TO ADVERTISE IN THE GAD-A-BOUT SEE RATES ON PAGE 31 • CELL 1-765-960-5767 • WEBSITE: www.thegadabout.com • E-MAIL: raythegadabout@gmail.com

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THE 165TH WAYNE COUNTY 4-H FAIR IS FEATURED IN PAGES 15-18 WHICH IS A 4-PAGE SOUVENIR PICKOUT

Again this year in this issue is the Wayne County 4-H Fair including the complete list of daily activities, an aerial view of the fairgrounds with all the buildings and areas labeled for easy finding on page 16 & 17. There are a lot more photos of fair activities on pages 15, 18 and 19 too.

I THOUGHT IT WAS ABOUT TIME TO UPDATE MY GAD-A-BOUT PICKOUT TO REFLECT WHAT I SEE IN THE MIRROR

The above photo was taken by my wife Sherry Dickerson in the Abe Martin Lodge at Brown County State Park. See page 21.

DUE TO LACK OF SPACE IN THIS ISSUE A COUPLE OF ARTICLES HAVE BEEN PUT ON HOLD UNTIL THE JULY ISSUE

Smokin’ on the water BBQ Festival, Outdoors in the Whitewater Valley and Cartoon. Taking up additional space this month is Gad’s Corner fish and game photos and the Wayne County 4-H Fair on pages 14 thru 19 and Special Souvenir Pull-out.

UPDATE ON MY GAD-A-BOUT DELIVERY VAN WHICH WAS PUT OUT OF COMMISSION ON APRIL 15 BY PERSON FAILING TO STOP FOR A STOP LIGHT IN RICHMOND

I elected to keep my delivery van instead of letting it be totaled. For past several days I’ve been getting pieces and parts to a friend who is fixing the van. Hopefully I will be delivering in it again. I will be delivering this issue in my back up van.

5K RUN/WALK FUNDRAISER JUNE 4 UC OPIATE TREATMENT CENTER

I got a flyer from Sheriff Deputy Alvin Day, Fulltime UC Drug Free Coordinator, UC Public Health-Part-time announcing a 5K Run/Walk on June 4, 2016 a Fundraising for UC Opiate Treatment Center Drug Screen test kits, Prescription Meds, Transportation Cost and etc.... The run starts at 4 p.m., Registration Forms are available at Liberty Bell Restaurant, UC Health Dept & UC Sheriff’s Office. $25.00 Runners/Walker, $15 ages 6-12 and under 6 yrs old - free. Activities 3-6 pm Band: Edge of Addiction, 3 pm Ketterl Motor Werks...Auto Cars & Show Cars, At 3:30 pm Bobby Hayden Jr who played on “MTV and The Grand Ole Opry” 7:00 Club and the Christian Broadcasting Network is a recovering Heroin Addict and has a great message of recovery from Cardboard Box Ministries. Please come to this event at the Union County Courthouse. For more information contact the Union County Health Dept. 765-458-5393 and Union County Sheriff Office 765-458-5195.

KOKOMO ISTA TRAPPERS EDUCATION CLASS AUGUST 13-14, 2016

Derick sent me a note asking that I announce the following: Kokomo ISTA Trappers Education Class August 13-14, 2016 9am-4pm both days.

To be held at Indiana University of Kokomo Dry land trapping, water trapping, skinning, etc Bring knee or hip boots, bug spray, old towel Lunch provided both days

Thanks Ray!!

WHITewater VA state park will be having a special VETERANS EVENT SEPTEMBER 25TH, 2016

Hi Ray,

Whitewater Memorial State Park will be having a special event on Sunday, September 25th at the Poplar Grove Graveyard Part of the celebration will be connected to the 100 year anniversary for state parks. We are going to have the Mobile Vet Center in the parking lot at the Whitewater office near the veteran statue. This is an awesome motor home type vehicle. It is an outreach program for small, rural communities like ours. The program is reaching out to veterans that haven’t been in a VA clinic or may have questions about the VA.

We are so proud to bring this to our area and offer help to all veterans. I want to promote this opportunity to the veterans in this area. I’m counting on you to help us by doing an article about it. I attached a picture and information for you.

There will be free admission at the front gate from 1:00 to 3:00 PM.

A pitch in dinner will follow the 2:00 ceremony. One of the guys with the Veteran’s Mobile Unit will speak at the ceremony.

The Veteran’s Mobile Unit will be parked at the Whitewater Memorial State Park office parking lot. It will be open from 10:00 to 4:00. There will also be a counselor along for this trip. The Mobile Vet Center is from Evansville, IN. But they can get veterans the help they need from any VA location.

The Mobile Vet Center is 38 feet long and handicap accessable.

Thanks for all you do for the veterans.

Rhonda Alvey

I ASKED FOR COMMENTS ON THE RECENTLY GOVERNOR SIGNED INTO LAW H.B. 1231 ALLOWING THE USE OF HIGH POWERED GUNS FOR THE 2016 DEER SEASON IN INDIANA

I got a few replies.

The first one came from Joe McDill on April 26, 2016. “Thanks for asking opinion on deer and rifles. I love: Freedom, Hunting, Shooting. More freedom is good. I’d like to use my big bore lever actions. I say yes to Standard calibers and no Mag. I’ve been shot@ by trespasser slw/w12ga didn’t feel any safer.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27
If you have ever spent much time talking to a trout fisherman along a river bank, he will eventually ask you if you know what insects are hatching out. Now I haven't really thought much about this until we had a cicada hatch here a few years back. While fishing down the bank one day I saw a cicada fall off a tree limb and with in seconds a blue gill sucked the legs off of it. Then I saw a carp one bite the thing right off the limb. As I was looking up and down the shore I could see 5 or 6 carp swimming up and down the bank just under the surface. So being the rocket scientist I am, I positioned my boat under a tree limb shook just under the surface. So being the rocket scientist could see 5 or 6 carp swimming up and down the bank of it. Then I saw a carp one bite the thing right off the limb. The carp were not targeting this stuff, because they are not there, so don't fish with this stuff. Stick with minnow looking bait like spoons, blade baits, crank baits, or live minnows like fat head minnows, chubs, or shiners. You will see these changes through out the year if you fish through out the year. The changes usually happen late April and September. When all the fish make this switch your gonna want to know this, or your gonna be that guy saying I guess they just aren't biting today.

I have caught walleye in January that will spit out carp, blue gill, or shad. I have caught Striped bass that spit up white bass. The only thing that is consistent is they always spit up fish. The walleye is always the first fish to spawn in the lake, this happens when the water temperature reaches about 46 to 47 degrees. Its very hard to catch walleye in January, this happens when the water temperature reached to the 60 degree mark.

So Y ou Wanna Catch More Fish

by Tag Nobbe Professional Fishing Guide

Match the Hatch

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 do to the spawning cycle. They have to get their priorities straight if you know what I mean. 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. At this stage of game the water temperature has risen closer to the 60 degree mark. This triggers bugs, worms,
Indianapolis – In a ceremony held during the afternoon of April 15th, at the Government Center in Indianapolis, a Pendleton District Trooper was honored for his work and dedication in 2015. Trooper Thomas Ratliff, a four year member of the Indiana State Police, was honored as the Indiana State Police “Trooper of The Year” for 2015.

The “Trooper of the Year” award is presented each year to a trooper who has achieved outstanding enforcement efforts in the areas of traffic and criminal enforcement, case and crash investigation, public information programs and community service, and who has exemplified the professionalism and integrity of an Indiana State Trooper. Troopers are nominated by their supervisors at the district level.

In 2015 Trooper Ratliff led the Pendleton District in DUI (Driving Under the Influence) enforcement; is certified in Methamphetamine lab investigation, processing and cleanup; is a member of the Pendleton District Tactical Intervention Platoon and is a Field Training Officer, responsible for training new troopers to the district. Pendleton District Sergeant Robert Cross, who nominated Ratliff, said “During Trooper Ratliff’s career he has certainly made a positive impact on others within District 51 and his community, as he serves the Indiana State Police in an honorable and respectful capacity.”

