

Season 9 Air Schedule & Episode Descriptions 2023-2024 **(Revised 4/26/2024)**

Aug 21-27, 2023

#80101 Route 66 Arizona

From authentic Navajo Arts to Cowboy gunfights to a town where you are greeted by burros in the street, the Wild West on Rt 66 in Arizona is alive and well. Join Rodney and Jann as they work their way across this diverse state full of deserts, cactus, mountains, and the breathtakingly beautiful Grand Canyon. Meet the people who keep the Mother Road alive, across the state - and start planning your next Rt 66 adventure!

Aug 28-Sept 3, 2023

#80102 High Seas High Jinx to Greatness at the Grand Canyon

Rodney and Jann row for their lives in the Cape Coral Cardboard Boat Regatta. Fourteen teams compete in amazing handmade cardboard crafts that can weigh hundreds of pounds. But not everyone makes it to the finish line. Who will come in first? And who will go down with the ship? The Southwest was the blank canvas for Architect, Mary Elizabeth Jane Colter in the early and mid-1900s. Taking her cue from the raw and beautiful land, Mary Colter created buildings that fit into their surroundings and highlighted the cultures of the area.

Sept 4-10, 2023

#80103 It's All About Fun and Fur

Rodney and Jann have a ball at a place where life is all fun and games. Bay Tek produces entertainment for all ages. And our hosts hit the assembly line to see how their best-selling games are made, from Skee-ball to Big Bass Wheel. Then . . . Rodney and Jann find out at the world's only accredited university for canine studies. Discover the astonishing ways that college students are teaching man's best friend to help the lives of people with disabilities.

Sept 11-17, 2023

#80104 Spirits and Spiciness

Take a private tour of one of the most mind-boggling mansions in America. Stairs that lead to nowhere. Rodney and Jann investigate why the heiress to the Winchester rifle company spent her fortune building a 160-room labyrinth that defies logic. Then . . . Navajo Arts to Cowboy gunfights, to a town from spicy sauce to stuffing the husks, a top-notch chef does her best to teach Rodney and Jann how to make authentic New Mexican tamales at the Santa Fe school of Cooking! Feliz Cocina! (Happy Cooking!)

Sept 18-24, 2023**#80105 Frank and Beans**

Your table's ready at the longest continually operating railcar diner in America. Rodney and Jann help get things cooking behind the grill. And save room for Franks' famous eating challenge as one daring diner attempts to eat six pounds of food in just 45 minutes. Watch out Willy Wonka! Rodney and Jann take you inside the delightfully delicious Jelly Belly factory. Learn the secrets to how they make more than 100 mouthwatering flavors, and even the beans that are hard to swallow, from rotten egg to stinky socks.

Sept 25-Oct 1, 2023**#90101 A General's Hot Sauce . . . World's Largest Omelet and more**

Rodney and Jann set their taste buds ablaze inside one of America's hottest businesses. Can they stand the heat? Discover the secrets inside every award-winning bottle and the company's burning desire to help our nation's veterans. Then we take part in one Louisiana town's egg-stra-ordinary annual celebrations . . . making a 5,000 egg omelet. Then we crunch our way through the Great Lakes Potato Chip Factory.

Oct 2-8, 2023**#90102 Behind the Scenes at Medieval Times & When Feeling Blue is a Good Thing**

We take you behind the scenes of Medieval Times, whose knights have been entertaining families for decades. But we not only learn secrets of the castle (where Rodney is crowned a king!) but also of the breeding farm of their famed "Spanish Horse". Where they are the #1 breeders of these special horses in North America. Then, nearly 300 years ago the indigo plant came to Colonial SC. Soon, it's coveted dye became known as blue gold. We meet two ladies working to revive the art of indigo, while honoring its colorful past.

Oct 9-15, 2023**#90107 A Picker's Paradise**

Jann and Rodney hit the road in Kentucky in search of steals and deals as they travel across Historic Highway 68 for the annual 400 Mile Yard Sale. Come along and see what kind of crazy deals they find along the way. And find out who gets the steal of the day!

Oct 16-22, 2023**#80108 Leadville Boom Days**

Rodney and Jann go up, up and away to Leadville, Colorado...the historic boom town with the highest elevation of any city in the U.S.! Check out the Rocky Mountain party that celebrates Leadville's Wild West and goldmining past and saddle up for a pack burro race that starts out at 10,000 feet and covers over 20 miles!

