



THE GAD-A-BOUT™

JUNE 2021

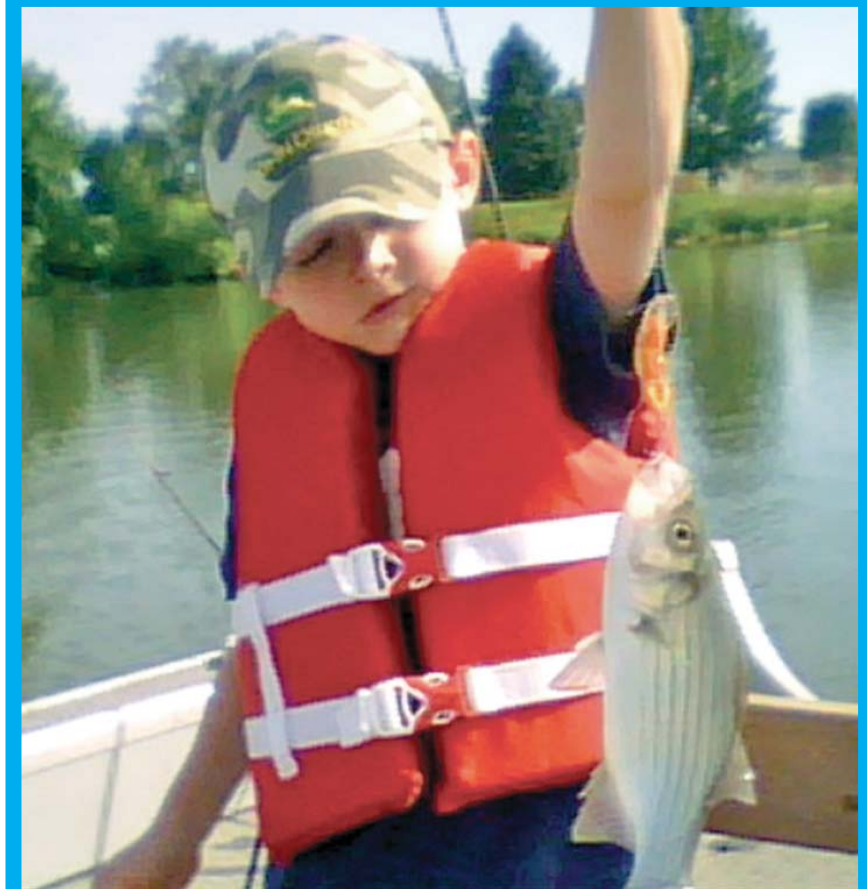
Outdoor Information • Museum • Frontier Post



WAYNE COUNTY 4-H FAIR JUNE 19-26, 2021 AT THE WAYNE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS IN RICHMOND, INDIANA, DAILY ACTIVITIES - SEE PAGES 14-15



OPERATION C-LOV = CENTERVILLE LOVES OUR VETERANS
MAY 15TH PARADE & MEMORIAL DAY ACTIVITIES MAY 31ST
SEE VETERAN ACTIVITIES PAGE 3, 16 THRU 20



LUKE ROOD CAUGHT THIS SILVER IN 2009 WHILE FISHING WITH NICHHOLAS MARTINO BACK WHEN THEY WERE JUST YOUNGSTERS. - SEE PG 5



A DREAM COME TRUE. A BEAUTIFUL BULL MOOSE TAKEN BY JOEL BILTZ FINISHING HIS MOOSE SLAM, ONE IN ALASKA, ONE IN UTAH AND ONE IN CANADA - SEE PAGE 24-25

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READ THE GAD-A-BOUT On Line @ www.thegadabout.com



JUNE 2021 • Volume XXXIII • NO. 371

Created in 1990 & Published Monthly by Kentucky Colonel Ray Dickerson

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

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Whenever possible a pdf will be sent to verify article after it has been edited. The article won't be published until author gives okay.

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ABOUT THE COVER PHOTOS

Top Left: Wayne County 4-H Fair (Fun Mooves You In The Right Direction! Complete listing of the daily activities from June 19 - 26, 2021 at the Wayne County Fairgrounds in Richmond, Indiana. Plus additional special attractions also listed in this issue on page 14 & 15. The Fair is back this year bigger and better. I hope all of you reading this are able to attend this years 4-H Fair located at 861 N. Salisbury Road, Richmond, IN 47374. Please read the instructions on both page 14 & 15 as precautions are listed about attending the Fair this year. All the information printed on these two pages were sent to me by a 4-H Staff Member.

Top Right: Wayne County Veteran Services Officer Ron Weadick's Motorcycle, a member of a proud family of Veterans. Memorial Day activities. Staging Location: Fort Harrison Veterans Center, IVY Tech Parking Lot. Address: 9450 East 59th Street Indianapolis, IN 46216. Staging Times: 08:00 to 10:30 (Breakfast items will be available at the Veterans Center) Sendoff Program: 10:30 to 11:30

Prepare for Departure 11:30 to 12:00
Departure 12:00

Estimate arrival at each Memorial Park
Hancock County Veterans Park: 12:45
Veterans Garden of Memories: 13:40
Henry County Memorial Park: 14:45
Wayne County Veterans Memorial Park: 16:30
Photo by Ray Dickerson)

Bottom Left: With all of the summer activities out there to keep our children busy, I feel that is important to remember to always make time to take you children fishing this summer before it is too late. Between summer camps, sports and vacations, it can be tough to do, but taking the time to take your children, or any children for that matter (Photo by Joe Martino) Bottom Right: For three years I had been dreaming about the day to be able to hunt the giant Alaska/Yukon moose. That day came for me, you need to read my story to get the real feel of the hunt. (Photo by Joel Biltz)

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This past Saturday I attended my home town Veterans Parade which was held on Crown Creek Blvd here in Centerville, Indiana. The event was sponsored by C-LOV and all Vietnam-era veterans were honored that day. The term Vietnam-Era Veterans means all of those veterans who served their country between 1955 and 1974. (Photo by Ray Dickerson).

Roaming The Ourdoors



by Ray Dickerson
The Gad-a-bout

VIETNAM-ERA VETERANS PARADE HELD IN CENTERVILLE SPONSORED BY C-LOV C-LOV VIETNAM-ERA VETERANS PARADE HELD IN CENTERVILLE MAY 15TH

Ron Weadick who writes a column in The Gad-a-bout invited me to attend the C-LOV (Centerville Loves Our Veterans) parade which was to be held on Saturday May 15th on Crown Creek Blvd from Eliason Road to Morton. Their first parade was held in 2017. The C-LOV parade was initiated in 2017 by the C-LOV committee members Beth Treaster, Dan Wandersee, Jackie Carberry, Marilyn Buckholz and Kris Turner. Sponsors of this years parade was A&Z

Engineering, Indiana Municipal Power Agency, Kenna Consulting, Lochmueller Group and Warm Glow Candle Co.

I put the above photo here to commemorate that period of my life that gives me great pleasure of having been an Explorer Scout in Troop 16 here in Centerville and being in the United States Air Force from 1959 to 1963.

At that same parade I got to talk to and see Troop 16 Scout members participating in the Parade and helping the Veterans where ever they could assist them throughout the day. A commendable activity, one that comes naturally to a scout in Troop 16.

I have fond memories of when I joined Troop 16 Explorer Scouts. I was a late bloomer, having been coaxed for sometime by the scoutmaster to join. He wouldn't take no for an answer until I finally gave up and joined.

I never regretted my decision. I learned a great deal, One of my most memorable experiences as a scout was our trip to Isle Royale National Park, sailing 70 miles from Houghton, MI on Lake Superior to Isle Royale, hiking and camping for more than 25 miles and making the 70 mile boat trip back to Houghton, Michigan. We then traveled to Canoe Base 7 in upper Minnesota, then headed back home. I have a 100 foot 8 mm movie film of that trip

In the photo above between the Scout and Air Force uniform is a map of the United Kingdom. The red line drawn on it is the route Airman Oleein Fritz, James Armstrong and myself spent ten days visiting England and Scotland by car. The three of us were

stationed ar RAF Alconbury in England and we all took a leave at the same time for the ten day trip.

In my August 2021 Gad-a-bout I hope to have a complete story about that trip 59 years ago. Oleein and I recently talked to one another by telephone after I found him with the help of Bob Green who maintains a website on line with the appropriate title RAF Alconbury. One of his readers answered a question I put on the website asking if anyone knew where Oleein might be located. Shortly thereafter I received an answer giving me his current address. I sent Oleein a Christmas card this past year, hoping he would get it at that address. We got a card from him shortly thereafter with his phone number in it. Sherry and I called him and via our speaker phone the four of us talked for the longest time. We've kept in contact with them ever since. Memories are so wonderful, especially when you are able to live them once again.

VETERAN MEMORIAL DAY ACTIVITIES CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

DNR DIRECTOR STATEMENT REGARDING GEORGE ROGERS CLARK CABIN FIRE

Regarding yesterday's fire that destroyed the George Rogers Clark cabin at Falls of the Ohio State Park, DNR Director Dan Bortner has issued the following statement.Clark Cabin

"For twenty years, the reproduction of the George Rogers Clark cabin at Falls of the Ohio

ROAMING THE OUTDOORS CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

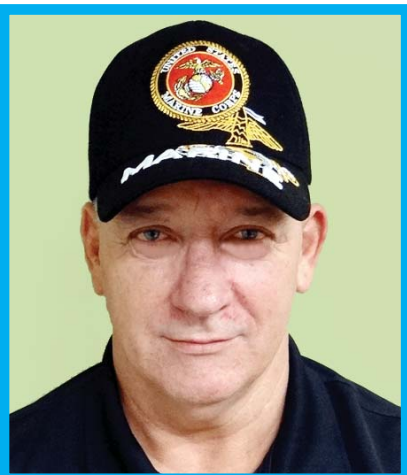
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So You Wanna Catch More Fish



by Tag Nobbe
Professional Fishing Guide

June Fishing Brookville Lake 2021

The best way to catch fish on Brookville lake in June is from a boat. If you remember last months article in this same publication, I talked about water temperature putting fish on the shore. Well this month water temperature is taking fish off the shore. Since the spawning cycle is over for most fish and the water temperature is moving up through the 70's there is no reason for any fish to be on the banks.

What they are looking for now is something close to deep water they can live on. When you look across Brookville lake all you see is flat water, while the bottom of the lake is not flat at all. The bottom of Brookville lake is not a bowl. It has drop offs, points, flats, humps, brush piles, old house foundation, rock piles, old river channels, creek channels, and a multitude of other spots that just hold fish. When the fish are on the bank all you really have to know is to fish on the bank. When the fish move to the middle of the lake it's a hole different ball game. You have to know where all these fish holding spots are. All the guys that fished before me used land marks to get them close to a spot that they had found from fishing the same body of water over and over for many years. They had no depth finder and no GPS, all they had was their tried and true knowledge and a long piece of rope with a heavy weight. What they did was get close to where they thought the spot was, say it was a hump. They would lower the weight to the bottom and move the boat slowly. If they had to take up rope, they knew they were on the right track. Now they may have to turn around or do circles but eventually they would be on the spot.

When guys my age started fishing, we had depth finders so we could eliminate the rope and weight method, but we still had to find spots. It's long gone now but when I was a kid there was a bait shop by the lake called Garr hill bait and marine. They sold live bait and tackle but they also had a campground. As a you guy growing up one of my best friends from high school was and still is, is Tina Johnson her mom and dad was Dick and Doris Johnson the owners of Garr hill. All my

fishing friends where retired and living in this campground. Dick, Wilbur, Ed, Art, and Tom. They have all passed on now except for Tom and Tina, and I do miss them dearly. These guys were my social media. They taught me everything I know about fishing on Brookville lake. They showed me how carry marker buoys on the boat and how to use them to mark spots you would find. They taught me to make mental notes of the depth and look around for some sort of land mark. Usually you could line up on an old tree and an electric tower or a boat dock something like that.

Fast forward to now and you have depth finders with built in GPS mapping and contour lines. You have \$90,000 fishing boats with auto deploy trolling motors, gps, spot lock, and programmable depth tracking. Another tool is the internet and cell phones. With theses tools you can get all the social media you need and not really talk to a live living person. I'm not really sure if this is good or bad but it is the future.

To know a good spot is not the magic bullet, you still have to know when the fish are going to be on that spot, This is all driven by things like water temperature, wind, water clarity, storm fronts, cold front, food availability or dissolved oxygen in the water. It's a lot of things you can't understand but it all plays a part in putting fish in different areas in the lake. After a while you get to thinking I have got this all figured out. Then something different happens and you don't.

I guess my point is spend more time on the water fishing is a necessity. The more you fish the more you know.

Good Luck Tag

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Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

State Park has educated Hoosiers and our guests of the important role the site, and region, played in the history of our nation. This is where Merriweather Lewis and William Clark first met, in 1803, and began their journey of discovery together. It has long served as a peaceful place for Americans to meet, reflect, and celebrate events in their lives. We are deeply saddened by this loss."

