Portraits of Michigan

History and Facts on Michigan
Dear Friends,

Michigan is a rich and diverse state. No matter where you live in Michigan, you are not far from the beauty and bounty this great state offers.

The Great Lakes give our state a uniqueness—citizens and visitors alike have the opportunity to enjoy sunrises from the eastern shore and sunsets from the western shore. There are both sandy beaches and rocky shores. Our inland lakes offer the pleasures of water sports, ranging from swimming, boating, fishing, and water skiing in the summer to ice fishing, ice skating, and snowmobiling in the winter.

Our forests offer scenic beauty as well as snowmobile trails, hiking trails, parks for picnicking and camping, hunting areas, and nature preserves.

Our state is rich in natural resources—lumber, copper, iron, and salt.

We are an agricultural state. Our orchards produce fruit—apples, cherries, peaches, and pears—and our fields are abundant with vegetables and grains—asparagus, beans, corn, and wheat.

Our cities are hubs of manufacturing and offer entertainment from Broadway plays to movie theaters, from art museums to science museums. They are rich in parks and playgrounds and home to world-class universities and institutions.

Portraits of Michigan offers a fun way for you to learn about the state in which you live. With this booklet, we hope you enjoy reading about and gain pride in your home state and that you will love Michigan a little more.
PORTRAITS
OF
MICHIGAN
History and Facts on Michigan

Prepared by the Michigan Legislature

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Michigan’s Upper Peninsula is a natural, scenic wonder, unspoiled by commercialism and industrial saturation.

The Upper Peninsula was the first part of the western Great Lakes area to become settled. As early as 1668, the town of Sault Ste. Marie was established and reigns as the oldest town in the Midwest.

Over 311,000 people live year-round in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula and are supported almost totally by the value of their land. It is a land rich in minerals, a land of fruitful forests, and an incredibly beautiful scenic area. This natural beauty fuels the economy of the Upper Peninsula.

During the era of California’s Gold Rush, the tiny village of Negaunee, in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula, had a discovery of its own—iron ore! That discovery turned out to be more important to the economic and industrial growth of America than all of the gold nuggets in California.

Blessed with an abundance of hardwoods, over 90 percent of the Upper Peninsula’s land is forested. Maple, aspen, oak, and elm are lumbered and shipped throughout the nation in all seasons. The U.P. evergreen is especially popular at Christmastime, when it is shipped as far as Florida, to be decorated in the holiday tradition.

The U.P. boasts healthy, invigorating winters and sleep-under-the-blanket summers with almost pollen-free air and more fresh water than any other area its size in the world.

Winter and summer, tourists flock to Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. The beautiful winters offer near-perfect conditions and facilities for snow sports lovers, including the United State’s highest man-made ski jump and the western hemisphere’s only ski-flying hill.

Summertime tourists invade the Upper Peninsula to...
soak up the natural beauty of the thousands of inland lakes and streams, the nearly 150 waterfalls, the Pictured Rocks at Munising, the Porcupine Mountains, Lake of the Clouds, Isle Royale, Mackinac Island, and the countless other scenic wonders . . . a virtual paradise right here in Michigan!

Lake of the Clouds is an idyllic spot, one many travelers—from Michigan and many other states—enjoy.
LOWER PENINSULA

In almost complete contrast to the Upper Peninsula, the personality of Michigan’s Lower Peninsula includes big cities, industry, manufacturing, and agricultural production. Its greatest claim to fame is the “Motor City,” Detroit, the automotive capital of the world!

Michigan leads the nation in many different manufacturing categories, for most of which the Lower Peninsula is responsible. Leading that list, of course, is the manufacture of cars and trucks, providing the Lower Peninsula with the bulk of its economy.

The most famous of our pioneers in the auto industry was Henry Ford. Ford hand-built his first auto in 1896 and formed the Ford Motor Company in 1903. The very first auto produced by Ford’s company was a 1908 Model-T, with a price tag of $950.00. Today, Michigan’s Lower Peninsula manufactures automobiles by the millions.

The Lower Peninsula is world famous for the manufacture of breakfast cereals, office furniture, pharmaceuticals, limestone, baby food, cement, auto parts, nonelectric motors, and even magic supplies!

Aside from its industrious attitude, Michigan’s Lower Peninsula finds time for fun and recreation, too. Thousands of sandy beaches on freshwater lakes and many winding rivers and streams make it a haven for water sports, beachcombing, fishing, hunting, camping, and all-around enjoyment of Michigan’s outdoors. At work or play, the Lower Peninsula has everything to offer its residents and visitors . . . in every season!

The General Motors Renaissance Center, pictured above, is GM’s world headquarters and is home to many fine restaurants and other businesses.
Hunting, both bow and firearm, is a sport enjoyed by Michigan’s outdoor enthusiasts.

Fishing, a sport as old as the very first Michiganders, is a relaxing way to spend leisure time.

Michigan’s miles of rivers and streams make canoeing a popular pastime for people who live in our state. It is also enjoyed by thousands of tourists who visit our “water wonderland” each year.
MICHIGAN’S OUTDOOR CREATURES

Birds
If you are a bird watcher, camera bug, or just an all-around nature lover, you will enjoy trying to spot some of the 233 species of birds that breed in this state, some of which brace themselves and stick around for our blustery winter season. One rare bird, the Kirtland’s Warbler, breeds in the jack pine forests of Michigan’s northern Lower Peninsula, and probably nowhere else in the world. Dozens more species visit our state during the spring and fall migrations. Most species, however, wing their way to warmer climates when snow flies. Even our state bird, the robin redbreast, spends winters in the southern sunshine, returning each year to the delight of Michiganders—a sure sign of spring’s arrival.

Fish
Michigan’s abundant waters nurture 154 different species of fish, approximately 30 of which are familiar to the thousands of anglers who fish Michigan’s lakes, rivers, and streams each year.

Lake trout are a favorite sport fish native to Michigan’s three upper Great Lakes. Although they suffered a very severe decline from the ravages of the sea lamprey in the 1950s, and from lightly controlled commercial fishing, lake trout are returning to their earlier abundance. Their natural comeback has been aided by substantial stocking in Lakes Superior, Michigan, and Huron by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and state and provincial agencies, and by a stricter control of commercial fishing.

Coho salmon are the wonder fish of the Great Lakes. Coho were carefully selected to control the alewife and to provide an important game fish. Skeptics said it couldn’t be done, but the first fish lived. Skeptics said they wouldn’t do well on the alewife, but they thrived on this nuisance fish and threatened national size records. Skeptics said Coho couldn’t be able to reproduce either, but they’ve done just that even though it is on a limited basis. Coho salmon are here to stay and they have proved to be an extremely popular open water game fish as well as a good stream fish.

White-Tailed Deer
Michigan white-tailed deer have been spotted everywhere in Michigan. There is no sight more impressive than a statuesque white-tailed deer posing in a meadow at dusk. Some folks, who enjoy seeing deer along the roads and trails in summer, view the annual deer
hunting season as deplorable. They fear these beautiful animals will be decimated. However, it should be kept in mind that if deer become too numerous, they may cause considerable damage to farm crops and young trees, and also present a danger to motorists. Department of Natural Resources biologists manage Michigan’s deer herd so that there are enough deer for hunters and nature lovers to enjoy, but not so many that they become a nuisance to farmers and forest managers, and a danger on the state’s roads.

Elk
The Michigan elk, once abundant in Michigan, is smaller than the moose and far more graceful and noble in appearance. Native elk were completely destroyed in Michigan long ago, but a reproducing herd, brought here from Wyoming, has been established in the Pigeon River State Forest in Otsego County.