Trooper Ratliff was given an engraved plaque and respectful capacity by Indiana State Police Superintendent Doug Carter, recognizing him for his accomplishments in 2015. Those accomplishments also included Trooper of the Year for District 51, and top DUI enforcement in 2015 for the Pendleton District.

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Motorcycle Safety

The warm weather of spring and summer brings increased motorcycle traffic, with Hoosiers riding for recreation and transportation. Nationally, every year, motorcycle riders are involved in thousands of crashes that result in disabling injuries and death. The Indiana State Police offer thses safe driving tips so that everyone can share Hoosier Highways safely.

Tips for passenger vehicles:
• Watch attentively for motorcycles. Check blinds spots before changing lanes and look twice at intersections before you turn or pull out into traffic. Use your turn signals when changing lanes.
• Anticipate hazards that may confront a motorcyclist like large pot holes, debris, or other hazardous road conditions. Allow at least two seconds of following distance between your vehicle and a motorcycle.
• Be cautious and observant when turning left. This is a primary cause of crashes between vehicles and motorcycles.
• Remember, motorcycles are entitled to operate in a full lane.
• Obey all traffic laws.

Tips for motorcycle riders:
• Wear protective equipment and clothing, especially:
• Protective helmet
• Armored motorcycle jacket
• Armored motorcycle pants
• Armored gloves
• Armored boots
• Knee and elbow guards
• Prefer dual sport motorcycle
• Obey all traffic laws.

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First of the Season Fishing Folly

Every spring the average fisherman faces the daunting task of readying his gear after it has been sitting idle for months. Nests constructed by vermin out of wiring insulation and seat pad foam removed, bare wires wrapped with electrical tape, early mud dodger nests scraped off, and fishing gear that somehow wound itself into unrecognizable gobs during the winter. And, an engine that purred like a kitten last year now refus...
Heather and I spend countless days every year shooting activity suitable for the entire family considering 3D. Looking for a fun, challenging, and healthy outdoor experience for yourself or practice on 3D targets. If you're considering getting into archery practice. If you want to become a better shooter, you should have targets as well.

Clubs, archery shops, and even your neighbor. There are several organizations that host 3D shoots. Most of you have heard or seen some of them like IBO, ASA, and Regions. Some of the differences in the organizations are but not limited to arrow speed, scoring ring differences, marked yardages, and location region.

If you're interested in shooting 3D archery there are many courses in your local area at conservation clubs, archery shops, and even your neighbor. There are websites and Facebook pages that will have the schedules and check with your local pro shop and see if they have them as well.

For a lot of archers, 3D target shooting is purely recreational. Its benefits are many and varied, offering the opportunity for exercise, fresh air and hands-on archery practice. If you want to become a better bow hunter but aren’t interested in competition, do yourself a favor and practice on 3D targets. If you’re looking for a fun, challenging, and healthy outdoor activity suitable for the entire family consider 3D.

Heather and I spend countless days every year shooting the outdoor 3D range. How serious targets do you want to get? Most hunters will use their hunting equipment to get better for season. Some will get a secondary bow that will only be used for 3D shooting to build up form. There are different classes at the shoots to fit your style from hunter, traditional, open, and youth (some have a hunters’ challenge). Most of the shoots are not marked yardages. The purpose of shooting 3D archery is to get better at judging distances and being able to size the animal before the shot, not just grabbing the range finder and checking the yardage since nature doesn’t always give us the luxury.

Bow hunter class – will shoot from 35-49 yards and closer and generally have a few rules, stabilizer length, non-moveable sight pins, no magnification and screw in field points. Typical hunting setup.

Youth is just a closer stake. Traditional is exactly that.

Open class allows magnification lens in the sight, movable pin sight, longer stabilizer, and also shoot up to 50-55 yards.

The benefits of 3D archery are numerous. Normally course setters consider situations bow hunters face in the field. Often shot opportunities will be limited to small windows, requiring the shooter to feed an arrow through a narrow opening between trees (This is the bowhunter challenge). Sometimes game is encountered in a bedded position, and yes, there are 3D targets like this as well.

On occasion, game is seen at close range but most often we get our shot opportunities at distances greater than 20-yards. Judging longer ranges can be tricky. These targets force bow hunters to learn to estimate ranges, often in increments, e.g.: 10 yards at a time, using the ground or natural features like trees and rocks as markers.

Most shooters that are serious about the 3D shoots and their scores will try to take every advantage they can get. There are many options for arrows, sights, bows, etc. For Bowhunter class 3D, speed really becomes much less critical than Open classes that shoot out past 40 yards. Bowhunter classes, you will see that the best shooters will rarely shoot any 8’s on a course at all, usually hitting all 10’s and roughly half of the X rings available. Mistakes and dropped points in this class usually occur due to poor shot execution, not because of distance judging.

Errors. At 40 yards and less, your margin for error on beyond the target and your surroundings. If you are uncomfortable about the shot, please let the host of the shoot know as the target archer.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23
Snapping Turtles From A to Z
With Jerry Schilling
by Ray Dickerson

I got a call from Jerry Schilling who lives in New Harmony, Indiana and evidently has been hunting snapping turtles for a very long time and knows the ins and outs of the critters. Jerry sent me the photos you see above and a copy of his 3 hour long DVD “Snapping Turtles From A to Z.”

It’s a fascinating DVD and has on it the answer to all your questions about hunting, finding and capturing snapping turtles.

Here’s some more information about Jerry I found online.

“Snapping Turtles from A to Z with Jerry Schilling. Jerry has been capturing turtles for over 40 years in the US and Canada. He shows you all the different methods for harvesting turtles under varying conditions. This includes Before and After Freeze-Up and everything you need to know about turtle equipment. Even contains sections on Processing, packaging, and Cooking turtles. Snapping Turtles from A to Z contains the following educational sections:

Learn the right way
• Before & After Freeze-Up
• Equipment
• Dried Up Sloughs
• Nets
• Lines
• Noodling
• Bridge Lines
• Tracking
• Jugs
• Cleaning
• Processing
• Packaging
• Cooking

Dimensions: 3 hours in length

See the advertisement Jerry Schilling sent me last month. We talked to great lengths about his life long search for snapping turtles.

His ad is on this page, his DVD sells for $30.00 plus S & H.
Bozarth Crappie Tournament

The 2016 Bozarth Crappie Tournaments kicked off this year with our opening tournament held on Saturday, April 30th. Having a tournament this time of year can sometimes present several obstacles for fishermen such as lake levels, temperatures, rain, and wind. And for our fishermen on this day, all of these obstacles were showing their ugly side as we dealt with a day full of steady rain, mid 40 temperatures, heavy winds, and the lake level being approximately 4 feet shy of summer pool. Despite dealing with these bad conditions several teams were still able to haul in some really nice crappie that made for an entertaining weigh in event.

We had a total of 18 teams registered to compete and test their luck for our first tournament of the year. As several of the teams started coming to the weigh in line an hour or two prior to the official finish time because of the poor weather conditions, we could tell from the early weight amounts that it would take seven really nice fish to win the tournament. A majority of the early team's big fish were weighing in over a pound so we knew despite the poor conditions big fish were still being caught. It took the final team that weighed in for the day to determine who the winner would be of our first tournament of the 2016 season and that team was Brian Justice and Allen Reed. With their top seven fish weighing in at 7.93 pounds, it was .06 pounds more than the second place team of Jeff Yeakle and John Brumley which had a total weight of 7.87 pounds.

