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APRIL-MAY 2023

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FROGG TOGGS FTX ARMOR RAIN WEAR HAS TO BE THE BEST NAME FOR RAIN WEAR EVER - SEE PAGE 4 FOR MY ARTICLE IN THIS ISSUE



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ADVERTISER INDEX PAGE 26 / ARTICLE INDEX PG 19

READ ABOUT COVER PHOTOS ON PAGE 2

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APRIL-MAY • Volume XXXIII • N0. 387

Created in 1990 & Published Monthly
by Kentucky Colonel Ray Dickerson

Or by the name given to me by Golden Eagle
in 1995 LOKA'DWE ICHUTAKU YUSHEDON'
Translated "Man who gets things done!"

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THE
GAD-A-ABOUT™

IN THIS ISSUE

REGULAR FEATURED WRITERS

ROAMING THE OUTDOORS

by Ray Dickerson (Pages 3,5,7,9)

Editorial Comment & Opinion

LAKE MICHIGAN

by Mike Schoonveld (Frogg Toggs FTX Armor Rainwear)Page 4

Fishing Lake Michigan

OUTDOOR HUMOR:

by Dan Graves (Raccoon Hunting The Idiot Way). Page 5

Misfires & Snags

WHITEWATER VALLEY HISTORY

by Donna Schroeder (The Luking Women)Page 6-7

New Adventures In Old Places

OUTDOORS & TRAVEL

by Rich Creason (Adventures In South Western Arkansas)Page 8-9

Outdoors with Rich Creason

GAD-A-ABOUT DEPARTMENTS

Indiana Department Of Natural Resources

Current Events & News Releases Pages 10-11

Indiana State Police

Current Events & News Releases Pages 12-13

Eric & Cara, www.IndianaOutfitters.com

Post The Gad-a-bout on Line @ www.thegadabout.com Page 14

ABOUT THE COVER PHOTOS

Top Left Photo: This is a Stop Sign - When you see it as you are driving it means exactly what it shows, Stop. Apply Your Brakes and Come To A Complete Stop - Once the way is clear, Proceed with caution.

Top Right Photo: Page 4 Captain Mike Schoonveld wearing Frogg Toggs FTX Armor Rainwear for a perfect fishing experience.

Bottom Photo: Page 8-9 Enjoy another Adventure article by Rich & Susie Creason this time "In South Western Arkansas."

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"We are located across the road from Mounds S.R.A. Entrance at Brookville Lake"

Roaming The Outdoors



by Ray Dickerson
The Gad-a-bout

Well it's been 3 months since I postponed The Gad-a-bout at the end of December. It's May and I said I was going to postpone The Gad-a-bout for 4 months so I could get my barn cleaned out and some other work done here at Gad-a-bout Headquarters. In reality mostly all that has gotten done is there is a new roof on my office here, after ole' Mother Nature reared her head for a couple of months lifting the roof off the south side and also part of the barn's roof on the west end of the south side to boot.

Mike Kelly who owns Mike Kelly Construction located at 502 West School Street here in Centerville, Phone Number 765-277-3904 just happened to be working on my neighbors garage behind me putting on a new

roof. I asked him if he could take a look at my problems on South Street. He took a look at it, told me what it would cost and put my roof on in a very timely manner. He and his sidekick also climbed up on the barn roof and fixed the roofing that was damaged by the high winds too.

Part of the reason for cleaning out my big barn was to further my ambitions of opening a museum and trading post in it and the house here. But that's been put on hold for the foreseeable future. Don't know if that will ever get off the ground or not.

We moved here back in 1946 after Dad came home from Okinawa and was discharged from the Navy. It was a perfect location for Dad to open Dickerson's Garage and to this day it is still Dickerson's Garage. When I get the bill for Centerville's Lights and Water it is addressed to Dickerson's Garage.

Life resumed in peace time with everyone until Dad and Mom passed and the subject came up with what to do with the house and barn on South Street.

I was the only one in the family who wanted to keep the house and barn, mostly because it was zoned business and I had already began publishing The Gad-a-bout at this location. So everyone of the family members agreed to sign it over to me. I've been utilizing the property ever since then.

The barn is still full of Gad-a-bout copies since I began publishing The Gad-a-bout, which back then it was called the "Whitewater Valley Gad-a-bout, the first one published was the July-August issue and sold for 25 cents.

The first cover was drawn by my good Centerville friend and artist back then, Paul Hamilton. Paul did several covers for me. He didn't sign the first one, but he did sign another one, the May-June 1974 issue. In my "About the Cover" notation on page 2 was a photo of Paul smoking his pipe sitting at his drawing board in his office.

It said the following in that issue:

{“The cover is a drawing by Paul Hamilton of Centerville, Indiana. Paul is an exceptional artist in his own right. He is a life long resident of Wayne County, although he was born in Ripley County. At the time of his arrival, his mother was visiting relatives in Ripley County and Paul evidently wanted to see them too because he was born there that afternoon.

Paul worked at the former Hoosier Store in Richmond, decorating the front windows and show card drawings for 24 years. In 1943 he moved to Centerville, Indiana. On September 1, 1972, Paul retired from the Centerville Water Works, where he worked twenty-two and a half years.

He had been drawing ever since he can remember, but had been painting in oils for about 25 years.....I've spent hours listening to Paul reminiscing about the history of Wayne County. He had as much knowledge about Richmond and Centerville as any one I have ever talked to before or since.

Some of Paul's work could be seen at that time in the different shops, restaurants and banks in Centerville. His work also appeared in

historic pamphlets. He was a member of Historic Centerville.

His drawing on the May-June 1974 issue appeared on both the back and front covers. The front cover was a painting of the Whitewater Valley Railroad passenger train moving along the very scenic wanderings of the West Fork of the Whitewater River and Canal for 25 miles from Connersville to Brookville, Indiana. On the back cover it said, "Take A Ride Back In History Along The Canal and River All Aboard The Whitewater Valley Railroad."}

I've used this property ever since taking it over, case in point I'm typing what you are reading here in the kitchen, which is now my Computer room.

Some of you readers may remember when I put on a re-enactment "Frontier Days" at Treaty Line Pioneer Village and Museum located in Dunlapville, Indiana at the west end of the Dunlapville Causeway which is located at the north end of the Brookville Reservoir in Union County, from 1990 to 2002. We put on a good show, but those days are long past, but every now and then I'm reminded of it. In fact, Eugene Fannin just called me not too long ago wanting to talk about Frontier Days, we enjoyed a few moments reminiscing about back then.

I won't be putting on a re-enactment on this property, but I will have an occasional get together with old friends now and then that's one nice thing about having friends contact you every now and then, it breaks up the monotony.