Moose
The moose again roams our northern Michigan woods, thanks to the generosity of Canada. Our friendly neighbors sent us about 60 moose in 1985 and 1987 during Mossexports I and II. There is also a moose population at Isle Royale National Park, which is surrounded by the waters of Lake Superior. The moose are large, cumbersome animals, less fearful of humans than deer. They make excellent subjects for your camera, but stay out of their thunderous paths!

Black Bear
The Michigan black bear, native to Michigan, is maintaining its numbers in the state and may even be on the increase. But they know how to keep out of sight! People may live in bear country for years without ever seeing one. For this reason, dependable knowledge of bears is very scarce. We would not advise seeking them out as a sightseeing venture—for Michigan’s black bears clearly resent intruders.

Wolverine
Although we are nicknamed the “Wolverine State,” spotting a Michigan wolverine would be a rarity. In fact, it has never been proven that there has ever been a native, wild wolverine population in Michigan. Perhaps, since wolverines lived in Canada and northern Minnesota, someone decided that they may very well have lived in Michigan too. It is also odd that we chose an animal with such a bad disposition to represent our state. From all reports, he is far from a model to be emulated. A more logical choice might have been one of the cousins of the wolverine, the marten or the fisher, who were once numbered among Michigan’s important furbearers and are true natives of our state.

Rabbits and Squirrels
Abundant in Michigan, rabbits and squirrels can be found in several interesting varieties of species throughout the state. Different “rabbit” species include the cottontail and the snowshoe hare. There are a variety of squirrels, including the fox, the gray (including the black phase), the red, and the flying squirrel.
Michigan is a fun and unique state. With the Great Lakes and an abundance of smaller lakes, sand dunes, hiking trails, and ski slopes, it is a land teeming with scenic beauty and outdoor activities in four very different seasons. At the same time, there are museums, theaters, sporting events, and entertaining attractions in metropolitan areas for all to enjoy.

Throughout these pleasant peninsulas, there is also a wealth of natural resources that have contributed to a rich history. Lumber, copper, iron, salt, oil, and other raw materials have attracted countless immigrants—perhaps your great-grandparents. Manufacturing these resources into goods, like cars, has brought people from around the country—even the world—to help make Michigan a “melting pot” of cultures.

Now that you have read a little about our beautiful and bountiful state, the following section of games and quizzes will help you learn more about Michigan, its past, and its people. You will not find all of the answers in the material you have just read, but we hope the questions will arouse your interest and contribute to the pride you feel in this beautiful state. It is not important how many questions you respond to correctly, but how much you learn. Few people know all the answers, but all who read the booklet will surely have fun while learning more about a place with a proud past, productive present, and promising future—Michigan.
Lincoln Says: “Thank God for Michigan”

A. The men pictured above are part of the Fourth Michigan Infantry. More than 90,000 Michigan men (and at least one woman posing as a man!) fought in the Civil War. Nearly 15,000 died. The Twenty-Fourth Michigan, part of the “Iron Brigade,” suffered 80 percent casualties during fighting at Gettysburg, the greatest loss of any Northern regiment in this historic battle. Other Michigan heroes include the 60 soldiers who won the Congressional Medal of Honor and the members of the Fourth Michigan Cavalry who captured Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

President Lincoln, who said, “Thank God for Michigan,” when the First Michigan Infantry was the first western regiment to reach the nation’s capital, had many reasons to be grateful for Michigan’s volunteers.

Michigan Becomes Auto Capital of the World

B. Michigan, with its abundant raw materials, skilled work force, waterways to eastern markets, and engineering pioneers, was the birthplace of the automobile industry. Charles King of Detroit was the first person to drive a gasoline-powered car in Michigan. Three months later, Henry Ford rode through the streets in his car. Ransom Olds started the first automobile company and others soon followed. Henry Ford perfected the assembly-line production method, which made cars affordable, and started the famed $5-a-day wage, which attracted people from all over the world.

Explorers Claim Beautiful Peninsulas for King Louis XIV

C. The French explorers Etienne Brulé and Grenoble were probably the first Europeans to see the Great Lakes. Subsequently, thousands of French followed, settling in the region they called New France. Many of the inhabitants grew wealthy trapping and selling fur-bearing animals, particularly beavers. Others searched for the great river the Native Americans called “Messissippi,” which they hoped was a direct water route to India and China. In the 1660s, the Jesuit missionary Father Jacques Marquette established a mission in the Upper Peninsula, hoping to convert the tribes to Christianity.
Lumbermen
Beginning Spring Drive

D. The great white pines in central and northern Michigan made our state the leading lumber producer in the nation in the latter part of the 19th century. Men from all over Canada, the Northeast, and Western Europe converged on Michigan to work as lumberjacks. By the turn-of-the-century era, over 160 billion board feet were logged in Michigan. If this lumber were laid out in four feet high by eight feet wide stacks, it would circle the world 50 times. Much of the wood was cut during the ice and snow of winter when it was easier to move the heavy logs to the riverbanks. In the springtime, when the swelling rivers were at their widest, lumbermen directed the timber downstream to sawmills in the growing lumber towns of Muskegon, Bay City, and Saginaw.

The lumber boom impacted not only Michigan, but the entire nation as the value of this lumber was greater than all the gold mined during the California Gold Rush.

Rosie the Riveter

A. Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, Michigan’s automobile industry ended civilian automobile production, switching to the manufacture of airplanes, tanks, artillery, and other war equipment. By the end of the war, Michigan had earned the title “Arsenal of Democracy.” State industries contributed 3 million engines, 25,000 tanks, and 8,500 B-24 Liberator bombers to the war effort. Michigan women were an invaluable resource in the war against dictatorship. From 1940 to 1943, the number of women employed in Michigan more than doubled from 391,000 to 799,100. Nicknamed "Rosie the Riveter" at work in a munitions factory during World War II.
“Rosie the Riveter” after a popular song of the times, these women symbolized the noble and patriotic contributions of women to the cause of liberty.

51 Killed in State’s Worst Mining Disaster

B. In the past century and a half, Michigan’s Upper Peninsula copper and iron mining ranges have produced several billion pounds of refined copper and over a billion tons of iron ore. The above picture was taken six months prior to the collapse of the Barnes-Hecker Mine in Ishpeming, located near Marquette. Most of these men died in what is the worst mining disaster in Michigan history. On November 3, 1926, 51 miners perished when the underground mine collapsed, filling with water in 15 minutes. Only one man survived. Later, the shaft opening was capped with cement and a five-foot tall, steel-plated monument was erected in their memory.

Bridging the Peninsulas

C. Prior to the construction of the Mackinac Bridge, it took travelers an hour to cross the often treacherous waters of the straits by car ferry. It was not unusual that on Independence Day, people waited in line for up to 24 hours to take the ferry to St. Ignace. In 1954, bridge construction began. For the next 42 months, hundreds of men sank large, double-walled caissons into the lake floor bedrock, strung the two main cables consisting of 42,000 miles of spun steel wire, enough to circle the world one and a half times, and laid five miles of road surface. Five men lost their lives erecting the 552-foot high bridge that cost taxpayers more than $100 million. The 100 millionth bridge crossing occurred on June 25, 1998.

