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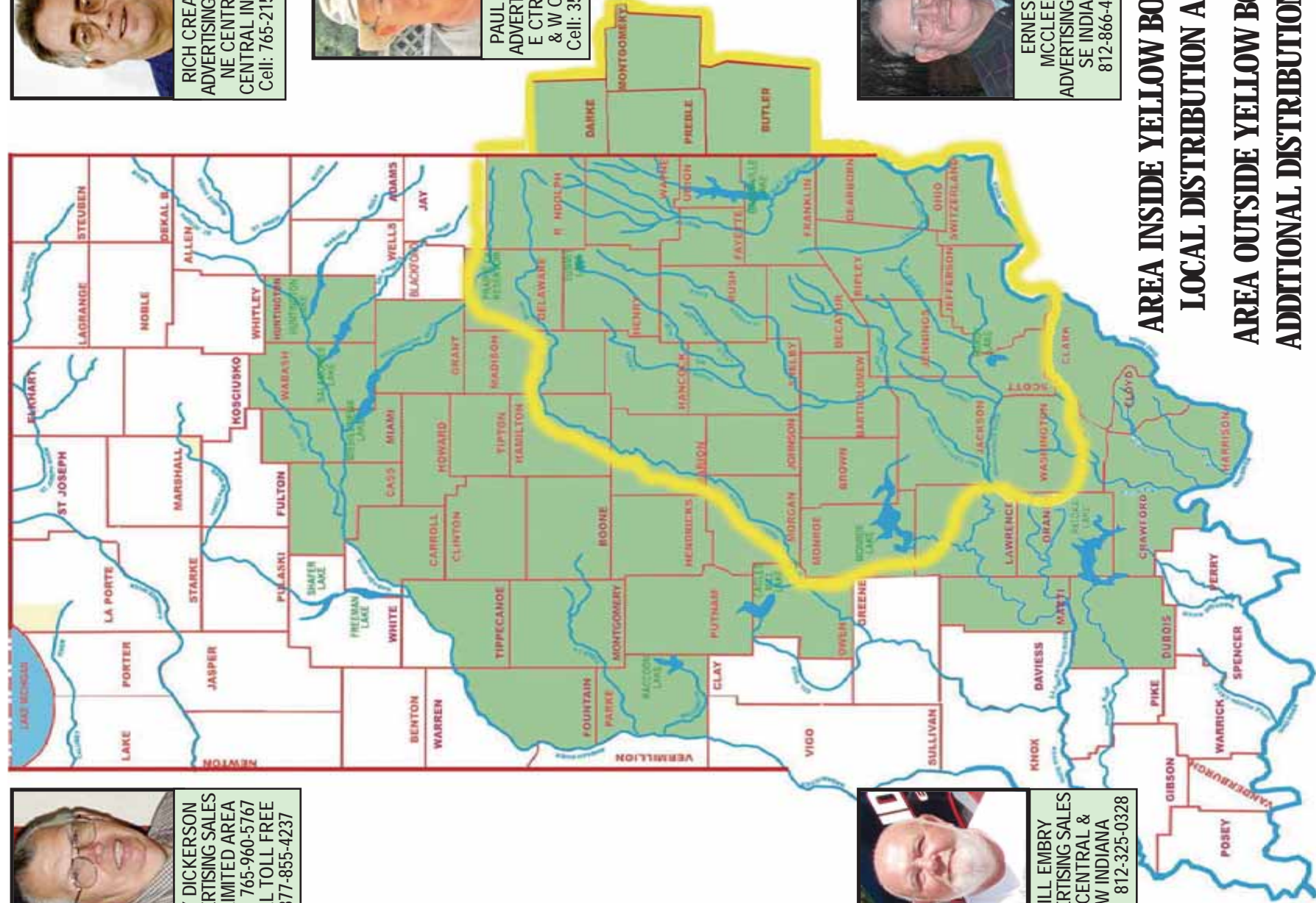
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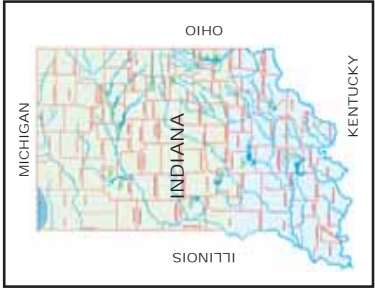
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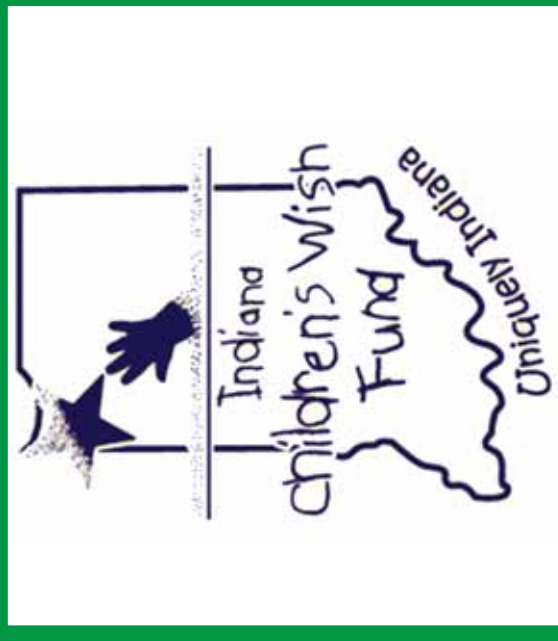
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LIBERTY FESTIVAL JUNE 29 - JULY 1, 2012
(SPECIAL PULLOUT SECTION) SEE PAGE 15-18



IND CHILDREN'S WISH FUND BASS
TOURNAMENT 6-30-12 PATOKA LAKE
OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM ON PG 8



NAVY SEABEE VETERANS OF AMERICA
& 79TH REUNION SEE PG 19,27,29 & 30



BROOKVILLE FUN DAY & EAST FORK FISHING
EXPO PHOTOS & STORY - SEE PAGE 24-25

ADVERTISER'S INDEX & PICK-UP PTS PG 2&31 ABOUT THE COVER PHOTOS SEE PAGE 3

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ADVERTISER INDEX

YOU CAN PICK UP A FREE COPY OF THE GAD-A-BOUT AT THESE ADVERTISER LOCATIONS LISTED

ANDERSON
Crackshot Guns Pg 26
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AUSTIN
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Burr Electric & Plumbing Pg 6
Colwell Wildlife Studio Pg 24

BROOKVILLE
52 Pik-up Convenience Store Pg 5
CANOEFEST 2012 Pg 4
Dairy Cottage Pg 14
Noble Boys Furniture Pg 12
Save-a-lot Pg 6

BROOKVILLE LAKE AREA
Barton Bay Pg 13
Dave's Triangle LLC Pg 15
The Sagamore Resort Pg 18
Jays Midlake Bait & Tackle Pg 15
Parkside Marine & More Pg 3
Quakertown Marina Pg 13
Steve's Marine Pg 18
Whitewater Valley RV's Pg 18

CAMBRIDGE CITY
Amish Cheese Shop Pg 24

CARTHAGE
Woods Campground Pg 14

COLUMBUS
Gilliland Trailer Sales Pg 14

CONNERSVILLE
Griffey Farms Pg 2
Matt's Custom Guns Pg 30
Rem-Bu Gun & Ammo Shop Pg 19

DEPUTY
Marion's Greenhouse Pg 20

DUBLIN
Rihm's Meat Processing Pg 25

EVERTON
Hoosier RV & Equipment Pg 11

FARMLAND
Concrete Creations Pg 24

GREENFIELD
Highsmith Guns Pg 24
Jensen's Pawn & Guns Pg 2

GREENSBURG
Country Mart/Premier Ag Pg 7
Guns & Tackle, Inc. Pg 26
Tree City Metal Sales Pg 29
Wagner's Barber Shop Pg 2

HAGERSTOWN
Big Daddy's Guns & More Pg 7

HARDY LAKE
Pioneer Village Pg 3

INDIANAPOLIS
Indiana State Police Pg 6
www.Indiana Outfitters.com Pg 23
Wanamaker Guns Pg 2

KNIGHTSTOWN
Knightstown Meats & Catering Pg 25
McDonald's Bait & Tackle Pg 27

KOKOMO
Joe's Beef Jerky Pg 20

Kokomo Marine Pg 13
Martino's Italian Villa Pg 20

LAKE MICHIGAN AREA
Brother Nature Charters Pg 12

LAPEL
Hoosier Reel Pg 10

LAUREL
Laurel Hotel & Restaurant Pg 22

LEXINGTON
McCleery's Dog Carriers. Pg 14

LIBERTY
(JULY 4TH FESTIVAL JUN29-JUL1)
Campbell Auction Team Pg 16
Carl Sharp State Farm Ins Pg 16
Country Mark Station Pg 17
Hubbard CPA Pg 17
J's Restaurant Pg 16
J.A. Bertch Hardware Pg 17
Liberty Vol. Fire Dept Pancake Bkfst Pg 17
Liberty Restaurant Pg 16
Mark's Auto Repair Pg 16
P.R.S. Insurance Pg 17
Pizza King Pg 16
The Country Store Pg 16
Union County Development Corp Pg 15
Whitewater Valley REMC Pg 17
Woodruff's Supermarket Pg 17

LITTLE YORK
Little York Store & Restaurant Pg 27

LOGANSPOUT
Dale Hardy Supplies Pg 19

LOOGOOTEE
Bobber Stop Pg 9

MADISON
Burr Elect & Plumbing Pg 6
Log Cabin Lodging Available Pg 12
Madison Outdoors Pg 28
Tri-State Mobile Home Parts & Svc Pg 25

MARION
Riverside Sporting Gds Pg 27

MCCORDSVILLE
Cap'n Hooks Bait & Tackle Pg 26

METAMORA
Amish Cheese House Pg 22
Hearthstone Restaurant Pg 22
Kaleidosaurus Books & Toys Pg 22

MIDDLETOWN
Norfleet Enterprises LLC Pg 25

MILLHOUSEN
Millhousen Fire Dept 50 Gun Raffle Pg 4

MILROY
Milroy Shoes Pg 28
Troyers Country Store & Bakery Pg 29

MONROE RESERVOIR AREA
Big Marks Bait & Tackle Shop Pg 9
Bill Embry Legend Boats Pg 8

MUNCIE
Light House Bait & Tackle Pg 4
McGalliard Guns & More Pg 28

NINEVEH
Ed's Trading Post Pg 30

NOBLESVILLE
Log Home Center Pg 26
NURPU River & Mtn Supply Pg 11

NORTH VERNON
Diekhoff Mower Sales Pg 24

John's Gun & Tackle Pg 12

PATOKA LAKE AREA
Fisherman's Village Pg 9
J&R Guide Service Pg 9
Patoka Lake Boat & Marine Pg 9
Poor Boy's Country Store Pg 9

PENDLETON
Tricked Out Car & Access. Pg 29

RICHMOND
Army Navy Store Pg 19
Best Stop Auto Care Pg 21
Mendenhall Hardware Pg 10
Middleton Tool Sharpening Pg 3
Prairie Wolf Gun Repair Pg 3
Riggie-Waltermann Mortuary Pg 25
Tri County Awards Pg 2

RUSHVILLE
Fields' Outdoor Adventures Pg 32

SALEM
Red Barn Bait Shop Pg 10

SALAMONIES LAKE AREA
Bozarth Country Store Pg 11
D&J's Corner Mart Pg 21
Peacepipe Bait & Tackle Pg 10

SCOTTSBURG
C & T Cycles Pg 7
Rick & Jeff's Floor Coverings Pg 29
Scotts Ace Hardware Pg 24

SELMA
Dry Dock Marina Pg 10
Light House Bait & Tackle Pg 4

SHELBYVILLE
Big Blue River Quail Banquet Pg 20
The Gun Den Pg 20

SEYMOUR
Burr Elect & Plumbing Pg 6

SUMMIT LAKE AREA
Summit Lake Bait & Tackle Pg 10

VALLONIA
Tollivers Hunting & Fishing Supls Pg 9

VERSAILLES
SEastern IN Hunting Properties Pg 8

VEVAY
Dutch Discount Groceries Pg 19

YEDDO
Jordan's Bait Shop Pg 19

KENTUCKY
LOUISVILLE
SMI Marine Pg 8

OHIO
CINCINNATI
Boytim Charter Service Lake Erie Pg 9
Stories by Golden Eagle Pg 9

SUPPORTING LOCATIONS
BROOKVILLE LAKE AREA
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Brookville Lake Resort
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CONTINUED ON PAGE 31

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THE GAD-A-BOUT™

IN THIS ISSUE

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Created & Published by Ray Dickerson
P.O. Box 85

Centerville, IN 47330-0085

CONTACT THE GAD-A-BOUT

Toll Free: 1-877-855-4237 - Lv Message

Cell Phone: 765-960-5767

Office Phone: 765-855-3857

Fax: 765-855-3857 (Call First)

Website:

www.thegadabout.com

E-Mail: ray@thegadabout.com

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SPECIAL FEATURES

Liberty Festival June 29 - July 1, 2012 in Liberty, Indiana by Ray Dickerson Page 15-18
Letter to the Editor from Carl R. Barrett, Navy Seabee Veterans of America, National Commander Page 19
Stayin' Alive 12th Annual Family Fun Day & East Fork Fishing Expo by Ray Dickerson Page 24-25

REGULAR FEATURED OUTDOOR WRITERS

Roaming The Outdoors by Ray Dickerson (*Coming Events, Indot Blood Drive, Woodruffs, Seabees*) Page 4
So You Wanna Catch More Fish by Tag Nobbe (*July Fishing on Brookville Lake & Dabney's Charter*) Page 5
News from the Indiana State Police by Sgt. John D. Bowling (*Laboratory Div, Fatalities, Fireworks*) Page 6
IDNR News by PIO Gary Catron (*January Whooping Crane killing, charges pending, ?, WEAR IT*) Page 7
Bass Fishing Techniques by Bill Embry (*22nd Annual Children's Wish Bass Tournament Patoka Lake*) Page 8-9
Talking Leaves by Golden Eagle (*Red Fox & His Drum*) Page 9
Misfires and Snags by Dan Graves (*Profile of a Fisherman*) Page 10
Great Lakes of the Wabash River-Fishing News by Ryan Pershing (*Bozarth May 12 Crappie Results*) Page 11
Fishing Lake Michigan by Capt. Mike Schoonveld (*Where's the meat?*) Page 12
Indiana Slab Masters by Ron Bilbrey (*Tournament Team Tom Hankins and Glenn Gill*) Page 13
Outdoor Tales by Phil Junker (*Creating Campfire Memories*) Page 14
Indiana Outdoors by Joe Martino (*Make time for the outdoors*) Page 20
Looking Downstream by Paul McCloud (*Fishing Ohio's Acton Lake*) Page 21
Happenings in Metamora, Indiana by Janice Hunsche (*Metamora, IN Activities in July*) Page 22
Outdoors with Rich Creason (*Writers Gone Fishin'*) Page 26-27

GAD-A-BOUT DEPARTMENTS

2012 Distribution Area Map listing Advertising Salesmen contact information Bottom Half Page 1
Advertiser Index, Advertiser Supporting Pick-up Locations & Developing Area Pick-up Locations Page 2 & 31
Rate Sheet, Contract Form (Revised June 2012/Corrected July 2012) Page 31
Gad's Corner (Readers and Other Fish & Game Photos, Send in your Photo or other) Page 30-31

THE COVER PHOTOS

Top Left: Official Entry Form on page 8 to sign up for 22nd Annual Indiana Children's Wish Foundation Open Team Bass Tournament on Patoka Lake Saturday June 30, 2012 at Newton Stewart South Ramp. This is your chance to help a very good cause See More on Pages 8-9 (**Official Indiana's Children's Wish Fund Logo, printed here with permission**)

Top Right: Liberty Festival parade photo from 2011. (*Special Note: Seminary Street is closed to thru traffic until INDOT construction completed, See Map Legend on page 16 for more*) Special Souvenir Pullout Section including photos, Activity list, Map of Liberty, Entry Form for

Freedom Run, Entry Form for Parade See pages 15-18 (**Photo by Ray Dickerson**)

Bottom Left: The Official Insignia of the Navy Seabee Veterans of America (NSVA). An open letter to The Gad-a-bout Editor Ray Dickerson from NSVA National Commander Carl R. Barrett concerning Seabees, yesterday and today. See letter on Page 19, 27 & 30. (**Insignia submitted by Carl R. Barrett**)

Bottom Right: Brian "Snook" Nobbe at left helps his daughter, Moorria, hold the trout she caught in the Brookville Tailwater that runs through the Brookville Town Park. This was the first fish that Moorria had ever caught. Jeremy Wilson at right. The trout was released back into the stream. See Pages 24-25. (**Photo by Ray Dickerson**)

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Roaming The Outdoors



by Raymond E. Dickerson

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At Advertiser locations and Advertiser support locations (see advertisers index on page 2 and support locations on page 31) and read The Gad-a-bout on website: www.thegadabout.com

MILLHOUSEN VOL. FIRE DEPARTMENT 50 GUN RAFFLE SEPT 8, 2012

Ian Hammond called me last week inquiring about advertising their event in The Gad-a-bout. Their ad is adjacent to this column with all the details you need to know. The exceptional item is the Early Bird Special, if you buy your ticket prior to August 13 you will be entered into a separate drawing for an new Henry Golden Boy .22 long rifle.

