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MARCH 2021

Outdoor Information • Museum • Frontier Post

EXPLORING RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES IN THE GAD-A-BOUT TERRITORY



FISHING IMPROVES IN MARCH WHEN THE WATER TEMPERATURE WARMS THE WATER A BIT AND THE FISH FEEL IT IN BROOKVILLE LAKE - SEE PG 6



WES FRAME HOLDING A LARGEMOUTH BASS HE CAUGHT IN BROOKVILLE LAKE SPRING 2020. SIGN UP NOW TO CATCH BASS IN THE EVERTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT BASS TOURNAMENT AT BROOKVILLE LAKE MAY 1, 2021 \$2500.00 FIRST PLACE GUARANTEED - ENTRY FORM & RULES ON PAGES 23-24



READ CAPTAIN MIKE'S ARTICLE ON GROWING RADISHES INSTEAD OF ALGAE TO HELP PREVENT RUN OFF INTO PONDS AND LAKES - SEE PG 5



RESORT OWNERS BUILDING BRIDGES ACROSS CRACKS IN ICE ON LAKE OF THE WOODS IN CANADA FOR BETTER ACCESS TO THE NORTHWEST ANGLE. - SEE PAGE 8

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

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THE GAD-A-BOUT™

MARCH 2021 • Volume XXXII • N0. 368

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!"

105 East South Street, Centerville, IN 47330

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ABOUT THE COVER PHOTOS

Top Left: March is that month when Brookville Lake transitions from winter to spring. From about the end of November to the end of February the fish have been in very deep water. The water temperature has only gone from cold to colder all winter, but at the beginning of March the water starts to warm up and fish can feel it. This is a trigger for fish to move up the water column from deep water where they have been all winter in sort of a hibernated state. **(Photo by Tag Nobbe)** **Top Right:** Wes Frame holding a real nice Largemouth Bass he caught in Brookville Lake the spring of 2020. Bass fishing has increased in popularity at Brookville in recent years. With Largemouth Bass in mind you might want to consider entering the **Everton Volunteer Fire Dept Bass Tournament on May 1, 2021 at Brookville Lake.** There is a \$2500.00 First Place Guaranteed. Fill out the **entry form** on Page 24 of this issue to enter tournament, the Rules are on Page 23. **(Photo by Tyler Frame)** **Bottom Left:** When ever the water in ponds, larger lakes - even lakes the size of Lake

Erie - get an overabundance of phosphorus, it often causes an algae bloom. An overabundance of any kind of algae is bad, turning a clear water lake into pea soup. If blue-green algae blooms it's worse, since the BGA produces toxins harmful to fish, wildlife and people. There are several farm and land management practices which contribute to the goal of reducing agricultural fertilizer runoff. One of the most promising is planting cover crops. Cover crop choices include varieties of rye, turnips, radishes, clover and other plants. As they grow, they provide a cover, shielding the soil from fall rains, their roots also help hold the soil and as they grow, they use any excess nitrogen or phosphorus not used by the main crop. These are nutrients that won't end up in a river, lake or pond. **(Photo by Mike Schoonveld)** **Bottom Right:** Resort owners building bridges across cracks in ice on Lake of The Woods in Canada for better access to the Northwest Angle. See Page 8. **(Photo by Photo by Joe Henry, LOW Tourism Bureau)**

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Roaming The Outdoors



by **Ray Dickerson**
The Gad-a-bout

THE GAD-A-BOUT

Time marches on, this is the second Gad-a-bout to be read only on my website www.thegad-about.com. I hope it is not too much of an inconvenience for you to read it this way. It came down to simple arithmetic. When the Covid-19 Pandemic arrived in March of 2020 a month after a very successful Renfro's Sport Show at the Indianapolis Fairgrounds in February, dramatic changes ensued when I was delivering the April Gad-a-bout. Suddenly businesses were closing or had to change when they were open and when they were closed.

Collecting and delivering The Gad-a-bout became a game of cat and mouse trying to get done with many businesses having to close at different hours of the day or some having to close all together. It was a trying time especially in March when the true effect of the pandemic was still being felt by every one here in Indiana.

So I made the decision to not print May and June 2019 issues. One of my concerns was collecting money from advertisers who didn't have as many customers coming into their shops and especially eating establishments.

I resumed printing the July Gad-a-bout and continued publishing it through the October issue.

Due to problems ensuing for delivering and collecting the advertising from advertisers who saw their income dwindling as they tried to the best of their ability to cope with problems brought on with Covid-19 and the implications of mask wearing, sanitizing their business, etc. I made the decision to postpone the November and December issues. I told my advertisers that I would print the February Sports Show issue in January 2021 and go from there.

Next I got an e-mail from Renfro's that they were cancelling both the Cincinnati and Indianapolis Sport Shows.

So with several problems happening, especially a need to replace my aging delivery van which has 394,532 miles on it, my out dated XP and Windows 7 computers and the loss of advertising I decided to stop printing The Gad-a-bout all together. and just Publish it on my website www.thegadabout.com.

I intend to continue publishing The Gad-a-bout only on line for the foreseeable future.

If you read last issue you also know about my wanting to open The Gad-a-bout Museum in the 66' x 24' building that is located at 105 East South Street here in Centerville. I also have plans to revise "Frontier Days" on a much smaller scale then my 1991 to 2001 event held at Treaty Line Pioneer Village. All of this though is still in the planning stage.

The only thing I've got done in the building is I've got a new staircase leading to the attic, which needs to be emptied as well as the ground floor.

If you are reading this, you are reading my March issue only on line now. There is one really nice thing about it being on line. The color is so vibrant, due to of course by putting it on the website I make a pdf of the original page and lay it out in CYMK color sending it to Cara Stallsmith who posts it on my website exactly like I sent it.

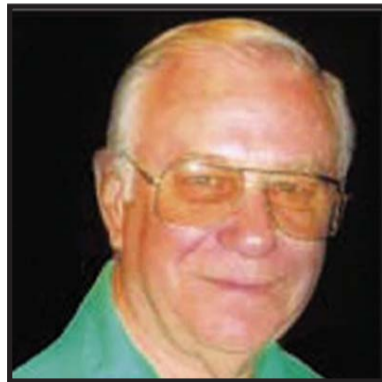
Oh, by the way I noticed there is something

new about being able to open The Gad-a-bout and read two pages at a time horizontally. Which used to automatically do, but now when I first open it, it is in a single page all the way through page 1 to the last page.

If this should happen to you when you first open it, look to the top right of the page you will see two or three icons. At the extreme right you will see three verticle dots. Click on the dots and wording will give you the option of seeing it on vertical single pages or two pages horizontally. i.e. Front Page will be a single page, after that the pages will be 2-3, 4-5, 6-7, etc., normally the last page will also be a single page too if there is a even amount of pages, i.e. 1 to 20, 1 to 28, etc.

I think it is easier to read the two page layout, especially when many of the articles are on a two page layout and if a map is on the centerfold you have to see it on a two-page layout to be able to use the map to find information depicted on it.

OUTDOOR WRITERS COLUMN RETURNS



GENE CLIFFORD

Gene Clifford who began appearing in The Gad-a-bout quite some time ago. Gene lives in Valparaiso, Indiana and is an avid outdoorsman. I got an e-mail from him recently, so I sent him a reply asking if he might send me an outdoor article some time.

He answered my request by contacting me asking if we had any Duck or Geese hunters in the Whitewater Valley area. I replied to his question, that yes we had both duck and geese hunters who read The Gad-a-bout who I've been in contact with over the years.

Gene debuts in this issue sending a very good informative article on shotgun shells. See him on Page 11.

EIGGS 48TH ANNUAL SPRING GEM SHOW HAS BEEN CANCELLED FOR 2021

I talked to Judy Burton who is the person I always contact each Spring to check on the date and other data about their upcoming Gem show at the Kuhlman Center.

She informed me that their 48th Annual Gem Show is cancelled for this year due to the Kuhlman Center being used by Reid Hospital giving initial Covid 19 and follow up shots to area residents there thru June 2021. She has high hopes their Gem Show will take place in March 2022.

THE GAD-A-BOUT NEEDS NEW WRITERS

If anyone reading my outdoor newspaper, The Gad-a-bout and you have had a desire to write about the outdoors, contact me. My contact information is on page 3 of this issue. Since I don't make any kind of an income from it any more, I can't pay you to appear in it, however if you have a business of some kind I will trade an advertisement for your article. Several current writers do that.

IMPORTANT NEWS INFORMATION

INDOT seeking public comment regarding Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Amendment 20-44

Amendment 20-44 may be viewed online via the STIP web page at <https://www.in.gov/indot/3132.htm>.

The public is encouraged to review amendments to learn of state and local transportation infrastructure improvements impacting Indiana communities. Upon reviewing amendments, we encourage the public to also visit the INDOT con-

struction map <https://www.in.gov/indot/> to view current and future INDOT construction projects.

Public comments regarding Amendment 20-44 will be accepted through Thursday, February 25, 2021 and can be submitted via the public comment form located on the STIP amendment page <https://www.in.gov/indot/3132.htm>.

What is an Amendment?

Periodically, changes are made to a project's scope, cost and/or year of proposed construction. When these changes occur, they are evaluated to determine if the change requires an amendment or an administrative modification to the STIP.

Major changes to the STIP require an amendment. Examples of a major change would be:

Adding a new project that was not included in the current STIP

Adding a new phase of a project not currently included in the STIP (preliminary engineering, right-of-way acquisition, construction)

A significant increase or decrease in project cost

A change in project scope

What is an Administrative Modification?

Minor changes to the STIP require an administration modification, examples of a minor change would be:

A designation number change (this identifies what year the project was accepted into the production schedule)

A change in project schedule whereas the timing of activities is modified to occur within an adjusted frame (within the 4-year funding period)

Amendments to the STIP require FHWA and FTA approval, administrative modifications do not.

Why is this Important?

The STIP must be fiscally constrained. Only projects for which construction and operating funds can reasonably be expected to be available are included. If a project is not included in a STIP, it is not eligible to receive federal funding. As modifications and amendments occur, fiscal constraint must be maintained.

Public Input

INDOT welcomes public input regarding draft amendments to the FY 2020 thru 2024 STIP. The draft amendments are posted to a public comment web page <https://www.in.gov/indot/3132.htm> for a minimum period of 7 days (may be extended in some cases). The public is encouraged to review draft amendments and offer comment.

Generally, draft amendments are posted monthly and typically during the 3rd week of each month. Draft amendments may be reviewed by visiting <https://www.in.gov/indot/3132.htm>.

Once an amendment is approved, the STIP is updated accordingly.

State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

The State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) is Indiana's four-year transportation planning and construction document listing projects (and phases) expected to be federally funded within a four year period. State funded and regionally significant projects are also included as the STIP includes investment in various modes including highways, transit, pedestrian trails/paths and bicycle facilities. The current STIP was approved by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) earlier this summer and covers fiscal years 2020 thru 2024.

While the STIP lists federally funded projects within a four year period, it also includes a listing of projects under an additional fifth year, however projects listed under this additional year, are not funded projects, but rather are included for informational and future planning purposes.

Visit the STIP web page to learn more about the STIP and related activities <https://www.in.gov/indot/2348.htm>.

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Left Photo: North side of Brookville Lake Dam on East Side. Rip Rap rock covers most of the North side of dam. Dam road closed to vehicles, foot traffic only allowed to cross dam. Right Photo: The Whitewater River north of SR 44 Bridge. Free parking and easy access to bank fishing on both north and south side of bridge. (Author Photos)

So You Wanna Catch More Fish



by Tag Nobbe

Professional Fishing Guide

March Fishing at Brookville Lake and River

March is that month where the lake transitions from winter spring. From about the end of November to the end of February the fish have been in very deep water. The water temperature has only gone from cold to colder all winter, but at the beginning of March the water starts to warm up and fish can feel it. This is a trigger for fish to move up the water column from deep water where they have been all winter in sort of a hibernated state. The fish will be looking for warmer water. One likely spot will be a rocky shore line. The noon day sun will warm up the rocks, and in turn warm up the water in this area. Another likely spot is anywhere water is coming in the lake, whether it be a creek or a river. This water coming in will be warmer than the lake, so in turn the water in these areas of the lake is going to be warmer than the rest of the lake as well.

Brookville lake has roughly 10 different kinds of predator fish in it, and they all have their own little way of doing things. In the winter though they all have one thing in common, try to stay as warm. To do this they move deep and stay deep. In the spring though they are all just trying to get out of the deep dark now colder water and get active. Last fall all these predator fish made eggs before it got to cold. They have been holding them all winter long waiting

for the water temperature to get just right for things to start to happen.

The first fish to spawn is the walleye, they will spawn when the water temperature reaches around 46 degrees. The second fish to spawn will be the smallmouth bass this will be around 50 degrees. The third fish to spawn will be the Musky, they will spawn when the water temperature is between 50 -59 degrees. The fourth fish to spawn is the White bass this will happen somewhere between 57 and 68

degrees. The fifth is the striped bass, they will spawn when the water is between 59 and 65 degrees. The sixth fish to spawn will be the crappie 57 to 65 is the water temperature is what they're looking for. Largemouth bass is around 68 degrees. Blue gill is 70 to 75 and catfish spawn when the surface temperature gets somewhere between 70 to 85 degrees.

With the walleye spawning when the water reaches 46 degrees there is no time to waste. They will have to move up find warm water to get acclimated and head to the spawning sites. They will spawn at the mouths of creeks in the river, and rocky spots all over the lake.

As the water temperature creeps up to 50 degrees the small mouth bass will spawn on rocky drop off ledges all over the lake, usually the first drop off ledge is where it's at.