Getting back to the project at hand, my April Gad-a-bout. This issue is a bit smaller than normal, but I will try to make it interesting enough for you to read and enjoy.

I began writing in other publications in the beginning of my writing career beginning in The Graphic Press in 1972 and publishing my own publications beginning in 1973 till now. I started publishing a Brookville Lake Map back in 1976 continuing to put out up dated versions for a few years. I sold them for quite some time.

I can't remember the last time I enjoyed the outdoors like I use to. Growing up, Dad made sure that his family learned how to enjoy the out of doors both at home and in the fields and hollows hiking, fishing and hunting.

I want to publicly thank all the writers and friends who have helped make The Gad-a-bout Publication possible, without you and them it would have never got off the ground.)

COMMENT PERIOD OPEN FOR PROPOSED U.S. BIKE ROUTE 37 IN INDIANA

(COMMENT PERIOD ENDS MONDAY, MAY 10)

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has submitted U.S. Bike Route 37 to the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) to be designated as part of the U.S. Bike Route System (USBR).

The proposed route connects the Erie Lackawanna Trail (USBR 36) in northwest Indiana to the Monon Trail (USBR 35) in cen-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

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Fishing Lake Michigan



by Capt. Mike Schoonveld

FROGG TOGGS FTX ARMOR RAINWEAR

When I reviewed a set of Frogg Toggs Pilot II rain-wear a couple years ago I wrote, “Frogg Toggs has to be the best name for rain wear ever,” and it still is. That set of rain gear has kept my butt dry ever since I got them and they are still my favorite for late spring through summer use. But they are relatively light weight and though they keep the rain out, they don’t add much to my comfort in chilly weather.

So when Frogg Toggs came out with their FTX Armor line last year, I was all in. Unfortunately, this product was one of the victims of the “supply chain” issues that plagued almost every industry so I wasn’t able to actually slide into my FTX Armor bibs and jacket until late summer of 2022/

Even though I got it in August, this is not a “summer-weight” product. It’s designed to be a cool weather/cold weather suit. A fishing trip to the Pacific Northwest, however gave me the perfect chance to slide into them and give them a solid workout. While the August temps here in the Great Lakes area were solidly in the upper 80s, coastal Oregon temps were 50s in the morning and 60s during the day. The ocean temperature was mid-50s so cool breezes while we were out fishing was the norm.

The FTX set is made with three layers. The outer layer is a tough, durable, breathable, tight-weave fabric. The inside layer is slick, thin, tricot/taffeta material that facilitates sliding the gear on and off. In between is Frogg Toggs’ DriPore Gen 2 fabric with a 15K water-proof rating and 10K breathability index. I wore the FTX, dock to dock each day I was in Oregon and stayed warm and dry all day without ever feeling hot and clammy.

I ordered The FTX gear large enough to couple both the jacket and bibs with a set of Frogg Toggs’ Grand

Refuge Primaloft Jacket and Bibs. These can be worn as outer wear, but are designed to change both the Pilot II and the FTX jackets and bibs into warm-season garb by adding an 80-gram layer of insulation. This makes them suitable for use on the ice; or for me, when I’m after those early March cohos and brown trout as soon as the ice leaves Lake Michigan.

Features like zippered handwarmer pockets, zippers with a hook and loop storm flap and D-rings for attaching accessories make it user friendly. I especially liked the neoprene cuffs at the wrists of the jacket which comfortably seals the sleeves from rain or splashes on the boat. I can slide into the bibs without taking off my shoes or boots, thanks to the three-quarter length leg-zipper along with the slick finish inner layer.

They are available in three solid colors - gray, black or medium blue - or in three camo-like patterns of blue, gray/black or gray/white. I chose the blue-camo (called Kryptic Neptune) FTX Armor. While nothing lasts forever, I expect these to be my rain gear of choice for a long time, especially since they come with a lifetime warranty. The warranty does exclude damage from chainsaws, fillet knives, alligator bites and other out-

door dangers, but send them in for a replacement if the material or workmanship if it fails anytime in the future.

Frogg Toggs FTX Armor products are available



Frogg Toggs FTX Armor products are available online at [*www.froggtoggs.com](http://www.froggtoggs.com) [*http://www.froggtoggs.com](http://www.froggtoggs.com) and other sources as well as at retail Author Photo

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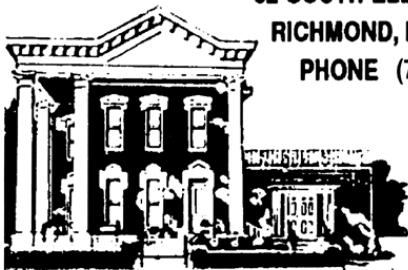
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Misfires And Snags



by Dan Graves
"Humorist Writer"

RACCOON HUNTING THE IDIOT WAY

(I have a favorite saying for racoon hunters. "If you can't tell the difference between a nose and the tail, stick to something less risky, like sky diving.")

At times it feels like I'm trying to run a hundrede yard das pulling a full hay wagon. Getting to the finish line is only half the battle because you still have to figure a way to stop the wagon.

Occasionally, day dreams of those youthful years of endless vitality (and ignorance) cause me to ache for another go-around. But then, just like dropping a brick on your toe, reality steps in and you remember the way it really was. Only two things allowed you to survive those younger years; graces of heaven and laws that forbid your parents selling you for scientific research or hanging you. I recall one incident that pretty well summed up my intelligence level. Growing up as country kids in the southern part of the state in the limestone area we had access to a number of abandoned stone quarries. These rock lined holes were natural swimming and fishing spots and were as dangerous as a forty year old hand grenade. High cliffs and tall grout piles (poor quality stone blocks) offered perfect launching pads for breathtaking leaps of up to fifty feet into cold, clear water.

Since most of these excursions in lunacy

were spur of the moment, bathing suits weren't always the order of the day. Nothing could compare to it. You climbed to the highest point allowed by courage and yells of "chicken" from your retarded friends. After fifteen minutes of muscle flexing and the knowledge that there was only one way out, you jumped. With arms flailing like fighting off a swarm of bees you would wait until the last second to grab your nose and certain other areas before hitting the water. The real brave ones would watermelon or cannonball from these heights. You paid the price if you hit wrong.

