



car&travel

JUNE 2016

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NEWS & NOTES

FATHER'S DAY GIFT IDEAS



Father's Day is right around the corner. Save on great gifts for Dad at Ticketmaster.com, Steiner Sports and Hobie Polarized. For these discounts, and great prices on baseball tickets, clothing, gadgets and more, go to AAA.com/FathersDay.

BICYCLE SERVICE NOW IN NEW YORK



AAA now offers its world-class roadside assistance for bicycles in New York. Members at all levels are allotted two service calls per year at no additional cost. No sign-up or registration is required to begin using this new member benefit. To learn more about this service, go to AAA.com/Bicycle.

FREE DMV VISION TESTS



Stop in at a AAA location for a free Department of Motor Vehicles vision test. You can use the results to renew your license without having to visit a DMV office. For more information, visit AAA.com/VisionTest.

INDEPENDENCE DAY HOURS



AAA Northeast's Member Services call center will be open on July 4, but AAA offices, locations and the Travel Call Center will be closed. As always, 24-hour roadside assistance will be available to members. AAA reminds you to drive responsibly this Independence Day.

16 INTERESTING NYC FACTS



Ever wonder how many people pass through midtown's Grand Central Terminal on a given day? Or how Wall Street got its name? Learn these and other interesting facts about the Big Apple at AAA.com/NYCFacts.

On the cover:

Stand-up paddleboarding in Maui.

Photo credit:

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The Magical Island of Maui Bewitches Visitors



Courtesy of Travaasa Hana, Maui

BY JUDY KOUTSKY

The stunningly beautiful Hamoa Beach in Maui.

I've always loved Hawaii. My first visit was when I was 16. My best friend in high school, Michelle, had an aunt who lived in Oahu and for two teenage girls growing

up in the Midwest, Hawaii was about as exotic as it got. I loved all the outdoor land activities, such as hiking and biking, as well as all the aquatic options (that's where

I learned to surf and later, stand-up paddleboard). The hang-ten attitude got under my skin and I kept coming back—especially to Maui.

The Valley Isle (so named

because the island has a stretch of land between two massive volcanoes) offers plenty of outdoor adventure for people like me as well as lots of nightlife and restaurant options for those into that scene. And the thing about Maui is that the feel is very different depending on what part of the island you visit and what kind of accommodation you opt for.

On a recent trip, my first destination was Wailea, in the southern part of the island. I stayed in a Destination Residences Hawaii villa, which included a full living room, kitchen and private lanai. The villas are perfect for people who need more room, such as couples who like to cook, families who need two bedrooms, or those who want to make their own meals. Maui is known for its farmers markets, and I loved the idea of picking up fresh, local produce and eating my meals on the lanai while watching the sunrise or sunset.

As far as things to do in Wailea, there's plenty. I took part in the Hawaiian outrigger canoe paddle, which is a great full-body workout, as well as an authentic Hawaiian experience (it can be booked

[Continued on page 11](#)



A young bicyclist takes part in a AAA Bike Rodeo.

Yee-haw! Host a AAA Bike Rodeo

Want a great scout pack night or PTA event to start off the school year? Then book a AAA Bike Rodeo! AAA loans out everything you need to help kids learn how to be safer riders. The club also provides a suggested safety obstacle course, bike safety literature, participation certificates, reflective stickers and more. All you need is a suitable location, a date and some volunteers to help you out. Call 516-873-2409 today to book a summer or fall event.

To learn about our new roadside assistance for bicycles in New York, where members receive two service calls per year at no additional cost, visit AAA.com/Bicycle.



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Police, Transportation Agencies Fight Failure to Yield

BY ROBERTO X. CRUZ

In an effort to reduce traffic deaths and injuries, police and transportation agencies across the state are taking on drivers who fail to yield to pedestrians in crosswalks.

In New York City, where failure to yield the right of way is the leading cause of pedestrian deaths, police have cracked down on drivers who put people on foot at risk. In 2015, the New York Police Department issued a record 39,852 tickets for failure to yield, more than it had from 2011 to 2013 combined.

"Our officers are going out there and being proactive," said Inspector Dennis Fulton of the NYPD Transportation Bureau. "We want this dangerous driving behavior to cease, and we hope this violation acts as a deterrent."

Fulton, a 24-year veteran of the NYPD who has seen the horrors of deadly crashes, said officers in the Big Apple can

[Continued on page 19](#)

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

MARK SHAW

AAA Offers Members Identity Theft Security

In the time it took you to read this sentence, at least two Americans were victimized by identify theft and left with the time-consuming and frustrating process of recovering from that crime. This is a real issue for consumers today. A common misconception is that identity theft won't happen to you. However, no one is immune, and there are steps people can take to protect themselves.

To avoid becoming a victim of identity theft, AAA recommends that consumers monitor their credit reports, shred all documents that contain sensitive information and never carry their Social Security numbers, birth certificates or passports unless needed. Consumers should be wary of scammers attempting to gather personal information online and never open emails or click on links from unknown sources.

Sound advice. But AAA has gone further on behalf of our members by partnering with Experian, one of the nation's three major credit bureaus. Experian is working with members at AAA clubs across the nation to provide a strong identity theft protection program. Identity theft tops the Federal Trade Commission's national ranking of consumer complaints, making our program both timely and a valuable member benefit.

There are two ID theft monitoring services available to AAA Northeast members.

ProtectMyID Essential includes a credit report upon enrollment,

daily monitoring of your Experian credit report, lost wallet assistance and fraud resolution support. This program is free of charge to members.

For members who would like to strengthen their security, ProtectMyID Deluxe is available at a discounted rate of \$8.95 per month. This program monitors all three credit reports daily, provides identity theft insurance, lost wallet assistance, change of address notification, and scans sources on the internet where information is traded or sold. The Deluxe program also includes ChildSecure, which keeps an eye on your enrolled children's personal information.

Americans are increasingly aware of threats to their privacy and security, and would like to be more proactive in protecting their personal information. AAA's identity theft monitoring programs help you take an important step toward that goal. I strongly encourage you to log on to AAA.com/IdTheft or call 877-440-6943 to take advantage of this important member benefit.



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The Lucy Desi Museum Jamestown New York Lucille Ball birthplace Chautauqua County.

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GET OUT!

FUN THINGS TO DO IN NEW YORK

CIRCLE LINE

The classic sightseeing boat line has introduced a new cruise. “Hello Brooklyn” offers views and insider info on NYC’s hippest borough, from Bay Ridge to Greenpoint, and features Brooklyn-centric food/drink on board. Circleline42.com

WILD WALK

This exciting attraction at the Wild Center in Tupper Lake in the Adirondacks reopened in May after being closed for the winter season. The highlight is the elevated trail across the treetops—the only such trail in New York state. Wildcenter.org

HIT THE BEACH!

New York state has hundreds of beaches, ranging from sandy stretches along the Atlantic Ocean to small lakefront beauties. So pack your towels, slather on the sunscreen and spend the day at the beach! Visit AAA.com/NYBeaches to see the full list.



AAA.com/Calendar

7 Things to Do in Jamestown, NY

BY JILL FERGUS

Located in western New York, Jamestown sits at the southern end of Chautauqua Lake. Expect museums in renovated mansions, a 500-acre nature center and nearby, family-owned wineries.

1. “I Love Lucy” fans can visit the Lucille Ball Desi Arnaz Museum (the beloved comedienne was born in Jamestown), which features original costumes, portraits, rare footage and more.

