Local Disney Destination Specialist Delivers Dream Vacations

Fisher has been an independent contractor for Academy Travel, a travel agency specializing in providing Disney destination vacations, for about a year and a half and she’s enjoying every magical minute of it. She grew up loving everything Disney and discovered a few years ago that she could combine several of her favorite things – love of family, love of Disney, and love of adventure – into a home-based business.

“As a child, I loved everything that had to with Walt Disney, Disney World and the magic that Disney creates. My love of Disney only grew stronger when I became an adult and now I have the luxury of being able to help others plan magical, memorable vacations for their own families.”

Fisher’s enthusiasm is obvious when she starts to talk about what she does. “Walt Disney World is the most magical vacation destination in the world. Their resort is the place where worries disappear, fun reigns supreme and dreams coming true are the everyday. Disney World now has four theme parks, two water parks; two nighttime entertainment districts, a state-of-the-art sports complex and over twenty themed resort hotels to immerse visitors in a world filled with exhilarating excitement, fantastical thrills and whimsical wonder.”

“I can also arrange for cruise vacations on one of the gorgeous ships of the Disney Cruise Line. You can explore lands of beauty and wonder around the globe via itineraries that can include the historic charm of Europe, tropical splendors in the Bahamas and the Caribbean or the natural allure of Alaska.”

“Finally, I can also put together a vacation on the West Coast at a Disneyland Resort, where there are two theme parks – the original Disney theme park and Disney California Adventure Park. California’s Downtown Disney District includes unique dining, entertaining and shopping experiences and there are three luxury hotels, including the newly expanded, 948-room Grand Californian Hotel & Spa, the Disneyland Hotel and the Paradise Pier Hotel with its “day at the beach” fun built right in.”

Adventures by Disney Offers Something New for Everyone

Fisher also offers specialized “Adventures by Disney” vacations that are tailored to the needs and interests of each individual or family. They focus on taking travelers to destinations Disney hasn’t taken guests in the past and are limited to small groups of 40 guests or less. Each group has two trained Adventure Guides who lead vacationers through immersive, interactive experiences such as zip-lining in a Costa Rican jungle or making pasta in Tuscany.

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Traveling with “Adventures by Disney,” guests will receive impeccable service and some unexpected surprises to keep things lively. Because guests work closely with their Disney Destination Specialists, their travel needs are anticipated and met so that their vacations are seemingly effortless. From luggage handling to hotel check-in, everything is pre-arranged and handled smoothly so that families don’t have to worry about the details.

The Advantages of a Disney Destination Specialist

Booking a Disney vacation can be extremely stressful because there are countless offers through travel agencies, online sites and more. It’s difficult to ensure that you get the best value for your money while getting the maximum “magic” mileage out of your trip. Fortunately, Fisher and Academy Travel guarantee that if a better rate opens up 45 days prior to your reservation; they will give you the better rate. Most dining reservations have to be made 180 days in advance, which can be difficult to arrange without assistance from someone knowledgeable. Ashley Fisher is an Earmarked Disney Destination Specialist agency, which means you’ll get the benefit of her Disney training and expertise. To become an Earmarked agent, Fisher has to attend on-site training, travel to Disney locations often and graduate from the Disney College of Knowledge.

Turning Her Own-Dream-Come True into New Dreams for Today’s Families

“My love of Disney began when I was a child. I dreamed of going to Disney World and my parents did everything possible to ensure that my first trip was as magical as possible, including Breakfast in Cinderella Castle. It’s those memories that I have and of my extensive travel to Disney Destinations that drives my ability to plan magical vacations for other people. Disney vacations are all about creating magical memories. My business philosophy is to create a magical, no-stress, perfect family vacation.”

“I’m proud of my ability to help families create lasting memories while alleviating the stress of planning family vacations. I use my experience and knowledge to handle the details so that my customers don’t have to. Often families are surprised that they can get excellent Disney vacation planning services through me without having to pay any additional costs. Booking through me costs the same or less than booking with Disney directly. I would encourage anyone who is interested in a truly memorable Disney vacation to contact me. Why shouldn’t they take advantage of my free planning services in order to get the most for their money?”