30,000 Troops Form Human U.S. Shield

D. While training to fight in World War I, the “war to end all wars,” soldiers at Fort Custer, near Battle Creek, participated in forming human shields, a popular event at that time. Across the United States, few other forts could match Fort Custer’s U.S. Shield, which consisted of 30,000 soldiers dressed in red, white, and blue-colored shirts. Such patriotism was evident throughout the state as more than 135,000 Michiganders were inducted into the Armed Forces.
GENERAL QUESTIONS:

1. Who are the three most recent governors of Michigan?
   A. Romney, Blanchard, Engler
   B. Levin, Blanchard, Engler
   C. Milliken, Hart, Granholm
   D. Engler, Granholm, Snyder

2. What is the state bird?
   A. Cardinal
   B. Robin Redbreast
   C. Blue Jay
   D. Mallard

3. How many counties are there in Michigan?
   A. 65
   B. 83
   C. 92
   D. 110

4. How many members are there in the Michigan Senate?
   A. 54
   B. 18
   C. 38
   D. 26

5. How many members are there in the Michigan House of Representatives?
   A. 148
   B. 78
   C. 110
   D. 92

6. What is the state fish?
   A. Bluegill
   B. Walleye
   C. Small Mouth Bass
   D. Brook Trout

7. Which of these animals does NOT live in the wild in Michigan?
   A. Wolverine
   B. Wolf
   C. Eagle
   D. Black Bear
   E. Elk
   F. Moose

8. When did Michigan enter the Union?
   A. 1776
   B. 1803
   C. 1837
   D. 1985

9. In 1835, Michigan and Ohio went to “war” against each other over:
   A. Detroit
   B. Toledo
   C. Cleveland
   D. The Ohio State–U of M football game

10. Native Americans did NOT teach early Michigan settlers how to:
    A. Make maple syrup
    B. Grow corn
    C. Ride horses
    D. Find effective natural medicines
11. Which of the following were “first” built in Michigan?
   A. First paved roads
   B. First three-color traffic light
   C. First roadside parks and tables
   D. All three

12. Michigan was the first state to:
   A. Receive aid from the American Red Cross
   B. Have a land grant university (MSU)
   C. Guarantee a high school education for every child
   D. All three

13. Who did NOT start an automobile company in Michigan?
   A. Walter Percy Chrysler
   B. John and Horace Dodge
   C. Antoine Cadillac
   D. Ransom Olds

14. Michigan does NOT lead the nation in the number of:
   A. State park campsites
   B. Public golf courses
   C. Registered boats and snowmobiles
   D. Miles of coastline

15. What percentage of Michigan is covered with forests?
   A. 10%  B. 25%  C. 50%  D. 75%

16. What percentage of the state’s population lives in the Lower Peninsula?
   A. 60%  B. 75%  C. 86%  D. 97%

17. Which city is farthest from Detroit?
   A. Washington, D.C.
   B. Des Moines, Iowa
   C. Nashville, Tennessee
   D. Ironwood, Michigan

18. Michigan leads the nation in the production of:
   A. Apples
   B. Tart Cherries
   C. Plums
   D. All three

Sleeping Bear National Park is located in the Lower Peninsula on Lake Michigan’s northeastern shore. Each year, children and adults alike are awed by its majesty, mystery, and mythology.
19. Michigan’s official state flower is pictured above. Can you name it?

20. This animal, native to Michigan, completely disappeared a long time ago, but a new herd was brought here from Wyoming. Approximately 850 of these animals live in the Pigeon River area. What kind of animal is it?

21. The Dutch, like many ethnic groups that came to Michigan seeking religious freedom and/or economic opportunity, built communities that still reflect their native land. In what city is this authentic 200-year-old windmill located?
22. Where is Michigan’s largest and oldest forest of giant white pines?

23. What bridge is this?

24. On what holiday was this picture taken?
THE MANY FACES OF MICHIGAN

1. President Theodore Roosevelt and President William Clinton both visited Michigan and spoke at the same place. Can you name it?
   A. The University of Michigan  C. Michigan State University
   B. Mackinac Island  D. Michigan State Fair

2. Before J.H. Kellogg established the cereal industry in Battle Creek, for which he is noted, he worked in another capacity. Do you know what he did?
   A. Architect  C. General store owner  E. Professor
   B. Lawyer  D. Medical doctor  F. Dietician

3. A man who became famous as a general in the United States Army first won acclaim in Michigan as the commander of Michigan’s Cavalry Brigade. He lived with his family in Monroe, Michigan, after moving here from Ohio. Can you identify him?
   A. George Armstrong Custer  D. General Ulysses S. Grant
   B. Robert E. Lee  E. Douglas MacArthur
   C. Dwight D. Eisenhower  F. Lewis Cass

4. This young man, known as the “Brown Bomber,” moved to Detroit as a boy and took up amateur boxing. Can you name him?
   A. Mohammad Ali  D. Sugar Ray Robinson
   B. Rocky Marciano  E. Thomas Hearns
   C. Joe Louis  F. Leon Spinks

5. Michigan citizens are proud to claim one or more of the following U.S. astronauts as their own. Can you name them?
   A. Gus Grissom  C. Jack Lousma
   B. Roger Chaffee  D. Edward White

6. This famous Michiganian, born in Deerfield in 1914, although well-known as a radio and television celebrity, may be best known for establishing St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. Can you name him?
   A. Bing Crosby  C. Danny Thomas
   B. Ed Sullivan  D. Buster Keaton

7. This singer/musician/songwriter overcame obstacles to become one of this state’s most endeared and admired citizens. His musical contributions have brought sunshine to people around the world. Who is he?
   A. Ronnie Millsap  C. Berry Gordy
   B. Stevie Wonder  D. Paul Anka

8. This black woman was raised speaking Dutch. As a freed slave she tracked down several of her five children who were sold away from her. She later became a powerful speaker for the abolitionist cause. Who is she?
   A. Harriett Tubman  C. Harriett Beecher Stowe
   B. Sojourner Truth  D. Marian Anderson
DO YOU KNOW?

◆ That the world’s first stop sign was a hand-held sign used by a traffic policeman in Detroit?

◆ That over 100 railroad freight cars a day were manufactured in Detroit in the 1890s?

◆ That Detroit became the leading producer of stoves in the 1890s, not only in Michigan, but in the world?

◆ That the first operating railroad in Michigan was a horse-drawn train running between Adrian and Toledo in 1836? By 1850, railroad companies had completed the rail link from Detroit to Chicago.

◆ That the first United States Land Office in Michigan was located in Detroit in 1818? Persons wanting to buy surveyed land could only purchase it through a land office.

◆ That the Ambassador Bridge, linking Canada and Michigan, was completed in 1929 at a cost of more than $16 million? It was the first bridge to connect two countries. In 1930, the Windsor-Detroit Tunnel was completed at a cost of $22 million.

◆ That Michigan was the first state to develop roadside parks with picnic tables?

◆ That the telephone was first introduced in Michigan in 1877 on an experimental basis, just one year after it was displayed at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia?

◆ That the first telephone directory in Michigan appeared in 1878, listing 124 Detroit customers who subscribed to Michigan’s “Speaking Telephone”?

◆ That, because of the availability of wood in Michigan, our state led the country in shipbuilding in the 1890s?

◆ That Ruth Thompson, a probate judge in Whitehall for 18 years, was the first Congresswoman from Michigan? She was elected in 1950, served three terms, and was the first woman to sit on the House Judiciary Committee.
That, in 1918, before the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, Michigan amended its own constitution to give women the right to vote, thus ending a long struggle by suffragists?

That the small town of Belding, Michigan, in 1925, produced 95 percent of all the silk thread sold in the United States?

That celery, long the leading product of Kalamazoo fields, was reputed to have medicinal qualities? Celery was acclaimed as a cure for nervousness, depression, headaches, and insomnia, and was even used in cough drops!

That logging companies, owning over 12 million acres of forested land in Michigan, today plant more trees than they cut? Michigan now has over 19 million acres of trees on both peninsulas.

That a policeman in Detroit named William Potts designed the first traffic light in the early 1900s? He discovered that he could direct three intersections at once with an electric contraption using a red, a green, and a yellow light installed in a tower.

That Pearl Kendrick, a Grand Rapids native, developed the first vaccine against whooping cough?