2. Learn about Jamestown’s rich history through exhibits and displays at the Fenton History Center, housed in the landmark mansion of former New York governor Reuben E. Fenton.

3. At the nearby Jamestown

Audubon Nature Center, a 600-acre wildlife sanctuary, you can walk along 5 miles of trails while watching for hawks, robins and other birds.

4. The Chautauqua Institution, a not-for-profit educational center in nearby Chautauqua, offers a summerlong season of lectures and courses in a Victorian-style village setting.

5. Go wine tasting in Lake Erie Wine Country. There are several wineries, including Johnson Estate Winery, Noble Winery and Vetter Vineyards in Westfield, which is less than an hour’s drive from Jamestown.

6. The region has several charming B&Bs, such as The Oaks in Jamestown, which has 10 guest rooms and a shaded

patio. Chautauqua also has a few inns, as well as the historic Athenaeum Hotel.

7. Enjoy a steak at Landmark Restaurant in a renovated mansion, while Shawbucks Press Room’s menu includes pizza, pasta and a regional roast beef sandwich called beef on weck.



BOOK NOW!

If you are looking for a few more fun things to do and attractions to visit while in Jamestown and the Western New York region, please visit AAA.com/Jamestown.

THE 100 DEADLIEST DAYS FOR TEEN DRIVERS ARE UNDERWAY

BY BARBARA WARD

Each summer, an average of nearly 800 teenagers lose their lives in traffic crashes—more than any other time during the year.

The 100 days between Memorial Day and Labor Day are the deadliest for teens because they have more free time, less adult supervision and more opportunities to drive at night.

Parents can play an important role in keeping their

teens safe this summer by setting rules that keep their children off the road at night and by restricting them from riding in cars with multiple teen passengers.

These rules are important all year long, but are especially important during the summer months when teen driving deaths increase significantly.

AAA encourages parents and teens to visit AAA.com/Teens to learn more about the risks young drivers face as well as ways to keep your teen safe behind the wheel.

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10 TRIPTIKS

Fabulous and Fun Summertime Festivals

BY GEORGE MORSE

Boston Harborfest, Boston

Harborfest runs from July 1 to 4 with a lineup of events including three days of live music at Columbus Park, an arts festival and a fireworks display on the inner harbor. Independence Day weekend is also home to the annual Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular. It's not a part of the Harborfest celebration, but it's still a popular way to celebrate the nation's birthday with visitors flocking to the Hatch Shell, on the Charles River, for music and fireworks July 4.

40-foot-long barbecue pit. This year's feast runs Aug. 4 to 7.

Master Sand Sculpting Competition, Hampton Beach, N.H.

Just about everyone has built some kind of makeshift sand castle in their day, but there are only a select few with the skill required to earn an invitation to this annual competition, now entering its 16th year. The festivities kick off on June 13 with a group build led by event founder Greg Grady before 10 artists embark on the three-day solo competition. These unique

Duck Tape Festival, Avon, Ohio

From the things-you-probably-wouldn't-have-guessed-exist file comes the 13th annual Duck Tape Festival, an ode to duct tape from one of its most colorful manufacturers. The three-day affair starts June 17 with a slew of Duck Tape-themed activities and attractions including a parade of floats made from Duck Tape, life-size Duck Tape sculptures and a Duck Tape fashion show.

Feast of the Blessed Sacramento, New Bedford, Mass.

If you're planning to visit the Feast of the Blessed Sacramento, go hungry. Food is a central attraction of this gathering, which is entering its 102nd year and is pegged as the world's largest Portuguese feast. Everything from malassadas (Portuguese fried dough) to linguica is on the menu. Many festivalgoers self-season meat on rented skewers across a

creations, preserved with a special spray, are illuminated nightly through July 4.

Montreal International Jazz Festival, Montreal

The Montreal Jazz Festival is the biggest jazz festival in the world. Miles Davis and Dave Brubeck are just a few of the musicians who have performed here. This year's festival runs from June 29 to July 9 with headliners including Chick Corea and Wynton Marsalis. Concerts take place throughout the city, from small clubs to



Above: International Jazz Festival, Montreal. Below: Duck Tape Festival, Avon, Ohio.



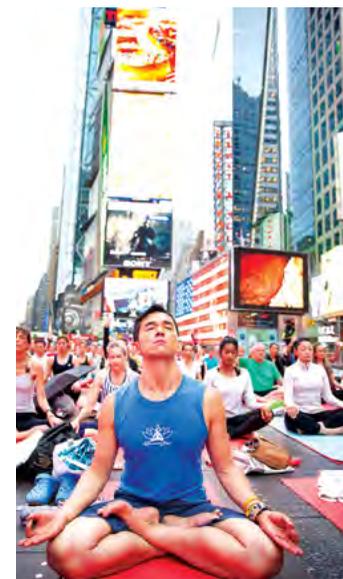
outdoor stages to large indoor halls. While tickets to see big-name performers can be expensive or hard to come by, the festival includes several free performances.

Nathan's 2016 Hot Dog Eating Contest, Coney Island, New York

When it comes to competitive eating, few events are as well-known as this annual Independence Day gathering. It's broadcast live on ESPN and crowds of up to 35,000 people have turned out in past years.



Major League Eating



Solstice Times Square, New York City.

runs July 22 to 24 at the University of Rhode Island. Guests can book tethered or, with reservations, an untethered flight. The event also features children's rides and crafts.

Solstice in Times Square, New York

If you've ever wanted to strike Warrior I in the middle of Times Square, this is your chance. Solstice in Times Square welcomes the first day of summer—June 20, the longest day of the year—with hours of free yoga classes performed in one of the nation's most active crossroads. It's open to yogis of all skill levels and festivities and runs until just before sundown. Visitors can also check out a yoga village with additional informational booths and activities.

Smithsonian Folklife Festival, Washington, D.C.

The Smithsonian is one of the world's great cultural treasures, and that's why it's a perfect institution to host an annual festival highlighting living and cultural traditions through music, craftsmanship and poetry, among other areas. This year's Folklife Festival will celebrate resilient communities around the world, including the Basque Country of northern Spain and southwestern France. The festival will be held on the National Mall between Fourth and Seventh streets from June 29 to July 4 and July 7 to 10. Admission is free.



Smithsonian Institution; Duck Tape Festival; Duck Brand / Peter Prokop; Jazz Festival; Benoit Rousseau

This year's festivities are part of a longer 100th anniversary celebration of Nathan's. The day, which begins around 11 a.m., features a variety of family-friendly entertainment before and between the men's and women's national finals.

The Dance Mile, Portland, Maine

Perhaps there is no better way to describe the Portland Dance Mile than this snippet of a description from the event's Facebook page: "5,280 feet of pure awesomeness." Participants follow a float carrying a DJ and emcee through the streets of Portland before enjoying a dance party and other festivities at the finish line. The Dance Mile, scheduled for July 16, is an alcohol-free event and is open to children. Dance Mile events are also scheduled for Chicago, Minneapolis, Boston, Los Angeles, Colorado Springs, Colo., and Wilmington, N.C.

South County Hot Air Balloon Festival/ Rhode Island State BBQ Championship, South Kingstown, R.I.