For more information contact any of the following: Ian Hammond (812) 593-6271, Craig Manlief (812) 614-6810 or Ron Fry (812) 614-8388.

BIG BLUE RIVER-QUAIL FOREVER BANQUET AUGUST 25, 2012

Susie Sutor sent me information about the Big Blue Quail Forever Chapter #3049 Banquet to be held August 25, 2012 at the American Legion Post 70 located at 1125 S. Miller Ave., Shelbyville, IN. Doors will open at 5 p.m.

Tickets are available at The Gun Den located at 337 Roosevelt Dr in Shelbyville, Indiana.

For more information contact any of the following: Tim Weaver 317-491-2936, David Settles

317-439-5688, David Dennison 317-364-2791, Susie Sutor 317-604-0097, Sheryl Settles 317-512-9883, Garnet Dennison 317-796-9534.

See their advertisement on Page 20 in this issue.

CANOEFEST JUNE 29 & 30, 2012 BROOKVILLE, INDIANA

The 2012 Canoefest is fast approaching. For information see their advertisement at the bottom of this page and for a complete list of everything that is happening on these two fun-filled days, log onto their website: www.canoefest.org.

By far the most exciting event is the Recreational Canoe Race that is held on Saturday June 30th.

The Recreational Canoe Races will be put into 2 "Waves", the first at 9AM, and the second at 11:00AM. on Saturday, June 30th starting at the Tailwaters of Brookville Lake and racing down the East Fork of the Whitewater to a finish just below the confluence with the West Fork. A run that is popular with both the families and novices, and the experienced paddlers alike.

These races are intended for the novice, first-timer or even the weakest of weekend warriors--perfect for couples, parents and children, or those just in it for the fun. The trip entails beautiful scenery on the entire length of the course. Awards will available to winners as soon as results are confirmed. There will be an official awards ceremony at 7 pm for those who wish to receive their awards on stage, presented by the Canoe Princess and her Court.


I hope to see you along the Tailwater below the Brookville Dam on Saturday. I will be one of the many folks standing in or near the East Fork of the Whitewater River snapping photos of you as you canoe, collide, dunk or pass me going backwards. Saw all of these things happen in 2011.

Have Fun!!!

INDOT INVITES COMMUNITY TO BLOOD DRIVE AND OPEN HOUSE

CAMBRIDGE CITY, Ind. - The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is hosting a blood drive at its Cambridge City Subdistrict head-

quarters. The event is being held in conjunction with employee training, which will have a focus on blood-borne pathogen safety. The blood drive will be open
CONTINUED ON PAGE 29



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MORE INFO AT WWW.CANOEFEST.ORG

So You Wanna Catch More Fish



by Tag Nobbe
Professional Fishing Guide

July Fishing on Brookville Lake

July is the time of the year that the shad show up in the main lake.

Shad is a bait fish that feeds the masses with in the lake. When they first show up in the lake they are just little transparent swimming back bones. They are the part of the food chain that is close to the bottom. The shad feed on plankton in the lake and all the other fish feed on them through out different stages of their life cycle.

The white bass are one of the first fish to start feeding on the young, of the year, shad. The white bass is a schooling fish that lives in the main lake. These schools of white bass can be as big as a 10 acre field and can range from 12 inches to 17 inches in length.

When the shad develops from an egg to a fish they school up for protection. These schools can be as big as the clouds in the sky. These schools of shad will move to the main lake, feeding on plankton floating in the water. This is where being close to the bottom of the food chain is not a good thing.

I have been sitting in my boat with the water being as slick as glass.

Then out of no where a feeding frenzy erupts on the surface of the water that is 10 acres in diameter.

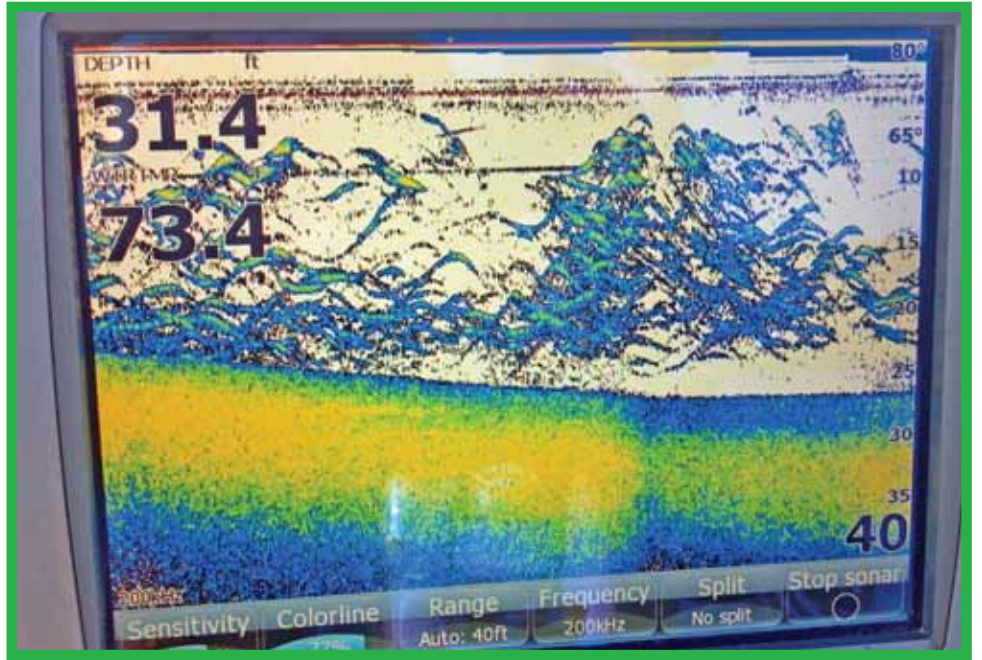
This is where the shad school crosses the path of the white bass school. What the white bass school will do is surround the shad school and get below them forcing them to the surface. This is like running the school into a wall. The white bass will hold them there as long as they can, feeding on them till the shad school can get away. Of course at this point the white bass will just corral them back up and do it all over again until they get are full.

This will happen for about 2 weeks. Then the shad will get big enough and smart enough to out maneuver the white bass and it will be all over.

What this means to you as a fisherman, is some of the best fish catching fun of the summer. All you have to do to catch white bass when this is going on is have a line in the water. Fifty fish an hour is not uncommon. What you look for is boiling water and cast through it. When you see it just start the out board motor and go right to the boiling water. Stop short of it, and idle with in casting distance. As long as the water is boiling, the white bass are feeding. The best baits to use is 1/8 ounce lead head jig with a 2 or 3 inch white curly tail or a 1/8 ounce white rooster tail.

Once the shad get a little bigger the schools start to split up into individual smaller schools. Some will move back in the coves, some will move to the north end of the lake, and some will stay suspended in the main lake. At this point of the shads life cycle every other game fish will start to feed heavily on them also.

If you're fishing the main lake look for them on or near flats, drop off edges or main lake points. If you like to troll, fish the flats using shad imitating crank baits. If your a spoon fisherman look for concentrations of shad on humps or under water points. Under hand pitch to them and frog hop the spoon



This is what a school of white bass looks like on my lowrance sonar aboard my charter boat. (Author Photo)



Brentley Springmeyer from Greensburg, IN caught this white bass on June 6, 2012. His buddy is standing behind him. (Author Photo)

back to the boat. This type of fishing is called a reaction bite. There is so much bait in the lake that the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28



On June 2, I took Dennis Dabney, his son Derrick and his Uncle Raymond Poore out onto Brookville Lake. It was a good day, everyone caught fish. (Author Photo)



Left to Right Tag Nobbe, Colonel Dennis Dabney (USAF/WPAFB), Derrick Dabney and Raymond Poore, from Charleston, W. Va. (Raymond caught the biggest fish). (Photo by Ray Dickerson)



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News from the Indiana State Police



by Sergeant John D. Bowling
Public Information/Recruiting Officer

Indiana State Police Laboratory Division The "Real Men and Women of CSI"

A lot of people I know love to watch the CSI crime shows. I don't watch them because they frustrate me—they always solve the crime in an hour using all kinds of neat equipment, some of which is real, a lot of which is fiction. A very important component to investigating and prosecuting a crime is how you collect evidence and how that evidence is preserved and analyzed.

The Indiana State Police Laboratory Division takes and analyzes evidence from agencies all over the state. There are labs in Fort Wayne, Lowell, Indianapolis and Evansville. The Division was established in 1936, to benefit all criminal justice agencies within the State of Indiana and continues to this day to assist various units of government, towns, counties, other state and federal agencies as well as military police.

The lab started out in 1936 as a small room in the basement of the Capitol building. In 1977 they began adding labs, and today have the four regional labs that employ more than 170 police and civilian staff. They have forensic scientists working in a Biological Section, i.e. bodily fluids and DNA; Scientists in the Drug Analysis Unit identifying drugs and a Microanalysis Unit that identifies and compares fibers, paints, fire debris, etc.

There is the Firearms Division that provides analysis of fired bullets and casings, examination of tool mark evidence, serial number restoration and other firearm related examinations. The Latent Print Unit examines and compares fingerprints as well as footwear and tire impressions.

The Forensic Document Unit does handwriting analysis and authentication of documents like checks and titles. The Photography Unit provides analysis of photographs, maintains all of the department's photography equipment as well as processing photos for the State fire Marshall's Office and the Indiana Attorney General's Office.

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Photo of Forensic Scientist conducting DNA analysis. (Indiana State Police Photo)



Photo of CSI using luminol. (Indiana State Police Photo)

the folks called out at all hours to provide technical crime scene processing. This includes identifying and collecting potential evidence at crime scenes, reconstructing the events of a crime and physically linking suspects to a crime.

Also on the enforcement side is the Polygraph Unit. They provide polygraph services to all agencies in Indiana. The polygraph, or as some people call it the "lie detector test," is a valuable tool used in investigations where a delay in reporting often results in no physical evidence.

To be a forensic scientist at one of our labs requires a minimum of a Baccalaureate degree in science not limited to Biochemistry, Biology, Chemistry, Forensic Science, Genetics, Molecular Biology or Physics. You can apply by going to our web site <http://www.in.gov/isp/> or by going to the Indiana Job Bank at <http://www.in.gov/spd/2334.htm>

If you would like to belong to the select few who do the CSI work, go to our web site at www.in.gov/isp and click on the bill board sign for the pre-application. This will insure you are included in the next State Police hiring process for the position of trooper. All Crime Scene Investigators are Sergeants that began their careers as troopers.

The lab is always looking for qualified scientists and evidence clerks. Lab personnel are the folks that are seldom seen but play such an important role in police work today. They not only have to be scientists but also are responsible for providing expert testimony at trials. If it's an area that interests you or someone you know, please have them visit the web site and apply.

Traffic Fatality Numbers Are Up This Year

As you read this traffic fatalities in Indiana are up eight from this time last year. According to the fatal crash statistics, most fatal crashes in Indiana occur in rural areas between 2p.m. and 10 p.m., with the lead-

ing causes of fatal crashes being running off the road on the right, followed by failure to yield, then unsafe speed. Remember, wearing safety belts can reduce the risk of injury in a crash by fifty percent.

Make sure all drivers in your household stop completely at least for a three count at all stop signs. Make sure to look each direction TWICE before pulling out. I have seen two serious crashes in our district just in the last two weeks where someone didn't stop at a stop sign. No matter how big of a hurry you are in, it just isn't worth your life. We HAVE to do better at intersections-Too many people are dying from running stop signs and stop lights.

Please stay safe this summer-an extra three seconds is not going to make you late, but it WILL save your life.

The Indiana State Police remain committed to reducing crashes in the state by monitoring the top causes for crashes and concentrating enforcement efforts on these causes.

Indiana Fireworks Law

The Indiana State Police would like for all Hoosiers to have a safe Fourth of July holiday. Due
CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

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Indiana Department of Natural Resource News



by I.C.O. Gary Catron
LE Division Spokesperson

Investigation complete on whooping crane killing

Indiana Conservation Officers, with assistance from U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service agents, have completed an investigation into the killing of a male whooping crane in early January in Knox County. The Knox County Prosecutor is reviewing the case, and charges are pending against Jason R. McCarter, 21, of Wheatland, and John C. Burke, 23, of Monroe City. According to the case report filed with the prosecutor, ICO Joe Haywood received information in mid-January that a whooping crane had been spotlighted at night and shot and killed with a high-powered rifle. The ensuing investigation involved multiple law enforcement agencies, wildlife biologists and private individuals and provided information that identified the suspects and also linked the bird to a federal program to reintroduce whooping cranes in the eastern United States. Whooping cranes are an



endangered species protected by both state and federal laws. Efforts to save whooping cranes began after their nationwide population dwindled to 15 birds in 1941, according to the International Crane Foundation. The Foundation reports there are nearly 600 whooping cranes today, with approximately 445 in the wild. There are more than 100 in the eastern reintroduction flock that travels through Indiana on a migratory path between Wisconsin and Florida. Roughly 150 captive-raised birds are used in the reintroduction programs at a cost exceeding \$100,000 per bird. The whooping crane shot in Knox County was part of a nesting pair that was taught its migratory path by ultra-light aircraft. For more on the bird, see www.leamer.org/jnorth/tm/crane/08/BandingCodes827.html. An investigation into the killing of a second whooping crane in Jackson County continues. Anyone with information can call the Turn In A Poacher hotline at 1-800-TIP-IDNR.

favorite state park does not mean the program offered will be the same one you participated in prior. Some programs are indoors while others may require a bit of getting dirty. Due to the uniqueness of many of our state parks and reservoirs, some subjects can only best be presented at a particular DNR property. As an example, if you wish to learn about and witness the Lake Michigan ecosystem a visit to Indiana Dunes State Park nature center might be in order.

Obviously, there are many ways to foster a true appreciation for our wild resources. A few educational trips to a nearby creek or woods can be of benefit. The point is that when an appreciation is built recognizing the intrinsic value of natural resources in a non-consumptive manner then a person becomes a steward and stakeholder of sorts and less likely to commit 'goofy' acts concerning our natural resources.

I'll step down from the soap box now. Thanks for reading!



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Fostering an appreciation

If the preceding news release about the investigation into the illegal killing of a whooping crane doesn't bother you, then read it again. Well, if it still doesn't, it should. Since there are charges pending on two individuals, I'll preface by making the requisite statement that at this point in time both are presumed innocent.

