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the past
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**DETROIT
HISTORICAL
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News Release

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VISIT BELLE ISLE'S DOSSIN GREAT LAKES MUSEUM ON SUNDAY, MARCH 8 TO SEE "MORE BOB-LO MEMORIES"

DETROIT – The Dossin Great Lakes Museum continues its free monthly Film Series on **Sunday, March 8 at 2 p.m.** with **"More Bob-lo Memories,"** bringing you back to the fun-filled summer days of taking a steamboat ride down the Detroit River to our region's one-of-a-kind island amusement park.

Visiting Bob-lo Island amusement park was an annual tradition for many Detroiters from the time it opened in the late nineteenth century. Included in this film are the rides, Bob-lo steamers, interviews and commercials that will take you back to the carefree days of summer and the unique pastime of taking a steamboat ride down the Detroit River to this island amusement park, once called "one of the nation's most unique entertainment centers." Running time for this film is 42 minutes.

Boblo Island operated from 1898 until its closure on September 30, 1993. The park was located on Bois Blanc Island, Ontario, just above the mouth of the Detroit River. The people of Detroit characterized it as the city's Coney Island. For more than 85 years, the park was mainly serviced by the SS *Ste. Clair* and the SS *Columbia* ferry boats.

The **Dossin Great Lakes Museum**, located at 100 Strand Drive on Belle Isle, is open Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free for all, all the time. The Recreation Passport is now strictly enforced for every vehicle entering Belle Isle Park. If you are planning to visit the Dossin Great Lakes Museum or attend an event and do not have a Passport, you can purchase one on the island. More information on the Recreation Passport can be found online at www.michigan.gov/recreationpassport. Permanent exhibits include *Built by the River*

in the John A. and Marlene L. Boll Foundation Gallery, the *Miss Pepsi* vintage 1950s championship hydroplane, the Gothic Room from the *City of Detroit III* in the Polk Family Hall, a bow anchor from the S.S. *Edmund Fitzgerald*, the pilothouse from the Great Lakes freighter S.S. *William Clay Ford* in the Wayne and Joan Webber Gallery, and one of the largest known collections of scale model ships in the world.

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