Our main source of recreation however were the .22 caliber rifles we used for plinking and hunting. I learned to shoot and handle a rifle safely (so our parents thought) at an early age. We cherished these guns almost as much as our dogs. In an idle moment a friend and I devised a plan to buy much needed ammunition (in the end it would have been much easier to hoe the garden). The state was paying a three dollar bounty for foxes, so we would harvest one and have enough for two boxes of shells and have a little left over. Stone quarry grout piles were small mountains of huge blocks of scrap surface stone. These piles offered perfect homes for a variety of critters due to the small caverns formed under the slabs. Foxes would leave their dens around dusk and forage for food during the night. We stole a slab of bacon and walked two miles to the old Bell Back quarries. Placing the bacon at the base of a pile, we climbed to the highest rock and sat enjoying a fine view of the Salt Creek bottoms. According to a pre-arranged plan, we did not talk for fear of spooking our wiley prey.

An hour of this serenity had passed when a light rain began falling. Since the rifles were too precious to allow them to get wet and since it was one of those hot summer afternoons, we stripped down to our tennis shoes, wrapped the guns in the clothes and stashed tem in a nearby crevice. We figured that if our victim should appear, one of us could retrieve a rifle in time to have a go at him. A few minutes passed with us looking like a Nike ad man's worst nightmare when we heard faint growls coming from somewhere under us. Peering into the cracks between stone blocks we saw a litter of racoon pups playing and chewing on each other a couple of levels down. The face of this grout pile had been stacked neatly up from the old railroad service track with five ton sytone blocks to a height of about 35-40 feet. I peered over the edge and could see the tail of one of the pups sticking out of a crevice in the wall. Now my mother had endured a number of wild critters both in and around the house that my brother and I had brought home, including young squirrels, pigeons, a screech owl and a semi-tamed red fox that had the run of the house for one summer. Barnum and Bailey would have been jealous.

I could now see a golden opportunity to add that most sought after addition of a young racoon to an already hostile attitude on my mothers behalf. By hand signals I indicated to my buddy that I was going to attempt to get the pup. The look of disbelief on his face should have convinced me that this was not the most intelligent decision I had made in a soon to be cut short lifetime. As quietly as possible I lay

on my stomach and swung my bare bottom, feet first over the edge of the rocks. In a cold sweat I managed to skinny down two layers of stone by sticking fingers and toes between them. Now I clung 25 feet above the rail bed with the unsuspecting small fuzzy tail within reach. Holding on with one hand and toes, I reached out, grabbed the tail and yanked.

Now, don't let anyone convince you that a racoon of any size isn't equipped with the necessary hardware and personality to defend itself, especially under these circumstances. Try this experiment. Put one of those wire paint strippers in your electric drill, turn it on and put your hand into it. Go a little further by stripping down buck naked and hang out the third story window of a building by your fingertips while you're doing it. I could see real quick that this little character had no intentions of going home with me that day.

Somehow, I managed to stuff him back into the crack where sat snarling and baring his teeth at me. Not only did I have to climb back up, but I knew the blabbermouth rolling in laughter at the top of the cliff would soon have the story all over town and I'd be ruined for life. No more dates for me. He didn't but it cost me a pack of cigarettes every week for two months. Hoeing the garden and shoveling winter snow for ammunition money proved to require a whole lot effort and planning and I didn't have to do it buck naked.

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

experienced long-distance bicycle riders, generally considered "touring cyclists," who are comfortable riding on most types of facilities, including roads without any special treatments for bicyclists. This group also includes utilitarian and recreational riders who are confident enough to ride on busy roadways and navigate in traffic.

The United States Bicycle Route System is the national cycling route network of the United States. It consists of interstate long-distance cycling routes that utilize multiple types of bicycling infrastructure, including off-road paths, bicycle lanes, and low-traffic roads. As with the complementary United States Numbered Highways system for motorists, each USBR is maintained by state and local governments. The USBRS is intended to eventually traverse the entire country. The USBRS was established in 1978 by AASHTO, the same body that coordinates the numbering of Interstate highways and U.S. Routes.

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Next Level Roads

About the Indiana Department of Transportation.

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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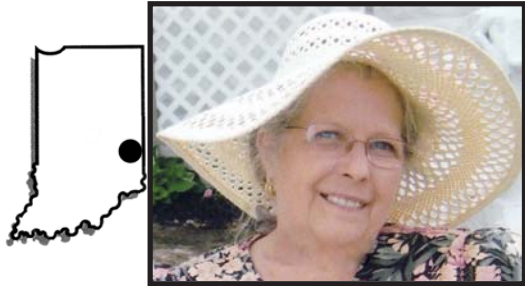


Josie as a young woman in a hat. (Donna Schroeder Photo)



Josie as a nun. (Donna Schroeder Photo)

Visit Fayette County, IN For The Fun Of It!



by **Donna Schroeder**
Fayette County Historical Museum

The Luking Women

In considering the women of the past who have made an impact on our community and beyond, I thought first of the untimely death of Henry Luking, a popular shoe merchant in Connersville.

Mr. Luking died as the result of a gas explosion on East 5th Street which destroyed his shoe store and damaged other businesses. Mr. Luking had become faint, and Dr. McNutt was called to attend to him. Patrick Ready, proprietor of a neighboring establishment was in the Luking business with Henry. The gas company officials

were searching for a leak they knew existed from the readings on their equipment. Plumber Jacob McNaughton was aware of the search and surmised it was at Luking's when he was summoned there by an employee of Luking, McNaughton and his helper, Tom O'Neil, had been in the store a short time when the building was demolished by the explosion. The debris then was engulfed in flames which hindered the rescue of those inside.

After the fire was extinguished, McNaughton and Ready were found to be dead. Henry Luking lived a few hours after having been pulled from the rubble. Dr. McNutt was able to describe the events in detail. Although he was thought to be recovering, he succumbed to his injuries a few days later. Ultimately, only Tom O'Neil survived.

At his death in 1898, at the age of 46, Henry Luking left his widow, the former Mary Kirk, and five children under the age of sixteen. Mary, widowed at age 35, supported her family as a milliner. Her youngest child was about a year old at Henry's death.

William, the eldest, was away at school at the time of disaster. He came home and re-established the Luking shoe business a few years later. William married Clementine Hartman in 1909. William died in 1954, and the Luking family was, once again, left without their father.

This time, however, Luking Shoes would continue under the management of the women of the family. Clementine and daughter Charlene carried on with the business. Many of us remember buying shoes at Luking's. It was an annual back to school tradition for students for many years. Clementine passed away in 1981, and Charlene followed in 1993.

Very few of us met the lady who was surely the most resilient of all the Luking women. Josephine, the eldest daughter of Henry and Mary, attended St. Gabriel School through the eighth grade. Because she was needed at home to help her mother with the millinery business, she wasn't able to go on to high school with her classmates. Instead the nuns tutored her after hours and made certain her education was complete. She later attended business college in Indianapolis, returning home for employment at the Connersville Buggy Company.