I don't know any more about the investigation than what appears in the news release. This incident does have me questioning what possible reason a person (or persons) would have to commit such a pointless act. I'm not naïve about such things; I've seen some pretty 'goofy' things done for one reason or another. (When 'goofy' appears you may insert your favored adjective(s) as you see fit)

I'll not spend any time trying to rationalize a motive for anyone killing an endangered animal. I do recognize and offer this: Regardless of what was in a person's mind prior to committing such an act there was a total absence of appreciation of this high-

Mid-summer life jacket check

We're in the thick of the 2012 summer boating season. Do you know where your life jackets are? Have you loaned any to friends? Are they still onboard, accessible and serviceable? Will there be enough for all onboard with one of the correct size and fit? Has unintended abuse occurred damaging the protective outer shell or fasteners? Have you accidentally left them hanging up in the garage to dry, forgetting to stow them back in the boat? Have your life jackets migrated to a different watercraft? Have you ever before read a paragraph with so many questions asked?

While we're on the subject, NOW is the best time to address these questions. If you're not positive of the answer, please check! As a friendly reminder, PFD use does save lives. 'Wear it Indiana'.

You may take the official Indiana boating safety course and view an online handbook of Indiana boating laws at: <http://www.boat-ed.com/in/handbook/>.



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Bass Fishing Techniques



by Bill Embry

22nd Annual Indiana Children's Wish Foundation Open Team Bass Tournament on Patoka Lake Saturday, June 30, 2011 Newton Stewart S. Ramp

After 22 years I believe that this is the longest running benefit bass tournament in Indiana, for probably one of the best causes that I can think of, (terminal ill children & their families). This event was started in 1990 by then President of the Indiana Bass Federation, Eldon Crabtree from New Castle, In.

He & his wife Eloise and the I.B.F. ran this wonderful event until Eldon retired & was no longer president of the I.B.F. in 2000. Then in 2001 another director in the I.B.F. decided he would give it a shot, John Gustin from Monticello, IN. John ran the event until 2003. In 2004, Bill & Donna Embry of got 2 love it Bass Tournaments located in Bloomington, IN ran the event until last year, 2011; when they retired from putting on bass tournaments. In the 21 years that these folks put this event on, they & the fishermen that fished the event, have raised over \$186,000.00 for the Indiana Children's Wish Fund.

Now a new era of time has begun for the Wish Tournament with a new tournament director. Jeremy Case from A-2-0 Boating Supplies in Jeffersonville, IN has been a long time sponsor of the Wish tournament. He has stepped up to the plate to keep this event going in its 22nd year, thanks to the help of Eric Haresty, secretary of the I.B.F. I ran this event for 8 years myself and I'm elated that Jeremy is going to continue to keep it going. My best friend Eldon Crabtree & I will be there fishing the event this year as a team, In which will be quite a change for me, Eldon has

2012 WISH TOURNAMENT

Team Captain _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone / E-Mail _____

(Please Print)

Boat Partner: _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone / E-Mail _____

_____ Adult/Youth, if under 16 years old

_____ Male/Female Team

Please check one above if it applies!

Boat MFG. _____ Length _____

Motor MFG. _____ H.P. _____

Starting position will be determined as entries are received! The team captain will receive a confirmation card with your starting position & take off instructions.

Having acquainted ourselves with the rules and with this application form, we have enclosed our entry fee of \$125.00 this includes Big Bass!

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(PLEASE READ CAREFULLY)

We understand and agree that the tournament director reserves the right to refund the entry fee if for any reason he chooses not to accept it. In addition, we understand and agree that the tournament director reserves the right to refund this fee if at anytime prior to the completion of this tournament he finds any of the information on this entry is false or inaccurate. We also understand that in the event of one or both of us failing a "Stress Test", the sponsors has the right to require that we relinquish any and all place prizes and awards! In the signing of this application we hereby waive and release all other contestants, hosts, sponsors, Tournament Director and the D.N.R. from all claims of injury and/or bodily damage incurred in connection with this tournament.

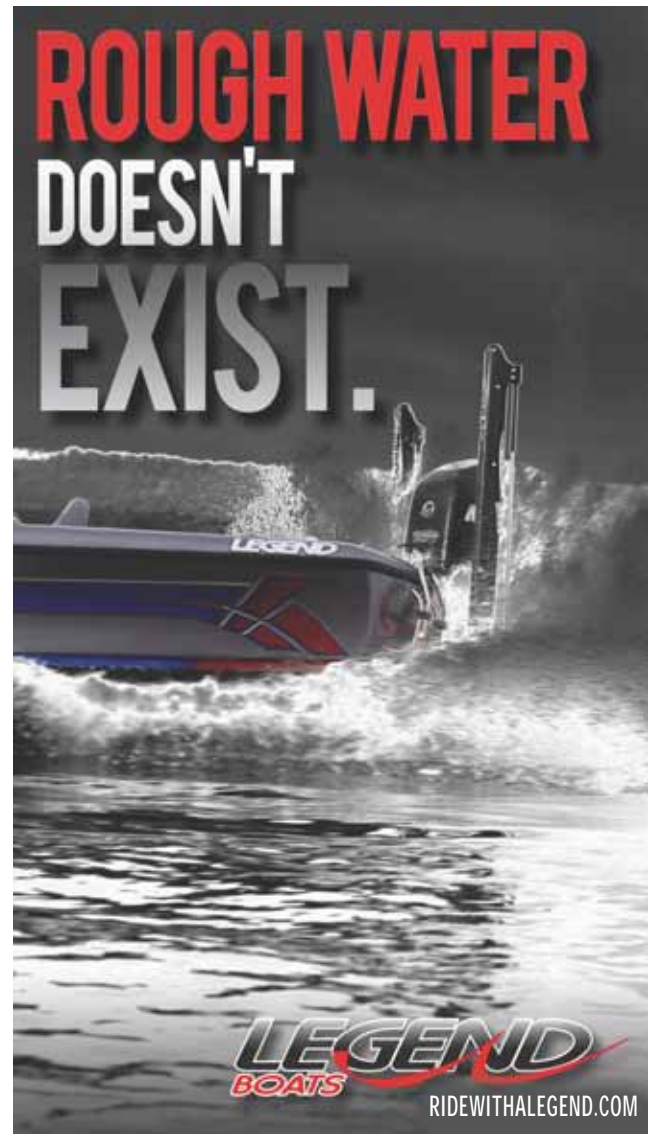
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fished it every year in its existence. This event raises a lot of funds thru a raffle at the end of the event if you would like to donate some prizes for the raffle contact Jeremy Case @ 812-282-4636. All proceeds go directly to the Indiana Children's Wish Foundation. If you're a bass fishermen, please come on down & fish this event. It's a great event for a very good cause. Hope to see you all there on June 30th @ Patoka Lake!

"Good Fishin"

Bill Embry

embrygot2loveit@aol.com

Talking Leaves



by Golden Eagle

RED FOX & HIS DRUM

Many times, when I am telling stories at a school or festival, I am asked to have a session for K-1-2, and one for Grades 3-4-5. I enjoy talking to the smaller children as they ask really crazy questions..like: "Does your wife live in your tipi with you?"

Anyway, the story of a little boy goes over really big with them....

Many winters ago before the coming of the outsiders, there was a little boy called 'Red Fox' who lived here in the woodland country. He lived in a town of wigwams near big lake.

Red Fox was very curious about everything. He loved to go exploring around his village. His mother worried that some day he would get lost and not be able to find his way home. She talked to his father about this,

Red Fox's father was a drum maker. It was said that no matter how moist the air was, they never went flat. After listening to his wife's fears, he decided to make Red Fox a drum.

When he gave the drum to his son, he said. "Now Red Fox, if you ever get lost take your drum and send me this message: "I AM HERE!!! I AM HERE!!! I will then take my big drum and say: "WHERE IS RED FOX???"

"WHERE IS RED FOX???" "We will continue to talk with our drums until I find you."

One beautiful spring day, Red Fox went exploring. I was such a beautiful day. The birds were singing, the frogs in the stream were chirping, and all was well with the world. Red Fox wandered farther and farther away from home. Suddenly he

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heard a loud sound. He had never heard that sound before. He moved closer and closer to the sound.

Suddenly he saw it, a Water Fall.

This was such a wonderful thing that he got closer and closer to it.

All of a sudden he realized that it was getting dark. He looked around and saw nothing familiar..he was lost..

He took his little drum from his shoulder and began to beat out the message. "HERE I AM!!! HERE I AM!!!" He listened and listened but there was no answer. Again and again he sent out his message...

"HERE I AM!! HERE I AM!!!" But there was n answer.....

Suddenly, a ways off in the distance he heard..."WHERE IS RED FOX???"

"WHERE IS RED FOX???"

Immediately he answered on hi drum. "I AM HERE!!! I AM HERE!!!"

The big drum got closer and closer. Finally Red Fox could see his father coming through the trees.

He quickly sent another message on his drum. "RUN FATHER!!! RUN FATHER!!!"

His father picked him up and placed him on his shoulder> They played their drums and sang songs all the way home. His mother hugged him tightly. Then they went into their lodge and had supper.

So it was that a little boy who had learned to talk with drum also learned not to explore too far from home.

OLD CHIEF SAYS: "A stumble may prevent a fall."

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by Dan Graves

PROFILE OF A FISHERMAN

First, let me explain the heading, Profile of a Fisherman. I'm not being gender prejudiced and I know a lot of ladies fish. It's just that, with the exception of the time I tried to teach my wife to fly fish (with less than desirable results I might add, through no real fault of hers), my association has been primarily with the male half. If someone is offended, feel free to substitute "Profile of an Angler".

Fishermen fall into various general categories, such as: I'll go because I don't have anything better to do; Yeh, I'll go if you furnish the beverage and we don't stay more than an hour; I was going to mow the lawn but fishing sounds better; Honey, I'll finish painting the house when I get back tonight; I wouldn't miss it for the world; and, Get out'ta my way! I don't care if we are under nuclear attack. I can snag a few before the shock wave gets here. Most also prefer to follow a particular species such as 'gills, bass' trout, catfish, and even the so-called lowly carp, although I have yet to see a crappie fisherman throw a temper fit when he reels in a sizeable bass.

Depending on which of the above categories a fisherman falls into determines the type of bait to be used. The what I call a Wall Street or casual angler normally prefers live bait because it's simpler to thread a worm on a hook than try to tie an unfamiliar knot on an artificial lure. Even live bait can cause problems, because a lot of first time anglers have never got that intimate with a night crawler. I've seen both sides of the scale where all a first timer could do was stare at the can of worms, wrinkle up his or her nose and say, "EWWW". On the opposite end I know some who would tie on a full grown tumbler rattler if they thought it would snag a big one. Bait selection also depends on whether the angler is lazy or hyper-active. The lazy one wants to cast a line, sit back and wait for something to swim by, while the hyper person can't sit still for more than a millisecond and beats the water to a froth with cast, retrieve, cast, retrieve, snags overhanging limbs, jerks frantically on the rod and cusses. It doesn't do any good to explain to this person that the fish aren't going to die of old age

if he doesn't get his lure back into the water as soon as possible.

The "Honey I'll paint the house later" guy is normally the methodical one. He has reasonably good gear and can tie a knot on the lure that doesn't look like something to moor an aircraft carrier. He has a reasonably good eye for where the big ones might be hanging out and can put the lure within six feet of his chosen spot. Unfortunately, he gets a little emotional when he snags a mud cat instead of the largemouth he was hoping for. The dedicated catfisherman, on the other hand, looks on a bass as a form of retarded trash fish, especially since it bit on the stinky bait he's using. He expects such action from the catfish, but anything else is a Bowery Bum.

Then comes the angler who considers himself a pro who knows what works in what waters. He fishes with an intensity that borders on fanaticism. Sales people at Cabella's and Bass Pro know him by his first name and he gets Christmas cards from the CEO's of Abu Garcia, Shimano, and Zebco. His boat is a missile equipped with the latest in electronics and horsepower. The thing would put a Double AA nitro fueled dragster to shame from a standing start in one hundred yards. His motto is, "Git there, Git 'er done, Git back, Git out". Even the trolling motor could be used to maneuver an Ohio river barge. Fishing tournaments are his favorite hang-outs and if he comes in second, he graciously congratulates the winner while trying to sneak a peek into the winners tackle box to see what he uses.

Then you have the fly fisherman. Here is a picture of grace and agility as he braves the elements of cold, swift water, isolated seldom fished spots such as hard to access mountain streams and remote lakes. Truly dedicated to his "art", he is disdainful of the use of casting and spinning gear and the ungainly artificial baits used. He carefully studies his surroundings to determine which flies may have the best effect on the local trout population. Adorned in felt bottomed boots for slippery rock bottoms, chest waders that look like they would protect him on the moon, a vest crammed with all the necessary gear, a creel, a hat adorned with his favorite fly selection, and a landing net to scoop up the big ones. Although he is proficient with his casting techniques, he must struggle against the pitfalls of fly snagging tree limbs and the possibility of losing his footing and drowning, being dragged under with the ton of gear he's wearing. Not to mention the possibility of bears in such remote surroundings.

So, no matter which category you fit into, just remember that it's a battle of wits between the hunter and the hunted. Just don't be discouraged if you find that the hunted is a little sharper than the hunter and you go home with an empty bucket. After all, whatever you had planned to do that day couldn't have been half as much fun as being outsmarted by a carp. ■

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Left Photo: Jeff Yeakle and youngster Jonathan Brumley. They brought in a total of 8.74 pounds for seven fish to win the tournament. Right Photo: Coming in 2nd place was the team of Bob and Jim Raymer as they netted a total of 8.54 lbs.. (Photo by Author)

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Great Lakes of the Wabash River - Fishing News



by Ryan Pershing
 Mgr of Bozarth Country Store

Bozarth May 12th Crappie Tourney Results

We had a total of seventeen teams show up to participate in our first crappie tourney of the year on May 12th. The crappie fishing leading up to our event was red hot and things didn't change the day of the tourney. The crappie was still in the tail end of the spring spawn so that helped produce many nice catches for the day. The weather cooperated and allowed for a very

nice day. The main obstacle the fishermen had to deal with was the lake level being way below the average depth for this time of year which resulted in reduced fishing territory for the anglers.

Leading the way was the team of Jeff Yeakle and youngster Jonathan Brumley. They brought in a total of 8.74 pounds for seven fish to win the tournament. Coming in 2nd place was the team of Bob and Jim Raymer as they netted a total of 8.54 lbs. Rounding out the top three was the team of Don Mandrel and Ron Bilbrey whom brought in a total of 8.46 pounds.

The big fish of the day went to the team of Lasswell and Lapham as they brought a 1.73 lb crappie to the weigh in table. The second big fish went to the team of Jim and Dan Paul with a crappie weighing 1.59 lbs.

This tourney produced a lot of nice catches by all the teams participating. Of the 17 teams, 15 of them were able to bring in a total catch of over six pounds and each had a big fish that weighed over one pound.

Our next tournament is scheduled for Saturday, June 23rd. If anyone is interested in participating you can contact us at (765) 981-4522 for more details.

Following is the latest update on the lake conditions and fishing report from the area. As of June 6th the Salamonie remains at 13.5 feet below summer pool, Mississinewa is 6 feet from summer pool, and Roush Lake is now at its summer pool level. With these low lake levels everyone is encouraged to boat at extreme caution as there are many stumps and sandbars that could be very dangerous to a boat. Fishing still remains very good as lots of crappie, bluegill, and catfish have been caught over the last few weeks.



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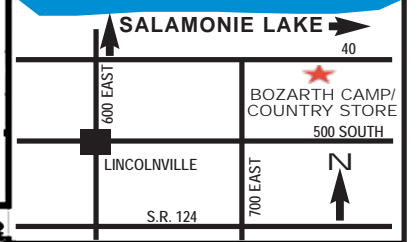
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Fishing Lake Michigan



by Capt. Mike Schoonveld

WHERE'S THE MEAT?

Remember the popular saying made famous on the fast-food hamburger commercial several years ago, "Where's the Beef?" There's a similar saying being heard more and more around Lake Michigan and the other Great Lakes.

"Where's the Meat?"

In this case the meat isn't a fast food burger, it's a whole herring or the filet off a herring which is rigged up on a hook and sent down into the lake as bait to tempt a salmon or trout onto the line.

