

Embracing arts

Written by

PAULA REECE - preece@dmreg.com
Fairfield

11:00 PM, Mar. 19, 2011|

Distance from Des Moines: 112 miles

Once a month Fairfield holds an art walk to socialize, support its artists and celebrate the diversity of culture and thought that make this town special. The **1st Fridays Art Walk** began nearly 10 years ago as a grassroots effort to showcase local arts. Last summer more than 2,500 people participated each month. On April 1, the walk is themed "Art Landish: The Folly of Foolish Art" and will cover many genres, from the whimsical to the art of the Masters. Visit www.fairfieldartwalk.org to read descriptions of the exhibits at participating venues. Or call (641) 233-8883 for more information. While in town, don't miss the exquisite outdoor mural, part of Fairfield's Maze of Murals Project. More murals will be added this year in downtown alleys.

Great stay

Sweetwater Bunkhouse - For a hands-on experience living off the grid, spend a night at this house in Abundance EcoVillage, a sustainable housing development just outside of town that uses solar panels and wind generation, rainwater catchment and organic agriculture. Starting at \$59 a night, guests can enjoy a well-stocked kitchen,

wireless Internet, high-definition TV, organic linens and pastoral views. Call (641) 472-7484 or visit www.sweetwaterfairfield.com.

Good Eats

Fairfield's many restaurants and eateries represent more than 10 nationalities, some of whom specialize in organic and vegetarian options.

Vivo - With a modern feel, Vivo offers fine dining and international cuisine. For reservations, call (641) 472-2766. 606 W. Broadway.

Revelations Cafe - This coffeehouse serves sandwiches and light meals, with an emphasis on organic produce and non-genetically engineered food. 112 N. Main St.

Can't-miss stop

The Sondheim Center - The 522-seat center for performing arts attracts a mix of

Advertisement

Fast, convenient,
AND affordable

Save on select
Wireless*
All-in-Ones,
Photo Printers
and Lasers

Save
Today

Limited time offers

Shop Now >

Print Powered By FormatDynamics™

culture. Upcoming attractions include "Branson on the Road," a comedian from Saturday Night Live, a Danish pianist and a Neil Diamond tribute. Next on the docket: The Tony Award-winning play, "Into the Woods." 7:30 p.m. April 1-9. Purchase tickets at www.fairfieldacc.com. 200 N. Main St.

Iowa Falls

Distance from Des Moines: 82 miles

Dubbed "The Scenic City" for its parks and river view, Iowa Falls fuses traditional art with the artistic beauty of its natural surroundings. Artist Peter Toth carved a statue here for his "Trail of the Whispering Giants," a tribute to Native Americans that spans the country, and the **Pat Clark Art Collection** is an artistic and cultural gem. Clark, born and raised in Iowa Falls, traveled the world with the U.S.

Department of State. Wherever posted, she would collect works of art that represented the culture. The collection of more than 200 pieces she donated to the Ellsworth Foundation is an opportunity to experience a world of art and culture in one small space. A rotating exhibit is displayed in the lovely Carnegie-Ellsworth building. All exhibits are free and open to the public. 9 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call (641) 648-8576 to schedule a group tour. 520 Rocksylvania Ave.

Good Eats

Camp David - This riverfront restaurant is even accessible by canoe when water level permits. Enjoy traditional steak and

barbecue favorites, as well as unexpected dishes, such as a Smoked Duck Quesadilla or a Grilled Mushroom Sandwich. Visit www.campdavidrestaurant.com. 119 Main St.

Princess Sweet Shop and Cafe - The art deco design and 25-foot-long counter of this Iowa Falls icon have the ability to whisk people right back to their childhood, when they'd order a Cherry Coke or their famous "velvet" ice cream. Grab a sweet treat or a meal from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. or after 4 p.m. 607 Washington Ave.

Can't-miss stop

Swinging Bridge - This bridge, originally constructed in 1890 and most recently reconstructed in 1989, connects Assembly Park to downtown. Add walking across the footbridge to your bucket list.

Advertisement

The advertisement features the USA TODAY logo at the top left, followed by the word "AutoPilot" in a large, bold, black font. To the right of "AutoPilot" is a blue airplane icon. Below the title is a smartphone displaying the app's interface, which includes flight information for a "USA TODAY Meeting" on Sep 21, 2009, such as "A6 BNA to MD Landed 09/21/09 11:48 AM" and "73° Washington (MD) Partly Cloudy". To the right of the phone, the text reads "The new travel app for iPhone® and iPod touch®". Below this is the Hampton logo and the text "Presented by:". At the bottom right, a blue button says "SEE HOW IT WORKS >>".

Print Powered By FormatDynamics™



Zoom

Zoom



Zoom

Advertisement

An advertisement for the USA TODAY AutoPilot app. At the top, the "USA TODAY" logo is in blue, followed by "AutoPilot" in large black letters with a blue airplane icon. Below this, a smartphone screen displays the app's interface, showing flight information for a "USA TODAY Meeting" on Sep 21, 2009, including flight number A6, departure from BNA to IAD, arrival time, and weather in Washington (73°F, Partly Cloudy). To the right of the phone, text reads "The new travel app for iPhone® and iPod touch®". Below that, it says "Presented by: Hampton" with the Hampton logo. At the bottom right, a blue button says "SEE HOW IT WORKS >>".

Print Powered By FormatDynamics™



Zoom



Zoom



Zoom

Advertisement

USA TODAY
AutoPilot ✈️
 The new travel app for iPhone® and iPod touch®
 Presented by: *Hampton*
SEE HOW IT WORKS >>

USA TODAY Meeting
 Sep 21, 2009

- A6 BNA to IAD Landed 09/21/2009 11:48 AM
- 73° Washington (IAD) Partly Cloudy
- View a Flickr gallery of Washington
- Articles: Hotel Check in Hilton Hotels glucks

Print Powered By FormatDynamics™