At the age of 21, Josie made the decision to leave Connersville and enter the order of the Sisters of Providence where she took the name Sister Marie Gratia.

When it was decided to send a delegation to China, Sister Marie Gratia was chosen to oversee the project. After arriving in 1920, she founded the Sisters of Providence mission in China, the first foreign mission for the Congregation. She was bestowed the title

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"Mother" in 1960 in recognition of her role as foundress of the China mission and the native Chinese community of the Providence Sister Catechists, now known as the Missionary Sisters of Providence.

When the Communist Party gained control of China in 1948, the nuns were forced to flee to safety in Taiwan. She returned to the United States in 1956 to celebrate her Golden Jubilee, commemorating fifty years of service, but immediately returned to her duties in Taiwan where she died in 1964 at the age of seventy nine. She is buried there.

She had spent many years as a servant to the people of both China and Taiwan as a teacher, a nurse, and a missionary. She was jailed as a political prisoner for a time by the Chinese. She and the other sisters and the Chinese people, had survived a period of famine during the beginning of her stay there. In times of distress, she was a pillar of strength and resolve.

The photos are Josie as a girl and as a nun. I wonder if the younger photo features one of the hats she and her mother created?

For more information about interesting and innovative people of Fayette County, visit my Facebook page "Fayette County Indiana Historian" and the Historic Connersville website www.historicconnersville.org. We also welcome you in person to the Fayette County Historical Museum. We are located at the intersection of Grand Avenue (200 West 5th Street) in Connersville, Indiana. We are open 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. We have many interesting exhibits, including autos manufactured in Connersville. Come see us soon! ■

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

DNR ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF HISTORIC PHOTO CONTEST

DNR announces winners of historic photo contest

The Department of Natural Resources Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology has announced the winners of its Historic Preservation Month photo contest.

The winning photos and a variety of other entries will be shared on the DNR's Instagram account (@Indianadnr) during the first week of May. Here are the winners in each category:

Altered:

Amanda Bennett-Cole of Lafayette
Photo subject: City Methodist Church in Gary

Artistic:

Robert Wrenn of Bloomington
Photo subject: Old barn in Monroe County

Black and White:

Andrew Riester of Plainfield
Photo subject: Historic bridge over Trail 6 at Turkey Run State Park

Color:

Melissa Burkhardt of Milton, Kentucky
Photo subject: Drone photo of St. Michael's Church in Madison

Kids:

Anja Martin of Goshen
Photo subject: First Presbyterian Church in Goshen

SPRING MILL TO HOST VILLAGE TASTING EXPERIENCE JUNE 10

The Spring Mill State Park will host its Village Tasting Experience from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Saturday, June 10 in its Pioneer Village.

Eight distilleries will participate: Spirits of French Lick, Luxco/Ross and Squibb Distillery from Lawrenceburg, Distillery 64 from New Albany, Old 55 Distillery from Newtown, Hard Truth Distilling Company of Nashville, Donum Dei Distillery of New Albany, Dusty Barn Distillery of Mt. Vernon, and West Fork Whiskey Company of Westfield.

In addition to the tasting, there will be appetizer pairings, music, interpretive programs, photo opportunities, and other activities. Products from the distilleries will be available for cash purchase.

The event is limited to the first 400 people age 21 and older. Cost is \$35 per person if staying in the park's campground and riding the shuttle, and \$45 if not staying in the campground. Those not staying on site must have a designated driver who is also 21 or older. The designated driver will not be charged and can participate in all events but the drink tasting. There will be no designated drivers from the campground; all campers must take the shuttle.

Advance registration is required and can be made by calling 812-849-3534 between 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. daily. Payment is required at the time of registration. There are no refunds. The event will take place rain or shine.

For information about the event, contact Coletta Prewitt, interpretive naturalist, at

cprewitt@dnr.IN.gov, or 812-849-3534.

INDIANA STATE PARKS HOST

WELCOME BACK WEEKEND, MAY 5-7

Celebrate spring and the start of recreation season during Welcome Back Weekend, May 5-7.

Admission to all state parks will be free on Sunday, May 7. In addition, that day is a Free Fishing Day, during which Hoosiers can fish Indiana waters without a fishing license or trout/salmon stamp, with all size and bag limits in effect. For public places to fish near you, see on.IN.gov/where2fish. Check out fishing tips and videos at on.IN.gov/learn2fish to help maximize your experience.

Welcome Back Weekend programs include:

- Spring Mill State Park's Welcome Back Weekend programs at its Pioneer Village, Lakeview Activity Center, and Gus Grissom Memorial Museum, May 5-7
- Brown County State Park's Morel Mushroom Festival, May 6
- Full moon hikes at various state parks, May 5-6
- Fishing workshops at Mississinewa and Salamonie lakes, May 6
- Autos, Tractors, and Trucks at The Farm at Prophetstown, adjacent to Prophetstown State Park, May 6

Free gate admission and the Free Fishing Day are offered in partnership with Visit Indiana's IN Indiana Week, which is May 7-13. Register for the Indiana State Nature Passport program at visitindiana.com/explore, then check in when you visit a property to participate in a variety of giveaways during the week and throughout the year.

More weekend events can be found at calendar.dnr.IN.gov.

To view more DNR news releases, please see dnr.IN.gov.

ON TRACK: I-69 FINISH LINE PROJECT UPDATE

As crews move east on I-465 from Harding Street there will be a weekend closure of Bluff Road to allow for safe removal of the existing I-465 bridge over the roadway. The closure is scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. on Friday, May 5 and end at 5 a.m. on Monday, May 8. The detour follows Thompson Road, Meridian Street and Hanna Avenue, and motorists are encouraged to seek alternate routes for the weekend. Access to all homes and businesses on Bluff Road will be maintained.

Bridge demolition involves removal of the structural foundation, superstructure, deck, piers and abutments. While demolition is conducted in a safe and controlled manner, the best way to keep motorists and workers safe is to close the road.

The I-465 improvements are another benefit of the overall I-69 Finish Line project as drivers will enjoy added capacity to much of I-465 between I-70 and I-65 on the city's southwest side.

For up to-date project information, visit northsplit.com or text "NORTHSPLIT" TO 468311. Follow the North Split project's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



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Outdoors



With Rich Creason

ADVENTURES IN SOUTH WESTERN ARKANSAS

My wife and I have visited Arkansas on numerous occasions. One of our most memorable trips was in northern Arkansas for a trip canoeing down the Buffalo National River. We spent the night in a log cabin and rode horses through the mountains the next day. We had some great fishing in the area and the local restaurants had outstanding food.

The last two years, we have attended the KaDoHa Treasure hunt in Murfreesboro. This is a large metal detecting hunt which was held in both the spring and fall. This year, the event will only be in the fall on October 13-15. Susie and I may be attending again if we can work it into our schedule and budget.

