

# AUGLAIZE-MERCER COUNTIES

## JANUARY

**Jan. 9 — Bluegrass in the Cornfields**, 4 p.m. Admission \$10. Famous Old Time Music Co., 20322 US 33, east of Wapakoneta. Hosted by Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass, Bluegrass in the Cornfields is an indoor evening of lively bluegrass entertainment featuring national and local talent. Food by Margaret's Kitchen available. Featured Bands: Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass, Laurel Mountain, Evan Lanier and Bluegrass Express, and Macochee Valley. [www.fotmc.com](http://www.fotmc.com).

**Jan. 14, 21, 28 — Bluegrass Cafe**, 7 p.m. Admission \$5. Famous Old Time Music Co., 20322 US 33, east of Wapakoneta. Vernon and Kitty McIntyre, plus special weekly guests. Wide variety of bluegrass music. [www.fotmc.com](http://www.fotmc.com).

**Jan. 23 — Appalachian Opry**, 7 p.m. Admission \$10. Famous Old Time Music Co., 20322 US 33, east of Wapakoneta. Famous Old Time's answer to Hee Haw and the Grand Ole Opry. An assortment of guest artists join staff musicians Vernon and Kitty McIntyre with Mitch Manns, Don Bowlin, and Jeff Causey for an evening of bluegrass, old country music, comedy, and fun. Refreshments are available.

**Jan. 23-Feb.25 — Dave Allen Exhibit**, Arts Place Collective Center, 138 E. Spring St., St. Marys. Free and open to the public. A reception to welcome the artist will be 7-9 p.m. Jan. 23. Gallery hours are 4-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday. For more information, contact Heidi Meade, director of education, (419) 394-0707 or [thecollectivecenter@artsland.org](mailto:thecollectivecenter@artsland.org). Allen is an exhibiting artist and teacher. He enjoys painting landscapes and the figure and is active in the arts community in South Bend, Ind. His work can be seen in the permanent collections of the Northern Indiana Center for History, Goshen College, Indiana University and others.

**Jan. 24 — Family Day, Winter Wonder 2010**, Maria Stein Center/ Relic Shrine, Maria Stein. Nature, crafts, song, activities and prayer, 2:30-5 p.m. Registration deadline: Jan 20. E-mail [Programs@mariasteincenter.org](mailto:Programs@mariasteincenter.org) or call (419) 925-4532. Donation \$5 for the whole family that day.

## FEBRUARY

**Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25 — Bluegrass Cafe**, 7 p.m. Admission \$5. Famous Old Time Music Co., 20322 US 33, east of Wapakoneta. Vernon and Kitty McIntyre, plus special weekly guests. Wide variety of bluegrass music. [www.fotmc.com](http://www.fotmc.com).

**Feb. 6 — Bluegrass in the Cornfields**, 4 p.m. Admission \$10. Famous Old Time Music Co., 20322 US 33, east of Wapakoneta. Hosted by Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass, Bluegrass in the Cornfields is an indoor evening of lively bluegrass entertainment featuring national and local talent. Food by Margaret's Kitchen available. Featured Bands: Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass, Laurel Mountain, Evan Lanier and Bluegrass Express, and Macochee Valley. [www.fotmc.com](http://www.fotmc.com).

**Feb. 20 — Appalachian Opry**, 7 p.m. Admission \$10. Famous Old Time Music Co., 20322 US 33, east of Wapakoneta. Famous Old Time's answer to Hee Haw and the Grand Ole Opry. An assortment of guest artists join staff musicians Vernon and Kitty McIntyre with Mitch Manns, Don Bowlin, and Jeff Causey for an evening of bluegrass, old country music, comedy, and fun. Refreshments are available.

## MARCH

**March 6 — Bluegrass in the Cornfields**, 4 p.m. Admission \$10. Famous Old Time Music Co., 20322 US 33, east of Wapakoneta. Hosted by Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass, Bluegrass in the Cornfields is an indoor evening of lively bluegrass entertainment featuring national and local talent. Food by Margaret's Kitchen available. Featured Bands: Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass, Laurel Mountain, Evan Lanier and Bluegrass Express, and Macochee Valley. [www.fotmc.com](http://www.fotmc.com).

**March 20 — Appalachian Opry**, 7 p.m. Admission \$10. Famous Old Time Music Co., 20322 US 33, east of Wapakoneta. Famous Old Time's answer to Hee Haw and the Grand Ole Opry. An assortment of guest artists join staff musicians Vernon and

Kitty McIntyre with Mitch Manns, Don Bowlin, and Jeff Causey for an evening of bluegrass, old country music, comedy, and fun. Refreshments are available.

## AUGLAIZE ATTRACTIONS

**Auglaize County Courthouse**, 201 Willipie St., Wapakoneta — This neoclassical structure of Berea sandstone features a central gallery open to the second floor making the stained glass skylight visible from both floors. "The Copper Lady," which once stood atop the courthouse tower was restored for the building's 100th birthday in 1994 and now has a place in the gallery. For group tours, call (419) 738-3612.