Brian and Allen utilized their signature stinger baits designed from their very own startup company, Big Diddy Baits, to capture first place. They were fishing in 8-10 feet of water and caught a majority of their fish in the late morning/early afternoon time frame. Following the second place team of Yeakle and Brumley was the team of Dave Bowser and Mike Bowser which had a very good day of their own to capture third place with a total weight of 7.65 pounds. They were followed up by the father/son duo of Dan Paul and Jim Paul with a total weight of 6.86 pounds. The Paul family also took home big honors by catching a 14.5” crappie weighing 1.88 pounds. Catching the second place big fish was the team of Gary Reed and grandson Blake Morris. Their second place big fish weighed in at 1.66 pounds and was 14” in length.

This is Jeff Yeakle and John Brumley pictured with their second place winning crappie. Their total weight of 7.87 pounds missed out by .06 pounds of coming in first place. (Author Photo)

This is Gary Reed pictured with his grandson, Blake Morris. They caught the second place big fish of the day with a crappie weighing 1.66 pounds and 14” in length. (Author Photo)

We would like to thank each of the fishermen who braved the elements to fish the first tournament of the 2016 season. If you are looking for a friendly-fun competitive tournament to fish and enjoy catching crappie then we would like to invite you to fish in some of our future tournaments. All of the teams competing in these tournaments tend to have a really good time and enjoy getting to know other fellow fishermen and share different stories and techniques amongst each other. We are looking forward to seeing everyone back for our future tournaments this year.
Brothers, Mike and Dave Bowser, had a total weight of 7.65 pounds of crappie which was good enough to place third in overall weight. (Author Photo)

So You Wanna’ Catch More Fish
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

crawler dads, and other little critters to abandon their winter hybridization and start their own reproduction cycles. From here the water temperature rises to 65. 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 these fish in shallow water. Most spawning fish are to 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 crawler dads are running around looking for food and places to hide 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 its 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.

Good luck Tag

If you need more info E Mail me at tagg@tagnohbe.com or go to the web site www.brookvillelakeguideservice.com or call my cell phone 765-265-3238

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News From The Indiana State Police
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Look for road hazards. Be especially cautious around intersections, alleys, driveways, and other areas where an animal, pedestrian, or vehicle might enter your path.

Avoid riding in the blind spot of other vehicles.

Ride defensively; always leave enough reaction time for unexpected movements from other vehicles.

When operating a motorcycle during inclement weather, slow down and use extra caution. Avoid sudden changes in direction or speed.

Never ride impaired.

Never perform stunts like “wheelies” or other tricks.

Motorcycles are harder to see than other vehicles; consequently, many crashes occur because other motorists don’t see the motorcycle. All motorists should take the time for a second look before pulling into an intersection or making a left turn. It only takes a second to save a life.

Bicycle Safety

Every year, usually in the spring, we get calls about folks riding bicycles in a reckless manner. More and more folks are riding, but few are observing the rules of the road. First and foremost you should wear a helmet when riding. They save lives, and I’ve seen the results of folks surviving a catastrophic event because of their helmet.

Follow the rules of the road, meaning traffic laws that apply to vehicles, because they also apply to bicyclists. I recently stopped a gentleman “old enough to know better” for running a stop sign in front of me. ALWAYS RIDE WITH TRAFFIC, NOT AGAINST THE TRAFFIC FLOW! Use hand signals to signal turns.

Most importantly, be visible, always wearing a Hi-Viz orange or yellow outer garments, just like the ones highway workers wear. Make sure your clothing and bicycle have reflective strips or triangles, and use a headlight and tail light that’s visible from at least 500 feet. In closing, remember pedestrians have the right of way, and never assume drivers see you. Always be ready to take evasive action.
Random Notes from:

Prairie Wolf Gun Repair

by Marshall Smith
Owner/Gunsmith, NRA Life Member, Retired LEO

GUNSMITHING

Your at the range, you've just shot 200 rounds downrange and WHAM your gun seizes up and jams. What's going on here? It's very possible that the gun ran dry. We talk about how much or how little oil to use when cleaning your gun. There is a group of shooters who claim and report that they have shot thousands of rounds without ever cleaning them. I think they are really lucky, have a very loose fitted gun, or just stretch their story a little. A gun, is a mechanical device and needs oil to function well and dependably. Take the AR15 platform of carbines. The gas which propels the bolt action to eject a round and load the next is full of unburnt powder and soot. It blows right through the bolt and into the action. The M16 was built to allow for this and to continue shooting when more than 5,000 rounds have been put through it. But, the new AR15s are tighter, have less clearances than the M16 and are achieving accuracy much greater than the military intended everything I needed to take care or my guns at home or at the range. It's not little, but I like it. I carry my ear plugs in it. Any cleaning kit will do, your preference and the size of your range bag will determine what you carry.

Oil the bolt carrier group with a light and not "wet" coating of oil. A gun is a mechanical device and needs oil to function well and dependably. Take the AR15 platform of carbines. The gas which propels the bolt action to eject a round and load the next is full of unburnt powder and soot. It blows right through the bolt and into the action. The M16 was built to allow for this and to continue shooting when more than 5,000 rounds have been put through it. But, the new AR15s are tighter, have less clearances than the M16 and are achieving accuracy much greater than the military designed for. The bolts in the newer guns need to be oiled, lightly, not wet, only so that you can see and feel the oil on the bolt.

Of course many will say that the oil will become contaminated by the gas blow back and cause the jam. Although that sounds correct and becomes contaminated by the gas blow back and so that you can see and feel the oil on the bolt.

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Remember, B SAR (Be Safe, Be Aware, Be Responsible)

Marshall Smith
Owner/Gunsmith
Prairie Wolf Gun Repair

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www.woodruffsupermarket.com
The current state record for Illinois is over 36 pounds. The state record for Wisconsin was established a few years ago (and declared a new world record) at 41.5 pounds. Then two weeks later an angler in Michigan wrestled a 41.7 pound Seeforellen out of the Manistee River as it was making its fall spawning run. Another world record was set. The point is, for every

Will this record fish be bested this year? (Author Photo)

The point is, if you want to catch a state record sized fish, your quest could be impossible. If there’s not even one largemouth, catfish, bluegill or other species bigger than the current record living in Hoosier waters, obviously breaking the existing record is not going to happen.

There is one species of fish in Indiana that doesn’t fit this mold. Brown trout are found in a few areas around the state but probably more are caught from Lake Michigan than any other body of water. So let’s examine just what it would take to usurp the current Indiana state record brown trout caught in 2006 weighing 29.03 pounds.

Is there such a spectacular specimen swimming in Lake Michigan waters? Almost certainly.

Brown trout are imports from Europe. But all brown trout are not created equal. Browns from Germany, though having identical DNA, look a bit different and even behave a bit different than brown trout that evolved over millennia in Ireland or England. Browns that inhabit streams are different than trout living in lakes. These differences are called strains - akin to poodles being different than beagles. Both are dogs, but they are different.

Years ago a strain of brown trout called the Seeforellen from western Europe was brought to the Great Lakes to see if what makes them special overseas would translate into something special here in the Midwest. Oh my goodness, did this work!

What made Seeforellens different was they developed the ability to become anadromous. Instead of staying in the lake or stream in which they were born, they swim downstream and actually adapt to living in saltwater like salmon do. Once in the ocean, their food supply was nearly endless and they grew to monster proportions compared to other strains. Unlike salmon which die after spawning, brown trout can spawn and then keep living, feeding and growing larger. Before Seeforellen strain browns were stocked in the Great Lakes, most state records hovered in the low 20 pound range. Those records fell quickly through the late 90s and in the 2000s as huge Seeforellens from early stockings ended up by Capt. Mike Schoonveld

It’s not every year in Indiana someone catches a state record fish. If they do it’s likely to be some off the wall specimen like the Lake Whitefish record put on the scorecard last year. I know what a lake whitefish is - do you? The state record bluegill was pulled from a pond in 1973. The largemouth bass record is almost 25 years old.