Over the last 40 years, we have attended these “seeded” hunts from Florida to Canada and from the east coast to Oklahoma. KaDoHa is one of our favorites. The last couple hunts included over 4000 prize tokens each which are buried in large fields (50 plus acres). The hunt lasts about six hours. (I can only last about two hours before my back and legs decide I’ve done enough walking and bending.)

When the hunt ends, the participants bring the tokens they found back to the prize tent and redeem them by matching the number stamped on the metal token with the number on the displayed prize. Civil War relics, Native American artifacts, old silver coins, and numerous other valuables are some of the items which can be won at this hunt. Also, 20 tokens are buried which can be redeemed for \$100. There are ten targets in the fields which are stamped \$1K. Those lucky finders receive \$1000 for their prize. The hunt this fall will again include \$5000 worth of gold coins.

This hunt will be held on the grounds of the KaDoHa Indian Village in Murfreesboro. At this ancient archeological site, you can go on a self-guided tour of the open mounds and search for arrowheads and crystals and keep what you find. The museum on the site offers historic and prehistoric Indian crafts and artifacts. More information on this event can be found by joining Facebook Kadoha Treasure Fest or Arkansas History Unearthed or by calling 870-285-3736.

Last year after attending the treasure hunt,

our grandson, Benjamin, who was with us, wanted to visit the nearby Crater of Diamonds State Park. This is the only place in the United States where the public can actually search for diamonds laying on top of the ground. These diamonds were brought from deep in the earth in an ancient volcano.

We entered the park Visitor’s Center and looked at some raw diamonds so we would know what they looked like in the field. They come in three different colors, white, brown, and yellow. The park also contains many gems including amethyst, garnet, jasper, agate, quartz and more. The park staff provides free identification for any of your finds. Anything you find, you get to keep.


Visitors to the park can just wander the field looking for exposed diamonds. Some guests either bring or rent a sieve and shovel to dig the dirt and sift the contents to see what is left after the dirt falls through. There are various water sources to wash the remains. Hopefully, a diamond will still be in the sieve when finished.

Since we were tired from metal detecting most of the day, we didn’t cover a lot of ground searching for diamonds. On the way out, I purchased two large bags of unsearched dirt in the gift shop. We took those home with us to search at a later date. While we didn’t find any diamonds in our bags, we did find some small colored gems which I need to identify.

Glenn Worthington, who lives near the park, has written a book about Arkansas dia-

STEVE'S MARINE





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monds titled “Genuine Diamonds Found in Arkansas” and a DVD by the same name. This book can be purchased at the KaDoHa Museum or the State Park Visitors Center and is a great guide if you are planning on hunting for diamonds in the park. Search Crater of Diamonds State Park on your computer for more information on this great attraction.

On our next trip to western Arkansas, hopefully this fall for KaDoHa Treasure Fest #6, I plan on stopping at Wegner’s Quartz Crystal Mine at Mount Ida, AR. This business is open Tuesday thru Saturday, 8 AM to 4:30 PM. A fee is charged to allow the customer to dig for quartz crystals at several different locations on their property. The fee is around \$20 per person.

Crystals can be picked up off the top of the ground in some areas or dug at others. We plan on going to their 40 acre open surface mine called the crystal forest mine. Quartz crystals and clusters are found here and the visitor gets to keep anything they find. Tools to dig with and buckets to carry your finds can be purchased or the guest can bring their own. Gloves and eye protection are recommended. More information can be found by Googling Wegner’s quartz crystal mine.

The author may be reached at eyewrite4u@aol.com.

We Are Looking for Metal Detecting Sites by Rich Creason

My wife, Susie, and I have been metal detecting together for over 40 years. We are always looking for new areas to search. If any of you readers have an older house, more than 80 years old, we would like to get permission to detect your yard for coins, buttons, relics, etc. We also are looking for farm fields which used to have a house site, cabin, school, church, etc. on the property where we can search when the crops are off. If you are interested, we would be glad to teach you how to use one of our detectors on your property while we are there.

We also search for lost rings if you know the general area where they were lost. Please reply if we can have permission to metal detect on your land. Thanks, Rich.

Call 765-215-3478 or email at eyewrite4u@aol.com.

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

NORTH SPLIT INTERCHANGE TO REOPEN
I-65 NB & SB through the North Split
expected to open by May 1
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
APRIL 27, 2023

MARION COUNTY – The Indiana Department of Transportation is reopening I-65 through the North Split interchange this weekend. Crews will work in stages, first on northbound lanes. After northbound lanes are open, crews will work to reopen southbound lanes.

All I-65 NB and SB lanes are expected to be open by Monday, May 1, weather permitting. Crews will begin with reopening I-65 NB, followed by I-65 SB. After both northbound and southbound lanes are reopened, the detour on I-465 will be lifted.

Click here to view timelapse footage of the North Split project progressing.

During the opening process, drivers can expect multiple short-term lane restrictions as crews install pavement markings and move barrels to open the lanes.

With the new movements, motorists will be able to travel along I-65 through the North Split interchange from both directions.

As a reminder, under the permanent North Split interchange configuration, there will no longer be access to I-65 SB via the Delaware/11th Street ramp and access to the Meridian/Pennsylvania Street exit will only be available through I-65 NB.

Access to downtown Indianapolis will be maintained via:

I-70 WB collector/distributor (C/D) exit ramp to Michigan Street

I-65 NB/ I-70 EB exit ramp to Washington Street

I-70 WB to Martin Luther King, Jr./West Street

I-65 SB to Meridian Street

I-65 SB to West Street

All existing ramps on I-70 west of the South Split ?

The I-65 SB to C/D movement, Ohio Street exit ramp, and Meridian/Pennsylvania exit ramp remain under construction. All ramps and movements are expected to be open by the end of May.

As we continue through spring and enter

summer and fall of 2023, crews will work on local street paving and aesthetic design updates, including planting.

The North Split Reconstruction Project provides safer, more free-flowing travel for the thousands of motorists who use the interchange each day. The new system features a smaller footprint and increases the walkability of surrounding downtown Indianapolis neighborhoods. The redesigned interchange improves safety by eliminating weaving and merging, leading to better traffic flow.?

INDOT encourages drivers to slow down, exercise caution and drive distraction-free through all work zones.?

For up-to-date project information, visit northsplit.com or text “NORTHSPLIT” to 468311. Follow the North Split project’s progress on social media at:

Facebook: [Facebook.com/NorthSplit?](https://www.facebook.com/NorthSplit?)

Twitter: @NorthSplit?

Instagram: @IndyNorthSplit?