**Auglaize County Historical Society/Mooney Museum**, 223 S. Main St., St. Marys — Building once belonged to Daniel Mooney, former ambassador to Paraguay. Early Auglaize historical artifacts and photos. Open 1-3 p.m. on first and third Sundays of each month. Other tours by appointment, (419) 394-7069.

**Belle of St. Marys**, Miami-Erie Canal, Memorial Park — 76-foot-long, 14-foot-wide replica of a packet canal boat.

**Bicycle Museum of America**, 7 W. Monroe St., New Bremen — Opened in 1997 as museum dedicated to the history of cycling. Features more than 250 vintage bicycles. Open year around. Summer hours: 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday. Winter hours: 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, noon-2 p.m. Saturday. (419) 629-9249, [www.bicyclemuseum.com](http://www.bicyclemuseum.com).

**Cridersville Historical Museum**, West Sugar Street, Cridersville — An 1890 church depicting history of the town and surrounding area and an 1836 log house, which is the original home of Daniel Bowsher. Open the first and third Sundays of each month. (419) 645-5955.

**Dreamland Museum** — 3965 Celina Road, St. Marys. (419) 394-9999. Featuring tributes to Elvis, and friends such as Johnny Cash, Carl Perkins, Roy Orbison, Liberace and more. See the cars, motorcycles, costumes, jewelry, movie props and other memorabilia of the late Elvis Presley. Open daily 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Admission \$8. Children under 10 free accompanied by an adult; 10 percent off for senior citizens.

**Fort Amanda Park**, SR 198, 7 1/2 miles northwest of Wapakoneta — Monument and park mark the site of a War of 1812 fort erected under order of Gen. William Henry Harrison. The remains of 75 soldiers, marked "Unknown Soldier, War of 1812," lie beside the Auglaize River. Picnic area, hiking trails. Part of Lima's Johnny Appleseed Metroparks. Open dawn-dusk May-November. (419) 657-6782.

**Grand Lake St. Marys**, Auglaize and Mercer counties — Constructed as a feeder lake for the Miami-Erie Canal, the lake, at its completion in 1845, was the largest man-made lake. The reservoir rests on the summit between the Ohio River and Lake Erie. Now Ohio's largest inland lake, it covers 13,500 acres and 52 miles of shoreline. Picnicking, swimming, fishing, boating, camping.

**Grand Lake St. Marys State Park**, 834 Edgewater Drive, St. Marys — Dedicated as a state park in 1949. Includes 216 campsites, two rental cabins, two rent-a-camps, campers-only swimming beach, boat tie-ups, horseshoe pits, sand volleyball, basketball, tennis court, nine-hole putt putt golf course. Park has four public swimming beaches and swimming areas for boaters, picnic areas, shelter houses, hunting in designated areas and seasonal duck blinds available by lottery from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. (419) 394-3611.

**Memorial Park**, downtown St. Marys — Park rests beside old canal flowing through downtown.

**Miami-Erie Canal Towpath** — 3.5-mile path is a hiking trail from St. Marys Memorial Park to Forty Acre Pond just north of St. Marys. Site of the "Annual Walk with Nature" each October.

**Neil Armstrong Air and Space Museum**, Interstate 75 exit 111, 500 S. Apollo Drive, Wapakoneta — Ohio Historical Society site honoring Wapakoneta native astronaut Neil Armstrong's historic walk on the moon. Interactive exhibits with a space shuttle landing simulator and a lunar landing simulator. Also features early Wright Brothers airplanes to more modern space-age exhibits such as the earth orbiter Gemini VIII and the Apollo spacesuits. An Infinity Room and Astrotheater give visitors the experience of traveling through space on a moon mission. Opened in 1972. Open year-round 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, noon-5 p.m. Sundays and holidays. (419) 738-8811, (800) 860-0142 or

**New Bremen Historic Museum/ Luellen House**, 120-122 N. Main St., New Bremen — One of the first non-log houses in the original plat of 1833. Open 2-4 p.m. Sundays June-August, (419) 629-3321.

**New Knoxville Historical Museum**, 107 E. German St., New Knoxville — Preserves the history of the New Knoxville area. (419) 753-2721.

**Northwood Lighthouse**, off SR 703, Northmoor on north side of Grand Lake St. Marys between Celina and St. Marys — No public access. Viewing from the lake only.

**St. Marys Memorial Park**, East Street, St. Marys — Dedicated to World War I veterans, the park rests beside the old Miami-Erie Canal. Moored in the park is the Belle of St. Marys, a 76-foot-long, 14-foot-wide full-scale replica of a packet canal boat built by local craftsmen. Canal boat open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. daily. (419) 394-3303, ext. 112.

