Great Lakes Digital Marine Weather Dissemination System, in which all of the Great Lakes shipping fleets obtained their weather information.

Lombardy had responsibility for the Great Lakes Ice Program to alert shipping companies and mariners of the development, location and decay of ice fields on the Great Lakes. He recently joined Kent State University as a weather instructor for their aviation program.

Don't miss this program and the other eclipse-related programs offered at Madison Library in April. Babies and toddlers will have fun sun and moon activities during their storytimes the week of April 1-5, elementary students are invited to create constellations at the indoor planetarium on Saturday, April 6, at 10:30 a.m., middle school students will make eclipse-themed bleach dyed t-shirts on Friday, April 5, at 3 p.m. and high school students will make their t-shirts on Friday, March 15, at 3:15 p.m.

Everyone is invited to watch the eclipse from the library grounds on Monday, April 8. People attending any of these programs will receive a free pair of eclipse glasses with the required ISO 12312-2 safety specifications.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Speaker Kirk Lombardy, now retired after 34 years with the National Weather Service, will speak about them and what you need to know to view the April 8 event safely.

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# South County has plenty to do while in town for the eclipse

BY CORINNE SCHOREN

Gazette Newspapers

**ASHTABULA COUNTY** – Whether you're visiting for the solar eclipse or a longtime resident of Ashtabula County, there's always something fun to do when you're in the southern part of the county.

Since Ashtabula County is the largest county area-wise in the state, there's no shortage of places to go and things to see.

In the Grand Valley area, you can find plenty of things to do outside while enjoying the beautiful scenery that the region has to offer.

During the warm summer months, take the kids to the Rome Splash Pad, a free-for-everyone interactive play area to help cool off during the summer.

The Splash Pad is a unique and fun opportunity to get outside and enjoy some warm weather fun – having a place for the kids to blow off some

steam without heading all the way to Lake Erie is a great option for those in the region.

The Rome Splash Pad is located at 5324 State Route 45 in Rome Township, and open daily from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. from Memorial Day to Labor Day. For more information, check out [valleygrowth.com](http://valleygrowth.com).

Along with giving the kids a place to play, the four-legged furry family members need a place to run and play too – Cooper Park K9 Fitness and Fun is a free to use dog park where your furry friends can get some exercise.

The newly opened dog park is the perfect place to let your dogs get some exercise while you're out and about driving around in the Grand Valley area.

Cooper Park K9 Fitness and Fun is located at 5300 State Route 46 South in New Lyme Township and is open to the public. For more information, visit the Cooper Park K9 Fitness and Fun Facebook page or



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**The Rome Splash Pad is a great place for the kids to cool off while you're in the Grand Valley area – this free community play area is a unique spot in southern Ashtabula County.**

call 440-563-1060.

While down in the Grand Valley region, take the time to check out one of the county's favorite covered bridges: the Windsor Mills Bridge.

Covered bridges are a staple of Ashtabula County and the Windsor Mills Bridge, located at 7696 Warner Hollow Road in one of the oldest remaining bridges in the county.

The Windsor Mills Bridge, also known as Warner Hollow Bridge and Wiswell Road Bridge, is noted for its beauty and scenic surroundings, so make sure to put this covered bridge on the list as places to see in the county.

On the other side of the county, the Pymatuning Valley area has a wide variety of shops and businesses to check out while you're in town.

If you find yourself in Andover, take a walk around the public square and hit up the different thrifting and antique stores you can find.

Andover Public Square is home to three unique antique and thrift stores where you can find all sorts of treasures to add to your home.

Twig, located at 29 Public Square, is where you can find antiques, furniture, lighting fixtures, clothing, housewares, custom jewelry and architectural elements.

They work on salvaging items and finding vintage treasures too curate into products for the store.

If you need a unique gift

for someone or just yourself, stop by this lovely vintage shop, open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

CommUnity Thrift of Andover, located at 74 Public Square, offers a wide range of products, including clothes of all sizes for both men and women, tools, kitchenware, crafting supplies and materials, small appliances and more.

They run primarily on donations from the community, to offer items at discounted prices.

Check out all they have to offer at this exciting thrift store from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday through Tuesday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday through Saturday.

SAPS – This-N-That Thrift Store, located at 20 US-6, offers a wide selection, such as clothes, toys, hygiene products, household items and more.

They add new items to their inventory every single day – both new and gently used items are available.

They accept donations, and will even pick up donated items within a certain distance.

Check this eclectic thrift store out, and get yourself or a loved one a gift from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

If you're a lifelong resident of Ashtabula County or if you're just visiting to just out the solar eclipse, take the time to check out some of the wonderful places to visit in the southern part of the county.

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# Wineries aplenty in Ashtabula County

BY BOB ETTINGER

*Gazette Newspapers*

**AUSTINBURG TOWNSHIP** – Ashtabula County and the region surrounding it has come to be known as Ohio's wine country for a very good reason.

Ashtabula County, alone, offers more than two dozen wineries.

"We have wineries from Andover to Conneaut to Geneva-on-the-Lake to Harpersfield,"



SUBMITTED PHOTOS  
**Buccia Vineyards, 518 Gore Rd., Conneaut, is one of 32 wineries in Ashtabula County.**

Stephanie Siegel, executive director of the Ashtabula County Convention and Visitors' Bureau, said.

Given an opportunity, a person who doesn't much care for wine can be converted.

"I tell people, even if they're not a wine drinker, to let us change their mind," Siegel said. "(The wineries) are doing different things now. They're even making vodka from grapes."

With an abundance of wineries in the region, there's bound to be one that appeals to even the pickiest of visitors.

"They're all relatively close together," Siegel said. "I tell them to visit one and, if it's not their style, they can go five minutes down the road and they'll have a very different experience. We have everything from little boutique wineries to large ones. They all have something different."

For those unsure of what kind of wine they might like or for a novice wine drinker, there's plenty of help from a winery's staff.

"It's not unusual to have a winemaker or owner behind the bar serving people," Siegel said. "Ask them what they recommend. They're proud of what they do and, regardless of your palate, they'll find something you will like."

The staff at each of the wineries is friendly to locals and tourists alike.

"They're very welcoming," Siegel said. "The wineries are very comfortable environments. Some of them even welcome dogs. Some have special events. Some specialize in having big live bands on the stage. There's a lot to choose from."

The ACCVB offers an incentive to visit as many of the local wineries as possible with its wine passport.

"They can go different wineries and scan a code to check-in and some of them offer different specials. When they get to five check-ins, they'll be entered to win a grand prize at the end of the year," Siegel said. "They'll not only get the benefit of some special deals, but they'll have



**Harpersfield Vineyard, 6837 OH-307, Austinburg, is one of nearly three dozen wineries that dot Ashtabula County.**

a chance to win a bigger prize at the end of the year. That continues to be our most visited page on the website. It's free for anyone to participate, they just have to scan a code."