To learn more about Disney Destination vacations, contact Ashley Fisher at Ashley.Fisher@mickeyvacations.com or call 724-622-6134.

LOCAL RADIO RE-BORN!

Article by Alisa Hatchett

Some people say radio is dead. Not so, especially in this area. It is alive and evolving. Radio is coming back to its simple beginning and it will be fun!

We are starting a locally owned and operated community radio station!

We firmly believe in LIVE and LOCAL radio where the people that talk on a microphone are your neighbors, those you talk to on the streets, in the stores, in church, and day to day activities. Dayspring Harvest Ministries was awarded a permit to construct a radio station. The future plan is to be on 24 hours a day over the air and on the internet.

WXED will promote and facilitate open dialogue, unity, exchange of information and ideas, cultural discussions, local activities, events, music and help local residents learn from one another, listen to one another and bring us together. We are encouraging programming that is factual, informative, relevant, uplifting and wholesome and for your entire family. Studies have proven that 90% of the population still listens to the radio.

Continued on page 3
This Year’s Ellwood City Farmers’ Market Welcomes
New Vendors, New Lay-Out

Now entering its seventh year, the Ellwood City Farmers’ Market will open once again in the parking lot at 500 Beaver Avenue, just behind the Ellwood City Community Plaza. Many of the Farmers’ Market vendors from previous years, including favorites such as Katy’s Baked Goods, Common Scents Candles and Burns’ Angus Farm, will be returning. But there will also be new faces at the market, including Lutz Farms, LLC, which will be offering fresh eggs and chickens and the Enchanted Olive, offering fine balsamic vinegars and olive oils.

This year’s Curb Master, Jan Schlemmer, has worked with the Farmers’ Market to improve the function and comfort of both vendors and guests in a variety of ways. The lay-out of the market will be different, with a re-arrangement of the locations for vendor spaces and visitor parking so that foot traffic is improved. It is anticipated that there will be fewer parking problems and it will be easier for shoppers to visit all vendors. As in the past, there will be no vendor registration fees, but all potential Farmers’ Market participants do have to fill out an application (available at the Ellwood City Area Chamber of Commerce office. Call 724-758-5501 or email the Chamber at info@ellwoodchamber.org). They may also need to submit the appropriate forms to the local Food Safety Officer.

Farmers’ Market Days & Times

The opening day of the 2015 Ellwood City Farmers’ Market is Saturday, June 6th. It will be open every Saturday after that until the closing Market on October 3, 2015. Every Saturday the market will open promptly at 8:00 am with the ringing of the market bell and will close at noon. Vendors are encouraged to attend every market, but allowances will be made for the timing of produce and occasional scheduling issues for vendors with multiple commitments. To discuss any scheduling questions, please contact the Chamber (724-758-5501 or the Curb Master, Jan Schlemmer (724-758-5236).

As in past years, there will be live music performances in the Ellwood City Community Plaza from 9:00 am to 11:00 pm to enhance the Farmers’ Market experience. We look forward to seeing you at the Market!

Local Radio, continued from page 2

WXED Radio’s Mission

The mission of WXED LP 107.3 FM is to promote local musicians, information, culture, activities and events through a local, community radio station. Programming aired on the station will be designed to help local residents learn from one another, listen to one another and share local events and activities that bring people together.

Daily programs are planned to air initially 5 hours with our goal being to air programs 24 hours a day. Programs will cover Ellwood City, Ellport, Wurtemburg, and Pleasant Hills, in the Slippery Rock Valley. We are not limited to these areas alone. Other areas will receive the signal. We will be broadcasting local events and sports and community activities and interests.