That the first newspaper in Michigan was printed in 1809? It went out of business after one issue because of lack of sales. However, the Detroit Gazette printed its first copy in 1817 and newspapers have been a part of Michigan ever since.

That several Michigan teams were a part of the All American Girls Professional Baseball League, which the movie A League of Their Own was based upon? Just like in the movie, the league was created to fill the void left by men who joined the armed services in the early 1940s. The league lasted about a decade.

That the Native Americans believed the Arch Rock, a natural limestone formation on Mackinac Island, was built by spirits as a gateway to the Island? The Arch Rock stands 149 feet above the water and has a span of 50 feet.

That, in the late 1800s and early 1900s, Bertha Van Hoosen, a talented doctor and skilled surgeon born and raised in Michigan, was denied entrance into the medical societies because she was a woman? She later taught obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Illinois and Loyola University medical schools. She paid her own tuition to the University of Michigan by teaching because her parents objected to her career choice.
President Theodore Roosevelt visited Michigan in 1907 to participate in the 50th anniversary celebration of Michigan Agricultural College in East Lansing. He was driven to the College by Ransom E. Olds in a REO automobile. Sitting next to him in the back seat is the president of the college, Dr. Jonathon L. Snyder. Ransom E. Olds, himself, is at the helm of the REO with President Roosevelt’s secretary, Mr. Loeb, sitting beside him. It is said that the president returned to Lansing in an Oldsmobile so as not to show any partiality.

Sojourner Truth, a freed slave from New York State, came to Michigan in the 1850s. She lived in Battle Creek where she was active in the abolitionist movement and was an effective speaker and singer at meetings. She continued to live and work in Battle Creek until her death in 1883. In the photograph at the right, she is portrayed in a painting with President Abraham Lincoln, whom she met in 1864.
MICHIGANIAN MATCH-UP

Can you match these famous Michiganders with their accomplishments?

1. Ralph Bunche  
2. Francis Ford Coppola  
3. General George Custer  
4. Thomas Edison  
5. Gerald Ford  
6. Henry Ford  
7. Kirk Gibson  
8. Thomas Hearns  
9. Earvin "Magic" Johnson  
10. Charles Lindbergh  
11. Joe Louis  
12. Madonna  
13. Rosa Parks  
14. Burt Reynolds  
15. Diana Ross  
16. Bob Seger  
17. Tom Selleck  
18. Lily Tomlin  
19. Sojourner Truth  
20. Robin Williams  
21. Stevie Wonder  
22. Malcolm X  
23. Steve Yzerman

A. One of America’s funniest actor-comedians.  
B. A Civil War hero who is best known for his "last stand."  
C. One of the greatest inventors in history.  
D. The longest reigning captain in team history.  
E. The greatest point guard to ever play basketball.  
F. The man who was heavyweight boxing champ longer than anyone else.  
G. He made the first solo airplane flight over the Atlantic Ocean.  
H. She was an inspiring speaker and leader in the anti-slavery and women’s rights movements.  
I. One of America’s funniest actress-comediennes.  
J. He directed the “Godfather” movies.  
K. A Muslim minister and civil rights leader.  
L. This boxer held titles in four weight classes at one time.  
M. When she refused to move to the back of the bus, she became the “Mother of the Civil Rights Movement.”  
N. This successful television and movie actor from Detroit loves his Tiger cap.  
O. He became a star at Motown when he was young.  
P. He was our 38th President.  
Q. He was a star football player at MSU and a baseball World Series star for the Tigers and Dodgers.  
R. This successful television and movie actor lived in Lansing.  
S. He put America on wheels.  
T. This recording and movie star is a “material girl.”  
U. After becoming a star at Motown, she became a movie actress too.  
V. Just give this recording star “That Old Time Rock’n’ Roll.”  
W. He won the 1950 Nobel Peace Prize for ending an Israeli-Arab War in 1949.
MAP QUIZ:

Each number corresponds to a city on page 21.
(Need help? There are additional clues on page 22!
Also, remember to use each place only once.)

1. The REO Speedwagon was built here.

2. This is the home of Michigan’s oldest continuously operating college.

3. More tourists come here than anywhere else in Michigan.

4. The Upper Peninsula State Fair is held here.

5. A king lived and ruled here.

6. There are 550 known shipwrecks in Lake Superior. More than half of said wrecks are
located near here, also known as Shipwreck Coast.

7. A United States President was raised here.

8. The Reverend Peter Dougherty planted something near here that people said would
never grow. Now Michigan leads the nation in producing this crop.


10. This is the birthplace of the Republican Party.

11. Iron ore was discovered here in 1844.

12. The United State’s tallest man-made ski jump is here.

13. There has never been an automobile accident on the highway around this city.

14. The nation’s only Finnish-founded college, Finlandia University (formerly Suomi
College), is located here.

15. Ernest Hemingway spent much time here.

16. Father Marquette, a French missionary-explorer, probably died here.

17. This city and Mackinac Island were surrendered to the British in the War of 1812.

18. European explorers established their first Michigan settlement here.

19. This city was the headquarters of a large religion and a world-famous hospital. An aide
and a former patient developed health food companies and began a major industry.

20. This city has been a center for fur trading, a military fort, lumbering, salt-processing,
farming, shipbuilding, and automobile manufacturing.

21. The courtroom where Abe Lincoln practiced law and the laboratory where Thomas
Edison invented the light bulb are now in this city.

22. This is the home of the largest Dutch community in the nation.
1. This is the state capital.
2. Along with the oldest college, there is also a large public university located here.
3. The world’s foremost outfitter features a 48-foot mountain, a 65,000-gallon aquarium, and museum-quality displays of wild animals. It is also the state’s number one tourist attraction.
4. This is near Fayette State Park, once an iron-smelting town, now a “ghost-town.”
5. James Strang, head of a Mormon sect, led his group here and declared himself king of the island. He also ordered his followers to vote him into the legislature.
6. The Edmund Fitzgerald sank to the bottom of Lake Superior near here.
7. This city is known as the furniture city, some of the best furniture in the world is made here.
8. This is our nation’s cherry capital.
9. This city was named for a French missionary-explorer.
10. Four astronauts were born or educated here.
11. This city is close to the National Ski Hall of Fame in Ishpeming. Also, moose were moved from Canada to its nearby forests.
12. This city was named for the metal that brought people here.
13. Automobiles are not allowed here.
14. This city is connected to the rest of Copper Country and the Keweenaw Peninsula by one of the largest vertical lift span bridges in the world.
15. Our beautiful state stone is named after this city.
16. Ferry boats take people and cars to Wisconsin from here.
17. This is our state’s biggest city.
18. Here are the busiest locks in the western hemisphere. The locks are “water elevators” that lift or lower ships the 22 feet difference between Lake Superior and Lake Huron.
19. W.K. Kellogg and C.W. Post started the companies that have made this city GRRRR-RR-E-A-T.
20. The name of this city is also the name of a valley, river, bay, and county.
21. Edison’s laboratory and many other American landmarks are located at Greenfield Village and the Henry Ford Museum in this city.
22. This city is well known for its windmill from the Netherlands, historic Dutch Village, and popular Tulip Festival.
TRUE OR FALSE? Circle the correct answer.