**St. Marys Theater/Grand Ballroom Entertainment Complex**, 119 W. Spring St., St. Marys — live stage performances. (877) 626-3006

**State Fish Hatchery**, East Bank Road, St. Marys — One of six hatcheries in Ohio, its the only one that raises yellow perch and largemouth bass. Also raised are channel catfish, fathead minnows, walleye, northern pike and saugeye. Open 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. weekdays. Free tours available by appointment. (419) 394-5170.

## MERCER ATTRACTIONS

**Baker Woods State Nature Preserve**, between Buscher and St. Anthony roads north and west of Coldwater — Visitor permit required from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Natural Areas and Preserves. High-quality, old-growth forest remnant with oaks, hickories and maples.

**Carousel Dinner Comedy Club**, 3769 US 127 South, Celina — Features nationally known entertainment throughout the year. Known for its pink Cadillac salad bar. Opened its new comedy room, Chips and Giggles, in 2001. (419) 925-4496.

**Celina-Coldwater Bike Path** — 4 1/2-mile long, 10-foot-wide path on an old railroad bed between Celina and Coldwater.

**Courthouse**, 101 N. Main St., Celina — Corinthian columns; Bedford limestone; bronze doors; marble floors, walls and staircases; colored glass dome. (419) 586-3178.

**Eldora Speedway**, 13929 SR 118, New Weston (just south of Mercer County line in Darke County) — Nationally known speedway featuring the fastest mile dirt track in the nation. Hosts sprint, midget, modified and stock races including the famous All Star Outlaw Sprints, the annual Kings Royal Race and the USAC Four Crown Nationals. (937) 338-3815, www.eldoraspeedway.com.

**Fort Recovery State Museum**, SR 119 and 49, Fort Recovery — Two reconstructed block houses, a connecting stockade, and exhibits depicting the Indian Wars of the 1790s. One of the largest

collections of Indian artifacts in Ohio. Fort Recovery was site of the defeat of Gen. Arthur St. Clair in 1791 and the defense of the fort by Gen. "Mad" Anthony Wayne in 1794. An 1840 log cabin and blacksmith shop are nearby. Noon-5 p.m. daily June-August, noon-5 p.m. weekends only May and September. Group tours by appointment. (419) 375-4649, www.bright.net/fortrecovery.

**Grand Lake St. Marys** (See Auglaize County).

**Grand Slam USA Family Fun Center**, 911 E. Wayne St., Celina — Roller skating, laserball, indoor roller hockey, slam dunk basketball, space ball, indoor batting cages and outdoor miniature golf course. Open year round. (419) 586-5037.

**Maria Stein Heritage Museum**, 2291 St. Johns Road, Maria Stein — On the second floor of a former convent building, the museum interprets the German settlements of Auglaize and Mercer counties and the history of the Sisters of the Precious Blood. Open noon-4 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday May-October. (419) 925-4532, www.mariasteincenter.org.

**Mercer County Courthouse**, 101 N. Main St., Celina — Forty-foot Ionic columns grace the four entrances to the gray Bedford limestone courthouse. Interior is enhanced with large bronze doors, marble floors, walls and staircases and a colored glass courthouse dome. Group tours by appointment, (419) 586-3178.

**Mercer County Historical Museum**, 130 E. Market St., Celina — Chronicles the past 200 years of county life. Also known as the Riley House. Genealogical materials and local history books. Open 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday-Friday in the summer and Sundays October-April. (419) 586-6065.

**National Marian Shrine of the Holy Relics**, 2291 St. Johns Road, Maria Stein — The shrine contains 500 relics of the saints and is the second-largest collection of its type in the United States. Built in 1890, the shrine and the adjacent former convent were placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976. Open 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday. (419) 925-4532: www.mariasteincenter.org.

**Mercer County Wildlife Area**, US 127 and east on 703 — The 1,408-acre wildlife refuge provides resting and feeding areas for local and migrant wildlife. Observation is from parking area only.

**Northwood Lighthouse**, off SR 703, Northmoor, on north side of Grand Lake St. Marys between Celina and St. Marys. No public access. Viewing from lake only.

**Putters Lane Golf and Games**, 04331 SR 66, Minster — Miniature golf, redemption arcade, pizza and homemade ice cream, water wars. Open for birthday parties and corporate golf tournaments. (419) 628-1814

**Rotary Lighthouse**, Main Street (US 127) and Lake Shore Drive, Celina — Built in 1986 by Celina Rotary Club on the west bank of Grand Lake St. Marys to provide a grand view of the lake.

**St. Charles Center**, 2860 US 127 South, Celina — This former seminary rests on 500 acres. Its first buildings were erected in 1861 by the Society of the Precious Blood. The current structure is a late Gothic Revival building that features a 370-foot frontage and is topped by a five-story octagonal dome. Groups tours by appointment. (419) 925-4516 or ma.noacsc.org/stcharl/.