The DNR Division of Law Enforcement is working with state and local agencies to investigate the cause of the fire. Anyone who may have information is asked to contact Indiana Conservation Officer Central Dispatch at **812-837-9536**.

More information on Falls of the Ohio State Park and the cabin is at on.IN.gov/falloftheohiosp.

CONSERVATION OFFICERS HOLD MEMORIAL SERVICE & AWARDS CEREMONY

A ceremony was held today to remember fallen Indiana Conservation Officers and recognize current officers for their excellence while serving the state of Indiana and its citizens.

The seven members of the DNR Division of Law Enforcement who have died in the line of duty since its inception in 1911 were honored during the ceremony in the auditorium of the Indiana Government Center in Indianapolis. Those officers, listed with their end of watch date: Sgt. Ed Bollman, Feb. 13, 2018; F/Sgt. Karl E. Kelley, April 17, 1998; ICO Thomas Deniston, Oct. 16, 1990; ICO James D. Pitzer, January 2, 1961; Robert S. Perkins, May 27, 1958; Warden William J. Nattkemper, April 27, 1926; and Warden William J. Peare, April 27, 1926.

Indiana Conservation Officers are law enforcement officers for the DNR, and the DNR Division of Law Enforcement is the oldest Indiana state law

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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Luke Rood from Galveston, Indiana caught this Silver in 2009 while fishing with Nicholas and I back when they were just youngsters!. (Author Photo)



Our son Nick fishing with us on Wildcat in 2011. (Author Photo)

Indiana Outdoors



by Joe Martino

Summer, Kids and Fishing are a Perfect Combination

With all of the summer activities out there to keep our children busy, I feel that is important to remember to always make time to take you children fishing this summer before it is too late. Between summer camps, sports and vacations, it can be tough to do, but taking the time to take your children, or any children for that matter, fishing can have a positive impact on them for life.

Through some of the seminars and speaking engagements that I have done, one thing I notice every time is that all children have the desire to go fishing – yet few have ever had the opportunity. Often when we take my son fishing, we will invite a friend or two of his to come along, and it is surprising to see that many of his friends and classmates have never been fishing before their inaugural trip with us. If his friends’ parents are interested, we will also ask them to join us if they wish, because in some cases they have never been fishing before either, or at least not in many years. Having the



Nicholas holding bass he caught the day we took he and Luke fishing when they were just youngsters. Fishing with kids may just be for a day, but the memories will last forever. (Author Photo)

opportunity to be with anyone, let alone a child, when they catch their first fish is a reward you will not soon forget.

Remember not to keep things too serious or complicated when fishing with children. As I reflect back to those first trips out with my dad, it wasn't

even necessarily the fishing that got me hooked - it was the good times we had and the bonds we forged together. But still, catching at least a few fish, regardless of size or species is important when taking children out.

When planning a trip with a youngster, bring along plenty of snacks and drinks. Believe it or not, besides keeping them nourished and hydrated, they can also help to keep them entertained. To this day I still love meatloaf sandwiches because I remember dad bringing them along on many of our outings together. Also, try to take them to a place where you are pretty certain that you can catch some fish. Targeting species like sunfish, bluegills and crappies is best as they tend to be easier to coax into biting. Don't worry if you don't catch a lot of fish or if they are small, your children will have the time of their lives regardless.

I also make sure that my son has some lures and a tackle box to call his own. On trips to the store, I will often let him pick some items out for himself, and I do the same for his friends when they come along.

Finally, don't be afraid to play. If that means letting them play with the minnows or worms, then so be it. On my most recent trip with my son and his friends, we ended the day by going swimming. They all caught fish and had a ball, but eventually wanted to cool off and go for a dip. That is fine. Remember it is about the good times you enjoy while fishing, not particularly the fishing itself. If they don't have fun they won't want to go again.

It is so easy for us sportsmen to take things like fishing for granted, especially if we grew up plying the waters of our local creeks and ponds trying to coax fish out of them. Even though it may be hard to imagine for some of us, there are many children out there who simply don't have the means or opportunities to enjoy this pastime as some of us do, but I can tell you that these same children would love to have that chance. So even though you hear the phrase "take a kid fishing" a lot these days, make a concerted effort to act upon it. ■

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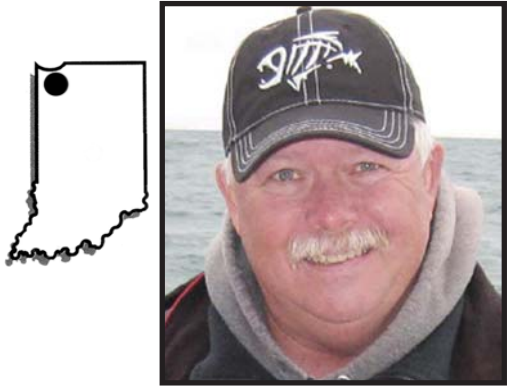
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Fishing Lake Michigan



by Capt. Mike Schoonveld

MAKE SHALLOW LURES RUN DEEP WITH STINGRAYS

In lakes where the major forage is emerald shiners, smelt or other long, skinny baitfish, walleyes and other predators are particularly receptive to striking stick baits. There's a reason why the original Rapala Minnow lure is one of the best artificial lures ever invented.

But stick baits by their nature are shallow running lures. Sure, there are deep diver stick baits such as Reef Runners or Jr. Thunder Sticks that will dive deeper than a straight Rapala or Rattlin' Rogue but the action of the deep divers

is completely different and often just won't turn the trick.

There's not a place on the Great Lakes (or other lakes) where spoons aren't the lure of choice - at least at some times of the year. Spoons, by their nature aren't deep runners. Most of the Great Lakes trolling spoons are flutter type and can only be used with a weight, diver or downrigger to get them under the waves.

There are plenty of ways to present a spoon or stick bait deeper than it will dive on its own. Put a weight ahead of it, run it on a downrigger, wiggle it along using copper or leadcore line. All will work and depending on the situation may be the presentation of choice.



Choose a Stingray to pull your lures deep without having to put a lot of weight on the line. (Author Photo)

Another option, however, is using Stingray Divers from Church Tackle. These mini-divers come in three sizes and all of them will work with the size and type of lures normally used on the Great Lakes and the rest of the Midwest, for anything from white bass to walleye. The largest size will even pull six-inch, coho-sized dodger and fly combos. The smallest, #1 Stingray is black, the #2 is bright orange and the largest, #3 is chartreuse.

The larger two sizes have four holes in them. The front two holes are attachment places for the line to rod, the other two are attachment points for the leader. They come with snaps, but I don't think they would run much different if the line or leader is tied direct. Connect line or leader in the different holes to make it troll shallower or deeper. Hook it to the lower connection points and the Stingray is mostly just an in-line sinker. Tie to the upper tow point with the main line and the upper leader connection hole to get the maximum dive.

Guessing the depth any sort of diver will achieve is better measured more by "rules of thumb" than by printed dive charts. Change the trolling speed, change the lure being trolled, change the diameter of the line, the type of line being used or vary the amount of line deployed and the trolling depth will change. Church "suggests," however, the large Stingrays (size #3) will dive at a two to one "line length/depth achieved" ratio, the mid-mini (size #2) is three to one and figure four to one when using the mini-mini, size-one Stingray. It's a starting point.

Stingrays are widely available in tackle shops, at on-line retailers or at www.churchtackle.com.

The End

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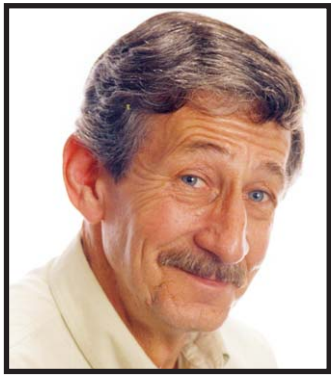
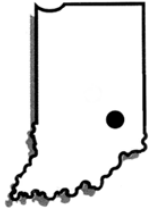
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Misfires & Snags



by Dan Graves

To Mushroom or Not to Mushroom

Every year I wrestle with the decision to spend time (or waste it depending on my viewpoint at the time) looking for those spongy little bug factories called edible mushrooms. And every year I can't resist the temptation to wander through the woods in hopes I might find a few of the things. Personally, I don't really care for them, especially after finding the best ones nestled up to a dried cow pie. But my wife loves them, so for her sake I devote a few hours every spring in a mostly vain effort to find at least one mess for her. I never bother to tell her where I found them and I don't think she would care if they came from the bottom of a compost heap.

We own eighteen plus acres in Franklin County that is entirely wooded and by all appearances is a perfect location to find baskets of the things. According to everything I've read about prime mushroom habitat I should trip over one at every third step. Apparently the local mushrooms either

haven't yet read the book or I'm incapable of seeing anything less than three feet tall. During the ten years we've owned the land, only one year produced what I would call a bumper crop. Judy got about four good messes that year and the other nine produced nothing but excuses from me as to why I didn't bring any home. One year I packed my favorite .22 target pistol along while I scanned the trail to the shooting range looking for the little fungi. Since I didn't find any, in my opinion, there wasn't any reason to continue past the range, so I spent an hour punching holes in targets. When I got back to the cabin and proudly showed her the targets and the few holes in the black, her only reaction was, "where are the mushrooms?" That was a tough one to lie my way out of, but I managed it by explaining to her the effect of the phase of the moon and its influence on mushroom growth.

"Last year you told me it was because of storms along the Pacific coastline" she said. "What will it be next year? Meteorites impacting the Arctic Circle?"

My biggest problem in hunting mushrooms is concentration. I try to follow the suggestions by experienced hunters, such as forming an image of a mushroom in your mind. Supposedly, this will help you spot the elusive little buggers. I really try, but inevitably I find myself thinking about how to dismantle the carburetor on my old BSA motorcycle or envisioning the last time a fish rose to take a fly. At those times I believe on the saying, I listen but I don't hear, I touch but I don't feel, and I look but I don't see. I wonder how many times I've walked right past a six inch tall morel and had no clue it was there. Another thing that interferes with my concentration is the condition the woods are in after a hard winter. Dead limbs litter the paths and hang from the branches of smaller trees. During the first weeks of warm weather I feel it's my civic duty to clean up the mess left by Mother Nature. So, I spend most of my time while mushroom hunting cleaning up her mess by pulling down dead limbs and moving others off the trails. After all, we wouldn't want a poor deer to trip and break something. Since very few if any species of edible fungi grow in trees, I normally come back empty handed but armed with some excuse as to why. However, these "reasons" are beginning to wear thin with Judy. And every year it gets tougher to try to convince her that I'm sincere. She didn't buy the swamp gas thing and the attack by a pack of

rabid squirrels got me a peanut butter and jelly sandwich for supper.

This year, however, I got by with explaining how it was too cold during March and April for them to grow, even though I've read where the little assassins sometimes come up through snow and have even been found growing through cracks in asphalt. If she knew these statistics I would probably have been scraping around on our country road in six inches of snow. Every year though, I get in the doghouse when she asks a neighboring farmer how many he's already found. The traitor always relates how he's already found a couple of pickup beds full and the season is just warming up. Next year I'm going to write him a check in return for a little white lie even though that may open me up to annual blackmail for the rest of my life.

I've never seen anything that causes as much spring time trouble as a stupid little mindless fungus armed with the best of camouflage and no set pattern as to where it can be found. Sometimes I wish they were armed with a vicious set of teeth and a real attitude towards humans. Then, armed with the target pistol I could pick them off at my leisure from up in the tree where they chased me. At least that would be a lot safer than trying to explain to Judy why I came back empty handed for another year.

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

enforcement agency. A total of 214 conservation officers serve the state.

After the memorial ceremony, the division recognized individual officers for their outstanding service.

"It is an honor to recognize our heroes of the past and present and highlight the sacrifices our officers make while serving our great citizens of the state of Indiana," said Col. Steve Hunter, division director.

District 5 Officer Matt Landis, assigned to Sullivan County, was selected as the James D. Pitzer Indiana Conservation Officer of the Year. The award establishes Landis as the top officer of 2020, as selected from the 10 district Officer of the Year recipients.

The Pitzer award is named for Conservation Officer Pitzer, who was killed in the line of duty on Jan. 2, 1961, in Jay County. The Pitzer recipient demonstrates professional ethics, attitude, and service to the public while demonstrating dedication to the principles of the conservation of natural resources and the enforcement of laws affecting the department. The officer must also demonstrate the ability to provide a positive influence, develop camaraderie within the ranks, and gain the confidence and respect of fellow officers.

Lt. Col. Terry Hyndman received the Director's Leadership Award for his work overseeing Indiana Conservation Officer Central Dispatch and the Turn in a Poacher (TIP) program.

