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IT'S silly summertime again.

And this year's Sunstroke Award goes to the good folk of Elmwood, Wisconsin, who have just agreed to shell out nearly £200,000 for a two-square-mile concrete slab . . . as a welcome mat for aliens.

And that's only the beginning. With backing from UFO enthusiasts nationwide, they're planning to add a huge landing strip with landing lights and sophisticated communications technology.

It seems Wisconsin is a favourite spot for ETs to do their reconnoitring. The western part of the state has reported 30 flying saucer sightings since 1985.

In Chippewa Falls, UFO welcoming committee chairman Tom Weber has drawn up a special chart showing, in three simple stages, how to greet the aliens when they arrive.

You walk towards them, you stretch out your hand and meet them . . . and you shake!