TALKING TOURISM May 7, 2017

Each month this space will be devoted to a column written by Debbie Robinson, executive director of the Cambridge/Guernsey County Visitors & Convention Bureau (VCB). She will provide information about upcoming events, area attractions, bureau services and projects, and most importantly, communicate the tremendous impact that the travel and tourism industry has on this region.

National Tourism Week Celebrations

The Cambridge/Guernsey County Visitors & Convention Bureau will salute the region's travel industry by inviting all area residents to "Be a Tourist In Your Own Town." The VCB will host a week-long open house as part of the 34th annual National Travel and Tourism Week (May 7-13).

To celebrate, all area residents are invited to stop into the Tourist Information Center the week of May 8 -13 to pick up a 2017 Official Cambridge/Guernsey County Travel Guide for themselves, for family reunions, weddings, or for visiting friends and relatives. While in the TIC, have a cookie; meet the staff and register to win gifts and certificates from local tourism partners:

- Mosser Glass Monday
- Towne House Tuesday
- Wally's Pizza Wednesday
- Theo's Restaurant Thursday
- Freebie Friday pick out a hat, journal, pen, etc. from our treasure chest of goodies
- Sweet Saturday Nothing But Chocolate & Kennedy's Bakery

Hours to stop by are Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Travel supports one in nine American jobs, including 1,707 direct/indirect jobs right here in Guernsey County, generating \$15.7 million in wages earned. In addition to its benefits for the local economy, travel can also have a positive effect on personal well-being for residents and visitors of Guernsey County. Numerous research studies have confirmed the positive health effects of travel and time off, from reducing the risk of heart disease to decreasing depression. Using time off to travel with our families is good for everyone, especially our children—kids who travel with their families are more likely to attend college and earn more as adults.

Events to Discover

May 4 – Sept. 28 May 5-Oct. 28	Guernsey County Farmers Market, Fairgrounds Cambridge Main Street Farmers Market, Turner Avenue
May 6	Spring Fest, Deerassic Park Education Center
May 12, 19 & 26	Pennyroyal Opera House Bluegrass Concerts, Fairview
May 19-21	Cambridge Singers Spring Show, Scottish Rite Auditorium
May 20 & 21	The Reebok Spartan Race, the Wilds, Cumberland
May 27	WildzFest, the Wilds, Cumberland
May 31-June 3	Annual National Road Yard Sale Days, U.S. Route 40

To learn more about the VCB, area events, and activities, visit the Cambridge/Guernsey County VCB office at 627 Wheeling Avenue, Suite 200 in downtown Cambridge, call 740-432-2022, email <u>info@visitguernseycounty.com</u>, or visit <u>www.VisitGuernseyCounty.com</u>.