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JUNE 2014

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HENRY M. "HANK" STOCK III
aka GOLDEN EAGLE 1926 - 2014



12 YEAR OLD DALTON DOWNEY FROM HOLTON, IN
CAUGHT THIS 21 INCH WALLEYE - SEE MORE ON PG 5



LACKLAND AFB TEXAS TO KENNEDY SPACE CTR
FLORIDA & A LOT IN BETWEEN - SEE PGS 14-19

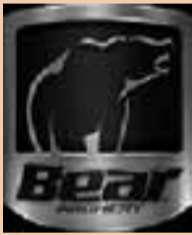


JEREMIAH TOOK THIS 2014 SPRING
GOBBLER - FOR MORE SEE PG 30-31

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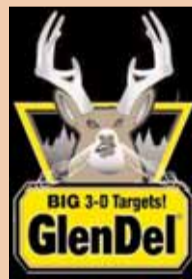
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ABOUT THE COVER PHOTOS

Top Left: Henry M. "Hank" Stock III, aka Golden Eagle passed away on May 9, 2014 at the age of 88. He was buried with full military honors in the Spring Grove Cemetery in Cincinnati, Ohio. His last article appears on page 14. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

Top Right: This boy caught this 21-inch walleye on May 4, 2014 fishing with me, his dad and two of his dads' friends on Brookville Lake. We caught 12 walleye that day and his was the largest. His name is Dalton Downey and he is from Holton, Indiana. He is 12 years old and this is the first walleye he has ever caught. He matched the hatch. (Photo by Tag Nobbe)

Bottom Left: One brag photo of Jeremiah Catron who took this 2014 Spring Gobbler (Photo by Gary Catron)

Bottom Right: Composite Photo Left Side: TSgt Ronald Hariston and Ray Dickerson shaking hands. I was thanking TSgt Hariston for giving Sherry, Raul and I a tour of Lackland Air Force Base. The tour was arranged by Lt. Colonel Jay D. Scott. Right Side: This photo was taken at the Kennedy Space Center just before we boarded a Up Close Bus Tour. (Left Photo by Ray Dickerson/ Right Photo by Kennedy Space Center)

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Roaming The Outdoors



by Ray Dickerson

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Dylan Smock

IT'S OFFICIAL DYLAN SMOCK IS IN THE NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

Our daughter, Amy Dickerson, who lives in Worcester, MA sent us the above photo with the message, "My son is now officially in the National Juniors Honor Society."

The National Junior Honor Society is the nation's premier organization established to recognize outstanding middle level students. More than just an honor roll, NJHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship and character. These characteristics have been associated with membership in the organization since its beginning in 1929.

Today, it is estimated that more than one million students participate in official Honor Society activities. NHS and NJHS chapters are found in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, many U.S. territories, and Canada. Chapter membership not only recognizes students for their accomplishments, but challenges them to develop further through active involvement in school activities and community service.

C&C WEBSTER STORE SELLS POSTAL PRODUCTS WHEN POST OFFICE CLOSED

Carter and Carol Hall, owners of the C&C Webster Store located in downtown Webster now sells postage stamps, priority mailing boxes and priority mailing envelopes. Their store is right next



Carol Hall standing next to Postal Products.

door to the Webster Post Office.

The Post Office hours are Monday thru Friday 8 a.m. to 12 noon and on Saturday 8 to 10 a.m.

Postal products are available at the C & C Webster Store next door seven days a week. C & C's hours are as follows: Monday thru Friday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

They can't weigh any of the mail.

They can sell you postage stamps and priority mailing containers.

If the Post Office is closed and you want to send something that will fit in one of the Priority mailing containers or a large Priority Envelope that C & C Webster Store sells for the Post Office you can send it that day. In the priority boxes or large priority envelopes, if it fits, it ships for one price.

You can send regular mail payments, letters, etc., by putting a stamp on it and putting it in the blue postal box also. All the mail picked up in Webster is put in a separate bag and will be processed in Muncie.

Carol or Carter will see to it that the pickup driver who picks up the mail out of the big blue postal box in front of the Post Office will also get any boxes they have in the store.

Carol says that the mail pickup driver picks up sometime between 4 and 5:30 p.m.

SAD NEWS ON PAGE 14 CONCERNING HANK STOCK (GOLDEN EAGLE)

In my Roaming The Outdoors column last month I said I would have to find out why I didn't get an article from Golden Eagle. When we got back from our trip to Florida by way of Texas there was an e-mail in my in box from Golden Eagle. In it he said he was ending his column. He wanted me to relay this information to his readers.

On Monday, April 28th I drove to Cincinnati to see Golden Eagle and find out why he wanted to end his column. He has been appearing in The Gad-a-bout since 1995.

When I arrived at Triple Creek Retirement Community I asked to see Golden Eagle, the receptionist gave me directions to his room

I followed her directions, when I turned the corner into a long hall it looked like Hank was sit-

ting in the hall and was asleep sitting on his motorized scooter. Sure enough it was Hank (Golden Eagle). I called his name softly because other residents were sitting there and they were asleep too. Hank lifted his head and said, "Ray." I told him I hated waking him up, but I had gotten your e-mail about ending your column and wanted to see if I could persuade you to continue.

He told me they had moved him from his former room into a room with two beds in it. He had, had to get rid of almost all the things he had always had there with him and there wasn't enough room for his

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Stop in for new reading materials, hiking gear and camping supplies, as well as Summit Lake Souvenirs.

If you fish thick cover we've got "punch rigs" from Real Deal Custom Tackle.

For the jerk-bait fans we've got "Pointers" by Lucky Craft.

Mark June 14th on your calendar to attend the big fishing clinic at GJWI- look for details in store and on social media. See ya there!!

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So You Wanna Catch More Fish



by **Tag Nobbe**
Professional Fishing Guide

Match The Hatch

To catch walleye on Brookville lake you have to match the hatch. What I mean by this is you have to know what the walleye are feeding on through out the year.

Lets start at the spawning cycle. At this stage of the game it is mid-March. The walleye have spent the last 2 to 3 months laying 50 to 60 feet deep under a thick layer of ice. As far as surviving goes, this is the best place to be. On the surface just under the ice it is 32 degrees or colder, but at 60 feet the water could still be as warm as 45 degrees. The walleye will get very lethargic as the winter drags on, but so will everything else that is in the same boat as they



This boy caught this 21 inch walleye on May 4, 2014 fishing with me, his dad and two of his dads' friends on Brookville Lake. We caught 12 walleye that day and his was the largest. His name is Dalton Downey and he is from Holton, Indiana. He is 12 years old and this is the first walleye he has ever caught. He matched the hatch. (Author Photo)

are. A lot of the walleye summer time food sources are hibernating in the mud on the bottom of the lake or is hibernating under ground at the edge of the lake. The only thing left in the winter months for the walleye to feed on is other fish.

The walleye know this, and this is all they will eat. I have caught walleye in January that will spit out crappie, blue gill, or shad. I have caught Striped bass that spit up walleye. I have caught large mouth bass that spit up white bass. The only thing that is consistent is they always spit up fish.

A few years ago we had a cicada out break here. I found that while this was going on, you could catch one of these bugs, put it on a hook, cast it out, count to 10, and you would catch a carp. You could keep this up all day. So I froze a few. I waited till they where all gone. Then I put one on a hook cast it out and nothing. I tried several place and did not get a bite. Nothing showed any interest at all.

I come to the conclusion I did not match the hatch and this proved it.

The walleye is always the first fish to spawn in the lake, this happens when the water temperature reached about 46 to 47 degrees. Its very hard to catch walleye at this time due to the spawning cycle. They have to get their priorities straight if you know what I mean. The reason they are hard to catch is there is nothing hatched yet. But I have found that if you cast a suspending bait and fish it very slow around their spawning areas at night you can catch a few dumb ones.

After about 2 weeks their spawning cycle comes to an end. By now the water temperature has risen closer to the 50 degree mark. This triggers bugs, worms, crawl dads (crayfish), and other little critters to abandon their winter hibernating and start their own reproduction cycles. From here the water temperature rises to 60. This triggers bass, crappie, bluegill, carp and shad to start their spawning cycles. The walleye know this, and this is where you need to make a change.

The walleye will be looking to take advantage of the vulnerability of the unprotected eggs and the concentration of all those fish in shallow water. Most

spawning fish are too big for the walleye to feed on, but the fish eggs are a perfect food source and the walleye will take full advantage of it. This is one of the reasons fish have so many eggs.

In these same shallow areas crawl dads are rummaging around looking for food and places to hide, live and feed. There are bugs hatching out in the mud on the bottom of the lake along with other worms and such. With all this activity going on in the shallows you would think you could just throw anything in the water and your going to catch a fish. Sorry, but it just doesn't work that way. You still have to hit on what they are feeding on.

To help you cut down on your learning curve I will tell you I have a lot of success fishing something that looks like a shad or something that looks like a crawl dad. A shad is a bait fish in the lake that everything feeds on and a crawl dad is a crustacean in the lake that everything feeds on. So if all else fails tie on something in your tackle box that resembles one of these and fish it close to the bottom. It doesn't have to be a real crawl dad or a real shad it just has to look like one to the walleye.

Good luck Tag

If you need more info E-mail me at tag@tag-nobbe.com or go to the website www.brookville-lakeguideservice.com or call my cell phone 765-265-3238

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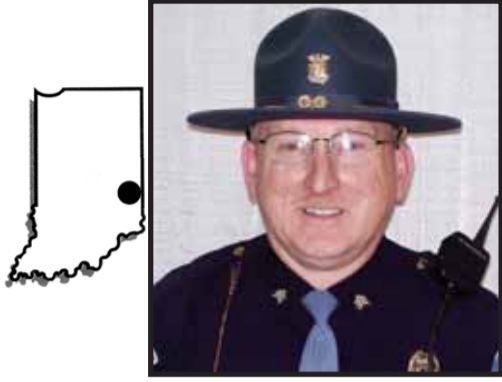
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News from the Indiana State Police



by Sergeant John D. Bowling
Public Information/Recruiting Officer

ISP Museum A Great Place To Visit

If you're looking for an interesting place to take the kids that's free, consider the Indiana State Police Museum located at 8660 East 21st St., right next to the Indianapolis Post. The Historical Center is part of the Youth Services Program that puts on youth summer camps each year around the state.

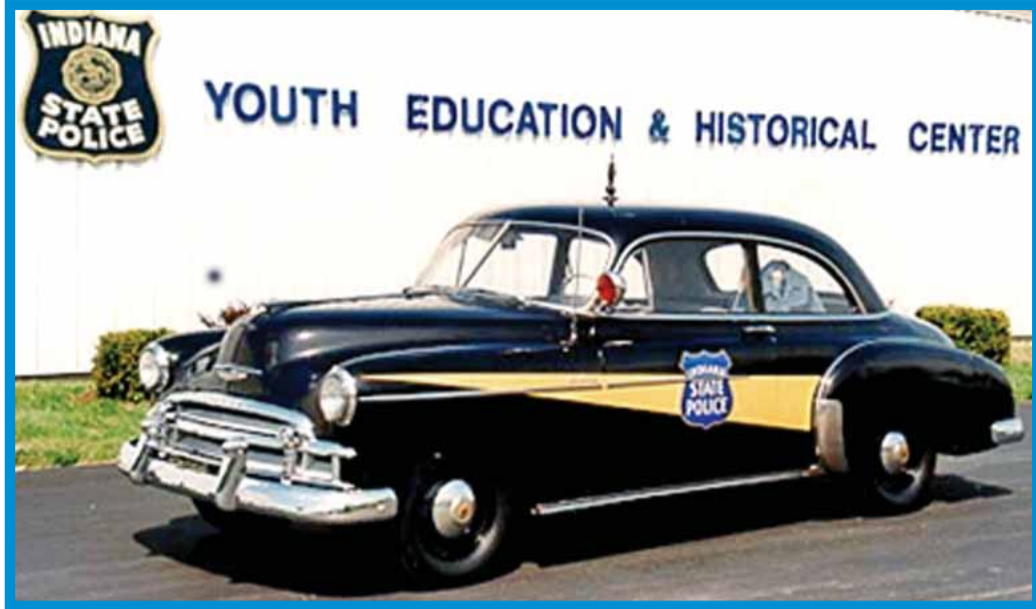
The museum offers free tours of displays that include items from the gangster era including famous items from the Dillinger gang and others; ISP police cars from the 1930's through the 1990's; an Indian Motorcycle just like the ones ridden by the first troopers in 1933; a moonshine still; numerous guns and weapons with historical significance; as well as some interactive displays, like a two headed police car that allows kids the chance to sit behind the wheel and turn on the lights.

The museum is chocked full of historical items donated and seized through the years dealing with law enforcement. The museum was built in 1993 with monies from private donations. A lot of the items in the museum were donated by retired troopers and their families, with a lot of personal items and stories that go with them.

One of my favorite stories is that of a motorcycle trooper in the 1930's that was riding down a gravel road. When he got to his destination, he realized his gun had fallen out of his holster! He began backtracking and was stopped by some kids at a farmhouse he had waved at earlier in the day. Seems they had seen the gun fall out and told there mom, who was keeping it for him.