The next fish in line will be the musky. Look for musky in the same places you look for walleye. Since they are both looking for the warmest water early in the year, they will be inhabiting the same areas. The white bass can be found spawning on rip rap areas around the lake. Check the dam or the causeways but the premier spot is the river above the lake. The river is narrow and shallow with riffles and deep-water pools. No need for a boat just drive to treaty line boat ramp for a great place to park, from there it's just a short walk to the river. The striped bass is what you call a true bass just like a white bass, these fish are called temperate bass. Unlike a



Treaty Line Fisherman's Acces Ramp. Access Road to ramp located on SR 44 a short distance west of Whitewater River bridge. (Author Photo)

small mouth bass or a largemouth bass, that really belong to the bluegill family. You can find striped bass spawning in the same places you find white bass spawning except in the river above the lake. I guess they could be in there, but I have never seen it. You're better off looking around riprap areas or sand banks. Spawning crappie can be found shallow holding over shallow rock piles, brush piles or fallen tree along the shore. They will stage in deeper water usually the first drop off, but when that water temperature gets right, they will be shallow and feeding like crazy. This can and will be some of the best crappie fishing of the year. The Largemouth bass is a nest builder look for them in shallow protected areas. When I say look, I mean you can literally look form your boat and see the bass sitting on the nest. This is commonly known as site fishing for bass. This can only be done during the spawning cycle. After that comes the bluegill, they are also nest builders. The difference is they will do it in numbers. There could be as many as 50 to 100 little circular nest built all together in an area. Most of the time in about 3 to 4 foot of water so if the water is clear you can see the entire colony with all the fish hovering over each individual nest. The last but not least fish to spawn is the cat fish. When they spawn the water is pretty hot. What they look for is soft shore line's soft bottom areas, old hollow trees, old car hoods, really anything to put the eggs in or under. I have an uncle that

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



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Fishing Lake Michigan



by **Capt. Mike Schoonveld**

GROWING RADISHES INSTEAD OF ALGAE

As I started writing this column, the first snow of winter was falling on the farms around my home. The first snow used to be a welcome change since it brightened a bleak, brown-gray post harvest landscape. The snow still brightens both fields and forest, but some of those fields in recent years have not been just bleak, brown crop residue and soil. Now, the snow coats over a vibrant green fall cover crop planted by farmers to protect the soil and increase its fertility.

All soils contain some amount of natural fertility but long ago, farmers learned to boost their soil's fertility by adding extra nutrients to make



Radishes and turnips can use soil nutrients which could runoff into lakes and ponds. (Author Photo)

their crops grow better and produce more. Ancient civilizations used manure, wood ash, even fish for fertilizer. For the most part, modern farmers use chemical fertilizers which are readily available, easy

to apply and the best investment a grower can make. A dollar's worth of fertilizer will grow an extra \$1.25 worth of produce, maybe \$2.00 worth, maybe even more. All soils contain some amount of natural fertility but long ago, farmers learned to boost their soil's fertility by adding extra nutrients to make their crops grow better and produce more. Ancient civilizations used manure, wood ash, even fish for fertilizer. For the most part, modern farmers use chemical fertilizers which are readily available, easy to apply and the best investment a grower can make. A dollar's worth of fertilizer will grow an extra \$1.25 worth of produce, maybe \$2.00 worth, maybe even more.

Adding a little fertilizer pays a little, adding a bit more increases the payout at harvest. So why not add more and more to continue to reap the rewards? There comes a point when paying for additional nutrients doesn't pay.

The amount of nutrients a crop will use is determined, to an extent, by natural forces - the amount of rain, the timing of rains, amount of sun, the summer's heat and others. So predicting the exact amount of nutrients a crop will need, or the optimum amount is no more than an educated guess.

The major elements in fertilizer are nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. Luckily, most of the potassium (most often applied as potash) stays right there on the fields, chemically attached to the individual soil particles. As long as the soil itself doesn't erode, it's like money in the bank. A simple soil test can determine if enough potassium is present and the amount of potash applied when fertilizer is applied can be adjusted.

When it comes to the nitrogen and phosphorus components it's different. Both of these dissolve in water and what isn't used by growing plants can leach into ground water or run off fields during heavy rains. Much of the nitrogen eventually vaporizes into the atmosphere but not the phosphorus. It stays in the water and as the phosphorus laden water flows into ponds, lakes or reservoirs it becomes fertilizer for aquatic plants - including algae.

When ever the water in ponds, larger lakes - even lakes the size of Lake Erie - get an overabundance of phosphorus, it often causes an algae bloom. An overabundance of any kind of algae is bad, turning a clear water lake into pea soup. If blue-green algae blooms it's worse, since the BGA produces toxins harmful to fish, wildlife and people.

Studies have proven time and again, excess phosphorus in a body of water can be traced totally or partially to fertilizer on farms located in the pond or lake's watershed. People who use this water for drinking, swimming, fishing or other purposes want farmers to do something to keep their fertilizer out of the water. Farmers who pay thousands of dollars for fertilizer each year would also like to keep their investment out of the water.

There are several farm and land management practices which contribute to the goal of reducing agricultural fertilizer runoff. One of the most promising is planting cover crops.

The concept is simple, crop lands are seeded soon before or after the harvest of corn, wheat, soybeans or other commodity with plants which will grow through what remains of the growing season. Cover crop choices include varieties of rye, turnips, radishes, clover and other plants. As they grow, they provide a cover, shielding the soil from fall rains, their roots also help hold the soil and as they grow, they use any excess nitrogen or phosphorus not used by the main crop. These are nutrients that won't end up in a river, lake or pond.

Cover crops are left out over the winter. Some kinds die from the cold, others go dormant and will be killed in the spring, making way for the next main crop. As the dead plants decompose, they add more organic matter to the soil and release the nutrients back to the soil.

That's money in the bank for the farmer. That's nutrients they won't have to replace with additional fertilizer for the main crop. That's nutrients not going into ponds and lakes. That means cleaner water in the places I like to go fishing.

THE END

CAPTAIN MIKE SCHOONVELD

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Drinking Water

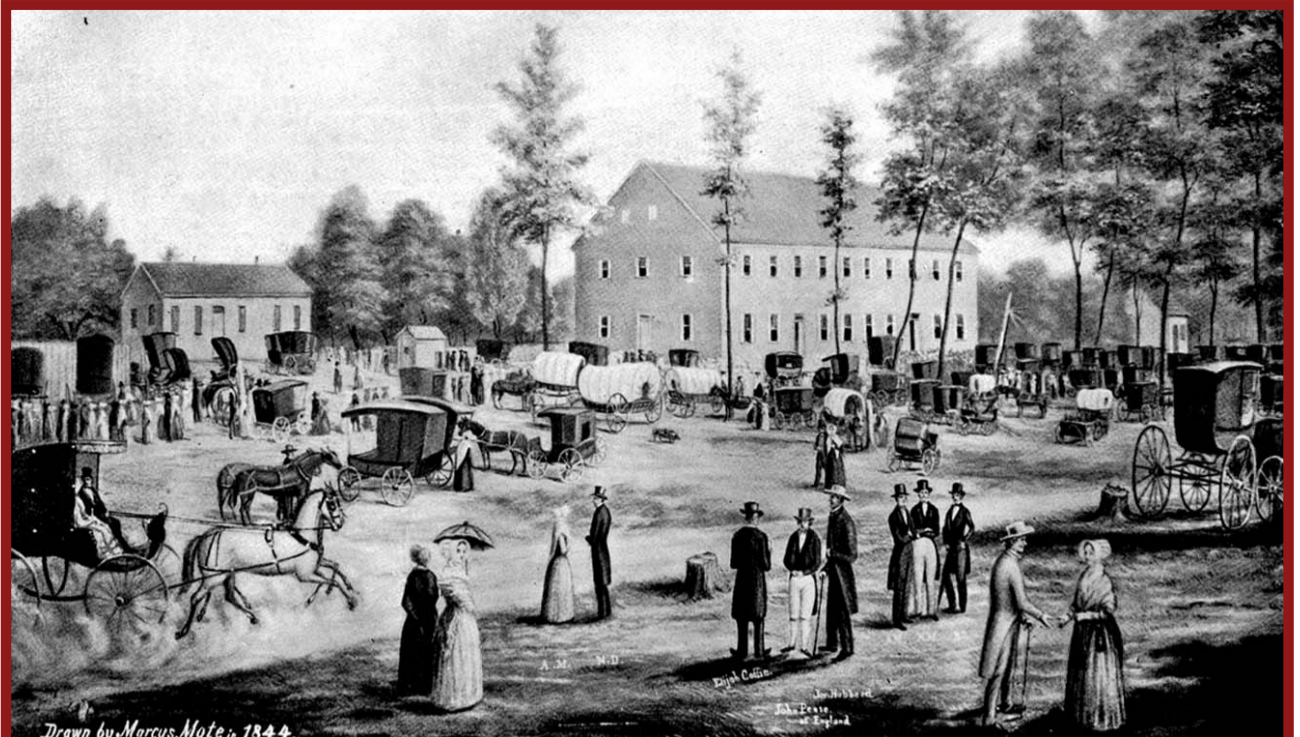
It is recorded in our history that many of our early settlers came to the Whitewater Valley because of the water power for mills and that is correct.

However in this article I want to talk about the springs for drinking water. If you have ever lived on a small farm you know how important a good spring is for thousands of years. We have traveled over this earth and the three things we must have is water, fuel for fire and food.

In our area of the Whitewater Valley I have been to several of their homes and have taken a drink from some of the springs that are still flowing today. The houses are modern with bath rooms and kitchen sinks and in some houses a pump pushes the water up to the upper rooms, but the water still comes from the spring found in 1805. Or maybe a little later in the 1800's.

If you are my age and attended a one room school you can remember going to a nearby spring with a bucket and getting water for your classmates. You knew when the teacher sent two of the older boys you were being trusted with this important task.

I have visited the Bulla farm, also the Richard Rue farm and where we also think Joseph and Mary Cox built the first cabin in our country. On the Cornelius Ratliff farm the water at the Ratliff springs is not safe to drink at this time. I must tell everyone all of the historic places are private property and you must have permission to visit them.



Top Photo: Wayne County Indiana yearly meeting of Quakers in 1844. In February of 1805, Quakers Richard Rue, George Holman and his sons Joseph and William, Joseph Cox, his wife (the eldest daughter of Rue), Thomas McCoy, William Blunt and Patrick O'Hara crossed the Ohio River into the area of the Seven Mile Purchase exploring the fertile lands of the Whitewater River valley and watered by the streams now known as Lick Creek, Clear Creek, West, Green Fork, Nolands Fork, Nettle Creek, Simonds Creek, East Fork, Four Mile Creek, Silver Creek and Hanna's Creek. These families settled in Wayne County on Short Creek where the Cox camp was located.

Bottom Photo: Artesian spring that powered Charlie Hunts 1807 Corn Cracker Mill in the Elkhorn Creek area still there today. Note - Caution this historic location is on private property and you must have permission to visit. (Photo by Eugene Fannin)

So You Wanna' Catch More Fish

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

use to raise catfish in ponds, and he would use old metal milk cans from the old days. He would put them along the shore of the pond facing the center and the fish would simply swim in the can and deposit the eggs.

One thing you need to know is that a lake the size of Brookville lake warms up at different times in the spring. You have to find that warmer water because that's what all these spawning fish are looking for. If you don't find it, you will miss out on some of the best fishing of the year.

Good luck and remember leave a few for seed Tag

If you need more info go to my web site www.brookvillelakeguideservice.com or stop in at

52 Pik-up Convenience store just south of Brookville on State Road us 52. We have a full line of live bait, tackle and Fried chicken to go. So, when you ask for chicken liver, be specific. Lol

To schedule trips contact me at tagnobbe@gmail.com call or text my cell 765-265-3238

I guide fish for walleye, and crappie starting in mid-April till the end of December 7 days a week on Brookville lake. We fish out of a 2017 pro V 2075 with a 250 Honda outboard engine. I supply everything all the way down to cleaning the fish. I can take 1 - 5 people. The price is according to how many go \$500.00 for 5 people \$450.00 for 4 people \$375.00 for 3 people \$325.00 for 2 people and \$275.00 for 1 person. We start at 7:00 am and fish till 1:00 pm to schedule trips call my cell 765-265-3238 or tagnobbe@gmail.com

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Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

**EVERTON FIRE DEPARTMENT
BASS TOURNAMENT MAY 1, 2021**

I got a call from Chad at the Everton Fire Department telling me they are going to put on their Bass Tournament this year on May 1, 2021. The event will be on the Brookville Lake at the Fairfiled Ramp.

