

Feast of the Assumption

Aug. 14-17 |
Little Italy

The key word here is “feast.” That’s because this four-day extravaganza, which is actually a religious festival marking the Virgin Mary’s passage into heaven, is known for tons of great Italian eats. So grab some pizza or cannoli and check out the celebration, which takes over Little Italy and shuts down Mayfield Road. Whether you’re Catholic, or just want to join the party, the mix of food, people and music is a feast for all your senses.

— Jennifer Bowen

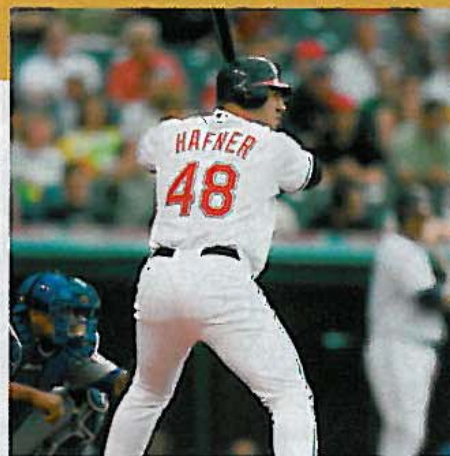


Rascal Flatts with Taylor Swift

July 25 |
Blossom Music Center

The band may have been born in Nashville, but Rascal Flatts co-founders Gary LeVox and Jay DeMarcus are Buckeyes through and through. Be there when the Columbus natives bring their Grammy-winning country outfit to town for a good old summer night in O-H-I-O. Along for the ride is opener Taylor Swift, a young female country artist fresh enough to make a diarylike ode about memories tied to Tim McGraw songs sound charming, not cheesy.

— JV



Cleveland Indians vs. San Francisco Giants

June 24-26 |
Progressive Field

We love our baseball heroes, but few hold a place in our hearts once they’ve left their Indians uniform behind. Omar Vizquel is the exception. So we’re hoping Omar’s recovering knee is well enough for him to play when his Giants visit Progressive Field. There’s even a little part of us that wouldn’t mind seeing some throwback shortstop magic out of the 11-time Gold Glover — as long as we win, of course.

— JB



Burning River Fest

Aug. 9 |
Nautica Entertainment Complex

This year, Great Lakes Brewing Co. relocates its festival of music and environmental awareness to the Flats. It will feature performances by Cleveland blues singer Kristine Jackson, Columbus’ Ark Band and the Tennessee-based Dave Matthews Tribute Band, and offer information about earth-friendly living. “Our goal is for people to take something back from this festival that they can do for themselves,” says GLBC marketing manager Kami Dolney.

— ET

August

editor's pick

EAT UP!

Taste of Cleveland

at Time Warner Cable Amphitheater
Aug. 29-Sept. 1

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



Art Credits:

18: *Bill Brandt's "Portrait of a Young Girl, Eaton Place"*

1

See **Verb Ballets** on the Evans Amphitheater stage at Cain Park in Cleveland Heights.

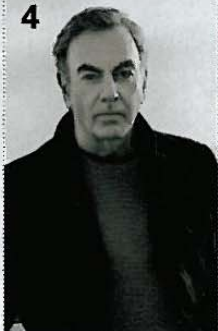
2

Art Attack: Browse the work of more than 160 artists at the **Lakewood Arts Festival**.

3

Neil Diamond will perform his greatest hits plus songs from his latest album, "Home Before Dark," at Quicken Loans Arena. ➔

4



[5-10]
See "**Mamma Mia!**," a musical based on the songs of Swedish pop group ABBA, at the State Theatre.

6

[thru 9/1]
Learn about life beyond Earth in **Alien Earths** at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

7



9

Show your support for the environment and good music as the **Burning River Fest** moves to the Nautica Entertainment Complex. ➔

10

[4-10]
Enjoy food

11

[thru 9/1]

12



13

Actor turned singer Billy

14

Batter Up: The Akron Aces

15



16

"American Idol" runner-up

Summer Fun GUIDE

8/9

Burning River Fest

8/9: Family-friendly festival celebrates our local environmental organizations, musicians, artisans, sustainable farmers & waterways. Noon-11pm. **Tickets:** \$5 advance, \$10 day of event. Nautica Entertainment Complex, 1231 Main Ave, (440) 729-7571. www.burningriverfest.org

8/10

Cleveland Pops Orchestra with Time for Three

8/10: The Cleveland Pops Orchestra is joined by Time for Three, a young trio of professionally trained musicians. 7pm. **Tickets:** Call or visit Web site for information. Blossom Music Center, 1145 W Steels Corners Road, Cuyahoga Falls, (216) 231-1111. www.clevelandorchestra.com

The Teeny Tucker Band

8/12: 8pm. **Tickets:** \$2. Cain Park, Evans Amphitheater, Lee & Superior roads, Cleveland Heights, (216) 371-3000. www.cainpark.com

Akron Aeros vs. Connecticut Defenders

8/12-14: 7:05pm. **Tickets:** \$7-10. Canal Park, 300 S Main St, Akron, (330) 253-5151.