1. In 1855, the city of Marshall, a stop on the Underground Railroad, became nationally famous because 200 residents stopped some Southerners from abducting a family of fugitive slaves.  
   T   F

2. The name “Michigan” comes from Algonquin Indian words meaning “big mitten and the Upper Peninsula.”  
   T   F

3. Between the 1980 census and the 1990 census, Michigan “grew” from the twenty-third largest state in area to the eleventh largest because part of the Great Lakes was included.  
   T   F

4. There are over 250 museums in Michigan.  
   T   F

5. Railroad companies built the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island and other vacation spots so tourists would keep the trains busy after the lumber was gone.  
   T   F

6. In 1763, when Chief Pontiac wanted to make peace with the British, he sent them the message, “All my young men have buried their hatchets.”  
   T   F

7. Giant elephants called mammoths and mastodons once lived in Michigan.  
   T   F

8. The first state capital was located in the Upper Peninsula.  
   T   F

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Fort Michilimackinac was occupied for 65 years during the 18th century. Today, it is one of our state’s most popular visitor attractions. Michiganders and tourists alike relish the history that is as deeply embedded in the old walls of the fort as the timbers are in the ground. Imagine one of your ancestors living there, barring the gates at sunset, or keeping watch from the tower during the night—imagine children playing, women visiting across the yard while hard at work, dogs barking, horses neighing—it all really happened at Fort Michilimackinac.
When French explorers first visited Michigan in the early 17th century, there were approximately 100,000 Native Americans living in the Great Lakes region. Of these, the estimated population of what is now Michigan was approximately 15,000. Several tribes made the forests and river valleys their home. The main groups, sometimes referred to as “The Three Fires,” were the Chippewa (Ojibway), who lived mainly in the Upper Peninsula and the eastern part of the Lower Peninsula; the Ottawa, who resided along the western part of the Lower Peninsula; and the Potawatomi, who occupied part of southwestern Michigan after migrating from what is now eastern Wisconsin. Other significant tribes in this region included the Huron (Wyandot), who came to the southeastern area of Michigan from the Ontario side of Lake Erie; the Sauk, who resided in the Saginaw River Valley; the Miami, who lived along the St. Joseph River before migrating to western Ohio; and the Menominee, who lived in northern Wisconsin and parts of the Upper Peninsula.

Most Native American settlements in the Great Lakes region were along river valleys or near the Great Lakes shoreline and, much like today, most of the population was located in the southern half of the Lower Peninsula. Tribal settlements were not permanent, with groups moving to new locations every few years. Although agriculture was limited by soil conditions, dense forest, and a relatively short growing season, Native Americans did cultivate crops. Corn, beans, and squash were grown and wild apples, berries, nuts, game, fish, honey, and wild rice provided other sources of nourishment. Further, maple sugar was produced from the sap and birch trees were used for housing materials and canoes.

Native Americans of the pre-European era in Michigan left behind more than 1,000 burial mounds similar to those discovered in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri. Many mounds were uncovered in the Grand River and Muskegon River valleys of west-central Michigan. The most puzzling prehistoric remnants, however, were carefully designed and arranged ridges of earth described as “garden beds.” These detailed geometric creations, long since destroyed by pioneers’ plows, consisted of ridges of soil about 18 inches high and covered many acres. Outside of a few found in Indiana and Wisconsin, the “garden beds” have been found only in Michigan. Their function remains a mystery.

Today, Michigan is home to 12 federally recognized Indian tribes. Like the State of Michigan, the 12 tribes are sovereign governments, recognized by the United States Constitution, Congressional public acts, and United States Supreme Court decisions. Like the State of Michigan, tribal governments exercise authority and jurisdiction over their lands and citizens. Michigan and tribal governments share responsibility to provide for and protect the health, safety, and welfare of their common constituents.
MICHIGAN FOOTSTEPS:

1618  Etienne Brulé passes through the North Channel at the neck of Lake Huron; within a short period of time, probably in 1622, he and a companion named Grenoble land at Sault Ste. Marie, probably the first white men to look upon the Sault. The Michigan Indian population is approximately 15,000.

1668  Father Jacques Marquette takes over the Sault mission and founds the first permanent settlement on Michigan soil at Sault Ste. Marie.

1671  The first of the military outposts, Fort de Buade (later known as Fort Michilimackinac) is established at St. Ignace.

1679  The Griffin, the first sailing vessel on the Great Lakes, is built by René Robert Cavelier de La Salle, and was lost in a storm on Lake Michigan.

1701  Detroit is founded as Fort Pontchartrain by French explorer and colonial administrator Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac as a permanent settlement to protect and secure the fur trade.

In the fall, Madame Cadillac and Madame Tonty, wife of Italian explorer and trader Henry de Tonty, arrive at the fort as the first European women in the region.

Major Henry Gladwin took over the British command at the Fort du Detroit in 1762. The fort, built by Cadillac in 1701, was actually a tiny, walled city and its narrow streets were crowded with buildings. This map was published in 1764, but is based on surveys completed between 1749 and 1755.
1715  Fort Michilimackinac is reestablished on the southern shore of the Straits of Mackinac.

1763  Ottawa Chief Pontiac and followers enter the fort at Detroit in an abortive effort to capture it from Major Gladwin by surprise attack. Detroit endures a siege of several weeks.

1781  Spanish forces from St. Louis take Fort St. Joseph (Niles); all residents are taken prisoner; the Spanish flag is raised. Raiders depart the next day and the fort reverts to British possession.

1783  The Treaty of Paris is signed, ending the Revolutionary War and including Michigan in the United States. The British control the Michigan area, however, for 13 more years.

1787  Congress passes the Northwest Ordinance of 1787, outlining government of the “Territory northwest of the Ohio River.”

1792  Detroit, including settlers on both sides of the river, holds its first election, sending three representatives to the Parliament of Upper Canada.

1796  The British withdraw their garrison from Detroit. The Stars and Stripes are raised for the first time on Michigan soil by General “Mad” Anthony Wayne’s advance guard.

1803  Ohio is admitted to the Union, including the strip of land that 30 years later will be known as the Toledo strip. Michigan becomes part of the Territory of Indiana.

1805  The Territory of Michigan is created, with Detroit as the capital.

1813  General William H. Harrison, departing for Washington, leaves Colonel (later General) Lewis Cass as the military governor at Detroit.
1817 The Catholepistemiad, or University of Michigania, is incorporated.

1818 Public land sales begin at Detroit; immigration from the East is under way.

1823 Congress advances the Territory of Michigan to the second governmental grade, authorizing the Legislative Council of nine members presidentially appointed and 18 locally elected. Enacted laws are subject to congressional approval. The first capitol is built in Detroit.

1824 On the motion of Father Richard, Congress appropriates $10,000 for a survey of the Great Sauk Trail (now U.S. 12) between Detroit and Chicago and makes an additional appropriation in 1825.

1825 The opening of the Erie Canal in New York facilitates settlement of Michigan and shipping of farm products to the East.

1830 Michigan issues a railway charter to the Detroit & Pontiac Railway, the first incorporated railway in the limits of the old Northwest Territory.

1831 Stevens T. Mason, age 19, becomes the acting governor of the Michigan Territory.

1835 The Ohio Legislature passes an act asserting claims to the “Toledo Strip,” along its northern boundary.

Governor Mason calls out the militia as the “Toledo War” begins with more anger than gunfire. Border incidents continue into September, and jurisdictional wrangling goes on through all of 1836.

A convention at Detroit drafts a state constitution in preparation for statehood. Stevens T. Mason, who was removed from office by President Jackson because of Mason’s action on the Toledo question, is elected as the first governor of the state of Michigan at 23 years of age.

During the 19th century, agriculture was the mainstay of Michigan’s economy. This father and son, unsmiling but filled with pride, stand in their field, tools at the ready. They were representative of all Michigan residents who earned their living from the soil.
1836 The horse-powered Erie & Kalamazoo Railroad chartered in 1833 reaches Adrian from Toledo. The first steam locomotive in the state is put in operation on this line the following year, as the railroad is the first west of New York state to operate.

Daily stages from Detroit begin carrying mail and passengers to Sandusky, Chicago, and central Michigan; a railroad between Detroit and Jackson is under construction; and shipbuilding becomes important along nearby rivers and lake shores. During seven months of navigation, 200,000 people pass through Detroit’s port.