The entry form for this tournament is on page 24 and the Rules are on page 23 of the March Gad-about which can be printed by opening my website www.thegadabout.com and printing the back two pages, Page 23-24 The Bass Tournament Rules are on the reverse side of the entry form on page 23.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

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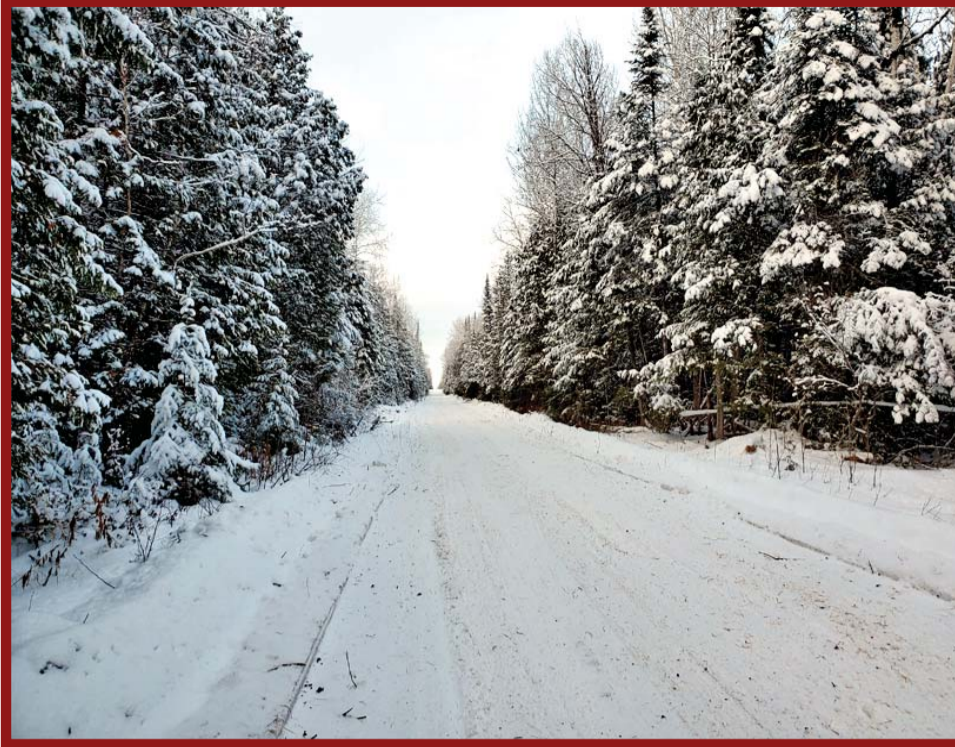
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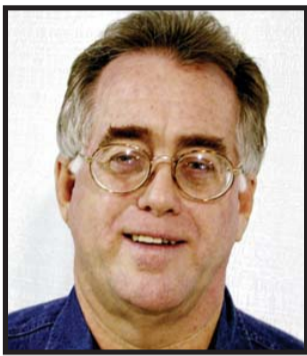


Border trail through forest is part of ice road. (Photo by Joe Henry, LOW Tourism Bureau)



Resort owners building bridges across cracks in ice. (Photo by Joe Henry, LOW Tourism Bureau)

Outdoors



1999



2021

With Rich Creason

The Ice Road Leads To Great Ice Fishing

All Photos

(Courtesy of Joe Henry, LOW Tourism Bureau)

A few years ago, Susie and I booked a several day trip to one of the dozen or so fishing resorts in the Northwest Angle of Minnesota. This would be our first trip to the northernmost point of the contiguous United States. I planned this trip for the great musky fishing in this area. Susie was just after walleye. We would both get what we wanted.

Just getting to our camp was an adventure. We passed the town of Baudette on the bottom end of Lake of the Woods. This is where we usually stop for our almost yearly fishing outing. We kept driving west for maybe 30 miles to the town of Warroad where we would cross the border from Minnesota into Manitoba, Canada. This is a small crossing, almost no traffic, and we were quickly across and continuing on our journey.

Next came a scenic 40 mile drive through Manitoba before once again having to cross the border back into Minnesota. We have visited Canada for almost 50 years, crossing the border many times, but this would be a first for us. The

border crossing was a small building. We entered the designated door and noticed a telephone on the wall. The sign next to it indicated what to do next.

As near as I can remember, we picked up the phone and were connected to the border crossing center (U.S. Customs). We gave them our name, vehicle description, license number, where we were going, how long we would be in Minnesota, and maybe a couple other items. We finished there and continued a short ways before arriving at the boat dock where our hosts would pick us up to take us to the island resort where we were staying. After our visit was over, we reversed our route, made our phone call to Canada Customs telling them we were reentering Manitoba, and then, back to Warroad.

This is the process almost everyone going to the Northwest Angle had to follow. At least until the Covid virus came along. In March of 2020, Canada closed its border to all travel except essential or medical reasons. Keeping the resorts operating was not, apparently, considered essential. Like elsewhere, small businesses were basically out of business. Especially if you were in an area where border crossing was a necessity. The summer of 2020 threatened the livelihood of multi-generation resorts.

While most of us "down south" were complaining about another cold winter, these hardy folks decided to do something to help keep their businesses going. They would bypass the border cross-



Sign at beginning of ice road. (Photo by Joe Henry, LOW Tourism Bureau)

ing by building an ice road from a resort just south of the Canadian border at Warroad to the Northwest Angle, never leaving Minnesota. The frozen Lake of the Woods would be the highway. The road took over \$30,000 and 200 plus hours to build, stake, and sign before the first customer ever drove it. Driving over 20 inches of ice, the business owners plowed the snow, laid down bridges across pressure ridges which caused large cracks in the ice, and created 22 miles of road.

Then, the ice road ended and turned into about eight miles of a gravel snowmobile trail through the forest. This trail finally connected to the main road leading to the Angle. Due to the warm weather, the early January, 2021 opening of the Northwest Angle Guest Ice Road was pushed back to January 18. Weather permitting, it will remain open until the end of March.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

RICH CREASON

Rich has been writing a monthly feature in The Gad-A-Bout Outdoor Newspaper since 1999. I remember the first time we met at the Hoosier Outdoor Writer's meeting in 1999 at Renfro's Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show. He came to my booth later and I took the photo you see of him at the top of this page. Soon after that Rich sold advertising and delivered The Gad-a-bout in a large area of Indiana for many years.

Rich is an award-winning outdoors and travel writer whose work has appeared in local, regional, national, and international publications for four decades. He is currently published regularly in the Pendleton Times-Post newspaper, the Dirt Digest online magazine, Adventure Sports Outdoors, and is also a writer and staff editor of the Backwoodsman magazine. Creason also writes publicity stories for Minelab Metal Detectors.



RICH CREASON - 2021

Maintenance is a daily problem. The camp owners use their pickup trucks with plows mounted to stay ahead of the snowfall. Even when it isn't snowing, the wind across the ice creates drifts which would close the road if not removed. The ice cracks can quickly appear and move, so the bridges have to be relocated to allow crossing these areas. Resort owners take turns driving the ice road each morning making sure conditions are good. Speed limit is 25 MPH.

To cover the \$1,500 per mile to build and maintain the road, a permit is required for use. The fee is \$120 per vehicle for a round trip pass to any of the land based resorts at the Angle. It costs \$145 per vehicle if you are going to one of the island based camps. A season pass cost \$500. While this might seem a bit steep, many regular customers are glad to pay this to be able to visit their favorite spot for great ice fishing and to help support the local businesses. Without this extra income, some of the long-time resorts might not be around next summer. As of February 4, over 300 passes had been sold. For more information about the ice road and how to purchase a road pass, just Google Northwest Angle Guest Ice Road.

If you don't want to drive the ice road, but still want to try the ice fishing in this area, check out the bombardier service (Lake of the Woods Passenger Service). This is like a big bus on tank treads which transports customers who would rather let someone else do the driving while they relax in the heated cabin. One can also travel across the lake on a 42 mile groomed and staked snowmobile trail. There is also a flying service which lands on the ice.

Unfortunately, very soon, the ice will be gone, and these camps and the 100 or so permanent residents of this area will once again be hard to reach. Unless the Canadian border reopens soon, the Northwest Angle will only be reached by float plane or boat. And, the lack of fishing pressure for the last year means all of the walleye, northerns, and muskies living in this water are just getting bigger and hungrier. An ideal situation for an angler if you can find a way to get to them.

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



At approximately 8:45 a.m. February 19, 2021 smoke from a boat in the "A" dock was observed. The cause of the fire is still under investigation by the State Fire Marshalls Office. No injuries were reported. Efforts were made by Hoosier Hill Marina staff to put out the fire. Two boats were moved from the docks, creating a fire break. The marina is closed at this time. See more at left. (Indiana Conservation Officer Photos)

We Are Looking for Metal Detecting Sites by Rich Creason

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

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

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

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

First Prize is a guaranteed \$2500.00.

The Boat #1 starting position will be auctioned off the morning of the tournament.

The team entry fee of \$100.00 and includes big bass.

Check in is no later than 6:15 AM at the Mandatory meeting. 7:00 AM is Take Off time and 3:00 PM is the Weigh-in time.

Starting position is determined by date of post-mark on entry.

This is a team tournament. **Anglers may not fish alone!**

Mailed Entries and fees must be received no later than **April 23, 2021**.

Entries will be taken day of tournament but will be **CASH ONLY**.

Make checks/money orders payable to: [Everton Volunteer Fire Department](#)

70% Pay Out - All proceeds will be donated to the Everton Volunteer Fire Department.

Mail Entries to:

Chip Ayers
504 S. Poplar St.
Greensburg, IN 47240

Questions? [Call 812-593-8915](tel:812-593-8915)

The Entry Form is on page 24 and the Rules are on page 23 of this issue. This is an official entry form. The Everton Volunteer Fire Dept sent me the forms to publish here.

The Gad-a-bout can only be read on line now at www.thegadabout.com.

Good Luck to all of my readers who participate in this very worthy cause. The Everton Volunteer Fire Department relies on money raised by special events to fund their volunteer fire department such as this Bass Tournament. I hope to see you at the Bass Tournament. If not, send me a photo of your bass to raythegadabout@gmail.com or mail to Ray Dickerson, 105 East South Street, Centerville, IN 47330. If you want the photo back also send me a self addressed stamped envelope to return it to you.

Sure hope we have good weather for the event. **ELEVEN BOATS DESTROYED IN FIRE AT PATOKA LAKE (DUBOIS COUNTY)**

Indiana Conservation Officers are investigating a fire that damaged or destroyed twenty-two boats at Hoosier Hills Marina located at Patoka Lake.

At approximately 8:45 a.m., smoke from a boat in the "A" dock was observed. The cause of the fire is still under investigation by the State Fire Marshalls Office. No injuries were reported.

During the initial investigation it was determined that after the fire started efforts were made by Hoosier Hill Marina staff to put out the fire. Two boats were moved from the docks, creating a fire break.

The marina is closed at this time while fire crews continue to monitor for potential hot spots. Staff from the marina are working to contact the affected boat owners.

Responding agencies included the Celestine Fire Department, Schnellville Fire Department, Dubois Fire Department, Memorial EMS, Dubois County Sheriff's Department, Dubois County Dispatch Center, Indiana State Police, Army Core of Engineers, IDEM and the State Fire Marshalls Office.

HOOSIER OUTDOOR WRITERS (H.O.W.) 2021 ANNUAL MEETING CANCELLED

HOW members, It is with great sadness that I report to you our 2021 HOW Conference at Turkey Run State Park has been canceled due to the pandemic. We waited as long as we could to make this decision in the hopes that things would clear up in time for us to meet at Turkey Run in April, but it is just not happening.

I talked with our sales contacts at Turkey Run and they reported they are still limiting groups to 25 people and they are not providing normal food service yet. So unfortunately, we have canceled the event

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

Indiana Outdoors



by Joe Martino

Hunting coyotes is necessary, but not always understood *Most get it, but a few don't understand reasons for hunting them*

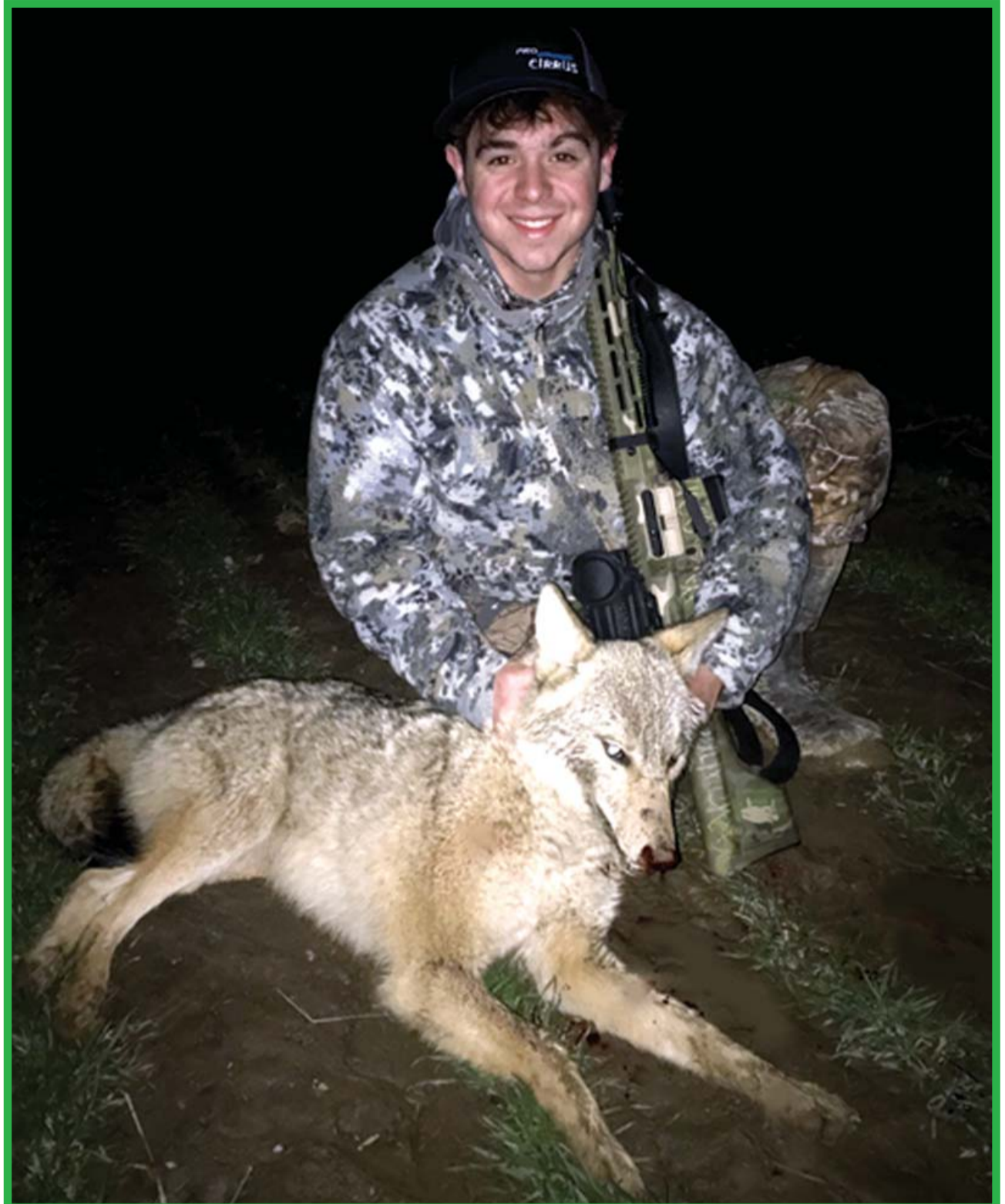
While in a conversation at the post office the other day, the lady behind the counter mentioned that she and her husband were going squirrel hunting the next day. I wished her luck and mentioned that my son and I were going to try to get out and do some coyote hunting as well during the weekend.