It’s not that fish in Indiana don’t grow as big as they used to grow, it’s that the state record sized fish are unusually sized specimens, perhaps one could call them freaks of nature. How freakish?

The state record flathead catfish was pulled from the White River in 1966 - fifty years ago. Why hasn’t that 79 and a half pound beast been bested in a half century? The most likely answer is because there are no 80 pound catfish swimming in the White River or any other river in Indiana. Chances are there are no walleye in any lake or stream in the Hoosier state larger than the 14.4 pound walleyes (it’s a tie) caught back in the 1970s. Drain every lake, reservoir, pond or other type of water body and gather up all the big largemouth bass. Chances are you won’t find even one of them larger than the current state record weighing 14 pounds, 12 ounces.

The current state record for Illinois is over 36 pounds. The state record for Wisconsin was established a few years ago (and declared a new world record) at 41.5 pounds. Then two weeks later an angler in Michigan wrestled a 41.7 pound Seeforellen out of the Manistee River as it was making its fall spawning run. Another world record was set.

The point is, if you want to catch a state record sized fish, your quest could be impossible. If there’s not even one largemouth, catfish, bluegill or other species bigger than the current record living in Hoosier waters, obviously breaking the existing record is not going to happen.

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SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS

Saturday, June 18
Wayne County Idol 5 PM @ Free Stage
Karaoke Time Following Idol @ Free Stage
Hot Air Balloon Launch - 7 PM
ATV/Truck Drags - 7 PM
Movie "Minions" @ 8:30 PM
Night-Glow Hot Air Balloons - 9 -10PM

Sunday, June 19
"the church" service - 11 AM - Free Stage
Little Miss & Mister Contest - 2 PM @ Free Stage
Special Music - 4 PM - 8 PM @ Free Stage
Moto Cross Racing - 9 PM
Horse Pull - 7 PM - FREE Admission

Monday, June 20
Kicks 96 Live Broadcast with Poor Jack Amusements - 4 PM
Car Show - 5 PM - Kuhlman Center Parking Lot
Mud Race - 7 PM
String Party Band - 7:30 pm @ Free Stage

Tuesday, June 21
Hosier StateTractor Pull - 7 PM
Cory Cox - 7:30 PM @ Free Stage
Silly Safaris - 5:30 & 7:30 PM @ First Bank Tent

Wednesday, June 22
Wayne County Idol Finals - 6 PM @ Free Stage
Truck T tractor Pull - 7 PM

Thursday, June 23
Kids Day - 12 Noon to 4:30 - Ambar Special - $12
3 Bar J - 7 Event Rodeo - 7 PM
Dixon Fox Band - 7:30 PM @ Free Stage
Silly Safaris - 5:30 & 7:30 PM @ First Bank Tent
Colt Douglas - 7:30 PM @ Free Stage

Friday, June 24
4-H Livestock Sale of Champions Auction - 11 AM
Phillip Fox Band - 7:30 PM @ Free Stage
Mud Bog - 8 PM @ Free Stage
Fireworks @ Dark

Saturday, June 25
Free Health Screenings - Sheep Barn - 12-5 PM
Hammer Radio starting at 1 PM @ First Bank Tent
Back Draft Band 5 pm @ Free Stage
Demotion Derby - 7 PM

DAILY ACTIVITIES

Saturday, June 11
7 PM Wayne County Teen / Preteen / Junior & Queen Contest, Location: Centerville High School
6 PM Color Guard Grand Entry - Mini (K-2) Horse & Pony Show
6:30 PM 4-H Public Fashion Revue, 4-H Graduation & 4-H Awards - Kuhlman Center

Saturday, June 18
FAMILY FUN NIGHT SPONSORED BY REED HEALTH
9 AM 4-H Horse & Pony - Western Show
9 - 4 PM 4-H Open Class Exhibits Open - Kuhlman Center
5 PM Wayne County Idol - Free Stage - Sponsored by Kicks 96
5 - 9 PM FREE Laser Tag and 28 ft Side - Headbreakers Entertainment

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

5 PM till Closing  Poor Jack Amusements - Armbands $7.00
5:30 PM  Color Guard Grand Entry - 4-H Horse & Pony - Special Skills
5 - 6 PM  Indiana Bicentennial Event - First Bank Tent
5 PM  Goat and Poultry Dress up Parade - Raper Center
6 PM  Corn Hole (Just come and play, no tourney) - FFA Building
6 PM  Antique Tractor Parade
7 PM  Mud Race - Track Side - www.kiddragracing.com Lewis 859-576-7380
7:30 PM  Entertainment - Free Stage
Evening  Mark Abbati Living Statue - roaming the fairgrounds [www.joyunspeakable.net]

Tuesday, June 21

EMERGENCY PUBLIC SERVICE DAY  Free Parking - EMT, Fireman & Law Officials (D. REQUIRED)
8 AM  4-H Rabbit Show - Raper Center
9 AM - 9 PM  4-H Open Class Exhibits - Kuhlman Center
1 PM  All 4-H Goat Showmanship - Dairy Weher, Jr. & Sr. Dairy Doe, and Jr. & Sr. Pygmy Goat Show
3 PM  ATV Safety Program Indiana DNR Officer - First Bank Tent
4 - 8:30 PM  Blood Drive in the Kuhlman Center (Sandy House 765-886-5400) www.indianablood.org
4 - 7 PM  Hoosier State Tractor Pull (John Lackey 765-993-5775)
5 PM  Wayne County Sheriff Dept. & Emergency Vehicles, Police Departments, DNR, Demos by Fire Departments, all on display - Kuhlman Center Parking Lot
5 PM till Closing  Poor Jack Amusements - Armbands $17.00
5:30 PM  Silly Safari (Animal Show) - First Bank Tent
5:30 PM - 3:00 AM  4-H Horse & Pony Show - Contesting
6 PM  Free Kiddie Tractor Pull - FFA Building
6 PM  Antique Tractor Parade
7 PM  Hoosier State Tractor Pull (John Lackey 765-993-5775)
7:30 PM  Corey Cox - Free Stage - (www.coreycxmusic.com)
7:30 PM  Silly Safari (Animal Show) - First Bank Tent
Evening  Mark Abbati Living Statue - roaming the fairgrounds [www.joyunspeakable.net]

Wednesday, June 22

*SR. CITIZEN DAY* Free Parking For Seniors Only (65 & Over)
7 AM  4-H Goat Show - Meat Weher & Meat Goats - Raper Center
7:30 AM  4-H Beef Show - Grooming, Showmanship, Milking, and Heifers (Show Order)
4 - 6:30 PM  Bicentennial Event - First Bank Tent
5 PM till Closing  Poor Jack Amusements - Armbands $17.00
5:30 PM  Color Guard Grand Entry - 4-H Horse & Pony Show - Versatility
6 PM  FarmJam - a character ed. family show - First Bank Tent
6 PM  Wayne County Idol FINALS - Free Stage - Sponsored by Kicks 96
6 PM  4-H Steer Show - Dairy Feeder, Dairy Steer, Dairy Rate of Gain, Beef Rate of Gain, Beef Feeder, Beef Steer (Show Order)
6 PM  Antique Tractor Parade & Games following at the Antique Tractor Area
7 PM  Truck & Tractor Pull (Kyle Schelchty 937-459-0229 Darke Co. Pullers Rule or John Lackey 765-993-5775) Hoosier Homestead Families Honored for Bicentennial
Evening  Mark Abbati Living Statue - roaming the fairgrounds [www.joyunspeakable.net]

