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# Welcome 2026 to the shoreline



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# Welcome to the shoreline

West Michigan greets the visitor with warm sand, sunny beaches, world-class sunsets, friendly people, and fun activities as alluring.

Situated on the sandy shore of Lake Michigan, beaches from Ludington to the White Lake area have become part of many a family's summer vacation stop for generations.

When you find something this good, why not return?

Our state park beaches such as Ludington, Charles Mears and Silver Lake can't be beat.

Walk miles of public shore in Ludington, or take a dune ride at Silver Lake.

In Pentwater, the village is close enough to walk to — and why not with a great channel walk that gets you most of the way without leaving the water's edge?

The arts blossom here. Quaint Pentwater galleries host monthly art walks.

The Ludington area is home to several superb fine arts photographers whose work is either in their own galleries or on display in stores.

There are several fine art shows and arts and crafts fairs with local, regional and often national artists selling works.

Ludington is also home to an active arts center. It also boasts Sandcastles Children's Museum, remarkably cool with kid friendly activities and an airplane — as in a real Cessna — hanging from the ceiling that kids can "fly."

The area is rich in lumber-era history with fine lumber-baron mansions, great historical society museums in Hart, Pentwater, Mears, at Historic White Pine Village just south of Ludington and the Port of Ludington Maritime Museum.

Mason County is home to several historical and cultural heritage trails. Take a drive and see barn quilts, sculptures or lumber baron mansions.

As for outdoor recreation, this portion of the Lake Michigan coastline is second to none in opportunities for big- or small-lake fishing, with a world-class trout stream in the Pere Marquette River and the White River in Hesperia — and great stream fishing in other rivers. Take a charter boat or fish from shore on a breakwater or river access site.

Salmon, lake trout, steelhead and inland species from muskies and pike to bass, walleye and panfish are among the most popular fish sought in the area.

West Michigan's state parks are diverse. Ludington State park, at more than 5,300 acres, offers miles of hiking trails, access to Lake Michigan and Hamlin Lake, tubing on the Big Sable River and beach house.

The Friends of Ludington State Park group sponsors a free concert and nature series at the park in summer.

The William Field Memorial Hart-Montague Bicycle Trail State Park was the state's first linear park. Four lighthouses along the shore are open to visit and to climb their tours.

White River Light Station, Little Point Sable, Ludington North Breakwater and Big Point Sable lighthouses are icons of our shorelines and favorite subjects of photographers.

The Manistee National Forest offers a variety of other activities, from off-road motorcycle trails, to wilderness camping and hiking at Nordhouse Dunes Wilderness Area north of Ludington, camping, hiking, hunting and fishing. The North Country Trail winds through the region.

Plenty of other activities will keep you busy.

Rent a canoe and traverse Michigan's first canoe trail at Ludington State Park.

Feed elk at Amber Elk Ranch. Visit a dairy farm with great ice cream and cheese at Country Dairy in New Era. Ride or watch the National Historic Landmark SS Badger as it sails daily from mid-May through mid-October between Ludington and Manitowoc, Wisconsin.

Try para-sailing, charter fishing, or shop our visitor-friendly downtowns.

Want more information? Pick up the local newspapers, Ludington Daily News, Oceana's Herald-Journal or White Lake Beacon to see what's happening when you visit.

Or visit their websites, [www.ludington-dailynews.com](http://www.ludington-dailynews.com), [www.oceanaheraldjournal.com](http://www.oceanaheraldjournal.com) or [www.whitelakebeacon.com](http://www.whitelakebeacon.com)

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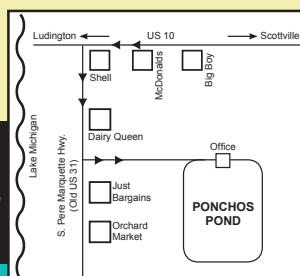




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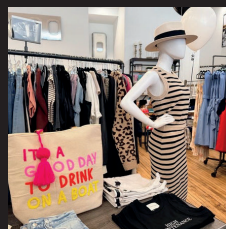
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- LIVE IN THE PLAZA // THURSDAYS // JUNE - AUGUST
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- LOVE LUDINGTON STREET PARTY // FRIDAY, JUNE 5
- LUDINGTON LUMBER DAYS // OCTOBER 2-4
- NEW YEAR'S EVE BALL DROP // DECEMBER 31