Visit <https://visitashtabula-county.com/> for more details.

## Lake Erie Bluffs offers a nationally-recognized hiking experience

BY GABRIEL MCVEY

*Gazette Newspapers*

**PERRY TOWNSHIP** – For those looking to "take a hike," Lake Erie Bluffs was named by Outside Magazine as one of the 25 best hikes to beaches in the U.S.

The Lake Metropark has two entrances, one at 3301 Lane Road and another at 2901 Park Road.

The park permanently protects a significant amount of wetland, meadow and mostly undeveloped lakefront habitat used by rare and common plant and animal species, according to promotional materials provided by Lake Metroparks.

The mix of 40-foot-high beach

bluffs and open sand and cobble beach across 9,000 feet of shoreline are the site's dominant features. The beach area hosts trees, shrubs and small plants including the majority of the park's rare plants.

Visitors can enjoy low-impact recreational activities such as hiking and fishing at this park. Improvements made to enhance public use include parking lots, a reservable three-season shelter, restrooms and gravel trails with scenic overlooks and access to a natural beach along Lake Erie.

The 50-foot coastal observation tower at Lake Erie Bluffs is situated overlooking the lakeshore with multiple viewing platforms along a staircase that culminates in a deck featuring

360-degree views.

The height and location of the tower provide visitors with a spectacular view of the lake and the surrounding woods, fields and wetlands, along with a variety of wildlife, particularly a large number of bald eagles that are regularly seen at the park. The tower is accessible during regular park hours 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.

The observation tower is located nearest the Clark Road entrance. If the parking lot is full, the Lane Road entrance (3301 Lane Road) is just around the corner where visitors can park and access the tower by way of a



SUBMITTED PHOTO  
**The 50-foot coastal observation tower at Lake Erie Bluffs is situated overlooking the lakeshore with multiple viewing platforms along a staircase that culminates in a deck featuring 360-degree views.**

See BLUFFS Page 42

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# Visit some of Lake County's museums while in the area

BY GABRIEL MCVEY

Gazette Newspapers

**LAKE COUNTY** – For those feeling a little cooped up after these cold-weather months, there are several museums you can visit to learn about the area's history and culture.

One of the most interesting museums in the area is the Indian Museum of Lake County.

Visitors can learn the cultures of various groups of Native Americans, including those who inhabited what is now Lake County as early as 12,000 years ago.

The Indian Museum was founded in 1980 by the Lake County chapter of the Archaeological Society of America to discover, collect and preserve archaeological sites of Lake County, State of Ohio and North America, according to the group's website.

Exhibits include woven baskets from several cultures throughout history, crafts and artwork, arrowheads, pipes,

pottery, jewelry, tools, mocasins, clothing, ceremonial items, drums, dolls and more.

One group had a calendar stick that told the story of the tribe beginning with creation, the Flood and down through history.

In addition to standing exhibits, the museum rotates exhibits, focusing on various groups. Most recently the museum has been focused on tribes from Alaska and the Pacific Northwest, according to museum director Ann DeWald.

The Painesville Railroad Museum is at the former Painesville Depot and is dedicated to preserving the area's rail history and heritage.

The Painesville Depot was opened in 1893, under the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Line. This was a very proud building in its day. The entire building cost was \$18,075. The style of the building is Richardsonian Romanesque and the architect was

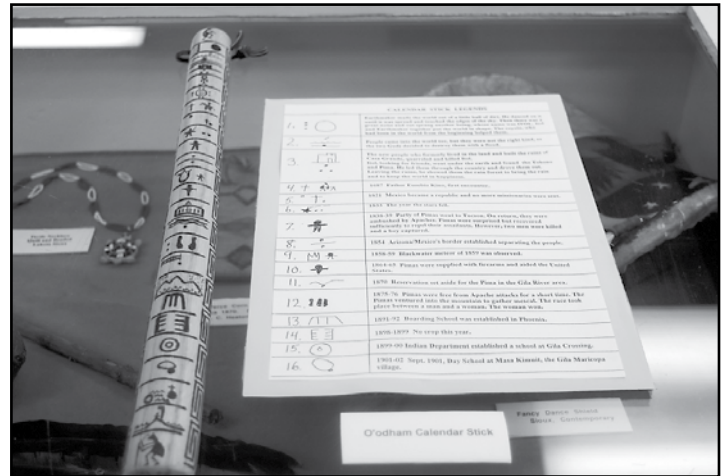


PHOTO BY GAIL STUEHR

In addition to standing exhibits, the Indian Museum of Lake County rotates exhibits focusing on various groups. Most recently the museum has been focused on tribes from Alaska and the Pacific Northwest.

Shepley, Rutan & Coolidge from Boston, Massachusetts.

The Western Reserve Railroad Association is dedicated to the restoration of the NYC Painesville Depot, preserving

railroad history and promoting model railroading.

Last September, repre-

See MUSEUM Page 42

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# Head to the outdoors in Conneaut

BY BOB ETTINGER

Gazette Newspapers

CONNEAUT – The eclipse happening in the beginning of April is a golden opportunity for visitors from around the globe to get a preview of what the City of Conneaut has to offer for visitors who want to make a return trip to the town.

“When my husband and I came here 16 years ago, one of the things we were absolutely amazed with was the quality of air and the quality of the water,” Conneaut Convention and Visitors’ Bureau Executive Director Connie Naylor said. “When you live in a place where the water and air are as pristine as they are here, you want to promote the outdoors. It’s just natural for us to maintain that.”

“It’s invaluable,” Naylor continued. “What price can you put on clean air and clean water? There is no price tag.”

That quality of air and water leads people to wanting to spend time outside of their

homes, and the city has plenty to offer in terms of entertainment.

“We’re an outdoor kind of place from this time of year on through the fall,” Naylor said. “When the temperatures get into the 50s and up, people are outside.”

“You can literally be outside from the time you wake up in the morning until the time you call it a night,” Naylor continued.

The city offers a myriad of outdoor activities, many of which incorporate Lake Erie.

“If you start with the lake, there’s the beach at Conneaut Township Park with the beautiful boardwalk and sunsets,” Naylor said. “In the marina area, you can fish both from land and from boats. There’s also the fishing charters. What the younger generation wants is jet skiing and kayaking.”

“The sandbar is a big attraction,” Naylor continued. “There’s a group of windsurfers. There’s kayaking. We have a

big group of bird watchers. A few people also like to go paddle boarding.”

The lake isn’t the only body of water that draws people in for recreational activities.

“With the Conneaut Creek, there’s a lot to explore,” Naylor said. “There’s fishing and walking the creek. There’s all the covered bridges that you can drive through or walk through and take pictures.”