1837 Michigan is admitted to the Union as a free state and Arkansas is admitted as a slave state.

The Panic of 1837 strikes Michigan.

1838 The Grand Rapids furniture industry has its beginning.

1844 The first major copper operations begin in the Keweenaw district.

1846 Dr. A.C. Van Raalte, a Dutch secessionist pastor, sails from Rotterdam with 53 Hollanders; they form the nucleus of western Michigan’s large Dutch settlements begun the following winter.

Michigan becomes the first English-speaking jurisdiction in the world to abolish capital punishment.

1848 The state legislature meets for the first session in the new capitol at Lansing.

Michigan’s first capitol building was located in Detroit. In 1847, the Michigan Legislature chose a wilderness site in central Michigan as the site of our state’s capitol. It was later named Lansing. In January 1848, the Michigan Legislature held their first session in this modest and unpretentious frame building.
1854  The Republican party is formed and named at meetings held in Jackson.

1857  The Christian Reformed Church in North America is founded by Michigan’s Dutch settlers, following secession from the Reformed Church.

1861  Thomas A. Edison erects his first electrical battery and begins experiments at Fort Gratiot (Port Huron).

The First Michigan Regiment leaves Fort Wayne in Detroit. It is the first western regiment to reach Washington during the Civil War, in which 90,000 Michigan soldiers see service.

1864  The First Michigan Colored Infantry is mustered. Michigan black troops number 1,673.

1870  Annual lumber production for the state averages 3 million board feet and is the highest in the country for a period of 20 years.

1879  Six years after the cornerstone was laid, the new state capitol at Lansing is dedicated and occupied, several months after completion, at a cost of more than $1,500,000.
1880 Iron ore is discovered in large quantities at Bessemer in the Gogebic Range.

1883 A compulsory school attendance law is enacted. Cherry trees were first harvested in the upper fruit belt.

1887 Ransom E. Olds’ first auto steamer appears.

1891 Port Huron, Michigan, and Sarnia, Ontario, are joined by the Grand Trunk Railroad tunnel under the St. Clair River, the first subaqueous railroad tunnel linking foreign countries.

1896 Ransom E. Olds brings out a practical four-wheeled, gasoline-powered auto in Lansing. Henry Ford’s “quadricycle” is tested in Detroit.

1904 The organization of Buick Motor Company marks the beginning of auto manufacturing in Flint on a large scale.

1906 Timbering of second-growth forests begins in the Upper Peninsula.

1907 The Detroit Tigers, led by Ty Cobb, win the first of three consecutive pennants.

1913 The Western Federation of Miners calls a strike among 13,514 Upper Peninsula copper miners. Violence and bloodshed result from demands for an 8-hour day, a minimum daily wage of $3.50, and abolition of the “widow maker,” a one-man drill.

1914 Henry Ford announces the adoption of a $5 minimum wage for an 8-hour day.

1918 Michigan men in World War service reaches a total of 135,485.

1920 Radio station WWJ in Detroit opens as a pioneer station in the broadcasting of regular daily programs.

1928 The first all-metal dirigible, constructed for the Navy by Detroit manufacturers, is successfully flown at Grosse Ile Airport.

Above is an automobile factory in the early years of the industry. The Michigamians pictured are hard at work “putting America on wheels” and helping earn the “Motor City” its nickname.
1930 Michigan’s population is 4,842,325, an increase of more than 1,170,000 since 1920. Urban centers account for 68.2 percent of the population, almost an exact reversal of the situation in 1880.

1932 Governor William A. Comstock calls a statewide “banking holiday” to avoid bank runs, after disclosure of the condition of the Union Guardian Trust Company in Detroit.

1935 Michigan celebrates its statehood centennial.

1936 With the Flint sit-down strike leading the way, General Motors employees go on strike, idling 150,000 workers and more than 60 plants in 14 states.

1939 Frank Murphy, former governor, becomes the Attorney General of the United States. Governor Frank D. Fitzgerald dies. Luren D. Dickinson, acting governor of Michigan, appoints Matilda R. Wilson as lieutenant governor.

1941 Auto plants are converted to the production of war materials and Michigan becomes known as the “Arsenal of Democracy.”

1945 The Detroit Tigers win the World Series.

1946 Lake Superior State College is opened at Sault Ste. Marie.

World War II was won, in part, as a direct result of the efforts of Michigan residents. Our state gave men, women, and machines to the war effort. Our “Arsenal of Democracy” helped bring Hitler to his knees and secured freedom for the United States.

1947 Walter Reuther assumes the presidency of the UAW.

1952 The Detroit Lions win the first of three championships in professional football in the decade (also in 1953 and 1957).
1957 After ages of dreams and efforts in the 1930s halted by the war, the five-mile-long Mackinac Bridge is completed, finally uniting Michigan’s two principal peninsulas.

1964 James McDivitt from Jackson commands the Gemini IV mission and becomes Michigan’s first astronaut.

1974 Gerald R. Ford, former congressman from Grand Rapids, becomes 38th President of the United States—the first from Michigan.

1981 William G. Milliken becomes the state’s longest-serving governor. He serves a total of 14 years.

1982 Martha Griffiths, a veteran of 20 years’ service in the Congress, is the first woman in Michigan history elected to the post of lieutenant governor. (Matilda Wilson was appointed to the position in 1939.)

The movement to renovate Michigan’s 103-year-old capitol building begins with the organization of Friends of the Capitol.

1986 Republican William Lucas is the first African-American candidate to represent a major party in a gubernatorial election in Michigan.

1987 Michigan celebrates its sesquicentennial of statehood.

1990 The restored chambers of the Senate and of the House are reopened and the lawmakers return to their traditional home after holding sessions elsewhere. The Senate becomes the first state legislative body in the nation to include microcomputers on the chamber floor.

1992 The fully restored Michigan Capitol is rededicated.

1993 The Michigan House of Representatives operates throughout the Legislature with a unique shared-power arrangement with co-speakers and other shared offices.

1994 Michigan revamps its system of financing public schools with major statutory and constitutional changes.

The “gem” of our state—restored to its original grandeur.
1997  The Detroit Red Wings win the Stanley Cup, its first cup victory since 1955.


2000  Michigan State University’s men’s basketball team wins its second national championship.

2001  Detroit celebrates its 300th Anniversary.

2002  Michigan’s first female Governor, Jennifer M. Granholm (former Attorney General), is elected and the first woman, Mary Sue Coleman, is named the 13th President of the University of Michigan.

2004  The Detroit Pistons win their third world championship.

2005  The first woman, Lou Anna K. Simon, is named the 20th President of Michigan State University.

2006  Detroit, the first northern city, hosts Super Bowl XL won by the Pittsburgh Steelers over the Seattle Seahawks.

2008  Michigan State University wins the national competition for the U.S. Department of Energy’s $550 million Facility for Rare Isotope Beams, which is expected to attract top researchers from around the world in nuclear science and astrophysics.

2009  A credit crisis that begins in the late summer and fall of the previous year triggers a severe economic downturn that results in the bankruptcy of General Motors and Chrysler and significant government ownership of both corporations.

2010  Michigan’s resident population declines between 2000 and 2010, the only state in the nation to lose population since the last census. Michigan’s population of 9,888,635 results in the loss of one Congressional seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

2011  The Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine admits its first class of students and becomes the first Michigan public university to establish a medical school in over 40 years. Central Michigan University formed the CMU Medical Education Partners Alliance on its path to admit its first class to the new College of Medicine in 2013. Western Michigan University names the founding dean for their new School of Medicine with plans to admit their first class in 2014.