Stay informed?

Indiana motorists can monitor road closures, road conditions, and traffic alerts any time throughout the state, here.

For details on the lane restrictions and closures associated with the current work, please visit 511 Cars for more information.?

About the Indiana Department of Transportation

INDOT continues to solidify the Hoosier State as the Crossroads of America by implementing Gov. Eric J. Holcomb’s \$30 billion Next Level Roads plan. With six district offices and 3,500 employees, the agency is responsible for constructing and maintaining more than 29,000 lane miles of highways, more than 5,700 bridges, and supporting 4,500 rail miles and 127 aviation facilities across the state. INDOT was recently ranked #1 in the United States for infrastructure in CNBC’s 2022 “America’s Top States for Business” ranking. Learn more about INDOT at in.gov/indot.

Customer Service?– Have a question or comment? Contact INDOT’s Next Level Customer Service Center using any of the following methods: ??

1-855-INDOT4U (1-855-463-6848)?

indot4u.com?

Media Contact?

Kyleigh Cramer

317-864-3164

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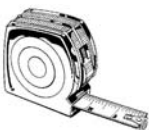
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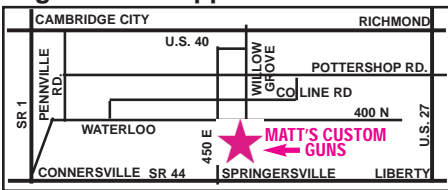
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INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DUELING CONSTITUTIONS
LECTURE BY DR. JAMES OAKES
MAY 3, 6 - 9

INDIANA STATE MUSEUM

“Dueling Constitutions,” will examine the way the national debate over slavery was also a debate over the meaning of the Constitution. The great abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison famously burned a copy of the U.S. Constitution, denouncing it as a “compact with the devil” and an “agreement with hell.” But another great abolitionist, Frederick Douglass, argued the opposite, that the Constitution was an abolitionist document and that it was a mistake for the opponents of slavery to hand the nation’s founding charter over to proslavery forces.

Dr. James Oakes is a leading historian of nineteenth-century America, exploring the history of the United States from the Revolution through the Civil War. His books include *The Crooked Path to Abolition: Abraham Lincoln and the Antislavery Constitution* (W.W. Norton, 2021) and *The Radical and the Republican: Frederick Douglass, Abraham Lincoln, and the Triumph of Antislavery Politics*. He holds the Humanities Chair at the City University of New York Graduate Center, where he is distinguished professor of history, American studies and Africana studies.

James Oakes’ lecture is supported by the Friends of the Lincoln Collection.

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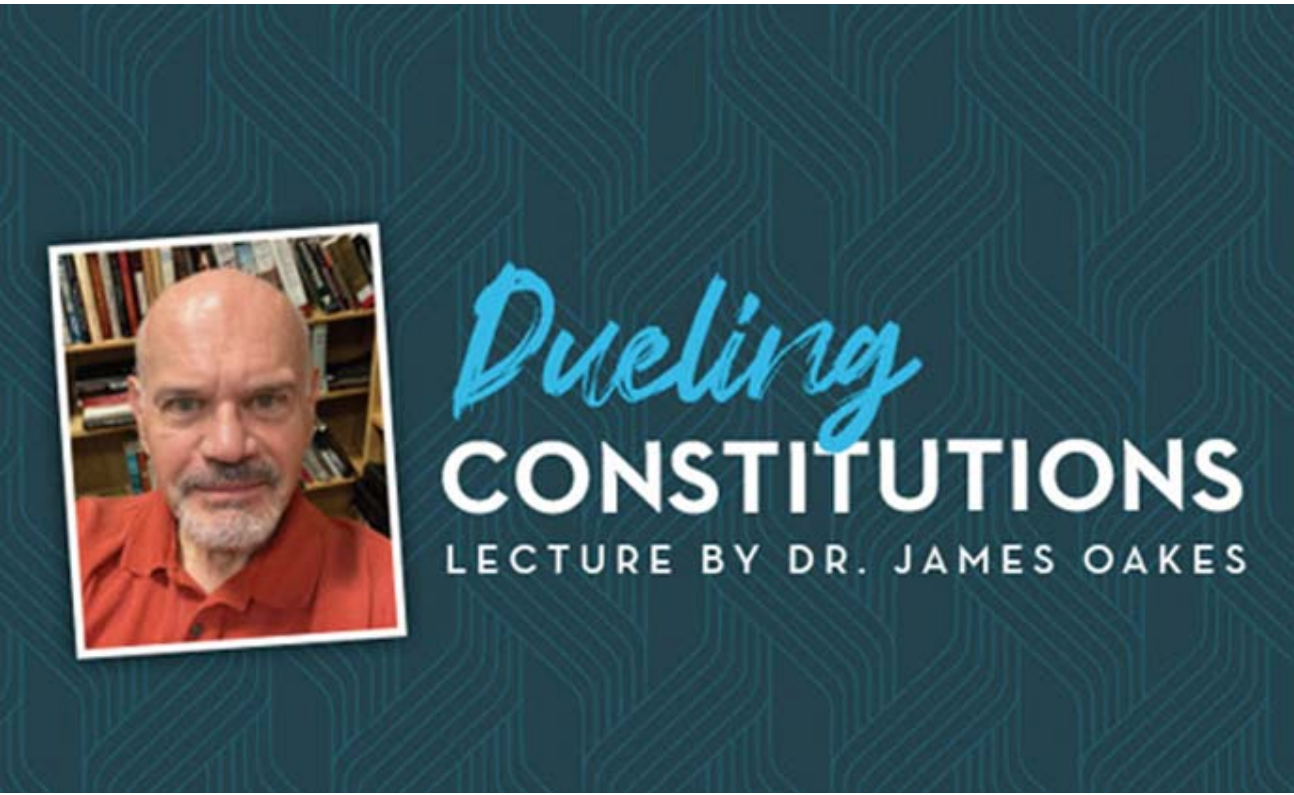
*On display through May 7; June 14 - July 2; Juneteenth (June 17); Sept. 20 - Oct. 29.

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TWO ARRESTED FOR POACHING
WILD TURKEYS (CLAY COUNTY)

Indiana Conservation Officers have arrested two individuals for poaching wild turkeys in Clay County.



Dylan T. Shaw, 22, of Brazil, and Wyatt N. McKenzie, 25, of Staunton, face misdemeanor charges of illegal possession of wild turkey and failure to check-in wild turkey. Shaw also faces a misdemeanor charge of operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated. McKenzie was also charged with misdemeanor false reporting/false informing.