For people who prefer to hike instead of swim, the city has Conneaut Township Park, Clara D. Peet Preserve, Friends of Conneaut Creek Metropark, Indian Mound Metropark and Malek Park.

“We have the Metroparks,” Naylor said. “Each is unique in its own way. Some offer different trails. In Malek Park, the newest of the Metroparks, they have that beautiful paved walkway. One of the others has a great paved trail. Indian Mound Metropark is fascinating right there on the Conneaut Creek and the wildflowers there are beautiful this time of year.”

The city’s metroparks are relatively new offerings.

“The city government and the Port Authority encouraged the development of the Metroparks,” Naylor said. “When we first came here, we didn’t have a single one. Now, we have so many. That has to do with conservation. The residents here love green space and they want to keep those green spaces.”

For educational purposes, people can visit the Outdoor Learning Center.

“The Outdoor Learning Center is absolutely beautiful,” Naylor said. “The trails are easy to navigate and they have all those pollinators there.”

People who participate in



SUBMITTED PHOTOS  
**The Friends of Conneaut Creek Metropark is one of many Ashtabula County Metroparks in the city of Conneaut where visitors can enjoy a day outdoors.**

outdoor sports won’t be disappointed as there are venues for any sport imaginable.

“We have great tennis courts, pickle ball courts, basketball courts and the track for running on at SPARC,” Naylor said.

Outdoor dining is available throughout the city.

“We have beautiful outdoor restaurants,” Naylor said. “There’s Breakwall BBQ, Sparky’s, Buccia Vineyards, Markko’s Vineyard and Winery and I saw Charlie’s Deli has a new outdoor venue. Heavenly Creamery has picnic tables to sit outside and White Turkey is all outdoors.”

After dinner, dessert and taking in the sunset over the lake, a campfire and stargazing are good ways to end a day.

“You can see the stars at night here,” Naylor said. “There’s no light pollution. It’s just a clean place to live. It is the perfect peaceful way to end the day. Campfires are another thing people like to enjoy. They’ll make s’mores and stuff like that.”



**Indian Mound Metropark offers views and access to fishing in the Conneaut Creek and a trail for hiking.**

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# Crossroads Health is hosting an eclipse event at Headlands Beach

BY GABRIEL MCVEY

*Gazette Newspapers*

MENTOR – Crossroads Health, a mental health services provider, is hosting a free eclipse-watching party at Headlands Beach State Park all day Monday, April 8.

Mentor Headlands will be one of the best locations in the country to view this once-in-a-lifetime event.

This will be an all-day event, but the total solar eclipse visits Ohio on April 8 beginning at 3:08 p.m. with the final exit of the Moon's shadow from the state at 3:19 p.m.

Cleveland is one of the largest cities inside the path of totality.

Areas in Ohio that are outside the path of totality will experience a partial eclipse. A total solar eclipse is a rare and

spectacular event. On average, one happens somewhere on the Earth only once every 1.5 years.

Only 21 total solar eclipses have crossed the lower 48 states in the entire existence of the United States. The last total solar eclipse visible in Ohio was in 1806. The next total solar eclipse in Ohio will be in the year 2099.

Remember to plan ahead and get eclipse glasses early and practice proper safety measures.

To learn more about the 2024 eclipse, visit: [eclipse.ohio.gov](http://eclipse.ohio.gov).

Make sure to visit Crossroads Health's tent at Headlands Beach on April 8 and pick up some swag and Soaring Hearts kites while supplies last.

Crossroads Health is the only federally-designated certified community behavioral health clinic in Lake County.



## No mountains? No problem Ashtabula County parks provide lots of outdoor recreation

BY ERIC HRIN

*Gazette Newspapers*

ASHTABULA COUNTY - Don't hold Ashtabula County's lack of mountains against it when it comes to hiking and walking.

"Our terrain is more flat, but there is a wonderful variety of options," Ashtabula County Convention and Visitors Bureau (ACCVB) Executive Director Stephanie Siegel said.

Siegel said Metroparks offers many opportunities with all their locations. A full listing of Metroparks parks and trails can be found on their website at <https://ashtabulametroparks.com/>

One of those locations to definitely check out if you're looking to get your steps in is

the Western Reserve Greenway Trail.

Siegel said it can't be forgotten.

"People come from all over and it's very convenient and accessible and well maintained," she said, adding that it's pet-friendly.

A description on the Metroparks website states that the Western Reserve Greenway is a paved rail-trail extending 50 miles through Ashtabula and Trumbull counties in northeast Ohio.

"Ashtabula County is home to 33 of these miles, stretching from the city of Ashtabula southward to the county line where it continues for 17 miles into Trumbull County," it notes. "Mostly rural, Ashtabula County's portion of the trail runs along

farms and through abundant wooded areas. Many users tout the beauty of the thick tree canopy providing cool shade on hot summer days."

According to Metroparks, "the trail is nicely maintained by a dedicated crew of volunteers, the trail is dotted with benches, intersecting road names and mileage markers, 12 interpretive signs along the way detail the proud history of the Underground Railroad in Ashtabula County."

Meanwhile, Geneva State Park also has places to stretch your legs.

Siegel likes the connectivity in that area between the state park and the Village of Geneva-on-the-Lake.

"I think people are pleasantly surprised when they

come to stay at Geneva-on-the-Lake how easily they can go from the Strip over to the waterfront and to wooded walking paths, through the marina and state park," she said.

There's also the Harpersfield Township Trail around the SPIRE property.

"Every time I'm at SPIRE, it's being used," Siegel said.

She noted that SPIRE even offers a Silver Sneaker program.

People can also walk at Conneaut Township Park on the boardwalk on the beach or just through the park.

"That's a good workout there," Siegel said.

She noted the natural setting of the many hiking and

# Explore Ashtabula County's State Parks during the Year of Ohio State Parks

BY CORINNE SCHOREN

*Gazette Newspapers*

ASHTABULA COUNTY—For the 75-year anniversary of Ohio State Parks, Gov. Mike DeWine officially declared 2024 as the Year of Ohio State Parks.

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources was created by the Ohio Legislature in 1949 and for the past 75 years, the ODNR has been committed to preserving and expanding the treasure trove of natural areas that Ohio has to offer.

For Ashtabula County, residents and visitors are lucky to have two different state parks to check out and enjoy all the things that Ohio State Parks have to offer.

Pymatuning State Park, located in Andover, and Geneva State Park, located in Geneva on the Lake, offer an escape to the natural world with plenty of hiking spots, recreational activities and programs for all ages.

Christopher Reeher, manager for the Pymatuning State Park (OH), mentioned some of the reasons that state parks, especially in Ohio, are a vital resource for local community members and tourists.