2013  Representative John Dingell is honored as the longest serving member in the history of the U.S. Congress. Representative Dingell first took office on December 13, 1955 at the age of 29. He represents Michigan’s 12th Congressional District.

The city of Detroit files for bankruptcy protection in U.S. District Court. It is the largest municipality in U.S. history to file for bankruptcy.
PORTRAITS OF MICHIGAN

MICHIGAN COUNTIES—
How They Got Their Names!

ALCONA
Believed to be an origination of Henry R. Schoolcraft, who served as mediator between the United States and the Native Americans, and who also was a member of the Territorial Council of Michigan. “Al” is Arabic for “the,” “co” means “plain” or “prairie,” and “na” means “excellence.” Therefore—“a fine or excellent plain.”
County seat: Harrisville .......... Population: 10,942 ......................... Organized: 1869

ALGER
Named for Governor Russell A. Alger (1885-1886).
County seat: Munising .......... Population: 9,601
Organized: 1885

ALLEGAN
Derivation is obscure. Most quoted sources say it also is a Schoolcraft creation, possibly named for an ancient Native American tribe. Other meanings include “lake,” “fine river,” or “fair river.”
County seat: Allegan .......... Population: 111,408
Organized: 1835

ALPENA
It is believed to be another Schoolcraft creation. Best translations are “the third” or “partridge county.”
County seat: Alpena .......... Population: 29,598
Organized: 1857

ANTRIM
Named for County Antrim in Ireland.

ARENAC
A derivation of the Latin “arena” and the Native American “ac.” The combined words mean “sandy place.”
County seat: Standish .......... Population: 15,899 ......................... Organized: 1883

BARAGA
Named for the missionary Bishop Frederic Baraga.
County seat: L’Anse .......... Population: 8,860 ......................... Organized: 1875
BARRY
Named for William T. Barry of Kentucky, Postmaster General in the Cabinet of President Andrew Jackson.
County seat: Hastings ........... Population: 59,173 .........................Organized: 1839

BAY
So named because it encircles Saginaw Bay.
County seat: Bay City .......... Population: 107,771 .........................Organized: 1857

BENZIE
A derivative of the French “aux-Bec-Scies.” The name was first applied to the river. It later was changed to Betsey, then to Benzie.
County seat: Beulah .......... Population: 17,525 .........................Organized: 1869

BERRIEN
Named for John M. Berrien of Georgia, Attorney General under President Jackson.
County seat: St. Joseph ........ Population: 156,813 
Organized: 1831

BRANCH
Named for John Branch of North Carolina, Secretary of the Navy under President Jackson.
County seat: Coldwater .......... Population: 45,248 
Organized: 1833

CALHOUN
Named for Vice President John C. Calhoun.
County seat: Marshall ........... Population: 136,146 
Organized: 1833

CASS
Named for Lewis Cass, second Governor of the Michigan Territory.
County seat: Cassopolis ....... Population: 52,293 .........................Organized: 1829

CHARLEVOIX
Named for Pierre F.X. de Charlevoix, a Jesuit missionary.
County seat: Charlevoix ....... Population: 25,949 .........................Organized: 1869

CHEBOYGAN
A Native American word first applied to the river.
County seat: Cheboygan ....... Population: 26,152 .........................Organized: 1853
CHIPPEWA
A name of a large Native American tribe.

CLARE
Named for County Clare in Ireland.
County seat: Harrison ........... Population: 30,926 ....................... Organized: 1871

CLINTON
Named for New York Governor DeWitt Clinton, under whose administration the Erie Canal was built.
County seat: St. Johns .......... Population: 75,382 ....................... Organized: 1839

CRAWFORD
County seat: Grayling .......... Population: 14,074 ....................... Organized: 1879

DELTA
From the Greek “delta,” referring to the triangular shape of the original county which included segments of Menominee, Dickinson, Iron, and Marquette Counties.
County seat: Escanaba ........... Population: 37,069 ....................... Organized: 1861

DICKINSON
Named for Don M. Dickinson of Michigan, Postmaster General under President Grover Cleveland during his first term.
County seat: Iron Mountain ..... Population: 26,168 ....................... Organized: 1891

EATON
Named for John H. Eaton of Tennessee, Secretary of War under President Jackson.
County seat: Charlotte .......... Population: 107,759 ....................... Organized: 1837

EMMET
For the Irish Patriot, Robert Emmet.

GENESEE
An Iroquois word meaning “beautiful valley.” Named after the valley in western New York State from which many Flint area settlers came.
County seat: Flint ............... Population: 425,790 ....................... Organized: 1836
GLADWIN
Named for Major Henry Gladwin, British commander at Detroit in 1762.
County seat: Gladwin ...................... Population: 25,692
Organized: 1875

GOGEVIC
An obscure word. Most references interpret it as “rock.”
County seat: Bessemer ...................... Population: 16,427
Organized: 1887

GRAND TRAVERSE
A French phrase “grande traverse,” meaning “long crossing.”
County seat: Traverse City ................. Population: 86,986
Organized: 1851

GRATIOT
For Captain Charles Gratiot, who supervised the building of Fort Gratiot at the modern site of Port Huron.

HILLSDALE
The rolling surface of the area served as the basis for this name.
County seat: Hillsdale ...................... Population: 46,688 ...................... Organized: 1835

HOUGHTON
For Michigan geologist Professor Douglass Houghton.
County seat: Houghton ........ Population: 36,628 ...................... Organized: 1848

Pioneer state geologist Douglass Houghton is pictured at left. Houghton County was named after him.
HURON
Name of a Native American tribe. From the French word “hure,” meaning “peasant” or “big (ugly) head.” The tribe referred to itself as “Wendet” (Wyandotte), meaning “dwellers on a peninsula.”
County seat: Bad Axe ............ Population: 33,118 .........................Organized: 1859

INGHAM
Named for Samuel D. Ingham of Pennsylvania, Secretary of the Treasury under President Andrew Jackson.
County seat: Mason .............. Population: 280,895 .........................Organized: 1838

IONIA
For a province in Greece.
County seat: Ionia ............... Population: 63,905 .........................Organized: 1837

IOSCO
“Osco” is a Native American word for water.
County seat: Tawas City ........ Population: 25,887 .........................Organized: 1857

IRON
For the mineral product of that county.
County seat: Crystal Falls ...... Population: 11,817 .........................Organized: 1885

ISABELLA
For Queen Isabella of Spain.
County seat: Mt. Pleasant ...... Population: 70,311 .........................Organized: 1859

JACKSON
For President Andrew Jackson.
County seat: Jackson ............ Population: 160,248 .........................Organized: 1832

This picture of the Ingham County Courthouse (c. 1900) recalls a time of long ago when people traveled by horse and buggy to their county seat. These horses, keeping warm under blankets, wait patiently for their masters to complete their business.
KALAMAZOO
The most widely accepted translations are “boiling water,” “beautiful water,” and “stones like otters.” Other versions are “reflecting river” or “it smokes.”
County seat: Kalamazoo Population: 250,331 Organized: 1830

KALKASKA
A Schoolcraft creation or derived from Chippewa for “burned over.”
County seat: Kalkaska Population: 17,153 Organized: 1871

KENT
For chancellor James Kent, a celebrated New York jurist.
County seat: Grand Rapids Population: 602,622 Organized: 1836

KEWEENAW
Native American word for “portage” or “place where portage is made.”
County seat: Eagle River Population: 2,156 Organized: 1861

LAKE
The county has many small lakes.
County seat: Baldwin Population: 11,539 Organized: 1871

LAPEER
A derivation of the French “La Pierre,” meaning stone or flint.
County seat: Lapeer Population: 88,319 Organized: 1835

LEELANAU
A Schoolcraft creation meaning “delight of life.”
County seat: Leland Population: 21,708 Organized: 1863