While at the museum, make sure to check out the ISP logo items for sale there. You can buy items ranging from blankets to t-shirts, sweat-shirts, pants, miniature ISP cars, Christmas ornaments and wall clocks, all with the ISP logo. They truly have a souvenir for everyone's budget and taste.

Sure, I'm biased; but I think our museum is the best kept secret in Indiana, and is truly one of the neatest places you can visit for free. The museum is open 9a.m-3p.m. Monday through Friday. You can just walk in and browse, or schedule a guided tour at **1-888-ISP-YOUTH**, or **317-899-8293**. For a look into the history of ISP and all things Indiana law enforcement, visit the ISP Museum at 8660 E. 21st in Indianapolis.



The museum is chocked full of historical items donated and seized through the years dealing with law enforcement.. (Indiana State Police Photo)

Section needs your help to combat the marijuana problem in Indiana. Many of the grow operations we find come from tips provided to us by you, the public. The Indiana State Police encourages anyone with drug information to call the Indiana Drug Tip line at **1-800-453-4756**. Please remember tips can be made and kept anonymous.

Growing Season for "Illegal Farmers"

With the warm weather here many of us are preparing plants and planting vegetables for our gardens. Farmers are planting or already have planted most of their fields. Unfortunately there are other growers out there using farmer's fields and our woods.

Marijuana growers use this time to take marijuana plants they started indoors and plant them outdoors. They plant them in fields and wooded areas and "tend them" just like you or I care for our gardens. They will often have well worn paths into their illegal "crop" where they go in to water and fertilize.

A well tended plant may reach 6-12 feet tall and be worth \$1,000 to \$4,000. With this kind of money involved, is it no wonder our officers find grow operations with a bevy of booby traps? Things like fish hooks suspended by monofilament line at face level, and shotgun shells rigged with a trip wire and detonator, among others.

These "illegal farmers" are robbing you and me of access to woods and valuable farm land. Whether it's a crop of a few plants, or a few hundred plants, growers will often times protect their crop as if their life depended on it.

The Indiana State Police Marijuana Eradication

Special Events 2014 Gearing up for Another Year

If you've ever been to a large event in Indiana, chances are you've seen an Indiana State Trooper there. More than keeping roadways safe, doing investigations, assisting motorists and responding to calls to service, we also provide security at most large special events in Indiana.

All of these man power needs are coordinated by the Special Operations. Here are just some of the events we provide security for; Indiana Boat and Travel; Indy Grand Prix in May along with all the Indy 500 pre-race and race day activities; The Brick Yard pre race and race day activities; The Indianapolis MOTO GP race; Indiana Black Expo; Three weeks of the Indiana State Fair and the National Drags on Labor Day weekend are just some of the events we cover.

This is not even a complete list as there are other events we cover throughout the year as well. It can be a daunting task bringing troopers from all over the state to one location to cover a special event-but it's what we do. Sergeants Bill Dalton and Terry Treon do a great job coordinating guys from all over the state to cover all the special events.

Over the last 23 years of my career I've gotten to meet entertainment celebrities, sport celebrities and
CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

Report Illegal Drug Activity



Call the Indiana State Police Illegal Drug Tip Line

At 1-800-453-4756

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Indiana Department of Natural Resource News



by I.C.O. Gary Catron
Master Conservation Officer

Money for nothing and your fish for free

April is in the rear view mirror and May 17th is approaching fast. "What is the significance of May 17th?" I'm glad you asked. It is the second of four free fishing days Indiana residents can enjoy during 2014. On May 17, June 7 and 8th, residents of Indiana are exempt from the fishing license requirement. The trout/salmon stamp requirement is included in the exemption during these free fishing days. All catch and size limits remain in place, no other laws are suspended during these days.

Many of our DNR properties will have activities associated with the free fishing days as will several city park ponds around the state. These activities revolve around having fun and providing fishing opportunity while keeping fishing simple. Did I mention having fun? Some activities will include casting clinics, fishing knot tutorials, and the proper way to clean your catch. Check with your nearby or favored DNR property to find out if they will be hosting an event. As always, information can be obtained at: www.in.gov/dnr.

There is no need to travel to a DNR property; the free fishing days include all waters normally



requiring a fishing license. Do you know somebody you would like to introduce to fishing? Perhaps you have a sister, brother, neighbor or maybe a spouse in mind. This is the intent of free fishing days. Grab your favorite tenderfoot and as long as they're not kicking and screaming (that's going to scare the fish), take them to a fishing hole during one of these free fishing days. I, for one, cannot fathom what a life would be like having never fished. Are there really people who've never? Yep. Sad, isn't it? **Go Fish, Indiana.**

Catching a bass in select rivers could win you a gift card

Catching black bass is great recreation but it also can line your wallet, provided you fish — and catch — in the right spots.

The DNR has tagged more than 400 largemouth, smallmouth and spotted bass in central and northern Indiana rivers as part of an ongoing study to learn more about angler harvest and fish movement.

Anglers who catch tagged bass can earn gift cards to Bass Pro Shop for \$5, \$10 or \$25 by reporting their catches and returning tags to DNR biologists. All bass were tagged on the lip with a metal tag that has an identification number. Tags must be removed and sent in for prizes to be claimed.

One-hundred-sixty bass were tagged in the West Fork of the White River (Madison, Hamilton and Marion counties) from near Perkinsville downstream to the West Raymond Street Bridge.

The St. Joseph River (St. Joseph and Elkhart counties) had 156 tagged bass. Tagged fish are distributed from Bristol to the Indiana-Michigan

border.

Manchester University tagged 87 smallmouth bass on the Eel River (Wabash, Miami and Cass counties) from South Whitley downstream to Logansport.

Tagged bass do not have to be harvested to receive a reward, but anglers must remove the tag. To report tagged catches, call the phone number listed on the tag, **(812) 287-8300**.

The project is a partnership between the DNR and Indiana Wildlife Federation, Reel Women-Reel Men of Indianapolis, Indy Flycasters, St. Joseph River Valley Fly Fishers, Indiana Smallmouth Alliance and Manchester College, who are providing administrative and financial assistance.

DNR Historic Preservation & Archaeology gets Award

The National Park Service has presented its first ever "National Cultural Resources Stewardship and Partnership Award" to the DNR Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology.

The award recognizes the Division's 35-year effort to systematically survey and document historic buildings and structures in all 92 Indiana counties. Cultural resource surveys are required by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, and Indiana is the first state to complete such a survey of its historic resources.

National Park Service assistant director Jon Smith presented the award at the state preservation conference in New Albany earlier this month.

Two organizations that partnered with the Division on the survey shared in the award — Indiana Landmarks and ARCH, Inc., of Fort Wayne.

The Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory began in the mid-1970s. Using federal funds administered by the Division, Indiana Landmarks provided matching funds and sent surveyors into about three counties each year. ARCH also provided matching funds and undertook the survey of several counties in the northeastern part of the state. The Indiana Department of Transportation provided additional funds.

Historic resources documented in the surveys include houses, commercial buildings, schools, churches, libraries, farmsteads, government buildings, bridges, and cemeteries. Each documented resource is at least 50 years old.

The Division uses information gathered from surveys to help determine which properties may be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and the Indiana Register. The survey also provides information on historic buildings that may be affected by state and federal projects.

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I met Kristy Ortman and Tom Stricker (Owner of Cutting Edge Sporting Goods) at his business located at 206 W. Main in downtown Greensburg, IN on April 29, 2014. Tom has a keen interest in the future of archery. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)



IFAA International round at Jay County Archers range. It is important to have employees, but it's just as important to have shooters promoting the shop and the sport. Left to right: Eric Cornelius, Julie Slicer, Stephen Phillips, Tom Stricker (Owner of Cutting Edge Sporting Goods), Logan Phillips, Chuck Herbert, Tracy Crider and Jessie Philpot. (Cutting Edge Sporting Goods Photo)

Cutting Edge Sponsoring 2nd Annual NASP World Fundraiser June 28th

by Ray Dickerson

I received a call from Tom Stricker, owner of the Cutting Edge Sporting Goods located in downtown Greensburg, IN about running an ad in The Gad-a-bout. I visited Tom's shop on Tuesday, April 29th getting all the information he wanted in his ad and also finding out about the 2nd Annual NASP World Fundraiser Archery Shoot to be held June 28, 2014 from 5-8:00 p.m. See his ad at the bottom half of the front page of this issue. For more information on his shop and the NASP World Fundraiser call Tom at **812-560-4208**.

I asked him if he could send something about himself, when he opened his shop, information that the reader would be interested in reading.

A few days later he sent me a copy of the Main Street News written by Sarah Robinson, she had

just written a article in her paper about his shop. Tom asked me if I could use her article.

I called Sarah Robinson and asked permission to reprint her story in The Gad-a-bout. She told me I could use it as long as I gave her full credit for the article. I told her I would do that. Her story is reprinted here.

Cutting Edge Sporting Goods

by Sarah Robinson

Executive Director of Main Street News

A Greensburg native since he moved here in the sixth grade, Tom Stricker is the owner of Cutting Edge Sporting Goods. Tom and his wife, Karen, run the shop with help from two additional employees. He opened up in Downtown Greensburg back in 2009.

Hunting and fishing has always been a passion of his. He decided to open up shop because he saw a need for it in the community, many people in the area hunt and fish, yet there was no good place nearby to purchase the needed paraphernalia or get repairs done. The net closest place that was able to provide the necessary services is located forty-five minutes away, and that is an inconvenience for many.

Open now for nearly five year, Cutting Edge has done well for itself. The shop and range originally opened up on along East Main Street, but by 2011 they moved to a larger location a couple block west and now have a larger retail space and range. Tom really enjoys being located Downtown and chose the location for several reasons. He wanted to be easily visible and accessible to his customers. Being located along Indiana 46 and Highway 421 has been great for his business.

Cutting Edge offers a wide variety of services to their customers. The retail shop has a plethora of both new and used target and hunting bows, apparel, live bait and much more. They also offer

a full range of repair services, lessons for those who wish to learn more about archery and host tournaments. In their range, they have both 3D and paper targets for people to practice with.

As well as running a business, Tom is the coach of the Junior High and High School archery clubs, who practice and train in his shop. The Junior High is in its third year as a club and the High School is in its second year. The clubs are doing very well and are headed to National Tournament down in Louisville, Kentucky May 9-10th and the World Tournament up in Madison, Wisconsin July 11-13th. Be sure to send good vibes their way and we wish them the best of luck!

Tom and the rest of the Cutting Edge family are very community oriented. They try to help anyone who walks through the doors. Most recently, they had a fundraiser for Archers for Autism and raised over \$1,000 for the organization. Their next fundraising endeavor will be to help send the student teams to the World Tournament.

Main Street News article about Cutting Edge Sporting Goods, Reprinted here with permission of Sarah Robinson Executive Director of Main Street News, May 2014 Issue #4. Greensburg, IN E-mail: execdirector@mainstreetgreensburg.com



Use this map to find the Cutting Edge Sporting Goods shop in Greensburg, IN. The blue arrow points to the Red Dot which is the exact location of Tom Stricker's shop.

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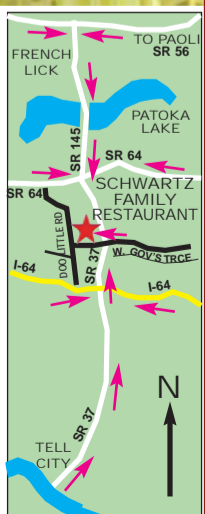
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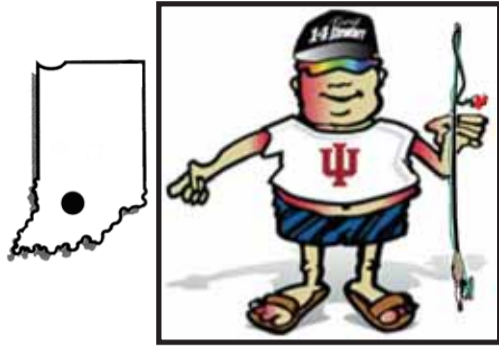
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Vacationing Southwest Indiana



by Jim Behrman

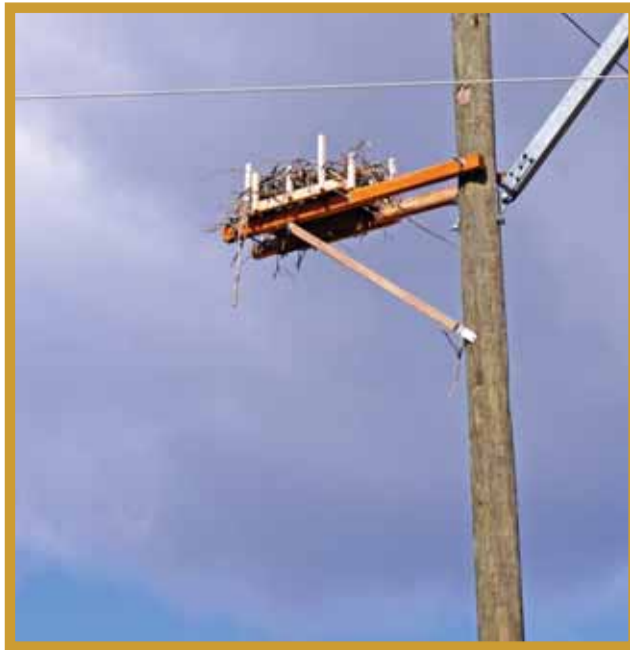
Osprey's add Sparkle to our Jewel, Patoka Lake

Hello, from the jewel of Southwest Indiana, Patoka Lake.