Oct 23-29, 2023

#80110 Gullah Festival

Small Town Big Deal visits Beaufort, South Carolina and “The Original Gullah Festival”. We celebrate the art, music and cuisine that is was greatly inspired by enslaved West Africans and proudly kept alive by their decedents. We discover the Gullah language that developed and do our best to learn some! The barrier islands from South Carolina to parts of Florida is where this unique culture developed in many distinct ways. It’s an important history lesson and celebration you won’t want to miss.

Oct 30-Nov 5, 2023

#90108 Georgia Peanut Festival

Come along with Rodney and Jann as they check out the Georgia Peanut Festival. It’s not just a celebration of the peanut, but a Thank-you to the peanut farmer. Also . . . for farmers like Donald Chase, digging up the ground is all part of an annual routine that keeps this small town alive and well. Join us as we unearth the facts behind one of Georgia's crunchiest commodities.

Nov 6-12

#90103 Our Salute to Veteran’s

In our special “Salute to Veterans” we visit Comfort Farms. Established by Army veteran L. Jonathan Jackson, it provides a back to nature approach to prepare veterans for careers in sustainable food production where they serve self, team, and community through nourishing the land, stimulating the economy, and expanding the availability of quality food in local communities. Then we salute Flags of Valor, the maker of handcrafted American flags and goods. Jann and Mallory try to earn their stripes inside this veteran owned and operated business that gives back millions to help our military heroes. We also meet a Vietnam veteran who ‘gave both of his legs to America’ while serving as a marine. His life post-Vietnam has been one of amazement and we honor him on this Veterans Day.

Nov 13-19, 2023

#90104 Meet GoServ Global & See How They Are Transforming Lives; Cape Cod of the Midwest

From Peru, Haiti, and India - to states in need across America, GoServ Global sends planes, people, food and even homes to those affected by natural disasters. Join Rodney and Jann as they help build a temporary home – and talk to people who go in a moment’s notice to help those in peril. Then we’re off to Door County Wisconsin. Known as the Cape Cod of the Mid-West. We explore the emerald paradise where goats graze on the rooftops, and parasailing is not for the faint at heart, or Jann.

Nov 20-26, 2023

#80111 DeMoulin Factory and Museum

The trick is on Rodney and Jann as they venture inside a wacky museum filled with the oddest initiation devices ever created. Ride a bucking goat. Get slapped by an invisible paddle machine. And who will get a face full of flour or water? Plus, the museum's unusual tie to the largest maker of band uniforms in America.

Nov 27-Dec 3, 2023

#40126 Getting in the Christmas Spirit

Come experience the factory the is still making oversized candy canes by HAND! Then it's off to the largest Christmas store in the WORLD and celebrating our military with "Trees for Troops".

Dec 4-10, 2023

#90105 Celebrating Christmas in BIG ways!

Lights! Lights! Everywhere Lights! You don't want to miss this dazzling display of Christmas lights that cover everything. Rodney and Jann add fun to the crowds of young and old in this tiny North Carolina town – bursting with yuletide spirit - known as Christmas Town USA! Then we visit a Christmas sweet spot in the heart of a small town known as Gingerbread Lane. Jon Lovitch works year-round creating hundreds of completely edible gingerbread houses topped with sweets that are on display every Christmas season. Get in the Christmas spirit as Rodney and Jann celebrate in a vintage New England town and learn to believe in Santa once again aboard the Polar Express

Dec 11-17, 2023

#90106 Jeff Foxworthy Talks Career and Christmas & The Queen of Ornaments

You'll go from belly laughs at Jeff Foxworthy's antics to beautiful messages from the heart in this episode. Jann and Rodney help us remember the real meaning of Christmas as they visit with this famous funny man – then find out how one precious lady went from making ornaments from her kitchen – to selling them around the world. Including Dollywood – and the White House.

Dec 18-24, 2023

#80109 Making Spirits Bright

The historic Greenbrier resort takes the spirit of Christmas to a new level. They donate more than \$1M in educational toys to underprivileged children with their “Dream Tree for Kids” program. Then Rodney and Jann sit down with popular singer/songwriter Ryan Stevenson. His multiple #1 hits and award-winning music have taken him from being an emergency paramedic - to being an inspiring force in today’s music world. Santa's Christmas itinerary isn’t just limited to the chimneys of the world. With a little coordination from zoos around the country, he'll make a side trip to the animal kingdom where he spreads Christmas cheer.