On April 26, shortly before 8 p.m., Conservation Officer Kaley McDonald observed a pickup truck entering and leaving a southern Clay County field several times and then parking on the edge of a county road. McDonald approached the truck and observed two wild turkey carcasses in the open truck bed.

Interviews on scene determined Shaw and McKenzie had each killed one wild turkey. Shaw had not purchased the required turkey hunting license, and neither of the two turkeys had been registered in the Indiana online check-in system as required by law.

Both men were arrested and transported to the Clay County Jail, and the wild turkeys were seized.

The Clay County Sheriff’s Department assisted. All suspects are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

OUTDOOR INDIANA FEATURES
FISHING FOR TINY FISH

Outdoor Indiana magazine’s May/June issue features a cover article on microfishing, the catch-and-release pursuit of tiny fish species most anglers ignore or don’t know about.



The issue also includes a feature on Goshen College’s Merry Lea Environmental Center at Wolf Lake in Noble County. Another feature highlights forest bathing, which is the practice of immersing oneself in nature and living in the present moment with the goal of receiving physical and psychological benefits. (Continued Next Page)



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Outdoor Indiana is available now at Indiana State Park Inns across the state for \$4. Subscriptions are \$15 for one year (six issues, a 27% savings over cover price) and \$28 for two years (12 issues, a 42% savings).

Subscribe at ShopINStateParks.com or by calling 317-233-3046. To read article excerpts, go to OutdoorIndiana.org.

**My DNR
Indiana's Outdoor News**

Enjoy your visit to a DNR property

There are many fun and unique events happening around the state at DNR properties. From beautiful butterflies at Brookville Lake to Paddle Prowl at Chain O'Lakes State Park there is something for everyone.

**Visit and fish at DNR properties
For Free on May 7**

The DNR is offering free admission to state parks, recreation areas, forests, and reservoirs on Sunday, May 7, which is also a Free Fishing Day.

On Free Fishing Days, all Indiana residents can fish the state's public waters without a fishing license or trout/salmon stamp. All size and bag limits remain in effect. For public places to fish near you, see on.IN.gov/where2fish.

Free admission provides a great opportunity to enjoy your favorite DNR property or visit a new site. Find DNR properties across the state and the facilities they offer.

**Mother's Day brunch at Indiana
State Park**

Treat Mom to a fabulous Mother's Day Brunch at her favorite State Park Inn on Sunday, May 14. Mom deserves the best, and we do the dishes. Feel free to start with desserts first; some recommend it.

**Wyandotte Caves reopen for
Summer tours Memorial Day Weekend**

The caves at Wyandotte Caves State Recreation Area (SRA) in Crawford County will re-open for guided cave tours starting May 27. The tours will be offered on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays through Labor Day.

**DNR needs Volunteer Paddlers to
Collect Wildlife Data**

Become a Paddlecraft Wildlife Index Volunteer and help DNR by documenting the wildlife you observe while on the water from June 1 to July 31. After signing up online, you will be mailed a packet with details on how to participate.

Help grow Indiana Forests

The Indiana Natural Resources Foundation, in partnership with the Division of Forestry, is planning another busy year for the Indiana Tree Project. In 2022, more than 11,000 trees were added to Indiana's public lands through Indiana Tree Project plantings, and this year is expected to be another successful year.

When you support the Indiana Tree Project, we provide you with an official tree certificate to demonstrate your support for the smart management of Hoosier forests. It includes the coordinates for the acre on which your tree is, or will be, planted.

Turn in a Poacher or Polluter

When DNR needs your help catching those who

try to harm our wildlife, fish, and water resources. When you witness something illegal, call 1-800-TIP-IDNR (800-847-4367) or visit the Turn in a Poacher and Polluter webpage to file a complaint.

**Spring into Savings at Indiana
State Park Inns**

Now through May 25, 2023 - stay two or more consecutive nights and get 25% off the best available rate. Valid any day of the week. Some restrictions and blackout dates may apply.

**DNR to host third annual 'Teddy
Bear Camp' for stuffed animals**

Does your child have a curious stuffed animal who loves adventures, new experiences, and making new friends?

If so, make plans to send it to Teddy Bear Camp, May 8-19. Hosted by the DNR Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology (DHPA), this "camp" is for stuffed animals belonging to children ages 5-12 who live in Marion, Hamilton, Hancock, Shelby, Johnson, Morgan, Hendricks, or Boone counties.

During Teddy Bear Camp, DHPA staff will take the stuffed animals to a variety of sites to learn about history, architecture, archaeology, and historic preservation. Photos of the visits will be posted to DHPA's Facebook page, and a digital photo album will be emailed to parents/guardians along with an Indiana Junior Preservationist certificate.

**Join us for Bows and Barrels
At Mississinewa Lake**

Bows and Barrels will be held at Mississinewa Lake's Miami State Recreation Area on May 20. Certified instructors will share techniques of shooting bows and arrows at 11 a.m. at the archery range. At 1 p.m., shotgun safety, handling, and target shooting will take place near the Shepoconnah Trailhead near the campground mooring area. These programs are designed for youth, but all ages and experience levels are welcome.

**Volunteer for the Summer Bat Roost
Monitoring Project**

Do you have bats roosting on your property? Help DNR by counting how many bats fly out during a few evenings this summer. Monitoring bats as they emerge from roosts helps us manage the reproductive health of bats across the state.

**Join us for a Pisgah Marsh Nature
Preserve guided hike on July 15**

An Indiana birdwatcher's hidden treasure, Pisgah Marsh includes grassland, marsh, lake, and upland habitat. Two state-endangered species are found there, the Massasauga rattlesnake and Blanding's turtle. The wetland and upland areas also provide habitat for migratory waterfowl, sandhill cranes, beavers, rails, squirrels, raccoons, and deer.

The Pisgah Marsh Boardwalk and Golden Eagle Viewing Deck was constructed to allow visitors the opportunity to experience and understand the natural habitat and diversity of the marsh while protecting the habitat.

**Explore J.E. Roush Fish & Wildlife Area
Crazy 333 Sale**

Stay 3 nights and get 33% off, Sunday through Thursday only, at either [Potawatomi Inn](#) or [Abe](#)

Martin Lodge. Hurry and book a room. This sale ends May 24.

Valid on new reservations only. Certain restrictions apply.

**Juvenile Injured in Off-Road Vehicle
(ORV) Accident (Wells Co.)**

Now Juvenile injured in off-road vehicle (ORV) accident (Wells County)

Indiana Conservation Officers are investigating an off-road vehicle (ORV) accident that occurred in Wells County yesterday.

Shortly after 12:30 p.m., officers were dispatched to the area of County Road 800 N and 600 W in rural Wells County for an ORV accident with injuries.