"Ohio remains one of the very few states that do not charge any admission fees for park use. Guests can enjoy the use of beaches, hiking, biking and equestrian trails, fishing access areas, hunting access areas, disc golf, photography and a host of other outdoor adventures for no

fee," Reeher said.

"Naturalist programming and Nature Center visitation is also free for most programs, which include paddle craft instruction, archery instruction, guided hiking, and educational programs," he said.

Gary Gerrone, manager for the Geneva State Park, agreed that Ohio State Parks offer a great amount of opportunities for all and provide a safe and free place to explore the natural areas of Ohio.

"State Parks provide diverse outdoor, recreational and nature opportunities for everyone," Gerrone said.

Ohio State Parks, including Pymatuning State Park and Geneva State Park, are a great place to go camping – both parks offer camping options for visitors to get the most out of the beautiful natural areas in Ashtabula County.

"A myriad of options for camping and overnight stays are also available at most state parks, allowing visitors to make the most of their park experience," Reeher said.

"Camping is very popular in Pymatuning's Class A campground that has 378 campsites available. If a tent or an RV is not your idea of comfort, Pymatuning offers 48 cabins for overnight rentals that have all of the comforts of home.

Overnight stays are common at Pymatuning, with the park hosting 35,584 overnight stays in 2023," Reeher said.



PHOTO BY ERIC HRIN

The Geneva State Park is one of the few parks in Ohio on Lake Erie's shoreline – the seagulls like to explore the beach just as the visitors do.

Along with all the great opportunities available at both state parks in Ashtabula County, the tourism to these parks helps to boost the local economy – with travelers of all kinds coming to check out the state parks, local businesses see the benefits of the parks, too.

"Ohio State Parks also provide a substantial foundation to the local economies, with visitors venturing out for take-out food, groceries, fuel, entertainment and shopping," he said.

Along with the state parks being a fun place to explore, Ohio State Parks have been doing their part to help conserve the natural beauty of Ashtabula County.

"Ohio State Parks also serve to

protect native plants and animals by limiting human impact and development. A local example of this is the recent designation of 45 acres of Old Growth Forest at Pymatuning State Park," Reeher said.

As Gerrone explained, Geneva State Park is unique in that it is one of the few parks on Lake Erie and provides unique opportunities that other parks don't.

"Geneva State Park is one of Ohio's few Lake Erie shoreline parks. Diverse access to Lake Erie allows for boating, fishing and swimming, as well as great views of Lake Erie sunsets," he said.

See EXPLORE Page 37

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## Ashtabula County offers four beaches on country's northern shore

BY BOB ETTINGER

*Gazette Newspapers*

GENEVA-ON-THE-LAKE – One of the assets fairly unique to Ashtabula County is a lake shoreline that can be used for summer fun.

The county has four distinct beaches along the shores of Lake Erie, allowing both tourists and locals alike a grand opportunity to enjoy the lake.

“We have Breakwater Beach in Geneva State Park, Walnut Beach and Lake Shore Park in Ashtabula and the beach at Conneaut Township

Park,” Stephanie Siegel, executive director of the Ashtabula County Convention and Visitors’ Bureau, said. “One of the things we’re constantly reminded of is how lucky we are. Many of the visitors we talk to will say they can’t see the other side of the lake. The magnitude of it makes it seem ocean-like.”

Having a shoreline conducive to multiple beaches is somewhat rare.

“That is a big deal,” Siegel said. “People do make that mi-

See BEACH Page 39



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Breakwater Beach at Geneva State Park is the lone Ashtabula County beach to offer a place for dogs to take a dip.

## EXPLORE

From  
Page  
35

“With that said, the park has a marina, beach, campground, lodge, archery range and a great trail system.”

For the 75-year anniversary and the Year of Ohio State Parks, Pymatuning State Park has some exciting plans to celebrate all-season long at the park.

“The park plans to celebrate our 75th anniversary all-season long. We anticipate organizing celebrations at various times over the summer. We will hold a celebration at this year’s Pymatuning Lake Festival as well as during Fourth of July weekend in the campground,” Reeher said.

“Other pop-up events will likely occur, such as a 75th Anniversary hike or paddle at Pymatuning. Please follow Pymatuning State park’s Facebook page to keep up with upcoming events and information,” he said.

Geneva State Park is in the process of planning events for the 75-year anniversary and the Year of Ohio State Parks.

An important aspect for the 75-year anniversary of Ohio State Parks is considering how to make sure these beautiful natural areas last for another 75 years – as Reeher explained, the state parks are delicate ecosystems and remembering to respect the natural surroundings will help the state parks continue to succeed.

“In order to keep enjoying our state parks for another 75 years, we need to remember that they are delicate, and often, their condition relies on the visitor’s treatment of the park while there,” Reeher said. “Practice carry-in, carry-out and leave only your footprints. Leave plants and animals where you find them and take nothing with you except the

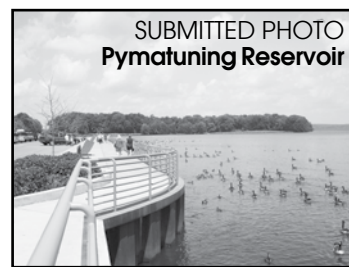
experience.”

Reeher also mentioned that to keep the state parks beautiful and accessible, volunteering to help out at the park can ensure that the park can be used by all for years to come.

“Lend a hand when and where you can. State parks love volunteers, especially for clean-up days and special projects,” he said. “Also, let us know how we can improve. Feedback is what makes us better, so please, seek out an avenue to let us know how we are doing.”

“If you have the means, please consider a donation to the Ohio State Parks Foundation, which provides funding for many improvement projects that would not be possible without the extra support,” Reeher said.

Gerrone mentioned that making Ohio State Parks last is



SUBMITTED PHOTO  
Pymatuning Reservoir

important but improving them and helping them grow is even more vital.

“The real question is not how do we make them last, but how much greater will they be in 75 years?” he said.

Pymatuning State Park is located at 6100 Pymatuning Lake Rd. in Andover and Geneva State Park is located at 4499 Padanarum Rd. in Geneva.

Both parks are open year-round for recreational activities and free to the public.

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# Lake County offers some really outstanding beaches

BY GABRIEL MCVEY

Gazette Newspapers

**LAKE COUNTY** – The bathing beach recreation season officially begins on Memorial Day, and Lake County has a couple of really excellent beaches for visitors and locals to enjoy during the sunny summer months in northeast Ohio.

“The beaches at Headlands Beach State Park in Mentor and Fairport Harbor Lakefront Park are two of the most-visited beaches along all of Lake Erie and we are so lucky to have both of them right here in Lake County,” Neil Stein, director of Remarkable Lake County, said. “These two extremely popular, recreational beaches host between 600,000 and 700,000 visitors annually; many of whom are visitors from the Canton/Akron area, Columbus and even Pittsburgh. These visitors make a huge economic impact on the area as they visit the many local shops in Fairport Harbor and nearly everyone stops to grab ice cream, food or a drink at

places such as the Fairport Harbor Creamery, Scooter’s Dawg House, Pickle Bill’s Lobster House, Brennan’s Fish House, Fairport Family Restaurant, The Pompadour and the Sunset Harbor Bar & Grill.”

