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## ***Gilligan's Island's* "Mary Ann" to appear at Great Vacations Travel EXPO**

COLUMBUS, OH – Best known for her role as Mary Ann Summers in *Gilligan's Island*, it seems that most of America grew up with one of the world's most famous travelers – television sweetheart, Dawn Wells. Wells will appear at the Great Vacations Travel EXPO at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 5, where she'll share secrets from behind-the-scenes on *Gilligan's Island*. In addition to having the unique opportunity to see Dawn Wells in person as she tells fascinating tales of her experiences, EXPO guests will have the chance to ask her questions and meet her for autographs following her stage appearance.

There's much more to Wells, however, than her renowned *Gilligan's Island* role. An actress, producer, author, spokesperson, journalist, motivational speaker and teacher, Wells has more than 150 TV shows, seven motion pictures and dozens of theatrical productions to her credit. She also serves as chairwoman for a foundation for underprivileged women and children.

Wells fans still adore the character of Mary Ann, fueled in part by the fact that for more than 50 years *Gilligan's Island* has never been off the air since it first ran in 1964. As the longest-running sitcom in TV history, it continues to air worldwide in more than 30 languages. Wells' wildly successful book, "What Would Mary Ann Do?" was released in 2014 in celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Gilligan's Island*. The book, part self-help, part memoir and part humor, reveals a bit more of the candid, down-to-earth Dawn Wells to Mary Ann Summers enthusiasts.

The Great Vacations Travel EXPO, presented by AAA, opens Friday, Feb. 3 and runs through Sunday, Feb. 5, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Downtown Columbus. Hours are Friday, noon to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$8 at the door or at any AAA Ohio Auto Club store. AAA members who show their AAA card receive 50 percent off admission. Children ages 16 and under are admitted at no charge. Additional event details are available at [AAAGreatVacations.com](http://AAAGreatVacations.com).

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**EDITORS NOTE: Images, video, special media access and interviews are available. Contact Amy Weirick, O: (614) 848-8380 M: (614) 296-8513 or [amy@WeirickCommunications.com](mailto:amy@WeirickCommunications.com).**