While a summer hot air balloon festival isn't unique, such an affair combined with a barbecue competition isn't something you see every day. Rhode Island's barbecue championship, sanctioned by the Kansas City Barbeque Society, enters its fifth year as South County's annual balloon festival celebrates its 38th gathering. The festival

Left: Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest, Coney Island, N.Y. Right: The art of Cusco textiles on display at the 2015 Smithsonian Folklife Festival.

Did we miss one of your favorite festivals? Go to AAA.com/CarandTravel to post a comment on the story.



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THE SHOP

3 'Wow' Wearables

BY ROBERTO X. CRUZ



VECTOR LUNA SMARTWATCH

\$299

What Is It? If you're looking for a little style with your smartwatch, Vector is the way to go. With its stainless steel case and natural leather strap, you get all the class of a luxury watch, but with the ability to customize watch faces, set alarms, track activity and more. Oh yeah, and did I mention that the battery lasts up to 30 days on a single charge?

Pros: By selecting a custom watch face, you can have the hands, weather and your meetings for the day available with just a glance at your wrist. Its battery charged from zero to 100 percent in about an hour (a meter in the app shows how much power remains). The build quality is tremendous, and the watch is water resistant enough that you can wear it in the shower.

Cons: It's not touch screen, but, hey, not everybody is looking for that in a watch. One gripe I had was that you cannot scroll through text notifications, so occasionally something I was trying to read got cut off.

FITBIT CHARGE HR

\$149.95

What Is It? Perfect for newbies to the fitness tracker world, the Charge HR distinguishes itself from other wrist-based health tech with its all-day heart rate tracker and vibrant colors, such as plum, tangerine and teal. Using its exercise mode, you can get real-time stats on activities such as cycling and the elliptical. And, of course, Fitbit's app is one of the best, allowing for easy customization, calorie counting, social networking and more.

Pros: The watch-style band is made of rubber that is super comfortable. At less than 1 inch in width and a half-pound in weight, you'll only really notice it's there when you want to check your progress. The tracker works with Android, Apple and Windows phones, plus a variety of third-party apps.

Cons: The Charge HR is sweatproof, but not waterproof (no scuba diving with this thing). And while the 0.7-inch OLED screen is really all you need to see your step count, I do wish it was a tad bigger.

SKULLCANDY GRIND WIRELESS HEADPHONES

\$59.99

What Is It? Skullcandy has coined my new favorite phrase: ear pillows. This is what the company calls the ultra-plush cushions that come in contact with your ears on its new Grind wireless headphones; a product that combines fantastic sound quality with comfort, an affordable price and—for Skullcandy—a more toned-down design. Battery life is excellent, with the headphones lasting me more than 10 hours on a single charge.

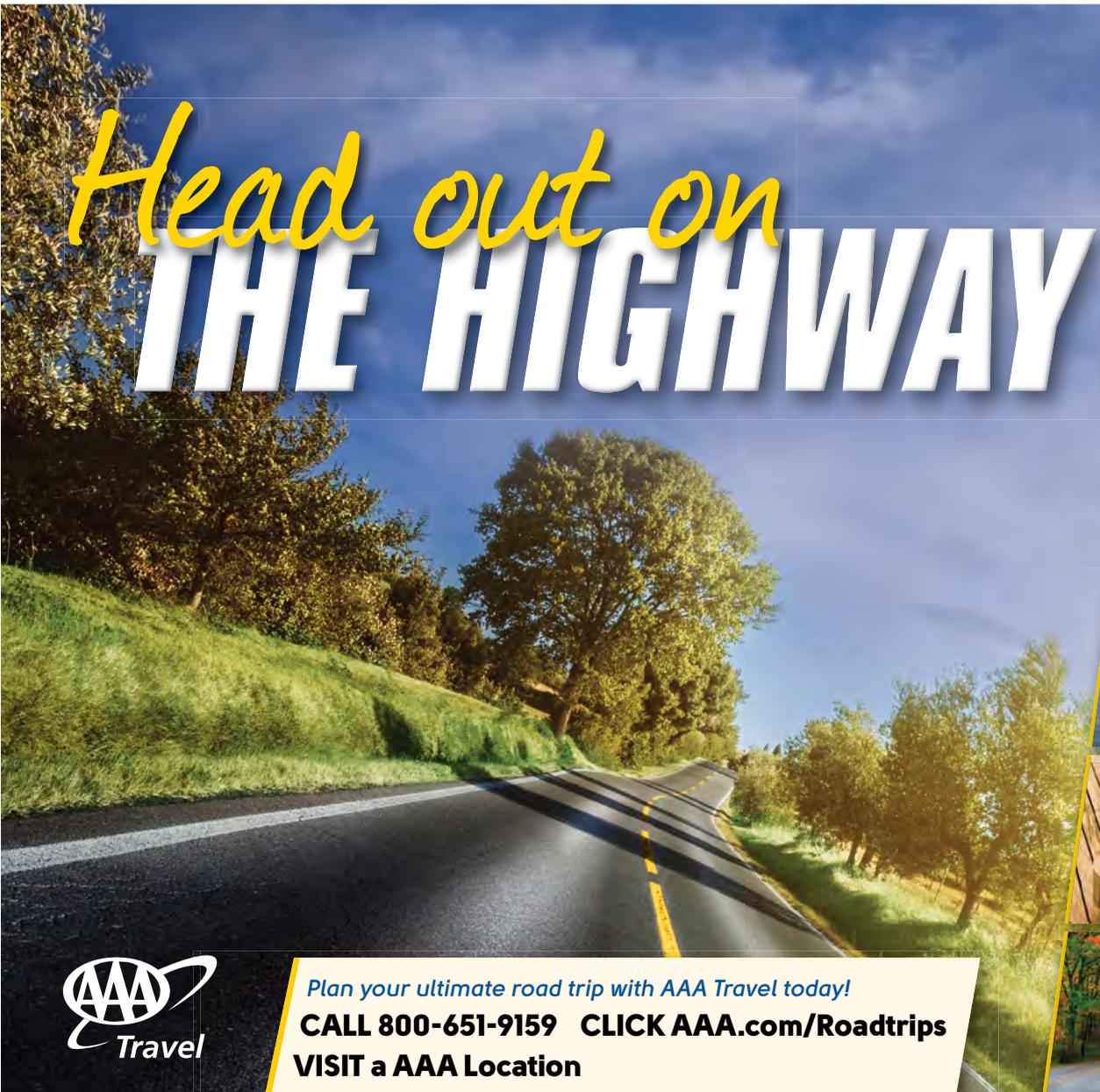
Pros: Weighing in at less than 1 pound, these headphones are virtually weightless. The left ear cup has a microphone and volume controls built in, and there is an auxiliary port to plug in a cable if you forget to charge your headset.

Cons: I would not recommend using these headphones while running. The aforementioned ear pillows get sweaty, and you can hear your feet thump against the ground as you run. That said, these headphones were awesome on a bike trail (just remember to take them off when there are cars around).



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The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and should not be considered an endorsement from AAA. To suggest an item for this column, go to AAA.com/TheShop.



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Where Is This?

An icon of New York City, this 7,000-pound bronze statue was created by Italian-American sculptor Arturo Di Modica to represent American perseverance in the wake of the stock market crash of 1987. Known as the “Charging Bull,” the 11-foot-tall, 18-foot-long sculpture took two years to build and cost \$360,000 to create and install. Do you know the name of the park where the statue is located today? Submit the correct answer at AAA.com/WhereIsThis for a chance to win a *Car & Travel* prize pack.