Sgt. Greg Swanson received the 2020 William J. Nattkemper Brotherhood Award. This award is

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21

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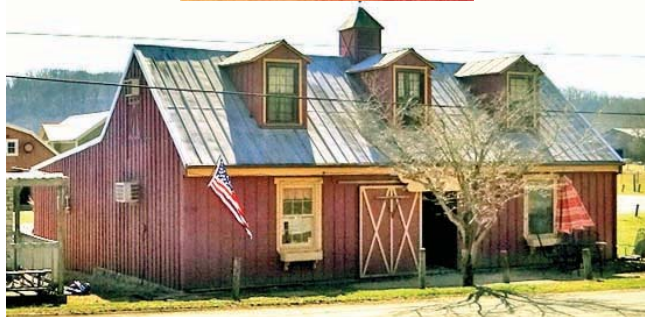
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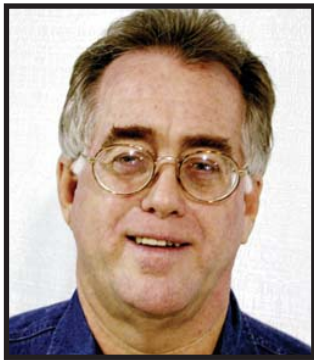


THE LOFT



DINING ROOM

Outdoors



With Rich Creason

Ancient Fish Still Fighting

Most of you fishermen (and women) have never had the opportunity to feel a lake sturgeon on the end of your line. Very few lucky anglers have ever tangled with one of these largest fresh-water fish to go on any bucket list. Those who have roped (not netted!) one of these prehistoric monsters will never forget it.

Just looking at these amazing creatures makes you realize they belong swimming with the aquatic dinosaurs. They just look old. Measuring over six feet long and weighing in the triple digits, this is not the normal panfish most waters hold. The record lake sturgeon weighed 310 pounds and one was estimated to be over 150 years old. If you want to catch one, you need to pick a lake which has them, and unless you are an expert, you will probably need an experienced guide.

If you were in Baudette, Minnesota, right now, you could go east about eight miles to the



Capt. Mike Schoonveld holding keeper size sturgeon on LOW Charter. Measured and released. (Author Photo)

Clementson Rapids in the Rapid River. Dozens of these huge sturgeon are swimming in just a few feet of water on their spawning run. In spots, watchers will even see the dorsal fin of many fish sticking out of the shallow water.

The size and numbers of these ancient fish have greatly improved in recent years. The Clean Water Act has allowed the Rainy River, between Baudette and the Clementson Rapids, to improve spawning success in the cleaner water. Another factor which improved this fishery is the banning of commercial fishing for sturgeon on Lake of the Woods north of Baudette. This area used to produce a good portion of the world's caviar.

If you want to be one of the few who land one

of these prehistoric fish, Lake of the Woods is the place to go. On the Minnesota/Ontario border, Rainy River empties into LOW at Baudette, and this area is world famous for walleye fishing. Occasionally, a lucky walleye fisherman will end up with a sturgeon on the end of his line, but on this light gear, it will take a long time to land this unusual fish. A better chance of getting a fish of a lifetime will be to hire a guide from one of the local resorts. He will have the boat, proper gear, and knows how to get his clients to the proper spot to locate his desired species.

If you decide to go with a guided fishing trip, your selection can educate you on necessary gear, and the know-how to use it. If you want to use



Paul Johnson, River Bend Resort, Lake of the Woods with 47 inch Pike. (Author Photo).



Joe Henry, LOW Tourism Director with one of the many huge walleyes in LOW.

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Susie Creason with small size sturgeon. Notice the sharp scutes on the top of fish. (Author Photo).



Typical scenery around Lake of the Woods, Minnesota. (Author Photo).

your own tackle, a good choice would be your heaviest muskie rod, reel and line. Any of the local bait and tackle shops can supply you with a sturgeon rig which is an 18 inch snell with a 5/0 circle hook. This is loaded with a combination of night-crawlers and frozen emerald shiners, and a five ounce flat sinker. Other bait can be used, such as rotten chicken, pork, or other strong smelling attractants. Then set your bait on the bottom as you would for catfish or carp. While you can catch sturgeon on a walleye rig, the long fight which will ensue will put a lot of stress on the fish. If you are planning on releasing it after a few quick photos, the stronger outfit will allow the angler to boat the fish and release it quicker.

If you are fishing on your own, you will need tackle suitable for landing a fish up to 100 pounds. Pliers to remove the hook from the sturgeon's mouth are necessary. To land a fish this size requires a large landing net for the smaller ones. A heavy rope with a loop on the end is used for larger fish. When the sturgeon is alongside the boat, a loop of rope is dropped over its tail, and it is

brought into the boat that way. Gloves must be worn on smaller sturgeon as they have sharp scales or "scutes" which can quickly slice a hand.

In addition to the above, you need a wet towel to drape over the head of the fish to calm him while measuring. A tape which will measure accurately up to at least seven feet is desirable. Also, a flexible measure such as a seamstress tape to measure the girth should be included in your gear. This aids in weight estimation. Of course, a good camera for those lifetime pictures is a must. Carry in your pocket a writing utensil and some paper to jot down numbers in case you land a tagged sturgeon.

If you plan on fishing for sturgeon in the LOW area, you need to know the seasons. There is a catch and release season, a harvest season, and a closed season. April 24th to May 7th and July 1st to September 30 are the days in which one fish per year may be kept. It must be between 45 and 50 inches in length. Catch and release is allowed from May 8th thru May 15th and October first to April 23rd. This means no sturgeon fishing from May 16th thru June 30. See the Minnesota

Department of Natural Resources fishing regulations for more information.

The Baudette, Minnesota area has numerous resorts to accommodate your needs. This includes lodging, dining, guides, fishing charters, and more. For those interested, a wide variety of species are located in this area for hunters. LOW offers world class fishing for northern pike, musky, and of course, walleye. Many of the local resorts offer their guests the opportunity to have the resort chef prepare a portion of their walleye catch for the evening meal.

To plan your outing to this area, contact the Lake of the Woods Tourism Bureau at info@lake-ofthewoodsmn.com or call 800-382-3474. Give them specific details on what interests you, the anticipated time of your vacation, and check out their website or ask for them to mail you relevant publications and brochures. They will be happy to answer all of your questions and offer recommendations to make your visit a memorable one.

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

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Saturday will start with The Freedom Run 7.5k which brings runners and walkers from miles around for a run through the beautiful countryside. The day is filled with contests, from Hula to the most Patriotic Baby. The evening will bring the Line of Freedom, a salute to our troops, the 4th of July Parade, and another family friendly concert featuring Jay Jesse Johnson.

Sunday is a lazy summer day with a Patriotic Chalk Art Competition and fun activities on the square.

Food and craft vendors all weekend. For more information about the 50th Annual Liberty 4th of July Fest please visit www.ucdc.us

4th of July Celebration Schedule of Events

Visit www.ucdc.us for up to date listings

(Times are subject to change)

Friday, July 2

Vendors Open 5-11pm
Beer Garden 4-11pm
Water Ball Competition 6pm



Saturday, July 3

Freedom Run 8:30am start
Vendors Open 9am - 11pm
Pie Baking Contest 10am-2pm
Hula Hoop Contest 1pm
Freckle Contest 2:30pm
Patriotic Baby Contest 4pm
Beer Garden 4-11pm
Line of Freedom Ceremony 6pm
Parade 7pm
Jay Jesse Johnson 8-11pm

Sunday, July 4

Vendors Open 11am - 4pm
Patriotic Chalk Art Competition
11-2pm



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Warren Wyant joined the U.S. Navy and was aboard the USS Meredith (above) during the invasion of Normandy. (Author Photo)



The USS Meredith struck a underwater mine off the coast, it was towed to a dock for salvaging. Seven days later the Germans bombed it, breaking it in two. (Author Photo)



Warren Wyant was wounded in the bombing attack by the Germans, he was rescued from the water three miles from where the ship sunk. (Author Photo)



This is a poster that was on display the day Warren Wyant was laid to rest at the cemetery in Connersville by the Fayette County Honor Guard. (Author Photo)

Whitewater Valley History



by **Donna Schroeder**
Fayette County Historical Museum

Hometown Hero

Over a year ago, Fayette Cemetery Commission President Aimee Brumfield contacted me about a call she had received regarding the location of a grave. That wasn't anything out of the ordinary, and we love the challenge. The requests usually come from descendants of families who lived here decades ago, some of whom were buried in cemeteries we haven't yet located.

This call was different. The guardian of an elderly gentleman was calling from Terre Haute to make arrangements, at his request, for him to be buried here in the future with his family. At the time he was nearing his ninety-ninth birthday and in failing health, so we knew we were probably under a time constraint.

I began the search straight away, and for us, as always, the search opened an intriguing story of yet another family from Fayette County's past.

There wasn't a lot of information available. The gentleman's name was Warren Wyant, and the family was buried at City Cemetery. City's records are somewhat sketchy, but I found one Wyant buried there. Thanks to several surveys that have been done over the years and to Kevin

Jordan who has added hundreds of memorials and photos from the cemetery to Findagrave, I found a marker for Gilberta Wyant - the only Wyant to be found in Fayette County.

The next step was to confirm that this was the correct family, so I began the search for census, birth, and death records, as well as combing through old newspaper stories.

Gilberta's death certificate was the only documentation that linked her to Fayette County, until I found a newspaper story about her parents. Her mother, Amelia Frederick, had lived in Connersville and married an Ohio resident named Gilbert Conner. Sadly, before the birth of Gilberta, the father was killed in a construction accident. The mother came back to Connersville from Ohio with her baby daughter.

Gilberta married Walter Wyant. They lived in Nebraska, where Warren was born. After they divorced, Gilberta brought Warren and his brother back to Indiana.

The research continued, and here's the story as we know it.

A German tailor named Charles Frederick came to America about 1857, bringing along three daughters: Alvina, Ida, and Ameilia. There is no mention of a wife, so we will suppose that he was a widower. In 1860, he was living in Brownsville in Union County. He was in one household, and the children were with other families. Alvina had married Samuel Watts.

By 1870, Charles had married Elizabeth Griffith and they had these children: Augusta, Charles Jr., and William. According to the newspaper, their infant son died in 1873, a week after Elizabeth's death, with no name listed for the child. I mention this because the term 'infant' could mean newborn to five or six years of age in those days, so this could have been a baby, or it may have been William, two months old in the 1870 census, but unaccounted for later. This becomes important as the story continues.

Elizabeth died in 1873, reported as death from consumption, and was buried in City. In 1880,

Charles, Ida, Amelia, Charles, Jr., and Augusta were living together. Augusta married and is accounted for in later years. Ida died in 1886. Charles, Sr. died in 1894, and Charles, Jr. died in 1934.

Warren had remained single until 1991, and his wife, Ruby, died in 2005. She was buried here, as was his grandmother, Amelia, who died in 1927, and his mother, Gilberta, who died in 1955.

Why is this important? A trip to the family plot in the cemetery revealed only five markers, those of Charles Jr., and Sr., Amelia, Gilberta, and Ida. The plot originally had ten available graves. A quick recap counts eight or nine burials, depending on whether the infant mentioned in the newspaper was William or another child.

It had been a year since the research started, and we received word that Warren had passed away. His remains were cremated, which gave us a little more time, but not a lot. So, where, if anywhere, was there a place for Warren to be laid to rest? The records didn't reveal any other information on who was buried where, so Aimee and I improvised.

She brought her probe, a long metal rod that is stuck in the ground to search for a vault or casket. I brought my dowsing wires, a very unscientific, but often effective, way to find a grave. She started in the front row and found vaults. I was in the back row, finding unmarked graves and feeling more and more discouraged. I reached the last grave in the back row, and the wires didn't move! Aimee probed, and the metal rod sunk into the earth. Relieved, Aimee contacted the guardian.

It's important to note that Aimee is authorized by the state to probe in a cemetery. In my case, anybody with two pieces of sturdy wire can dowse (or witch, as it's sometimes called). Some people use a willow twig, and it's the same method people have used for centuries to look for water. It works for some folks, but it doesn't work for others.

Aimee also contacted Street Superintendent

Brad Colter, since the cemetery is owned by the city and maintained by the street department. He arranged for a city worker to prepare the grave.

The day set for the memorial service was the 24th of April. Warren Wyant was a veteran of WWII, so the Indiana Patriot Guard riders escorted his remains from Interstate 70 to Connersville, along with the Connersville Police Department. The Fayette County Honor Guard was present to conduct the proper ceremony.

There's more to Warren Wyant's story. After joining the United States Navy, he was a sailor on the USS Meredith. During the invasion of Normandy, the ship hit an underwater mine off the coast and received enough damage that it was towed and anchored to be salvaged. It was still afloat, and the surviving crew stayed on board.

Seven sailors died in that event, and many more were wounded. Three days later, the Germans bombed the ship, causing it to break in half.

Warren received a serious gunshot wound to his arm. He was in the water for quite some time before being rescued three miles from where the ship sank. He was hospitalized for several months. Ultimately, of 279 sailors who survived the initial event, he was one of 163 survivors of the bombing.