This jewel is in the center of a prime vacation area and it itself should be the center of your family vacation. There are many activities within a short drive or ride if you are into motorcycle or bicycles. We have hiking, caving, railroad museum and train rides, amusement parks, water parks, skiing, cycling, antiquing, architecture, seminars, championship golfing, birding, hunting, Amish quilts and baskets, farmers markets, diverse culinary experiences and numerous town festivals. This is all available to the family on vacation without even mentioning the jewel, Patoka Lake.

Patoka lake is 8,800 acres of the most beautiful, serene, and unused waters in the Midwest. The Federal Corp. of Engineers and the Indiana Dept. of Natural Resources have done an outstanding job of working together to create this jewel. They have kept this lake primarily for visitors to the area. There are no privately owned homes on the lake thus the pristine forests of Southern Indiana border the lake and no boat docks, patios or lawns. The DNR has worked tirelessly to build an awesome campground, visitors center, beach, hiking trails, boating ramps and fishery on Patoka lake.

The fishery is well known through out the



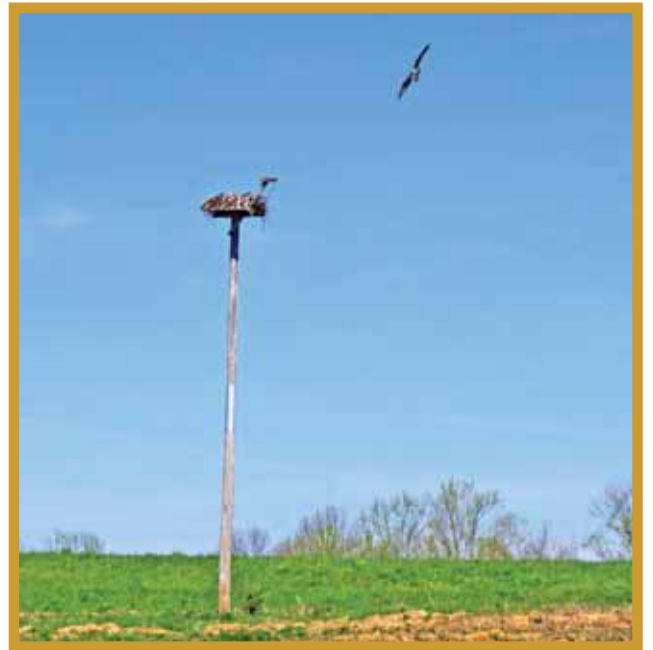
An Osprey nest showing the cooperation of the DNR and the utility company. (Author Photo)

Midwest. With bluegill, redear, crappie, channel cats, blue cats, flatheads, largemouth bass, small-mouth bass, white bass, hybrid bass, striped bass and walleye available you can fill a fryer in a hurry. The fishing continues to improve each year and the introduction of walleye and striped bass into the fishery has also introduced more diverse fishing techniques to the lake. (another article) It has also extended the fishing season into the dog days of summer by introducing newer methods for those deep water suspended fish or those deep water structures.

One of the best, and most under appreciated, the DNR has done is the reintroduction and facilitation of the growth of the population of Osprey and the Bald Eagle in the Patoka Lake area. I am "older than dirt" and a born and bred Southern Indian Hoosier. Except for some time at Ft. Knox, Ky., Ft. Gordon Ga., and Ft. Hood Texas, I have not left this area and had not seen an Osprey or Osprey nest, Bald Eagle or Bald Eagles nest.

The restoration for the Osprey, sometimes called a fish hawk, started in the mid 90's and has resulted in 11 active nests. If you are boating on the lake you will see a pole with a platform on top of it with a large bird nest on the platform. This is an Osprey nest and from early April thru early July it will be occupied by 1 or 2 Osprey chicks screaming "feed me" in Osprey speech. This raptor will also be visible soaring over the lake watching the water for it's chicks next meal. They are smaller than an Eagle but larger than a gull and will suddenly fold up and dive head first into the lake. They will dive as deep as 4 ft. and come out of the water flying with a fish in their talons. It will immediately head for a nearby tree to enjoy it's meal or head toward that screaming chick to feed it. Watching these raptors feed themselves or their chicks is an awesome way to spend an afternoon on the lake.

The restoration for the Bald Eagle started in 1985 with the release of some eagles from the Monroe Reservoir, area. When these eagles were released the hope was when they matured and were ready reproduce they would return to the same general area they were released in. In 1992 there were 2 eagles nests in the Patoka Lake area and this has grown to 9 active nests in the area this year. Each of these nests will have 1 or 2 chicks, 2 adult eagles and 1 or 2 siblings from a previous year assisting in the rearing of the chicks. In early



An Osprey nest on Patoka Lake with a young chick being fed. (Author Photo)

July when the chicks are learning to fly we can have upwards of 25 adult and young eagles flying around the lake or setting in a tree majestically looking over the lake. Each and every time I see one of these majestic birds swooping down to grab a fish in their talons, soaring in the air currents over the lake, or just setting on a limb overlooking their domain I get a thrill and a warm feeling. I think my generation, so called baby boomer's, were born, raised, worked, had families, and never seen this regal symbol unless it was on vacation or television. Now thanks to the DNR and other Southern Indiana volunteers and Corporations assistance we can now see this symbol of our country soaring in our own skies.

I have talked about all the things and activities available to the vacationer in Southwest Indiana, the fishery on the lake, and the viewing of the Osprey and Eagle available. The real jewel is Patoka Lake itself surrounded by all these other attractions. In each family there are diverse interests and this area allows a family/group to accommodate this diversity without traveling hundreds of miles or unpacking, repacking, and relocating. At Patoka Lake you can make your base of operation a 4 or 5 or 6 bedroom houseboat, a cabin beside the lake, a bed and breakfast, or a motel/hotel in Jasper or French Lick. From your base you can then explore and satisfy all the diversity in your families/groups vacation desires.

My families base of operation is Hoosier Hills Marina. Here at Hoosier Hills there are houseboats, fishing boats, transient and annual slips for rent, a marina store, gas, and a marina store with everything you might need including a pizza or ice cream treat. The other thing Hoosier Hills marina excels in is their knowledge of the lake and those activities surrounding the lake. They are members of the local tourist organizations and thus are able to keep in touch with everything available to visitors to the area. The Hoosier Hills Marina staff is a great resource in helping you plan and execute your activities while you are here visiting.

I hope in the article I have given you some ideas about how your family/group might enjoy a vacation to this jewel of Southwest Indiana. The diversity of the area, from the lake itself, all the activities and attractions, and most important all the people here who are excited you are coming and will show you the best of their "Hoosier hospitality". ■



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My good friend Jay Bias, owner of Jay's Midlake has been working all winter and spring on his building. He has remodeled the interior, adding new tables and chairs to his dining area so he can serve more people comfortably. He has added a new Deli and expanded his candy assortment to also include Salt Water Taffy. He also serves Pizza. Check out the photos above and below also check his ad out at the bottom of the page for other things he sells. To really see what he has worked so hard to accomplish, stop in his store. He is easy to find. From north or south take SR 101 from either Liberty or Brookville, IN and turn west at Old State Road 101 (Also Fairfield Ramp Road to Brookville Lake) he will be on your right about a mile from SR 101. You can't miss him, he has quite a few intermittent signs on the right hand side of road giving you a preview of his business. (Photos by Ray Dickerson)

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Fishing Lake Michigan



by Capt. Mike Schoonveld

THE 84-CENT SOLUTION

I do most of the routine maintenance and repairs on my boat myself. Anything I'm not sure about, I turn over to a trained professional.

At the end of an early spring fishing trip, I lowered the lower unit at the end of the trip to make sure all the water drained out it since it was to be near 32 degrees overnight and I didn't want any water trapped inside to freeze. When the unit is in the down position the skeg (the fin under the propeller housing) is only about 2-inches from the pavement.

The long and short of it is I forgot to raise the unit to the travel position on the way home. The other short of it is the skeg is now a bit shorter with some nicks and dings thanks to bouncing over the spring potholes on the highway. Other than the dings, it appeared to be okay. No oil leaking or other cracks. The next morning, back at the lake, the gears shifted fine, the propeller spun and we had a fine day of fishing.

I didn't fish the third day, but I worked on the boat, cleaning, making minor tackle repairs and such, readying the boat for the next outing a couple days away. There is a plastic reservoir in the engine compartment that allows an easy, visual check of the level of the lower unit oil. The reservoir was empty. It's never been empty

Worse, the residual oil in the reservoir looked like heavily creamed coffee. (It's supposed to be dark and translucent.) Milky looking oil means it has water mixed with it. One last check to assess the situation. I removed the drain plug from the propeller housing. The oil that ran out was as waterlogged as what was in the reservoir. Oil was getting out, water in.

There are several seals and gaskets which could account for this. Almost none of them are quick, easy or inexpensive to repair. In some cases, it's easier and less expensive to purchase a professionally rebuilt lower unit than to repair the broken one. (Expensive meaning \$1200 or more.)

Then I noticed on the plug itself, a dab of RTV,



How often does the simple and inexpensive fix cure the problem? Not that often for me. (Author Photo)

often called form-a-gasket. Mechanics sometimes use RTV when a gasket has a crack or other flaw. I've used it myself. I'd obviously used it last fall when I changed the lower unit oil during winterization.

Why I used it, I don't remember. I must have noticed a flaw in the drain plug gasket. I've never changed the gasket when I changed the gear lube. Perhaps that's a flawed practice.

Could it be the flawed and improperly repaired gasket was the culprit, not a blown out seal or washer? What's the likelihood of my repair costing eighty-four cents for a new plug gasket verses 12-hundred? My guess was a thousand to one.

I bought a new plug washer. I drained the icky oil. I added a pint of new oil and let it drain through to flush out the remaining icky, then refilled the lower unit with new gear lube and topped off the reservoir exactly to the full mark.

The next morning I checked the reservoir, still perfect. The next test came after I'd run the motor for an hour. I opened the engine hatch. The oil in the reservoir was still exactly at the full mark and it looked a pleasingly translucent dark turquoise. Further inspections, later in the day, were equally pleasing.

The definitive test came next. I unscrewed the unit's lower drain-plug to check the oil there, closest to where any water infiltration would occur. Amazing!

It flowed out clean, translucent and just as void of moisture as when I added it! My eighty-five cent repair was successful.

Lessons learned: Disasters can be averted. The simple fix can work. Always change your drain plug gasket when you change your lower unit oil! They only cost eighty-four cents. Most important, change the lower unit draining protocol at the end of a fishing trip to ensure you never drive it home in the down position.

THE END

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Misfires & Snags



by Dan Graves

WIDE (YAWN) WORLD OF SPORTS

It's Sunday afternoon and the yard is mowed, a cool wind and cloudy sky rules out rolling the motorcycle out of the garage, so the only thing to do is sit in front of the boob tube and watch the latest offering from the sports world. Sundays are normally limited to golf and baseball. These two normally offer more time for time for snoozing due to their less than heart stopping action and droning play by play coverage by the commentators. I've made feeble attempts to watch hockey and once, a soccer game. In hockey, a bunch of guys on skates use long handled sticks to swat a puck back and forth and occasionally, the same sticks to swat each other. Once in a great while the puck goes into a net and the crowd roars. Then, there are penalties called icing and checking. All I know about those is, something my wife spread on a cake and an account that always seems to be too low to pay my bills. As for soccer, I would rather spend time at a used car lot watching chrome rust. The players use feet and heads to bat a ball back and forth with a player from one team kicking it one direction and a player from the other team intercepting it and kicking it back. The most exciting part of the game occurs when opposing fans decide to beat about each other's heads with hair covered knuckles. Nothing brightens a soccer game like a full blown riot. When at those rare times that the ball gets into a goal, you would think that team's fans had all just been appointed as judges at the Nude Miss Universe contest. What's next? Wide World of Sports presents the opening rounds of the World Chess Championship! How long until the winner of that title shows up on the Wheaties box?

Avid fans probably enjoy a variety of sports, but what are the chances of ESPN airing weekly shows on bobber fishing and precision long range shooting matches? Imagine the following as commentators follow the action at a national bluegill tournament:

"Welcome to the final round of the National Bluegill Fishing Tournament being held here at Happy Holler lake in the beautiful mountains of southern Tennessee. I'm Buck Chucker along with Eb Shank, and we'll be following all the action today as these professional anglers go after the

title of Master Bluegill Angler and a purse of twenty five dollars. For those of you who watched the preliminary round yesterday, it was won by Billie Bob Ledbetter with a whopping seven incher weighing fourteen ounces, followed in second place with a six and three quarter inch, twelve ounce tackle buster wrestled aboard by Bif "Lucky" Balser."

"Yeh Buck, those boys had quite a tussle landing those two monsters, but they're both hopin' for the ten incher today. Our cameras will be following the action live as twenty contestants go after the wily 'gill using only bee moths for bait and hooks no smaller than number twelves and six pound line. Lets join Billie Bob as he makes his first cast."

"Well Eb, it looks like Billie Bob will be able to retrieve his line from that tree with no trouble. Yes, he has it out and shoots his second cast just short of that brush pile. Good spot and his bobber looks like it has settled down pretty well. We'll wait for the action and hopefully a good bite. Meanwhile, let's check in on Bif."