 AAA.com/WhereIsThis

RICH'S PICKS

Enchanting European Cities



Porto, Portugal, early in the morning.

Editor's note: As the vice president of branch/travel services, NY/NJ region, Richard D. Siragusa is our go-to person for vacation tips, travel trends and destination advice. If you have a suggested topic for Rich's Picks, please email magazine@aaanortheast.com.

A couple of months ago, I highlighted a few exciting small cities around the United States. For those looking to experience a similar vibe while traveling abroad, here is a sampling of European destinations where interesting attractions and culture can be enjoyed at a leisurely pace. Europe is a good value right now, particularly because of favorable currency exchange rates.

close your eyes and picture a Swiss landscape, you're probably imagining something that looks like Lucerne. This fairy-tale city is graced by Lake Lucerne and the Alps. A top Lucerne experience includes a walk across Chapel Bridge, Europe's oldest covered wooden bridge.

● **Reykjavik, Iceland:** This capital city has a rich concentration of cultural institutions, including museums, theaters and art galleries. Iceland is also known for its natural attractions such as the geothermal beach at Nautholsvik. And keep an eye out for the northern lights!

● **Porto, Portugal:** This coastal city is perhaps best known for its wine, which, unsurprisingly, is called port. But it's also rich in historic architecture—enough to earn a UNESCO World Heritage Site nod. For views of the Douro River and its surroundings, walk over the Ponte do Dom Luis I.

● **Lucerne, Switzerland:** If you

● **Salzburg, Austria:** Fans of “The Sound of Music” will want to see Schloss Leopoldskron, a castle and one of several Salzburg spots to appear in that classic film. Classical music aficionados can check out composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's birthplace and his residence, and visitors of all ages will enjoy the trick fountains of Schloss Hellbrunn.



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The Magical Island of Maui Bewitches Visitors

Continued from page 1

through the hotel). A big walker, I took the picturesque Wailea Coastal Walk for great views and photo ops. Kayaking has always been my thing and a half-day excursion with Maui Kayak Adventure, didn't disappoint. This eco-tour was a great way to spot marine life, including sea turtles and manta rays.

After three days exploring the south side of Maui, I was ready to embark on the famous Hana Highway. I had always heard about this famous stretch of land, but as someone who spent her whole adult life in New York, taking public transportation everywhere, the idea of driving on this famous switch-back highway (it connects routes 36 and 360) was a bit intimidating. The drive can take anywhere from three to 10 hours, depending on how often you stop, and is chock-full of photo ops, including waterfalls, scenic cliffs, beautiful beaches, taro patches, and botanical gardens.

I took it slow and took in the gorgeous scenery, eventually arriving at Travaasa Hana. Travaasa is a very different resort from Wailea's Destination Residences Hawaii villas—both nice in their own unique way. Hana is the easternmost part of Maui and the Travaasa is the first resort to see the sunrise each morning. There are no radios, clocks or TVs in the room—this 70-acre island resort is the place to come and relax and do a digital detox.

If you're looking for city action, this is the wrong place, but if you're looking for outdoor activities, yoga, spa and culinary options, this is the spot for you. I stayed in an ocean bungalow, which afforded amazing views of the Pacific Ocean from my private lanai. The focus here is on sustainability and it shows in the organic materials used in the linens, coffee and locally made soaps found in the rooms.

I took advantage of the area's unspoiled beauty by horseback riding through the lush green land. I also tried my hand at throw-net fishing, which is unique to Hawaii (hey, when in Rome!). While I didn't catch any fish, I enjoyed learning the history of this method as well as watching my expert guide working his magic (not surprisingly, his net was full of fish).

After an active day, the spa beckoned. The spa, which uses organic products, specializes in a variety of Hawaiian techniques including my favorite, the Lomilomi massage, which uses long strokes. The Preserve Kitchen + Bar restaurant was especially nice, since the chef is a local who specializes in making creative Hawaiian cuisine using sustainable ingredients and fruits and vegetables. The open-air restaurant is especially beautiful in the evenings when it incorporates local island music and hula dance.

What's nice about this area is that there's so much nearby: Kapahu Living Farm, Kahanu Garden (a National Tropical Botanical Garden and home to The Breadfruit Institute) and Waikoloa Beach. After spending a week in paradise, it was time to head back to the Big Apple. But after getting a taste of Maui life, I know there will be another trip to Hawaii not far ahead in my future.



Courtesy of Travaasa Maui



© Bill Brooks / Alamy Stock Photo

Top: Twilight at the Travaasa Hana resort. Bottom: Lower Wailuaiki Falls along the Hana Highway.

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You've just read about two great lodging options on Maui. For more information on fabulous hotels on the various islands of Hawaii, including Oahu and Kauai, visit AAA.com/HawaiiHotels.

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CityScape: Chicago

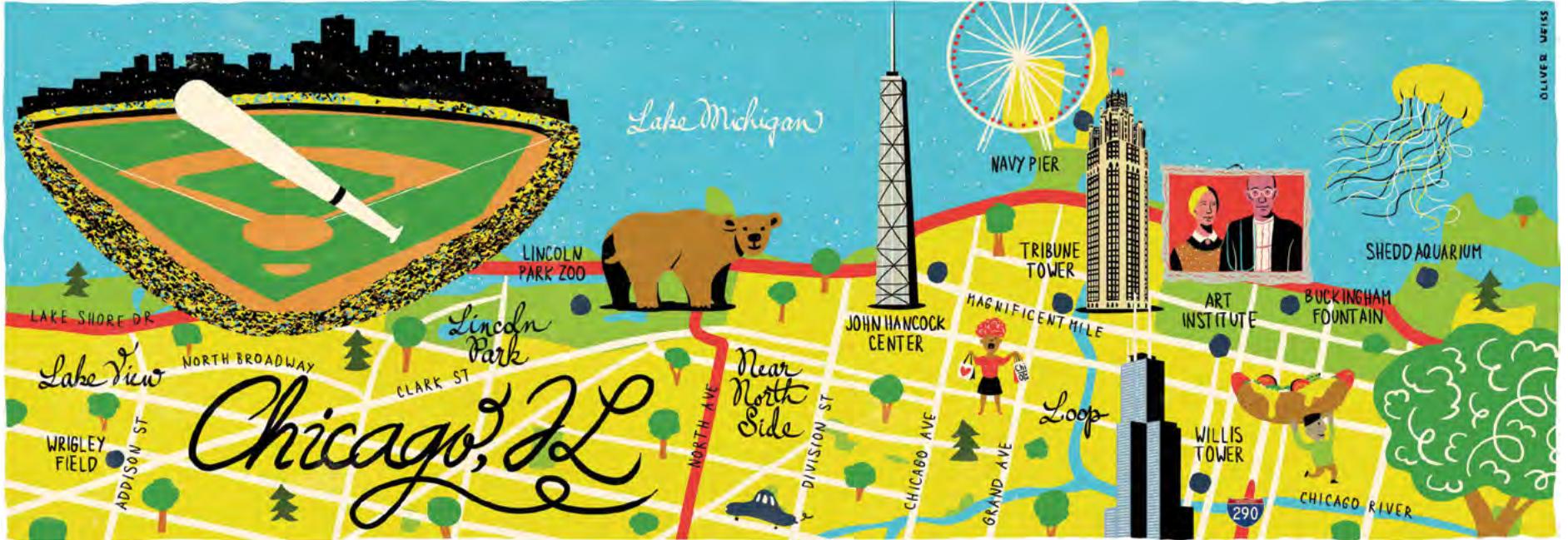


Illustration: Oliver Weiss www.olweiss.com

BY JILL FERGUS

Though often called the Second City, Chicago has plenty of first-rate attractions. This vibrant metropolis—sprinkled with a little Midwestern wholesomeness—sits in an enviable location on the shore of Lake Michigan (OK, maybe not so enviable in winter) and is known for its dazzling architecture and world-class museums. It also has plenty of cool neighborhoods to discover outside of the tourist zones, acres of parkland and the historic ivy-walled Wrigley Field where the Cubs play. This is their year. Really, it is.

