



MICHIGAN'S PREMIER MOTORCOACH CONNECTION
BETWEEN EAST LANSING, ANN ARBOR,
BRIGHTON & DETROIT METRO AIRPORT



e-news

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Driver Dan Pricopio

Meet Driver Dan Pricopio

Most drivers for Michigan Flyer and our parent company, Indian Trails, come to us on the recommendation of someone else. But not Dan Pricopio. He did some intensive homework first.

After spending 35 years overseeing door-to-door newspaper subscription sales, and then driving for Uber and Lyft, Dan was used to being on the road. "I woke up one morning thinking I might like driving a bus, especially charter trips," he says. "So, I did a lot of online research on different bus companies."

When he came across Indian Trails, he was particularly intrigued by our 113-year history and positive online reviews. Then, in his initial interview with us, Dan found himself surprised by the interviewer's candor about the scope of a driver's job, including the schedule and hours. "They really encourage you to do an honest self-assessment to decide if this is the right kind of job for you."

Learning Curve

After completing the multi-week driver training program, Dan started driving for Michigan Flyer last September. He credits veteran Indian Trails trainer Becky Smith (recently retired) and other long-time drivers for his comfort behind the wheel.

"I'd never driven anything like a 45-foot motorcoach," says Dan, adding that a big challenge, at first, was learning to make turns, especially on narrow city streets in Ann Arbor. "But with practice everything clicked

when I learned to use the rear wheels as my pivot point. By the time I made my first solo trip I was feeling pretty confident.”

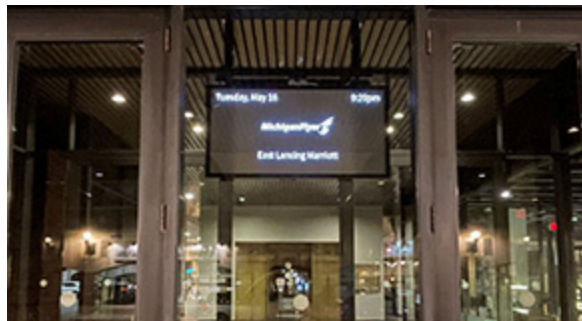
Dan also didn’t have a commercial driver’s license, and was happy to find that study and practice to obtain a CDL is part of our training process.

Why He Loves the Flyer

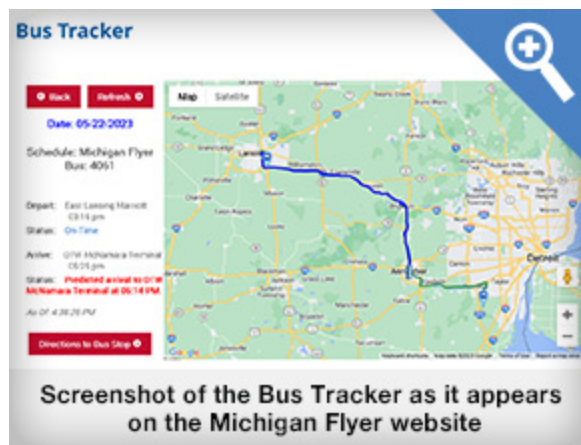
A native of the Detroit area who recently moved to Fowlerville, Dan says “I appreciate the variety of people who board my bus. I love the route and scenery along the way—the barns, the wildlife, the changing weather.”

He was even a bit surprised by the usually quiet atmosphere on his route between East Lansing, Brighton, Ann Arbor, and Detroit Metro Airport. “Ten or 15 years ago, people would be chit-chatting with their seatmates, but now they’re on their devices, working, studying, reading, or dozing. I really enjoy it, though, when parents board the bus with their babies or little kids.”

Living in eastern Michigan, Dan hadn’t heard of the Flyer until he joined Indian Trails. “It’s an amazing service,” he says. “The staff and the company are great, and the drivers are intent on giving their passengers a smooth ride. We can deliver on that because these are luxury buses that are regularly updated. Plus, the maintenance team here is incredible—always staying on top of everything.”