DONATIONS Are WELCOME! Our target start up for equipment is $50,000. We need a minimum of $25,000 to begin. We know with the Lord’s vision and your support, this will be a success! Checks may be made out to: Dayspring Harvest Ministries, P.O. Box 656, Ellwood City, PA 16117. Please clearly indicate on the memo line: RADIO. Every dollar designated for the radio station will be put into a designated account for the radio station.

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Carpenter’s Project Set to Help Homeowners in Need With July Repairs & Renovations

For many homeowners who can’t afford to do much-needed repairs on their homes, the local Carpenter’s Project is a saving grace. The Carpenter’s Project is an inter-denominational and multi-generational group of volunteers who team up for one week in July to perform exterior house projects for people in the Ellwood City and Riverside School District. The group began advertising in April through local churches for homeowners who are in need, offering a variety of repairs including painting, small cement repair jobs, power washing, shrub trimming, wheelchair ramp building, small exterior carpentry jobs, some window repairs and more. Priority is given to those who have not received assistance in previous years, but there are no financial requirements beyond need. While donations are not required, the Carpenter’s Project does accept them in order to purchase the needed materials for their projects.

In 2014, our 13th year, The Carpenter’s Project had 53 youth volunteers on worksites, 63 adults on worksites, and about 100 adults on non-worksite roles. The group consisted of 30 churches. During one week in July of 2014, they completed 88 projects on 59 homes. Over the past 13 years, the numbers have been quite impressive. The Carpenter’s Project has completed about 1,000 individual home repair projects. The 2015 work week will be Monday, July 13th to Friday, July 17th. Youth volunteers must be 13 years old as of July 13th. Worksite roles include paint crews, carpentry crews, cement crews, brush crews, power washing crews, and window crews. Non-worksite roles include breakfast crew, lunch crew, dinner crew, gofers, tool room help, housekeeping, etc. Volunteer forms can be obtained by contacting Carpenter’s Project Director Steven Miller at mathbowler@gmail.com or 724-201-0295.

The Carpenter’s Project also receives contributions of money and materials from local churches and businesses. Steven Miller notes that, “None of the Carpenter’s Project’s work could be done without the generous giving of time, skills, and donations from the many people, churches, and businesses in Ellwood City. We are always grateful for these contributions and welcome any questions, donations and volunteers who would like to work with us.”
On Saturday, May 9, the Ellwood City Area Chamber of Commerce helped Caroline & Scott Golmic celebrate the Grand Opening of their Aflac office at 201 5th Street, Ellwood City, PA with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. The 3:00 event was followed by an Open House with champagne, cake and refreshments for the couple’s friends, business associates, family and well-wishers from the Chamber and the community.

Ellwood City native Caroline Golmic, formerly Caroline Ovial, grew up in Ellwood City but returned with her husband, Scott, last year. She has been with Aflac for six years and is a District Sales Coordinator for the local area. Her husband joined her team in November of 2014 as the Asset Manager.

Caroline Golmic explains, “Aflac is not health insurance. Health insurance pays the doctors and hospitals. Aflac pays cash directly to their policyholders in the event of an injury or illness. In the last six years I have seen Aflac provide financial peace to families experiencing emotional distress due to a serious accident or illness. In fact, I had a serious car accident in 2009 and the cash Aflac paid me enabled my family to turn their dining room into a hospital room for three months while I healed.”

“We work with business owners who are looking for a way to enhance their benefit package for their staff without affecting their bottom line. There is NO COST to business owners who offer Aflac to their employees, and employees receive a group rate when their company offers Aflac to them. Aflac offers a wide-range of benefits including Cancer, Accident, Short-Term Disability, Hospitalization, Critical Illness, Dental, and Life insurance.”

Golmic notes, “I’d like to thank the Ellwood City Chamber of Commerce for their continued support as we bring both our Aflac office and our after school program, EnCompass Point, to Ellwood City. We look forward to being part of the revitalization of our hometown.”

To schedule an appointment to discuss how Aflac can work for you, stop in to the office on 201 5th Street or call 412.956.9758.