DO

The Art Institute of Chicago has a vast collection and features several national treasures including “American Gothic” by Grant Wood and “Nighthawks” by Edward Hopper. A fun, family-friendly attraction is the Navy Pier, where you’ll find a Ferris wheel (a new version with temperature-controlled gondolas opens this summer) and other rides, shops and restaurants. You can also catch a sightseeing boat tour here, either around Lake Michigan or along the Chicago River (the architecture-themed river tours are especially popular).

DISCOVER

For jaw-dropping views of Chicago’s legendary skyline and Lake Michigan, head to the Skydeck on the 103rd floor of the Willis Tower—and if you’re really daring, step out onto The Ledge, four glass boxes that extend 4 feet out. Like to shop? Hit the boutiques and department stores along North Michigan Avenue, aka Magnificent Mile. If you love the outdoors, there are plenty of great parks to explore including Grant Park, home of the pretty rococo-style Buckingham Fountain and Lincoln Park, which features the Lincoln Park Zoo.

DINE

Try the deep-dish pizza or a Chicago-style hot dog, typically topped with peppers, a pickle and diced onions. You can also have a casual meal at Kitty O’Sheas, a fun Irish-themed pub within the Chicago Hilton. This historic hotel, opened in 1927, is one of the Windy City’s most iconic places to stay. The property, across from Grant Park, has more than 1,500 rooms and two grand staircases in the lobby. There’s also the 720 South Bar & Grill, where you can dine on small plates (sliders, charcuterie, etc.) and sip classic cocktails.



BOOK NOW!

June is a great time to be in Chicago, so why not book a trip? The city has so many hotels to choose from, including many with views of Lake Michigan. For more information on the best accommodations in the Windy City visit AAA.com/ChicagoHotels.

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Colonial Charms in Lexington and Concord

BY JILL FERGUS

I've always been a Revolutionary War buff, so I couldn't pass up the opportunity to spend a weekend in Massachusetts' Lexington and Concord. But first I wanted to brush up on my Colonial-era history, so I started my adventure along Boston's Freedom Trail. After checking into The Langham, a 318-room luxury hotel in a former Federal Reserve Bank building, I headed to the Old North Church. Admittedly, getting there was half the fun. I "hailed" the Langham's house car, a pink English-style taxi that ferries guests around town. The smile-evoking vehicle certainly turned a few heads as I exited.

It was at this historic church that, on April 18, 1775, two lanterns were hung from the steeple warning that the British were headed to Lexington and Concord by sea ("one if by land, two if by sea"). That, of course, was just one aspect of the famous Midnight Ride, memorialized in the famous Henry Wadsworth Longfellow poem, "Paul Revere's Ride." I continued along the Freedom Trail to the patriot's historic dwelling, the Paul Revere House (one of Boston's oldest buildings), and finished my tour at the Old State House, where the Declaration of Independence was read from the balcony in 1776.

I mulled all of these momentous events over with a glass of wine at the Langham's elegant Bond restaurant and lounge, a dramatic space with 25-foot vaulted ceilings and huge crystal chandeliers (The Reserve in the lobby also serves drinks and light bites and does a terrific afternoon tea), then capped off the night with a delicious meal at State Street Provisions, a recently opened spot with warm woods and leather banquettes on the

edge of Long Wharf. The half-dozen local oysters, steak frites (with an unending mound of pecorino herb fries) and roasted Brussels sprouts hit the spot.

In Lexington, less than an hour's drive, my first stop was Buckman Tavern. Built in 1710, it served as the headquarters of the Lexington militia. On the night of April 18, 1775, militiamen mustered on the adjacent Green awaiting the arrival of the British (having been warned by Revere). They finally arrived at sunrise the next day. After a standoff, a shot was fired (it is not known which side shot first), which started the skirmish; it ended with eight patriots dead. This is the first military engagement of the American Revolution. The Battle Green (as it's now called), is sprinkled with numerous memorials and the Battles of Lexington and Concord are reenacted each Patriots Day, a statewide holiday celebrated on the third Monday in April.

I overnights at The Inn at Hastings Park, housed in three restored 19th-century buildings just down the road from the Battle Green. The 22 rooms are stylish and contemporary with patriotic twists, such as the vintage-style American flag on the wall in my suite (it also had a gas fireplace and deep soaking tub). And touches like finding a charcuterie plate after a day of exploring were greatly appreciated. At the inn's award-winning restaurant, Artistry on the Green, helmed by chef Anthony Mazzotta, I had one of the best meals I've had in a long while—I'm still dreaming of my sea scallops and roasted root vegetables entrée and the butterscotch pudding for dessert.

Concord, a 15-minute drive away, is smaller than Lexington and has a storybook charm with its



A suite at The Inn at Hastings Park.

shop-lined Main Street and town square, anchored by the 18th-century Colonial Inn. A few steps away is the town's top B&B, the North Bridge Inn, where I stayed. Housed in an 1885 building, there are six individually decorated rooms (and the beds are super-comfy). Rooms are equipped with kitchens/kitchenettes

(there's also a Victorian-style breakfast room) or you can dine by the fire at the Colonial Inn's cozy wood-lined tavern.

The inn takes its name from nearby North Bridge, a wooden pedestrian span at the center of the Battle of Concord ("the shot heard 'round the world")—also on April 19. After the fighting at Lexington, the British marched on to Concord (finding hidden weapons was their ultimate goal), where they encountered militiamen at the bridge. A battle ensued with casualties on both sides. Outmanned, the British retreated, giving the patriots their first victory of the war. The bridge is now part of Minute Man National Historical Park, which has exhibits on the battle, as does the Concord Museum (its collection includes one of the lanterns that hung in the Old North Church steeple!).

As if that's not enough, Concord has a rich literary tradition: Ralph Waldo Emerson, Louisa May Alcott and Henry David Thoreau lived and wrote here (some of their homes are open for tours and Walden Pond is just outside of town). Plus, the area is growing as a culinary destination. In addition to Artistry on the Green, Lexington has Vine Brook Tavern and Lexx, while Bondir, 80 Thoreau and Woods Hill Table are attracting attention in Concord. While history may be the main draw in these towns, stylish inns and creative cuisine ensure that they are not mired in the past.


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If you're planning a trip to Lexington/Concord, you'll likely be starting or finishing in Boston so why not take in a Red Sox game? Check out our Fenway guide by visiting AAA.com/FenwayParkGuide.



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MY FIRST CAR

Mika Brzezinski

Born in New York City, television personality Mika Brzezinski is the co-host of MSNBC's critically acclaimed morning show "Morning Joe" and the author of three best-selling books, including "Knowing Your Value" and "Grow Your Value."