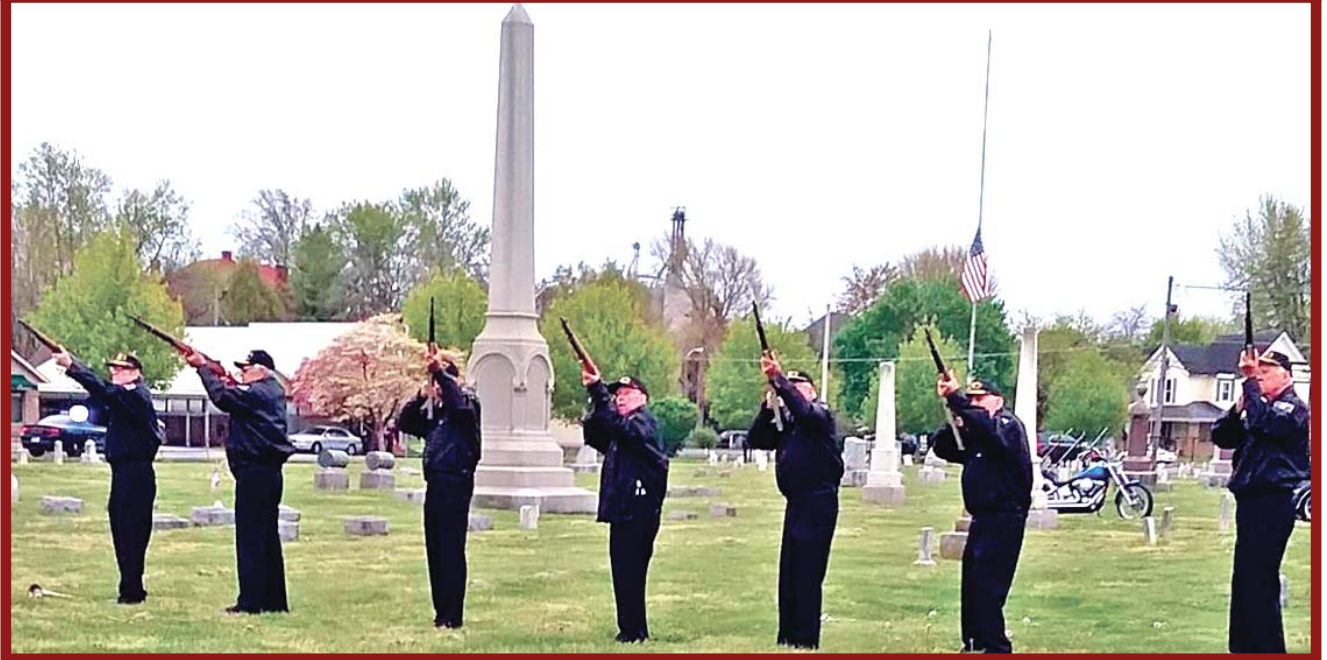
After the war, he returned to Indianapolis. About 2012, he moved to a retirement home in Terre Haute. There, he shared his war stories with a custodian, adding that his home had been burglarized and his medals stolen. Noting his sense of loss, the custodian contacted the government and arranged to have the medals replaced. During a Veterans Day celebration at the facility in 2013, he was presented with duplicates of his Purple Heart, Good Conduct Medal, and other citations. He was also presented with an American flag.

In an interview at the event, he said he was surprised to receive a flag because he thought he would only get one of those on his casket at his funeral. He probably would have never imagined that flags would line his path in City Cemetery upon his arrival, or that everyone present would hold a small flag during the memorial service.

By the end of a day in April, we felt we knew Warren personally. Who was he? Warren Vance Wyant spent most of his adult life in Indianapolis. He lived within three weeks of his 100th birthday. He loved fried chicken, loved and served his country, and considered Connersville his home. He lived a long, eventful, and honorable life.

We are grateful to his guardian, Kelly Wright, and her family for the affection and care they gave him in life. Thanks to the veterans who came to honor him in death and the city officials who helped make it possible to honor his final wishes. I know I speak for Aimee when I say that we were grateful and humbled to be part of the effort to bring a Hometown Hero home.

It makes Memorial Day even more meaningful this year.



Top Photo: The Indiana Patriot Guard riders escorted Warren Wyant's remains from Interstate 70 to Connersville, along with the Connersville Police Department. Bottom Photo: The Fayette County Honor Guard was present to conduct the proper ceremony. (Author Photo)

VETERAN ACTIVITIES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

The Memorial Day ceremonies will include the following: Departure ceremony will be at Fort Harrison Veterans Center. A Ceremony and Wreath laying will be at each of the Memorial Parks. Food will be provided at the Wayne County Veterans Memorial Park for registered Participants.

May 30, 2021 Schedule

Staging Location:	Fort Harrison Veterans Center, IVY Tech Parking Lot.
Address:	9450 East 59th Street Indianapolis, IN 46216.
Staging Times:	08:00 to 10:30 (Breakfast items will be available at the Veterans Center)
Sendoff Program:	10:30 to 11:30
Prepare for Departure	11:30 to 12:00
Departure	12:00

Estimate arrival at each Memorial Park

- Hancock County Veterans Park: 12:45
- Veterans Garden of Memories: 13:40
- Henry County Memorial Park: 14:45
- Wayne County Veterans Memorial Park: 16:30

Cost: \$20.00 per bike to help cover the cost of the event and to help Rolling Thunder® Indiana to carry on with their POW/MIA Mission and helping our Indiana Veterans in need.

Memorial Park Addresses

- Hancock County Veterans Park, 116 S. State St, Greenfield, IN 46140
- Veterans Garden of Memories, 11 N. Washington St., Knightstown, IN 46148
- Henry County Memorial Park, 2221 N. Memorial Drive, New Castle, IN 47362
- Wayne County Veterans Memorial Park, Cardinal Greenway, Richmond, IN 47374

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VETERAN ACTIVITIES CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

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Indiana's COVID-19 Dashboard will be continuously monitored and communication will remain open and transparent with the Wayne County Health Department leading up to and during this event. All federal, state, local and Purdue University COVID-19 related guidelines/protocols will be implemented and monitored.
If you are feeling ill, have had a fever or have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, please do NOT attend this event!

For information about events in the program, follow us on Facebook, or call the fair office (during fair week) at 765-407-3980 or visit www.wayneco4hfair.com

DAILY ACTIVITIES

Saturday, June 12

7 PM Wayne County Teen/Preteen/Junior & Queen Contest, Location: TBA

Friday, June 18

6 PM Color Guard Grand Entry - Mini (K-2) Horse & Pony Show

Saturday, June 19

FAMILY FUN NIGHT SPONSORED BY REID HEALTH - FREE PARKING ALL DAY

9 AM Color Guard Grand Entry - 4-H Horse & Pony - Western Show
2 PM 4-H Pets & Cats Show - Free Stage
4 PM - 9 PM 4-H Exhibits - Sheep Barn
4 PM Meet the Queen and her Court - Free Stage
7 PM Flag Raising - trackside by Veterans
7 PM Dirt Drag Racing - 503 Diesel Performance - www.503dieselperformance.com - 937-962-4678
7:30 PM Nashville Artist Jeanne Peterson with The Long Shots @ Free Stage
Sunset FREE Outdoor Big Screen Movie Night "Croods A New Age" Partnered with Richmond Parks Dept.
Evening Mark Abbati "Living Statue" Roaming the Fairgrounds (www.joyunspeakable.net)

Sunday, June 20

BLUEGRASS & GOSPEL EVENT FREE PARKING FOR VETERANS WITH ID

9 AM 4-H Dog Show & Mini 4-H Dog Show - Raper Center
10 AM Color Guard Grand Entry - 4-H Horse & Pony - English Show
10:30 AM 4-H Rabbit Show - Raper Center
Noon - 9 PM 4-H Exhibits - Sheep Barn
3 PM - 8 PM Forgiven, Fast Track, Wild Wood Valley Boys, Kody Norris Show - Free Stage
5:30 PM Open Swine Show (Darrin Paul 765-591-3560)
7 PM Billy Bales Memorial Horse Pull (Jack Bales 719-221-9312 or Patty Bales 765-993-1240)
Evening Mark Abbati "Living Statue" Roaming the Fairgrounds (www.joyunspeakable.net)

Monday, June 21

OPENING NIGHT FOR POOR JACK AMUSEMENTS

8 AM Jr. Leaders Breakfast - Kuhlman Center Kitchen Outside Door Drive/Walk Thru
10 AM 4-H Horse & Pony - Dressage & Hunter Over Fences
2 PM 4-H Swine Show & Mini 4-H Swine Show
4 - 9 PM Drug Free Wayne County Partnership
5 - 7 PM Kicks 96 Live Broadcast
5 PM - 8 PM Car Show - Cruz in the County Fair - Kuhlman Center Parking Lot (Enter West Gate-Show Cars Only - After 4 pm)
FREE ENTRY (Larry Sittloh 765-220-0888)
5 - 9 PM 4-H Exhibits - Sheep Barn
5 PM till Closing Poor Jack Amusements - Armbands \$20.00
5:30 PM Color Guard Grand Entry - 4-H Horse & Pony - Special Skills
6 PM Antique Tractor Parade
7 PM Monster Trucks by Rouse Promotions - Track Side
7:30 PM Corey Cox - Free Stage - coreycoxmusic.com

Tuesday, June 22

EMERGENCY PUBLIC SERVICE DAY Free Parking - EMT, Fireman & Law Officials (I.D. REQUIRED) DAILY SPONSOR: LIFE STREAM SERVICES

9 AM 4-H Poultry Show & Mini 4-H Poultry Show - Raper Center
4 PM - 8:30 PM Blood Drive Mobile Unit (Sandy House 765-489-5559) www.versiti.org
4 PM 4 - H Sheep Show & Mini 4-H Sheep Show
5 - 9 PM 4-H Exhibits - Sheep Barn
5 PM Sheriff Dept. & Emergency Vehicles, Police Dept, DNR, Fire Depts, all on display - Kuhlman Center Parking Lot
5 PM till Closing Poor Jack Amusements - Armbands \$20.00
5:30 & 7:00 PM Silly Safari (Animal Show) - Free Stage



5:30 PM 4-H Horse & Pony Show - Contesting
6 PM Antique Tractor Parade
6 PM Free Kiddie Tractor Pull - FFA Fun Barn
7 PM Hoosier State Tractor Pull (John Lackey 765-993-5775)
Evening Mark Abbati "Living Statue" Roaming the Fairgrounds (www.joyunspeakable.net)

Wednesday, June 23

"SR. CITIZEN DAY" Free Parking For Seniors Only (55 & Over) DAILY SPONSOR: LIFE STREAM SERVICES

9 AM & 1 PM J.U.K.O. Campers Visit Fair - Richmond Parks Department
9:30 AM 4-H Goat Show & Mini 4-H Goat Show - Raper Center
10 AM 4-H Dairy Feeder & 4-H Dairy Steer Show
After Dairy/Beef Show 4-H Beef Show & Mini 4-H Beef Show
5 - 9 PM 4-H Exhibits - Sheep Barn
5 PM till Closing Poor Jack Amusements - Armbands \$20.00
5:30 PM Color Guard Grand Entry - 4-H Horse & Pony Show - Versatility
6 PM Kicks 96 Idol Semi-Finals, Karaoke Following Idol - Free Stage
6 PM 4-H Steer Show - Beef Feeder, Beef Steer (Show Order)
6 PM Antique Tractor Parade & Games Following at the Antique Tractor Area
7 PM Truck & Tractor Pull (Kyle Schlechty 937- 459-0229 Darke Co. Puller Rules or John Lackey 765-993-5775)
Evening Mark Abbati "Living Statue" Roaming the Fairgrounds (www.joyunspeakable.net)

Thursday, June 24

THRIFTY THURSDAY - KIDS DAY - ARMBAND SPECIAL STARTS AT 12 NOON! DAILY SPONSOR: WETZEL AUTO

ALL DAY Food specials at Select Vendors - Pick up map in Fair Office
9 AM 4-H Dairy Show & Mini 4-H Dairy Show
12 - 4:30 PM Kids Day - Poor Jack Amusements - Armband Special \$15.00
5 - 9 PM 4-H Exhibits - Sheep Barn
5 PM till Closing Poor Jack Amusements - Armbands \$20.00
5:30 & 7:00 PM Silly Safari (Animal Show) - Free Stage
6 PM Supreme Showman - Horse Arena Opening Ceremony, Then completed in Livestock Show Arena
6 PM Antique Tractor Parade, Games & Ham & Bean Supper - Antique Tractor Area
6 PM Free Kiddie Tractor Pull - FFA Fun Barn
7 PM 3 Bar J - Eight Event rodeo - IPRA-Rodeo.com (Mike Johnson 937-459-7352)
Evening Mark Abbati "Living Statue" Roaming the Fairgrounds (www.joyunspeakable.net)

Friday, June 25

FIREWORKS DAY

5 PM till Closing Poor Jack Amusements - Armbands \$20.00 - 2021 Wayne County 4-H Members With Card \$12.00
5 PM 4-H Graduation, Awards & Scholarship - Livestock Show Arena
Evening Battle of the Barns - Following Graduation in Livestock Show Arena
7 PM Mud Bog (Bob Houseman 937-533-1358)
7:30 PM Brothers Walker - Featured on NBC's "The Voice" @ Free Stage www.brotherswalker.com
DARK FIREWORKS Sponsored by Reid Health

Saturday, June 26

LAST DAY OF FUN!!! DAILY SPONSOR NEW LISBON BROADBAND & COMMUNICATION

9 AM 4-H Tractor Operator's Contest - at north end of fairgrounds
10 AM Open Dairy Show (Rodney Klein 765-914-3413)
2 PM - Sunday AM Whitewater Valley AM Radio Club 24 HR Field Day - North Gate Carnival Area www.wvarc.org
5 PM Kicks 96 Idol Challenge FINALS, Karaoke Following Idol - Free Stage

WAYNE COUNTY 4-H FAIR JUNE 19-26, 2021

5 PM till Closing
7 PM

Poor Jack Amusements - Armbands \$20.00
Demolition Derby - (John Lackey 765-993-5775 or Rouse Promotions 765-238-8012)
Wayne County Health Department COVID-19 vaccine available daily via mobile unit.

