

Gurnee goes Caribbean

And opening Feb. 29 right in Gurnee is the 30-acre KeyLime Cove Resort, where you can pretend that it's not winter and it's not cold outside. It's like an indoor mini-vacation to the Caribbean. Guests stay in suites that include flat-screen TVs with cable and refrigerator, and they have exclusive rights to use the 65,000-square-foot Lost Paradise Indoor Water Park with whirlpool, body slides, water slides, river tube rides and kiddie pools. The Rip Tide Reef Arcade features foosball, air hockey and loads of other kid-oriented games. KeyLime has also created its own cast of charismatic characters like Toukie the Toucan and Marty the Chameleon who tell stories and do performances throughout the resort.

"KeyLime Cove is putting a new twist on the way Americans vacation," said managing director Andrew Bateman.

And parents, get this -- you can purchase a predetermined amount of "fun" for your kids at the resort. Kids then get a wristband and use it as they wish to spend their time. For more information, visit www.keylimecove.com. In fact, the resort is considered the first "completely cashless" one in the nation to use the state-of-the-art Smart Band RFID (Radio-Frequency Identification) wristband technology.

And while kids are enjoying the arcade, moms and dads can unwind at the Paradise Mist Spa choosing from a variety of treatments including manicures, pedicures, facials and massages.