Bus tracker sign at the Albert St. entrance of the East Lansing Marriott.



Screenshot of the Bus Tracker as it appears on the Michigan Flyer website

New Bus Tracker Signs in East Lansing & Brighton

Good news: Passengers at our stops in East Lansing and Brighton who wonder “Where’s my bus?” can now simply look at an electronic sign to find the answer—just like folks in Ann Arbor have been able to do for a few months. The electronic signs continuously display updated arrival times for both Michigan Flyer and D2A2 buses. The data, beamed to the signs by WiFi, comes from satellite-based GPS systems and computers on board each of our motorcoaches, which monitor bus location and speed to predict arrival times.

More good news: [The electronic sign at our Brighton Meijer location is displayed inside a brand new bus shelter](#), which features LED lighting and USB ports for passengers!

And even better: The same bus tracking information shown by the e-signs is available to ALL passengers through our website at <https://www.michiganflyer.com/bus-tracker>. So, for quick access, frequent riders—as well as family members and friends—may want to bookmark this link in the web browser on their smartphones.



**Ian Moore with His Mom,
Michigan Flyer Manager Diane Moore**

Congrats & Farewell, Ian Moore!

Earlier this month, we said good luck and good-bye to Michigan Flyer customer service representative Ian Moore who's been with us for three years, helping to field customer calls, check passengers in, and load their luggage onto our buses. It's the bittersweet end of an era for his mom, Michigan Flyer Manager Diane Moore. Ian is the last of her four children—Derek, Samantha, Colin and now Ian—who've rotated through our office, serving passengers.

Ian graduated from Michigan State University this month with a degree in human resources. His internships have included stints with the State of Michigan, Grand Traverse Resort, and lastly the

Sparrow Health System in Lansing, Mich. Today is Ian's first official day as a generalist in Sparrow's human resources department. We thank him for his dedicated service here and wish him all the best in his new career!



Travel Alerts

Safety Precautions for Traveling Abroad

If you're planning a trip to a foreign country, be sure to check the U.S. State Dept.'s [Travel Advisories](#). They rate the safety risk of visiting each country by levels ranging from "1. Exercise Normal Precautions" to "4. Do Not Travel."

As of this writing, 19 countries are listed as Level 4. Two more—Mexico, as well as Israel, the West Bank and Gaza.—are listed as "Other," meaning some areas within them are Level 4. For example, the State Dept.

cautions travelers to avoid Gaza due to "terrorism, civil unrest, and armed conflict."

Similarly, while Mexico is one of the most popular destinations for Americans, the State Dept. notes that "violent crime—such as homicide, kidnapping, carjacking, and robbery—is widespread and common." So, it [classifies many areas there](#) as Level 4. [This recent U.S. News article](#) contains two color-coded maps—one of the world, the other of Mexico—that enable you to see the areas of greatest concern at a glance.

But just knowing about potential trouble spots is hardly enough to keep you safe. To be better prepared for come what may, review the State Dept.'s extensive [Travelers Checklist](#), and take action on any applicable items before heading abroad.

Bargain Airfares for Visiting Iceland—or Europe

For the summer season from May through October, Icelandair is again offering four roundtrip flights each week between Detroit Metro Airport (DTW) and Reykjavík (KEF), Iceland's capital city. And because it's going head-to-head in competing with Delta Airlines, roundtrip fares are as low as \$550.

So, now is a great time to visit Iceland's black-sand beaches, geothermal spas, and glacier-fed waterfalls, and gaze at the Northern Lights. Also attractive, Reykjavík's airport offers affordable connections to more than 25



destinations in Greenland, Scandinavia and Europe.



Is Hytch—Our New Door-to-Door Service—Right for You?

You can now connect with your Michigan Flyer bus at the East Lansing Marriott right from—or to—your home, office, or any other address in the Hytch service area. Got questions? [See the answers here.](#)

Top Coming Events—We Can Get You There!