PAID PARKING SPACES AVAILABLE IN DOWNTOWN BOROUGH OF ELLWOOD CITY PARKING LOTS

Did you know that there are paid parking spaces available in some of the Borough of Ellwood City's parking lots? If you are interested in leasing a parking space, contact the Borough Offices and speak to Jan Garda (724-758-7349) for more information. There are currently approximately 30 spaces available.
Local Favorite Katy’s Baked Goods Will Soon Be Opening Its Doors on Lawrence Avenue

Katy Mook-McGrath has been preparing for her current career all her life. She began baking at a young age with her grandmother and today she bakes for others using many of her grandmother’s cherished recipes. While she started her baking business in 2012, she now has a local following through the Farmers’ Market and other outlets. Enough of a following, in fact, that she will soon be opening the doors of Katy’s at 429 Lawrence Avenue, Ellwood City, PA. She hopes to be open sometime in June of this year.

Growing Her Business Through Local Support

“I began my business in March of 2012 because it was something I’d always wanted to do”, Katy explains. “I knew it was ‘now or never’ a few years ago, so I cashed in some scrap gold so that I could buy a few pans, rent a kitchen, get my health inspection, purchase insurance and get the ingredients I needed in order to sell at the local farmers’ markets. I’ve had wonderful customers from the beginning who were very supportive of me. I will never take that for granted; I appreciate every one that has helped me to get this far.”

“While I have loyal customers now, I also know that my customer base can grow. When the location that used to be PeeWee’s Hotdogs became available, I was thrilled. I’m working on getting it ready to open its doors sometime in June. I love what I do, but I’ve outgrown my current rental kitchen and want to be able to provide customers with quality baked goods all year round rather than just during the Farmers’ Markets.

Quality Ingredients Sets Katy’s Baked Goods Apart

“One of the things that sets my baked goods apart from what you would find at a grocery store is the ingredients. I use only the freshest ingredients, many of them sourced locally. I use real ingredients like butter, cream and fresh eggs and don’t use any preservatives. My cookies, pies and muffins are just like my Grandma used to bake because the ingredients and recipes are the same. I focus on quality, not quantity. I’m a small batch bakery, so you’ll never find any mass produced items in my shop. My canned goods use as many local ingredients as I can find,” Katy notes.

Some of Katy’s Baked Goods most popular baked goods include her Apple Fritter Bread, Homemade Marshmallows, Raisin Filled Cookies, Fresh Pickles and her “soon-to-be-famous” Pee Wee’s Hotdog Cupcake. Katy also attributes her success to following the Golden Rule. “I always treat my customers the way I would like to be treated. Kindness and fairness is essential to a successful business and it has certainly worked for me!”

To learn more about Katy’s Baked Goods or to place an order, contact Katy Mook-McGrath at: katysbakedgoods@verizon.net.
The Lillyville Church of God, one of the Ellwood City Area Chamber of Commerce’s many church members, was founded by Thomas Hickernell in 1839. Today, the road in front of the church is named after the founder, but the original building was a simple log cabin sitting where the current cemetery is located. Today’s building foundations are marked with stone and considerably larger than that old log cabin. The church sits atop a knoll overlooking Hardyville and Fombell among twenty-six acres, part of which is a beautiful cemetery cared for by the cemetery committee of the church. The property includes the church and connecting Lighthouse which is the church’s gym, a garage and pavilion.

In the Churches of God, General Conference, the local members of each congregation own their own local church buildings and property. The Lillyville Church of God belongs to the Churches of God, General Conference with their main office located in Findlay, Ohio. “

A History of Change

The Church of God established not only the University of Findlay, but the Winebrenner Seminary as well, both located in Findlay, Ohio. The General Conference was started by John Winebrenner in 1825 when he was locked out of his German Reformed Church in Harrisburg, Pa. where he was preaching evangelistic messages that angered some of the people attending. When Winebrenner left the German Reformed Church to establish a new one, part of the congregation followed him and this was beginning of the Churches of God, General Conference.