Thursday, June 23

COLLEGE DAY - FREE PARKING WITH COLLEGE ID
KIDS DAY - AMBARRAND SPECIAL STARTS AT 12 NOON! DAILY SPONSOR: IU EAST
9 AM  4-H Daily Show
9 AM - 9 PM  4-H Open Class Exhibits - Kuhlman Center
12 NOON - 4:30 PM  Kids Day - Poor Jack Amusements - Armbands Special $12.00
2 - 4 PM  Free Craft (while supplies last) by Point the Town - First Bank Tent
2 - 5 PM  Free Fossil Dig & Nature Fun by Joseph Moore Museum - First Bank Tent
3 PM  4-H Horse & Pony - Fun & Games
5 PM till Closing  Poor Jack Amusements - Armbands $17.00
5:30 PM  Silly Safari (Animal Show) - First Bank Tent
6 PM  Supreme Showman - Horse Arena Opening Ceremony, Then completed in Livestock Show Arena
6 PM  Antique Tractor Parade & Games Following at the Antique Tractor Area
6 PM  Free Kiddie Tractor Pull - FFA Fun Barn
10 - 7 PM  Dixon Dancers - Free Stage
7 PM  3 Bar J - Seven Event rodeo - IPRA-Rodeo.com (Mike Johnson 937-459-7352)
7 PM  Adult Pedal Tractor Pull - In front of antique tractor display
7:30 PM  Silly Safari (Animal Show) - First Bank Tent
7:30 PM  Colt Douglas Acoustic Show - Free Stage
Evening  Mark Abbati Living Statue - roaming the fairgrounds [www.joyunspeakable.net] Battle of the Barns Following Supreme Showman in Livestock Show Arena

Friday, June 24

LIVESTOCK SALE DAY - DAILY SPONSOR: FIRST BANK RICHMOND
9 AM - 9 PM  4-H Open Class Exhibits - Kuhlman Center
11 AM  4-H Livestock Sale of Champions Auction
1 PM  Mark Abbati living statue - @ Livestock Auction [www.joyunspeakable.net]
5 PM till Closing  Poor Jack Amusements - Armbands $17.00 - 2016 Wayne County 4-H Members With Card $1.00
5 PM  Mark Abbati living statue - @ Daily Sponsor Tent www.joyunspeakable.net
5 - 8 PM  Special Event - First Bank Tent
6 PM  Antique Tractor Parade
7 PM  Mud Bog (John Lackey 765-993-5775)
7:30 PM  Phillip Fox Band - Country Fried Rock n' Roll - Free Stage - www.phillipfoxband.com
8 PM  Mark Abbati living statue - roaming the fairgrounds [www.joyunspeakable.net]
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Saturday, June 25

LAST DAY OF FUN!!! FREE HEALTH CHEKCK
9:30 AM  4-H Tractor Operator's Contest - at north end of fairgrounds
9 AM  Open Dairy Show (Daniee Hill 765-847-2987)
12 - 5 PM  Lifestyle Expo with FREE Health Screenings. Sponsored by the Richmond Seventh Day Adventist Church Learn your health age and lifestyle changes leading to longer life - Sheep Barn
1 PM - Sunday AM  Wayne County Amatiore Radio display & communicating by Harmo Radio - Public Welcome to come learn and talk with other Harmo Reds around the world!
4 PM  Bubble Fun Run - Free Stage - Free Entry with non-perishable item
5 PM  Back Draft Band - Free Stage
5 PM till Closing  Poor Jack Amusements - Armbands $17.00
7 PM  Demolition Derby - Cars, Lawnmowers & Kids Power Wheels (John Lackey 765-993-5775 or Billy Rose 765-730-3678)

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with many others, were walking around looking at the many tables full of great outdoor gear to be won at the afternoon raffle. But, more on that later. At nine o’clock, Aubrey Sitzman from the Brown County Convention and Visitors Bureau greeted us and talked about the activities available in the park and surrounding area.

Our next speaker was John Seifert, Director of DNR Forestry talking on Management of Indiana State Forests. After two and a half decades as the Extension Research Forester with Purdue, he joined the DNR in 2005. His job entails managing State Forests for multiple activities, including recreation, wildlife habitat, timber, and other uses.

DNR naturalist and educator, Jarrett Manck, was listed as our next speaker. Jarrett has been doing Calls of the Wild shows for 20 years. He had a table of widely assorted calls, both commercial and hand made. He demonstrated duck, geese, turkey, squirrel, deer sounds and explained how and when to use them. He had everyone thinking they were out in the nearby woods instead of a crowded room. He also made many animal sounds just with his mouth. Jarrett also brought several different critters with him. He carried salamanders, snakes, and a heavy alligator snapping turtle around the room for pictures and viewing.

After this show, we had the annual HOW business meeting and election of new officers. An outstanding buffet lunch was served and allowed us to leave our chairs for a while.

“Hunting Small Woodlots for Deer” by Scott Parker followed lunch. Scott was raised in the mountains of North Carolina. He came to Indiana as a teenager and began hunting whitetail. About 15 years ago, he started filming all his hunts. This makes hunting even harder because Scott and his photographer both had to get close to the animal. (Scott bowhunts!) This seminar was full of information on scouting, set-up, and hunting tips.

The HOW Awards-in-Craft was next. The writers pick their best offerings in writing, photography, and broadcast from the previous year and submit them for the contest. I received a second place in the Conservation category for my story “Alien Species Invade the Great Lakes”, and a first for my article in the Fishing category on “Fishing with Wolf Pack Adventures”. Both of these stories were listed as our next speaker. Jarrett has been doing Calls of the Wild shows for 20 years. He had a table of widely assorted calls, both commercial and hand made. He demonstrated duck, geese, turkey, squirrel, deer sounds and explained how and when to use them. He had everyone thinking they were out in the nearby woods instead of a crowded room. He also made many animal sounds just with his mouth. Jarrett also brought several different critters with him. He carried salamanders, snakes, and a heavy alligator snapping turtle around the room for pictures and viewing.

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Just Gadding About

by Ray Dickerson

Activities at the Hoosier Outdoor Writers Conference at Brown County State Park April 22-24, 2016

Part 2 by Ray Dickerson

Sherry and I both attended the 47th Annual Hoosier Outdoor Writer Conference. The Hoosier Outdoor Writer Association held their 1st Annual Hoosier Outdoor Writer meeting near Lewis, Indiana in the Fall of 1969 at Dale Griffith’s pond. I hadn’t planned on being at the Conference this year, but when I found out that I would have the time and the fact that it fell on my birthday weekend, was the deciding factor. I talked it over with Sherry telling her it would get us away for 3 days, she accepted the invitation. We hadn’t been to Brown County State Park for a long time, our last stay there was many, many years ago. I must say Abe Martin Lodge was completely different, much better then I remembered it.

We arrived in the early afternoon on April 22 (Earth Day) and my birthday, 73 years old (3/4 of a century) boy I felt old. I had reserved a room for us early on, just in time to get the special conference rate. There was lots of parking close to the entrance (it was sprinkling when we arrived). The front desk was swamped with arrivals of guests all wanting to get registered and into their rooms. I thought, uh-oh, this will take a while. I was wrong. The two ladies manning the front desk handled everyone efficiently and expeditiously showing respect and being very courteous and polite in the process. I was impressed.

Our room was spacious and had all the luxuries of home. The large window looked out over a fountain and a beautiful landscaped grass and flower area.

Sherry and I wandered around visiting the lounge area on our second floor, one at the top of the stairs and another one towards the back of the hall. The exit on that end opened out onto a porch, at ground level. Hmmmm, our room was on the second floor and the back door opened at ground level, exiting without using stairs or the elevator! Inside again we took photos of the each other pieces. We both moved for me to remember how to play the game. We ended up with a stalemate game. We both moved to the same spots and neither of us had taken any game pieces and a cloth checker board the size of the round table. It had been many years since we remembered playing checkers and it took a while for me to remember how to play the game. We ended up with a stalemate game. We both moved to the same spots and neither of us had taken any pieces.