A scowl immediately took over her once half-smiling face and her demeanor dramatically shifted from pleasant to disgruntled. She also verbally informed me that she did not appreciate that we hunted coyotes and would prefer it if I did not speak of it again, mentioning that she could prove why coyotes should not be hunted (although I really doubt that she could prove it, otherwise she would have done so.)

Out of respect for her choice (regardless of how uninformed she was on the topic) I chose to drop the conversation. But really? I figured that since she said she was going hunting that the door was wide open on the topic; that we were on the same playing field. I guess not, and it placed me in a situation I had not been in before. You just do not run into many people that are angry about hunting coyotes.

She has her beliefs on why coyotes should not be hunted. I am not buying them, however, but she certainly is entitled to her opinion. What I got out of it was that she felt like coyotes are like dogs and therefore should not be hunted. True, the two may be related, but there is a difference; a big one. There are not tons of wild dogs roaming around. If there were, believe me, they would be hunted too.

So, why do we need to hunt coyotes? The reasons are varied. I mean, I do not eat coyote meat, so I cannot sit here and say that I always eat what I kill. Nor can I tell you that it is for the pelts. Yes, I do sell or donate the pelts of the coyotes that I get, however that is not my reason for hunting them. And I do not really want to say it is for sport, because the term sport hunting can conjure up negative images and fuel the fire for anti-hunters, even though I do enjoy the challenge that hunting a coyote represents. Regardless of why we choose to hunt coyotes, the real reason behind the need to do so is for manage-



The author's son, Nicholas, enjoys hunting coyotes. Besides being a challenging adversary, hunting them is needed in order to keep their numbers in check. (Photo by Joe Martino)

ment of the species.

In his article, "Sooo, Why Hunt Coyotes?" author Duane Fronek wrote, "I believe animals are on this earth for man to manage and consume whether that consumption is eating or putting a fur on your back."

I agree with Mr. Fronek. The bottom-line here is that the species needs managed. Just as deer, rabbits, and other wild game populations are managed through regulated hunting seasons and natural predation, so must coyote numbers be managed. Key in on the part of natural predation. Game animals such as deer and rabbits are preyed upon by coyotes, yet coyotes have no real predators within the animal kingdom, which is exactly why man must step in and prey upon the coyotes. We hunt the animals that coyotes prey upon don't we? Then what makes coyotes

so special that they shouldn't be hunted?

In addition to managing coyote populations, by hunting them we are also helping out other game animal populations at the same time. If you enjoy rabbit, deer and bird hunting, then you should fully support hunting coyotes, whether you personally hunt them yourself or not.

Now I know that nearly all of you reading this agree with hunting coyotes, and that it really need not be defended. But for the few of those that may feel as the young lady at the post office did, we will probably never convince them or change their minds on the subject, but being able to understand why we hunt them may help us to better explain it when faced with a similar situation. ■

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Ramblings from Da Region



by Gene Clifford

The Newest in Waterfowl Loads

Boss Loads,

Boss has improved its loads this year by plating its bismuth pellets with 1 mm of copper. This plating process has made the talents even harder leading to denser patterns and we can also see better penetration. What has been seen in field testing was excellent performance. The number 2's absolutely crushed the geese, and the number 5's were a sure killer on ducks. They come at a relatively affordable price, that won't break the bank.

3" No.2 plated bismuth 50 yd pattern 52.6 percent @1318 fps. The Price per shell \$1.35.

bosshotshells.com

Backridge loads

Backridge is a little vague about the makeup of the proprietary ITX13 load of theirs. The military – veteran – run company out of Clarksville, Tennessee, did tell us it's a blend of tungsten and iron that's 16 percent denser than lead – and is softer than steel. They say their pellets are perfectly little Balls of death. The interesting thing about Blackridge is that it's focusing on obscure loads. It's 10 – gauge number twos are a real hot seller, but it's new .410 loads are gaining in popularity.

3" No.2's 50 yd pattern 60 percent@ 1364 fps The Price per shell \$1.60

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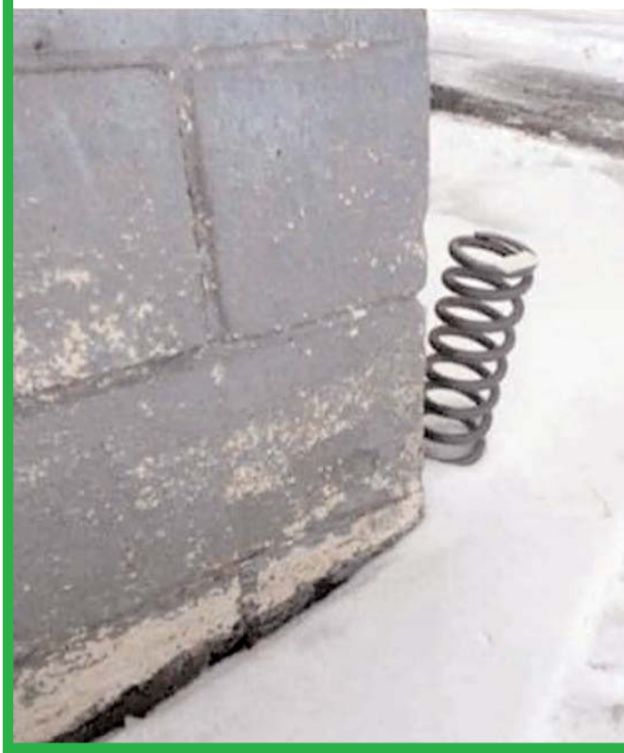
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Apex loads

Apex makes a straight TSS load, similar to the Federal Custom Shop, but it also produces a 3 inch 12gauge load mixed with No.2 steel (about 126 pellets) and No. 9 TSS (about 90 pellets) which makes this shell more affordable. One of the most impressive things about this shell is that it has beautiful patterns even at 50 yards. At close ranges, the steel really does the bird killing. But at 50 yards the TSS those in the holes in the pattern and still knocks the birds down.

3" No. 2 steel/No.9TSS 50yd pattern 52 per cent@1450 fps. Price per shell \$1.75

Hevi- Shot Hevi-X

Hevi- shot is one of the leaders in the better – than -steel game, and the company has increased the density of its Hevi-X load by upping the percentage of tungsten. On the downside of this all is that many of the pellets were unevenly form with some even looking like gobs of candy. All this has led to a lower patterning score.

3" No.2 Hevi-X 50yd pattern 51 per cent @ 1386 fps Price per shell \$1.90

FEDERAL CUSTON SHOP TSS

Alright, let's get this ridiculous price of these loads out of the way. Federal undoubtedly knows the shells are way too expensive for most water followers. But the company wanted to make high-performance jagged shells that you won't find on store shelves, and they did exactly this in their Custom Shop in Minnesota. You then have to go to their website to order your rounds, then the voters get to work making this animal by hand – tapping home the wads with wooden mallets. As for the shells, having TSS has a super – high density allowing you to use smaller pellets. Of course, this means more pellets per shell, but also having a smaller service area of each ballot means they retain their velocity better and penetrate better.

3" No.7'sTSS 50 yd pattern 67 per cent@ 1358 fps. Now hang on to your wallets because these shells cost \$10.30 each.

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

It is possible that we will organize a smaller event later in the year if the pandemic eases significantly, but we are not promising anything. It is more likely that we will just have to look forward to a spring conference in 2022. The 2022 conference will be again be scheduled for Turkey Run.

On a brighter note, we will still be able to enjoy some of the features of the conference this spring, just in a remote or virtual way. The Awards-in-Craft contests will continue as normal, but the winners will be notified via email and the awards certificates and checks will be mailed rather than delivered in person. We are also planning a limited HOW Raffle, probably for major prizes only (like firearms). More details will be forthcoming soon.

I wish I had better news about the conference, but this is the reality that we are living in right now. And I thought everyone would want to know.

Thank you for your continued membership in HOW, and have a great day.

Tom Berg
Executive Director
Hoosier Outdoor Writers

www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org

PATOKA LAKE WINTER BLITZ POSTPONED TO MARCH 20

Patoka Lake's Winter Blitz has been postponed until Saturday, March 20, from 10 a.m. to noon.

The blitz was originally scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 20. The resolution walk, which is scheduled for Feb. 20 at 1 p.m., will still take place as scheduled.

The Winter Blitz is a cleanup effort to pick up litter and will be targeted at the area around the Painter Creek Boat Ramp. Advance registration is required for the event and can be made by calling the Nature Center by Thursday, March 18 at noon at **812-685-2447**. Participation is limited.

Gloves, trash bags, hand sanitizer and goodie bags will be provided to all participants. The rocky shoreline may become muddy, so plan to wear sturdy walking shoes and dress for the weather.

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

CITY OF RICHMOND STREET & PARK DEPARTMENTS COLLABORATE TO RECEIVE FEDERAL FUNDS FOR TREE GRANT

Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, awarded the City of Richmond, Street and Parks and Recreation Departments \$22,670 of federal funds for a Tree Inventory and Management Planning Project.

This project is made possible through federal funds awarded to the Division of Forestry from the USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Areas. Richmond was one of seven projects that were funded through this 2020 Community and Urban Forestry Assistance Grant.

Earth Charter Indiana also helped pave the way for this opportunity through their in-kind grant proposal preparation. Earth Charter Indiana supplies resources for nine Resiliency Coordinators to work on issues of climate resiliency throughout Indiana. Richmond's Coordinator is Alison Zajdel.

"Alison worked to complete this grant on behalf of the departments and we are very thankful for her work and Earth Charter Indiana for their commitment to natural resources in our area." stated Denise

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

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1 Lantz Archway (1) located at 212 West Main St., c. 1823. (Author Photo)



Archway Days Parade led by Police Cruiser, Honor Guard & CHS Blue Regiment Band.

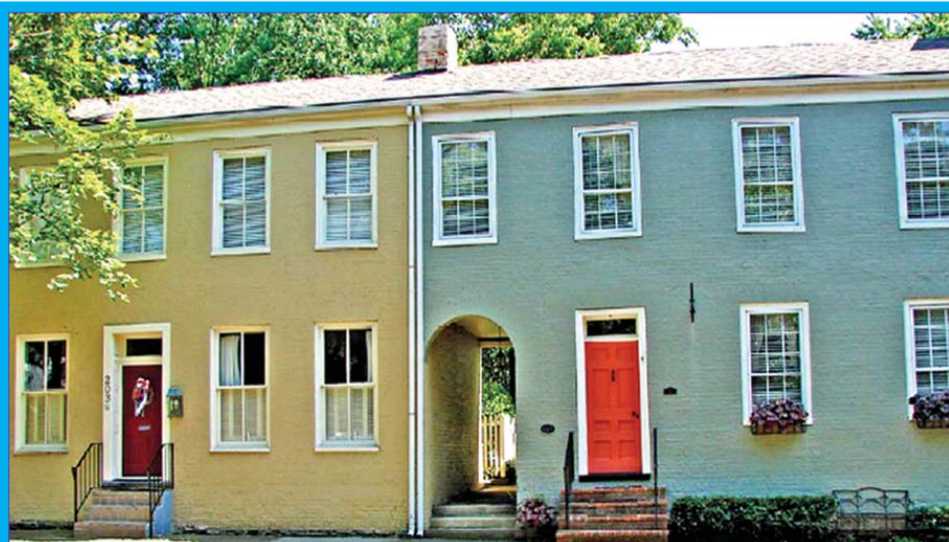
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6



