



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Mary Beth DeGrush at 630.226.1764

**ON THE ROAD IN ILLINOIS; UTICA TO BE FEATURED ON THE POPULAR  
TELEVISION SHOW *CHECK, PLEASE!***

**Episode will highlight culinary delights at Utica's Cajun Connection**

Utica, IL, October 10, 2013 – The Emmy award-winning restaurant review series, *Check, Please!*, has hit the road and is filming across Illinois for a special episode set to air in Spring 2014. Utica is proud to be a stop along the route, as *Check, Please!* will be filming at Cajun Connection.

"Cajun Connection is a major tourist draw in Utica and we're thrilled to show the viewers of *Check, Please!* what makes Cajun Connection so special," said Bob Navarro, President/CEO of the Heritage Corridor Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB). He added, "We hope *Check, Please!* inspires travelers to discover all that makes Cajun Connection a great place to visit."

State and local tourism officials are confident that the show will help inspire viewers to hit the road themselves and explore Utica and surrounding areas. Utica is home to Starved Rock State Park, a 2012 Illinois Fan Favorite, offering its Lodge and Cabins. The area provides access to some of the most picturesque natural wonders in the Midwest, with nearby Buffalo Rock State Park, Matthiessen State Park, as well as Illini State Park and the Great Falls of the Illinois River. August Hill Winery and Illinois River Winery offer a taste of fine Illinois vineyards. Within 15 miles, visitors can enjoy historic downtown Ottawa, as well as LaSalle - all in Chicagoland's Largest Playground.

"From Michelin-starred restaurants to local farmers' markets and food festivals, Illinois offers no shortage of unique culinary experiences," said Jen Hoelzle, Deputy Director for the Illinois Office of Tourism. "As viewers of *Check, Please!* will discover, the people and, yes, the tastes, can make a trip to Illinois unforgettable."

For more information on Illinois' culinary experiences, and to plan your own foodie adventure, visit [EnjoyIllinois.com](http://EnjoyIllinois.com) or [Facebook.com/EnjoyIllinois](https://www.facebook.com/EnjoyIllinois).

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Office of Tourism manages industry efforts that result in sustainable and significant economic and quality-of-life benefits for Illinois residents.

The Illinois & Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor Convention and Visitors Bureau promotes economic development and tourism along the counties and communities within the historic 94-mile Illinois & Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor. For information on CVB members, trip ideas and special event, go to [www.HeritageCorridorCVB.com](http://www.HeritageCorridorCVB.com), or call 800.926.CANAL (2262).

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