A Mission of Faith

The mission of the Lillyville Church of God is to share Jesus with others in word and deed. We host a food pantry the third Thursday of each month. This food pantry is set up like a store so clients may choose the food they want. We also have children and youth programs each week. Vacation Bible School is hosted each summer. Outreach events are held on a regular basis to let our community know that we care and pray for them. We have three worship services a week: Saturday at 5:00 pm and on Sundays at 8:30 am &10:30 am. The church also offers Christian training classes for adults. A book club is held Thursdays at 10:00 am at National Grind coffee shop at 400 Lawrence Avenue, Ellwood City, PA.

The Church has two fund raisers during the year to provide funds for specific ministries like the food pantry or Vacation Bible School. The first is a “Pasta Dinner w/a Chinese Auction” on Palm Sunday and an “All Church Carnival” with food, games, face painting and lots of fun for the whole family. This event is held in our Lighthouse-large gym. The Lighthouse is made available to persons in our community for a modest fee and is booked heavily May thru July for graduation parties.

The congregation of the Lillyville Church of God believes that persons that choose the Lillyville Church of God, are led there by the Lord. Jesus said, “I will build my Church and the gates of hell will not prevail.” (Matt. 16:18) We are imperfect people striving to love God and others; share the good news of Jesus Christ locally and globally and offer a variety of Biblical training courses to help believers grow in their relationship with Jesus.”

An Unforgettable Journey

“As pastor, I am proud of the outreach into the community through the Food Pantry, participation in the Franklin Township Community days, sharing gifts with the community all in the name of Jesus. Our Church is very mission minded. This year we support four young adults with prayers and financial support to spend time in other countries serving the Lord on short-term mission trips. The church itself sent a team to the Navajo Nation to do Vacation Bible School. On the trip we took a raft trip down the calm part of the Colorado River. Our guide had planned a stop along the way, and a number of our people asked to be baptized in the river. A crowd of other rafting groups gathered on the bank of the river and out of the crowd stepped a Navajo women whom we had never met and she asked to be baptized. This was truly a God-orchestrated event and one that will forever be in our hearts. This women and her husband were truck drivers and being in the area they decided to take the rafting trip the same day and the same time as we were. God is so good!”

To learn more about the Lillyville Church of God, visit them at 408 Hickernell Road, Ellwood City, PA; go to their website at http://www.lillyville.cggc.org or call 724-758-8258.
The Ellwood City Area
Chamber of Commerce
27th Annual Golf Open
June 15, 2015

Golf Outing Registration Form

Names*:  
__________________________________  __________________________________
__________________________________  __________________________________
__________________________________  __________________________________
__________________________________  __________________________________
__________________________________  __________________________________

Company:  
__________________________________  __________________________________
__________________________________  __________________________________
__________________________________  __________________________________
__________________________________  __________________________________
__________________________________  __________________________________

*It is not necessary to have 4 players. Singles and twosomes are welcome!

Prizes will be awarded to the top 3 teams as well as special prizes the day of the event.

# Golfers: _____ X $150.00 = $________________

# Dinner Only: _____ X $50.00 = $_______________

Mulligan Package: _____ X $20 = $______________

Mulligan Package includes 2 mulligans, 1 ticket for 50/50 drawing and 1 ticket for door prize.  
Don’t forget to bring extra cash for the Dixon Golf Challenge and your chance to win a $350 Custom Driver!

Tee Sponsorships are just $100 each! Call the Chamber (724-758-5501) today to order yours!

Would you like to contribute a branded gift (76 items) for the Swag Bags? Golf towels, tees,  
note pads or other items are welcome! Call 724-758-5501 to learn more!
We’re Moving!

The Ellwood City Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce that it will be moving to a new location. On June 17, 2015 we will begin the process of moving to our new location at 806 Lawrence Avenue.