Fairport Harbor Lakefront Park sees around 250,000 visitors a year, according to cell phone data from the Lake County Visitors Bureau. Headlands Beach State Park hosts another 375,000 or so a year.

At Fairport Harbor Lakefront Park, a 21-acre park – administered by Lake Metroparks – and sandy beach offer some of the area’s best warm-weather recreation.

During the summer season, visitors can rent kayaks, stand-up paddleboards and sailboats. Lessons are available for first-timers or those looking to improve their nautical skills.

For those who prefer to keep their feet in the sand, Fairport Harbor Lakefront Park has everything to make a beach day memorable.

Amenities include an acces-

sible harbor view boardwalk, restrooms, changing rooms, shower facilities, picnic area and pavilion with grills, drinking fountain, playground, volleyball court and a surf chair for visitors with limited mobility.

Wooden benches and tables line the harbor-view boardwalk and visitors can relax and enjoy the view of local sunsets and the historic Fairport Harbor Lighthouse and Marine Museum.

Dogs must be on a leash and are allowed only on the paved parking lot or in the designated dog area at the east of the park.

Headlands Beach State Park bills itself as the “Home of the Remarkable Sunset,” and is the longest natural beach in Ohio and is ranked #1 as Ohio’s best beach.

The trademark of Headlands Beach State Park is its massive 35-acre Lake Erie beach. Besides providing exceptional sunbathing and swimming opportunities, Headlands Beach also offers unique beach glass hunting and phenomenal Lake Erie sunset viewing. Picnick-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Lake County’s beaches draw between 600,000 and 700,000 visitors annually.**

ing is available throughout the park, and a seasonal concession provides a wide variety of tasty food and cold drink options.

The mile-long beach attracts two million visitors a year from the U.S. and Canada.

The beach also boasts a historic lighthouse that can be accessed by both water and walking. Built in 1925, this lighthouse was built at the mouth of the Grand River to replace the original Fairport Harbor Lighthouse, which now serves as a maritime museum and sits on a hill in Fairport overlooking the lake.

Visitors will find plenty of free parking, restrooms, concession stands and changing areas for swimmers or sunbathers.

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## BEACH

From  
Page  
37

gration to the northern shore of the country for the beaches. We are a little spoiled here."

The county's beaches are a popular draw for tourists as well as locals.

"If we ask random people who go to beach towns, they'll tell us they seek out the water. It's always a good reminder we need to do that, as well. (The lake) is in our backyard, we need to take advantage of it," she said.

Each of the four beaches in the county has a unique flair.

"Each of them have different personalities," Siegel said. "Breakwater Beach is popular for people who want to take their dogs because it has a little place at the end where they can throw sticks in the water for the dogs to chase. Township Park has the beautiful boardwalk, and people can drive their car onto the beach (at the sandbar). It's great for hunting for beach glass."

Ashtabula's beaches are more traditional as Lake Shore Park has a smaller, more intimate beach inside of a large park while Walnut Beach is vast with sand as far as the eye can see.

"Our beaches are magnificent 12 months of the year, but, of course, our favorite time is when the weather is warm," Siegel said.

That magnificence shows up in each beach's personality.

"You're welcomed by swans at Lake Shore Park," Siegel said. "There are definitely different amenities surrounding each of the beaches. There are the trails at Geneva State Park, the duck ponds at Lake Shore Park, a wide range of activities at Conneaut Township Park and the concession stand at Walnut Beach."

More activities are becoming available at the beaches with kayaking and paddle boarding being added.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The beach at Conneaut Township Park is a popular destination for tourists and locals alike.

"Recently, we've seen people are starting to access the water more," Siegel said. "Activities are starting to

increase. Those are the kinds of activities that are good for people of all ages; they're not just for kids or adults."

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## EVENTS

From  
Page  
27

pass out to those that participate in the program. This program is designed for children and accompanying adults. Please plan to attend and be engaged with your child for this program. Drop offs will not be permitted.

#### **Mooned in Jefferson, Ohio - April 8**

The Village of Jefferson has planned its own watch party for the coming Eclipse, "Mooned in Jefferson," for Monday, April 8, from noon to 6 p.m. at Giddings Park, 104 E. Jefferson St., Jefferson Village.

Bring some chairs and enjoy food trucks, craft vendors and get an official Eclipse T-shirt.

The Jefferson Area High School band will perform and the Art Department will have selfie spots set up. The Science Department will also have a display.

Solar glasses will be provided, while supplies last.

#### **Solar Eclipse Watch Party at Steel Mansion**

April 8, noon to 5 p.m.

Steele Mansion & Gathering Hub, 348 Mentor Ave., Painesville, will host a viewing party. Chairs on the front lawn and viewing glasses provided. Sandwiches, snacks, and drinks will be available for purchase. On-site parking and access to the Bar inside the mansion. \$10 per person due upon arrival. Call for reservations to 440-349-7948.

#### **Total Eclipse at the Mentor Public Library - Through April 8**

The Mentor Public Library is celebrating the Eclipse all month long! Come make take-home crafts, listen to guest speakers, participate in science experiments, make eclipse viewers, and so much more. By attending any of our programs, you will receive a free pair of Eclipse viewing glasses that you can bring back with you to our viewing on April 8.



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#### **2024 Total Solar Eclipse Weekend at Grand River Valley KOA Holiday - April 5-8**

2024 Total Solar Eclipse Weekend at Thompson/Grand River Valley KOA Holiday, 6445 Ledge Road, Thompson. Learn more at [koa.com](http://koa.com)

#### **Solar Eclipse Event at Classic Auto Group Park - April 5-8**

The Lake County Captains, proud High-A affiliate of the Cleveland Guardians, are excited to announce the Total Eclipse Weekend, a series of unique events and festivities from April 5 through 8, 2024, culminating in an exclusive opportunity to sleep in the professional clubhouse during the eclipse. This weekend-long celebration includes an Opening Night Celebration, special totality-themed jerseys, and a free eclipse viewing party. Total Eclipse Weekend Highlights Friday, April 5, Opening Night: Kick off the Total Eclipse Weekend with the excitement of the first game of the season, setting the stage for a weekend filled with baseball and astronomical wonders. Saturday & Sunday, Themed Jerseys: On both days, the Captains will don special "Totality" themed jerseys to commemorate the eclipse. These unique jerseys will add an extra layer of excitement to the games and provide fans with a visual treat. Monday, Eclipse Viewing Party: The weekend will culminate in a free viewing party of the eclipse, allowing fans to experience the awe-inspiring event together with the community. Takes place at Lake County Captains Stadium/Classic Park, 35300 Vine St., Eastlake

#### **Total Eclipse of the Port-Fairport Harbor Creamery**

Multiple times - April 5-8

Fairport Harbor Creamery, 202 High St., Fairport Harbor, will offer an eclipse-themed specialty menu items including ice cream flavors, boozy milkshake flavors and "blacked out" baked goods! Glasses will be given to the first 100 guests with a purchase!