1. What was your first car?

My first car was a used, red Toyota Corolla.

2. How did you acquire it?

I bought the car for a few thousand dollars at a Branford, Conn., Toyota dealership on Route 1. Branford was my hometown at the time.

3. What is your favorite memory of it?

My favorite memory was when I was pregnant with my first child, Emilie. I went into labor when I was alone at my home, and I decided to drive myself to the hospital. On the way, I saw my colleagues from CBS who were in the middle of a shoot along the highway. I stopped to tell them the good news, and they hopped in my car to drive me to the hospital!

4. What happened to it?

After I put about 200,000 miles on the Corolla, I gave the car to my nanny. She was able to drive the car for another 100,000 miles or so and actually got into a minor car accident where the car was driven into a ditch. Even after the accident and another 100,000 miles, my nanny was able to pass the car down to her sister.



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TEST DRIVES

2016 Jeep Renegade Trailhawk 4x4

The Jeep proved to be a huge surprise. First, because it was supposed to be an Audi, but the delivery truck broke down. Second, because this berm-busting off-road vehicle was such a kick to drive.

The Renegade's upright, boxy shape and tall greenhouse produces fantastic outward vision. There was no lack of headroom, especially when the difficult-to-operate My Sky removable roof panels were stowed in the cargo area, which left a large, convertible-like opening. The front seats seemed to grab passengers and hold them firmly—a big plus when driving off-road. A thick, super-hot heated steering wheel and heated seats were much appreciated on some of the lion-like cold March days during which we had the vehicle.

Our tester came in a shade of yellow that had lots of pedestrians jumping in the road to try to hail a ride. No need to worry with the Jeep nimble beyond all expectations. The steering responded quickly during turns, no doubt aided by the Renegade's relatively short wheelbase. The suspension limited body roll with its stiffness, but the ride was never harsh and seemed perfectly tuned for our area's poor roads.

The Jeep jumped from a standing start with nearly instantaneous throttle response. As it hustled up to highway speeds, it accelerated nicely, shifting through the gears of its nine-speed transmission with ease. Interstate performance, though, was less than ideal as the Jeep

was slow to respond to a floored gas pedal. It took forever to downshift through the many gears to one that would provide decent passing power.

Lots of wind noise also made highway driving tedious. Dreaded understeer showed up at a hairpin highway off-ramp with the tires squealing like an animal in pain—an experience common back in the '70s, but surprising on a modern vehicle. Six different four-wheel-drive modes should make the Jeep a dream in snow.

It's not perfect, but the Renegade Trailhawk is a really nice vehicle. Off-roading fans should love it, with its great Monday-to-Friday paved road manners and the promised capability of some serious four-wheelin' fun in the dirt on weekends.

—Robert Sinclair, Jr.



Fiat Chrysler Automobiles

\$31,645 (Price as tested)	24/31 mpg	4-cylinder 180 hp	Competitors: Nissan Juke Honda HR-V Mazda CX-3
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2016 MAZDA MX-5 MIATA GRAND TOURING

All-new for 2016, the MX-5 Miata continues its 26-year formula of small size, light weight and just enough horsepower to provide adequate acceleration. Even though it's slightly bigger than its predecessor, this is still a small car, and larger drivers will feel cramped after a long drive. But with its quick-shifting manual transmission, the Miata rewards enthusiasts with responsive, balanced handling in a sharply styled convertible.

—Robert Sinclair, Jr.

\$31,015 (Price as tested)
27/36 mpg
4-cylinder 155 hp



Mazda

AROUND THE HORN

Speaking of the all-new MX-5, Mazda's popular roadster was named the **2016 World Car of the Year** during a news conference at the New York International Auto Show. Voted on by more than 70 automotive journalists from over two dozen countries, the shorter, lower and wider MX-5 edged out the Audi A4 and the Mercedes-Benz GLC for top honors.

In traffic safety news, a recent study by the **Insurance Institute for Highway Safety** found that the headlights on many popular vehicles have serious shortcomings. Of the 31 headlights IIHS tested, only the Toyota Prius received a "good" rating, with 19 others tagged "marginal" or "poor." The findings reaffirm a 2015 AAA study that found a majority of car headlights in the U.S. fail to adequately illuminate unlit roadways at speeds as low as 40 mph.

—Roberto X. Cruz



Toyota

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Police, Transportation Agencies Fight Failure to Yield

Continued from page 1

pull over any motorist driving in the crosswalk when pedestrians have the right of way. In New York state, a driver ticketed for failure to yield is subject to a \$150 fine and up to three points on his or her driver's license for a first offense.

"Some drivers think New York City is unjustly exonerating the countless jaywalkers they see every day on their commute," said Alec Slatky, a legislative analyst for AAA Northeast. "But this isn't about pedestrians behaving badly. This is about unsafe drivers endangering pedestrians who are doing everything right."

Karen Blackburn, a traffic safety specialist for AAA Northeast, said drivers should be ready to slow down for pedestrians at all times. To be able to safely yield when necessary, motorists should travel at reasonable speeds and slow down and look in all directions before proceeding through an intersection and/or crosswalk, she added.

In 2014, a driver's failure to yield was cited in 42 pedestrian deaths and 3,478 pedestrian injuries statewide, according to the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles. In New York City, where about 12,000 pedestrians are injured annually, failure to yield was a factor in about 150 pedestrian deaths over the past five years, according to the New York City Department of Transportation.

To combat the problem, the NYC DOT uses billboards, commercials and websites to educate motorists about the dangers of driving through a crosswalk when pedestrians are on the move. This summer agency engineers plan to make left turns safer at 100 intersections where pedestrian and bicycle traffic injuries frequently occur, said Rob Viola, a senior project manager for the agency's Office of Research, Implementation and Safety. The improvements are part of the Vision Zero traffic safety initiative, which has reduced the number of pedestrians killed on the streets of New York City since it began in 2014.

At a majority of the intersections, which are primarily in Brooklyn and Manhattan, the agency plans to install plastic bollards, which are like skinny traffic cones, Viola said. The bollards will be put up for 20 to 30 feet along the double-yellow line on the receiving end of a troublesome turn, he added.

"When a vehicle comes to make its turn, it will have to do so slowly and at more of a right angle," Viola said about the benefit of the bollards. "These are all things that are better for turning safety."

New York City was one of five municipalities awarded AAA's Platinum Award in 2015 for the outstanding success of its traffic safety programs.

Another was Port Washington on the North Shore of Long Island's Nassau County.

AAA recognized Port Washington for a program it calls the Pedestrian Education Enforcement and Traffic Solutions program, or PEETS. Developed by now-retired police officer Tracy Dioguardi of the Port Washington Police District's Traffic Safety Enforcement Unit, the PEETS program stepped up failure to yield enforcement at the crosswalk outside the Port Washington Long Island Rail Road station.

As part of the program, a police officer would walk in the crosswalk and look for unsafe drivers, Port Washington Police District Deputy Chief Bob Del Muro said. Those drivers were stopped, as were pedestrians who crossed the street outside the crosswalk, he said.

On the day the program launched, in July of 2014, officers gave out 20 summonses

and 30 warnings to motorists, and each received a flyer on the dangers of failing to yield, Del Muro said. Officers also issued 19 warnings to pedestrians and six warnings to bicyclists, he added. The department has conducted similar events several times since and plans to do them again this summer, Del Muro said.