Is this a new or novel approach to catching salmon or trout? Not by a long shot. On the west coast (where our salmon and steelhead originated) live, or more often, cut bait has been the standard practice since hook and line fishing started. It just took a long time for the practice to come to the Great Lakes.

On a friendly wager more than 20 years ago, a group of west coast anglers came to Lake Michigan to match their saltwater cut bait tactics against the spoons, plugs, dodgers and flies the pros on the freshwater seas used daily. The result of that wager was a sound defeat for the "meat" men.

Sure they caught some fish, but the real bait didn't stack up against the lures pulled by the local experts. Fair test? Who knows, but for the next 2 decades no one heard, "Where's the beef (or meat)," on the Great Lakes.

Things have changed since then. The lake is cleaner, the forage base has changed, we've been through the BKD years, the EMS years. Sure there are days a fisherman can head out with a pair of downriggers and the same silver spoons and chrome J-Plugs which have worked since salmon were first put in the Great Lakes and still make a decent catch. But, look what is working these days. Leadcore line is hot. Copper line is on some boats. Diving planers are standard gear and the lures sport gaudy, glow patterns. Don't forget the rotating flashers and even electrical charged dodgers in the arsenal of Great Lakes pros.

And there's meat.

A meat "purest" takes a fresh or frozen herring and expertly whacks off the little fish's head at a rakish angle and stabs a hook through the carcass. Then he puts it down into the water to see if it spins in the proper corkscrew motion as it trolls along. A chunk of herring which merely drags through the water isn't very appealing to most salmon, nor is one which spins rapidly. The trick is to adjust the



Hybrid lures, half real fish and half plastic are becoming very popular in the Great Lakes. (Author Photo)

position of the fish just so on the hook to make it twirl invitingly as it pulls through the water.

To make getting the right spin on the meat simpler, several manufacturers have devised plastic bait heads to hold the herring. The angle of the head or fins molded onto the head make it easier to get the correct action, though some bait users still bend the heads or stick toothpicks into the "meat" to modify the look to suit their idea of what will better suit the fish.

In almost all cases in the Great Lakes, meat rigs are run behind a dodger or more commonly, a rotating flasher. Some bait users rely on the same dodgers or flashers they have used for years to pull trolling flies or squids. Others select larger sized flashers-up to 20 inches-to put ahead of their meat.

The smaller sized dodgers and flashers used with flies and plastic squids serve a dual role. They attract salmon and trout, and they also impart the action to the lures to incite the fish to bite. Since the bait heads or the cut of the herring impart the action to the bait, the flasher only has to attract the fish. The bait is usually run about 4 feet behind the flasher.

One other twist bait users have started using is called a twinkie rig. No it's not a creme filled desert to go with the meat, it's a string of small, hookless streamer flies which are positioned about a foot apart on the leader between the flasher and the meat rig. I suppose it's simulating a school of baitfish. It does work.

As with all Great Lakes lures, baitheads, twinkies and flashers come in a variety of colors and patterns which may or may not be important on a day to day basis. Stick with the same colors and patterns which you use in conventional gear.

Salmon will bite meat rigs anytime, but for me and my friends, they really shine during the mid-day hours when the normal spoons and flies are being snubbed. That alone makes them a valuable tool.

Whole herring and strips are sold in many bait-shops catering to Great Lake fishermen. The store-bought meat is tough and will hold up to at least a couple hours of trolling. Others have tried other kinds of fish-alewives and smelt-and have found they work, but don't seem to last as long. I've even pinned Berkley Gulp Minnows into a bait head and have caught fish on them.

Where's the beef? It's in the lake, these days. The END

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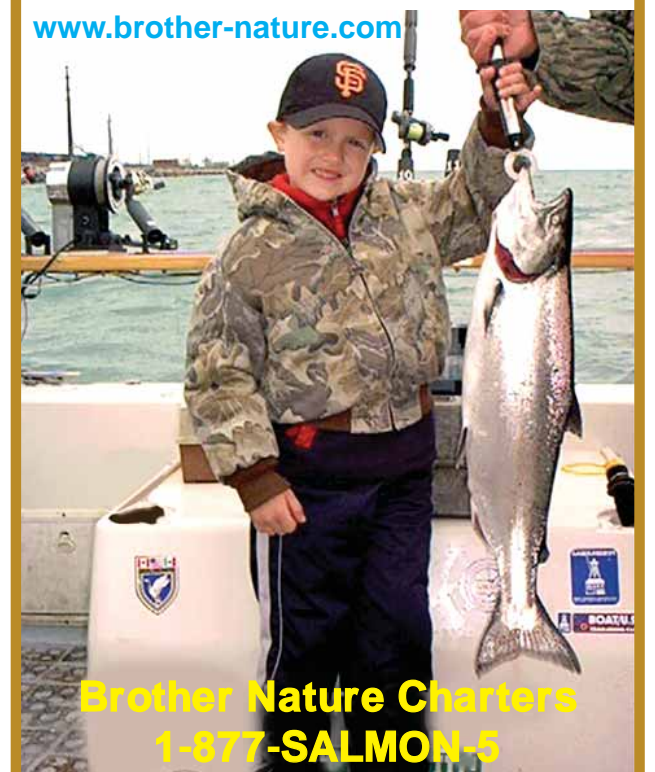
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First Place winners at Morse Reservoir on April 21, Tom and Glenn with some of their winning fish. (Photo by Author)



Second Place winner, Mike Bledsoe, with a couple of his fish at the Morse Reservoir Tournament. (Photo by Author)



Myron Etchison, Pat and Jay Vowell with some of their third place fish. (Photo by Author)

Indiana Slab Masters



by Ron Bilbrey

Tournament Team Tom Hankins & Glenn Gill

As one of the most consistent teams in the Indiana Slab Masters tournament club, winning the 2011 Classic and getting their first win of 2012 at Morse reservoir on April 21st 2012, I think it's time to write about the tournament team of Tom Hankins and Glenn Gill.

Tom grew up in a small town just north of Peoria IL. on the back waters of the Illinois River where he spent his free time fishing from a rowboat bought for him when he turned ten. His family vacationed in Minnesota where he fished from daylight to dark, this is where he learned to catch crappie. Tom told me he had an awesome childhood, one he wishes most boys could experience. After graduating high school Tom went to work for Goodyear and married his best friend Cassie. Together they have raised two boys David 21 and Zachary 17. Over the years Tom has stayed with Goodyear and Managed retreat plants in Peoria, Waco Texas and Indianapolis.

After Moving to Indianapolis Tom was a little worried because he had left some great fishing in Texas, his fears were calmed in 1999 after taking his boat to Lake Cataract for the first time and getting into some nice crappies. The spring of 1999 was when Tom met Glenn. Glenn's parents live across the street and kind of Adopted Tom and his family into

theirs. Tom said his family has been very blessed to know the entire Gill family.

Glenn grew up in the city on the west side of Indianapolis. Some of his fondest memories are fishing a small pond in Mooresville with his father and brothers. He remembers the drive to that small pond seeming to take forever and can still remember rounding the curve and seeing the water smooth as glass knowing it was going to be a good day. His Grandpa had a small row boat on the pond and all five of them piled in and fished till they ran out of bait. He said his father spent more time baiting hooks, untangling lines and unhooking fish than actually fishing. On some outings Glenn's Mother would accompany them and spend the day fishing with her boys, even if it was Mothers day.

Glenn's family moved to Decatur Township when he was seventeen. He graduated high school and started his career in printing. He has spent sixteen years working for the same company as a pressman. Glenn married his high school sweetheart at 24, they have two daughters, Grace 8 and Allison 6 with a baby boy expected in August.

In January of 2000, Tom bought a new to him boat. Unfortunately it rained a lot that spring and the lakes were flooded, after water levels were down enough to launch on Cataract Tom asked Glenn to go fishing for the first time and they caught well over 100 crappie. Tom and Glenn started fishing tournaments together in the fall of 2009 in a Crappie USA tournament where they didn't fare so well. This tournament fueled the fire and gave them a lot of drive to improve their skills and they learned to locate and catch big crappie. In 2010 they returned to Monroe to fish another Crappie USA tournament where they finished fifth and qualified for the 2010 Classic on Alabama's Pickwick and Wilson lakes.

The 2010 classic is where I met Tom and Glenn as Tom put it we were standing on a ramp watching three foot rollers on the lake. There was a tornado warning that day and other than our meeting, Tom said he remembers sitting in the motel talking fishing with other Indiana teams that he had met. On the ride back to Indiana Tom and Glenn received a call from Jim Raymer about starting the Indiana Slab Masters. They spent a lot of time the next month getting the club ready to be announced on Crappie.com. Team

Hankins and Gill's biggest accomplishment to date is winning the 2011 Classic on Salamonie and Mississinewa, which happens to be my home lake and was a very tough tournament which says a lot about this team. To be able to come to a lake they had never fished and win a tournament against teams that fish it on a weekly basis tells you they are a team that can be consistent on any lake they compete on. Tom attributes their success to hours of practice from locating big fish areas to netting fish without mistakes.

At the time of this article, Tom and Glenn are running away with the 2012 points and as stated above won the Morse Reservoir tournament on April 21st with a winning weight of 6.34 lbs. Tom and Glenn caught there fish spider rigging with Lake Fork baby shad, Cumberland crappie rod holders, Juiced up baits products, and shiners provided by Westside bait and tackle.

Morse Reservoir April 21, 2012 Results

1st Tom Hankins/Glenn Gill	6.34 lbs
2nd Mike Bledsoe	6.11 lbs
3rd Myron Etchison/Pat/Jay Vowell	6.10 lbs
4th Gale Risner/John Quinn	5.61 lbs
5th Doug Sikora/Gary Woodcock	5.60 lbs
BigFish Tom Hankins and Glenn Gill	1.16 lbs

Congratulations to all the top finishing teams at the Morse tournament. If you would like to know more about the Indiana Slab Masters club tournament series or if you are just an avid fisherman you can visit their website@ www.indianaslabmasters.com Also click the link page to visit our sponsors to check out some of their products to help you put more fish in your boat. Crappie fishing is evolving constantly with new products coming out almost monthly so stay up to date by visiting these websites regularly.

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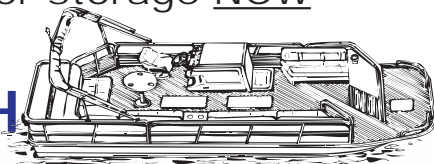
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Outdoors Tales



by Phil Junker

Creating Campfire Memories

It is possible to camp without a campfire. But, it isn't as much fun as sitting with friends around a crackling fire on a cool evening..

Some of the most memorable outdoor experiences take place around crackling campfires -- at least that has been more perspective over the years.

Campfires sometimes serve very practical needs. You can cook over a campfire. Actually, you can cook in it. Campfires can provide warmth from the cold. A fire can dry wet clothing. They even can offer protection from wild animals, but that's not a need we have in this part of the country.

A pot of ham and beans or stew always seem to taste better when slow cooked over a fire. Even a hot dog is better roasted on a stick above the flames.

For the most part, campfires serve as a source of enjoyment. There's something soothing and calming about watching the flames and hot simmering coals of a campfire on a cool fall evening.

Campfires are best when shared. Sure, they can be enjoyed solo, but they are more fun with friends. Telling stories and recalling good times makes for more good times.

I'm not the best campfire builder. I'm a bit lazy, and when in our fifth-wheel RV with our grandson, Denver, we always have to have a campfire. So, I've come up with an instant campfire solution.

I buy pressed wood fireplace logs. I cut them into two or three pieces and place one of the pieces under a couple of logs. The pressed wood makes an instant fire and will usually burn for a couple of hours. For a longer burning fire, simply add more logs.

By saving the pieces of pressed wood log, I'm ready for the next campfire.

If you plan to cook (even make S'mores) over a campfire, I prefer not to use the pressed wood logs. At least, I let them burn down. The pressed wood has an additive to aid in burning and gives off black smoke that I figure isn't healthy to ingest.

Most everyone knows about S'mores--at least everyone that was ever in Scouts or has spent any time camping.

A S'more is a traditional campfire treat consisting of a roasted marshmallow and a slab of chocolate inserted between two graham crackers. They were first mentioned in the Girl Scout handbook in 1927. My initial S'more training came from my daughter, Michelle, a Gold Bar Girl Scout.

When at home, I enjoy having a campfire. Several

years ago, I bought a Coleman fireplace we can enjoy on the deck. Besides making a pleasant fire, you can cook on it as well. Many companies now make fireplaces you can use safely on your deck. There are even propane models, but it's hard to beat a wood fire.

Now, I have a campfire ring on the bank of the lake where we live in Cloverdale. The grandkids love for me to build a fire and let them roast marshmallow, or sometimes just toss sticks into the fire.

And while I've enjoyed many memorable campfires with our RVs over the years, some of the most memorable came far from a camper.

Once while on a three-day canoe fishing trip on Big Walnut Creek in Putnam County, a cool rain starting falling. We found a cutback in the stream bank and stretched a tarp so we good get back into the undercut out of the rain.

While we waited for the rain to stop, we built a small fire and brewed a small pot of coffee. After telling fish stories and finishing the coffee, the rain stopped. We put out the fire, paddled downstream to set up camp, and build another fire.

Probably the fire I remember best was in Alaska. I was one a week-long, unguided flat trip on a small river near Mt. McKinley. Although it was July, we were caught in a cold rain. Mild hypothermia was at hand. We were miles from civilization and were concerned about trying to set up tents in the cold, rain.

On a gravel bar ahead, large tree with a huge root wood appeared. "Paddle over there," I said. None of us were thinking clearly, but I may have been a little warmer and was seriously looking for someway to make a shelter.

Again a tarp saved us. I tied one end of the tarp to the root wad, and used our raft oars to make a tipi to attach the other end.

We were able to get out of the hard rain, start a fire, make coffee, and our shaking shivers soon disappeared. Several hours later the rain stopped and we made camp followed by a good campfire dinner. In my mind, I can still feel the warmth of those fires.

Another unforgettable campfire was in Colorado during early summer. In this part of the country, cold isn't an issue in the summer time. However, high in the mountains up Fourth of July Canyon (it obtained its name because you can't get far up the canyon because of the snow until the fourth of July), my aunt and I were caught in a snowstorm. We had planned to sleep under the stars, but the weather was disagreeable to say the least.

My aunt Florence was a special lady. She took me under wing as a youngster. I spent several summers with her in Colorado, and we had some wonderful camping trips. Several times, her grown son joined us. But if he was busy, Florence just took this kid camping or fishing.

When the surprise snowstorm arrived, we found an old barn with one side missing. It wasn't much,



Campfires can provide warmth and place to cook. However, most camfires are places where friends swap stories and create memories. (Photo by Author)

but, it provided protection. We built a fire inside, cooked dinner, stayed dry, and awoke to several inches of snow in July.

Whether on Indiana's Big Walnut, in Alaska, or Colorado, I'm sure we would have survived without a campfire. But, I'm also sure the memories wouldn't be be the fond ones I now recall.

###

Contact writer Phil Junker by email at: outdoorscribe@yahoo.com

For more outdoors with Phil Junker, contact his [blog at: outdoorscribe.blogspot.com](http://outdoorscribe.blogspot.com)

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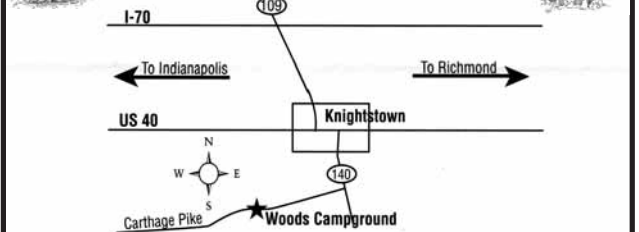
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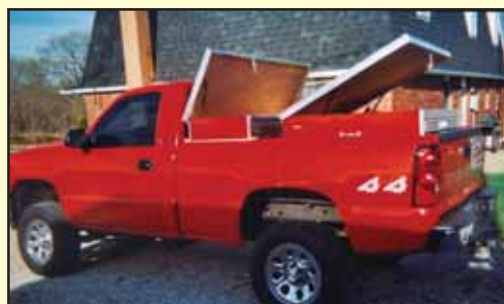
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Top Photo: This year the Waterball Contest returns to Friday evening at 6 p.m. The contest is between Liberty and area Fire Departments, it is a wet and wild experience as the photo so vividly illustrates. Bottom Photo: The 33rd Freedom Run last year, a different view than most years. They are off and running on their way to Brownsville and the finish line, 4.7 miles (7.5 K) to go. This year's is the 34th Freedom Run. (Photos by Ray Dickerson)

LIBERTY FESTIVAL JUNE 29 - JULY 1, 2012

Article by Ray Dickerson

The 40th Annual Liberty Festival will be held in downtown Liberty Indiana officially from June 29 thru July 1, 2012 on the Courthouse Square. The College Corner Parade will be on Wednesday July 4th and the Fireworks will be held at the Stateline Ballpark in College Corner at dark on July 4th also.