East Lansing

[Jesus Christ Superstar](#)

The hit musical returns to the stage with a new production to celebrate its 50th year. With lyrics and music by [EGOT winners](#) Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber, Jesus Christ Superstar is set against the backdrop of extraordinary events during the final weeks in the life of Jesus Christ as seen through the eyes of Judas. Reflecting rock roots that defined a generation, the score includes songs from the 1971 Billboard Album of the Year. Catch one of eight performances between Tuesday, June 13, and Sunday, June 18, at

the Wharton Center for Performing Arts, 750 E. Shaw Ln., Michigan State University, East Lansing. [Tickets \\$39-\\$95 plus fee.](#)

Check out more local coming events with the Greater Lansing Convention & Visitors Bureau calendar: <http://www.lansing.org/events>.



Ann Arbor

[Ann Arbor Summer Festival](#)

A community tradition since 1984, the nearly four-week-long “A2SF” attracts an audience of over 80,000 people with over 200 concerts, art exhibitions, kids activities, and film screenings. Recurring daily June 9-June 25, the festival presents free “Top of the Park” open-air events, movies, and family attractions along the beautiful U-M campus, plus [ticketed](#) indoor events including [An Evening with Renee Elise Goldsberry](#) on

June 15. Explore this year's [A2SF calendar here](#).

For more entertainment in and around A2, see the Ann Arbor Area Convention & Visitors Bureau calendar of coming events: <https://www.annarbor.org/events/>



Brighton

[Kensington Art Fair](#)

The annual Memorial Day Weekend Art Fair is back from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, May 27, through Monday, May 29, at Kensington Metropark. The fair features the works of more than 100 juried artists from across the country, as well as live art demonstrations, hands-on activities for kids, and a host of food trucks to satisfy hunger pangs. Admission is free for individuals but a Metroparks vehicle pass is required (\$10 daily at the toll booth, with annual pass options available). Find the festivities at Kensington Metropark's Maple Beach, 4570 Huron River Pkwy., Milford. That's about a 20-

minute drive east on I-96 from our location at the Brighton Meijer.

Brighton, like other communities in Livingston County, offers a multitude of events to delight visitors of all ages. Explore them with the Livingston County Convention & Visitors Bureau events calendar:

<https://visitlivingstoncounty.com/events/>.



Detroit

[Taylor Swift – The Eras Tour](#)

Since there are so many fanatic “Swifties” out there, we thought a few of you might want to know that tickets are still available for her two local appearances—at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, June 9, and Saturday, June 10—at Ford Field, 2000 Brush St., Detroit. But (and it's a BIG but) you may need to take out a second mortgage on your house or put off buying a car in order to attend. As of this writing, tickets are selling for a minimum of around \$1,000+ on [StubHub](#) and [Vivid Seats](#).

[Bryan Adams with special guest Joan Jett](#)

On the other hand, you won't have to break the bank to enjoy a concert by famed singer-songwriter Bryan Adams, who brings his “So Happy It Hurts” tour to Detroit along with the renowned Joan Jett and the Blackhearts. They perform at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 14, at Little Caesars Arena, 2645 Woodward Ave., Detroit. [Tickets \\$41-\\$159+](#).



his hits are “It’s Only Love” and “Everything I Do, I Do It For You.” and “Have You Ever Really Loved a Woman?” Jett knows how to rock a stadium too with hits like “Crimson and Clover” and “Do You Wanna Touch Me.”

NOTE: [The D2A2 Express Bus](#) from Ann Arbor's Blake Transit Center (BTC) to Detroit's Grand Circus Park can get Ann Arbor-area residents to and from these events. Ford Field and Little Caesar's Arena are both about a half-mile walk from D2A2's stop at 1508 Park Ave. (in Grand Circus Park) in Detroit.