Dec 25-31, 2023

#90101 A General’s Hot Sauce . . . World’s Largest Omelet and more

Rodney and Jann set their taste buds ablaze inside one of America’s hottest businesses. Can they stand the heat? Discover the secrets inside every award-winning bottle and the company’s burning desire to help our nation’s veterans. Then we take part in one Louisiana town’s egg-stra-ordinary annual celebrations . . . making a 5,000 egg omelet. Then we crunch our way through the Great Lakes Potato Chip Factory.

Jan 1-7, 2024

#90102 Behind the Scenes at Medieval Times & When Feeling Blue is a Good Thing

We take you behind the scenes of Medieval Times, whose knights have been entertaining families for decades. But we not only learn secrets of the castle (where Rodney is crowned a king!) but also of the breeding farm of their famed “Spanish Horse”. Where they are the #1 breeders of these special horses in North America. Then, nearly 300 years ago the indigo plant came to Colonial SC. Soon, it’s coveted dye became known as blue gold. We meet two ladies working to revive the art of indigo, while honoring its colorful past.

Jan 8-14, 2024

#90109 Michigan Marvel with a Pennsylvania Twist

Getting sand in their shoes is the least of their worries when Jann and Rodney take to the sand dunes to race in high-powered four wheelers at the Silver Lake Sand Dunes. Then Rodney overcomes his fear of heights as he climbs to the top of Little Sabol Lighthouse on the coast of Lake Michigan. Also, Rodney and Jann try their hand at making pretzels in historic Strasburg, Pa. They better keep their day jobs!

Jan 15-21, 2024

#90110 Warriors of Water and Ice Cream

How many scoops of ice cream does it take to beat New Zealand's record for the longest Ice Cream Sundae? A small town in Michigan is determined to find out! Will they succeed or will the unusually hot day melt their efforts away? Then we're off to a summertime community in Wisconsin where every piece of mail arrives by special delivery causing a splash!

Jan 22-28, 2024

#90116 In The Hot Seat

Things heat up when Jann and Rodney go to Avery Island, Louisiana, the home of Tabasco Hot Sauce. Then we visit a hickory furniture store that's been outfitting President's homes and national parks for over a century. We also visit a lady who is out of her gourds! She has devoted her life to celebrating one of nature's great treasures . . . the GOURD!

Jan 29-Feb 4, 2024

#90112 Sliced to Pick!

Discover what famed American Picker Mike Wolfe has in his private collection! And watch as Rodney tries out one of Mike's prized possessions...yikes! And a visit one town that's not offended when you say it's 'full of Bologna'. In fact, they celebrate the delicacy by closing down city streets and throwing ...bologna...(You thought we were going to say a Party!) Actually, it IS a big party with a bologna-ring toss contest (who knew!?) and their famed outhouse races.

Feb 5-11, 2024

#90113 Warrens Cranberry Festival

Discover a quiet town that transforms into the world's largest cranberry festival. Miles of food and fun, costumes and competitions, royalty and a rainstorm that threatens to ruin it all. Plus, Rodney and Jann's search for the craziest cranberry treat ever concocted.

Feb 12-18, 2024

#90115 Meatballs and Peanut Butter

We visit a small vacation town in South Carolina where playing ball for one weekend will satisfy everyone's appetite. It's a one a spicy meatball . . . and record setting! Then see how much-loved peanut butter, helps the Georgia Peanut Commission reach from its Georgia fields to a world in need. Rodney and Jann help with local outreach- and show us how our little peanut has a global impact.

Feb 19-25, 2024

#90111 Shepherds College

Your heart will be touched at America's only accredited college for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Rodney and Jann follow these inspirational young people from the classroom to graduation and into the working world where they exceed everyone's expectations, including their own.

Feb 26-Mar 3, 2024

#90117 Cherry Festival and Farming/Kazoo Factory

We join over 500,000 festivalgoers in Traverse City, Michigan – for some cherry flavored fun. Then we help shake things up out on the farm as we meet the farmers who bring cherries to our tables. Also, find out what all the buzz is about at Beaufort, South Carolina's Kazoo Factory.

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April 15-21, 2024

#90114 Darby's Warriors/Lincoln Logs

Darby's Warrior Support mission is to provide an environment that encourages, fosters rehabilitation and transition to civilian life for Combat Veterans. We take you inside this organization and see what they're doing to give back to the veterans who have given so much to our nation. Then . . . remember Lincoln logs? After 40 years of being manufactured in China, we found the special company that brought this iconic American toy back home!

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