2 Shortridge Archway (2) located at 205 West Main St., c. 1820. (Author Photo)



3 Malone Archway (3) located at 11 West Main St., c. 1836. (Author Photo)

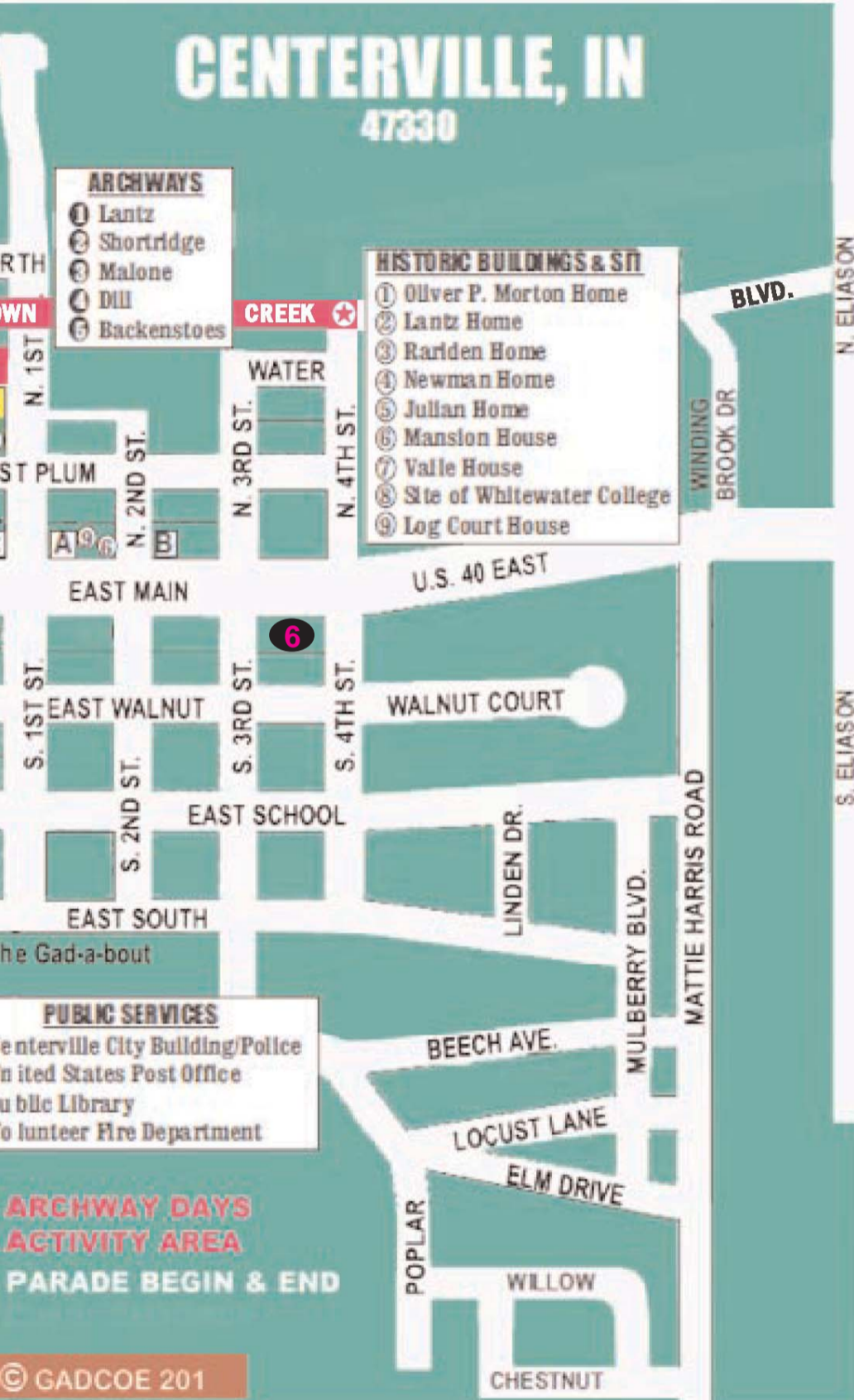


The Archway Days Parade proudly included the Wayne County Vietnam Veterans.



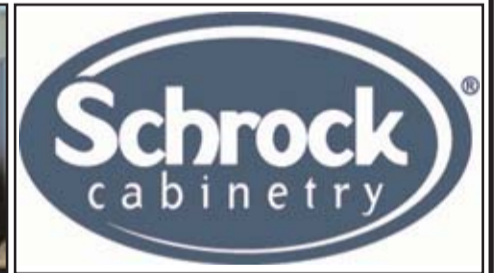
Archway Day visitors ordering food along Crown Creek Blvd as the August sun sets.

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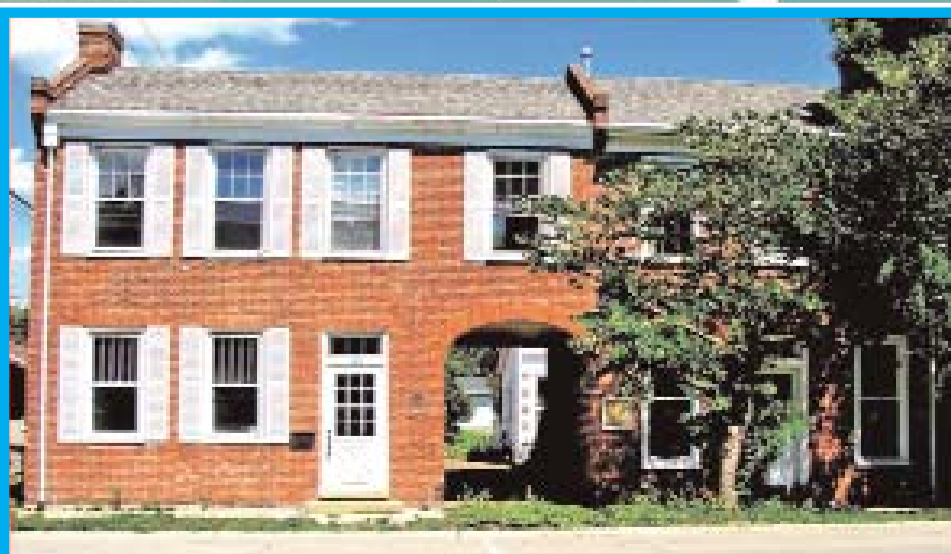


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4 Dill Archway (4) located at 109 South Morton Avenue, c. 1830. (Author Photo)



5 Backenstoës Archway (5) located at 139 East Main St., c. 1835. (Author Photo)

Rambling In The Fields



by Beverly Spurlin

Sleepy Village Still Holds Winter Charm

by Beverly Spurlin

It's late-winter in Metamora. The fallen snow blankets the sleepy buildings, sidewalks, and paths around the village. The water in the canal looks like a mirror reflecting the beauty of the surrounding landscape. The snow covering the trees creates a tranquil silence where one's own thoughts can almost be heard for lack of the competing noise of busy lives. The winter months are historically quiet in Metamora. Many shops are closed and their owners catching some much needed rest. But on any given day, especially weekends, visitors can be seen strolling lazily along the canal, and stopping in some of the shops and restaurants that stay open year round.

Metamora's regular tourist season is May through December. But in recent years, more shops have begun staying open, weather permitting, through the winter, and the season has started earlier than usual. This is due to the many shop owners who have a vision of what Metamora could be, and the visitors, both those who loyally return every season and new folks just discovering the beauty and simplicity of the village. In future articles, this column will feature merchants and their shops, many who have returned to the hand-crafted traditions and offer one-of-a-kind treasures for your enjoyment, as well as the visitors who can offer a different perspective of what they experience. Last season, even in the midst of the pandemic, Metamora welcomed as many if not more visitors as in recent years. People were desperate to have an enjoyable place to travel where social distancing was easy due to the amount of open spaces and having plenty of room to wander around the village. Shopkeepers made special accommodations such as masking up, limiting the number of shoppers inside at one time, providing hand sanitizer, and outdoor dining areas to insure the safety and comfort of visitors.

Metamora offers overnight bed and breakfast type lodging in unique settings. Some are private, intimate suites where guests can have as much or as little contact as they wish with their hosts. Others feature family-style accommodations including a home-cooked breakfast and will even host planned events for their guests. The current inns and suites have hosted numerous couples and families this winter looking for a quiet weekend get a way. And although local dining options exist but are limited this time of the year, Metamora is only located 30 minutes or less from some unique and upscale dining options in neighboring Brookville, Oldenburg, and Batesville.

Just east of Metamora, visitors will find a unique opportunity to encounter rescued wolves at Wolf Creek Habitat in Brookville. And a very short drive west on US 52 brings visitors to Salt Creek Riding Stables where they can enjoy a horseback ride through some of the most picturesque scenery in the state. Finally, there's the Whitewater Canal Trail that runs from the Laurel Feeder Dam right through Metamora and currently ends just east of Metamora. Hikers will visit two historic locks, walking along the canal in a woodland setting. Resident eagles nest in this area and are frequently seen by hikers, some who are using skis this winter to glide across the snow covered trail.

So although spring is just around the corner, bringing with it sunshine, newly



The Whitewater Canal makes it way through the heart of Metamora. (Author Photo)

hatched ducklings in the canal, and the return of the regular season in Metamora, there's still time to take advantage of the serenity of Metamora in the off-season. Follow the Metamora, Indiana Facebook Page to keep informed of special events being planned for the upcoming season, and for posts by individual shopkeepers that may be of interest to you.

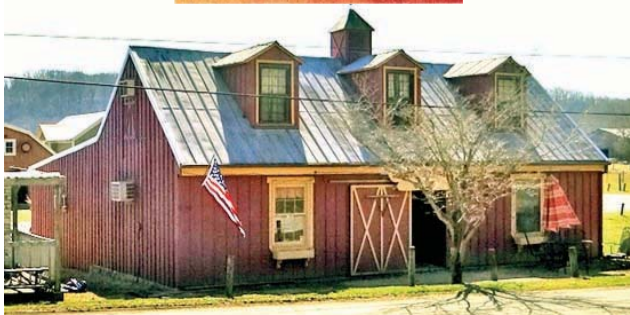
Of The Earth & The Loft at Metamora

Scott & Beverly Spurlin, Owners

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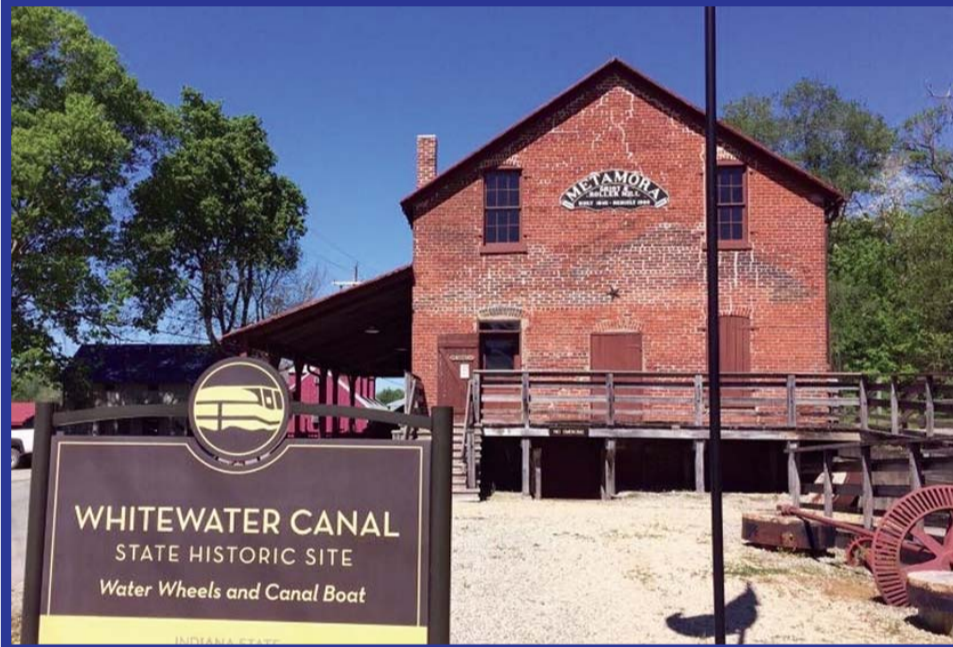
THE LOFT

METAMORA IN THE WINTER TIME



Left Photo: The Gazebo in the park appears to be enchanted in the snow. Right Photo: The Whitewater River follows along the Whitewater Canal Trail. Hikers enjoy beautiful scenery like this year round. (Author Photos)

METAMORA IN THE SUMMER TIME • WHATEVER THE SEASON METAMORA'S A GREAT PLACE TO VISIT



Left Photo: The Grist Mill in Metamora. Visitors can see the workings of a 19th century mill and even purchase corn meal To take home. (Author Photo) Right Photo: Metamora canal boat Ben Franklin III being pulled along by horse power along the canal's tow path. (File Photo)



Left Photo: The Aqueduct in Metamora is the only one of its kind still in existence in the US. (Author Photo) Right Photo: Whitewater Canal Trail Metamora, Indiana Photo credit; Shirley Lamb, President, Whitewater Canal Trail.

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VIRTUAL PRESENTATION SERIES



Ed Herrmann Angel Mounds, Indiana: Museum Collaborations and Mound Alignments

March 18, 2021 at 12 pm (CST)

ZOOM LINK SHARED ON STCC'S
FACEBOOK PAGE AND
SHAWNEECULTURE.ORG/EVENTS

VIRTUAL PRESENTATION SERIES

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Collaborations and Mound Alignments
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FACEBOOK PAGE AND
SHAWNEECULTURE.ORG/EVENTS

Ed Herrmann Virtual Presentation

THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2021 AT 1 PM EDT - 2 PM

FREE • FACEBOOK LIVE

Details

107 people responded

Event by Shawnee Tribe Cultural Center

Online with Facebook Live

Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 1 PM EDT-2 PM

Price: Free • Duration: 1 hr.

Public • Anyone on or off Facebook

Dr. Herrmann is the Executive Director of the newly formed Indiana University Museum of

Archaeology and Anthropology will describe partnerships with Tribal Nations affiliated with the Angel Mounds Site in southern Indiana aimed at developing collaborative museum exhibitions and research. Ed will also discuss recent research observations indicating that most of the mounds at the Site are aligned to solar, lunar, and celestial events and movements.

Join us here via lifestream or through the zoom link: <http://us02web.zoom.us/j/85906620917>

Shawnee Tribe Cultural Center Additional Contact Information

<http://www.shawneeculture.org/>

Telephone: 918-544-6722
director@shawneeculture.org

Typically replies within an hour
[Send Message](#)

About

The Center is dedicated to sharing Shawnee culture. At our center, you can listen to stories of the past, experience traditions, and help shape tomorrow through interactive exhibits and events.

DNR

Historic Preservation Fund Grant Priorities Available for Public Comment

Every year the DNR Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology (DHPA) revises the priorities by which the federally funded Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) grant applications are evaluated. The priorities are established within the parameters of the National Park Service's Historic Preservation Fund Grant Manual and represent the types of projects that the DHPA views as important to its mission to identify, document, investigate, preserve, and interpret cultural resources in Indiana.