Upon arrival, officers discovered that a 13-year-old juvenile was operating a side-by-side ORV eastbound on C.R. 800 N while using a cellphone when she lost control of the ORV, causing it to roll multiple times and ejecting her from it. The juvenile was not wearing a helmet or other protective riding gear or using safety restraints.

The juvenile was transported by Wells County Emergency Medical Service (EMS) to Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne in serious condition.

Conservation officers were also assisted by the Wells County Sheriff's Department and the Markle Fire Department.

Indiana Conservation Officers remind the public that a cellphone should never be used while operating an ORV, and a valid driver's license is required to operate an ORV on public roadways in counties where such use is permitted. ORV operators and passengers should always wear a helmet, protective riding gear, and use all ORV safety restraints.

For information on ORV laws and safe operating procedures, please visit offroad-ed.com/in/handbook/ and on.IN.gov/offroading.

**Falls Of The Ohio State Park
Interpretive Center To Close For
HVAC Work, Starting May 22**

Falls of the Ohio State Park's Interpretive Center will close for a major renovation of its HVAC system on May 22. It is expected to reopen near Oct. 16. The park's outside areas, including its fossil beds, picnic tables, and trail, will remain open.

During the closure, there will be no public access to the restrooms in the building. The closest public restrooms are located in Ashland Park, one-half mile east on Riverside Drive next to Falls of the Ohio.

Regular programming will continue throughout the building closure. This summer, there will be special Cultural Pass Program hikes every Monday, Tuesday, and Friday. Check the park's Facebook page, website, or calendar.dnr.IN.gov for updates.

Falls of the Ohio State Park (on.IN.gov/fallsoft-heohio) is at **201 W. Riverside Dr. Clarksville, 47129**.

To view all DNR news releases, please see dnr.IN.gov.

Don't Miss This Powerful Exhibit

Indiana State Museum - Influencing Lincoln
(The Pursuit of Black Freedom)

Open through October 29, 2023.

On Display through May 7, June 14 - July 2; Juneteenth (June 17); Sept 20 - Oct 29. There is an audio portion of this exhibit and we recommend bringing headphones to optimize your experience. ■



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**TROOPER JAMES WILLIAMS
NAMED DISTRICT 52
TROOPER OF THE YEAR**



Trooper James Williams Named District 52 Trooper of the Year. (Indiana State Police Photo)

Indianapolis, IN - During a recent Indiana State Police Awards Ceremony, Trooper James "Jimmy" Williams was recognized by Superintendent Doug Carter as the 2022 Trooper of the Year for the Indianapolis District.

In his nomination letter, Indiana State Police Indianapolis District Lieutenant Josh Watson, wrote:

Trooper James (Jimmy) Williams is a four year veteran of the Indiana State Police and embodies the mission and core values of our organization. He takes pride in the trust the State of Indiana has bestowed upon him and is intentional about responsible stewardship of that trust. He can always be found with a smile on his face and a positive attitude. In a profession based on service to others, Jimmy's servant's heart shines through as an example for other to follow. He habitually puts the needs of the community we serve and his shift partners above those of his own; this commitment to duty is reflected in his work product. Throughout the duration of his shift Jimmy can be heard active-

ly engaged in calls, as either the primary or responding as secondary to help out his shift partners. Regardless of the call type he gives the task at hand his full attention and conducts himself in manner that lets everyone on scene know they are important; no matter if he is changing a tire for a stranded motorist or working one of our interstate shootings, we get Jimmy's best every time.

Trooper Williams' commitment doesn't end there, however, he is one of our best FTO's (Field Training Officer) and is frequently used to train multiple new troopers out of the same class. He approaches this with the same smile and commitment to duty as he does every other task, he is patient and perceptive, focused on the needs of the PO and intent on providing all he can to ensure their success.

He understands the importance of our recruiting initiative and has embraced his role in the process. There is seldom a week that goes by when he doesn't have a ride-along or an intern with him. He represents ISP in a professional and favorable manner, and is always willing to do his part to contribute to the future of our department. He is also active with Recruiting and PIO programs, helping out when he can with our district's many PIO/Recruiting opportunities.

Jimmy's quality of work and job knowledge is well beyond that of a four year Trooper, his Sergeant states his reports are always complete and error free, and he rarely needs any help with procedural issues. This is remarkable for a trooper who in one year responded to 1478 calls for service and was the primary on 1164 of those calls. He initiated 583 traffic stops and responded to 304 crashes of which he was the primary on 198 of them, yielding a combined 1061 contacts, and completed 149 incident reports.

Jimmy is a great example of what an Indiana State Trooper should be, he is service oriented, cares for others, and possesses an eagerness to help. He has a strong sense of responsibility and duty to his community and shift partners; he is hard working, attentive, and possesses superior job knowledge for his tenure. Despite working the busiest shift, he still takes advantage of his discretionary time to focus on proactive police work both on the interstates and in the city. He is treasured at Indianapolis, my hope is his time spent as an FTO, with interns and conducting ride-alongs will inspire others to be like him.

**FORT WAYNE REGIONAL DISPATCH
CENTER ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR
DISPATCHER POSITION**

(Fort Wayne, IN)- The Indiana State Police is accepting applications for a Regional Dispatcher position at the Fort Wayne Post - Regional Dispatch Center (RDC2) located at **5811 Ellison Road**.

This RDC covers the eleven counties that comprise the Fort Wayne Post (Adams, Allen, Blackford, DeKalb, Jay, Huntington, LaGrange, Noble, Steuben, Wells, and Whitley), as well as the seven counties that comprise the Peru Post (Cass, Fulton, Grant, Howard, Miami, Tipton, and Wabash).

Primary responsibilities of a dispatcher are to receive, record, and accurately dispatch information to police personnel, other law enforcement agencies, and other support services through the use of a Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System, Records Management System (RMS), Automatic Vehicle Locator (AVL), Geographic Information System (GIS) and other Regional Dispatch Center resources.

A high school diploma or GED equivalent is required as well as the ability to be seated in a confined area for extended periods of time. Two years of public safety communications experience preferred.

Pay starts at **\$47,320.00** per year, and may be adjusted based on education, experience, and training. Benefits include medical, dental, vision, life insurance, retirement plans and accrued time off.

***Applications are only accepted electronically via the ISP online portal. Deadline for application submission is Friday May 5, 2023.**

For more information on this position and to apply online, go to <https://www.in.gov/isp/3627.htm> (Indiana State Police-Career Opportunities-Civilian Opportunities).

Questions should be directed to **Brandon P. Lowe, Personnel Officer for the Indiana State Police Human Resources Division** at blowe@isp.in.gov or (317) 232-8238.

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