While our current location at 314 5th Street has been a successful one, a location on Lawrence Avenue has been a goal for the Chamber for some time. We hope you’ll stop in to see our new office this summer!

We want to thank Zak Powell and R. W. Powell, Inc. for their many years as our landlords and supporters on 5th Street and wish them the best of luck in the future. Thank You!
NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AND PUBLIC MEETINGS

Mapping the Future: The Southwestern PA Plan

The Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC) is currently updating its long range plan to meet the needs of the region to the year 2040. The Southwestern PA Plan is the regional long range transportation and development plan for Southwestern Pennsylvania, and is the mechanism for connecting the Regional Vision to the region’s official, coordinated implementation program of projects and actions.

SPC is seeking comments from the public on important draft documents prior to their adoption:
- Mapping the Future: The Southwestern PA Plan
- Environmental Justice Benefits and Burdens Assessment for The Southwestern PA Plan
- Air Quality Conformity Determination for the Pittsburgh Transportation Management Area
- Southwestern Pennsylvania Public Transit Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan Update

Starting Wednesday, May 13, 2015, these draft documents will be available for public review on the internet at www.spcregion.org, at offices of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, at the Pittsburgh Department of City Planning, at County Planning offices, and at many public libraries around Southwestern Pennsylvania.

Attend a Public Participation Panel meeting to hear presentations, look at maps, ask questions, and submit your comments:

May 20, 3:00 p.m., Room 104, Courthouse Square, 100 West Beau Street, Washington
May 26, 2:00 p.m., Public Meeting Room, County Government Center, 124 W. Diamond Street, Butler
May 27, 3:00 p.m., Commissioners Meeting Room, Beaver County Courthouse, 810 3rd Street, Beaver
May 28, 5:00 p.m., Commissioners Meeting Room, Courthouse Square, 2 N. Main Street, Greensburg
May 28, 6:00 p.m., Commissioners Conference Room, Armstrong Courthouse Annex, 450 Market Street, Kittanning
June 3, 5:00 p.m., Kovalchick Convention & Athletic Complex, Conf. Rooms 6 & 7, 711 Pratt Drive, IUP Campus, Indiana
June 4, 6:00 p.m., SPC Conference Center, Two Chatham Center, 112 Washington Place, 4th floor, Downtown Pittsburgh
June 9, 3:00 p.m., Conference Room, Fayette Chamber of Commerce, 65 West Main Street, Uniontown
June 10, 6:00 p.m., Stover Hall, 3rd Floor, 51 W. College Street, Waynesburg University, Waynesburg
June 11, 2:00 p.m., Commissioners Meeting Room, Lawrence County Courthouse, 430 Court Street, New Castle

Verbal and written comments will be taken by SPC representatives at each meeting. Written comments can also be submitted online at www.spcregion.org; by mail to: SPC Comments, Two Chatham Center, 112 Washington Place, Suite 500, Pittsburgh, PA 15219; by fax to SPC Comments, 412-391-9160; or by email to comments@spcregion.org.

All comments must be received by SPC by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, June 12, 2015.

The Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission will consider these draft documents for action at their meeting on June 29, 2015 at 4:30 p.m., Two Chatham Center, 112 Washington Place, 4th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15218.

SPC is committed to compliance with the non-discrimination requirements of applicable civil rights statutes, Executive Orders, regulations and policies. Each meeting facility is accessible by persons with disabilities. Accommodations may be provided for those with special needs related to language, sight or hearing with 72 hours advance notice. If you have a request for special accommodations or desire additional information, please contact Matt Pavlosky at (412) 391-5590, Ext. 361, or mpavlosky@spcregion.org.

TRANSIT SERVICE INFORMATION

For information regarding transit services in Allegheny County, please call Port Authority Customer Service at 412-442-2000. For transit information in other counties, please visit: www.commuterinfo.org/comm_trans.shtml or call 1-888-819-5110.

This notice satisfies the program-of-projects requirements of the Urbanized Area Formula Program of the Federal Transit Administration.