The HPF Program Guidelines and the evaluation criteria for Administrative, Architectural & Historical, Archaeology, Acquisition & Development are available for public review and comment. Please provide any comments to the DHPA Grants Staff by Friday, April 9, 2021. All public comments must be received in writing.

Please send comments either by faxing to 317-232-0693, emailing to skennedy@dnr.IN.gov, or mailing to DHPA Grants Staff, 402 W. Washington St., Room W274, Indianapolis, IN 46204. All public comments received will be presented at the meeting of the State Historic Preservation Review Board on April 14, 2021.



The window rehabilitation at the Carnegie Center in Rensselaer was funded in part by a grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service's Historic Preservation Fund administered by the Indiana DNR, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology. (Photo credit: Steve Kennedy)

Please contact Steve Kennedy or Malia Vanaman to request any of the FY2021 evaluation criteria and make sure to specify which of the following you would like to receive:

HPF Program Guidelines

Administrative Priorities (required for ALL project categories)

Architectural & Historical Priorities

Archaeology Priorities

Acquisition & Development Priorities (rehabilitation projects)

Please note that the Priorities are only one part of HPF grant applications. The DHPA is not currently accepting proposals. Complete packets with application instructions will be available on the DHPA website around Aug. 1, 2021.

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

Retz, Park Superintendent.

The Street Tree Commission has been actively managing high priority residential tree needs for several years and through their monthly meetings they will begin to assist in identifying, assessing, and managing a select quadrant of trees determined in project. The grant will allow the departments and commission to access a software management system, TreeKeeper, for three years.

Training will be made possible through the grant to ensure adequate data is uploaded to the software management system. Park Horticulture Division

will work with Street Tree Crew and Commission to lead this project along with volunteers and students when possible.

TL Bosell, Richmond Street Commissioner stated, "We have not had a true tree inventory in over 10 years, but we have done this before and know how crucial it can be to a City to produce a proper Tree Inventory. We are excited to get started and work on a specific area and then continue to build on the inventory in future years."

Denise Retz, Park Superintendent expresses, "We are grateful for the support of the IDNR. This grant award clearly shows our City's dedication to tree health within our parks and community."

Each year the Streets and Parks Departments work together to clear high priority dead ash trees in parks affected by the Emerald Ash Borer through an event called Wood Weekend. Most recently in 2020 Mary Scott Park was completed with all dead ash trees downed and removed and an additional 98 trees were removed in the East section of Glen Miller Park. This provides a total of over 252 Ash Trees removed since the Wood Weekend Event began in 2017.

"We are grateful to those community members that continue to come and help remove downed trees and certainly could not have taken down this many trees alone. Our Street Department team has been very good to us and we are thankful for their partnership," says Retz.

Supplementary Material

<https://www.earthcharterindiana.org/>

Letter from the IDNR on award

Denise Retz

Richmond Parks and Recreation

Superintendent

50 North 5th Street

Richmond, Indiana 47374

Deniseretz@richmondindiana.gov

765-983-PARK



"Parks take a community effort to truly exemplify their full potential"

**BROWN COUNTY STATE PARK
ADDED TO NATIONAL REGISTER**

Brown County State Park's recent addition to the National Register of Historic Places makes it the state's largest historic district. Brown County State Park

Listing as a historic district recognizes an area that has a high degree of historical integrity in its buildings, structures, and landscapes. To be eligible, a district is required to have been associated with events, developments, or people that were important in the history of the state or country. In addition, districts on the National Register must be at least 50 years old and look much the way they did in the past.

"It's a great honor for our park to be listed on the National Register," said Patrick Haulter, the park's interpretive naturalist. "It really speaks to how important this park is, not only to the people who live here, but to everyone."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

HIRE VETS MEDALLION PROGRAM

Honoring Investments in Recruiting and Employing American Military Veterans

HIREVets.gov

The HIRE Vets Medallion Award Program is now accepting applications!

The Department of Labor's HIRE Vets Medallion Award is the only federal-level veteran's employment award that recognizes employers for their investments in **recruiting, employing and retaining** our nation's veterans. This award is an opportunity to **highlight your organization's work to support America's veterans.**

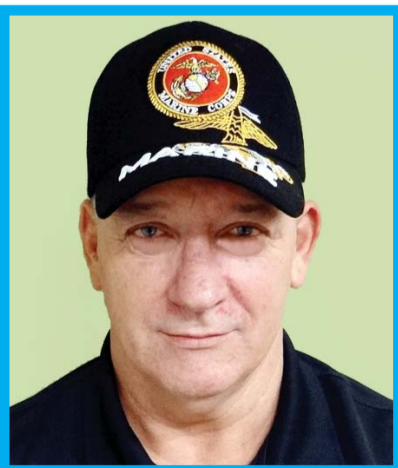
The award is based on a number of criteria, ranging from veteran hiring and retention to providing veteran-specific resources, leadership programming, dedicated human resources, and compensation and tuition assistance programs – with varying requirements for large, medium and small employers.

Applications are now open and will run through April 30, 2021. Employers of all sizes can apply online and learn more about the application process at HIREVets.gov.

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Brown County State Park's recent addition to the National Register of Historic Places makes it the state's largest Historic District.

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

The state park near Nashville, Indiana first opened in 1929. In the park's early years, with growing interest from the public, several facilities were developed, including Abe Martin Lodge and overnight cabins. A large portion of the facilities work done shortly thereafter came via the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), whose members built many of the other existing buildings, shelters, roads, vistas, trails, and Ogle Lake, as well as the west lookout tower.

"Much of the CCC's legacy is what is being honored with this listing," said Ben Clark, cultural resources manager for the Division of State Parks.

CCC Veterans Company 1557 started its work in the park in 1934, planting forests of trees to help address the severe erosion on hillsides that had been cleared by settlers for timber years before the land was acquired by the state.

Now, with nearly 16,000 acres, Brown County State Park is the largest state park in Indiana and one of the most popular.

Indiana Landmarks staff authored the nomination, partnering with the DNR and supported by local preservation group Peaceful Valley Heritage. Researchers for the nomination documented nearly 70 buildings, sites, and structures that contribute to the park's historical significance.

"The natural and built environment blend seamlessly at Brown County State Park, making it a place that is cherished by all Hoosiers," said Mark Dollase, vice president of Preservation Services at Indiana



Plains leopard frog from Vermillion County

Landmarks. "We greatly value our partnership with the Department of Natural Resources to recognize and preserve the park's many important historic places."

Brown County State Park is the sixth Indiana state park to be listed on the National Register, joining Pokagon, Mounds, Shakamak, Turkey Run, and Fort Harrison state parks. Several other Indiana state parks have individual buildings listed. Examples are Tepicon Hall at Tippecanoe River State Park, the Stanley Schoolhouse at Chain O'Lakes State Park, and the Lusk Home at Turkey Run State Park.

Brown County State Park (on.IN.gov/brown-countysp) is on State Road 46 just outside of Nashville, Indiana.

INDIANA NONGAME WILDLIFE FUND AT WORK - AMPHIBIANS

While many amphibians and reptiles are tucked away during the cold winter months, DNR herpetologists (the term for biologists who study reptiles and amphibians) are busy processing data collected during the previous field season. During the 2020 field season, herpetologists deployed several automated recording units around western Indiana to locate state endangered plains leopard frogs (*Lithobates blairi*). Recording units were attached to trees and programmed to record during the first few hours after sundown and function like wildlife trail cameras by remotely collecting data that can be analyzed back in the office. Audio recordings are scanned using call-recognition software that identifies calls of the target species. Analysis is still underway, but preliminary findings have identified a new plains leopard frog breeding site along the Wabash River in Fountain County, which is the first confirmation of the species in that county. Herpetologists plan to deploy recording units at new sites during the 2021 field season to better understand where this elusive species occurs and how it uses Indiana's landscape.

Research on state endangered species like the plains leopard frog is funded by the Indiana Nongame Wildlife Fund. Consider donating all or a portion of your Indiana state tax refund to help at-risk species on the road to recovery. Learn more about how to donate on your taxes online.

New 2021-2022 Indiana Fishing Regulations Guide available

NEW 2021-2022 INDIANA FISHING REGULATIONS GUIDE NOW AVAILABLE

The 2021-2022 Indiana Fishing Regulations Guide is now available to view online. Hard copies, which are free, will be available at DNR properties and retailers by the end of February. Highlights of the new guide include the 2021 Free Fishing Days, 2020 Fish of the Year winners, State Record Fish updates, Asian carp management, and tips for recreating responsibly.

2020 FISH OF THE YEAR AWARDS & CHANGES

DNR recently announced winners of the 2020 Fish of the Year contest. In all, 51 awards were given to 42 different anglers for their top catches. For a full listing of winners, visit the Fish of the Year Winners website.

For those of you looking to participate this year, some minor rule changes are being implemented. A picture clearly showing the measurement of the fish being entered is now required, and a witness is no longer needed. This change allows anglers who fish alone to catch, measure, and release fish without the added hassle of finding a witness or extra stress on the fish from being unnecessarily transported.

Find a full summary of program rules, an online entry form, and listings of Fish of the Year Winners and state record fish on our website.

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**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR 2021
FREE FISHING DAYS**

This year's four Free Fishing Days are May 2, June 5-6, and Sept. 25. Indiana residents do not need a fishing license or a trout stamp to fish in public waters on these days. Free Fishing Days are a great opportunity to give fishing a try.

**PAYNETOWN SRA HOSTS FLOWER POT
PAINTING WORKSHOP MARCH 14**

Create beautiful flowerpots for your spring patio on Sunday, March 14 at 2 p.m. at Paynetown State Recreation Area, 4850 S. State Road 446 in Bloomington.

The two-hour workshop will be led by Monroe Lake interpretive naturalist Jill Vance. Registration is required by March 10 at bit.ly/flowerpot2021 and is limited to 10 people. The fee is \$10 per person.

Each participant will be able to decorate two 5-inch terra cotta pots (saucers included) using acrylic paints and decorative tiles. Vance will discuss plants with aromas that encourage mosquitoes to stay away and are also suitable for a patio planting.

Masks are required for all participants, and the workshop will be set up to allow for social distancing between groups and individuals.

Questions about this workshop should be directed to jvance@dnr.IN.gov or 812-837-9967.

Find out more about Monroe Lake at on.IN.gov/monroelake.

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

**FORT WAYNE MAN INJURED IN
SNOWMOBILE ACCIDENT (ALLEN COUNTY)**

(Fort Wayne) Indiana Conservation Officers are investigating a snowmobile accident with injuries that occurred yesterday evening.

At approximately 5:09 p.m., first responders were dispatched to private property near the intersection of Minnich and Maples roads.

Brian Poor, 54, of Fort Wayne, who had been operating a snowmobile on private property without the landowner's permission had struck a ditch, causing him to be ejected while the snowmobile went airborne.

Poor, who was wearing a helmet at the time of the accident, was transported to Parkview Regional Medical Center by ambulance. He is listed in serious condition with multiple fractures and internal injuries. The investigation is ongoing.

Conservation Officers were assisted on scene by the Allen County Sheriff's Department and the Three Rivers Ambulance Authority (TRAA).

Conservation Officers remind snowmobilers to always wear a helmet and protective riding gear and to obtain permission from property owners before operating on their property.

For information on snowmobile and off-road vehicle laws and safe operating procedures, as well as the legality of operating snowmobiles and ORVs on public roadways, please visit

<https://www.offroad-ed.com/in/handbook/> and <https://www.in.gov/dnr/outdoor/4431.htm>.

**SECTION OF CANYON ROAD AT CLIFTY
FALLS STATE PARK TO BECOME ONE-WAY**

For safety reasons, a section of popular Canyon Road at Clifty Falls State Park will convert to one-way traffic only starting Feb. 8.

The section of Canyon Road that will change runs from the T intersection of Tunnel Falls to the T intersection at the park's nature center. With the change, only southbound traffic will be allowed on that stretch. The rest of Canyon Road will continue to be two-way.

The scenic road attracts large numbers of hikers, joggers, road walkers, and bike riders. More than half of the park's trailheads are on Canyon Road, and the parking lots by those trailheads fill up every weekend, complicating staff efforts when they need to make rescues and recoveries from some of park's rugged trails.

"By making this section one-way, we can add a pedestrian/bike lane to that stretch," said property manager Brad Walker. "Although the change will take some getting used to for driving, it will be an overall improvement of our guests' experience and make the park a safer place."

Clifty Falls State Park (on.IN.gov/cliftyfalls) is at 1501 Green Road, Madison.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Life finds all kinds of ways to survive extremes. Tube worms thrive in the superheated, super-sulfurous water near deep-sea hydrothermal vents. Tardigrades, also known as water bears or moss piglets, can go up to 30 years without food or water. Lichens that make their homes in the pores of sandstone survive such extremes that scientists have proposed them as possible analogs for Martian life forms.

And now, newly discovered Antarctic sea sponges are joining this rarefied group of extremophiles. Researchers from the British Antarctic Survey got a surprise when they drilled a bore hole through a half-mile thick ice shelf—and hit a boulder. Normally that's a bad thing. But they dropped a camera down the hole (pictured above) and found something far more exciting. Beneath the ice, in total darkness and in near-freezing water, they saw a variety of animals clinging to the rock, including 16 sponges and 20 other unidentified creatures.

It's the first time this kind of marine community has been found beneath an ice sheet, and it's a reminder of how little we know about life on our own planet, Nat Geo's Douglas Main tells me. "Antarctica is surprisingly full of life," says Nat Geo Explorer Ariel Waldman, who documented her separate five-week mission under the Antarctic ice here.