#### **Total Solar Eclipse - Headlands Beach State Park**

April 8, 8 a.m.

Headlands Beach State Park, 9601 Headlands Road, Mentor, will be the site for this all-day event, but the Total Solar Eclipse visits Ohio on April 8 beginning at 3:08 p.m. EDT with the final exit of the Moon's shadow from the state at 3:19 p.m. EDT. Cleveland is one of the largest cities inside the path of totality. Make sure to visit Crossroads Health's tent at Headlands Beach on April 8 and pick up some swag and Soaring Hearts kites while supplies last.

#### **Total Eclipse of the Port-Julbean's Coffee**

April 8, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Julbean's Coffee & Crêpes, 310 High St., Fairport Harbor, is in the path of totality for the Solar Eclipse on April 8, 2024! The shop will be open and offering a limited (eclipse-themed) menu from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Once the shop closes its doors, all will head to Lighthouse Hill for the Village of Fairport Harbor's Viewing Party! There will be music and food trucks available as we all share this incredible experience! The Fairport Harbor Arts and Culture Alliance will have eclipse-themed activities throughout the weekend.

#### **Total Solar Eclipse 2024 at Lake Metroparks**

April 8, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Lake Metroparks Farmpark, 8800 Euclid Chardon Road, Kirtland, is hosting a free day filled with excitement leading up to the Total Solar Eclipse. Hands-on experiments, interactive activities, music, planetarium shows and more will build your anticipation. Solar eclipse viewing glasses will be provided for guests in attendance while supplies last. Parking is limited.





## EVENTS

From  
Page  
40

### **Total Eclipse Watch Party at Cask 307 - April 8, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.**

Cask 307, 7259 Warner Road, Madison, is opening an hour early at 10 a.m. with a Bloody Mary bar 10-12 p.m. Thomas Reed Smith plays 12-3 p.m. Watch Party Photo Booth 11:30-3:30 p.m. Taste the Eclipse wine, a unique 10-year aged dessert wine: "Lost Chardonnay." Free eclipse-watch glasses to the first 100 visitors. Celebrate this once-in-a-lifetime event at Cask!

### **Total Eclipse of the Arboretum - SOLD OUT**

April 8, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Holden Arboretum, 9550 Sperry Road, Kirtland, will be "the" viewing event in the area, featuring food trucks, activities and plenty of space to take in the eclipse.

### **Total Solar Eclipse Watch Party - Wickliffe I&A Club**

April 8, noon to 4 p.m.

Wickliffe I & A Club Inc., 29717 Euclid Ave. Bring a picnic lunch and hang out with friends to watch the eclipse and listen to a short talk on what to expect from this eclipse astrologically - based on your sun sign.

### **Dudley Park Family Eclipse Viewing Party**

April 8, noon to 4 p.m.

City of Willowick Recreation Department, 31500 Willowick Drive, Willowick, will be hosting a Family Eclipse Viewing Party at Dudley Park. Join us from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see the Total Solar Eclipse pass through Willowick. There will be games, music, food and entertainment to welcome this spectacular event. Stop by Manry park to purchase your eclipse care package, including t-shirt, viewing glasses and more, Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### **Solar Eclipse Social at St. John Vianney Catholic Church**

April 8, noon to 4 p.m.

St. John Vianney Parish and All Saints of St. John Vianney School, 7575 Bellflower Road, Mentor - enjoy picnic food (hot dogs, nonalcoholic beverages), crafts and other activities for the kids, including some potential educational events! An RSVP will be required so as not to overfill the parking lot and property. If possible, please coordinate with the business manager at [SJVbusinessmanager@sjvmmentor.org](mailto:SJVbusinessmanager@sjvmmentor.org).

### **Watch the Total Solar Eclipse at Pickle Bills - April 8, 1-8 p.m.**

Pickle Bills, 101 River St., Grand River, will be open from 1 to 8 p.m. Get your friends together and come watch from one of our patios and stay for music and dinner! Ulterior Motive will be playing from 2 to 5 p.m. First 100 people will receive complementary eclipse glasses! Main bar and Tiki bar will be open. Full menu available for both lunch and dinner.

### **Total Eclipse Celebration at The Willoughby House**

April 8, 1-5 p.m.

The Willoughby House, 37819 Euclid Ave., Willoughby, will host this historic moment from this historic venue. Tickets include admission, eclipse glasses and live music. Food and beverage tickets can be purchased at the entrance for use at food and drink stations. The food will be prepared by Jose Coronado, executive chef of Julia's 1902. Wear weather-appropriate attire and bring lawn chairs or blankets, as this event will be open-air on the Willoughby House grounds regardless of the weather. The celebration starts at 1 p.m., with totality around 3:15 p.m. A limited number of discounted tickets will be sold on Eventbrite and guarantee eclipse glasses. \$25 tickets will be available at the entrance on the day of the event. Glasses will be given until they run out. Parking information to come.

### **2024 Total Solar Eclipse at Lake Erie College - April 8, 1 p.m.**

Lake Erie College, 391 W. Washington St., Painesville, the LEC community and City of Painesville are invited to join on campus with a blanket or chair for an afternoon of fun during the Total Solar Eclipse. Enjoy DJ services and entertainment from "Wedding in Ohio." Food trucks will include: FATS on the Go, Barrio Tacos, Cocky's Bagels and King Cone Ice cream which will all be available for purchase. Solar eclipse glasses are also provided.

### **2024 Eclipse Watch Party - Mentor - April 8, 1 p.m.**

City of Mentor, 8600 Munson Road, Mentor, will play host from 1-5 p.m. at the Mentor Civic Amphitheater. Guests can enjoy a number of fun games and activities and track the progress of the eclipse on the video screens. A DJ will be on hand spinning favorite tunes as everyone counts down to the big moment at 3:14 p.m. when we'll experience three minutes and 48 seconds of totality. Food from some of the area's favorite food trucks as well as beverages will be available for purchase. Admission and parking to the event is free. A limited number of eclipse glasses will also be available free of charge.