Outside guests were preparing for a wedding out on the back porch area.

Next year on July 1, 2017 Sherry and I will hit the big 50th Anniversary. How time flies.

It was time for supper (dinner to some people). We meandered down the hall, the dining area was on the second floor too. They have a buffet, I love buffets, they make it easier to make up your mind on what to eat. The food was too good, as usual I ate too much, but hey, I was on vacation - I will diet tomorrow!

The next day, Saturday, first day of the writers conference. Registration and a continental breakfast at 8-9 a.m and time to meet and talk to old friends, acquaintances and meet new ones. We looked around the room and was deciding on what to eat. The food was too good, as usual I ate too much, but hey, I was on vacation - I will diet tomorrow!

The next day, Saturday, first day of the writers conference. Registration and a continental breakfast at 8-9 a.m and time to meet and talk to old friends, acquaintances and meet new ones. We looked around the room and was deciding on what to eat. The food was too good, as usual I ate too much, but hey, I was on vacation - I will diet tomorrow!

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23
On Saturday May 7th the Crappie USA National trail returned to the lakes of the Wabash. Crappie USA offers a chance for both amateurs and pro’s to compete at a national level with the top placing teams from each division qualifying for the opportunity to fish the National Championship. This year the two day classic will be held in Paris TN. on Kentucky and Barkley Lakes October 27th-29th. The Mississinewa-Salamonie tournament had 80 competitors show up to compete for over $5,500.00 in Cash and Prizes.

Our first couple fish were in the one pound class and went in the live-well to be culled later. By 8am we had two one pound fish as well as a 1.58 lb. and 1.26 lb. fish although we were not catching large numbers of fish we were catching good quality fish. The bite slowed as the winds picked up and we stayed by the area slightly which turned into a good thing as Tom landed a 1.77 lb. female giving us over 8.5lbs by 9am a

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Indian Slab Masters

by Ron Bilbrey

Indiana Crappie Fishing CUSA Mississinewa & Salamonie Reservoirs May 7, 2016

On Saturday May 7th the Crappie USA National trail returned to the lakes of the Wabash. Mississinewa-Salamonie tournament had 80 competitors show up to compete for over $5,500.00 in Cash and Prizes.

My Partner Tom Hankins and I started the weekend off by first pre-fishing Mississinewa, electing to search main lake flats for structure and holding big Crappie. Tom made the call to look at the lower end of the lake first if nothing was to be found we would move to the upper end and then to Salamonie. One thing we have learned in the past few years is that both lakes fish the same, typically if you find fish on one lake you can transfer this information to the other lake finding fish in the same type of areas. We launched at 6:30 am and began scanning a flat looking for structure. We already knew a lot about this flat as we had both fished it in years prior. We did locate a couple of areas. We launched at 6:30 am and began scanning a flat looking for structure. We already knew a lot about this flat as we had both fished it in years prior. We did locate a couple of areas.

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Fishing Lake Michigan
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

state or world record fish there are dozens of “nearby” record sized fish. Lake Michigan gives up a dozen or more thirty-sixthing brown trout each year.

Indiana’s state record brown was a Seeforellen strain fish, but weighed a shade over 29 pounds. The potential record sized fish, probably several of them are out there. Will this be the year one of them swims to Indiana’s corner of the lake and get’s caught!

THE END

Outdoors with Rich Creason
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

these articles appeared in the Gad-A-Bout.

Tony Gregory would be presenting “Defensive Firearms” next. We were looking forward to this talk since Susie just received her very first firearm recently. It is an M&P 9 Shield recommended by her Smith & Wesson instructor. Tony has been a police and civilian firearms instructor for three decades. He passed out a nine page instruction sheet on everything from who is interested in acquiring a firearm and where to find training to which gun to pick and why, how to use it, and legal ramifications of its use. It was a very informative talk and we have gone over the paperwork at home. Tony instructs at Indy Arms Company near 55th and Keystone. Go to www.indyarms.com.

The famous HOW raffle was on now! Tables full of outdoor gear lined the room. Fishing tackle, outdoor books, knives, scopes, ammunition, camping equipment, and more were included in the $10 draw.

After the raffle, the trading begins. I didn’t want the bow, but one of the other writers did, so he gave me his Bushnell Digital Camera Spotting Scope and some lures for the bow. I traded some of my lures for a $40 Peterson’s guide to Woodpeckers. I am going to try to exchange my boot certificate for a musky trip one of the other writers had won.

Sunday morning found us at Cutright ramp on Lake Monroe to meet with James Lasswell for a few hours of fishing. James and several other pro crappie fishermen had been at a tournament on Saturday at Patoka Lake and volunteered to take some of us writers out. We were casting several small baits into sunken trees and stamps. Almost every cast produced a fish. We caught bluegill, rock bass, yellow bass, and white and black crappie. Most were small or average size, but the action was continuous.

James told us the woods around the lake were full of deer and turkey, but we didn’t hear any gobbling. We fished around a beaver lodge and noticed the hillside above it was dotted with trees the animals had gnawed on. Bird calls sounded from all around us. It was a great day to be out.

The writer may be reached at eyewrits4u@aol.com. sun@indyarms.com. 55th and Keystone. Go to www.indyarms.com.

The writer may be reached at eyewrits4u@aol.com.

Judy's Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

Seminars - #1 Management of Indiana State Forests given by John Seifert, Director of the Division of Forestry. Seminar #2 “Calls of the Wild” DNR Naturalist Jarrett Manek showing his skill of making the sounds of a wide variety of wildlife calls and sounds. He also showed us a variety of wild animals. (Two years ago he gave small baits into sunken trees and stumps. Almost every cast produced a fish. We caught bluegill, rock bass, yellow bass, and white and black crappie. Most were small or average size, but the action was continuous.

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The writer may be reached at eyewrits4u@aol.com.
About seven or eight years ago I learned a very important lesson for landing fish in rivers and streams. I learned this “secret” from an elderly fisherman while plying the waters of southern Michigan’s St. Joseph River.

A couple of buddies and I had been spending the day on the river fishing for salmon. We were using light spinning tackle to drift flies through the holes. We had several hook-ups with nice fish, but were having difficulty in landing them with our chosen light tackle. The powerful fish would either break the line or make long runs down stream, with us chasing after them down the river banks. The fish would eventually bury themselves into brush piles, wrapping the light line around snags and causing it to break.

Discouraged, we would try our luck again, only to succumb to the same fate on nearly every hook-up. In the midst of all of this, one of my buddies and I noticed one particular angler, an elderly gentleman, who managed to land several fish while we were all striking out. I learned this “secret” from the old man. The three-pound plus smallmouth swam right back upstream to a point just half-mile downstream. This trick is especially effective when using light line and light tackle.

After returning home to north-central Indiana, I soon realized that this tactic worked on more than just salmon. While plying the waters of a local creek, I hooked into a dandy smallmouth in swift current. With a 4 pound test line and a light action spinning rod, I quickly remembered the lesson from the old man. When the feisty bronzeback made his first run, charging downstream like a runaway freight train, I eased off the pressure, only keeping the line tight. After about a twenty yard run, I noticed my line slowing and eventually turning back towards me. A smile stretched across my face as I cherished this lesson from the old man. The three-pound plus smallmouth swam right back upstream to a point just with me, and when he did, I once again put some pressure on him until he made another line-burning run downstream. This sequence of events went on for about three cycles before the fish finally wore down enough for me to bring him and lip him in order to remove the crankbaits treble hooks from his upper lip.