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Poor Jacks Amusements - June 21-26

ANTIQUA TRACTOR & MACHINERY SHOW - JUNE 19-25
6p-9p - G101-3 Live Broadcast w/ giveaways and more! - June 21-25
CEC Staff Gene with fabulous snake "Loki" 4 - 6 pm June 19-26
Mark Abbati "Living Statue" June 19-20, 22-24

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Special thanks to everyone who helped with the 2021 Wayne County 4-H Fair!

Free General Parking Admission Until 4 PM Weekdays, Saturday & Sunday until 1 pm

Parking Main Gate Fee \$5.00 Per Vehicle/Walk-in Fee \$2.00 per person
Weekly Parking Pass \$15.00 Track side Parking \$15.00 Pit Pass
Track Events Gate Admission - Adults \$10.00 each, 6-12 years \$5.00 each, 5 and under FREE

*Seating at Track Events NOT Guaranteed *NO REFUNDS *NO RAINCHECKS

Not responsible for accidents, injury or acts of God.
Wayne County 4-H Association, Wayne County 4-H Fair Committee,
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WAYNE COUNTY 4-H FAIR SCENES



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1. Vietnam Veteran Ron Hill driving his WWII jeep in this C-LOV Armed Forces Day Parade in Centerville, Indiana May 15, 2021. Riding with Ron was 98 year old and Parade Grand Marshal, Frank Crowe a Centerville resident and veteran of the South Pacific in World War II. Riding in the back was Ron's wife, Sue. 2. Troop 16 Boy Scouts riding on a wagon pulled by a tractor driven by Gary Holbert, riding next to him was his Grand Daughter. 3. Welcome Home Vietnam-Era Veterans Indianapolis Table L to R Sandy Weadick, Celina Hoskins, Gail Sasson & Dave Sasson. 4. Ron Weadick, WC Veteran Service Officer. 5. Vietnam Veteran Joe Gobel and Darrel Hoskins. 6. Veteran Warren Hatfield talking with Centerville Troop 16 Boy Scouts who helped the Veterans with Parade, sitting in golf cart is Brenda Johnting, next to her is Vietnam Veteran Joe Goebel.

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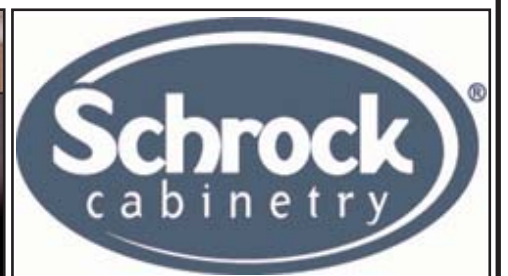


7. C-LOV Parade route along Crown Creek Blvd from Eliason Road to Morton Avenue. Participating was an assortment of multi-colored Corvettes that arrived in support of the Veterans parked along the blvd on the north side and along the south side was the multitude of Veterans and visitors. 8. Vietnam Veterans Dan Wandersee & Larry Hoskins. 9. L to R Jim Resh, Phyllis Mattheis & Warren Hatfield. 10. Veterans Jerry Mattheis and Ron Glaub. 11. Sitting in golf cart at left Brenda Johnting and World War II Veteran Warren Hatfield. 12. Vietnam Veteran Mark Stover sitting on his vintage Chevrolet green pickup. (Photos by Ray Dickerson) (VETERAN INFO CONTINUED ON PAGE 18)



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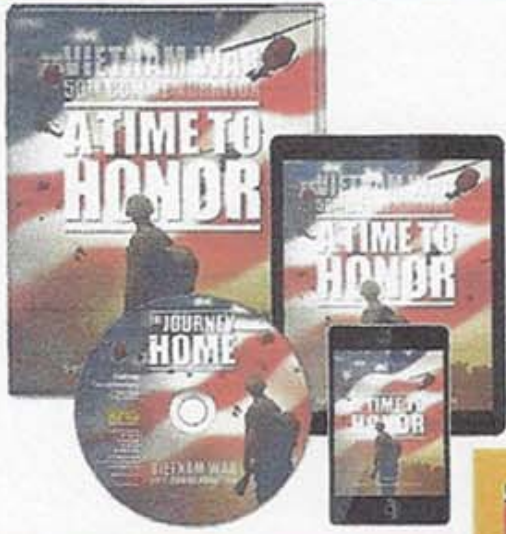


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A collaboration with the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs (IDVA) & Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans (WHVV) established the Indiana Vietnam Veterans Gift as an outreach program to honor and give thanks to Indiana Veterans who served during the Vietnam War years of 1955-1975.

Veterans order a **FREE** gift at VetsGift.com which includes:

- ◆ A beautiful, archival-quality hardbound book, *A Time to Honor: Stories of Service, Duty, and Sacrifice*, filled with stories representing all states, all branches of service, along with a paired, expanded digital book version
- ◆ The feature DVD documentary *The Journey Home*, focusing on what America and the Vietnam veterans have learned, and felt, since first coming home over fifty years ago. Watch 2 min. movie clip here: [The Journey Home](#)
- ◆ An interactive eBook with hundreds of additional pages of Indiana stories of Vietnam Vets

Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans and Community Partners will hand-deliver the Indiana Vietnam **Vets Gift**. Indiana Veteran Service Officers, Indiana businesses, churches, schools and nonprofit organizations are encouraged to announce and share this information, help veterans order the **FREE** Gift and host events to recognize & bring honor to their veteran employees, members, students, volunteers, and affiliates of their organizations in their communities.

Special events will be scheduled and the VetsGift will be hand-delivered at events and to homebound veterans. If you or your company are interested in possibly partnering to host an outreach event or help deliver to the homebound, please send a request to: events@whvv.org

A bookmark will be placed inside every Vets Gift to encourage Hoosier Veterans to tell their story of service. If a veteran chooses to preserve their legacy, their own personal experiences will be documented and archived with the Veterans History Project through the Library of Congress who makes accessible the personal accounts of American veterans so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war. <http://loc.gov/vets>

The **Indiana Vietnam Veterans FREE Gift** will show gratitude & respect to Indiana veterans. It will also provide social awareness and historical value to multiple generations about the real accounts of the Vietnam War. All over the state of Indiana, the Vietnam Vets Gift and message will reinforce the idea that it is never too late to say "Thank You" and "Welcome Home".

The Indiana Vietnam VetsGift will be an ongoing, collaborative effort until we find and thank the estimated 130,000 Vietnam Veterans living in Indiana. Please check here for [veteran events](#).

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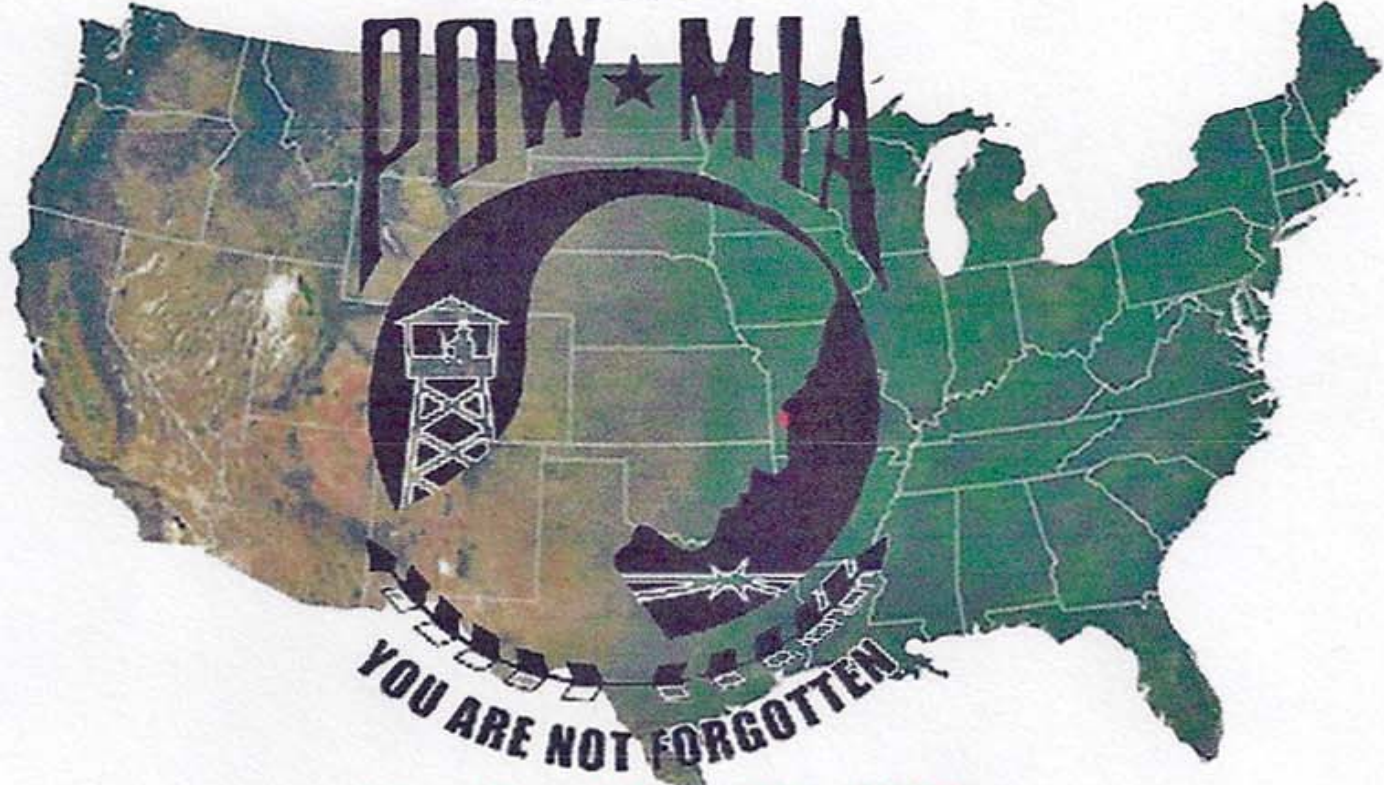
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News of Native American Indians in Indiana



by Shirley Willard

Fulton County Historian, Rochester, Indiana

Lake Manitou and Tiptonville

On this site in the summer of 1827, a grist mill was constructed by the U.S. government to grind corn for the Potawatomi Indians under terms of an 1826 treaty. To obtain water power, a dam was built near the present location. This flooded the area surrounding five lakes and formed Lake Manitou of 775 acres. Near the mill were erected a blacksmith shop, trading post and houses for miller and blacksmith. It was the first white settlement of the wilderness that became Fulton County. In 1836 Samuel Milroy, builder, named the village Tiptonville in honor of General John Tipton, Indian agent for the region. The dam, mill and village fell into disuse after the Potawatomi were removed to Kansas in 1838. Lake Manitou, also Manatau or Manitou, derives its name from the Potawatomi word used both for good spirit and evil spirit. The Indians who fished and hunted in this area for 150 years believed the lake's waters held a monster fish or serpent of supernatural powers. Early settlers knew the lake as Devil's Lake. Fulton County Historical Society, 1964.

Shields & Lindsey Were First in Fulton County

The Shields family was the first to come to Fulton County, before it was a county, arriving in 1827 to work as government employees for the grist mill at Lake Manitou. They are not counted as the first settlers because land was not for sale until William Polke came to survey it in 1830. Elizabeth Shields Lindsey was the first white woman to die in Fulton County in 1832. Her baby, Nathan, was the first white child born in Fulton County in 1831. Fulton County was created in 1835. Elizabeth's aunt, Janet Shields Tipton, was the mother of General John Tipton, who rounded up the Potawatomi and marched them across Indiana on their way to Kansas in 1838. Elizabeth's uncle, John Shields, was the first to cross the western states as he walked ahead as a scout for Lewis &

Clark Expedition in 1804.

Most of the Shields had big families and were strong and healthy. Robert Shields and his wife, Nancy Stockton Shields, had one daughter and ten sons. Their fourth son, William and wife Margaret Wilson Shields, had nine children. Among them were several who came to live at Lake Manitou before Fulton County was created: William, born 1792; Elizabeth 1796, Nancy 1798, and Rhoda 1802, all born in Sevier County, Tennessee (famous today as Dolly Parton's home).