"It appears his rig is down on a good spot. While we wait for results, let's have a word from our sponsor, Luke's Bait, Tackle and Convenience Store." (Sixty seconds later the scene returns to a closeup of a bobber sitting on the surface).

"Any action on your end, Eb?"

"Nope, not yet. How about you?"

"Not yet. Lets have another word from our sponsor."

So it goes for an hour with forty five commercials, no fish and Billie Bob winning with the previous days seven incher. An unknown viewer, hoping for more, sends ESPN a nasty e-mail, burns down Luke's Bait and Tackle and tunes into the next soccer match.

"Good morning, and we're here at Camp Perry for the final round of the matches to determine the winners in the 6mm PPC division. I'm Kalen Boomer, more commonly known as Ka-Boom. As you may know, yesterday, Lance Lightning shot an almost perfect score of two ninety nine and a half against Huey "Lefty" Barnstable's two ninety nine and a quarter. Let's join the action at the benches and today's commentator, Leroy Jackbone."

"Good morning, Ka-Boom. Lightning is lining up his first shot. And he sends it downrange. It looks like it might be a good one, but it's hard to tell from our position two hundred yards away with no binoculars. Due to the time intervals allowed between shots, we'll pause here and return you to your local stations for an up-to-date weather report in your area." Three minute pause.

"Welcome back just in time for Lightning's second shot. And it's away! We'll have to wait for the judges decision, but in the meantime, here are the program schedules for this station from three p.m. until twelve midnight tonight. Stay tuned for more action."

After considering the potential alternatives, hockey and soccer aren't so bad after all. Maybe I'll watch the Wall Street channel. Watching my investments go down the sewer could be the ideal way to elevate my blood pressure and keep my vocabulary well lubricated.

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Notes from:
Prairie Wolf Gun Repair



by Marshall Smith
Owner/Gunsmith

Follow-up on Ultrasonic Cleaners for guns or brass

Last month I wrote about my tests using an RCBS Ultrasonic Cleaner and was very disappointed in its ability to clean carbon, oil, and powder from guns. It seemed to do well cleaning once fired brass of powder residue without damage to the brass. To follow up, I continued using the ultrasonic cleaner and tested a few other guns in different stages of clean. One was a brand new .45 cal. Argentine made semi-automatic pistol. I won't mention the brand of the pistol which was made of stainless steel which had a blackened barrel that appeared to be anodized or powder coated. The gun had only about 200 rounds fired through it when I received it for inspection and cleaning and some custom work to be done. I placed the barrel along with the trigger group and slide into the ultrasonic cleaner with a gun and brass cleaning solution for the recommended time of 10 minutes, no heat. To my surprise after about 5 minutes I checked to process and found the solution, which had begun as a milky color to now be almost black. Suspecting something wasn't right I removed the parts immediately and dried everything off.

I don't have a before and after picture, wish I did, but I found that the parts in general didn't look cleaned but were oil free. The barrel, which had been a dark black color was now, much lighter. It could still be called black, but not nearly as deep a black as before. I filtered the cleaning solution and the filter caught much of the black particles removed from the barrel in just 5 minutes. I may have been possible to remove the entire finish had I allowed it to continue for the full 10 minutes. In the previous article I had tried cleaning a anodized aluminum receiver and the machine removed spots of the anodizing from the receiver. That was the last time I placed any gun parts into that ultrasonic machine.

There is an article in one of my gunsmithing magazines on ultrasonics that discusses the differences of the brands of ultrasonic cleaners. The article discussed quite extensively the differences in the machines and the different frequencies used in the ultrasonic cleaning processes of the more expensive industrial machines. It was the articles conclusion that using the wrong frequencies would do more damage to the metal parts and their finishes than was necessary. Different frequencies were more effective in cleaning grease, powder residue, and grime. So the lesson here seems to be, if I am going to use an ultrasonic cleaner to clean gun parts then purchase one that is exclusively dedicated to gun parts clean-

ing and the metals used in guns. Use a machine designed only for cleaning brass and avoid cleaning guns in it. I've checked on line for prices and guess what, those machines that are designed at the frequencies for cleaning guns are more expensive than the machines used for cleaning brass. Often 4 to 5 times as expensive. Save your gun, spend the money for the right machine for the right job.

GUN RIGHTS

In an article by Richard Wolf in the USA TODAY, May 5, 2014, reported that "The (Supreme) court refused Monday to decide whether the right to bear arms extends outside the home. The justices won't consider a challenge to a New Jersey law that restricts most residents from carrying guns in public." New Jersey requires its residents to prove a "Justifiable Need" to carry a gun outside the home whether concealed or open. The NRA and the Gun Owners Foundation had supported the challenge to the New Jersey law saying that, "The Second Amendment guarantees the right to carry weapons for the purpose of self-defense, not just for self-defense within the home, but for self-defense, period." The USA TODAY article doesn't go into the details leading up to the Supreme Court's refusal but the Christian Science Monitor has a very good article which is very informative and complete on the details of the challenge to the New Jersey law. I would suggest you take the time to read the article at <http://www.csmonitor.com/USA/Justice/2014/0505/Strict-N.J.-rule-on-gun-permits-stands-as-Supreme-Court-refuses-case-video>. The article explanation of the reason for the challenge was initiated by The New Jersey lawsuit was filed by four New Jersey residents and two groups, the Second Amendment Foundation and the Association of New Jersey Rifle and Pistol Clubs. One of the residents was a Sheriff's Deputy who applied for a permit to carry while off duty to protect himself from criminals who he had dealt with. He was denied the permit for not showing a "justifiable need". I didn't know that New Jersey didn't allow their off duty law enforcement officers to not carry a gun. This New Jersey law cannot be allowed to stand. I'm old enough that I remember when Indiana had a similar law, and many people were denied a carry permit because their need was not justified. Be on the watch, now that the gun grabbers have won a small victory they will be pushing for all states to enact similar laws as New Jersey's. Remember, the Second Amendment states very clearly, ...the right to bear arms... "will not be infringed".

That's all for this month. These notes are mine alone and do not represent the opinion or position of anyone but me. If you have a question or a comment on guns, gunsmithing, gun rights, or, would like to just make a comment email me with your comments at PrarieWolfGuns@gmail.com. I'll answer your questions as best I can and some answers may be included in this column. Protect your Constitutional rights, exercise your voice to be heard, contact your Congressional Representative and Senator and express your opinion. Be Informed, Be Heard. Be the squeaky wheel, demand your rights.

Next Month, "What Happened to Honorable?"

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Talking Leaves



by Golden Eagle

End of The Trail

If you are reading this column then you know that I have crossed over into the land of shadows.....

I would like to think that I found myself on a hill over looking a stream...sitting under a big oak tree. Nearby is a chestnut horse with a black mane and tail. He has a white blaze and four white stockings. He wears an old McClellan saddle and a blue army blanket trimmed in yellow with one gold star.

Below the popular trees along the stream are in bloom and the flowers fall into the stream. Across the stream is a mist.

As I mount my horse and prepare to cross over into the mist I have a warm feeling. I know that all that I have done in life will be judged and my future, my eternity will be based on the record that I have made.

I look forward to that final judgment but I am reluctant to break my ties with this life. I leave a wonderful family and a wonderful extended family of many friends and associates.

I have few regrets, for my life on earth has been full and exciting. I have lived as I wanted to live. I have done pretty much what I wanted to do. Always feeling the presence of my guardian spirit, the holy mother, and the three that are One.

Now, as I ride toward the mist, I feel light and free. Soon I will know the answers and be satisfied. I ask only one thing of the future. I hope that I will retain my memories. Memories of two wonderful wives, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Memories of gatherings and reenactments. Memories of friendships made along the way in the dance circle and by the campfire. Memories made at Treaty Line; Mississinewa; California Nature Preserve; LaBoiteaux Woods; On the mesas; in the Canadian woods; and the great plains.

When you think of me, remember the happy times. Think of me with joy in your heart. Remember that we are all part of a great circle of life. And when you think of me, think of what lies ahead for all of us as we cross over into the mist and discover the light and peace of eternity.....

Golden Eagle



Top Photo: Henry M. "Hank" Stock aka Golden Eagle's family attending the funeral service from left to right Tina and Bill Huffman, Michael Stock, Deborah and Jim Hall, Nancy and Bruce Smith, Donna and Don McClure. Bottom Photos: Hank was buried with full military honors in Spring Grove Cemetery. Left photo, the Army Honor Guard preparing to fold American Flag; at right, the Army Honor Guard is retiring from the field after presenting the American Flag to Debbie Hall, daughter of Hank Stock (Golden Eagle). (Photos by Ray Dickerson)

Golden Eagle's Obituary

Henry M. "Hank", aka Golden Eagle. Beloved husband of the late Jane Marie McClure (nee Thiemeier) and the late Betty (nee Dunlap). Loving father of Michael Stock of Tucson, AZ, Deborah (Jim) Hall of Kennesaw, GA, and Tina (Bill) Huffman of Cincinnati. Step-father of Don (Donna) McClure of Walton, NE, and Nancy (Bruce) Smith of Cincinnati. Also survived by 13 grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren. Brother of Ann Geiser and uncle of her children Carol Mcneely and Tom Geiser. Passed away Friday, May 9, 2014, age 88. Visitation at Hodapp Funeral Home, 6041 Hamilton Ave., College Hill, Sunday 1-3 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial at St. Ann Church, 2900 W. Galbraith Rd., Groesbeck, Monday 10 a.m. Interment with military honors follows at Spring Grove Cemetery. Memorials may be made in the name of Golden Eagle to St. Joseph's Indian School, Chamberlain, SD 57326. Condolences at hodappfuneralhome.com

Editor's Note: Saturday, May 12th, Golden Eagle's

daughter, Deborah called me. She said Hank had passed away on Friday, the funeral would be at 10 a.m. on Monday, he had listed me as a pall bearer, could I make it? I told her I would be there. A promise is a promise. Ray

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Top Left Photo: Raul Alvarado and Sherry Dickerson enjoy eating at Rudy's BBQ Restaurant near Round Rock, TX. Top Middle Photo: The Texas State History Museum in downtown Austin. Top Right Photo: Raul and Sherry viewing artifacts inside the museum. Bottom Left Photo: Raul took us to the Zilker Botanical Gardens also in Austin. (Photos by Ray Dickerson) Bottom Right Photo: Bob & Cathy DeCesare, Sherry and Ray Dickerson. Bob and I was stationed at RAF Chelveston England at same time, but we had never met until this day. (Photo by Raul Alvarado)

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Went to Florida by way of Texas

Article by Ray Dickerson

Early last fall I decided I would like to take a two week vacation in 2014 if it would be okay with Sherry to do so. It's hard to match up our work schedules at anytime during the year. Sherry works at Reid Memorial Hospital Cafeteria in Richmond and I publish The Gad-a-bout, both of which are controlled by strict guidelines as to time off.

After checking her schedule against mine there was only two weeks out of the entire year that would work, April 13 thru the 27th. We discussed it and decided to do it, even though we didn't have a clue what the weather would be like. This past fall and winter had been very unpredictable and we were all wanting to see better weather.

One thing that I've really wanted to do for a long time was to visit Lackland Air Force Base. Lackland is the only active Air Force Base I was stationed at

that is still open. Amarillo AFB, RAF Chelveston, RAF Alconbury and Stewart AFB have all been closed or destroyed. I have been in contact by phone and e-mail with some former Air Force friends since 2006, they include Jack Petruska, Bob DeCesare, Jim Eubank and I was stationed at RAF Chelveston in England in the late 50's to the early 60's, serving in the United States Air Force. Jack, Jim and I worked in Base Supply and knew one another to some degree. Bob DeCesare was an Air Policeman that I hadn't met at RAF Chelveston, but hoped to meet in Texas where he lives, on this trip. We all found one another on the internet through a website dedicated to RAF Chelveston servicemen and women, the link is www.rushden.org/ under the heading of "Messages" subtitle Read G.I.'s Messages. The website has undergone a recent upgrade, it still reads: "Reuniting old friends from Northants, England."

On this trip though, traveling to Florida by way of Texas we will only be visiting Raul Alvarado in Round Rock, TX; Bob & Cathy DeCesare in Austin, **CONTINUED ON PAGE 16**

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Left Photo: TSgt Ronald Hariston took Sherry, Raul and I on a tour of Lackland Air Force Base near San Antonio, TX on Wednesday, April 16th in this van. (Photo by Raul Alvarado) Right Photo: New recruit housing and training dormitories were built in the 1970's, replacing the WWII barracks like the few you can see in this photo. When I was stationed at Lackland in November of 1959 we lived in WWII barracks. (History Photo) TSgt Hariston showed us the last remaining WWII building, which has been moved into a historical area where old planes are parked.

Traveling to Florida By Way of Texas

CONTINUED
FROM PAGE 15

TX; Lackland AFB in San Antonio, TX; Seabee Tim Mahoney and his wife, Betty in Houston, TX; Maybe the Navy Construction Battalion Center in Gulfport, MS; Sherry's Aunt Lucille Kendall and cousin Jenny Mahoney in Sarasota, FL; the Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral, FL; My cousins Robert and Paula Minor in Mims and possibly Jim and Brenda Eubank in Richmond, KY.