I believe that most fish inhabiting our local rivers and streams, not just salmon and trout, have a natural tendency to swim upstream. By employing this simple technique, you should increase your odds of landing fish in strong currents, and avoid chasing them a half-mile downstream. This trick is especially effective when using light line and light tackle.
The IDNR webpage is available for comment NOW. The link to the GovInput webpage is: http://www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/7373.htm. I believe that they will take written comments / letters, but the MODERN way to leave your “two cents worth” is to get online via a computer. If you do not have a computer, or know how to find a “link”, go to your local Library and have some- thing help you online to make your comment. Taking your young children, or grandchildren, guarantees that you will have someone to help you, with the computer, in a timely manner. The Librarians, and other volunteers, will also help you, but you may have to get in line. If you are interested in reading, or printing out, a listing of the items being discussed, go to this website address: https://secure.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/files/fw-Gov-Input_2016_issue_background.pdf. It very concisely lists the title of the comment, exactly what the comment / rule change is about, and then gives some background information as to why it is felt that the rule change is necessary. Of special interest for trappers is the rule that estab- lishes a hunting and trapping season, in certain counties, for BOBCATS. There will be a bag limit and a state wide quota just as there is for otters. I do not know what those numbers would be just yet, but if you are in favor of the establishment of a season for Bobcats, let the IDNR know about it. Time is of the essence! The comment period is only open for a short time, so get it done today.

Did you know that your purchase of a hunting license and / or fishing license helps to support the IDNR and its programs in the State? This was mentioned at the last Fish and Wildlife Advisory Committee meeting that I attended on behalf of the ISTA. I then had an exchange of emails with Julie Kempf, a conservation partner of the IDNR about how this support is funded. Julie explained to me that the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program (sometimes referred to as Pittman – Robertson (PR) Act funds), collects excise taxes on various hunting and fishing equipment. Those funds are distributed from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services to each state based on a formula that includes the state's land / water area and the num- ber of certified hunters and anglers. (Note: this doesn’t include trappers. That is a Federal rule.) To be certified, a hunter or an angler (fisher person), you need to purchase that hunting and / or fishing license. If you purchase both, you count twice. If you do not purchase one, like a landowner or hunting deer on their own land, then you do not count at all. The funds that are then apportioned to the states, are then matched 25% by the State through the income from the licenses and / or vol- unteer’s time and money spent helping at various education programs. That is why the volunteers who help out at Trapper Education classes, or Hunter education classes for that matter, fill out volunteer data sheets that collect the information needed to file for the credit for those hours. These forms indicate how much time the volunteer spent preparing for the class, teaching or helping out at the class, and the miles traveled to the class. This funding is why we have an IDNR. Indiana’s 2015 apportionment resulted in approximately $10 for every angler and $42 for every hunter certified. If the Anti’s had their way, all of this would be gone. ALL OF IT! Not just the hunting, fishing and trapping, but without those funds, there would be no recreation areas / state woodlands or lakes because there would be no money to support the IDNR staff to maintain and monitor the areas.

THINK ABOUT THAT.

If you want to help the IDNR, and thereby help yourself with improved recreation areas and per- sonnel, be sure that you buy BOTH a fishing and a hunting license, AND their stamps for Upland game, migratory birds, and trout. It doesn’t mat- ter if you do not fish, or you do not hunt. Buying those licenses helps to fund Indiana’s Department of Natural Resources. What would really be great is that if everyone interested in the outdoors, landowners who hunt their own land included, purchased at least a hunting license. The increased sales of hunting licenses would return that much more PR funds to the state. We are talk- ing millions. As a landowner, you may feel like you are being “taxed” to hunt or fish your own land. But in reality, you are getting a TAX REFUND that is applied to helping the State maintain, improve, and expand the recreation areas and recreational opportunities that exist within Indiana. This benefits not only us, but our children. It draws outsiders in who purchase products and services from the local economy. It requires that the Anti’s, at least, think of the children. It says that the Anti’s had their way, all of this would be gone. And for every angler $25 for every hunter certified. If the Anti’s had their way, all of this would be gone. ALL OF IT! Not just the hunting, fishing and trapping, but without those funds, there would be no recreation areas / state woodlands or lakes. There would be no money to support the IDNR staff to maintain and monitor the areas. THINK ABOUT THAT.

Lastly, the ISTA 56th Convention and Rendezvous will be held September 16 & 17, 2016, at Mill Pond Park, 100 Mill Pond Rd., Union Mills, IN. 46382. Set up will begin Thursday, September 15th, at noon. On site primitive and electric hookup camping is available as is a small pond for fishing and demo’s. There is a nice paved path for tailgaters to set up off of and a nice pond to watch the ducks and demo's on. Ron Elliott has once again “volunteered” to be the Booshway of this event. I cannot thank him enough for his help. Just a final FYI: The 2017 ISTA 57th Convention and Rendezvous will be at the Decatur County 4-H Fairgrounds in...
Much To Do To Get Ready

First of all, I’d like to thank those of you who read and enjoy this publication. It’s gratifying to know that you find it interesting. I would especially like to thank the lady (Ms. Heuer) who wrote a note telling me that she especially enjoyed the article about Connersville’s City Cemetery. An update on that is that the tours we do there have been designated by the state as a Bicentennial Legacy Project – a fancy way of saying that the state recognizes the historical and cultural importance of remembering the pioneers of our community. As the weather improves, we will be doing tours this summer. I will post updates here, and we invite you to attend!

And, as always, thanks to Ray for putting it together. It’s a big job.

That said, I suppose I should get busy with the job at hand.

Like a lot of communities, Fayette County is making plans for the torch relay. It will come through Rush, Fayette, and Union Counties on September 24th. On that weekend, we will be offering tours of City Cemetery, as well as Canal House, and our historic courthouse.

For those of you who are comfortable with modern technology (I’m not. I still have a flip phone), there are plans to set up a geocache trail along the path of the old Indian Trail through Connersville. If you aren’t familiar with geocaching, it will be a series of coordinates that mark historic places and can be located through a GPS. There’s a website that tells where the sites are, and folks locate them and note that they have been there. Each station has a story on the internet site that tells the significance of the spot. At the actual spot, there’s a treasure chest or cache that contains souvenirs for the seekers to take along. It’s a high tech treasure hunt of sorts, and I’ve heard that it’s a hobby for many people. The trail will remain in place with hopes of sorts, and I’ve heard that it’s a hobby for many people. The trail will remain in place with hopes that it will entice the hobbyists to continue to visit Connersville. It might convince me that I need a smarter phone so I can try it!

We’ll be having a festival, too, and our reinvent-ed Farmers Market will be in full swing. Don’t wait until September to visit this event, for farmers have some of the freshest, most delicious veggies in the state. (Author Provided Photo)

for this event, and it’s gaining momentum! You can visit them on their Facebook page, connersvillecommunity garden yard sale. There will be sales throughout the city and county.

Come early on Saturday and visit the Fayette County Farmers Market, 8 til 11 a.m. in downtown Connersville. The market begins on May 21st and continues every Saturday thru October on the parking lot at the Courthouse, but this particular Saturday they will probably be in the parking lot at Canal House at 4th and Central due to the Thomas activities. Area growers will be offering farm fresh produce, and crafters will bring their handmade wares. There will be a kid’s area with games, crafts, and educational activities, all meant to encourage kids to learn about growing food and leading a healthy lifestyle. Admission is free. They, too, have a Facebook page, fayette county farmers market.

The Fayette County Historical Museum is open Thursdays and Sundays from 1 p.m. til 4 p.m. There’s a great selection of Connersville built horse drawn and motor vehicles on display, as well as many other items. Visit the Facebook page Historic Connersville or call 825-0496. Tours at other times can be scheduled with advance notice. No admission charge, but donations are gratefully accepted.

As always, you can visit the Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary, Manlove Park, and Shadrack Weaver Nature Preserve, too! The Aquatic Center at Roberts Park will be open. While at the park, visit the Longwood Covered Bridge and take a look at all the stonework done by the WPA in years past.