Elizabeth, the eldest daughter, was married to John Lindsey on June 14, 1814. In 1827, Lindsey was one of 22 white men hired by Samuel Milroy to help build the dam and corn grinding mill at Lake Manitou to supply for the Potawatomi Indians, per terms of the 1826 treaty. John Lindsey became the blacksmith, beginning July 2, 1827. In August of 1829, Lindsey moved his family (wife Elizabeth and six children, the baby, Tipton Shields, being only three months old) to Fulton County near the lake. Coming with them were Elizabeth's brother, William Shields, her sister and husband, James and Nancy (Shields) Elliott, another sister Rhoda (Shields) and husband Nathan Rose, a half-brother 10-year-old Jesse Shields, and a cousin Joshua Shields. This cousin was probably the same Joshua Shields who went on the Trail of Death in 1838, and was paid \$87 for serving as one of the assistant conductors. He got sick and left the emigration at Long Point (now named Niantic) west of Monticello, Illinois, on Sept. 27, and came back home, according to the official Trail of Death diary. Lindsey built the house for the miller, James Wyman. When Wyman died in 1831, Nathan Rose (Lindsey's brother-in-law) became the miller.

While living at Lake Manitou, John and Elizabeth Lindsey had seven children: William, Joshua, John, Mark, Elizabeth, Tipton, and Nathan, born Oct. 4, 1831, the first white child born in the territory that became Fulton County. Nathan was just a year old when his mother died and was buried back of the present house at 714 Race Street. Early settler William Ward described it this way, according to the News Sentinel: "At that time there were trails but no roads. A trail crossed Mill Creek at a point a few rods from the place where Elizabeth Lindsey was buried. The creek was something like a river, quite deep, the only ford being near Elizabeth's grave, which is located due east of the present courthouse, perhaps 200 feet north of Race Street. On the day of her funeral her remains were lifted into a Conestoga wagon and with a few friends, were conveyed to the spot near the ford, in a little clearing, where a grave was dug, and her form deposited in it; her husband, children, white settler associates and friendly Indians witnessing the sad rite for the first white person to die in Fulton County. Later John Lindsey placed a marble marker at the grave of his wife, a slab 16 x 20 and two inches thick, oval top, on which was carved: "Elizabeth wife of John Lindsey, died March 26, 1832, aged 36 years, 2 months, 3 days."

Tipton Lindsey wrote in his autobiography that he was born May 21, 1829, near Delphi. "My mother and her children were alone, my father having been appointed gunsmith and miller to the Potawatomi nation at Lake Manitou, in territory that later became Fulton County. This office he had for seven years

until the office was abolished. Three months after I was born, my mother, with her children, was taken to my father, who had prepared a residence for her in the midst of a war-like tribe of Indians, 23 miles from a white settlement. My father and family resided here during the Black Hawk War of 1833, but only a part of the Potawatomi took a hand in that war. At the close of my father's term in office, he moved onto a piece of land (with his family) adjoining what afterwards became the town of Rochester, and a few years later moved to Starke County."

The Potawatomi gathered at the mill each year to receive annuity payments, so the Lindsey children must have witnessed this. Tipton Lindsey went on to narrate how he walked to California to take part in the Gold Rush in 1849. He did not mention his mother dying when he was only three years old, probably before he could remember. A year after his mother's death, his father, John Lindsey, married Nancy Shields in 1833, and had five more children. This Nancy must have been a cousin to Elizabeth. It was certainly not her sister Nancy. James and Nancy Shields Elliott are credited with being the first to build a house in what became Rochester.

The Shields name has disappeared from the Rochester phone book, but their history lives on in Fulton County. A plaque on a concrete pedestal, located along the Rochester Pathway, north of the house at 714 Race Street, memorializes Elizabeth Shields Lindsey, the first white woman to die in Fulton County. It was erected by Fulton County Federation of Women's Clubs in 1967. (Original gravestone is broken and in front of the Fulton County Museum.) Elizabeth Street, formerly First Street at Lake Manitou, was named in her honor. When Lake Manitou was annexed, the Mayor called me for a name to replace First Street because Rochester already had a First Street. I suggested Elizabeth Street and so the street name was changed.

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

named for the warden who, along with Peare, lost his life in 1926 on the Wabash River near Tecumseh. Witnesses to the incident, officers L.B. Watson, John Pile and A.R. Hill, remained at the scene until the bodies of their fallen comrades were recovered. The award recognizes the recipient as having resemblance of the commitment and inseparable bond of brotherhood displayed by those officers that has become the hallmark of Indiana Conservation Officers.

District 7 Officer Jon Watkins was recognized by the State Boating Law Administrator, Lt. Kenton Turner, and the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) as the Boating Enforcement Officer of the Year. Coffing was a leader in enforcement of boating-while-intoxicated cases across the state.

District 1 Officer Mark Richter was presented with the 2020 Waterfowl Protection Officer of the Year award for his enforcement of waterfowl regulations and his related performance in public education and community interaction.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

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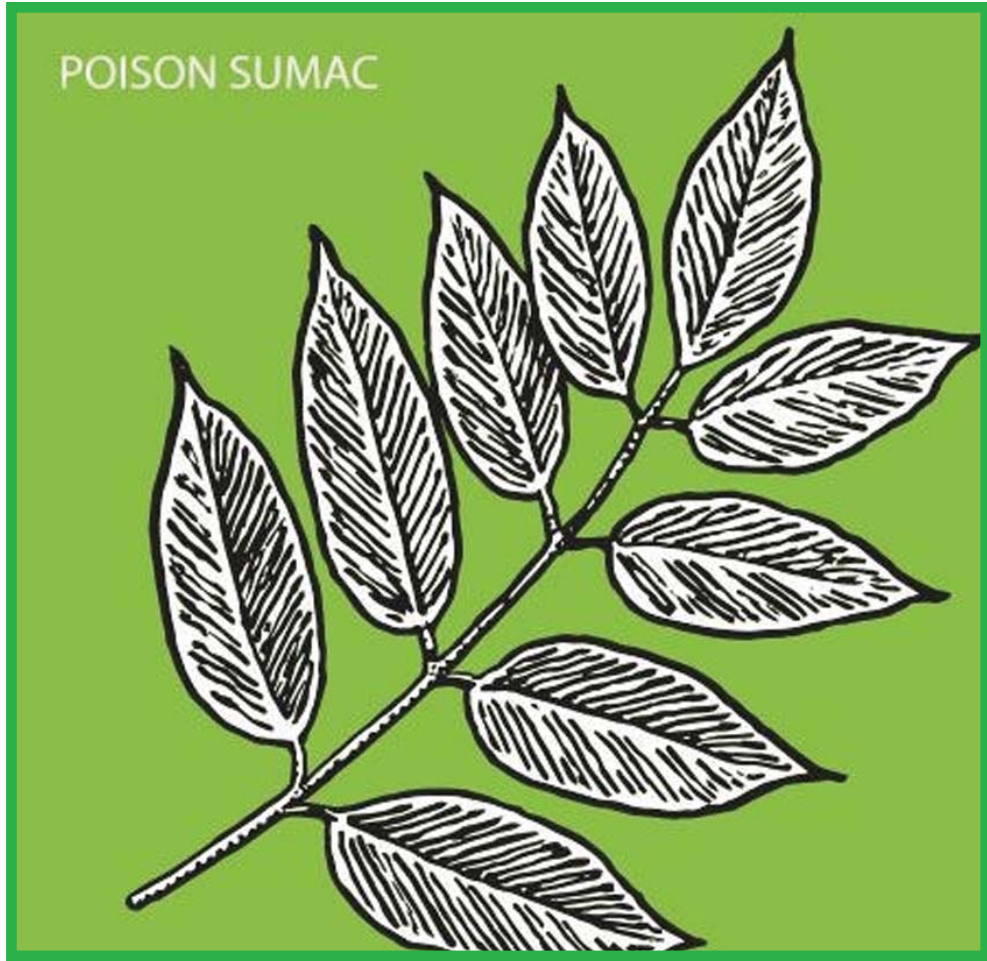
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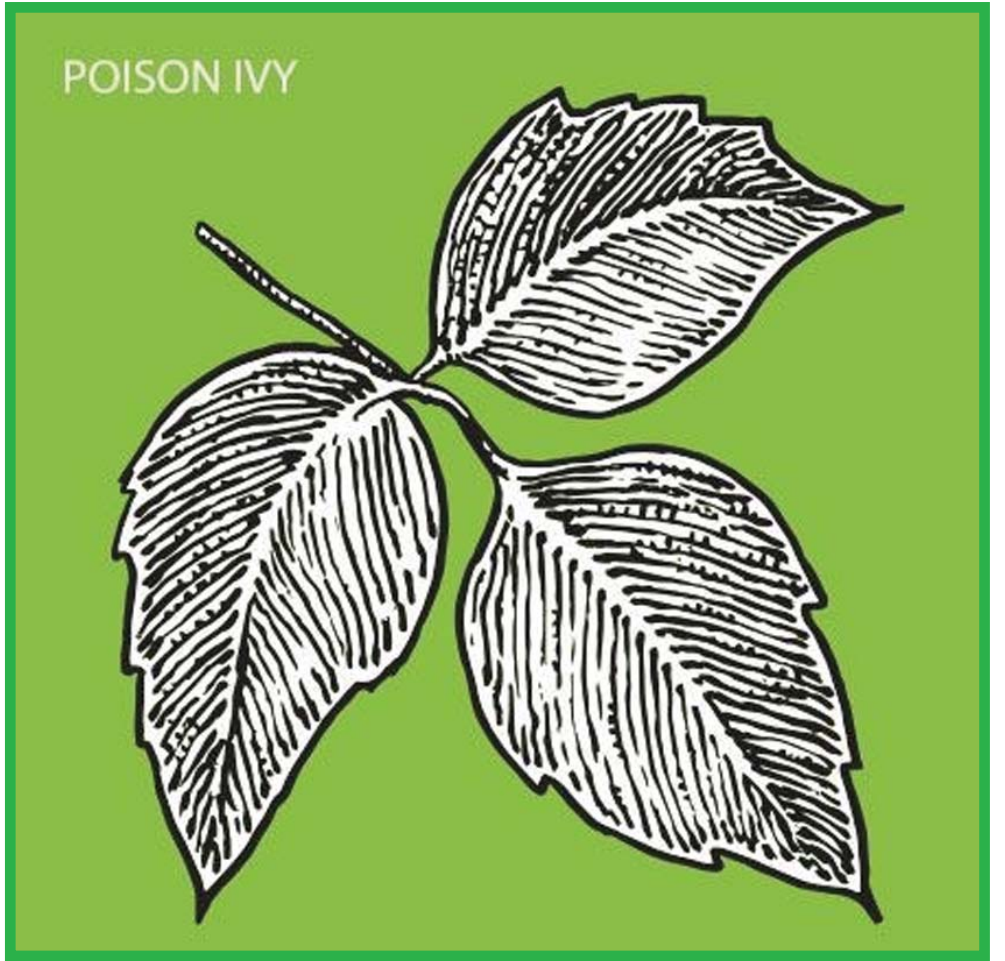
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POISON SUMAC



POISON IVY

Leaves of three, quickly flee Berries white, poisonous sight

As we lace up our hiking boots to take to the local woods, or head out to tame our backyard landscaping, it's important to be on alert for the greenery that could potentially cause harm and discomfort. It seems the old saying, "Leaves of three, quickly flee, berries white, poisonous sight," holds true.

Poison Ivy - Poison Ivy has slightly shiny, dark green leaves, which are usually found in groups of 3 and can be smooth or notched. In the fall they turn red. The plant most commonly grows as a vine, but can also be found as a low-growing shrub.

What you need to know about poison ivy:

- Immediately wash the exposed areas of skin with mild soap and running water. If you are in the woods, wash thoroughly in a running stream.
- Clothing that has been exposed to these plants should be laundered several times before wearing again.
- Gardening tools, sporting equipment and pets can also be sources of contamination.
- Avoid burning these plants - breathing in the fumes can cause toxicity.
- The fluid from blisters is not contagious.
- Avoid scratching, which can lead to infection.
- Corticosteroids, such as hydro cortisone cream, can be used to relieve symptoms, but should be used with caution in children.

• Antihistamines should be either taken by mouth or rubbed on the skin but not by both routes at the same time.

• Soap-less showers several times daily will help provide relief.

• The resulting rash can take up to 48 hours to appear and may last 2-3 weeks.

Poison Sumac - While it's unlikely you will come into contact with sumac in Indiana, it can be found in swampy, boggy areas and has yellowish flowers that mature into clusters of glossy yellow or off-white berries. The sumac found along the roadside and as ornamental plants is not poisonous. Treat with cold compress, calamine lotion, hydro cortisone cream and an antihistamine to combat itching.

Poison Hemlock - This plant looks like a wild carrot or giant parsley, with stout, smooth stems with distinctive purple spotting, and small, white flowers in umbrella-shaped clusters. It is toxic when ingested and contains highly poisonous alkaloid compounds. It typically grows along roads, streams, trails, ditches, forest edges and waste areas.

