



▶ Nancy Watson in the dining room at the Harbert House Bed & Breakfast.

people and brings them back for return visits. People like the small-town atmosphere, the nearness to Lake Michigan and the draw of other attractions such as vineyards.

"What I love is that it's so eclectic and unique," she said. "There's no Starbucks or Banana Republic in sight. It's so refreshing to see one-of-a-kind galleries and boutiques and no chain restaurants. ... We're 90 minutes from Chicago, but it's a world away."

She said the people come for a variety of reasons.

"A lot have been drawn by my cooking abilities," she said. "Since I was a chef and have done creative meals, it tipped the scales.

"Sometimes people are on their way to somewhere else or they're just getting away. I had a family from England who had been in Chicago and wanted to have a more laid-back country experience. Last Thanksgiving, a family was having a large gathering and couldn't house everybody, so some stayed here. I made breakfast for them the next morning."

Inside Harbert House, people will find five guest rooms, each with its own private bath and own television, as well as spacious common areas with dining and family rooms and a screened-in back porch. It's equally home to couples and families enjoying a few

days away or large groups coming for a football weekend.

Each of the five guest rooms has its own style and theme. The Gallery Room is the largest of the five, with two beds and paintings from local artists on the wall. The other rooms have sun, Southwest, Old West and pear themes with much of the decor items coming from Watson's own collection.

"When I first saw the house and the size of the rooms, it spoke to me that this would make the perfect bed-and-breakfast," she said. "The house had been on the market for a couple of years, and it spoke to me, I could picture myself cooking up a storm in the kitchen."



▶ The Harbert House Bed & Breakfast.



▶ The Old West room at the Harbert House Bed & Breakfast.

While summer is her busiest time at Harbert House, people also come at other times of the year. She plans to offer discounts and special deals for the fall and winter months, which can be found along with regular rates, online at www.HarbertHouse.net.

"I would like to get people here in the winter," she said. "We have a fireplace, people can come and enjoy that or go out to restaurants or cross-country skiing. ... I'll even be here for Christmas. People can come for football weekends in January, for Valentine's Day in February and even for a Saturday cooking class." ■

HARBERT HOUSE FRITTATA

Makes 6 servings
 13 eggs (2 per person / one for good luck)
 6 ounces fresh baby spinach
 2 ounces crumbly goat cheese
 Six slices ripe tomato
 2 tablespoons butter

Melt butter in a skillet that can go in the oven. Saute spinach until wilted. Beat eggs with salt and pepper to taste, until frothy and add to spinach. Place tomatoes decoratively over eggs and sprinkle with goat cheese. Bake at 350 degrees approximately 20 minutes or until set. Serve with bacon wrapped-shrimp and fresh fruit.

THAI TURKEY MEAT BALLS

(served with wine in the late afternoon)
 Makes about 20 bite-sized meat balls
 1 pound ground turkey
 ¼ cup bread crumbs
 1 egg

Soy sauce, curry and chili powder to taste
 Mix ingredients and shape into 1 inch balls. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes. Serve with sliced cucumbers and sauce.

SAUCE

½ cup chunky peanut butter
 3 tablespoons brown sugar
 ¼ cup fresh lime juice
 Melt together over low heat until combined.

Is it furniture or is it art?

Solid wood furniture made locally from sustainably harvested hardwoods

Hand crafted, heirloom quality home accents

13400 Red Arrow Hwy. Harbert

CENTER OF THE WORLD WOOD SHOP SHOWROOM

269-469-5687
www.centeroftheworld.net

Great Prices Expert Installation In-Home Consultations



Serving the Area since 1912

Migala RUG & TILE, L.L.C.
www.migalarug.com

2670 Niles Rd., St. Joseph, MI
 Hours: Mon - Fri: 9 to 6
 Sat. 10 to 4
429-8000

Practical Solutions Based on Common Sense

New Home Design ■ Site Design & Engineering ■
 Property Surveys ■ Home Renovation Design ■
 Topographic Surveys ■ MDEQ Joint Permit Application ■
 Land Development ■ Commercial Design ■

WA WIGHTMAN & ASSOCIATES, INC.
 ENGINEERING • SURVEYING • ARCHITECTURE

2303 Pipestone Road Benton Harbor, MI 49022
www.wightman-assoc.com

Phone: 269.927.0100
 Toll Free: 877.927.0109
 Fax: 269.927.1300

Dinges' Fall Harvest presents:
Jurassic Corn Maze
 Open in Sept. & Oct.
 with the release of the Dinosaurs on Labor Day Weekend!

• Pumpkins - U-Pick Available • Broom Corn • Straw Bales - 2 Sizes
 Gourds • Sunflowers, Etc.

ATTRACTIONS: Dinges Motor Speedway, Ye Olde Craft Barn, The Spooky Semi, Pumpkin Bounce, Children's Train Ride, Backyard 500 Pedal Car Races, No Left Turn Maze, Hay Rides on Saturday & Sunday **GROUP OUTINGS WELCOME!**

East of Red Arrow Hwy. on Warren Woods Rd. at Mill Rd.
269-426-4034 • Open Daily til Dark
 visit us at: www.dingesfallharvest.com