Get the details and more at:  
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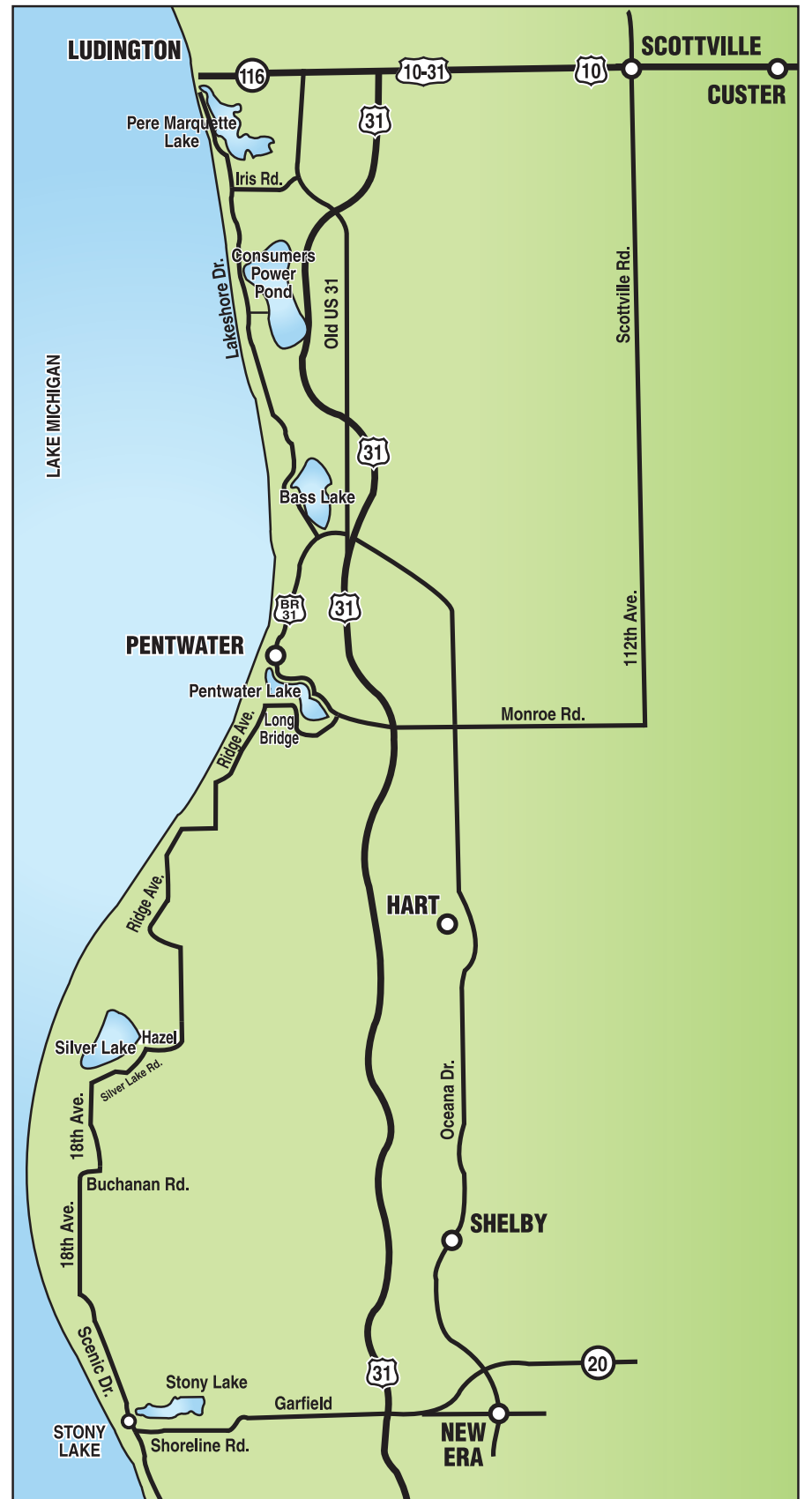
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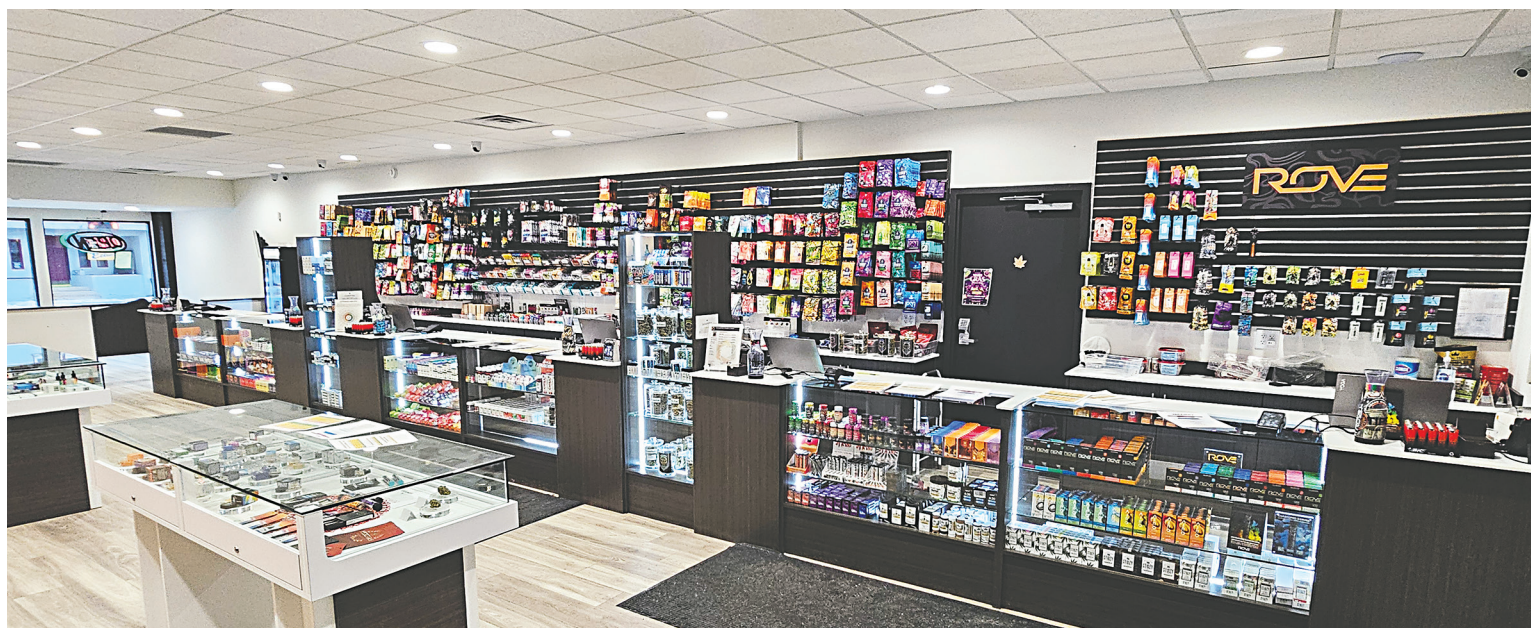
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