On January 30, 2014 I sent an e-mail to Lackland Air Force Base public affairs office asking if it would be possible for us to visit the base on April 14, 15 or 16th. I told them I attended basic training there in November of 1959.

I got a reply from them on Tuesday February 18, 2014. Their e-mail said, "Do you have a valid military identification card? If you do, then there will be no problem with your coming on base. Unfortunately, we do not offer the monthly base tours any more. Very Respectfully, 502nd Air Base Wing Public Affairs Office.

That evening I sent an e-mail to Colonel Dennis Dabney who is the Commander of the 437th Maintenance Group at Joint Base Charleston, SC telling him about my wanting to visit Lackland AFB and the response I got from the Public Affairs office on Lackland. Colonel Dabney and I met after he fished on Brookville Lake with one of my columnists, Tag Nobbe. We met several times when he was stationed at Wright Patterson near Dayton, always in conjunction with fishing on Brookville.

The next day I got a reply from Colonel Dennis Dabney telling me he had a colleague at Lackland who may be able to assist us gaining access to



Left Photo: Emblem of the 502d Air Base Wing (502 ABW) is a United States Air Force unit that provides installation support for Joint Base San Antonio. The 502d activated on 1 August 2009. Right Photo: A photo of a C5 Galaxy similar to the one we saw landing at Lackland AFB. (Wikipedia the free encyclopedia)



Lackland. He asked me what the dates was that I would be in Texas.

I replied that we would be in Round Rock, Texas April 14 thru the 16th, 2014.

In March I began contacting the friends we wanted to visit on the trip.

I sent an e-mail to Raul Alvarado who now lives in Round Rock, TX. Sherry and I met him and became very good friends when we visited with him in Worcester (Wooster), MA. I told him we would be there from April 14-16, 2014. He invited us to stay at his home and we took him up on his offer.

I sent an e-mail to Bob and Cathy DeCesare telling them we would be in Round Rock, TX April 14-16 and could they let me know if they would be in Austin during that time.

Next I e-mailed Seabee Tim and Betty Mahoney who live in Houston, TX. Tim and I met in September 2012 at a Seabee Reunion I hosted in honor of my Dad who was also a Seabee. I told Tim we would be leaving Round Rock, early on April 17th and arriving in Houston around noon that day. Would he be in Houston that day?

Sherry and I called her Aunt Lucille Kendall in Sarasota asking if she would be home April 19-21, but she told us she would be busy with Easter activities on those days, so we changed our schedule to

visit her on April 20-22.

Our last contact was to Robert "Bob" and Paula Minor who live in Mims, FL. Unfortunately though Paula had been ill and couldn't have visitors.

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Left Photo: After leaving Lackland AFB Raul took us to the River Walk in San Antonio, not far from the Alamo. Right Photo: Here Raul and Sherry are standing in front of the historical mission, that stands as a monument to the Texan's resolve for independence. Our flight at Lackland, back in 1959 didn't get to see the Alamo for sleeping thru reveille. (Photos by Ray Dickerson)

So instead of going to Mims we would go to the Kennedy Space Center on April 23rd.

The week before we were to leave I sent Bob Minor our itinerary of our travels explaining we were going to visit Sherry's Aunt Lucille on April 20-22, then leave for the Kennedy Space Center early on the morning of April 23, spending the night in Jacksonville, FL.

Bob e-mailed me back and asked if maybe we could spend the night of the 23rd with them instead of Jacksonville. Paula was feeling better and it would be a shame for us not to get to visit with them since we were in Florida. Then too he said we could spend more time at the Space Center, since we didn't have to drive all the way to Jacksonville. We accepted their offer. (Bob retired from NASA, he worked on the Apollo and Shuttle space missions.)

On Sunday, April 13th Sherry and I left Centerville at 6 a.m. bound for the Quality Inn in Texarkanna by evening. In the stretch between Little Rock and Texarkanna we traveled through a pretty violent storm. I got behind an 18 wheeler and followed him through the worst of it.

Before we got to Texarkanna I got a call from U.S. Air Force Lt. Colonel Jay D. Scott, Colonel Dennis Dabney's friend. He was working on getting us on Lackland, but needed to know when we would be in that area of Texas. I told him we would be there April 14-16th and that which ever one of those dates

was best for him it would be good with us. He said he would call us again on Monday, April 14th.

We arrived in Texarkanna at around 5 p.m. The next morning, April 14th, we were up early at 5:41 a.m. heading for breakfast at the Inn.

We were all packed, loaded up and on the road heading for Round Rock, Texas at 6:45 a.m. traveling a route Raul Alvarado had given us so I could avoid the Dallas area then get onto I-35 towards Austin where we would meet him.

We got a call from Raul, he was rerouted to a job site in Temple, TX. He gave us directions to Rudy's BBQ close to Austin, to meet him there. We met him there at 2:06 p.m., had a really good BBQ meal before I followed him to his home in Round Rock. We arrived safe and sound at Raul's home at 5:29 p.m. Our car remained parked in his drive way for the duration of our stay in Round Rock.

Later Monday evening I got the call from Lt. Colonel Scott telling us he was making contingency plans for us to visit Lackland on Wednesday morning, since it didn't look like he was going to be able to meet us there. He said he would call us on Tuesday to give us the contact name and phone number at Lackland. I thanked him for giving us the opportunity to visit Lackland.

Tuesday morning Raul took us to the Texas Capitol building, then we visited the Texas State History Museum.

The day before I had called Bob DeCesare in Austin, he invited us to have supper at his home Tuesday evening and finally meet for the first time.

After leaving the Texas State History Museum we still had some time so Raul took us to the Zilker Botanical Gardens. It was beautiful, we really enjoyed all the interesting flora and fauna of the southwest.



Soon it was time for us to head for Bob and Cathy DeCesare's home. Bob was an Air Policeman at RAF Chelveston and I worked in Base Supply there.

As we pulled up to Bob's house, he was just returning home himself. We all got out and introduced ourselves to one another. Bob was bringing home our supper. He invited us in to meet his wife, Caterina. He told us he met Caterina when he was stationed in Italy. They were married in Rome, in the same church her mother was married.

We sat down to talk about RAF Chelveston, the Air Force and what we've been doing all these years. Bob wanted to know what I did after leaving the Air Force. I told him I worked at several different places with the longest time with General Telephone Company for 18 years. I began my publishing career in 1973 and it continues today with the current paper.

Bob told me he liked reading the paper copy of The Gad-a-bout, but didn't like reading it on the internet. He said he really enjoyed reading Golden Eagle's column.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

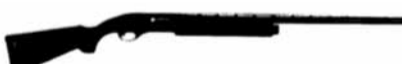
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Left Photo: Raul and his three well disciplined pet dogs from left to right, Dog, Lady, and Elmer. I took this photo just before having to leave for Houston. Right Photo: Left to right, Timie Creedon (daughter of Tim and Betty), Tim Mahoney and Sherry Dickerson in Houston, TX. We had supper with Tim and Betty at their home Thursday evening. (Photos by Ray Dickerson)




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Left Photo: Celebrating my 73rd birthday at Der Dutchman restaurant in Sarasota, FL - Note I'm holding my birthday cupcake with one candle on it. The ladies sitting on left side of table from left to right is Sherry Dickerson, Lucille Kendall and Jenny Mahoney. On the right side is Bob Ortolania and Ray Dickerson. (Photo taken by waitress) Right Photo: Sherry and her Aunt Lucille Kendall walking along a walkway thru the back part of community. Lucille plays the part of a clown in their community activities club. Sherry laughing at her aunts antics. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)



Left Photo: While traveling toward Florida in Gulfport I saw a sign "Naval Construction Battalion Center," without thinking about it I turned towards that direction. As you can see by this photo we found it. It was Saturday so everything was buttoned up. But now I can say I visited a Seabee outfit in Gulfport, MS the same location my Seabee dad was at 72 years ago prior to going overseas. Middle Photo: Sherry with the sea shells and sand we picked up at Siesta Key beach in Florida. Right Photo: Finally after 2 trips to Florida we saw a live alligator. (Photos by Ray Dickerson)

My cell phone rang, it was Lt. Colonel Scott calling to tell us he needed us to be in San Antonio by 9:30 a.m. Wednesday. He said he would call us Wednesday morning with the contact name, phone number and address. I thanked him for making it possible for us to visit Lackland, I was really looking forward to seeing the base, it was 55 years ago I was in basic training there.

I asked Bob what he did in the Air Force and since retiring. He said he attended school to become an Air Policeman and went to RAF Chelveston for 4 years. Over the course of the next 20 years he was stationed on several bases in all theaters of operation. For 5+ years he worked Air Force security on board Air Force 1 and 2. He flew with President Johnson, Nixon and Vice President Agnew all over the world. His wife flew also with the Secretary of State. He retired as a Master Sergeant from the United States Air Force in Austin, Texas.

He then took a job as a Police Patrolman in Austin spending 20 years with them. Today he and his wife enjoy the fruits of their labor, traveling, in fact they said they were returning to Italy sometime in May. One of the high points of Caterina's visit is to have an audience with the Pope.

Caterina and Bob served up food fit for a king, it was delicious. The evening flew by and soon it was time to leave. We had a big day planned for Wednesday, thanks to Colonel Dennis Dabney and his friend Lt. Colonel Jay D. Scott.

We said our goodbyes and headed for Raul's

home.

Early Wednesday morning we dressed and Raul introduced us to a road that had a maximum speed limit of 85 mph. I have a photo of the speed limit sign. We stopped at a McDonald's for a little bit of breakfast, while we were there Lt. Colonel Scott called, I gave the phone to Raul and he wrote down the contact information. We were to meet a Chief Master Sergeant John Coleman on Kelly Field.

Thanks to Raul's GPS we found Chief Master Sergeant John Coleman (CMSgt). He introduced us to Technical Sergeant Ronald Hariston (TSgt), our tour driver. I asked CMSgt Coleman if I was allowed to take some photos. He checked with Public Affairs, they said I couldn't take any photos.

That taken care of we followed TSgt Hariston out to the parking stopping by a nice van. We climbed in and off we went. TSgt Ronald Hariston knew the base like the back of his hand and a lot of the history too. There is not enough room here to describe everything we saw and everywhere he took us.

Here is a list of some of the things we saw: a World War II style Flight barracks reassembled in the Historic Museum area along with some older fighter planes on display; dog training area; recruit training area; foreign recruit training area; security headquarters; new training quarters; rifle range; old obstacle course; new beast obstacle course; tear gas chamber (1959 vintage); flight line from a distance with a C5 Galaxy landing; and some other locations that I can't remember much about.

Before leaving TSgt Hariston said it would be okay to take a few photos in the parking lot. So we did. We thanked TSgt Hariston for giving us such a good tour and I thanked him especially for giving me something more precious than gold, to finally get to re-visit Lackland after 55 years.

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Left Photo: Sherry Dickerson is dwarfed by the huge NASA Vehicle Assembly Building at the Kennedy Space Center. Right Photo: In the Atlantis Space Shuttle building you are first ushered into a dark room and watch one segment of Atlantis followed by moving to a second room, this one gets your attention to the sight and sounds of a space shuttle launch building to a crescendo of sound. It's awesome with the sound still reverberating from the walls, the far wall rises above the crowd and there before you is the Atlantis Space Shuttle in all its glory. (Photos by Ray Dickerson)



Left Photo: At the Entrance on the wall with President John F. Kennedy's image on it, his word say, "For the eyes of the world now look into space, to the moon and to the planets beyond, and we have vowed that we shall not see it governed by a hostile flag of conquest, but by a banner of freedom and peace. - John F. Kennedy. Right Photo: After leaving Kennedy Space Center we went to Mims, FL to spend the night with Bob and Paula Minor. We went to the Dixie Crossroads Restaurant that specializes in Seafood for supper. The food was excellent and the hush puppies yum-yum.

Jay D. Scott's help I could never had gotten onto Lackland at all. I will be forever grateful to them.

From Lackland Raul drove us to downtown San Antonio where we walked on the popular River Walk which is filled with shops and restaurants. We stopped and had lunch in a food plaza, then walked to the Alamo. We toured it all, spending most of the

afternoon there.

The next morning we had to leave and go to Houston. It had been a wonderful visit, Raul had bent over backwards showing us everything we wanted to see and more. We sadly said goodbye at around 9:30 a.m. leaving Round Rock for Houston, TX to visit Seabee Tim Mahoney. We arrived at the Quality Inn on highway Texas 6 near KATY, TX a little after noon. I called Tim telling him we were in Houston. He said they were expecting us for supper, around 5 p.m.

We cleaned up and arrived at their house a few minutes before 5 p.m.

We sat down and talked about our visit to Texas so far. Betty fixed a meal fit for a king. Afterwards we sat in the living room talking about all sorts of subjects. We also talked about what we would do the following day.

Tim and I leafed through the Dad's Seabee notebooks I brought along to show him. He and my dad was both in CBMU #624 landing on Okinawa April 1, 1945 with Marine Air Group MAG 33.

We stayed a little later than we should have, having got caught up in pleasant conversation. We thanked Tim and Betty for having us over for supper. It was so good to finally get to meet Betty.

Our visit for the next day with Tim and Betty was canceled due to their not feeling too good. We spent the day shopping and resting up for our 847 mile drive on Friday, driving to Florida.