"Like with everything else, education is key," Del Muro said. "When drivers and pedestrians get a little more educated on the dangers of failing to yield, and learn that somebody is likely to get injured—or that they might get a ticket—maybe then they will think twice about this dangerous behavior."

KEEPING PEDESTRIANS SAFE

It's true that not every crash involving a pedestrian is a driver's fault. But there are actions drivers can take to help reduce the odds of a serious crash involving someone on foot. Here are some best practices.

- ✓ Avoid distractions such as cellphones.
- ✓ Always be prepared to yield at a crosswalk.
- ✓ Scan for walkers, not just cars, before you turn.
- ✓ Slow down *before* you make a turn.
- ✓ Try to make turns at close to a 90-degree angle.
- ✓ Don't "gun it" as soon as the light turns green.
- ✓ Be prepared to wait until the end of the light to turn.
- ✓ Be patient for cars stopped for pedestrians.



For more driver safety resources, go to AAA.com/Safety.



BE A BETTER DRIVER

Freshen up on your driving skills with the AAA Driver Improvement Program. Classes are available in-person and online, and those who complete the six-hour course can save 10 percent on collision, liability and no-fault car insurance. For more information, go to AAA.com/DefensiveDriving or call 866-901-8457.

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INSURANCE

4 Emerging Classic Cars



BY ROBERTO X. CRUZ

Every now and then, a car is so beloved—or so rare—that its value starts to skyrocket decades after it was built.

In the classic car market, this boost in value is one way buyers distinguish classic and collectible cars from ordinary used vehicles, said Jonathan Klinger, a spokesman for Hagerty, the nation's largest insurer of classic cars.

"People used to say that once a car is 25 years old, it's a classic, but that's no longer true," Klinger said. "A vehicle's collector status today really depends on supply and demand."

Of course, the condition of the car, the number of original parts and, yes, even color matters, too. With that in mind, let's take a look at four cars from the '80s and '90s that are gaining in popularity at auction houses across America.

1986 PORSCHE 911 TURBO

2013 Value: \$39,600

2016 Value: \$195,000

This speedy 282-horsepower coupe is beloved by collectors for its 3.3-liter air-cooled, rear flat-six

engine. Capable of going from zero to 60 mph in 4.6 seconds, the 911 Turbo has a 155-mph top speed that was marveled at in the early 1980s.

1987 BUICK REGAL GNX

2013 Value: \$54,100

2016 Value: \$87,000

1987 was the final year for Buick's Grand National series, and the GNX helped it go out with a bang. With a 3.8-liter V-6 capable of producing 276 horsepower, it was one of the fastest muscle cars in America in its day.

1992 DODGE VIPER RT/10

2013 Value: \$21,400

2016 Value: \$26,800

It's tough to think of a sports car from the 1990s as a classic, but with its colossal 8-liter V-10 engine, the Viper RT/10 is a favorite of auto enthusiasts. The fact that only 285 were built simply adds to its growing appeal.

1981 BMW M1

2013 Value: \$217,000

2016 Value: \$592,000

Until a few years ago, the M1 was the only mid-engine supercar ever produced by BMW. Only 453 were

ever built, making it one of the automaker's rarest models and one a collector anywhere would love to own, in any color.

Vehicle values are estimates courtesy of the Hagerty Valuation Tools.

Collector Car Insurance from Hagerty and AAA

Hagerty is as passionate about cars as you are. The AAA partner provides affordable coverage for classic and collectible cars, including many from model year 1980 and later. To learn more about the coverage options available through Hagerty, call your AAA Insurance agent or visit AAA.com/Insurance.

DIGITAL EXTRA

With food, entertainment, giveaways and more, classic car shows are a great way to spend a Saturday afternoon in the summer. For a complete guide to upcoming automotive events in your area, check out AAA.com/CarShows.

Driving Costs Down, Road Travel Up in U.S.

BY ROBERTO X. CRUZ

Could the lowest driving costs in six years fuel extra road travel this summer?

AAA Northeast wants to hear what you think at AAA.com/DriverSurvey. There you will find a short questionnaire about your driving habits and road travel plans for the warmer months. The results will be shared in a future issue of Car & Travel.

Following a year in which gas prices bottomed out, and highway travel hit an all-time high, the cost to own and operate a vehicle is at its cheapest point since 2010, according to AAA's 2016 Your Driving Costs study. AAA researchers estimate the average driver spends 57 cents per mile to drive, when you factor in fuel, insurance, depreciation and maintenance.

The biggest factor in the price drop is cheaper gas, AAA researchers said. Gas prices also play a significant role in whether or not AAA Northeast members take driving vacations, according to the results of a club-wide survey conducted earlier this year.

About half of the AAA Northeast members who responded to the survey said they are more likely to take a road trip or driving vacation when fuel costs are low.

The survey also showed that 8 in 10 members planned on taking at least one road trip this summer. Of the New Yorkers planning to hit the road, 47 percent said they intend to visit a New England state at least once.

Other popular destinations are in the South Atlantic states, such as Florida and Virginia, which 43 percent of New Yorkers said they would like to visit this summer.

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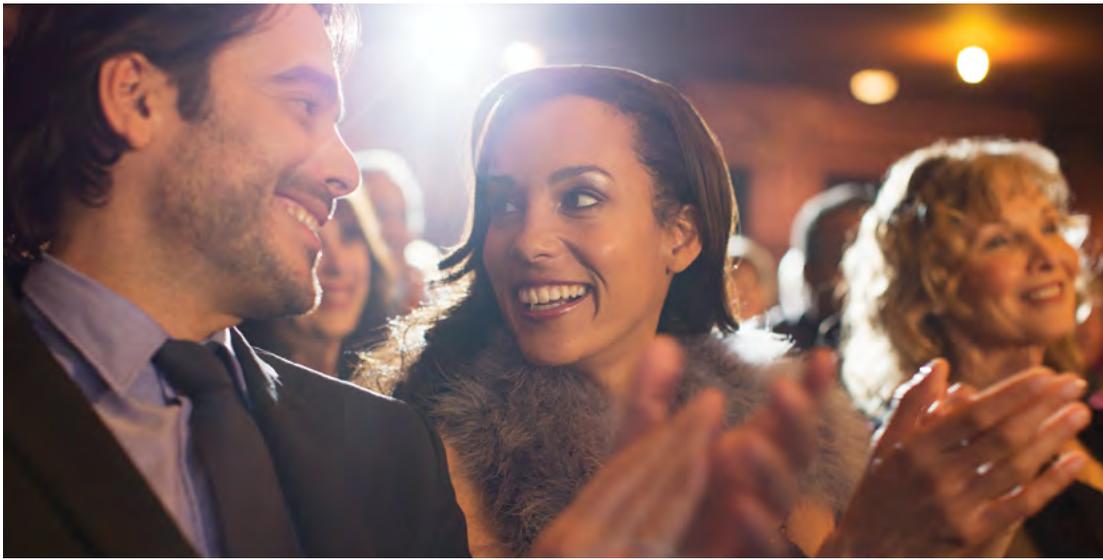
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June Events



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NYC EVENTS

Through June 8, Open Roads: New Italian Cinema (Manhattan)

The Film Society of Lincoln Center and Italian Cultural Institute of New York are co-hosting this film festival, which focuses on recent Italian movies. Most of the screenings are held at Lincoln Center on Manhattan's West Side.