### **Willoughby's Total Eclipse Watch Party - April 8, 1-5 p.m.**

Willoughby Parks and Recreation, 38575 Lakeshore Blvd., Willoughby, lies within the path of totality—promising nearly four minutes of darkness in the middle of the afternoon as the Moon moves between the Earth and the Sun. Join us Monday, April 8 at Osborne Park for the Willoughby 2024 Total Solar Eclipse Watch Party. Osborne Park offers a great venue along the lake to observe this year's Total Solar Eclipse. Setup will be at the North Pavilion with a DJ and other activities to enhance the viewing experience. This is a free public event.

### **Eclipse Viewing Party - Fairport Harbor - April 8, 1 p.m.**

Village of Fairport Harbor, 129 2nd St., Fairport Harbor, will be hosting an Eclipse Viewing Party on Monday, April 8, on the Lighthouse Hill. The Viewing Party will take place from 1-5 p.m. and there will be music and food trucks for visitors to enjoy, as everyone waits for the main event, which should take place around 3:15 p.m.

### **Willoughby Hills Eclipse Viewing Party - April 8, 1:30-4 p.m.**

City of Willoughby Hills, 35405 Chardon Road, Willoughby Hills, will host an eclipse watching party at 1:30 p.m. at Roemisch Fields to watch the moon step out in front of the sun (3:14 p.m.). Come early for some music, a craft for the kids, a bounce house, chalk wall and complimentary refreshments.

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## MUSEUM

From  
Page  
33

sentatives of the Painesville Railroad Museum made sure to incorporate a birthday celebration with all the trimmings for the Collinwood 999 Engine.

Tom Pescha, vice president of the Painesville Railroad Museum, said the new engine barn will allow storage for both the Collinwood 999 Engine and a horse-drawn trolley. In addition, the upstairs

loft will serve as both storage and a site for model trains for sale.

Future plans of the Painesville Railroad Museum include the Lionel Experience and Event Center. This 6,000-square-foot expansion includes one of the most comprehensive Lionel postwar model train collections in the U.S. and an event center with

seating capacity of 200 guest. The event center with a full commercial kitchen, will be available for hosting club meetings, off site business meeting, small weddings, and other social events, according to the Western Reserve Railroad Association's website.

The Indian Museum of Lake County is located at 7519 Mentor Ave, Suite, A112, in Mentor.

Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 4 p.m. Call 440-951-3813 for more information.

The Painesville Railroad Museum is located at 475 Railroad St. in Painesville. Hours of operation are Friday from 6 to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 216-470-5780 for more information.

## BLUFFS

From  
Page  
31

beautiful short trail.

The tower is open, weather and conditions permitting, during regular park hours.

For the safety and enjoyment guests, at the tower:

Dogs are prohibited.

Smoking is prohibited.

Stay clear of the tower when

lightning is in the area.

Do not throw, drop or fly objects off of the tower.

Stay on the stairs and decks. Please do not climb on other sections of the tower.

Skateboards and bikes are not allowed on the tower or decks.

## RECREATION

From  
Page  
35

walking areas in the county can present some interesting opportunities for those interested in wildlife.

"Along the way, you spot rare bird species," she said, noting the county falls in the birds' migration patterns.

People may also spot eagles, deer and fox while they're hiking or walking.

"Who knows what you're going to encounter?" Siegel said. "We are blessed for having such a nice, rural component to our county."

## PARK

From  
Page  
23

so you can cut the discs to size.

- Pinhole Viewer Craft: Sunday, April 7, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Nature Center - Let's talk safety! The Park wants everyone to be able to get the most out of the Eclipse with safety first in mind. Join the Park Naturalist as you craft pinhole viewers for the Solar Eclipse.

- Eclipse Chalk Art: Sunday, April 7, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Nature Center - Join the naturalist for an Eclipse chalk art craft in the Nature Center. Visitors will learn about the parts of the

sun's atmosphere that will be visible during the Eclipse and create a paper diagram to take home.

- Astronomical Archery: Sunday, April 7, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the archery range - Learn Archery 101 while aiming for the stars! The Park will have planetary targets placed at distances relative to the alignment of the planets in our solar System.

- Campfire Space Talk: Sunday, April 7, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Campground Amphitheater - Sit next to a cozy fire while you learn about the

history of star charting.

- Sunprints: Monday, April 8, from 11 a.m. to noon at the Nature Center - Join the naturalist as you create SunPrints out of various nature items for a take home art piece. Visitors will learn about the sun's rays and the chemical interaction with the photo paper.

- Partial Eclipse Begins: Monday, April 8, at 2 p.m. at the Nature Center - Join the naturalist outside of the Nature Center as we look at shadows and see the effects of the partial

eclipse before totality.

- Totality: Monday, April 8, at 3 p.m. at the Nature Center - Join the naturalist as you record the animal sounds during the totality of the Eclipse!

- Partial Eclipse Ending: Monday, April 8, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Nature Center - Linger after the total eclipse for what is called the fourth contact, the moment that the edge of the Moon leaves the edge of the Sun. Celebrate seeing the Solar Eclipse with some outdoor Cornhole and field games.



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## PREP

From  
Page  
3

tense rays of the sun," Fitchet said.

As the date of the eclipse nears, there will be a push to talk about the importance of viewing it with glasses.

"Don't look directly into the sun," Blood said. "We haven't pushed it yet, but we will start as we are getting closer to it. Make sure to protect your eyes."

Local libraries and businesses have eyewear available for the event.

"Conneaut Public Library was able to get about 1,500 pairs of glasses," Blood said. "They're hosting events where they are giving them away if you attend."

Blood expressed a personal concern for the event and people should be aware of being

on the road during the event.

"One of the things I'm personally worried about is people will wind up forgetting and they'll be driving around during the eclipse," Blood said. "It will go black and they'll start wondering what is going on. I worry about car accidents and something bad happening because people forget the eclipse is occurring and they look into the sun, go blind and get into an accident."

Fitchet said the Ashtabula County EMA is developing a GIS map for eclipse-related information.

This map will include locations of safety forces and hospitals, as well as information on eclipse-related events from Thursday until Tuesday and viewing sites. Any restric-

tions for these viewing sites also will be included.

"It'll have the road closures, but there's none projected right now," Fitchet said.

Any road closures will be due to emergencies.

The Ashtabula County EMA map also will be tied to the map developed by the State of Ohio EMA, he said.

"Then people can have all of the information," Fitchet said.

As the eclipse draws closer, people will be able to find the map on the Ashtabula County website, <https://www.ashtabulacounty.us>, and the Ashtabula County EMA's Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/AshtabulaEMA>, and Twitter, [twitter.com/](https://twitter.com/)

EOC04

He said the Ohio EMA also has developed an eclipse-specific website at <http://tinyurl.com/OhioEMAEclipseinfo>

Fitchet also noted that the National Weather Service Cleveland Office also has an eclipse-related page, which also includes information on the weather.

That website can be found at <https://www.weather.gov/cle/SolarEclipse2024>

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime event," Fitchet said. "Our concern is really traffic and the things that come with traffic."