Saturday morning we left at 5 a.m., it was still

pitch dark. Raul told us traffic would build fast in Houston, we needed to get out of town before the sun got up. Traffic wasn't too bad on I-10 except Baton Rouge, LA, Gulfport, MS, Mobile, AL, Pensacola and Tallahassee, FL. We saw a sign on I-10 that read Navy Construction Battalion Center (NCBC), so I followed the signs, finding the NCBC buildings and equipment surrounded by a very tall fence with no open gates nor visible signs of activity. We returned to I-10 and drove on to Live Oak and our Holiday Inn Express, arriving there at around 10 p.m.

Sunday morning we left Live Oak around 9 a.m. for the 241 mile drive to Fruitville, FL. We would be visiting Sherry's Aunt Lucille Kendall who lives in a retirement community near Sarasota, FL. We arrived at the AmericInn around 2 p.m.

We had a nice three day visit with Lucille. She had invited Sherry's cousin, Jenny Mahoney and Bob Ortolania who also lived in Sarasota one evening. We sat and talked about home, family and Florida. Sherry's aunt has lived in Florida for 51 years.

Sherry and I spent one day visiting the Siesta Key beach. We picked up lots of sea shells before departing and spending a quiet evening with Lucille who took us on a stroll around her community.

On Tuesday, April 22 it was my birthday so Lucille took the five of us, Sherry, Jenny, Bob and me to Der Dutchman Restaurant for supper. The food there was really good. I got a birthday cupcake with one candle on it.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 29

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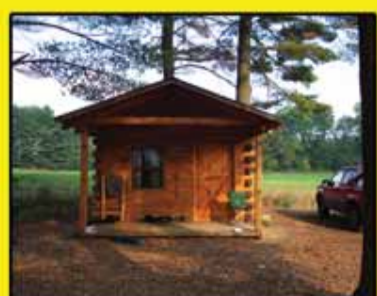
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Camping Here & Beyond



by John and El McCory

*Did You See What That
 Campground Was Doing?*

As many of you have done, we’ve camped far and wide and have seen a lot of sad things taking place in campgrounds all over North America (including Canada), all throughout Europe, and in New Zealand. We’re really surprised at the laxity of rules and regulations of the countries, the states, the counties, the local Boards of Health, and the lack of discipline of the campground associations of the states. We’ve even suggested that the various members of the board of directors of the states call the managers and/or owners for a little chat as to how their lack of tidiness and other transgressions can be rectified and what the advantages of “cleaning up” would mean to their business.

Simple things like sprucing up their entrances, buildings and fence rows (weeds cut and old fences removed and/or replaced), remodeling restrooms and recreation halls, painting or cleaning playground equipment such as horseshoes, bocce, tennis and basketball courts, and, of course keeping the kids’ playground equipment safe and up to regulations. Yes, these may be rather simple repairs but could be expensive according to how bad shape they’ve been allowed to get. You and I as campers could make suggestions as to these needed repairs and site possible dangers to those using the facilities. A little repair this month and a little next throughout the season and a concerted effort off season could make a world of difference. Probably an increase in attendance would be noticed and the various inspectors would now see fit to upgrade the facilities in their respective camping publications. Eventually the dollars coming in should compensate for the work and materials of the repairs and upgrades.

We won’t divulge in what state or country we’ve seen these and the following problems but any observant camper should quickly identify bad situations. No, it doesn’t take any behind the scenes work but a little effort can be used to find real problems. One such situation coming to our attention is the use of fifty-five gallon barrels, buried next to the camping unit, into which gravel and sand have been placed to filter grey water from campers’ sinks and showers. This then goes through holes in the bottom of the barrel in to the groundwater. Hopefully no black water tanks are being emptied the same way. If it is, E-Coli has a very good chance of getting into the drinking and/or swimming water. This possibility of anything of the sort getting in to the

potable water, also used for washing dishes and cooking totally infuriates this bio-geologist.

Another observation is the hauling of garbage and trash (and not having it picked up and disposed of by professionals in a sanitary landfill) and taking it to the middle of a dense wooded area under the shroud of darkness and burning it. Unless there are low flying planes or helicopters used to check situations like this, the practice could go on for years. Because of the leaves on shrubs and trees during the camping season it can’t be seen from ground level. How about septic tanks being pumped by a campground owner, hauled and spread on his nearby fields in which corn, soybeans, clover, wheat, etc., are being grown? Immediately after spreading the waste he disks it under. These crops will be ingested by hogs, cattle, chickens, etc., and then you and I. How about this one? Sewage flowing directly into fishing and swimming lakes. Happy recreation.

We’ve seen campgrounds close because they didn’t want to tie in to the nearby town sewer system even though the collector pipes ran just in front of the camping area. Evidently the heat from neighbors or the town board of health got too intense for them to connect so they eventually just gave up. Remember sewage tanks and lines from buildings and campsites are eventually going to fail so it’s to the campground’s advantage to connect when at all possible.

The states, counties and campground associations seemingly have advanced steadily in their requirements for compliance to the changing rules and regulations. We’ve seen a lot of positive changes in the last few years in camping rules. We believe that from the public making suggestions and the campground associations having legislative committees to monitor new state and local laws identified problems will be corrected. In many state associations a person or persons are designated to monitor laws pertaining to campgrounds.

Environmental awareness is being practiced in campgrounds across the United States. Right here in Northern Indiana, near Bristol, is a prime example of several updates on facilities done to save water, electricity, several types of recyclables, etc. At the forty-six year old Eby Pines campground with over three hundred water and electric, full hookups and/or primitive sites and cabin rentals, there are many changes taking place. They have two pavilions which can be rented for large groups. As a result of all this activity a lot of trash was being generated and a lot of water and electricity was being wasted. Barry and Jane Lang decided to make efforts to provide a greener camping experience and one from which their guests could see what they themselves could do to even a small dent in not so good environmental practices. Henry Eby, the original owner of the campground, had practiced soil conservation and the Langs have sought to find and employ their own ideas of conservation at the park.

Some of the things the Langs have done to “help save” the environment are: develop a centrally located recycle area where paper, cardboard, plastic, and cans are placed in the same container and the collection company sorts and recycles the collected materials and guests place wrapped garbage in another container, water saving shower heads, automatic no touch faucets and waterless urinals are now in the restrooms, a new outdoor privy has been added last year with hand sanitizing dispensers, and an electric charging station has been added to charge electric

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

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A .38 special that belonged the infamous Clyde Barrow. It is one of many firearms auctioned off by Rock Island Auction Co. in early May. Estimate of value was \$35,000-\$55,000. (Author Photo)



This gentleman is the patent owner and designer of this gun case which looks like the arm and paw (with claws!) of a bear. (Author Photo)

Outdoors



With Rich Creason

NRA COMES TO INDY

Nine acres of exhibits, seminars, special events, and more greeted thousands of attendees at the recent 143rd NRA Annual Meetings and Exhibits at the Indianapolis Convention Center. This was my first visit to one of the annual functions and I quickly found out one day was not enough to see all the exhibits, much less any of the seminars or workshops.

I thought it would be fairly expensive to get in the door, figuring the cost of local sporting events which passed my income level years ago. I found out most of the attendees actually got in free. National Rifle Association members and their families were free. Police officers, firefighters, and military personnel in uniform were free. Members of nationally recognized youth organizations (Scouts, 4-H, etc.) in uniform or otherwise properly identified were free. Members of the media covering the event (me) were free. I think anyone else had to pay \$10 which was the same amount I paid for the ham sandwich I had for lunch.

Some special events had a minimal price tag. Friday afternoon had a NRA-ILA Leadership Forum with speakers including two governors, two senators, Adam Vinatieri, any other notables. Friday night was the NRA Country Jam IV presented by Bushnell and the Folds of Honor Foundation and

featured country music stars Joe Nichols and Jerrod Niemann.

Saturday morning was the Annual Meeting of Members with speakers Chris Cox, NRA's Chief Lobbyist, NRA President Jim Porter, and Executive Vice President Wayne LaPierre. At the Stand and Fight Rally on Saturday night, attendees got to hear the country group Alabama, and Female Vocalist of the Year, Sara Evans. Sunday morning was the Annual Prayer Breakfast.

The wide variety of seminars, workshops, and special presentations ranging from "Refuse to be a Victim", "Shoot to Win", and "the Men and Guns of D-Day" to "Advanced Sausage Processing", Wild Game Cooking", "Puppy to Professional" and dozens more offerings made it hard to decide which to attend.

I attended the event with my friend (and chauffeur), Ron Rosenow, an NRA Benefactor. He had attended on Friday and was returning on Sunday, so anything he missed today he still had a chance to see. I, on the other hand, had only one chance to see everything. When you have exhibitors ranging from A & A Optics to Zerust Consumer Products (that's A to Z in case you missed it), and covering 90 pages in the free program, I would have to look and talk fast.

I wasn't particularly interested in looking at guns, (except the miniature ones and the weird ones like the three barrel shotgun), I did pay attention to the vendors displaying cleaning and lubrication products, hearing protection, books, coolers, and other smaller (spell that "less expensive"), items. I missed the African Elephant Hair Bracelet booth and I would have liked to have seen that. I also didn't see the Bradley Smoker display.

The section devoted to outdoor travel, hunting and fishing took up some of my time, even knowing I couldn't afford to go to any of those places. I did stop and examine several air rifle manufacturer's products, including the Crossman exhibit. Our eight-year-old grandson will be wanting one soon. I stopped by the Hawke Sport Optics booth to see if I could see my friends from this Ft. Wayne company.

The Jewelry by Koschtial exhibit had some gor-

geous pieces including some rings with elk ivory settings and lots of turquoise bracelets, one of my favorites. The prices were very reasonable, but I was able to keep my wallet in my pocket. I came close to spending money at several booths where authors were selling their books. (I really like autographed books.)

Of course, being a life member of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, I had to stop at their display and talk to them a while. Even though I have only hunted elk once in my life, and didn't get a shot, I feel this organization is one of the best groups to support.

At the MEC (Mayville Engineering Company) exhibit, I was happy to see my friend Shawn from the MEC factory in Fond du Lac, WI who I had met at a conference in that city last fall. MEC has some of the greatest reloaders on the market and one to reload my .410 shells will be soon be sitting on my workbench.

My next surprise was passing a booth and noticing a book "Deer Dad", a children's book written by JJ Reich of MN. He has a series of kid's books (and some for older people too). I had corresponded with JJ for many years, but we had never met. I asked the fellow manning the booth if JJ was in the building. He pointed him out and I went to meet him. He was working the Federal display and also the Savage Arms exhibit. It was great to finally put a face with the name I had known so long.

We continued walking the aisles, sometimes fighting the crowd, stopping to talk to some vendors, picking up literature of interest to place in our bags. Fortunately, I had brought a large, briefcase type bag (only twice that size) to put in the catalogs I was accumulating. The plastic bags they were passing out didn't last long when full. I was able to carry more, but by the end of the day, the shoulder strap was digging into my neck and shoulder.

The first paragraph in the Official Program says "Welcome to Indianapolis and to your National Rifle Association's 143rd Annual Meetings and Exhibits—a celebration of the Second Amendment and our freedom." It is in large part because of the work of the NRA we are still allowed to meet at a function like this to enjoy a display of this magni-




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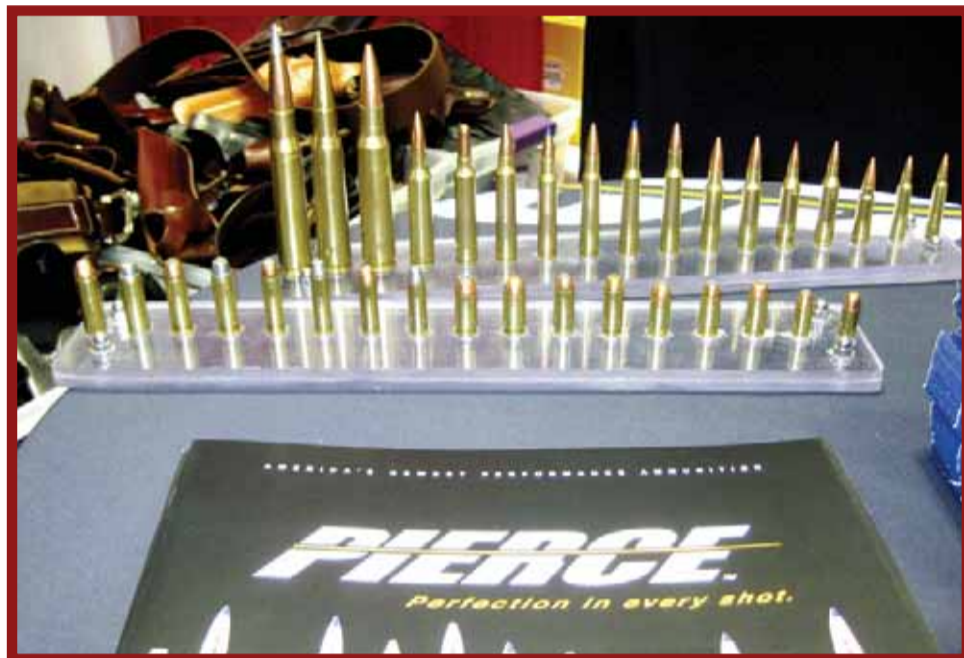
bigdaddysgunsandmore.com



This display of shotgun shell boxes is what I grew up with. The shelves of my Dad's gun cabinet was full of these boxes. (Author Photo)



I looked at several different versions of these coolers of the future. They are sturdy, bear proof, and able to hold ice all summer (well, maybe not that long, but a long time.) (Author Photo)



Pierce Munitions, the exclusive manufacturer of Ted Nugent's line of high performance hunting ammunition, had this display of their various cartridges. (Author Photo)



This display at the 143rd NRA Annual Meetings and Exhibits at the Indianapolis Convention Center is a United Spanish War Veterans display from Cincinnati, Ohio. (Author Photo)

tude, of these type products.

