

# Ludington, Michigan

## Events

**Lakestride Half Marathon & 5K Race • June 16, 2007** - The largest half marathon in Northern Michigan, the Lakestride Half-Marathon offers one of the most beautiful and scenic courses in Michigan. Its challenging course takes runners through the Ludington State Park, a wooded trail, down a sand dune, across a dam and emerges at Lake Michigan and eight miles of sugar sand beach. The 5K course leads through the popular Cartier Park along tree-lined paved and dirt roads. The Fun Run is a one mile run/walk near downtown Ludington.

**Freedom Festival • June 30-July 4, 2007** - Sun, fun, parades and fireworks are just a few things that are in store for families in Ludington over July 4<sup>th</sup>. Browse the annual Fine Arts & Crafts Show at Ludington City Park and claim your spot early for the Freedom Festival Grande Parade. The weekend comes to an end with a magnificent fireworks display over Lake Michigan best viewed from Stearns Park beach.

**Gus Macker 3-on-3 Charity Basketball Tournament • June 23-24, 2007** - The Gus Macker basketball tournament in Ludington typically has 900 teams (3600 players) participating on 55 courts each year bringing 25,000 spectators to the event. Many years, the Ludington tournament has been the largest Gus Macker held in the United States.

**Scottville SummerFest • July 7-8, 2007** - Scottville's SummerFest presents a chance to experience the hospitality and sense of community in Scottville with a weekend full of activities geared toward enjoying the downtown and Riverside Park with family and friends. Beginning with a shoreline car and motorcycle cruise and culminating with the ever-popular rubber ducky race down the Pere Marquette River, SummerFest offers something for everyone. Events include a car and motorcycle show in the downtown, arts and crafts fair and a chicken barbeque.

**Ludington's Offshore Classic Fishing Tournament • July 19-22, 2007** - The Gander Mountain Offshore Classic fishing tournament is Lake Michigan's largest with over \$100,000 awarded in cash prizes in 2006. In both 2005 and 2006, there were over 250 boats entered in the Pro/Am tournament, and just under 100 entries for each of the other contests - Ruboy Thursday, the Ladies Pro/Am, and the Youth tournament. Each year a donation is made to the Ludington Area Charterboat Association in honor of Capt. Pete Ruboyianes, a local hero in the fishing community. The donation helps fund their sea grant program, planting fish for future seasons.

**Gold Coast Celebration • August 9-12, 2007** - This August the popular Gold Coast Arts & Crafts will incorporate the Carferry Festival traditionally held in June. The arts & crafts portion will take place in City Park and the celebration of the largest Carferry to ever sail Lake Michigan will take place in Waterfront Park. Historical displays, entertainment and food aplenty will be just some of the highlights of this city wide celebration. Festivities will begin on Thursday night with the "Movies in the Park" where you can expect to see a popular movie under the stars. On Friday night you will experience "Friday Night Live" in the streets of downtown Ludington with entertainment for everyone! On Saturday and Sunday you can browse among the almost 300 arts & crafts displays; be delighted with displays and entertainment. It's a great event for the entire family!

**Harvest Festival • September 20-22, 2007** - The Harvest Festival is a long-standing tradition in Scottville celebrating the agricultural history of the area with a three-day carnival, entertainment tent, Harvest Festival Queen's contest and Grand Parade. Each September the community comes together for an ox roast, musical entertainment at the Clown Band Shell and in the entertainment tent in the evenings. The festival also includes carnival rides and food in the midway, the Queen and Princess contests, the craft fair and farmers' market and more.