See the Liberty Festival activities listing in the upper right hand corner of this page for all the details

For those who would like to participate in the Festival Parade 1 p.m. Saturday, June 30th, fill out the Parade Application on page 18, cut it out and send it to: **Union County Development Corporation, 5 West High St., Liberty, IN 47353** or E-mail it to: unioncodc@frontier.com.

Those wanting to sign up for the 34th running of the Freedom Run should read the following:

The Freedom Run is on Saturday, June 30, **FREEDOM RUN INFO & ENTRY FORM**
CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

LIBERTY FESTIVAL

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6:00 p.m. **WATERBALL CONTEST** – AREA FIRE DEPARTMENT
(in front of Courthouse, this is Wet & Wild)

SATURDAY - June 30
6:00 to 11 a.m. **PANCAKE BREAKFAST AT FIREHOUSE**
8:00 to 5:00 p.m. St. Anthony Center - Flea Market
Breakfast and Lunch will be served (behind St. Bridget's)
8:30 a.m. **32nd ANNUAL FREEDOM RUN** registration in front of courthouse
Liberty to Brownsville – 4.7 miles
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Annual book sale at Library
10:00 a.m. to ? **Pie Sale at the Log Cabin** – Historical Society
12:00 – 4:00 Depot Museum open to the public

1:00 p.m. **Parade on Union Street**
2:00p.m. Kids Games – Scavenger Hunt, Sidewalk Decorating, Watermelon Eating and Water Balloon Toss!!! **PRIZES!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**
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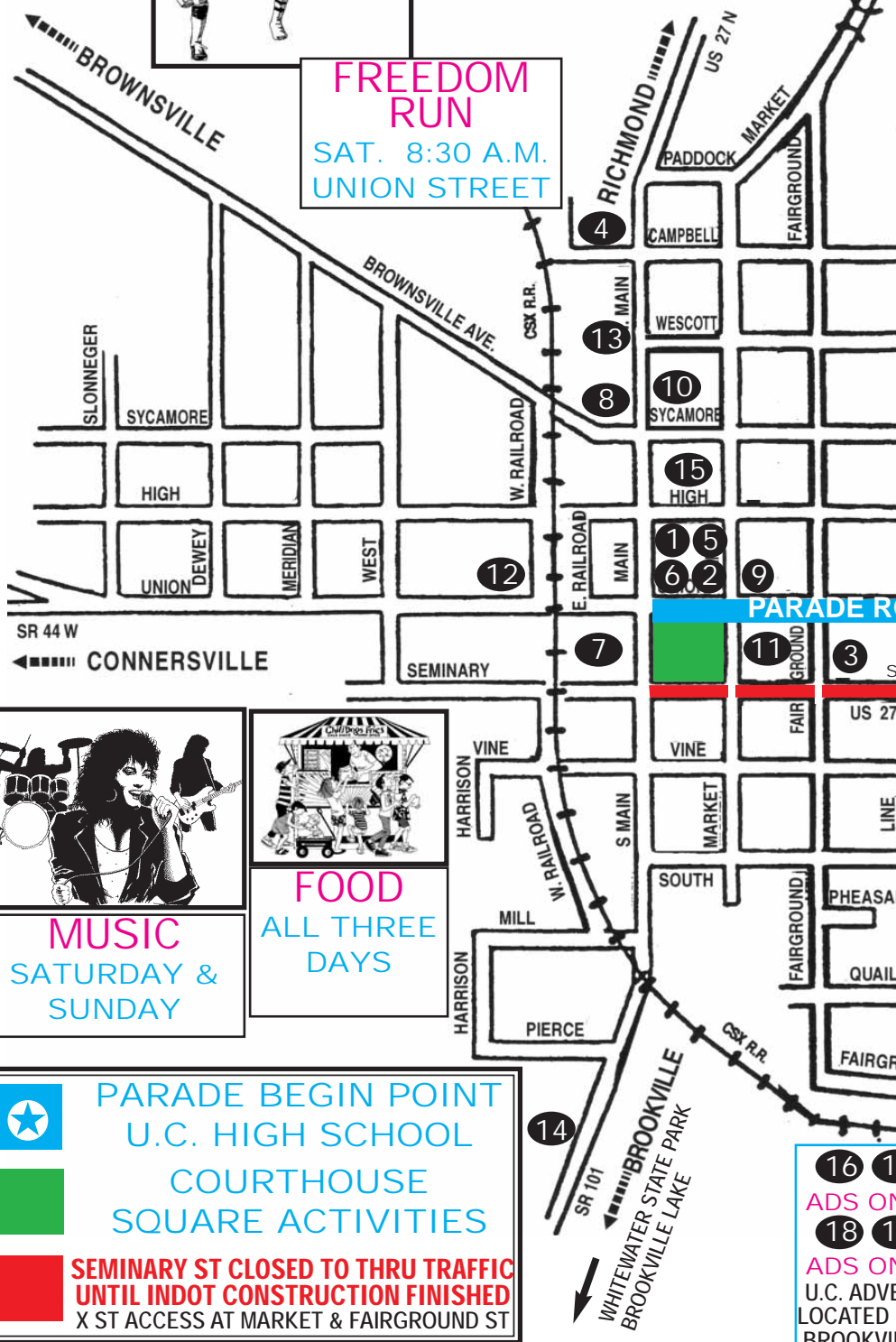

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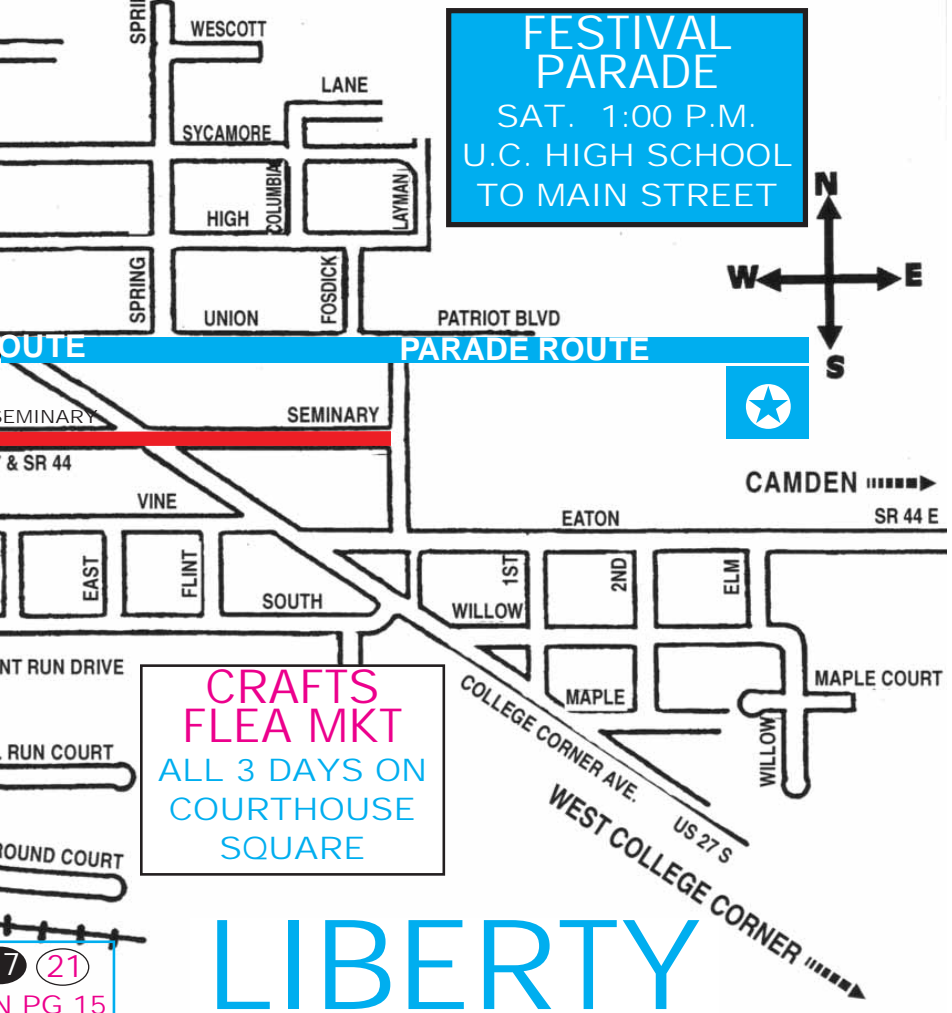
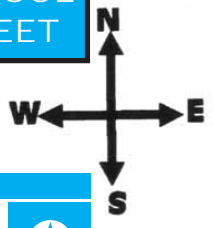
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8

PARADE ENTRY FORM LIBERTY FESTIVAL

June 30, 2012

Sponsored by Union County Development Corp

This is your **Official Entry Form** to participate in the

**Liberty Festival Parade
To Be Held on June 30 at 1:00 p.m.**

Our Community would appreciate and be honored by your participation in our parade.

Thank You For Your Consideration

Please Complete This Application Form and Return it to:
Union County Development Corp, 5 West High Street, Liberty, IN 47353
Or E-Mail to: unioncode@frontier.com

Applications Must Be Received no later than June 26th, 2012 for those who want to be placed in order of type of entry. Line up will be at 12:00 noon at Union County Middle School Parking Lot. Please enter the Middle School parking lot from State Rd. 44. Late arrivals will be put at the end of procession.

Parade Entry Form

Type of Entry: _____
Name: _____
Organization (if any): _____
Complete Address: _____
Phone: _____

Musical
I understand that I am to provide my own liability Insurance of at least \$100,000 (most Homeowner policies provide this type of coverage for non-commercial entries-be on the safe side though, check with your agent).

Note: I also understand we are not to throw candy or other objects from our unit.

Signature: _____

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PRINT NAME _____ WALK OR RUNNER
(Circle One)

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Age as of June 30, 2012 _____ Shirt Size _____

In consideration of the acceptance of my entry, I for myself, my executors, administrators and assignees, do hereby release and discharge the Union County Development Corporation, the race director, The Town of Liberty, Union County and it's officials or any person connected with this event in any way, for all claims of damaged, demands, action, whatsoever in any manner arising or growing out of my participation in this event. I attest and verify that I have full knowledge of the risks involved in this event and that I am physically fit and sufficiently trained to participate in this race.

Signature: _____
(Parent's signature if under 18)

Log onto website: www.libertyfreedomrun.com
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This special pull-out section is provided by the the advertisers whose ads appear on pages 12,15,16,17 & 18. Each advertiser located in Liberty has a number located in the lower left hand corner of their ad, that same number is located on the map of Liberty showing you their location on page 16 & 17. Six of the advertisers located on page 12, 15 & 18 are located outside of Liberty. #18 Whitewater Valley RV's is located a short distant south of Liberty on SR 101. #16 Dave's Triangle, #20 Steve's Marine & #21 Quakertown Marina are located on Dunlapsville Causeway west off SR 101 S. #17 Jay's Midlake Bait & Tackle and #19 The Sagamore Resort are located west on Old SR 101 Road (Fairfield Ramp Road) off SR 101. Stop by and thank all of the advertisers for sponsoring this special section.

2012 at 8:30 a.m. Eastern DST (Same time as Ohio). Walkers start at 8:10 a.m. The entry fee is \$9.00 if registered by June 30. This includes a T-shirt. \$7.00 on the day of race, this does not include a T-shirt.

Distance: 4.7 Miles (7.5 K)

The run will start at the courthouse corner of Market and Union streets. Runners will proceed north on Market Street for two blocks then they will turn west onto Sycamore Street, crossing U.S.27 and leaving Liberty on Brownsville Avenue. Runners will proceed directly to Brownsville where the run will end at the main intersection. Transportation will be provided back to Liberty after the completion of the race.

AID: Two water and Gatorade stations. Time splits every mile.

Facilities: Very limited. Restrooms at the courthouse.

Awards: The age groups for men and women are as follows: 12 and under, 13-15, 16-18, 19-22, 23-26, 27-30, 31-34, 35-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60 and over; "Clydesdale" division: 200 lb and over. Trophies will be awarded to the top three female and male finishers. Ribbons will be awarded for each age group.

Course Records: Anne Clinton, Richmond, IN 29 min, 8 sec - 2003 and Jeremiah Vaughn, Brookville, IN 24 min, 4 sec - 2010

Defending Champs: Emily Goeke, Liberty, IN 36 min, 45 sec and Matthew Hill, Connersville, IN 27 min, 17 sec. This run is run in conjunction with the Liberty Festival. Entry Form is at top right side of this page.

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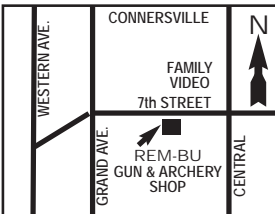
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**A Letter to the Editor from
Seabee Carl R. Barrett
(NSVA NATIONAL COMMANDER)**

Editor "The Gad-a-bout" 22 May 2012
Mr. Ray Dickerson:

Carl R. Barrett, Chief Utilitiesman, Retired, Navy Seabee 1948 to 1957 & Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) civilian employee with Seabees until 1990.

Reading the issues of the "The Gad-A-Bout" news" that you have forwarded to me has instilled in me an urge to write about the Seabees of our "Greatest Generation" or those Seabees of the 325,000 who served in WWII.

When the Navy assigned me to the Seabees the



Navy sent me to TADCENCBC (Training & Development Center), U.S. Naval Construction Battalion Center, Port Hueneme, California to attend a Seabee school. After arriving I found out all schools that were developed by WWII tradesmen were filled up with students and the only open school that had a vacancy was Utilities School which consisted of classes in plumbing, air conditioning, refrigeration, water treatment and water distillation, garbage disposal, sewage disposal, etc.

The Navy realized that the tradesmen of WWII that they so heavily depended on were returning to civilian life which was leaving a great void in the Naval Construction Ranks, so Seabee schools were developed at USNCBC, Port Hueneme by WWII tradesmen thereby passing on the knowledge they had in their various trades. The Seabee schools as we know them today were developed.

The Seabee trade Schools that were developed were Surveyor, Construction Driver, Builder, Construction Electrician, Steelworker, Utilitiesman and Construction Mechanic. The schools & trades of today's Seabees have had some title changes and are presently known as Engineering Aid (formally Surveyor), Equipment Operator (Formally Construction Driver), Builder, Construction Electrician, Steelworker, Utilitiesman & **CONTINUED ON PAGE 27**



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Indiana Outdoors



by Joe Martino

Make time for the outdoors

As the line peeled off the spool, the bait and bobber were propelled towards the submerged brush and the bobber landed with an almost serene, "ploomp." No sooner had my first cast of this year's unusually warm spring landed in the water, when I asked myself, "Why don't I do this more often?" As I sat there with my son and wife, it wasn't too awfully long before my bobber plummeted and I was setting the hook on my first open water fish of the season.

Sure, I quietly asked myself why I hadn't been fishing more often - especially having a ten year-old son - and reminded myself that I need to make time to take him fishing more than I have. But in reality, I knew the answer to my question. Having a hectic work schedule, owning a business and, yes, even writing, takes up about all of my time leaving little, if any, time for much else.

That being said, I made a decision then and there (like I do every year,) to make it a priority to take my family out fishing more often this year. I feel that this is important for a few reasons.