How do the animals get there? How do they get food? Are there more of them?

Antarctica's floating ice shelves are one of the least explored habitats in the ocean. Although they cover an area about the size of Mongolia, scientists have

**INDIANA STATE POLICE
TWO VEHICLE CRASH SENDS
ONE TO HOSPITAL**

Madison County – A two vehicle crash this morning sent an Indiana woman to the hospital and had I-69's left lane at the 214 mile marker closed for two hours due to the vehicles being in the lane. Around 2:35 AM Troopers Matthew Dickerson, Jason Girt, and Brad Tucker along with Lapel PD, Ingalls PD, Pendleton Fire and EMS responded to the 214 mile marker of I-69 north bound for a two vehicle crash with entrapment.

Troopers arrived at the scene near the 214 mile marker of I-69 North and found a red Toyota Prius that was crashed up against the guardrail. There was a semi-truck with severe damage to the front end directly behind the Prius.

The preliminary investigation by Trooper Dickerson indicates the Toyota Prius, driven by Kelly Porter, age 30 of Indianapolis, IN, was north bound on the on ramp when the vehicle lost control due to snow or ice. The Prius ended up fishtailing and eventually sideways where it was struck by a white semi-tractor trailer driven by Robert Myers, age 64 of Greenwood, Indiana. The Prius struck the guardrail again.

The crash caused severe damage to the Prius and the semi-truck cab causing them to be towed by Garner's towing. Porter was extricated by the Pendleton Fire Department and transported to St. Vincent's Hospital in Anderson with what was believed to be non-life threatening injuries. The other driver was not injured.

Trooper Dickerson was assisted by fellow troopers, the Ingalls Police Department, Lapel Police Department, Pendleton EMS and Pendleton Fire Department.

**INDIANA STATE POLICE THREE ARRESTED
AFTER FULTON COUNTY CARJACKING**

Rochester – Today at approximately 7:41 a.m., a traffic stop, crash, alleged carjacking, and pursuit led to the arrests of Eugene Jones, 24, Cedar Rapids, IA, Angela Jones, 24, Kokomo, IN and Lamondre Mason, 18, Peru, IN.

Indiana State Police Trooper Jesse Reason initiated a traffic stop on a 2017 Ford Taurus, for exceeding the posted 60 miles per hour speed limit, on northbound U.S 31 near Fulton County Road 550 North. During the traffic stop, Reason noticed indicators that criminal activity could be afoot. As Reason was speaking to Angela Jones, Eugene Jones drove away from the scene with Mason. Due to Angela Jones' presence in the police car, Reason did not initiate a pursuit.

Approximately three minutes later, Reason located the Taurus, unoccupied, on southbound U.S. 31 near Fulton County Road 375 North. Evidence indicates the Taurus crashed into a 2000 GMC Jimmy driven by Ronda Adams, 59, **CONTINUED ON PAGE 20**

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Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

Rochester, IN. Adams was traveling eastbound on County Road 375 North and was stopped at the intersection of U.S. 31. The Taurus hit the GMC, as the Taurus was attempting to turn westbound on County Road 375 North. Adams had a compliant of pain and was treated at the scene. Eugene Jones and Mason purportedly stole a 2009 Ford Flex by ordering the driver from the vehicle at gunpoint. The driver of the Flex had stopped at the crash scene to help. Mason and Jones fled prior to Reason's arrival.

Approximately 40 minutes after the alleged carjacking, Indiana State Police Trooper Caleb Clark observed the stolen Ford Flex on U.S. 31 near State Road 16. Clark eventually initiated a traffic stop on the Flex, but Eugene Jones, who was the purported driver, did not stop. Jones led Clark, and multiple police officers, on a two-county pursuit driving on mostly rural roads. During the chase, the Flex hit multiple sets of stop sticks causing a controlled deflation on three of the Flex's four tires. Jones stopped the Flex on Cass County Road 500 East north of State Road 218. Jones and Mason were taken into custody without further incident. During a subsequent search of the Flex, officers found two nine-millimeter handguns, one of which had a 30-round magazine. No one was injured during the pursuit or carjacking.

Angela and Eugene Jones, along with Mason, were incarcerated in the Futon County Jail. Eugene Jones is facing criminal charges for possession of a firearm by a serious violent felon, obstruction of justice, identity deception, resisting law enforcement causing bodily injury, armed robbery/carjacking, carrying a handgun without a license, and leaving the scene of a personal injury crash. Further investigation revealed that he was wanted on arrest warrants from Iowa, for failure to appear for first degree robbery and an additional charge of robbery. Angela Jones faces charges for obstruction of justice and conspiracy to commit identity deception. Mason faces charges for armed robbery/carjacking and resisting law enforcement with a vehicle.

All criminal defendants are to be presumed innocent until, and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

TREASURER KELLY MITCHELL PROMOTES VIRTUAL INNOVATION EVENT TO SUPPORT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA (February 18, 2021) — State Treasurer Kelly Mitchell is pleased to announce the Indiana Bond Bank will be hosting the third annual Flipping Finance Challenge event, offered virtually on Friday, February 26-27. Flipping Finance Challenge: The Board Game brings together coders, designers, marketers, entrepreneurs, students, and civically engaged individuals to participate in developing solutions to select local challenges.

Indiana Bond Bank selected the City of Sullivan, the City of Jasper and the Town of Knightstown as the third cohort of participating units of government for the Flipping Finance Challenge. In preparation for the Flipping Finance Challenge, community leadership worked with Indiana Bond Bank on mapping current and future challenges facing their regions.

Challenges span a wide range of topics, from neighborhood revitalization in the City of Sullivan to increasing the access to food options in the Town of Knightstown. For all 14 challenges and supporting data and relevant resources, please visit the Flipping Finance Challenge: The Board Game homepage.

Through a virtual FFC platform, participants will select a challenge and work with a team or individually on designing a solution. Solutions may take any shape and do not have to be financial in nature. After an 18-hour design time, participants will present their solutions to the units of government. Up to \$5,000 in prizes as well as other prizes/giveaways are up for grabs! Participating innovators will also have the opportunity to showcase their talents in front of a

network of over 15 professional organizations attending in support of the event. The Bond Bank encourages anyone who is interested in helping units of government create innovative solutions to their most pressing challenges to complete the free registration here and join us on February 26th and 27th.

The City of Sullivan, City of Jasper, and Town of Knightstown will leave Flipping Finance Challenge with solutions that they did not have prior to the event. That collaborative problem-solving approach aligns with Indiana Bond Bank's philosophy, according to Executive Director Mark Wuellner.

"If our standard answer to every challenge is to issue a bond, then we will have failed," said Wuellner. "It's our responsibility to partner with Hoosier communities as they face complex, ever-evolving issues. Creating Flipping Finance Challenge embodies that vision. We're so excited to see Hoosier innovation deliver new solutions for our featured communities."

The Indiana Bond Bank welcomes any pre-event, day of event, or post event media coverage of the Flipping Finance Challenge. For media inquiries, please contact Brian Carman at bcarman@inbondbank.com or (317) 233-0090.

For additional information, contact:

Ian Hauer at (317) 232-6387

ihauer@tos.in.gov

TREASURER KELLY MITCHELL HERALDS CONTINUED GROWTH OF INVESTABLE INDIANA

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA (February 17, 2021) — Four years since the launch of INvestABLE Indiana, the program has seen substantial investment and utilization by Hoosiers living with disabilities. In 2020, the plan saw assets under management increase 83% to \$5,726,418.

"ABLE plans have seen tremendous growth in Indiana since their introduction only four years ago," said State Treasurer Kelly Mitchell. "Hoosiers with disabilities continue to respond to the flexible savings of these plans, and I'm so pleased with what we've accomplished in such a short time."

Not only have assets under management grown significantly, but so has the number of accounts opened. In 2020, active accounts grew to 801, an increase of 48%. This impressive growth is attributed to the work of Treasurer Mitchell and the Indiana ABLE Authority as they continue to promote the program to Hoosiers living with disabilities.

The Indiana ABLE Authority is constantly working to increase the reach of INvestABLE Indiana to make savings a reality for so many Hoosiers who previously could not easily save above \$2,000. Now, the average ABLE account balance is over \$7,000.

"INvestABLE allows those living with disabilities an opportunity to be more autonomous by saving money for future expenses not covered by benefits they may receive", said Indiana ABLE Authority Executive Director Amy Corbin.

INvestABLE Indiana offers seven investment options, including a checking account option with a debit card. Up to \$15,000 per year can be saved in an account, with a maximum account balance of \$450,000. For an individual receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI), they can save up to \$100,000 in their INvestABLE Indiana account and not risk losing their monthly benefit. Money can be withdrawn and spent on qualified expenses or INvestABLE Indiana account holders can choose to grow their finances and create long-term savings with tax-free earnings. Contributions and earnings in INvestABLE Indiana accounts are not subject to federal or state income tax if spent on qualified expenses, similar to a 529 college savings account. Contributions are made with post-tax dollars.

As a proud member of the 18-state National ABLE Alliance, Indiana has the opportunity to work with a diverse group of states to offer a robust Qualified ABLE Program. As a result of this partnership, the National ABLE Alliance has reached a milestone of over \$150,000,000 in assets under management. This substantial growth

has resulted in newly reduced fees to Plan participants that include INvestABLE Indiana savers.

"The National ABLE Alliance is a great demonstration of how states can work together and collaborate in a bi-partisan manner to ensure a user-friendly and affordable ABLE program is offered in their state," said Corbin. "I'm proud to see this partnership result in additional savings to our account owners."

More information about INvestABLE Indiana, including how to open an account, can be found here.

For additional information, contact:

Ian Hauer at (317) 232-6387

ihauer@tos.in.gov

CROUCH STATEMENT ON SECRETARY OF STATE CONNIE LAWSON

STATEHOUSE (Feb. 15, 2021) – Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch gave the following statement regarding Indiana Secretary of State Connie Lawson's announcement that she will step down:

Secretary Connie Lawson is a perfect example of Hoosiers' pioneering spirit. I have always felt close to her, as our careers have taken similar paths. She started her path of public service in county government before joining the legislature, where she would become the first woman in Indiana Senate history to become majority floor leader.

Her decades-long passion as an advocate for stronger awareness of health issues earned her countless accolades from her fellow Hoosiers, and she was a leader among her peers, having been inducted as president of the National Association of Secretaries of State in 2017.

Connie made it a goal to leave Indiana in a better place and during her entire public and private life, she has done exactly that.

Congratulations to Connie and her family upon your retirement."

CHAIRMAN HUPFER STATEMENT ON SECRETARY LAWSON'S RETIREMENT

INDIANAPOLIS - Indiana Republican Party Chairman Kyle Hupfer issued the following statement on Secretary of State Connie Lawson's announcement that she's retiring:

"Connie Lawson has been one of the most dedicated, effective, and admired Secretaries of State in Indiana history. For nearly a decade, Hoosiers have trusted her leadership and during her term Indiana has become a national role model in running safe and secure elections. Faced with unprecedented election obstacles in 2020, Secretary Lawson successfully navigated the challenges of the pandemic to ensure Hoosiers could safely exercise their right to vote and be confident in the outcomes. Connie Lawson will be missed in the Statehouse, but I know her contributions to our state will not end with her upcoming retirement.

Secretary Lawson certainly leaves big shoes to fill. I'm confident that her replacement will be able to continue the legacy of election integrity that has been engrained here in Indiana. I look forward to working closely with Governor Holcomb as he makes his decision on this critical appointment."

INDIANA STATE MUSEUM AND HISTORIC SITES

STATE OF NATURE PICTURING INDIANA BIODIVERSITY

FEBRUARY 13 THRU SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

Experience the astonishing beauty and discover the importance of Indiana's biological diversity in State of Nature: Picturing Indiana Biodiversity.

Encounter wolf specimens from the museum's collection and a reproduction sloth skeleton, as well as two paintings by Indiana Dunes plein air artist Frank Dudley and contemporary art from 15 artists with Hoosier connections including Lucinda Devlin, Casey Roberts, Bonnie Sklarski, David Morrison and Dornith Doherty. Bring the whole family and build your own bird nest and sloth claw, and get them thinking about how the environment and people are connected. ■

INDIANA STATE HOUSE



JEFF RAATZ

Raatz: Bill To Address Proof Of Mailing Dates Passes Senate

STATEHOUSE (Feb. 2, 2021) — A bill authored by State Sen. Jeff Raatz (R-Richmond) that would address proof of mailing dates unanimously passed the Senate today.

Through the United States Postal Service, small- and medium-sized businesses can use a cost-effective meter to print accurate postage on mail pieces as proof of payment, while stamps serve as proof of payment for the general public. Under current law, metered mail is treated separately from general mail in that it does not receive an updated date and time printed on it when being sorted at the post office. This could result in a business being held accountable for any delays in the mailing process.

Senate Bill 195 would provide that payment mailed to the county treasurer with metered postage is timely received if: the envelope is properly addressed to the county treasurer; has sufficient metered postage from an approved meter provider by the United States Postal Service; the metered postage is affixed to the envelope and bears the actual date of when it was affixed and that the date listed is on or before the due date; and the envelope is received by the county treasurer no later than five days after the due date.

"To ensure businesses aren't being fined for mail that was sent on time, SB 195 will provide a five-day grace period to metered postage," Raatz said. "Under current practice, county treasurers across the state have a hard time deciphering when metered mail was sent compared to when it is received. Making these changes will ensure county treasurers are able to work more efficiently."

SB 195 will now move to the House of Representatives for further consideration.

Raatz: Bill to fully fund virtual students in public schools - Passes Senate

STATEHOUSE (Feb. 2, 2021) — A bill authored by State Sen. Jeff Raatz (R-Richmond) that would fully fund students attending school virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic passed the Indiana Senate today with bipartisan support.

