

Christmas Markets Sparkle Along the German Danube

German Christkindl markets are a tradition dating back to the Middle Ages when merchants set up their stalls in front of the town church and locals would gather to celebrate.

See B4

SUSAN JAMES



SHUTTERSTOCK



GUATEMALA

Lively Lake Atitlán Region Draws Travelers and Expats

The communities around the lake are hubs of Mayan life and seem a world away from the globalized bustle of Guatemala City.

See B5

TRAVEL

THE EPOCH TIMES



The smash hit "I Love Lucy" immortalized in a postage stamp.



1



2

CHAUTAUQUA

America's Newest Destination for Comedy Lovers



3



4

AMANDA BURRILL

"Come stand next to me!" My first comedy act ran almost five years. I'd beckon my little sister over and try to maintain a straight face as she stepped in something unsavory (think slugs or dog poo), then stagger off, a suppressed giggle giving way to my signature cackle. The look on her face! I'd laugh till I cried and she'd just cry. I still revel in my brilliant tomfoolery. She stopped listening to me years ago. More recently, I performed my first stand-up act in an attempt at using humor as a coping mechanism. I'd been diagnosed with a neurological "thing" that has no cure, secondary to traumatic brain injury I'd spent over a year rehabbing. I'd gotten very good at making light of brains and brain rehab but this news upped the ante. And so I had to choose again: Laugh or cry. After a decent amount of crying, I settled on laughter and decided others should share in my ... anti-revelry? People laughed and I felt a bit better. Another source of solace during this rough patch—spectacular views. Views from mountains (I seriously took up mountaineering to help cope with the brain rehab) or across sandy beaches into wide expanses of sea. Sunrises and sunsets. Vistas I need to leave New York City for. Because I need them now more than ever, I'd do almost anything for those views or laughs, including renting a car and driving six hours across the state to Lucille Ball's old stomping grounds for a fitting package deal: The Chautauqua Harbor Hotel's "Hilarious Getaway Package." Here's what you can expect.

Continued on B2

1. Chautauqua Lake is well-known for its colorful sunsets. 2. Cuban-born American actor, musician, and television producer Desi Arnaz. 3. The National Comedy Center acquired the complete archives of George Carlin in May 2016. 4. Red-headed fashion model Lucille Ball found fame as a frazzled housewife in "I Love Lucy."