He said the county will be welcoming many visitors during the eclipse, and he encouraged residents to be courteous and understand they may not be from here.

## QUESTIONS

From  
Page  
10

### Science

*What causes an eclipse to occur?*

Eclipses occur due to the special coincidence of the Moon and the Sun being the same angular size. The Sun is approximately 400 times wider than the Moon, but it is also approximately 400 times farther away, so they appear to be the same size in our sky. This is what allows the Moon to completely block the Sun during total solar eclipses.

However, the Moon's orbit around Earth is not a perfect circle, so when it is at its farthest point from the Earth the Moon will appear slightly smaller than the Sun. Eclipses that happen during this phase of the Moon's orbit are known as annular eclipses, and the Sun is still visible in a "ring of fire" encircling the Moon.

## ENHANCE

From  
Page  
13

blues and greens get brighter."

There's a four-to-five-minute window of time before an eclipse reaches totality when your eyes are functioning in the in-between zone (the mesopic vision zone), according to a press release from Solar Eyeglasses.

During the mesopic vision zone of an eclipse, your surroundings may look grayish and lack color. It's most noticeable with warm colors, like red or orange.

However, the color green would look brighter against its dimmer surroundings, the release states.

"This Purkinje effect during the coming eclipse will turn the whole experience from just watching the sky go dark to a real-life science demo on your clothes," the Solar Eyeglasses spokesperson said. "But to really see the changes in color saturation, lots of people need to wear these complimentary red and green colors. Two or five in a group of 100 wouldn't help."



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## SOLAR

From  
Page  
1

corresponding to the shape of the Moon's shadow cast at that time during the eclipse.

Also within the dark path are duration contours. These delineate the length of time totality will last. The closer to the center of the solar eclipse path, the longer it will last. For the total path, times range up to 4 minutes.

Outside the eclipse path, the map displays contours of obscuration, or percentage of the Sun's area covered by the Moon. Readers can trace the lines to percentages printed along all sides of the map that range from 95-percent to 10-percent obscuration. The dark path marks when 100-percent obscuration begins.

### View the Eclipse Safely

Safety is the number one priority when viewing a total solar eclipse. Be sure you're familiar with when you need to wear specialized eye protection designed for solar viewing by reviewing these safety guidelines



MAP COURTESY OF NASA/NASA'S SCIENTIFIC VISUALIZATION STUDIO

This map illustrates the paths of the Moon's shadow across the U.S. during the 2024 total solar eclipse. On April 8, 2024, a total solar eclipse will cross North and Central America creating a path of totality. During a total solar eclipse, the Moon completely blocks the Sun while it passes between the Sun and Earth. The sky will darken as if it were dawn or dusk and those standing in the path of totality may see the Sun's outer atmosphere (the corona) if weather permits.

on page 7.

It is never safe to look directly at the sun's rays, even if

the sun is partially obscured.

The only safe way to look directly at a partially eclipsed sun

is through special-purpose solar filters, such as eclipse glasses or hand-held solar viewers.

## FORCES

From  
Page  
4

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• 440-352-7443 Station No. 1  
• 440-352-6996 Station No. 2  
• 440-358-1713 Station No. 3

### Perry Township:

Fire –

• 440-259-2880/440-259-3251

### Hospitals:

*University Hospitals Lake West Medical Center* —  
36000 Euclid Ave.  
Willoughby, 440-953-9600

*University Hospitals Lake Health* — 7590 Auburn Road,  
Painesville, 440-375-8100

*University Hospitals*

*TriPoint Medical Center* —  
7590 Auburn Road  
Painesville, 440-375-8100

*University Hospitals Mentor Health Center* —  
9485 Mentor Ave. # 110  
Mentor, 440 -375-6800

*Lake Ambulatory Care Center* —  
9500 Mentor Ave., Mentor,  
440-354-0377

*Cleveland Clinic - Mentor Hospital* — 8300 Norton  
Parkway, Mentor  
440-578-3000

*Cleveland Clinic - Euclid Hospital* — 18901 Lakeshore  
Blvd., Euclid, 216-531-9000

*Cleveland Clinic - Hillcrest Hospital* — 6780 Mayfield  
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Built by John D. Cummins over the two-year period of 1896-97. Mr. Cummins was engaged in the Cummins Canning Co. with his father, David Cummins, until the death of the elder Cummins in 1920. At this time, he took over the business. The house was passed on to a daughter, Mrs. Mabel Haskell, upon his death. Mr. Stevens purchased the home from her in 1943. John Cummins was owner of much land in the city as well as large tracts of farm land throughout Ohio. One tract extended from Main St. in front of the present home south to Conneaut Creek and comprised about 70 acres. The ten room home now stands on a 2.95-acre tract. Dale and Sheila Griffis, who purchased the home in 2003 are only the fourth owners in over 120 years.



### Amenities

Four suites with private baths. In ground heated salt water pool, dry sauna. Pool house with one king- and one queen-sized bed and a full kitchen. Propane gas grill, central heat/AC. Six-choice breakfast menu cooked to order.



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### ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL HOMES IN NORTHEASTERN OHIO,

this 1890's mansion sets on a 2.95-acre lot in the City of Conneaut, Ohio.

All woodwork of select oak, birch and cherry still has the original hand rubbed varnish finish. The four large guest bedrooms have full bathrooms, and the home has two new forced air gas furnaces and central air conditioning.

Located two miles from the shores of Lake Erie, you can enjoy the best beaches in Ohio and enjoy the amazing lake view sunsets.

*"Dale and Sheila have done a great job of preserving history and thinking of every detail for their guests"*



### Fun in the Sun

A 20' x 40' inground heated salt water pool gives our guests the total relaxation package. The propane gas grill allows the guests to have their own picnic-style meals at pool side. Once the sun goes down, our guests enjoy the amber glows of a wood fire pit and the quiet nights skies.

### Reviews 5.0

We are a FIVE Star B&B and rated A+ by the Better Business Bureau. [Our reviews can be read on Facebook, Google, and BBB.com.](#)



*"The bedrooms were big and comfy, the breakfast menus excellent, use of the big outdoor salt-pool fun... the warmth of the hosts was so welcoming."*





# Weekly Specials

AT THE PETER ALLEN INN!



## BURGER NIGHT WEDNESDAYS

Enjoy creative & gourmet burgers designed by our executive chef! These delicious sandwiches are only \$12 & come with fresh French fries!



## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FRIDAY & SATURDAY

Join us every weekend for live music at The Inn! For lists of artists & dates, please visit our website or Facebook page and never miss a show!



## PIZZA SUNDAYS SUNDAYS

Make Sundays your day for fresh brick oven pizza! Get our cheese & pepperoni pizzas for \$10 each or specialties for \$14. Available for dine-in or carry out!