Stinging Nettle - Stinging nettle is a common sight in the woods, on the banks of rivers and in waste areas in Indiana. Touching stinging nettle can produce itching and welts. The plant is armed with small hairs that, when touched, can inject a cocktail of histamine, serotonin, acetylcholine and formic acid¹¹. Histamine causes an immune reaction in the body, while serotonin and acetylcholine are neural transmitters. Formic acid is the same compound we see in bee stings and fire ant bites. Stinging nettle often grows in patches and can become quite

tall, growing up to 5 feet, but most likely 2 to 3 feet in height. Its stems are unbranched and leaves are opposite, egg shaped and with serrated margins. You can identify this plant by the stinging hairs on the stem.

Poison Oak - Contrary to common belief my research found that this plant is not found in Indiana.

It's a good time to give your personal firearms a good cleaning and inspection. We here at The Gun Den will clean and inspect it for you to keep it in top working order. Price vary on what needs to be done to it.

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We also do fundraisers for organizations or any reasons to raise funds for the need. Call (317) 398-3852 for more information. We can help you raise hundreds to thousands of dollars for your group. We are located at 337 Roosevelt Dr. Shelbyville In. 46176

We also do hydro dipping which is putting a pattern on an object like gun stocks, 4-wheeler & auto parts, and anything that can be submerged in water. Price vary on size and what type of object.

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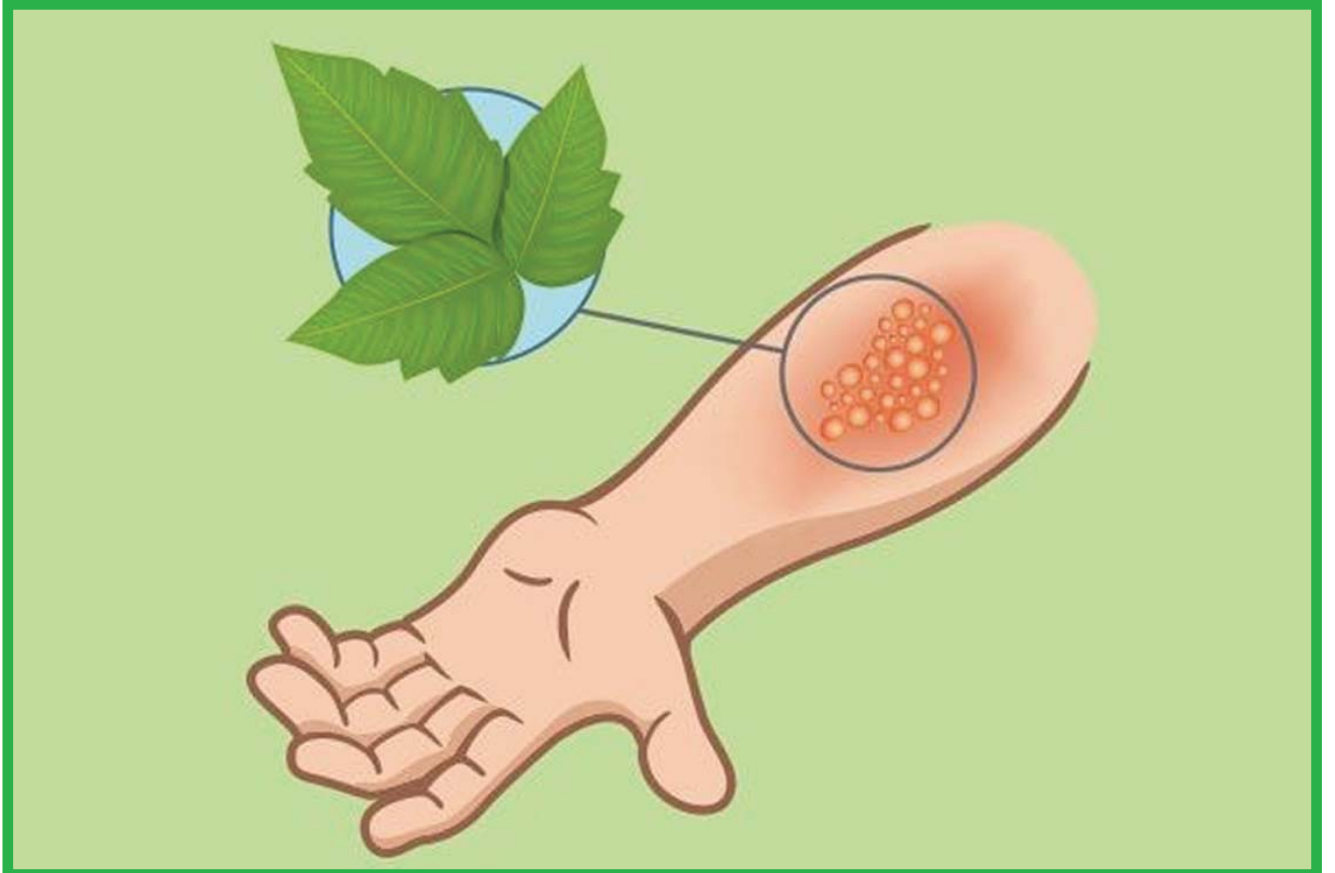
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Left Photo: A typical growth of poison ivy attached to a tree. Right Photo: A typical result of the affect of a humans contact with poisonous plants. (Author Photos)

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

Officer Jim Schreck of District 8 was honored with a Life Saving Award for his heroic response to a shooting that occurred outside the entrance of O’Bannon Woods State Park.

Learn more about DNR Law Enforcement at on.IN.gov/dnrlaw.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: INDIANA GROWN'S MONUMENTAL MARKETPLACE RETURNS IN JUNE

INDIANAPOLIS (May 20, 2021) — On June 18, more than 75 farmers, artisans, agricultural partners and Indiana-based businesses will be returning to Monument Circle for Indiana Grown’s fourth annual Monumental Marketplace. This one-day event will feature everything from locally-grown food and drinks to homemade wares and food trucks. This year, Indiana Grown is presenting Monumental Marketplace in partnership with Downtown Indy, Inc., whose guidance and support will provide an experience that is bigger and better than in past years all while following CDC and Marion County Department of Health guidelines for safety.

Indiana Grown’s Monumental Marketplace is free to attend and open to all, so mark your calendars and come have lunch with us on the Circle in downtown Indianapolis, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (ET) while supporting the farmers and businesses in attendance.

WHAT: Indiana Grown's Monumental Marketplace

WHO: More than 75 Indiana Grown vendors to include farmers, artisans, agricultural partners,

businesses and food trucks

WHEN: Friday, June 18, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (ET)

WHERE: South half of Monument Circle (1 Monument Circle, Indianapolis, IN 46204)

Visit indianagrown.org for more information about Indiana Grown and its members.

ABOUT INDIANA GROWN

Indiana Grown is administered by the Indiana State Department of Agriculture in partnership with the lieutenant governor’s office. The initiative educates consumers on the importance of buying Indiana Grown products, helps Indiana farmers and producers sell more products and supports Indiana businesses in their efforts to process more Indiana Grown products. Indiana Grown members and partners include farmers, producers, processors and artisans, as well as retailers, grocers, hospitals and restaurants. For more information, visit indianagrown.org.

NRC APPROVES NEW NATURE PRESERVE

The Natural Resources Commission (NRC) approved the designation of Ginn Woods Nature Preserve in Delaware County during its regularly scheduled meeting today at Fort Harrison State Park.

The action increases to 292 the number of state-designated sites protected by the Nature Preserves Act.

Ginn Woods Nature Preserve is an exceptional area of 161.31 acres that comprises the second-largest tract of protected old-growth forest in Indiana. The site supports a diversity of plants and animals that are uncommon in the fragmented landscape of east-central Indiana and is dominated by beech and maple. The site supports rich

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

We are carrying live bait and fishing items. We have minnows , crickets, red worms, night crawlers, green worms, chicken liver, shrimp, shad guts, and bee moths.

Anyone who has unusual pictures of wildlife or anything they would like to share email to Steve Dake at sdake@sbcglobal.net. I will contact you about the picture.



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Home sweet home in Alaska. (Author Photo)



Moose tracks. We are in the right place. (Author Photo)



Putting on the locking tag to make everything legal. (Author Photo)



Last load back to camp across the glacial river. These antlers weigh approximately 85 pounds (Author Photo)

Big Game Hunting



by Joel Biltz

Thirty Minute Moose

For three years I had been dreaming about the day to be able to hunt the giant Alaska/Yukon moose. I booked this Alaska hunt back in 2017 after spending a week hunting sitka Blacktail deer on Kodiak island with Jeremy Reusink of Rogue Expeditions. I was able to harvest two Sitka blacktail bucks and actually finished my deer species slam on that hunt. Jerney and I discussed the idea of hunting moose in Alaska which, if successful would finish out my moose species slam. I had had the opportunity to hunt and kill a very nice 40 inch Shiras bull on my very first moose hunt in Utah with R&K outfitters in 2008. In 2012 I traveled to Newfoundland, Canada with both a bull moose and a woodland caribou tag in my pocket. I was able to locate and kill an outstanding 44 inch Canada moose on the third day of my hunt.

With all the craziness that was going on in 2020 I was very concerned that I would have to postpone my hunt another year. Jeremy reassured me that everything would be fine and we would be able to

make it happen. On September 4th I loaded a plane to Anchorage Alaska with thoughts of giant bulls running through my head. After two flights and twelve hours of travel time I was finally in Alaska. My guide for the week was Conner Brown. Conner picked me up for the short 30 minute drive to Jeremy's house where we had a great dinner and discussed plans for the following day.

On Saturday September 5th we left the house at 8 AM to the runway where Conner and I would take off for my very first super cub flight. I was a bit nervous but the pilot talked with me throughout the flight and eased my nerves. We started seeing many moose on the flight, many being within a mile or two of the camp we were headed to. We had a very smooth flight and the landing was very smooth as well considering it was a gravel bar on the side of a river. The rest of the day was spent setting up camp, and getting water from the glacial river, as well as watching the big river bottom for moose. At 5 PM Conner and the packer Shawn Swenson decided to hike up to a glassing knob behind camp to look into the many meadows along the river while I stayed back at camp to watch and glass the river bottom for moose. That evening I was able to glass up three bull moose about a mile away and a single black bear. But I also heard the unmistakable grunt of bull moose right across from camp. When Conner and Shawn returned they confirmed that there were in fact two bull moose and six cows in the meadows directly across from camp. In this particular unit to be legal

a bull had to be at least 50 inches wide or have at least three brow points. Conner said that although the one bull was not legal the bigger of the two definitely had three brow points but was narrow. After a bit of discussion with Conner and Shawn and looking at the phoneskope footage and all the still photos I made a decision that night that if that bull gave me an opportunity in the morning that I would shoot him. Sometimes it is weird how things work. Conner had mentioned to me that wouldn't it be nice if the bull would be standing in the river the next morning? I said to him with a laugh, it sure would be.

After a very sleepless night filled with anticipation I could see the light begin to filter through the walls of my tent. I got up and laced up my boots. The anticipation was high as I unzipped my tent and chambered a round in my Proof Research 300 Win Mag. Conner and Shawn's tent was about thirty yards away so I walked over there to use the Jetboil to make a mountain house breakfast. As we were standing there Conner would periodically walk over

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We spotted these two bulls the night before. The front bull is the one I took the very next morning (Author Photo)



A big beautiful bull with snow covered peaks and glaciers in the background. (Author Photo)



Packing a 120 pound moose quarter back to the airstrip. (Author Photo)



Final flight out. Moose in the wing struts of the super cub airplane. (Author Photo)



My moose slam. Left is the Alaska/Yukon moose. Top Right is the Utah Shiras moose and Bottom Right is the Newfoundland Canada moose. (Author Photo)

Big Game Hunting

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

to the edge and check the river bottom. I wasn't even halfway done with my breakfast when I saw Conner wave me over and I heard him say bull. He came running over to grab his spotting scope so we could confirm which bull it was. It turned out to be the smaller of the two bulls. We knew that both bulls were together the night before so there was a very good chance that the bigger bull was real close. Conner then decided to walk about twenty yards down river and look through some trees and he said there he is, get over here! I hurried over to see the bull standing right on the bank of the river in the only clearing at 208 yards. Conner confirmed that it was in fact the same bigger bull from the night before and he did in fact have three brow points making him legal, all we had to do was wait for him to take two steps to clear his shoulder from some brush. I was braced up against a tree, safety off with my Cross hairs of my Nightforce scope on his shoulder as he took two steps I heard Conner let out a cow bellow and as the bull stopped I squeezed the trigger and watched through the scope as the bulls head rocked back and went straight down! Conner yelled you dropped him. We started celebrating and giving high fives as I looked back across the river the bull was back on his feet. I quickly put one more round into the bull. Conner and I quickly rushed across the river to find the bull a mere twenty yards from where he was on the first shot. I could not believe my eyes as I cautiously walked up to the downed bull. The sheer size and mass of the bull had me thinking now the work begins. We spent about an hour getting great field photos and then got straight to work. Conner and Shawn and I began the task of pulling off the hide and quartering the bull. As Conner and Shawn would work on cutting the meat off of the bull I was running quarters and loads of meat about 400 yards across the river back to the airstrip. About eight hours later we were finished and had all the meat, cape and moose antlers back across to the camp/airstrip. As soon as we got back to camp the weather set in with very high winds and rain so the pilot was unable to fly in to pick us up. That did not matter. My goal was complete and I was in a beautiful river valley in Alaska. The next morning we were able to fly back to civilization.