Under current law, public schools receive 85% of the per-student state funding for any student who gets at least half of their education virtually.

Senate Bill 2 would provide 100% of the state's per-student funding for students at brick-and-mortar public schools who have gone to virtual instruction for part or all of the 2020-2021 academic year, so long as those students weren't already learning virtually prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"As I have said before, no one could have predicted the impact COVID-19 would have on our schools," Raatz said. "SB 2 is a one-time fix to overcome COVID-19's effects and will ensure schools have the necessary support needed to weather the pandemic."

SB 2 will now move to the House of Representatives for further consideration.



BRAD BARRETT

Barrett: Bill To Improve Public Health Passes Out Of Key Committee

STATEHOUSE (Feb. 2, 2021) – The House Public Health Committee on Monday voted unanimously in support of legislation co-authored by State Rep. Brad Barrett (R-Richmond) that would establish a new public health grant program.

Barrett said the program would fund initiatives aimed at addressing the most challenging health issues in Indiana. According to the United Health Foundation's 2020 American Health Ranking, Indiana falls at the bottom of several categories, including smoking rates, obesity rates, physical inactivity and multiple chronic conditions.

"Our public health is suffering and it is important we invest in the wellbeing of Hoosiers," said Barrett, chair of the House Public Health Committee. "This program will provide new tools to fight some of the most critical health issues we are facing, and help Indiana turn our public health around and improve the quality of life for those all around the state."

According to Barrett, the grant program is based on the state's successful Safety PIN program, which provides funding to local health organizations to lower Indiana's infant mortality rate. He said through Safety PIN and other targeted programs, Indiana reached a record-low infant mortality rate last year for the first time in our state's history.

The Indiana Department of Health would administer the new grant program, giving preference to proposals seeking to focus on chronic health problems such as diabetes, obesity and heart disease. Grants could be used for both new and existing programs and initiatives.

House Bill 1007 now moves to the House Ways and Means Committee for further consideration. To learn more about House Bill 1007 and watch legislative proceedings online, visit iga.in.gov.

STATEHOUSE (Feb. 16, 2021) – The House of Representatives voted unanimously in support of State Rep. Brad Barrett's (R-Richmond) legislation that would help law enforcement agencies recoup costs of transporting mental health patients.

Last year, Wayne County Sheriff's Department transported 115 patients with severe mental illness from the local hospital to facilities throughout Indiana, racking up over 14,000 miles.

Barrett said when a patient with severe mental illness is deemed dangerous to themselves and others, they are committed by a judge to an immediate 24-hour detention in a hospital. This holding period can be extended to 72 hours if the patient does not improve, and if there are not any available beds at a local facility, patients can be moved to a mental health center or another hospital. The county is assigned the responsibility of transporting patients in this situation by state law.

"A lot of time and resources are being spent on transporting patients, especially when a person must be taken to a facility beyond county lines," Barrett said. "With this situation becoming increasingly common, local sheriff department's budgets are taking a hit. This legislation would help ease the financial burdens they are facing."

Under Barrett's bill, the patient could be billed

for transportation costs, much like when a patient is billed for an ambulance ride. The Richmond lawmaker said his legislation would help mitigate concerns expressed by the local sheriff that the department's transportation costs continue to grow.

According to a study conducted by Treatment Advocacy Center in 2017, over \$900 million was spent by law enforcement across the country in transporting people with severe mental illness. The study also found that over 20 percent of law enforcement staff time was used in responding to and transporting individuals with mental illness.

House Bill 1372 now moves to the Senate for further consideration. To learn more and watch legislative proceedings online, visit iga.in.gov. ■

Gov. Holcomb announces results of increased school bus safety patrols

INDIANAPOLIS — Governor Eric J. Holcomb today announced the results of the increased school bus safety patrols that were conducted last fall by Indiana law enforcement agencies. During the two-month mobilization, officers issued a total of 1,553 warnings and 1,701 citations. Of those, 201 were for stop-arm violations.

The extra patrols were funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration through the state's Stop Arm Violation Enforcement (SAVE) program. The initiative was developed by the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute in 2019 to provide safe transportation routes for Hoosier students.

"Making sure that students can go to and from school safely is a top priority, but it requires cooperation from the motoring public," Gov. Holcomb said. "Every driver has a responsibility to pay attention to the road and drive cautiously around buses, in school zones and areas where children may be present."

In total, 2,481 additional patrols were conducted along bus stops and routes, which were identified by coordinating with local bus drivers and school transportation officials.

In addition to stop-arm violations, officers cited 852 drivers for speeding, 112 for driving with a suspended license and 94 for not wearing a seat belt.

"Driving past a stopped school bus is not only illegal, it's a matter of life or death," said Devon McDonald, ICJI Executive Director. "Motorists need to slow down, put away the distractions and watch for buses at all times. Lives depend on it."

In Indiana, it's against the law for motorists to pass a bus that's stopped and has its red lights flashing and stop-arm extended. This applies to all roads, with one exception: On multi-lane roads divided by a physical barrier, vehicles traveling the opposite direction of the bus may proceed with due caution.

SAVE patrols are scheduled to resume this spring for schools that are meeting in person. They were put on hold last March due to the pandemic.

ICJI is currently accepting applications for the next round of SAVE grant funding from Indiana law enforcement agencies. Applications are due by noon on Friday, Feb. 26, 2021.

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ABOUT THE SAVE PROGRAM

Launched in 2019, the Stop Arm Violation Enforcement (SAVE) program works to provide safe transportation routes for students going to and from school in Indiana. Grants are awarded to law enforcement agencies to conduct high visibility patrols along school bus stops and routes, which are identified by coordinating with local school corporations, bus drivers and other key officials. SAVE is funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and administered by the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute. ■

Gad's Corner

Photos sent to The Gad-a-bout for Gad's Corner should have enough information as possible about the taking of the game so the reader can enjoy reading about your experience, especially if it's your first time hunting or fishing and also tell who you were with (Dad, Grand Pa, Mom or someone else) Include date taken or caught, number of points, length of beard, number of spurs, length of fish and bait used etc.

Send a phone number in case I need to contact you. Send regular size, i.e. square and horizontal rectangular photos. Large vertical photos can only be used when I have enough space to use them. Send Photos to: **The Gad-a-bout, 105 E. South St., Centerville, IN 47330** or E-mail jpg photos to: raythegadabout@gmail.com Questions Call Cell Phone: **765-960-5767** (Leave message if no answer)



Gad-a-bout Photo From The Past. At left Joe Kolperna and at right Lonzie Furkins from Indianapolis, IN holding a new state record "Muskie"(Year Unknown). Lonzie caught it and Joe helped land it. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)



This tree shows the intent of the property owner to keep people off their land back in 1985. There are approximately 14 signs from the road and river, most trespassers should get the message and not enter this property, especially if they can read. Woe to those who enter before daylight and try to use the excuse that they didn't see the signs. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)



Gad-a-bout Photo From The Past. Reprint of Garr Hill photo of Don Cornett from Okeana, Ohio who caught a new Indiana state record (Year Unknown) a 22 lb. 10 oz. Striper caught on a 6 inch Sucker Minnow. (Garr Hill Bait, Storage & Marine Owned & Operated by the late Dick and Doris Johnson, who are missed by all their friends and family)

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Everton Volunteer Fire Dept Bass Tournament

Brookville Lake * Fairfield Ramp * May 1, 2021

RULES

1. **TRUTH VERIFICATION TEST.** Cheating will not be tolerated. Deceiving tournament officials or doing any act in order to obtain an unfair advantage will lead to disqualification. By signing the entry, contestants agree to submit to a truth verification test (polygraph or voice stress test). At the conclusion of each tournament a truth verification test may be administered to one or two teams placing in the top ten positions or winning the Big Bass award. Should a team placing in the top ten or catching Big Bass leave the tournament site making themselves unavailable if asked to take the truth verification test, their catch may be disqualified. Lastly, tournament director reserves the right to request any contestant to submit to a truth verification test within seven days of the conclusion of the tournament. Failure to submit to a test when requested or failure of the same shall result in disqualification and banishment from further tournaments.
2. **REGISTRATION.** There will be a short mandatory meeting approximately 15 minutes prior to take off. Entries and fees must be received no later than April 23, 2021. Starting positions will be determined by date of postmark on entry.
3. **PARTICIPANTS.** Everyone (male/female) is welcome to enter, however, the tournament director reserves the right to refuse entry from any contestant. Anyone under 18 years of age may fish only with parent, legal guardian or other adult if a signed statement is provided. *** ANGLERS MAY NOT FISH ALONE***
4. **BOATS AND MOTORS.** All boats must be equipped with a lanyard type kill switch. Boat must be at least 15 feet in length. Trolling as a method of catching fish is prohibited. Stick steering is considered dangerous and shall not be permitted. Jet motors and tiller steering is allowed. Every boat must have an aerated livewell large enough to maintain a live limit of fish. Altering a boat from factory specifications to gain length or height is not permitted.
5. **HORSEPOWER REGULATIONS.** Your motor must not exceed the manufacturers or Coast Guard horsepower rating for your boat. Jet drives are allowed, however motor power head rating must still comply. Any questions please contact tournament director.
6. **TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT.** Only artificial lures may be used. No live or prepared bait will be permitted with the exception of pork strips or rinds, etc. Only one rod and reel may be used at any one time, however, several may be rigged and ready for use. Rods shall not be more than 8 feet in length.
7. **SAFETY.** Safe boating conduct should be observed at all times. Competitors must have a US Coast Guard approved P.F.D. on and secured any time the gas engine is running. Violation of this rule shall be reason for disqualification. An operating lanyard type kill switch must be attached to boat and operator when gas engine is in operation. Boat operator must test kill switch prior to each tournament.
8. **PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS.** Fishing on tournament waters is permitted anywhere except areas designated by state or federal officials or any other water determined by the tournament officials. **ALL ANGLING MUST BE DONE FROM THE BOAT. Anglers shall not leave the boat to land a fish or gain access to fishing waters.** Anglers must be in contact with the boat at all times except in case of emergency or brief excursions in "nature calling".
9. **PENALTIES.** Only largemouth, smallmouth, or spotted bass will be weighted. At no time shall a team have more than a limit of five (5) fish in their livewells. Doing so is grounds for disqualification. The length for fish shall be 14 inches or otherwise regulated by the state. Fish will be measured with mouth closed on a "**Golden Rule**". As solely determined by tournament official, undersized fish will be penalized at the rate of one pound per fish and dead fish at the rate of one quarter of one pound per fish. The dead fish penalty applies only to the total creel weight and not towards any big bass weights/awards. A team who arrives at the official check-point area after prescribed check-in time will be penalized at the rate of one pound per minute. After 10 minutes all weight shall be lost for that day. Late penalties do apply to any "Big Bass" weights. At no time shall a bass be stringed and doing so will lead to disqualification.
10. **RULINGS.** The tournament officials shall reserve all rights for rule interpretations and to refuse an entry. Furthermore, tournament officials have the authority to announce or present any rule revisions (printed or not) as deemed appropriate. Violating tournament rules may be reason for disqualification.
11. **SPORTSMANSHIP.** Competitors are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety and conservation. Alcohol and abused drugs are not permitted in a boat during tournament hours. Fish must be caught in a sporting manner, therefore, snagging fish is not permitted.
12. **TIES.** All monies will be totaled and split equally.
13. **PROTEST.** Protest against another competitor must be in writing, signed and in the hands of tournament director within 15 minutes after scales are closed.
14. **REFUNDS.** Your entry may be refunded only if the tournament director is notified by entry deadline of April 23, 2021. There is a \$20 bank charge for returned checks.
15. **INSURANCE.** Adequate liability insurance is required of all contestants using their boats in the tournament.



Everton Volunteer Fire Dept Bass Tournament

Brookville Lake * Fairfield Ramp * May 1, 2021

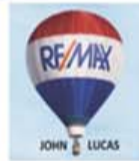
**** \$2500.00 First Place Guaranteed ****

*****Boat #1 starting position to be auctioned off morning of tournament*****

\$100.00 team entry fee includes big bass

<p><u>Check-in no later than</u> 6:15 at ramp 6:30 AM – Mandatory meeting 7:00 AM – Take Off 3:00 PM – Weigh-in</p>	<p>Starting positions determined by date of <u>postmark on entry</u> This is a team tournament Anglers may not fish alone</p>	<p><u>Mailed Entries</u> and fees must be received no later than April 23, 2021 Entries will be taken day of tournament but will be CASH ONLY</p>
<p>Make checks/money orders payable to: <u>Everton Volunteer Fire Department</u> 70% Pay Out - All proceeds will be donated to the Everton Volunteer FD</p>		<p><u>Mail Entries to:</u> Chip Ayers * 504 S. Poplar St. Greensburg, IN * 47240 * Questions? Call 812-593-8915</p>

Official Sponsors



I have read and am familiar with the rules and in signing this application I hereby waive and release all contestants, sponsors, tournament and state officials from all claims due to injury or damage incurred in connection with this tournament. In signing, I submit myself to a truth test at the discretion of tournament officials and agree to abide to the results as interpreted by professionals conducting the test. I also agree to abide by those decisions and rulings of the director conducting these events. I swear that the facts below are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Boater name _____ Partner's Name _____

Address _____ Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____ City, State, ZIP _____

Cell # (____) _____ Cell # (____) _____

E-mail _____ E-mail _____

Insurance Co & Policy # _____

Boat (yr., make, model) _____

Motor (yr., make, model) _____

Check/MO payable to **Everton Volunteer Fire Department**

Mail entry to Chip Ayers * 504 S. Poplar St. * Greensburg, IN * 47240 * Questions? Call 812-593-8915