LENAWEE
Native American word meaning “man.”
County seat: Adrian Population: 99,892 Organized: 1826

LIVINGSTON
Named for Edward Livingston of Louisiana, Secretary of State under President Andrew Jackson.
County seat: Howell Population: 180,967 Organized: 1836

LUCE
For Governor Cyrus G. Luce (1887-1890).
County seat: Newberry Population: 6,631 Organized: 1887

MACKINAC
The county was laid out under the name of Michilimackinac in 1818.
County seat: St. Ignace Population: 11,113 Organized: 1849

MACOMB
For General Alexander Macomb, an officer in the War of 1812.
County seat: Mt. Clemens Population: 840,978 Organized: 1818
MANISTEE
Native American name first applied to the county’s principal river.
County seat: Manistee  Population: 24,733  Organized: 1855

MARCQUETTE
For the Jesuit missionary and explorer, Father Jacques Marquette.
County seat: Marquette  Population: 67,077  Organized: 1846

MASON
For Stevens T. Mason, first Governor of Michigan (1835-1840).
County seat: Ludington  Population: 28,705  Organized: 1855

MECOSTA
For the Native American chief, Mecosta.
County seat: Big Rapids  Population: 42,798  Organized: 1859

MENOMINEE
Derivation of the word means “rice men” or “rice gatherers.”
County named for the Menominee tribe that lived in the county.
County seat: Menominee  Population: 24,029  Organized: 1861

MIDLAND
Located near the geographic center of the Lower Peninsula.
County seat: Midland  Population: 83,629  Organized: 1850

The historical Midland County Courthouse was first opened in 1926. It was restored and rededicated in 1995. The first courthouse in Michigan built in the tudor style, it is noted for its hand-painted murals. The stones on the exterior are all from the area and were brought to the site by local farmers.
MISSAUKEE
Named for a prominent Native American chief of the area who was known better as “Nesaukee.”
County seat: Lake City Population: 14,849 Organized: 1850

MONROE
For President James Monroe (1817-1825).
County seat: Monroe Population: 152,021 Organized: 1822

MONTCALM
For the French General, Marquis de Montcalm.
County seat: Stanton Population: 63,342 Organized: 1850

MONTMORENCY
Derivation unknown, perhaps named for a French explorer or a type of cherry.
County seat: Atlanta Population: 9,765 Organized: 1881

MUSKEGON
The meaning is “swamp” or “marsh” in Chippewa.
County seat: Muskegon Population: 172,188 Organized: 1859

NEWAYGO
Supposedly named for a Native American chief.
County seat: White Cloud Population: 48,460 Organized: 1851

OAKLAND
So named because of the abundance of oak trees in the county.
County seat: Pontiac Population: 1,202,362 Organized: 1820

OCEANA
Derives its name because of its proximity to Lake Michigan.
County seat: Hart Population: 26,570 Organized: 1851

OGEMAW
Named after Ogenaw-ki-keto, prominent Saginaw Valley Native American chief.
Taken from the Chippewa word for “chief.”
County seat: West Branch Population: 21,699 Organized: 1875

ONTONAGON
Various meanings include “hunting river,” “lost dish,” and “fishing place.”
County seat: Ontonagon Population: 6,780 Organized: 1846
OSCEOLA
For the Seminole Native American chief, Osceola.
County seat: Reed City Population: 23,528 Organized: 1869

OSCODA
Believed to be a combination of two Ojibwa words, created by Schoolcraft from “ossin” (stone) and “muskoda” (prairie).
County seat: Mio Population: 8,640 Organized: 1881

OTSEGO
An Iroquoian word meaning “clear water,” “welcome water,” or “meeting place.”
A transplant from New York State.
County seat: Gaylord Population: 24,164 Organized: 1875

OTTAWA
For the Ottawa Native American tribe.
County seat: Grand Haven Population: 263,801 Organized: 1837

PRESQUE ISLE
A derivation of the French phrase for “narrow peninsula” or “almost an island.”
County seat: Rogers City Population: 13,376 Organized: 1871

ROSCOMMON
For County Roscommon, Ireland.
County seat: Roscommon Population: 24,449 Organized: 1875

SAGINAW
There are two known derivations. “Sac-e-nong” (Sauk Town), because the Sauk once lived there. The other possible meaning comes from the Chippewa words for “at the mouth” or “pouring out at the mouth.”
County seat: Saginaw Population: 200,169 Organized: 1831

ST. CLAIR
For General Arthur St. Clair, first Governor of the Northwest Territory.
County seat: Port Huron Population: 163,040 Organized: 1821

ST. JOSEPH
For the patron saint of New France.
County seat: Centreville Population: 61,295 Organized: 1829

SANILAC
For Sanilac, a Native American chief.
County seat: Sandusky Population: 43,114 Organized: 1848
SCHOOLCRAFT
For Henry R. Schoolcraft, Michigan’s Native American agent.
County seat: Manistique ................. Population: 8,485
Organized: 1846

SHIAWASSEE
Named for the Shiawassee River. Meaning usually believed to be “the river twists about.” Other possible meanings are “straight ahead” or “straight running river.”
County seat: Corunna ................. Population: 70,648
Organized: 1837

TUSCOLA
A Schoolcraft creation meaning either “warrior prairie” or “level lands.”
County seat: Caro ................. Population: 55,729
Organized: 1850

VAN BUREN
For President Martin Van Buren, who was inaugurated in 1837.

WASHTENAW
The original word was “wash-ten-ong” meaning “on the river.”

WAYNE
For General Anthony Wayne, who became famous in the Revolutionary War through his courageous exploits.
County seat: Detroit ........ Population: 1,820,548 .......... Organized: 1815

WEXFORD
For County Wexford, Ireland.
County seat: Cadillac ........ Population: 32,735 .......... Organized: 1869

*Population data from 2010 U.S. Census.
Michigan Album
Answers for questions on pages 8-10.

Section I:
1. C (French rule 1618-1763)
2. A (Civil War 1861-1865)
3. D (Lumber boom 1865-1900)
4. B (Auto industry 1896-present)

Section II:
1. D (World War I 1917-1918)
2. B (Mine disaster 11-3-1926)
3. A (World War II 1941-1945)
4. C (Bridge construction 1954-1957)

General Questions
Answers for questions on pages 11-14.
1. D
2. B
3. B
4. C
5. C
6. D
7. A
8. C
9. B
10. C
11. D
12. D
13. C (Cadillac founded Detroit)
14. D
15. C
16. D
17. D
18. B
19. Apple Blossom
20. Elk
21. Holland
22. Hartwick Pines State Forest
23. Mackinac Bridge
24. Labor Day annual walk

Faces of Michigan
Answers for questions on page 15.
1. C
2. D
3. A
4. C
5. B and C
6. C
7. B
8. B

Michiganian Match-up
Answers for questions on page 19.
1. W
2. J
3. B
4. C
5. P
6. S
7. Q
8. L
9. E
10. G
11. F
12. T
13. M
14. R
15. U
16. V
17. N
18. I
19. H
20. A
21. O
22. K
23. D

Map Quiz
Answers for questions on pages 20-22.
1. Lansing
2. Kalamazoo
3. Dundee
4. Escanaba
5. Beaver Island
6. Whitefish Point
7. Grand Rapids
8. Traverse City (tart cherries)
9. Marquette
10. Jackson
11. Negaunee
12. Iron Mountain
13. Mackinac Island
14. Hancock
15. Petoskey
16. Ludington
17. Detroit
19. Battle Creek
20. Saginaw
21. Dearborn
22. Holland

True or False
Answers for questions on page 23.
1. T
2. F (means Great Lakes)
3. T
4. T
5. T
6. T
7. T
8. F (where: Detroit)
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