First, being outdoors is a refreshing necessity for our youth, especially today. I am amazed at the number of kids who have never been fishing! Actually, alarmed would be a better word for it. When I was growing up, we used to ride our bikes to nearby creeks or farm ponds and spend the day catching crayfish, fishing, and just exploring the outdoors. But unfortunately in today's society, we can't let our children do as we did for fear of them being abducted, etc. It's a shame. For this reason, we as parents need to make a conscious effort to get our children outdoors. Trust me; it will do us all good.

Second, I am also a firm believer that children that grow up fishing and hunting are more likely to mature into caring, respectful adults. Getting acquainted with nature teaches them to appreciate all things wild and to have a respect for the animals that survive in the wild.

Also, spending time outdoors cleanses the soul. It has a way of erasing the stresses of everyday life and allowing one to get back in touch with oneself. Some of the best therapy I have ever received came about while in a treestand or in a river.

Well, so far this year I have managed to make



The payoffs for spending time outdoors with your family are huge. All children should be exposed to the outdoors. They deserve to know and understand how nature works and they will be more productive citizens because of it. In this photo my son, Nicholas caught a real nice bluegill from this pond. (Photo by Author)

somewhat good on my promise. While I haven't spent enough time outdoors with my son and wife, we have done more together outside than we have the last few years. And thankfully, we still have plenty of time to keep working on it! My son has expressed an interest in learning how to limb-line and jug fish for turtles and catfish so this gives me another reason to spend more time in the outdoors with him. If the traditions of fishing, hunting, trapping and the like aren't passed down to future generations, they will quickly become a lost art.

Finally, it is felt that periodic time outdoors enjoying a hobby increases one's health. Besides any exercise that you may get from your outdoor endeavors, the mere solitude and tranquility it can provide is usually enough to ease your mind and help you refocus in order to fight your daily battles in a more productive way.

So, while life certainly finds a way to constantly keep us overwhelmed, make it a point this year to get out and spend some quality time outside doing whatever it is you enjoy. It doesn't have to be fishing or hunting. It can be biking, hiking, canoeing - whatever - just try to escape for a little bit. You'll be surprised at the many benefits you'll gain from it - one of which just may be helping your children as well.

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Looking Downstream



by Paul McCloud

Fishing Ohio's Acton Lake

I've considered myself a pan fisherman, specifically a Crappie fisherman since I was a little more than a toddler playing along side the old Erie Canal at Ohio's Grand Lake St. Marys back in the early 1950s. I did go through a Bass fishing period in the 70s when the Bass tournament thing was taking off. I still put down the uglystick when the Crappies were running. I've fished many different impoundments and streams since then and had my share of special and exciting fishing trips. Many of my most memorable experiences have been on Ohio's Hueston Woods State Park's Acton Lake and it's tributaries. My parents and I fished the 625-acre lake as early as 1962 when the area was still an Ohio Department of Corrections Honor Farm.

We fished for crappies and Rockbass from a 14 foot steel rowboat you could borrow for a day for a five-dollar deposit. When the honor camp prisoners were clearing trees in the area to be impounded they anchored huge piles of cut trees at different spots around what would be the lake. Once the lake had filled these floating log piles became super holding areas for most fish and the best spots to fish at any time. My dad figured that his thirteen years old son needed experience in boat rowing so I was the boats permanent oarsman. We'd row across the lake to one of the floating log piles and tie up. Then armed with minnows and red worms we'd bait up our cane poles and fish through openings in the logs. You'd fish shallow because the fish would instantly investigate whatever dropped through these openings, also if you tried to fish with much depth you'd usually get hung up on a lower branch or log. Then when you got a fish on you had to come straight up with it pretty quick or it would take your hook around something. You'd mostly catch nice sized Crappies (8 to 10 inch) but you'd catch a large (10 to 11inch) Rockbass on the same baits in the same opening pretty frequently. I don't know the reason but after 1963 the big Rockbass just weren't there or at least no one was catching them any more. The Crappies however thrived in this lake, both White and Black Crappies found Acton Lake the perfect home. The two good-sized creeks feeding the lake and bringing in lots of smaller baitfish created a healthy environment for the predatory species like the Crappies and Bass. I've had my best and biggest catches of both on this lake.



I caught these crappie on 6-4-12. (Author Photo)

In May of 1975 a coworker and I scheduled a day off to bass fish Acton Lake. A major cold front moved through the area overnight and by 5:00 am the temperature had dropped to the low 50s with a 15 mph Northern wind. My friend surprised me by showing up at my door ready to go fishing, in spite of my better judgment we hitched up my boat and headed for the lake. The water temperature had dropped by four degrees overnight to fifty-nine and the North wind was making whitecaps in the middle of the lake. To say I had any expectations of a good outing would have been an extreme exaggeration. We headed out from the boat ramps down the lake in front of the marina. I flipped out a Rebel Wee R crankbait by the docks just to pull off some line and get it unkinked. Something grabbed the lure and almost jerked the rod from my hand. I thought at first I'd snagged a piece of sunken debris. Then I felt the telltale vibrations that a fish makes as it fans its tail on the other end of the line. My dad had caught a few catfish on this same lure just the day before and I thought I must have done the same thing so instead of trying to wear the fish down and play him out I muscled it to the boat where my friend grabbed the net and hauled a six pound bass into the boat. Here it was a little after 6:00 am on a miserably cold and windy day and I had just caught my biggest bass yet. We proceeded along the West bank towards the dam and by the time we had covered less than two hundred yards of shoreline I had landed four bass all over two pounds. My friend who was tossing a rubber worm wasn't doing so good and asked if I had another Wee R he could use, I did and he started catching fish as well. By 7:30 we had covered the entire West bank to the dam, my buddy noted we were the only boat on the whole lake, no surprise there. If he hadn't driven over forty miles from Dayton to my place I would not have even considered going out in such a mess. All morning it was a real struggle to



Steven caught these crappie on 5-25-12. (Author Photo)

ones were caught, we took home 16 Largemouths all between 2 1/2 and 6 pounds. I have no idea why on that kind of day the fish would be so active, it went against everything I'd ever though I knew about fishing, yet it was the best Bass trip ever.

Crappie fishing Acton Lake, now there I'd have a tough time picking any one particular outing, there have been so many. Catch limits and size limits didn't come into play until very recently; in fact Ohio didn't have a size limit on Acton Lake Crappies till just this year. Starting in March this year any Crappies, White or Black have to be a minimum of 9 inches as measured with the mouth closed and the tail fin compressed. Back in the early sixties my parents, my grandfather and I would fish the banks of Four Mile Creek near the mouth and catch baskets full of pre-spawn Crappies coming up the creek to spawn. Later when we got our first boat, a 12-foot V-bottom aluminum with a 10 hp Evinrude, we fished the lake exclusively. There was a very large Beech tree that had fallen into the lake near where the lodge was later built. The upper most branches lay at the edge of the old Four Mile Creek channel in 10 to 16 feet of water. This tree was a fish magnet especially for the Crappies. We would actually tie the boat to the tree and fish straight down among the branches. We caught Crappies here all season long; you only had to find the depth they were suspended. Most recently as of this writing (June 4th), my son Steven and I in a little bigger aluminum boat have been enjoying the best Crappie fishing of both our lives so far. Armed with 2 1/2 inch minnows and small spinner jigs we've been catching our limits of large black and white Crappies pretty much any spot around the perimeter of the lake. This has been going on for almost three weeks and as of yesterday (June 3rd) shows no sign of letting up. Over this time, well over 90 percent of the hundreds of fish we've caught have been males. On our trip yesterday the big males and I'm talking 10 to 13 inch fish had the split tail fins from fanning nests. I'm figuring the bigger females should be on the feeding frenzy very soon, and will report how that goes. Until next time good fishing. Your comments always welcome: passports@ydial.net.



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position and control the boat with the trolling motor and yet by noon we both had limited out and were culling out smaller fish as larger

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Happenings in Metamora, Indiana



by Janice Hunsche
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Metamora, Indiana Activities for July

July brings its own fun to Metamora. The big excitement is the **Fourth of July Celebration**. This year with July 4th in the middle of the week, Metamora has decided to celebrate **Saturday, July 7th**. The Metamora Volunteer Fire Dept is having a fireman's festival including pulled pork dinners, moon walk, dunking booth and beer garden throughout the day and music in the evening. The annual parade starts at 6pm and is open to anyone who wants to join in. Just show up at the fire station by 5:30 pm. **Fireworks are at 10 pm** and in the usual spot at Mount and Basin streets.

If you like music there are several opportunities to listen and or play this month. **July 1 from 1-4 pm** is the Acoustic Slow Jam on the porch of the Grist Mill. **July 11 6-8 pm** is an open jam session at the Cat and the Fiddle. All are welcome to come, join in, and play along with the Baggy Bottom Boys. Finally, Acoustical Final Friday at the Lover's Lane Stage starting at 7pm.

The **Friday Cruise In** happens every Friday night from **5-8 pm**. Food, drinks, music, cars,



Canal boat packet Ben Franklin III. (Photos by Ray Dickerson)

trucks, motorcycles. Dash plaques to all exhibitors. Look for it in downtown Metamora or on the final Friday of the month by the Lover's Lane stage.

For the train lover, the schedule is pretty much the usual. The one exception is the **American Limited Civil War Train July 4, 12-5 pm**, leaving from Connersville. According to the Whitewater Railroad's site this is your chance to be in the middle of the action as a Union Army detachment protects the US Government Payroll. Along the line a relentless group of Confederate soldiers, simply known as Morgan's Raiders, plan and wait. This train only runs twice a year, with the next one in August.

And the usual schedule is: **The Valley Flyer Train** runs every **Saturday and Sunday 12-5** from the Connersville Station. **The Twilight Limited Train to Dinner is July 6 and July 20**. Departure 6pm. It departs from Connersville Station and travels to the Laurel Hotel. The cost is \$29 per adult, \$15 for children (special child's menu) and includes the round trip train ride, the meal, tax and tip. Reservations Required. For reservations and schedule call: **(765) 825-2054** (Prices may change without notice). **July 21 is the Overland Limited Wild West Train. 12 pm-5 pm**. Join the **Circle D Rangers** as they protect the Metamora bound train. There is a shoot-out in the Duck Creek section of

Metamora that is always fun.

I thought that this was worth noting even if it is not in Metamora. **The Southern Indiana Racing Association (SIRA) will race through downtown Connersville on July 7th & 8th of 2012**. This will be the 5th race on their schedule for 2012 and the first race for Connersville in 12 years. SIRA and the Connersville Jaycees are excited to bring karting back to downtown Connersville. This is located in the depot area, 455 Market Street, and will be an all day event.

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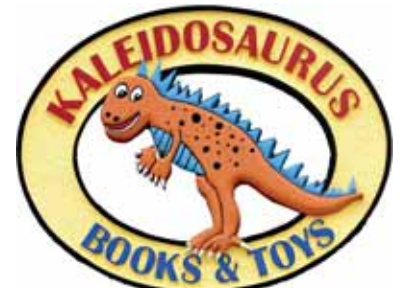
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In Metamora looking west at Grist Mill power wheel dam and picnic area including gazebo. Photos by Ray Dickerson)



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Bonnie and Mark Blades co-founded Stayin' Alive Family Fun Day after attending a similar event twelve years ago in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Stayin' Alive 12th Annual Family Fun Day & East Fork Fishing Expo

Article & Photos by Ray Dickerson

I attended the 12th Annual Family Fun Day in Brookville, IN on Memorial Day, May 28, 2012. For the second time in a row for me, this year it was hot again, but well attended by young and old alike. I was running a little late arriving so I headed for the East Fork of the Whitewater River to see if the kids were catching any fish.

I checked in with Brian "Snook" Nobbe who heads up the East Fork Fishing Expo. He told me there had been a few fish caught, but attendance was sporadic.

I headed down to the Tailwater area to check on the fisher persons trying their luck along the East Fork.

It wasn't too long before a young man and a young lady brought their fish over for me to take a photo of them. See on next page the details and photos of their catches. I spent about half an hour watching the youngsters fish, talking to parents and the Corps of Engineers Park Ranger, Lawrence Schwab, who had recently taken the position at Brookville Lake.

Then I headed up to the top of the hill to see what was going on at 12th Annual Family Fun Day.



Top Photo: The Brookville Park is a myriad of activities, not only the Family Fun Day, but families enjoying picnics, baseball, hiking, fishing, horse shoes and playing in the playground. In this photo a family is having a big family picnic in one of the shelters. Middle Left Photo: Visitors enjoying the "Smoke Free Event" Stayin' Alive 12th Annual Family Fun Day on a sunny and warm day at Brookville Town Park. Middle Right Photo: See list of the activities at left that greeted the visitors for this 12th Annual Family Day with free food, fun, games and prizes. Bottom Left Photo: More activities in booths lined the roadway all around the park area utilized by the Stayin' Alive organizers. Bottom Right Photo: Brookville Lake Corps of Engineers Park Rangers, Alicia Munchel at left and Stephanie Ison at right. Stephanie has been a Park Ranger at Brookville Lake since 2003, Alisha has been a Park Ranger for 3 weeks. Both are a credit to the Corps, they are kind, courteous and willing to help anyone who asks for their assistance.

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Brian "Snook" Nobbe at left helps his daughter, Mooria, hold the trout she caught in the Brookville Tailwater that runs through the Brookville Town Park. Six-year-old Mooria caught the trout on a worm, casting and retrieving. This was the first fish that Mooria had ever caught. At right is Jeremy Wilson also from Brookville, IN. The trout was released back into the stream.

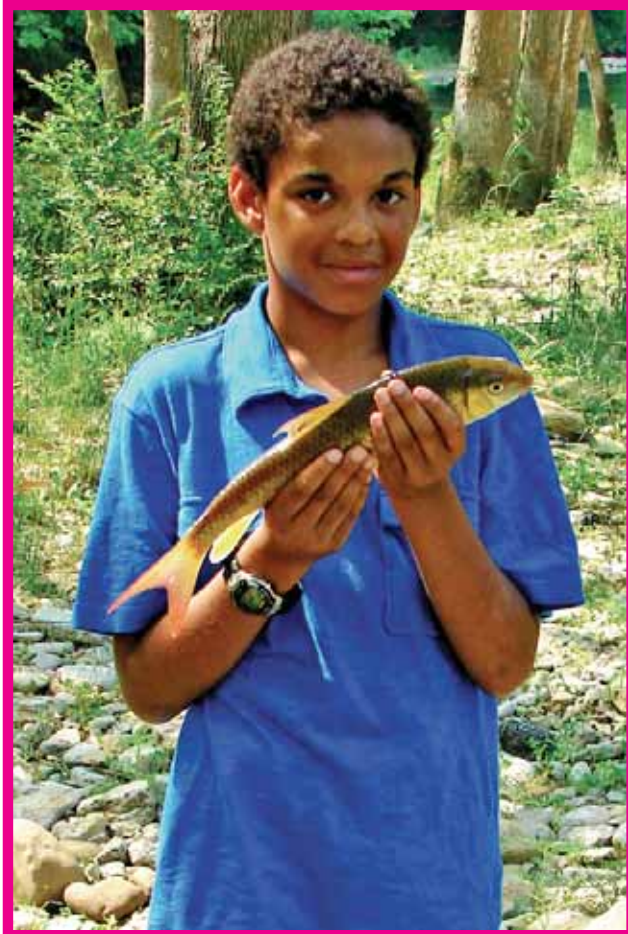


Six-year-old Porter Dorrel, nearest to the camera gets some help from his mom, Melissa Dorrel with a minor tangle. Porter caught a trout, but it tossed the hook before he could land it.. Corps of Engineers Park Ranger, Lawrence Schwab, gives some assistance to eight-year-old Don Dorrel in blue t-shirt who got his line hung up on a rock fish.