Through June 30, Blue Note Jazz Festival (various NYC locales)

This world-famous festival hosted by the Blue Note Jazz Club includes 150 performances at 15 New York City venues. The 2016 roster includes Arturo Sandoval, Robert Glasper Experiment and Michael Franks.

June 11-12, Jazz Age Lawn Party (Governors Island)

Visitors to this party are encouraged to wear era-appropriate garb as they dance the evening away on Governors Island. The fun-filled event features music by the Dreamland Orchestra, including a Charleston dance contest.

June 12, National Puerto Rican Day Parade (Manhattan)

The parade kicks off at 11 a.m. at 44th Street and winds its way up Fifth Avenue toward 79th Street. Festivities pertaining to the parade, all of which are free, will continue until 5 p.m.

June 12, Drums Along the Hudson (Manhattan)

The free annual Native Ameri-

can festival, which is held by the city's Parks Department and Lotus Music and Dance, includes Native American, Japanese, Brazilian, Flamenco and Korean dancers and drummers from around the world.

June 14, Museum Mile Festival (Manhattan)

Featuring free admission at numerous museums on Museum Mile, this festival runs along Fifth Avenue between 82nd and 105th streets. Participating museums include the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum.

June 16-25, New York City Dance Week (various NYC locations)

More than a dozen New York City-based dance studios will of-

fer free dance and fitness classes as part of this annual event. The festival will also include seminars and performances by professional dance troupes.

June 18, Mermaid Parade (Brooklyn)

More than 1,000 people don glittery costumes and gather annually for this parade in Coney Island. The event also includes floats with aquatic themes and classic cars parked along Surf Avenue.

June 19, Egg Rolls and Egg Creams Festival (Manhattan)

Paying homage to a variety of cultural traditions, this festival will include empanadas as well as Jewish, Chinese and Puerto Rican food, music, folk art and crafts. The free event will be held at the Museum at Eldridge Street.

June 23-24, Games for Change Festival (Manhattan)

Aimed at exploring ways games can improve lives, this festival features workshops and a game arcade at Parsons School of Design. The event will also include the first-ever G4C marketplace with the latest games and gaming technology.

NEW YORK STATE EVENTS

June 7-11, Americade Motorcycle Rally (Lake George)

Held in the Adirondacks, this event is the world's largest multi-brand motorcycle touring rally. The five-day event includes rides, tours, a trade show, fashion show, demonstrations,

displays and other activities.

June 11-12, 24th Annual Civil War Weekend (Peterboro)

Visitors to this event will be able to experience a day in the life of a soldier 150 years ago. Activities include music, drama, storytelling and period craft demonstrations. There will be both Union and Confederate camps.

June 12, Hosta Show (Buffalo)

The Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Garden's event will display hundreds of single hosta leaves in vases and grouped by size and color. Judges will analyze each leaf for awards. The show runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

June 17-18, 19th Annual Father's Day Car Show (Old Forge)

The Hiltibrant Recreation Center will host this car show, which kicks off at 9 a.m. and includes a trophy and prize ceremony at 3 p.m. There will be cash prizes for Best of Show and antique vehicles. Admission for the show is \$2.

June 18-19, Adirondack Woofstock (Chestertown)

Break out the tie dye and bring your pup to this Woodstock-themed weekend event, which will include a dog talent show, Frisbee contests, a doggie fun zone, food and music.

June 19, Constable Hall Arts and Craft and Classic

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Car Show (Constableville)

Approximately 30 vendors will sell arts and crafts, while the classic car show will include more than 200 classes of automobiles. The event, which runs from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., will also include a silent auction and musical entertainment.

June 25, 2nd Annual Beacon Jazz Fest (Beacon)

This Hudson Valley festival will feature local jazz musicians as well as local craft breweries, cideries and wineries that will conduct tastings. Artisan chefs from around the region will be on-hand to provide samples of seasonal goodies.

June 25-26, Adirondack Wine and Food Festival (Lake George)

More than 30 New York wineries, breweries and specialty food vendors will set up shop at this annual festival, which runs from noon to 6 p.m. on Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Admission includes a commemorative tasting glass.

June 25-26, 41st Annual Lockport Outdoor Arts and Crafts Festival (Lockport)

More than 200 New York state craft and food vendors will take part in this event on Main Street in downtown Lockport. The event, which runs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., includes free parking and free admission.

June 26, Discover Hudson Valley Ride (Poughkeepsie)

Centered around the world's longest footbridge—Walkway Over the Hudson—this ride provides gorgeous views of Ulster and Dutchess counties. There will be rest areas along the route.

OUT-OF-STATE EVENTS

June 9, Taste of the Bay (Providence, R.I.)

Celebrating the flavors of Narragansett Bay, this festival includes food and drinks from local restaurants, shellfish fishermen, bakeries, breweries and wineries. Visitors will also be able to enjoy gorgeous scenery and live music.

June 9-12, Hartford Symphony Orchestra Presents 'An American in Paris' (Hartford, Conn.)

The symphony's season finale is a presentation of George Gershwin's jazz-influenced symphonic poem that evokes the energy of Paris in the 1920s as well as Golijov's "Rose of the Winds" and Rachmaninoff's "Symphonic Dances, Op. 45."

June 10-12, Punk Rock Bowling & Music Festival (Asbury Park, N.J.)

Celebrating its 18th year, this music festival will be held at the Stone Pony Summer Stage and includes three days of outdoor music, four nights of club shows, a two-day bowling tournament, pool parties, a poker tournament and other activities.

June 11, Rhode Island Scottish Highland Festival (Richmond, R.I.)

The Washington County Fairgrounds will host this all-day family event, which includes solo

piping, drumming, pipe bands, drum major competitions, highland dance competitions and Celtic harp performances.

June 11, Orange Congregational Church Strawberry Festival (Orange, Conn.)

This festival will include crafts, fine arts, an auto show, live entertainment, children's games, rides, face painting, hayrides and a variety of food, such as pulled pork, hamburgers, hot dogs, strawberry sundaes and strawberry shortcake.

June 12, Dragon Boat Festival (Boston)

The annual festival includes Chinese arts and crafts, dance, drumming, music, martial arts demonstrations, food and, naturally, dragon boat races on the Charles River. The event runs from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

June 12, Gloucester County Flower Show (National Park, N.J.)

Attendees will be able to take part in gardening activities, visit vendor booths and view plant



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specimens at the Whitall House. Tours of gardens will be available and visitors will be able to learn how to keep their garden thriving all summer.

June 12, Odunde Festival (Philadelphia)

The celebration, which marks its 41st year in 2016, is the largest African-themed street festival on the East Coast. The events kick off with a spiritual procession to ring in the Yoruba New Year and then follows with traditional music, dance, crafts and food.

June 15-19, Boston Guitarfest (Boston)

This five-day festival features concerts, competitions and workshops at the New England Conservatory. There will also be an open mic night, Fuego Espanol concert, roundtable discussions, flamenco performance and a closing reception.

June 25-26, Manayunk Arts Festival (Philadelphia)

Featuring approximately 300 artists from all over the country, this festival also offers local food

and drink, live music and handmade crafts. The two-day festival takes place along Main Street in Philadelphia's Manayunk neighborhood. Vendors will be selling everything from ceramics and paintings to jewelry and pottery.

EVENTS

For the latest event details and discount information, visit AAA.com/Calendar.

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