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

Camping Here and Beyond

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

golf carts that are being suggested instead of air polluting gas carts and electric carts can be rented. Sodium vapor and compact fluorescent lighting is now being used throughout the park in cabin rentals, bathroom facilities and in the camping store.

The most recent addition is the Comfy Cottage made of recycled timber cut from throughout the park. After being cut at Eby's they were taken to a local mill to be prepared to construct the Cottage. The cottage has a high efficiency heat pump and a/c, an on demand hot water heater and compact fluorescent lights. In the future more ideas are being looked at to continue to make Eby Pines more environmentally efficient.

If you can identify any other problems similar to the ones we've mentioned above contact us (without mentioning names of campgrounds or people) and we'll consider writing about them.

Maybe a concerted effort can be made this summer to clean up some serious messes. Contact us at:

jmacnut@yahoo.com or call 260-637-3524. Have a great summer camping.

John and El McCory

News From The Indiana State Police

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

numerous governors and political figures, thanks to our coverage of special events. It's just another aspect of being a state trooper and being ready to go anywhere in the state you're needed, and to do whatever job is asked of you.

Speaking of special events, if you're at the state fair this year, I'll be there hopefully in the north information booth again with my buddy Randy McPike, the second week of the fair. Make sure to stop by and say hello.

Remember if you'd like to get the news, road reports and traffic alerts the same time and way as the media, go to www.nixle.com and sign up for your free account today. You can pick which districts to get your information from- just make sure you also choose the headquarters account along with your district, as we send a lot of statewide information from there. Thanks for reading and for allowing all of us to serve all of you. Be safe, and we'll talk again next month.

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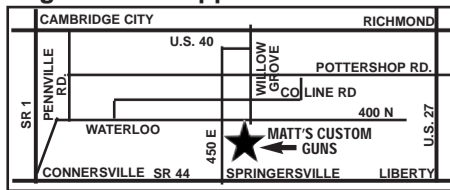
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Indiana Outdoors



by Joe Martino

Look to streams and rivers for summer time angling opportunities - and more!

Barely into my retrieve, the small crankbait came to an abrupt halt as if being smashed by a locomotive. One swift hook set later and the surface of the once tranquil stream exploded as the chunky smallmouth leapt from its waters. Upon releasing the fish, I asked myself why I don't spend more time in the streams and rivers as I once used to - vowing to try to do so in the upcoming weeks. This all took place over a month ago and, as usual, work and family commitments - along with excessive rains - have prevented me from making a return trip as of yet.

I believe and have often stated that one of our states (or the Midwest's for that matter,) less utilized resources for outdoor activities are the many streams, creeks and rivers that course through its landscape. Well, after holding onto this belief for many years, I am beginning to change my mind now, as it appears that more and more people - in my neck of the woods anyway - are discovering just how useful and enjoyable our local waterways can be. Although outdoor recreation on streams and rivers seems to be gaining in popularity, making it somewhat more difficult to find a stretch to yourself in some places, these flowing paradises still offer less congestion and just as good, if not better fishing than many lakes and reservoirs.

Ever since I was a child growing up, my friends and I would often head down to one of the local creeks, fishing gear in tow, in the hopes of catching some smallmouth bass and goggle-eyes. Back then, honestly, all we really caught were dozens of small creek chubs but they kept us entertained at the time and kept us coming back.

As we got older and learned a few more things about fishing, the smallmouth bass and rock bass began to appear on the end of our rods and we soon realized what hidden treasures our local streams and rivers were. They were close to home yet seemed a million miles away with their breathtaking beauty and serenity. And the quality of fish that we began to catch was impressive to boot! Since those humble beginnings, many trophy sized smallmouths and walleyes have provided me with impressive battles and many fond memories



Believe it or not, most small streams and creeks around the Hoosier landscape can offer up some bragging-sized smallmouths, as well as other sought after gamefish species. (Author Photo)

in these waterways.

As I mentioned, it seems as if more and more people are taking advantage of our local rivers and streams each year. This is for good reason, rivers and streams offer excellent fishing and wonderful nature viewing experiences. Add to this that many of our meandering streams are canoe and kayak friendly, and it becomes clear why more people are utilizing these resources.

Smaller streams and rivers, such as the Big Blue River in the south-central part of the state, or the Wildcat Creek or Sugar Creek in the central part, are wade fishermen friendly. Others, however, such as the White River near Noblesville and Indianapolis, or the Tippecanoe River in northern Indiana are deeper, therefore lending themselves perfectly to float trips.

Besides the great fishing that most streams offer, they are usually easy to get to and don't require loads of expensive gear to fish. With a simple handful of small spinners and crankbaits you have all you need to enjoy success. When wading, however, you will need permission if on private property.

Always play it safe when fishing streams and rivers. If wading, consider using a wading staff. Besides offering support and stability when walking on the streams uneven bottom, they can also help you detect tripping hazards such as rocks or holes before you step into them. If floating, be sure to wear proper floatation devices.

You can catch plenty of fish casting downstream and retrieving your lure upstream, so don't be afraid to do it. I, however, prefer to cast upstream and fish my lures with the current, or to cast perpendicular to the current into pockets and eddies. To do this, I simply wade upstream. If in a boat it's easy to cast perpendicular into such areas, but to cast upstream you may have to either anchor or beach the boat near likely fish hiding areas and get out to make a few casts.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25



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Indiana State Trappers Association



by Dr. Fred Philips, DVM

ISTA June 2014 News

The first Trappers Education (TE) Class of the year is over. Twenty (20) "Greenhorns" and one (1) Advanced Trapper attended our wet class in Bloomington, IN. Many of our "Greenhorns" had far more trapping experience than I do, but please understand that I mean no disrespect, the term just indicates that they had not yet been through the State's Trapping program. Many find the program a bit tedious, but it serves its purpose of getting everyone onto the same page and documenting that that training has been accomplished. We, the trapping community, can point at these efforts when we get criticized by non-trappers for the mistakes of some that taint the pool for all.

The TE classes begin with a brief history of trapping, its involvement with the creation of the United States, and where it is today. Next is ethics, even if I can place a trap there, should I? Then we cover trap selection, preparation, other equipment and finally get into set making. At this point we generally move outside and set a few traps. This year we had to move our location to a more heavily used area of the Park so our sets were slices of PVC pipe buried in the ground instead of a trap. To complete our TE class, we touch on specie identification and habits, skinning and disposition of the fur and carcass. Skinning demos included a beaver, raccoon, muskrat and otter. As usual, we ran out of time trying to squeeze in a cable restraint (snaring) demonstration and snare production demo. I am happy to report that all of our Greenhorns passed their tests and are now ready to move on for further training.

To check on TE classes, or to register for one, you need to pre-register on the IDNR website. Go to www.passitonindiana.com and choose the trapping education site. If you forget this, go to the ISTA website, www.indianatrappers.org, and look in the Calendar section. The first item lists how to get signed up and all of the classes for the year are listed there with contact information.

The convention season will be upon us shortly. Beginning Thursday, June 19th, 2014, the Fur Takers of America will be having their National Convention and Rendezvous combined with the Pennsylvania Trappers Association at the Washington County Fairgrounds, 2151 N. Main St., Washington, PA 15301. From Mapquest, this is a five (5) hour run from Indianapolis straight out Highway 70. Do I hear caravan? Hotels are suppose to be

at a premium there, so if you are going, get signed up soon.

Starting Thursday, July 24th, the National Trappers Association will begin its 55th Convention and Sports show sponsored by the Michigan Fur Trappers. This event will be at the Upper Peninsula State Fairgrounds, 2401 12th Avenue, North, Escanaba, MI 49829. This is more like an 11 hour run from Indy but there will be some beautiful scenery as you drive along the west shore of Lake Michigan. I won't be able to make this one because we will be celebrating my Mother's 80th birthday that weekend. If you get there, place a bid for me in the benefit auction.

There will be many small weekend rendezvous scattered across the State. Join the local trapper's association and be sure that you get their newsletters of what is going on. The comment period for the Otter Season is over, and it is now in a discussion group with the IDNR. This fall there will be some public forums to discuss what the final rules will look like. If you want to have a say, that is your chance. Get on the IDNR website and find out when and where these forums will be www.in.gov/dnr.

Well that is it for now, so as you go, watch your top knot, keep your eyes along the skyline.

Fred "DR" Philips, DVM, Pres. ISTA

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Indiana Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

In the heat of the summer, look for areas of swift water and ripples. These ripples create much needed oxygen which is important for fish at this time of year. Areas of slack water that lie right next to fast water create the perfect ambush spot for a hungry smallmouth.

The next time you have an itch to get out and do some fishing or just enjoying nature, head out to a local river or stream give it a try. You may find yourself asking why it has been so long since you have done so.

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

computer. He took me to his new room. As soon as we entered his problem was evident.

We then went to a room down the hall that was for meeting people. We sat there for some time reminiscing about times gone by. I asked him about the tests he mentioned a few weeks ago. He told me he had some difficulties with his eye sight and somehow when he was having some of those tests a few weeks ago someone had either thrown his hearing aids away or lost them somehow. He had some new ones coming from the VA, but they hadn't come yet. I had to get real close to him for him to hear me.

Shortly a lady came by telling Hank they were going to play some Bingo if he wanted to join in. I told him I had to get back, I was working on the June Gad-a-bout. I told him I would reprint one of his earlier columns for June and we could decide what to do for July.

We shook hands and he turned his scooter to go down the hall. I snapped a quick photo. Little did I know it would be the last time I would see him alive.

Golden Eagle passed away Friday, May 9th. His daughter Deborah called us on Saturday telling us the bad news. Some time ago I received a letter from

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

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Larry and Doug with their winning fish caught on swimming jigs. (Photo by James Lasswell)

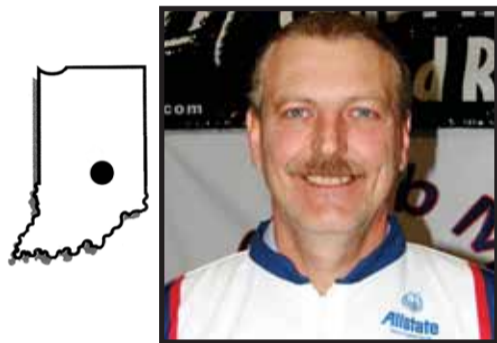


Doug Ault and Shawn Schaffer with their 2nd place fish caught around Geist Docks and lifts. (Photo by James Lasswell)



Ron, Damon and Reid with their 3rd place fish caught under corks in shallow water. (Photo by James Lasswell)

Indiana Slab Masters



by Ron Bilbrey

Geist Tournament

Saturday April 12th the Indiana Slab Masters crappie club held their second tournament of 2014 on Geist reservoir in Fortville, IN. Geist is a 1900 acre impoundment, it is local to Indianapolis therefore a large number of tournaments are held on this small lake especially prior to ramp fees being raised for the summer boating season. Along with the Slab Masters tournament there were various Bass tournaments the same day making launching and loading somewhat tedious.

Prior to tournament day, my partner Damon Phillips and I had only managed a few hours on the lake this year and had found it to be a slow bite unlike most days on this lake where the crappie are pretty aggressive. Our first spots were extremely slow and led us to move down lake to find fish; we searched the mouths of several coves for structure before finally stopping to fish a creek arm close to the dam. We slow vertical troll 75% of the time moving through structure stopping to fish any brush, stumps or logs below the surface. We located fish on submerged points just off the mouths of the creek and caught a couple nice fish. Damon returned to the lake later in the week to find the fish had moved back into the first area we had fished the weekend before, with two areas holding fish we decided our best chance of finding tournament fish would be at our initial spot.

With Damon's son Reid in the boat for tournament day we were bound to do well, seems his kids are good luck as we typically finish in the top five when fishing with one of them. After registering and going thru live well inspections, we proceeded to our first spot with Reid asleep under the console. By

tournament start time he was awake and ready to go. We quickly caught fish, just not what we were looking for. Unlike most tournaments we were not vertical trolling, instead we were flipping corks with minnows around docks and other structure. Damon finally pulled a good fish off a log lying close to the bank, but as the day wore on we realized it was going to be a tough day. We caught a lot of fish just smaller than what we needed. Finally on the third visit to a certain brush pile, Reid caught a good fish and within minutes caught another, after visiting this brush twice before, it finally held fish and it gave up two more before the tournament end.