I would like to give a huge shout out to Wade Derby for putting me in contact with Jeremy Reusink. My guide Conner Brown and packer Shawn Swenson for the help of creating a dream come true. And of course my wife Jenni and twins Bentley and Bailey for putting up with my hunting addiction. ■

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

flora, including spring ephemerals and a variety of fern communities, and is owned by Ball State University.

In other action, the NRC:

— adopted a new nonrule policy document, a roster of the state's low-head dams.

— accepted a DNR Committee report in support of a citizen petition for the establishment of an idle zone along the Riverfront Development Area in Fort Wayne on portions of the St. Marys, St. Joseph, and Maumee rivers, due to increases in

boating and pedestrian activities in the designated area.

— approved a request from the owner, Sycamore Land Trust, to amend the articles of dedication for Dilcher-Turner Canyon Forest Nature Preserve, which was designated in May 2020, to officially change the preserve's name to Canyon Forest Nature Preserve.

— approved a 3.5% increase over current rates, or 1.75% per year over two years, as requested by Kent's Harbor on Brookville Lake, as well as a lodging increase of 15% to 22% over current approved rates, both taking effect Jan. 1, 2022.

— readopted 312 IAC 14, governing standards for timber buyers, their agents, and timber growers; 312 IAC 17, governing standards for other petroleum regulation; and 312 IAC 15, governing standards for forest and resource management.

The NRC is an autonomous board that addresses topics pertaining to the DNR. More details on these actions are at nrc.IN.gov/2354.htm under "May Agenda."

The next regularly scheduled NRC meeting is July 20, also at Fort Harrison State Park.

NRC members include the DNR director, heads of three other state agencies (Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Indiana Destination Development Corporation, and the Indiana Department of Transportation), six citizens appointed by the governor on a bipartisan basis, the chair of the DNR's advisory council, and the president of the Indiana Academy of Science. The Academy of Science president and the agency heads, other than the DNR director, may appoint proxies to serve the commission in their absences.

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

INDIANA CONSERVATION OFFICERS TO HOST RECRUITING EVENTS (OWEN/GREENE COUNTIES)

Anyone interested in becoming an Indiana Conservation Officer is encouraged to attend one of two recruiting events, hosted by DNR Law Enforcement's District 5 on Monday, May 24, and Thursday, June 3. The same material will be presented at each event.

The event on May 24 will take place at the Goose Pond Fish & Wildlife Area Visitors Center at 6 p.m. The address is 13540 W County Road 400 S in Linton.

The event on June 3 will take place at Canyon Inn (Sycamore Room) at McCormick's Creek State Park from at noon. The gate fee will be waived to those attending this event. The address is 250 McCormick Creek Park Road in Spencer.

District 5 includes Parke, Owen, Vermillion, Putnam, Vigo, Clay, Greene, and Sullivan counties. A total of five positions within District 5 are expected to be filled during this hiring process – two in Parke County, two in Owen County, and one in Vermillion County.

Each event will cover critical portions of the 2021 Indiana Conservation Officer hiring process, including duties of a conservation officer/hiring process, preparation for the written exam, preparation for core values training, and physical agility testing requirements.

Participation in either recruiting event does not guarantee you a position but should provide insight into the competitive hiring process.

To see if you qualify to be an Indiana Conservation Officer and to complete the pre-

screen exam, see on.IN.gov/dnrlaw and click on Become a Conservation Officer.

Questions regarding the District 5 recruiting events should be directed to Sgt. Chris Springstun, 765-276-0196.

CANADA GEESE BAG LIMITS INCREASE; MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING SEASONS ANNOUNCED

Hunters can now take more Canada geese as a result of a recent increase in bag limits.

The daily bag limit for dark geese (Canada geese, white-fronted geese, and brant) is now five in aggregate for the entire season. This means that hunters can harvest any combination of the three species as long as the total does not exceed five. Previously, a daily bag limit of dark geese could only include up to three Canada geese, except during September. The daily bag limit for light geese (snow and Ross's geese) remains 20.

"Canada goose populations in the Mississippi Flyway are doing very well," said Adam Phelps, DNR's waterfowl biologist. "We remain above our population goal for this species, so additional hunting opportunities make sense. We will continue to monitor populations and harvest to ensure that hunting remains sustainable."

There are no changes in other migratory bird bag limits from 2020-21, including for ducks. This includes the scaup daily bag limit, which is one scaup during the first 15 days of the season and two for the remainder of the season.

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources also released dates for the 2021-22 migratory bird seasons. These include season dates for mourning doves, waterfowl (ducks, coots, mergansers, and geese), woodcock, snipe, and sora rails.

Season dates and migratory bird hunting regulations are available at wildlife.IN.gov/hunting-and-trapping/waterfowl-and-migratory-game-birds/migratory-gamebird-seasons-and-regulations

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

CLICK IT OR TICKET CAMPAIGN REMINDS MOTORISTS TO BUCKLE UP

INDIANAPOLIS — On average, more than 90 percent of motorists can be found wearing their seat belts on any given day. Unfortunately, the small percentage of people who choose not to buckle up make up a disproportionate amount of the fatalities that occur every year on Indiana roads.

It's a concern that more than 200 Indiana police agencies will be working to address this spring by participating in the national **Click It or Ticket** enforcement campaign. Now until June 6, officers will be out in greater numbers seeking to educate motorists about the importance of wearing a seat belt.

The high-visibility patrols are paid for with funds from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), administered by the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI).

"If the pandemic has taught us anything it's that life is precious," said Devon McDonald, ICJI Executive Director. "We expect more people will be venturing out and taking road trips this spring, and wearing a seat belt is still the best way to keep you and your loved ones safe on the road."

Between 2015 and 2019, seat belts have saved more than 69,000 lives in the U.S., according to NHTSA. Despite knowing the benefits, people still refuse to buckle up, a choice that too often can



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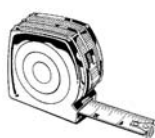
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Last year, more than 800 people were killed on Indiana roads, of which, 565 occurred in passenger vehicles. Sadly, 364 of those, or 6 out of 10, were not wearing seat belts.

Out of any age group, male drivers, particularly those between the ages of 15 and 34, were the most likely to be found not wearing a seat belt at the time of a crash. Additionally, individuals not wearing seat belts were three times more likely to get injured in a crash when the driver was speeding and seven times more likely when the driver was impaired.

“There’s a common misconception that riding in the back seat or driving a large truck or SUV will keep you safe in a crash, which couldn’t be further from the truth,” said Robert Duckworth, ICJI Traffic Safety Division Director. “Buckling up is the best way to increase your survivability, regardless of what seat or vehicle you’re in.”

According to ICJI, officers will be writing citations and conducting high-visibility patrols during the day but especially at night, when unrestrained driving is at its peak (midnight to 4:00 a.m.). Under Indiana’s primary seat belt law, officers can stop and cite drivers and passengers just for failing to wear a seat belt.

Drivers can also be cited for each unbuckled passenger under the age of 16, and children under eight must be properly restrained in a federally approved child or booster seat.

Throughout the campaign, officers will be taking a no-excuses approach to seat belt enforcement, which means anyone caught not wearing one will receive a citation.

To learn more about the Click It or Ticket campaign, visit www.nhtsa.gov/ciot. Parents and caregivers can choose the safest car seat for their child by visiting TheRightSeat.com, or to find a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician, who can inspect and assist with the installation of a car seat, visit www.childseat.in.gov.

FIRST ROUND OF GYPSY MOTH AERIAL BTK TREATMENTS COMPLETED

The first round of aerial treatments conducted by Indiana DNR divisions of Forestry and Entomology & Plant Pathology to slow the spread of gypsy moth in selected areas of Allen, Miami and Wells counties was completed yesterday.

Gypsy moth is one of North America’s most devastating invasive forest pests and has caused thousands of acres of defoliation across the eastern United States.

A second round of treatments is scheduled in four to 10 days after the first and is weather

dependent.

Treatment begins shortly after sunrise but could be delayed until later in the morning or to the next day due to unfavorable weather conditions such as morning fog or rain. Treatment should take about an hour.

During treatment, a yellow airplane flying 75-125 feet above the treetops will conduct the treatment, starting at sunrise and continuing throughout the day, as the weather and flight schedules permit. With favorable weather, treatments may be completed by late morning or early afternoon.

The airplane distributes a spray containing the bacteria *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki*, referred to as Btk, into the treetops of infested areas where gypsy moth caterpillars feed on tree leaves. Btk kills gypsy moth caterpillars by disrupting their digestive systems after they ingest it.

Btk has been used for decades by organic gardeners and does not adversely affect people or animals. People who live or work near the treatment areas might want to stay inside when the planes are flying and for about 30 minutes after treatments are complete. This gives the material time to settle out of the air and stick to treetops. For more information on Btk, call toll-free at **1-866-NO-EXOTIC (663-9684)** or call your county extension office.

Once treatment begins, rain or high wind may interrupt it for that day. If that happens, treatment would resume the next suitable day and continue until all sites have been treated.

To determine if your property is in the treatment areas or to view maps of all treatment locations, or for more information about gypsy moth, see gypsymoth.IN.gov.

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

PATOKA LAKE HOSTS KAYAK TRIP JUNE 12

Patoka Lake is hosting a kayak tour with the interpretive naturalist on Saturday, June 12 at 9 a.m. at the Little Patoka Boat Ramp. A caravan will leave from the Patoka Lake office at 7:45 a.m. to caravan to the ramp.

The 5-mile tour will feature a rock quarry and waterfall. Paddlers will have a chance to see wildlife such as beavers and bald eagles. Participants should bring life jackets, preferred snacks, refreshments, and sunscreen. The tour is not suitable for beginner kayakers or children under 12.

Non-motorized boat launch permits are required and will be sold at the event for \$5 or can be purchased at the Patoka Lake office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily.

For more information regarding this program, kayak rentals, or other interpretive events, please call the Nature Center at **812-685-2447**.

Patoka Lake (on.IN.gov/patokalake) is at 3084 N. Dillard Road, Birdseye, IN 47513.

PATOKA LAKE KIDS FISHING DERBY JUNE 5

Patoka Lake will host its annual kids fishing derby on Saturday, June 5 at the Osborn Ramp from 9 to 11:30 a.m.

The event is for children 12 years old and younger, and participants must be accompanied by an adult. Families must supply their own tackle, fishing pole, and bait. An awards ceremony will take place at 11 a.m.

For more information regarding this program or other interpretive events, call the Nature Center at **812-685-2447**.

Patoka Lake (on.IN.gov/patokalake) is at 3084 N. Dillard Road, Birdseye, IN 47513.

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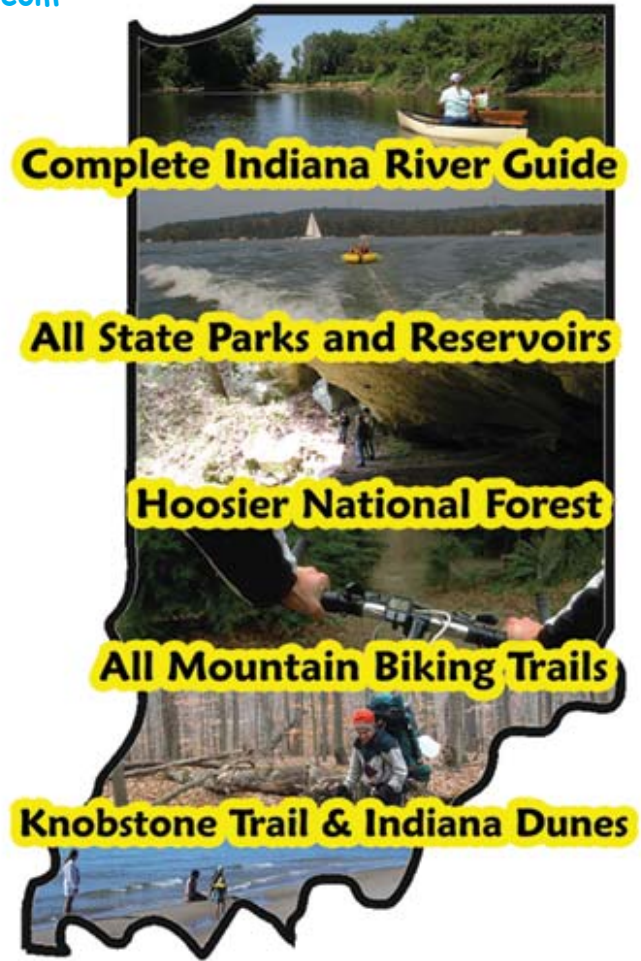
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