To learn more about what's happening in Detroit, check out the Detroit Convention & Visitors Bureau calendar of coming events: <https://visitdetroit.com/events/>.



Customer Comment

"Comfortable, reliable and great customer service – Michigan Flyer hits the trifecta. I almost always use Michigan Flyer for my airport trips. It's more comfortable than driving or riding in an Uber, and the coaches are clean and well-maintained with WiFi too. I've taken the bus countless times and it's been consistently on time – only once was the bus delayed (by only 7 minutes due to traffic) and a customer service representative called me ahead of time to let

me know the bus was delayed but would make it to the airport on time, which it did. THAT is customer service!"
—Ed M., Brighton, Mich.

Please, Help Others by Reviewing Us Online

Kindly take a moment to help others understand how our service might improve their travels. Simply please visit one of the websites below to write a brief review about your experience with Michigan Flyer. Thank you!



Professional Drivers Wanted

Indian Trails, Inc.—which staffs Michigan Flyer with professional drivers—is accepting applications for full-time motorcoach drivers. These positions pay a **starting** hourly rate of \$21.42, provide a 6-week PAID training program leading to a Commercial Drivers License, and operate Michigan's newest and largest fleet of motorcoaches. Full-time drivers also receive:

- Two weeks of paid time off in the first year
- Medical, dental, vision and life insurance
- 401(k) retirement program with employer match
- Annual safety bonus

Also important, Indian Trails truly appreciates the hard work of its staff members—it's a 113-year-old, family-run company with old-fashioned values like fairness, honesty, teamwork, and service excellence.

We encourage anyone, including those with no commercial driving experience, to apply. It takes a special person to be a professional bus driver. To us and to our passengers, they're truly heroes of the road. [Learn](#)



more and apply [here](#).

Happy Memorial Day, Father's Day & Juneteenth!



Memorial Day—May 29

It didn't begin as the unofficial start of summer with picnics, parades, and department store sales. In 1868, Union General John A. Logan decreed that May 30 should be a national day of remembrance called Decoration Day, when the graves of 620,000 soldiers killed during the Civil War were to be decorated at Arlington National Cemetery. Both Confederate and Union soldiers are buried there.

At the turn of the century it was renamed Memorial Day. In 1971, Congress established Memorial Day as the last Monday in May (which is the 29th in 2023) in

order to create a federal holiday honoring all soldiers who have died in American wars. Today, Memorial Day still begins at Arlington with the laying of a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the decoration of each grave with an American flag.



Father's Day—June 18

The first known Father's Day took place in Fairmont, W.V., on July 5, 1908, after hundreds of men died in the worst mining accident in U.S. history. Grace Golden Clayton, the daughter of a minister, proposed a church service honoring all fathers, especially those who had died.

But that's as far as it went until 1909, when Sonora Smart Dodd, then 27 years old and attending a Mother's Day church service, came up with the same idea. Her father—William Jackson Smart, a farmer and Civil War veteran—had raised Sonora and her five

brothers by himself, after his wife Ellen died giving birth to their youngest child.

Sonora staged a successful, well-publicized campaign to establish a Father's Day in Washington state. The idea spread. In 1966, President Lyndon Johnson signed an executive order that the holiday be celebrated on the third Sunday in June. In 1972, President Richard Nixon issued a proclamation making Father's Day a national holiday.



Juneteenth—June 19

Juneteenth, our newest national holiday, was signed into law by President Joe Biden in 2021. It establishes June 19th as a federal holiday celebrating the end of slavery in America in 1865. Though President Abraham Lincoln had issued the Emancipation Proclamation on Sept. 22, 1862, it was not until June 19, 1865, that General Gordon Granger rode into Galveston, Texas, with his troops and freed the last of the slaves. The formal end of slavery was marked by ratification of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution on Dec. 6, 1865.

Why Drive?

Booking is easy, [click here](#) to view schedules on



Michigan Flyer
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www.michiganflyer.com



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