I hope I’ve given you enough suggestions on things to see and do in Fayette County. There’s always something happening around here, and we would love to have you come and be part of it.

For more information, visit www.tourconnessville.com or call (765) 825-1523. www.connersvillecommunity.com is another site that offers information about happenings.
Just Gadding About
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

us a lot and personal look at venomous and non-venomous snakes - very entertaining). Seminar #3 Hunting Small Woodlots for Deer by Hunting Pro Ray Dickerson. On April 28, 2016 I got the following response to my email. The letter began...

To: Ray Dickerson

Dear Ray,

I have the following Disclaimer: The ideas and opinions expressed by the writers appearing in The Gad-a-Bout are not necessarily the same as the publishers. I don't tell my writers what to write about, on page 25.

On April 28, 2016 I got the following response from Joe McDill, it is quite lengthy.

Joe McDill

To: Ray Dickerson

First some backtracks. I have hunted deer on family land in Washington Co. In. about 30 years. I got into handgun hunting when it became legal and fell in love with slug shotguns I didn't want to loose a tooth filling. It had been a great weekend.

Dave Miller sang and played his guitar while we ate. Talk about a talented performer, he sang songs from our era, a lot of John Denver and melodious singers of that time period. I don't have room here for the interview I did with him, but will next month. He said he was booked up until the end of the year, but if you want a talented and great voice to sing at a gathering or an occasion call 812-988-2502 (Home) or 812-603-5998 (Cell) or E-mail KDDJM@jnt.net. Tell Dave you found out about him from The Gad-a-Bout.

Opted in on there conversation then about how to score, and I never will.

Joe McDill

To: Ray Dickerson

Read your article by Joe Martino. I did not know that it was a slug gun! Joe Martino's story is para-does. Joe Dickerson.

To: raythegadabout@gmail.com

Thank you Joe for sending me your opinion, yes I know others are not in favor of the "rifle law". I hope we can agree to disagree and stand united against those who would take our rights away. I welcome House Bill 1231 that allows Hoosiers to purchase a rifle, carbine or shotgun for home use.

Ray thanks again for printing my opinion. I know this got long winded but I respect your paper and know as editor you may have to cut some due to space, I understand. Respectfully, Joe McDill.

Ray thank you for sending me your opinion, yes we can agree to disagree.

On May 12, 2016 I got another comment about H.B. 1231 from Ron Stegman.

To: raythegadabout@gmail.com

Read your article by Joe Martino. I did not know that this Bill 1231 allowing high-powered rifles for deer hunting had been passed. I am outraged that this Bill was passed and signed by the Governor. We
Roaming The Outdoors
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27
were ignored and blind sighted. Last year many of us said no to the dangerous use of high-powered rifles and a few managed to quietly pass this foolish Bill. I will not walk near my woods and will most likely hear of damage from this situation. Thanks for writing about this terrible bill.
Ron Stegman

Before sending this issue to the printer I followed up on a suggestion given to me about checking to see if anyone is interested in N.B. 1231. I checked and there have been no changes to H.B. 1231, at least up to printing this issue of The Gad-a-bout.

GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR FIELD TRIPS TO STATE PARKS, LAKES

Educators interested in taking students, grades K-12, on field trips to an Indiana state park or state-managed lake in the 2016-2017 school year can receive financial help through the Indiana Natural Resources Foundation (INRF).

The Discovering the Outdoors Field Trip Grant Program is for public, private, parochial or home-school educators, according to INRF director Judy Kress.

“Part of our mission at the Indiana Natural Resources Foundation is to encourage educational programs of DNR,” Kress said. “The field trip grant program helps future generations understand the importance of preserving and protecting our natural heritage and resources.” Since the grant program’s inception in 2013, 67 grants have been awarded, providing the opportunity for more than 4,500 students to visit state parks at less cost to the schools and students.

Indiana has 24 state parks and eight state-managed lakes, all open to field funding that will engage students in learning about Indiana’s fish, forest, wildlife, natural habitats and conservation. These trips help children understand how previous generations viewed the significance of Indiana’s natural and cultural resources, and at the same time provide them a chance to make great memories that they will carry into adulthood,” said Ginger Murphy, deputy director for stewardship for DNR State Parks.

The maximum grant award is $250 per application. Applications must be postmarked no later than June 30. The grant application is at IN.gov/inrf/education.

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Photos sent to The Gad-a-bout for GAD’S CORNER must contain identifying information, date, weight, points, other, experience, etc. Send a phone number in case I need to contact you. Send regular size, i.e. square and horizontal rectangular photos. Large vertical photos can only be used when I have enough space to use them.

Send Photos to: The Gad-a-bout, 105 E. South St., Centerville, IN 47330 or E-mail .jpg photos to: raythegadabout@gmail.com Questions Call Cell Phone: 765-960-5767

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This is Dalton Hoch showing his turkey after completing his first successful turkey hunt. (Bozarth Country Store Ryan’s Photo, Lagro, IN)

Kiara Bishop from Cedar Grove, IN holding a Tilapia she caught in the Caloosahatchee River behind her grand parents’ house while on vacation in Fort Meyers, FL. (Submitted by Kimberly Lewis)


The advertising rates below are for black & white ads only - for color ads add above rate

Troy Clem caught this nice 12.5,” 1.23 lb. crappie while fishing off the bank in the Salamonie Reservoir. This was just one of many fish they caught on April 23rd. (Bozarth Country Store Ryan’s Photo, Lagro, IN)

Richard Eckman took a 20 lb turkey and Tracy Morrisett took a 22.5 lb turkey on 4-27-16. It was Tracy’s first turkey. (Bozarth Country Store Ryan’s Photo, Lagro, IN)

Allen Towell took his first turkey in Jay County on 05/14/2016. It weighed 22 pounds. (Submitted by Allen Towell)

Hunter Sturgeon and his grandpa Richard Sturgeon. Hunter landed a nice 6 lbs. 4 oz. largemouth bass and his grandpa's weighed 5 lbs. They caught them on 4-23-16. (Photo submitted by High Roller)

Chase Enyeart and Trevor Rebholtz showing off their first time turkey's they shot within seconds of each other. Chase's turkey weighed 25 lbs with an 11 inch beard and Trevor's weighed 21.5 lbs and had an 11.25 inch beard. (Bozarth Country Store Ryan's Photo, Lagro, IN)

Barry Hattabaugh took this 195 pound, 15 point buck on 11-15-2015. (Red Barn Bait & Guns Photo, Salem, IN)

My grandson Kadon Schlechty, harvested his first turkey, a jake, on 4-23-16, in Jay Co. on private property during the youth season with help from our close friend Tim Reff. It had a 4 inch beard. (Submitted by Allen Towell)

My grandson Kolton Guntle harvested his first turkey, a tom with a 10 3/4 inch beard & 3/4 inch spurs. It was harvested on 4/24/2016 on a state wildlife area in Randolph Co. again with help from our close friend Tim Reff, this is only our 3rd year at turkey hunting, and these are the first turkeys that we have taken. (Submitted by Allen Towell)

My grandson Kadon Schlechty, harvested his first turkey, a jake, on 4-23-16, in Jay Co. on private property during the youth season with help from our close friend Tim Reff. It had a 4 inch beard. (Submitted by Allen Towell)

This Brookville Lake Depth Map is on sale at the following Retail Outlets in the Vicinity of the Brookville Lake for $2.00 Each

Frame’s Outdoor; Quakertown Marina; Dave’s Triangle LLC; Rainbow Mini Mart; Jay’s Midlake Bait & Tackle; Parkside Marine and More, Inc; Barton’s Bay Boat Storage & Service and 52 Pick-up Marathon Convenience Store.

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Powder

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Handgun (Prices per 1000 Round case unless otherwise noted)

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FIocchi Pistol Ammunition (Prices per 1000 Round case)

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