Things were hopping with lots of activities going on, scads of people were enjoying the festivities. Here is what was available for the visitor to enjoy from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Free food, fun, games and prizes. Indianapolis Colts in Motion, Cincinnati Zoo, Cincinnati Red Rover, Mini 500 Hot Wheels Race, Story Time by United Families, Crafts, Bounce House, Putting Green, Archery, Water Safety, Balloon Animals, Dunking Booth, CCE Art Van funded by United Way and Live Music. Booths and Setups featuring United Way of Franklin County, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, My Brothers Keeper, Franklin County Public Library District, Franklin County Purdue Extension, Imagination Library of Franklin County, Brookville Fire Department, 52 Pick-up, Brookville Kiwanis Club, Brookville Police Department, George's Family Pharmacy, E-911, YouthQuake, Franklin County Relay for Life, One Community One Family, Brookville Church of Christ, Franklin County Sheriff's Department, Safe Passage, McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital, Department of Natural Resources, Office of the Indiana Attorney General, Franklin County EMS, Whitewater Valley RV, Franklin County Public Transportation, Brookville Healthcare, The Upper Room, Brookville/Franklin County Chamber of Commerce, Brendon Higbie Memorial, Franklin County American Red Cross, Healthy Communities, Avon, I.W.I.N. Foundation, Brookville's Pink Pajama

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30



Ten-year-old Don Silas from Franklin, IN caught this Red Tail Sucker on a worm. He said he cast out his line and when he started reeling it in the fish took the bait.



Ten-year-old Meadow Nobbe who lives in Brookville, IN caught this trout while casting a worm and retrieving it back to shore. Meadow is the daughter of "Snook" Nobbe.

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Sunset from the deck of Youngstown Yacht Club overlooking the marina where we had dinner. (Author Photo)



A typical smallmouth bass caught in Devil's Hole in the Niagara River. Much bigger ones here though! (Author Photo)

Outdoors



With Rich Creason

Writers Gone Fishin'

The middle of May I was honored with being one of a dozen outdoor writers invited to spend three days in and around Lewiston, New York, just a few miles from Niagara Falls. The writers were picked from the Association of Great Lakes Outdoor Writers membership and the event was paid for by a group of National Sponsors. We would be fishing Lake Erie, Lake Ontario, and the lower Niagara River.

The festivities were scheduled to begin at noon on Monday. Since it is a nine hour drive from central Indiana to Lewiston, I decided to leave Sunday morning and arrive in time for the free pizza for early arrivals. I unloaded my clothes and personal items (everything else was provided) at the Barton Hill Hotel & Spa. My huge room was on the fourth floor front overlooking the Niagara River. Beautiful view!

Monday morning at breakfast, Bill Hilts, Jr. of the Niagara Tourism & Convention Corporation, one of

the Event Hosts along with Elizabeth Davis, www.niagara-usa.com approached me with an offer. He said although our scheduled fishing trips did not officially start until Tuesday, he had some local guides who had been persuaded to take us early birds out after we finished eating. Did I want to go? My hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, and raingear were already jammed into a small pack. I grabbed a Pepsi and headed for the boat ramp, just a short walk from the hotel. (Yes, I had my fishing license with me.)

I was paired up with one of the Corporate Sponsors, Joe Tarchalski with Chevy Trucks. Our guide was Steve Drabczyk www.drab6fishing.com 716-807-6248. We would be fishing the lower Niagara River for salmon, lake trout, smallmouth bass, steelhead, and anything else which would grab our lures. As it turned out, some steelhead and an occasional king salmon were being netted in the boats around us, but the three pound smallmouth bass were beating every other species to our bait. Still, a great fight in heavy current. Before we ended our morning trip, I had booked another trip with Steve for the following week. I was bringing Susie back to try her hand (again) on the Niagara River.

After lunch, we all gathered around the booths set up outside of the Barton Hill Hotel. Our event sponsors were going to show us some of their new products, literature, and give us some samples to try on our travels. Representatives from Frabill, MarCum Technologies, Rapala, Shimano, Carbon X Rods, Mossy Oak, Howard Communications, National Wild Turkey Federation, Quaker Boy, ThermaCELL, and others were present. Chevy Trucks even had several of their vehicles on site for us to test drive. Hobie Kayaks had seven or eight of their kayaks on display. These watercraft are actually pedaled

instead of paddled. This leaves both hands free for fishing, picture taking, etc. We would get first-hand experience in these later. A reception and dinner was held for us at the Water Street Landing that evening. Excellent food, and apparently a very popular place judging by the huge parking lot which was full.

Tuesday morning found us being shuttled to the marina on the east end of Lake Erie. I was paired with Dave Barus of Carbon X Rods and our guide was Bruce Blakelock, a full time guide in the area since 1999. www.niagarafish.com 716-754-4101. Dave loaned me a Carbon X rod to try. Basically the same length and action as the rod (expensive quality brand name) which I was using, the Carbon X was much lighter, and had a shorter reel to butt length which I liked. I was drifting a weighted jig with a short plastic bait along the bottom about 18-20 feet down. The rod tip was so sensitive, I could almost feel every rock and dip as I crossed them. These rods were created by David Gray who also founded the Ardent Reel Company. Check all their info at www.carbonxfishingrods.com. I must admit, the two and three pound smallmouths I kept catching didn't seem to like the rod as much as I did! Dave caught a nice northern pike and Bruce said there was also musky in the area we were fishing.

After lunch at Macri's Italian Grille in Lewiston and several tall glasses of iced tea, I was ready for the afternoon. I was scheduled to go out again with Joe Tarchalski. I told him if I got the biggest fish, he would have to give me one of the new Chevy trucks he had been demonstrating. Once again, every fish we brought to the net was a scrappy smallmouth until I boated a nine pound lake trout. I asked Joe for the keys to the truck, but for some reason he backed out of the deal.



Dave Barus, representative for Carbon X Rods, with a Lake Erie smallmouth. (Author Photo)

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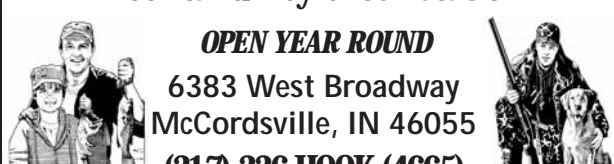
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This is a nine pound lake trout caught in Devil's Hole on the Niagara River. (Author Photo)



A picture of me holding a smallmouth caught while pedaling a Hobie Kayak up the Niagara River. Notice I can use both hands. (Author Photo)

At 5 PM, we boarded a bus to Fort Niagara. This is a really neat historic site on the banks of the Niagara. Many cannon balls were exchanged across the river in assorted wars and skirmishes. We toured the grounds and buildings and tried to talk to some of the ghosts still residing there. Several guides in period garb showed us around, explained about the fighting, and showed us relics of that era.

The bus then took us to the Youngstown Yacht Club for a fine meal. After dinner, most of us wandered to their outside deck and took photos of the marina and the gorgeous sunset over the water.

Wednesday, our last day, started out with me scheduled to go pedaling up the Niagara River. Not being as young as I used to be, I was apprehensive about taking a kayak, which I had to pedal rather than paddle, upstream in the heavy current on the Niagara River. I can walk all day long with no problem, but climbing stairs or pedaling a bike is hard for me. Ingrid and Morgan who were the Hobie reps told me I wouldn't have a problem.

They put a Hobie inflatable life vest on me, helped me into the kayak, adjusted the pedals, put a fishing pole in one of the rod holders, and shoved me

into the river. As my life flashed before my eyes, I started pedaling. It was easy! I moved upstream with very little effort. I started casting toward some docks and the tree lined bank. A chunky smallmouth actually thought my Rapala lure was real and headed skyward in several high jumps before he came to my boat.

Morgan was behind me in his Hobie and came over to get my camera for several pictures. It is amazing what you can do in a kayak when you have both hands free to fish, take pictures, use binoculars, and get a Pepsi out of the cooler. About an hour later, I decided I better turn around and head back. While my legs weren't hurting yet, I figured I still had to pedal an hour back.

Going back was much easier! The current which didn't bother me going upstream was really helping me going downstream. If I had actually gotten tired of pedaling, the Hobie has a regular kayak paddle strapped to the side. While I was using a smaller model, they have numerous sizes, including tandem units, with a wide variety of accessories available. For more info on these amazing crafts, go to www.hobiecat.com.

The afternoon fishing was scheduled for Lake Ontario. Unfortunately, the lake offered four foot waves, so we fished the river for smallmouth again. Regardless of where you fish, from Lake Erie, down the lower Niagara River into Lake Ontario, this is a fantastic fishery. Brent Wheat, one of the other writers, caught a 6 and 1/2 pound smallmouth, and several of the guys caught salmon before Lake Ontario got too rough to fish. On a previous trip, my wife caught a 20 pound salmon on the river while I had a 10 pound sturgeon and another writer had a 20 pound sturgeon on at the same time. Three fish weighing a total of 50 pounds fighting at the same time off one boat. Outstanding!

Of course, I don't think it's even legal to come to this area without visiting Niagara Falls. The Maid of the Mist boat ride is also a requirement. The boat takes you so close to the falls the mist would completely soak you if it wasn't for the complimentary rain ponchos they give you. For all the information you need to spend a day or several in this area, visit the www.niagara-usa.com website.

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

News From The Indiana State Police

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

to many Hoosiers celebrating our nation's independence with the use of fireworks, the Indiana State Police would like to inform citizens of the Indiana fireworks law which is in place for the safety of everyone.

- Only individuals over the age of 18 can purchase fireworks.
- A person 18 years of age or older has to be present when anyone younger than 18 is using or possessing fireworks.
- Fireworks can only be used on the user's property, the property of someone who granted permission for fireworks to be discharged, or a place designated by the Indiana State Fire Marshal for the discharge of consumer fireworks.
- Fireworks can only be discharged between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. any day except on Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, and New Years Eve when the times are 9:00 a.m. to midnight. It is important to check with local officials, as local ordinances may restrict the use of fireworks.

A person who violates this law can be charged with a class C infraction.

If a person recklessly, knowingly, or intentionally

uses fireworks and the violation causes property damage they can be charged with a class "A" Misdemeanor. If there is bodily injury it is enhanced to a class "D" Felony, and if there is death a class "C" Felony.

Well, this ends another month's installment. Please be safe driving out there this summer and we will talk again next month.

Letter from Seabee Carl Barrett (Ret)

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

Construction Mechanic. The right and left arm ratings of WWII are no longer used in the Seabees. The Seabees were assigned rating designators in 1949 which has become the "Group Eight" Navy Ratings.

The reason for me to write this article is most importantly to recognize and to give a Navy Seabee "Well Done" to those Seabees of WWII. Without them I would have remained in the fleet and would have most likely not remained with the Navy for two careers. After our TADCEN Seabee schooling we were all assigned to Seabee Units and the Navy chiefs of our trade designators took us under their wings and taught us Seabees their trade knowledge.

Later on in my Naval Career as a Navy Seabee Instructor, I also had the opportunity to pass on the trade knowledge given to me by the WWII Seabees, plus additional tasks learned in the Utilities field during my naval service as a Utilitesman.

The WWII Seabee would have difficulty in recognizing Seabees of today's Naval Construction Force generation as the Seabee shoulder and sleeve patches worn during WWII are no longer authorized. The Seabees of my generation and today train with the Marine Corps and those of today are hard to distinguish from a marine. The only way to recognize today's Seabee is by his rating badge designator or while wearing his work/combat uniform he or she will proudly display a Seabee patch under the left breast pocket.

I can assure the WWII Seabee that the Seabees of today are in great demand as those of WWII. Seabees are still the construction angels of the U.S. Navy and are the ambassadors of the United States of America as they have always been. They are called on for just about any situation from a Marine Corps support unit to disaster recovery throughout the world, underwater construction, etc., etc..

The Seabee Monument located on Memorial Ave., Arlington, National Cemetery proudly displays our Seabee heritage of "With Compassion for

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Top Left Photo: Dennis Dabney's Uncle, Ray Poore, at right, caught the biggest Walleye of the day, it weighed in at better than 3 pounds, shown here with Professional Fishing Guide Tag Nobbe on Brookville Lake June 2, 2012, at right. Top Right Photo: Nine year old Derrick Dabney caught this real nice Walleye fishing with a nightcrawler, fishing with Tag too. Bottom Left Photo: Dennis Dabney caught this 2 pound walleye also fishing with a nightcrawler. "Due to the wind that day most of the catching was done while fishing vertical, not drifting," said Tag. Bottom Right Photo: Dennis, Derrick and Ray standing on Garr Hill Ramp. Dennis and Derrick are wearing special "Fishing Buddies" t-shirts given to them by Dennis's father, Army Sergeant Major Theodore Dabney (Retired) who lives in Yorktown, VA. The two spend as much time together fishing as possible, as a Dad and Son ought to. (Photos by Ray Dickerson)

So You Wanna' Catch More Fish

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

fishing for are full. The only way you can get them to hit is out of a reaction, not because they are hungry.

The only other way to be successful is timing, be there when the fish are feeding and your going to catch fish. Get there 2 minutes after they're finished feeding and your going to be scrounging to catch a fish.

If this is where you are fishing, using a 1/32 or 1/16 ounce jig tipped with a night crawler, is best. To a fish this looks like a small crawdad. Fish it slow and on the bottom. Keep switching colors till you find the color that the fish wants to eat. My all time favorite jig is a whistler jig made by Northland tackle. We stock and sell every color they make in a 1/32 and a 1/16 ounce size at 52 Pik-up in Brookville.

Good Luck Tag

If you need more info Email me at tag@tagnobbe.com or go to the web site www.brookvillelakeguideservice.com or call my cell phone 765-265-3238. I guide fish for walleye, striped bass, and crappie starting mid-April till mid-December, 7 days a week on Brookville Lake. We

fish out of a 2007 Lund Pro V 2025 with a 225 Honda motor. I supply everything all the way down to cleaning the fish. I can take 1 - 4 people. The price is according to how many people go, \$400.00 for 4 people, \$325.00 for 3 people, \$275.00 for 2 people and \$225.00 for 1 person. We start at 7:00 am and fish till 1.00 pm. To schedule trips call me on my cell phone 765-265-3238

Fully licensed and insured for 16 years now.

Editor's Note: On June 2, 2012 I met Tag at Garr Hill Ramp at around 1:30 p.m. His charter that day was special friends of mine, U.S. Air Force Colonel Dennis Dabney who is stationed at Wright Patterson AFB near Dayton, OH, his 9 year old son, Derrick and his Uncle Raymond Poore, from Charleston, W.VA. This would be my last time to see Dennis and his son, Derrick, as Dennis is being reassigned to Joint Base Charleston, he will be a Maintenance Group Commander there in South Carolina. Knowing from my keeping in touch with Dennis, via the internet, that he was going fishing again with Tag on June 2nd, I called Tag to see what time and where he was docking that day. I told him I wanted to get some photos of their catch and other photos too. Some of you readers may recall seeing Dennis and Derrick on the cover of my January Gad-a-bout after fishing with Tag in November 2011. Dennis had

caught a 4 lb. Smallmouth Bass that day.

The photos above and on page 5 illustrate the successful day of fishing on Brookville that day. They caught more than what's pictured, including largemouth bass, walleye and two very large carp.

After Tag left I was talking to Ray Poore about all kinds of subjects from ramps (spring delicacy) in West Virginia to his military service. He spent 8 years in the U.S. Army, 3 of them in Vietnam as a door gunner on UH-1 Helicopters. He like the others served his country there and then came home.

I looked around to say goodbye to Dennis and Derrick and saw Dennis walking towards the lake with his fishing rod in his hand. Ray and I talked for a while longer. Derrick was walking around the ramp area. Dennis called to Ray asking him to get his fishing rod and join him. Ray did and as traditional for the day caught a largemouth bass using a small jitterbug lure. I watched for quite a while, but then said farewell to them, as I had told my wife I would take her out to supper when I got home.

Leaving the ramp that day reminded me of back when I was in the U.S. Air Force and the many times I said farewell to friends for the last time, wondering if I would ever see them again. We never ever said goodbye, just said, "See you.." I have seen a few Air Force buddies here since leaving England, but none from New York, where I got discharged in 1963. ■

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Left Photo: Woodruff's Supermarket with the 7,200 Sq.Ft. addition almost ready. I talked to Tim Woodruff this morning, customers will be able to enter the building through a new entrance very soon. However, it will still be a while before everything is moved into the new addition, probably by August. Right Photo: Tim Woodruff also owns the former "Blue Heron Art Gallery" located next to his Supermarket at 20 South Main Street on the northwest corner of Seminary & Main Street. "It's the busiest intersection in Liberty," Tim said. It is for rent, NOW! See below. (Photos by Ray Dickerson)

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

to the public, and tours of the INDOT facility will be available.