With thirty-nine teams weigh in took a while but to give credit where credit is due, the new officers got it done in a timely manner with no problems, everything ran smoothly and with the new computer monitor, leaders and weights are updated and posted immediately. After the weights were tallied we ended up in third with 6.09 lbs. Congratulations to the Ohio team of Larry Yates and Doug Allen for their first win of 2014. They weighed in 6.92 lbs for first place honors. Larry and Doug caught their fish swimming Bobby Garland jigs in two colors watermelon and Cajun cricket, they fished most of the lake moving spot to spot. The Team of Doug Ault and Shawn Schaffer finished second with 6.33 lbs. and caught their 7 best fishing boat docks and lifts; they fished Southern Pro Stingers with minnows. We finished in third fishing the upper end in 3'-6' of water flipping corks with small crappie minnows around docks, lifts and stickups with Reid catching two of our biggest fish. Finishing in fourth place was Brad Rush and Jim Wilson with 5.60 lbs and the team of Joe Long and Dave Wright finished a close fifth with 5.45 lbs.

With most teams catching fish at Geist, it is a very competitive lake so it can be anybody's tournament due to the size of the fish, most are in the 10"-11" range but there are plenty of big fish there to be caught and one good fish could win a tournament. As with most Indiana lakes you can catch a large number of fish here and occasionally a 2 pounder is caught. If you plan on fish-

ing the lake you might want to do so prior to May or later in the fall because ramp fees are expensive during the summer months and due to the number of houses on the lake, I would not suggest bank fishing as there is not much land left that is not someone's private property.

Remember to take a kid fishing; our heritage depends on the youth learning the things we love to do. I am not sure the Slab Masters have ever held a tournament that there was not at least one kid in somebody's boat. The new officers are adamant about kids fishing and are promoting a "kids only" tournament this summer on Prairie Creek in Muncie, IN. Details will be posted on the web page as the tournament gets closer.

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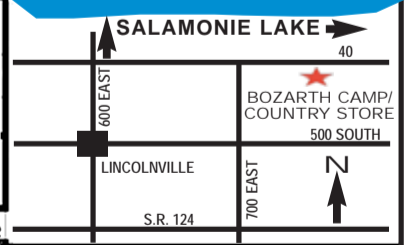
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Happenings in Metamora, Indiana



by Janice Hunsche

June Activities

Metamora, A Historical Canal Town

June is quickly turning into a busy month this year with various things to do in and around Metamora.

June 1 is the first Sunday of the month and Jammin on the Front Porch of the Mill is from 1-4pm. Whether you want to jam or just listen, this is a fun impromptu concert held on the porch of the Gristmill.

The weekend of June 7-8 is the 28th Annual Strawberry Days from 10am-5pm. For a small fee, you can buy Strawberry Shortcake with all the fixings at the tent on the front lawn of the Bane House. There will be music in various places around town. Currently the Harvey Branch String Band, Red Beard's Revenge, Blue Caboose, Sounds of Home, Old Truck Revival and Lawson Reunion are scheduled.

Sunday, June 8 at 10 am, The United Methodist Church on Wynn Street will be having a special musical service. The service will be hosted Patchwork (Rick and Holly Garrett) along with special guest musicians. Come early and enjoy breakfast at 9am.

Saturday, June 21 Brian Wallen will be performing traditional blues music at The Cat and The Fiddle on Clayborn St starting at 7pm. There is no cover charge but reservations are strongly suggested since shows fill up fast. Katrina will have homemade food available for purchase. For reservations call 513-403-0673.

For two weekends in June, June 20-22, 27-29 there will be no train to Metamora from Connersville. Instead the Whitewater Valley Railroad will be hosting Day Out with Thomas the Thrill of the Ride tour at their station in Connersville. Be sure to plan on spending several hours enjoying the festivities. Thomas fans can enjoy a 25 minute train ride on a Thomas the Tank Engine themed train, reservations required. There will also be a Thomas and Friends Imagination Station with stamps, temporary tattoos, crafts, storytelling and a video viewing area. Due to the popularity Thomas the Tank Engine, reservations are required. For more information and to make

CONTINUED AT RIGHT ON THIS PAGE

reservations please go to ticketweb.com/dowd or call Ticketweb at 866-468-7630.

Starting Wednesday June 25 and going through Saturday, June 28 is the 4th Annual Bluegrass at Gateway. This musical event is located at Gateway Park across Highway 52 from Metamora. The festival starts off on Wednesday, June 25 at 4pm with a kid's camp group photo, followed by a pitch in dinner at 5pm, be sure to bring a dish to share. Finishing up the evening is Jammin with Vern and Kitty at 6pm. Whether you're a solo act or a group wanting to be seen, this is your chance to shine. Someone will be chosen from among those participating to perform next year on the main stage. Thursday, June 26 starting at 6pm Phoebe and Friends, GI Joe and the Back Porch Pickers, and Country Cousins will be performing. Friday, June 27 starting at 6pm GI Joe and the Back Porch Pickers, Coffey Brothers, and Dixie Riders will be performing. Saturday, June 28 starting at noon Tish and Company, Lenny Centers Band, Retread Bluegrass Band, Appalachian Grass, and the Whittaker Brothers will be performing. Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$36 at the gate for the entire weekend. Single day tickets are Wednesday free, Thursday \$10, Friday \$12 and Saturday \$14. All active duty service men or women get in free. Primitive camping is available. For more information and advance tickets call 765-647-2541, email copperron@aol.com or visit the website at bluegrass-atthegateway.com.

Finally on Friday, June 27 is Acoustical Final Friday at the Lover's Lane Stage. Sign up is at 6:30pm with the show starting at 7:00pm. This is a free event.

So if you're looking for a fun day trip, be sure to come see us in Metamora. ■

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

Golden Eagle asking if I would be a pall bearer for him. I told him I would be honored to do so. Years have passed since I got that letter. Debbie said Hank

had told her to call me when he had crossed over. She asked me if I could be at St. Ann's Church Monday (yesterday), May 12th at 10 a.m., Hank wanted me to be one of his pall bearers. I told her I would be there.

I called Eugene Fannin to tell him about Golden Eagle's passing.

Malcolm Greene called and asked if he could ride along to Cincinnati with me. He and Golden Eagle were good friends.

When we arrived at the church Deborah handed me an envelope, Golden Eagle gave it to her to give to me, it was his last article for The Gad-a-bout. You can read Golden Eagle's last "Talking Leaves" article on page 14 and his obituary. I took a few photos for the family, three of them are on page 14 too.

PARKSIDE MARINE AND MORE REMODELING WITH OUT ADDING ON

My good friends Jeff and Dianna Koester who own Parkside Marine and More are remodeling their building without adding to the size of their building.

They are turning their porch area into usable space. See their ad on page 3 and photos of their remodeling on page 29.

HERDRICH PETROLEUM TO TAKE OVER UNION COUNTY CO-OP CONVENIENCE STORE AND GAS PUMPS SOON

I was told by Kathy at the Union County Co-op Convenience Store that Herdrich Petroleum would be taking over the Union County Co-op Convenience Store and Gas Pumps soon.

I contacted Herdrich Petroleum to see if they wanted to continue advertising in The Gad-a-bout. The lady I talked to said they would get back to me on that. You can still pick up the Gad-a-bout in the Mill office of the Co-op like always.

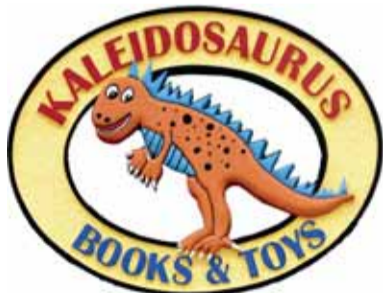
WOODRUFF'S SUPERMARKET HAVE ADDED A BAKERY AND A DELI

I stopped by Woodruff's Supermarket on May 6th, I had heard through the grapevine that Tim had opened the Bakery and Deli he had been working on for some time. Actually Joe Timberman had stopped me on my way out of the Union County Co-op Mill

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28



I saw these young people walking along School Street in front of my house picking up litter so I called them over to see who they were. Front Row, L to R: Nathaniel Kelley (Centerville Christian Church), Bryce Howerton (Centerville Christian Church), Parker Jaynes (Centerville Christian Church), Logan Robinson (Centerville Christian Church), Robert Holt (Centerville United Methodist Church) and Dalton Girdley (Centerville First Baptist Church). Back Row, L to R: Gail Vanwinkle (Centerville Christian Church), Joshua Dehre (Centerville Christian Church), Aydan Koyles (Multiple Churches), Ben Nevels (Centerville Christian Church), Bryan Amick (Centerville Christian Church), Wyatt Sewelo (Centerville Christian Church) and Scott Retters (Centerville Christian Church) (Photo by Ray Dickerson)



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Parkside Marine and More, Inc is in the process of turning their former porch into selling space. (Photos by Ray Dickerson)

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

Office. I hadn't seen Joe in a long time. He picked up a bag beside him to show me the donuts he just bought at Woodruff's Bakery. We talked for a spell Joe and I worked for General Telephone at one time long ago.

Joe drove off and I headed for Woodruff's Supermarket for the latest scoop on Tim's latest addition.

See the photo to the right, this is the new bakery and deli department at Woodruff's.



Woodruff's Supermarket's new Bakery and Deli. From left to right is Juanita Philbeck, Manager of the new Bakery and Deli, Natosha Davis is making the Donuts, Taylor Boggs takes care of the Rotisserie Chicken and Sandwiches and Carolyn Cash takes care of baked goodies. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

Florida by way of Texas

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

Arriving back at Lucille's home Jenny and Bob had to leave, we visited with Lucille for a while. We had to leave early the next morning for Kennedy Space Center so we too said our farewells to Lucille, thanking her for a wonderful visit.

We left Sarasota at 6 a.m. traveling the 162 miles with not too many problems. I took a couple of wrong turns, but got to our destination right on time, 10 a.m. when the Kennedy Space Center opened.

We took one of the Up Close and Personal bus tours. We had a great tour guide who took great care in seeing that we got our moneys worth. He even pointed out a couple of alligators for us to see.

After the tour we visited the Apollo/Saturn V Center. They had a Saturn V lying parallel to the floor with all the sections visible. You could touch a moon rock and view a moon rover. That alone was worth the expense at the gate.

Then we visited the Atlantis Shuttle Exhibition, it

was a Wow, mouth gaping experience.

We left Kennedy Space Center in mid afternoon and headed for Mims, Florida to visit Bob and Paula Minor, arriving there just in time to go out for supper. They took us to a restaurant that specialized in seafood. Afterwards we spent the rest of the evening sitting in their living room talking until bed time.

The next morning we left at 6 a.m. with our sights set on arriving in Asheville, NC by 4 p.m. We got there at 5 p.m. We made only one unscheduled stop. I wanted to visit the Mighty 8th Air Force Museum in Savannah, GA. I called Jim and Brenda Eubank in Richmond, KY to see if they might be home Thursday afternoon. Brenda told me to call when we got closer.

We left Asheville at 8 a.m. and arrived in Richmond, KY at around 3 p.m. Brenda was able to get Jim to leave work and come home. We went out

to eat with them, then spent a couple hours talking. We hadn't visited with them since 2011. Jim and I was stationed at RAF Chelveston, England together.

We left for home at around 7 p.m., arriving in Centerville later that evening. It was good to be home until I saw how tall the grass had grown! The next day I cut both lawns, back home in Indiana.



Our friend Raul Alvarado who invited us into his home and took very good care of us while we were in in Round Rock, Texas is a Veteran. He was a Navy Fire Controlman 1st class (surface warfare) spending 12 years on active duty. He was stationed on USS Halsey (CG-23), USS Arleigh Burke (DDG-51) and the USS Winston S. Churchill (DDG-81). He served in Operation Desert Storm / Shield January 1991 - April 1991. Support operations in Somalia January - March 1993. Bosnia Operation Red Crown March 1995 - October 1995. Numerous Anti-Drug operations in the Gulf of Mexico. (Raul Alvarado Photo)

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Taylor Myers took her first Tom turkey in Ripley Co. 4-26-14 with her papaw using his Remington 12 gauge. It weighed 24 lbs. and a 10" beard. (Taylor Myers Photo)



Skylar Hall took this 8 point buck on October 16, 2013. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)



Aaron Bowling took this 9 point buck on November 16, 2013. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)



James Alderson (At left) took this 25 lb. Tom turkey in Union Co. it had a 10 3/4" beard and 17mm spurs. Daniel Grimme (At right) (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Mark Mead took this 12 point buck on November 1, 2013. It weighed 200 pounds. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)



Trot Davidson, son of Mike Davidson took this 6 point buck on 9-29-12 during the youth deer season in Fayette Co. with a 357 magnum rifle. Trot was 7 yrs old at the time. Trots uncle Mike Gough in back. (Mike Davidson Photo)



Steve Goodson harvested this Tom turkey with Bow and Arrow on 4-26-14. It weighed 25 pounds, it had a 10 inch beard and 25mm spurs. (Steve Goodson Photo)



Sheree Hoover took this 24 pound Tom turkey in Union County. It had a 9 3/4 inch beard and 26mm spurs. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



David Woestie took this 23 pound Tom turkey, it had a 9 inch beard. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)

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Ashley Phillips took this 19 pound Tom turkey in Union County. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Morgan Benjamin took this 25 pound Tom turkey on April 19, 2014, it had 25mm spurs and was 3 years old. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Logan Cox took this 24 pound Tom turkey on April 19, 2014, it had 22mm spurs. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)

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