We are planning a one-day trip to Grand Rapids on Wednesday, April 10, and we think you’ll love it. First we’ll travel to the Gerald R. Ford Museum, which hosts a permanent exhibit that allows visitors to experience highlights from President and Mrs. Ford’s lives. The exhibit teaches democratic citizenship and allows for quiet reflection. In addition to the permanent exhibits, changing temporary exhibits draw artifacts from museums all over the country. The Museum Store sells items relating to the Ford presidency, other Presidents and the First Ladies, and other souvenirs. The museum grounds are also home to President and Mrs. Ford’s burial site.

The Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park will be the next stop. This facility opened in April 1995 after 13 years of planning and fundraising by the West Michigan Horticultural Society. In 1990, Fred and Lena Meijer were asked for their support, and they embraced the concept of a major cultural attraction centering around horticulture and sculpture. Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park is one of the leading cultural destinations in the Midwest, featuring 158 acres of indoor and outdoor gardens, one of the nation’s annual horticulture and temporary sculpture exhibits. Mingle with more than 7,000 butterflies flying freely inside the conservatories. The annual Fred & Dorothy Fichter Butterflies Are Blooming exhibition at Meijer Gardens is the largest temporary tropical butterfly exhibition in the nation. Tropical butterflies from around the world fly freely in the Lena Meijer Tropical Conservatory.

Please note: Tram tours begin at 10 a.m. daily, weather permitting. Trams will run every 1/2 hour between 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Adults: $6. Tickets are available at the Peter C. & Emajean Cook Transportation Center.

Also: During the butterfly exhibition, tripods are not allowed in the Lena Meijer Tropical Conservatory. Monopods may be used, but please be courteous to other guests. Due to governmental regulations, no butterfly or plant materials may leave the Lena Meijer Tropical Conservatory. Please don’t touch the butterflies.

Day trip to Grand Rapids April 10; register soon

Join the MSURA for a trip to the Gerald R. Ford Museum, Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park on April 10

TRIP INCLUDES:
• Round trip transportation by Motorcoach
• Self-guided tour of the Gerald R. Ford Museum *(Lots of walking)*
• Self guided tour of Butterflies Are Blooming Exhibition, the Tropical Conservatory,
• Carnivorous Plant House to the Victorian Garden. *(Lots of walking)*

COST: $65

Note: Each person must fill out her or his own registration form.

Mail your check and reservation form (found on page 7) to:

Diana Priebe, Mitten Tours
200 Albert Ave, Unit 604, East Lansing, MI 48823
Contact number: 517-281-9192

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATION: March 1, 2024

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

**Wednesday, April 10, 2024**

**8:30 a.m.**
Motorcoach arrives Meijer on Lake Lansing Road (by Light Post K)

**8:45 a.m.**
Motorcoach departs Meijer on Lake Lansing Road

**10:10 a.m.**
Arrive Gerald R. Ford Museum *(Lots of walking)*

**12:15 p.m.**
Motorcoach departs for Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park

**12:30 p.m.**
Motorcoach arrives at Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park *(Lots of walking)*

**3:30 p.m.**
Motorcoach departs for return

**5:00 p.m.**
Return to Meijer on Lake Lansing Road *(Depending on traffic, weather)*
MSURA GRAND RAPIDS TRIP — Wednesday, April 10, 2024

$65 per person. Please make check payable to Diana Priebe (Mitten Tours in the memo line)
Each person must fill out her or his own reservation form and return with check by March 1, to:
Diana Priebe/Mitten Tours, 200 Albert Ave., Unit 604, East Lansing, MI  48823 • Contact number: 517-281-9192

Name (As Appears on Driver’s License) First Last

Preferred Name Date of Birth (month/day/year)

Address (As Appears on Driver’s License)

City State (Long) ZIP Code

Telephone (Home) (Cell)

Email Address Special Needs

Medical condition we should be aware of

Traveling with (All in your group, please)

Emergency contact person: (Not traveling with you)

Name Relationship

Daytime Number Evening Number

Trip Cancellation Policy
If you cancel your trip 61 days or more in advance of departure date, customer will receive a full refund of any payments made.
If you cancel your trip 60 days to 33 days in advance of departure, a 10% charge is assessed.
If you cancel your trip 32 days or less in advance of the departure date, no refund will be assessed.
I have read, understand and agree to the above.

Signature Date

Printed or Typed Name

Waiver
Mitten Tours, MSU Retiree Association, and Diana Priebe shall not become liable for any personal injury, property damage, accident, delay, inconvenience, change in itinerary or other irregularity which may occur due to (1) wrongful, negligent or arbitrary acts or omissions on the part of the Suppliers, their employees or others not under the direct control of Mitten Tours, MSU Retiree Association, and Diana Priebe (2) defects or failures of any conveyance, equipment or instrumentality under the control of the Suppliers, and (3) but not limited to, Acts of God, fire, riots, strikes, thefts, pilferage, epidemics, quarantines or dangers incidents to the sea, land and air.

The Client agrees to hold Mitten Tours, MSU Retiree Association, and Diana Priebe blameless in making the arrangements on his/her behalf, provided same shall be made through generally acceptable suppliers at the time of engagement, and further agrees that restitution or damages, if any are claimed, shall be sought directly from the suppliers. The Client also agrees to the terms and conditions of the tour, or services as set forth in the brochures and/or circular of the Suppliers.
I have read, understand and agree to the above.

Signature Date

Printed or Typed Name

Disclaimer for cars being left at Meijer on Lake Lansing Road
If you are leaving your car, I need to have you fill out the following:
While parked at Meijer on Lake Lansing Road on April 10, 2024, for the MSU Retirees/Mitten Tours Gerald R. Ford and Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park Trip, I understand Mitten Tours, MSU Retirees Association, and Diana Priebe and Meijer are not liable for my car and the contents therein.

Signature Date

Printed or Typed Name

License Plate # Make, Model, Color and Year of Car

For Mitten Tours Use Only: Check Number Date Received Amount