The Community Blood Center mobile blood drive is part of a campaign called "iFocus on Saving Lives." Everyone who registers to donate at the INDOT blood drive will automatically be entered in a drawing to win a 2012 Ford Focus and will also receive a free "iFocus, iChange Local Lives, the Power is in Your Hands" t-shirt.

The extra incentives are intended to increase donations during busy summer months. According to the Community Blood Center, summer break puts high school blood drives on hold until classes resume, family vacations and outdoor excursions leave less time for donating, and vacation schedules at work can mean fewer donors at corporate and business blood drives.

Indiana Department of Transportation employees will be rolling up their sleeves throughout the day, and INDOT encourages the community to come donate as well.

WHAT: Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) blood drive and open house.

WHEN: Monday, June 25 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

WHERE: Indiana Department of Transportation Cambridge City Subdistrict 1241 South State Road 1, Cambridge City, IN (just north of US 40)

DONORS:

A photo ID with your full name is required to donate. Call 765-962-6329 or go online to www.donor-time.com to schedule an appointment.

LIBERTY'S WOODRUFF'S SUPERMARKET 7,200 SQ. FT. ADDITION OPENING SOON

I talked to Tim Woodruff early this morning, June 11, 2012, asking him when his new 7,200 Sq. Ft. addition to his Supermarket would be finished (see photo above). He told me that customers would be able to enter his store through a new entrance very soon. However it will be some time before everything is moved around to where he wants it, probably sometime in August. (Please note the parking lot entrance/exit off Main Street has been eliminated for safety reasons.)

Tim also owns the former **Blue Heron Art Gallery** (See photo at top right) located at 20 South Main Street in Liberty, on the northwest corner of the intersection of Main Street and Seminary, adjacent to Woodruff's Supermarket. The building was

built in the 1830's and is as sound as a rock. It is for rent **now** and the best offer will be accepted. **Call 765-458-6213.**

Tim says, "it's the best location in Union County."

I would agree, everyone entering or leaving Liberty, from the north, east, south or west going or coming, passes this street corner. See brown highway sign adjacent to building showing access to **Whitewater Memorial State Park, Brookville Lake, Quakertown SRA and Mounds SRA** via SR 101 South to southeast Indiana's recreation paradise. The building would make you a very good business location or office. There are 4 rooms plus a kitchen on the main floor, 3 rooms upstairs and a full basement downstairs. **Call 765-458-6213** for details.

WWII 79th NCB & CBMU #624 SEABEES WILL BE IN RICHMOND, CENTERVILLE AND DAYTON WHEN THEY ATTEND THEIR 67TH REUNION HERE 9/23-27/2012

In honor of my father, Seabee MMS 1/c Raymond "Gene" E. Dickerson, 79th U.S. Naval Construction Battalion (NCB), Company D, Platoon 2 and Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit (CBMU) #624 Veteran 1942-1945. I am hosting their 67th Reunion from September 23 thru 27, 2012 at the Quality Inn in Richmond, Indiana. The Inn is located at 5501 National Road East, near I-70 by road and not too far from the Dayton International Airport, an easy drive to Richmond.

The Quality Inn offers a 32" flat screen tv, free high-speed wireless internet, hair dryer, coffee maker, iron & ironing board. (You have to ask for a microwave and/or refrigerator) All guests have access to indoor heated pool & hot tub, Fitness Center, Free hot continental breakfast and a copy of USA Today Newspaper.

The Seabees will be coming here from Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wis-

consin.

The Seabees will be arriving here on Sunday, September 23rd for five days of reminiscing and enjoying each others company.

We will have a Hospitality Room for visiting, eating, playing games, etc.

On Monday, September 24th after meeting for breakfast, we will be visiting Webb's Antique Mall in Centerville from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. From 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. we will be enjoying a catered meal in Maplewood Park. From 6:00 to 7:00 pm we will be

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30



Jim McKinney (At right) and his Jazz Combo who will be playing big band music for the Seabees who will be attending the 79th U.S. Naval Construction Battalion Reunion to be held in Richmond, IN and Centerville Sept. 23-27, 2012. From left to right: Jim Johnson, drums; Bill Perkins, flugelhorn; Paul Moran, bass; and Jim McKinney, trombone. (Jim McKinney Photo)

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listening to World War II vintage, big band music (Swing Era), in Maplewood Park performed by Jim McKinney and his Jazz Combo.

For those who can still cut a rug, as they used to say, everyone in attendance is invited to dance.

I want to extend an invitation to any Veteran reading this who is a Veteran of World War II who was in the Navy, Marines or Army serving in Alaska, Saipan or Okinawa, from 1942-1945. If you would like to attend our evening in Centerville, including the meal and dance, 4:00-7:00 p.m. You need to contact me no later than August 31, 2012. Dress is casual. (Call me on my cell 765-960-5767 or e-mail ray@thegadabout.com other contact info on page 3 of this paper)

During the meal we will have background recorded music by Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman, Gene Krupa, Harry James, Other big bands and popular singers of the big band era.

In the event of inclement weather I have reserved the Centerville Senior Center. Hopefully Mother Earth will allow us to eat and dance outside in pleasant weather for the occasion.

Jim McKinney's Jazz Combo, a local band, will be performing the live music from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. The band includes Jim Johnson, drums; Bill Perkins, flugelhorn; Paul Moran, bass; and Jim McKinney, trombone. (see their photo on page 29) Anyone interested in hiring this band can contact Jim McKinney at (home) 765-966-5719 or (cell) 765-969-6063 or 4jmckinney@comcast.net.

On Tuesday, September 25th after meeting for breakfast, all those Seabees, family and friends, attending the Reunion who want to travel to the United States Air Force Museum near Dayton, Ohio will be leaving the Quality Inn in Richmond for a bus ride to the Museum.

We will spend most of the day there. I visited the Museum on April 24th and really enjoyed the day. I have been there on several occasions, but this trip I was there on a mission. I wanted to update myself to what they had changed, added and what kind of aides they offered the Veterans and Senior citizens. I also wanted to know how long it took to get there and back.

On Wednesday, September 26th after meeting for breakfast it will be a free day until our Banquet and business meeting at 7 p.m. in the Quality Inn.

Any Seabee who served with the 79th NCB or CBMU #624 who would like to attend our 67th Reunion in Richmond, IN, please don't hesitate to contact me no later than August 1, 2012. (Call me on my cell 765-960-5767 or e-mail ray@thegadabout.com other contact info at right) We are going to have a lot of fun!

Letter from Seabee Carl Barrett (Ret)

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

Others, We Build - We Fight For Peace With Freedom." Donated funds left over from the building of the Seabee Monument were utilized to start the Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association (SMSA) which provides scholarships for Children & Grandchildren of Seabees throughout our Nation. Scholarships are broken down into two categories and are named after CEC/Seabees. There is also a separate fund set aside since the war in Iraq known as the Fallen Seabee Scholarship Fund (FSSF) providing scholarships for those children and grandchildren of CEC/Seabees who have been killed in action (KIA). Scholarship funding is being provided

Gad's Corner

SEND YOUR PHOTOS TO: THE GAD-A-BOUT, P.O. BOX 85, CENTERVILLE, IN 47330 (INCLUDE A SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE IF YOU WANT THE PHOTO RETURNED)
YOU CAN ALSO SEND YOUR PHOTOS BY E-MAIL TO ray@thegadabout.com. View them in living color at my website: www.thegadabout.com



Jim Rowe found these mushrooms on March 23, 2012 somewhere! (Dave's Triangle Inc. Photo, Brookville Lake, IN)



Joe McDill took this 9 point, 165 pound Buck on November 18, 2011. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)

through personal donations made in remembrance of CEC/Seabee buddies and also by estate planning.

I hope to visit one of your reunions in the future and meet with those survivors of WWII who I truly respect. If I can be of any assistance in Seabee matters please call on me. Once I start talking about Seabees I can go on forever.

The Navy Seabee Veterans of America, Inc. is a National Organization that was originated by WWII Seabees and continues on today with members throughout the United States and abroad. We would request your CEC/Seabee readers to look us up on our National web-page www.nsva.org or email me at cbarret4@yahoo.com or call me at 863-299-9009 and I will have information sent to them explaining our Veterans Organization plus our quarterly magazine known and the "Can Do" which we are most Seabee proud of.

Sincerely,

Carl R. Barrett,
UTC, USN (Ret), NSVA National Commander

Editor's Note: I am deeply grateful having received this letter from Carl R. Barrett, National Commander of the Navy Seabee Veterans of America. When I first had contact with him, he, without my asking, sent out e-mails to all of his constituents asking for them to check their files to see if they had any former members of the 79th NCB or CBMU #624 and to forward their names to me. Thanks Carl!!

I am hosting the 2012 79th NCB Reunion, see below: In Memory of my father, Seabee MMS 1/c Raymond "Gene" E. Dickerson, 79th U.S. Naval Construction Battalion (NCB), Company D, Platoon 2 and Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit (CBMU) #624 Veteran 1942-1945.

I will be hosting the 79th NCB Reunion on September 23-27, 2012 in Richmond, IN. I have permission from the 79th NCB to invite members of CBMU #624 to the Reunion also. Dad was with the 79th NCB in Alaska and with CBMU #624 on Okinawa. Anyone reading this message who served with the 79th U.S. Naval Construction Battalion or Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit #624 in Alaska, Saipan or Okinawa during World War II and would be interested in attend-

ing our 67th Reunion in Richmond, Indiana September 23-27, 2012 please contact me as soon as possible by:

Cell 765-960-5767,
Toll Free 1-877-855-4237 (Leave Message),
E-mail ray@thegadabout.com
Website: www.thegadabout.com
"On internet just google - Seabee Ray Dickerson"
And several www.thegadabout.com will fill the page.

Stayin' Alive Family Fun Day

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

Party, United Families.

Bonnie and Mark Blades, who live in Cedar Grove, were the co-founders of the Stayin' Alive Family Fun Day twelve years ago (2000), to give the children, of not only Brookville, but children from anywhere who wants to come to Brookville and enjoy Memorial Day in a big way. Bonnie & Mark attended a similar activity back then in Cincinnati, Ohio. When they arrived back home in Brookville, Bonnie set about organizing the 1st Annual Stayin' Alive Family Fun Day on Memorial Day.

On each Memorial Day at 9 a.m. a Parade goes to the 3 cemeteries for Memorial Day services ending at Maple Grove Cemetery. Then everyone goes to the Brookville Town Park for Family Fun Day from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Brookville Swimming Pool opens at 12 noon, giving visitors and town folk a place to go and cool off. It is located across the street from the park.

Three years ago they added the East Fork Fishing Expo for kids of all ages to fish along the East Fork of the Whitewater River (Tailwater of Brookville Dam)

Bonnie and Mark began planning the 2013 event when the 2012 event ended.

If you would like to become involved you are invited to attend their monthly meeting that is held the 4th Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. in the Franklin County Government Center.

Stayin' Alive promotes a safer and healthier community. Melinda Brown is the Executive Director and will be glad to answer any of your questions.

For additional information contact Stayin' Alive at (765) 647-7272 or visit them on the web at www.StayinAlive24.org.

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Hunter Dixon took this 24 lb. Turkey in Spring 2012. It had 24mm spurs. (Dave's Triangle Inc. Photo, Brookville Lake, IN)



Tawni Correll, age 12, took her first turkey on 4-21-12 in Washington Co. It weighed 22.5 lbs & had 26mm spurs. (Summit Lake Bait & Tackle Photo)



Steve Hughes took this 21 lb Tom Turkey in Union Co. on 5-9-12. It had a 9" beard and 24mm spurs. He's holding his son Logan, a future hunter in training. (Steve Hughes Photo)



Wyatt Case caught this Hybrid Striped Bass in his pond. (Country Mart Photo)



Hunter Thompson took this 17 lb. Tom Turkey on 4-21-12. It had a 10" Beard and 25mm Spurs. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)

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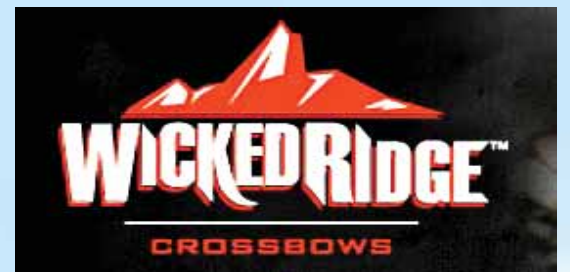


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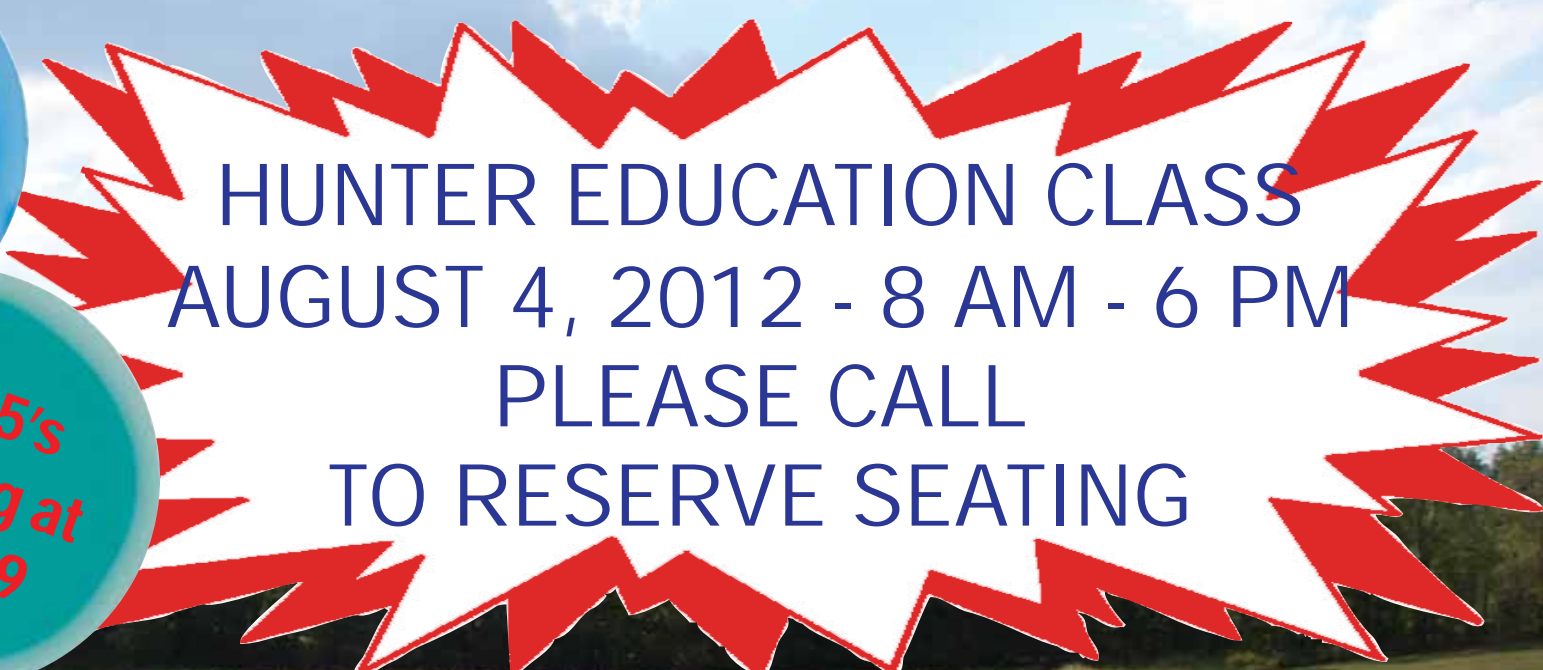


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