
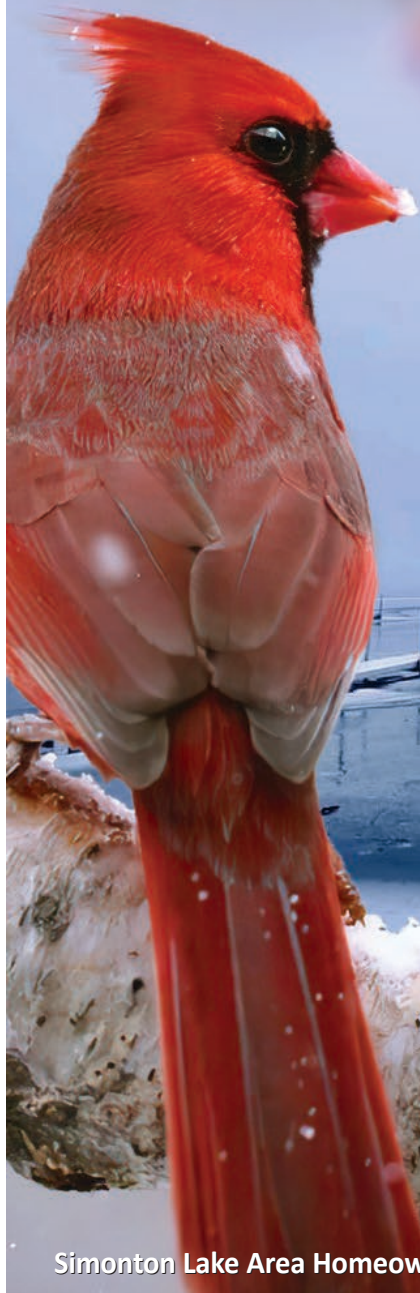


Simonton Says...

Winter Issue 2023
Volume 16, Issue 1

Find us on 



Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association, Inc. Newsletter

In This Issue:

Letter from the Board/Membership Drive	pg 3
2023 Membership Form.....	pg 5
Nuisance Wildlife Discussion.....	pg 6
Lake Shorts	pg 18
Thin Ice/Deer Drowns	pg 24

Lake photo by Teri Abbott



Elkhart, Indiana
www.simontonlakehoa.com

Christmas Lights

ON THE LAKE

Photos by Maria Hopman





LETTER FROM THE BOARD : 2023 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Hello, and welcome to 2023! We are honored to represent the Simonton Lake Area Homeowner Association (SLAHA) community and 2023 Membership Drive.

Over the last year we have taken a deep breath after the completion of the dredging project. We are so grateful to Vaughn Nickel and his team for raising over \$1 million and seeing the project to completion. The focuses moving forward are several concerns that the board is looking to address:

- A. **Geese/Swan challenges:** As many of you have observed, the geese and mute swan population of the lake has become quite a nuisance and a large topic of discussion. The swans, specifically, are an invasive species and need to be addressed for the health of the lake. The board has investigated goose and swan relocation options that have been successful at other regional lakes, but certainly comes at a cost. We are adding a box on the membership card asking for donations towards this service. Please review the additional included communications to understand the challenges the large number of fowl cause to our lake.
- B. **Crime:** We are investigating the cost and feasibility of adding additional streetlights around the community to help in night visibility and possibly help discourage the string of thefts we have recently seen around the lake. Please remember to remove valuables and keep your vehicles locked that are outside of homes. Unlocked cars are easy targets for theft. A few culprits have been caught thanks to personal cameras around the lake.
- C. **Dry hydrants:** These are non-pressurized pipe system strategically and permanently installed around the lake and resemble a regular fire hydrant. These would aid in the speed of the local fire department(s) to access water in case of a fire. Although not completely certain, there is also the possibility of lower homeowner rates due to the proximity of an available hydrant.
- D. **Bright lights on Cassopolis Street:** It has been requested that we investigate the need for the bright lights on Cassopolis Street that affect the homeowners and boaters on the lake at night.
- E. **Speeding on County Road 11:** Those residents residing on CR11 know the dangers of pulling in and out of their own driveways and the dangers it presents to pedestrians and pets. Many times, cars have been observed significantly exceeding safe speeds. There are currently no speed limit signs heading north on CR11 from CR4, thus according to the Sheriff's office, makes the allowable speed limit 55 MPH in the county. We are asking (at a minimum) for speed limit signs to be added to slow traffic, or potentially ask for a stop sign at CR11 and Aqua Drive to help defer. This will take some time with the county to be approved.
- F. **Cleanliness of the lake:** Looking to the government to aid in dredging Lily Creek on a regular basis. Simonton Lake is the highest taxation for drainage in the county and needs the assistance of the county commissioners to ensure the taxation is being utilized where it is charged.

We always welcome the input of our community to the board to consider addressing issues around our lake. The purpose is to help protect property value and improve the homeowner experience. SLAHA, along with the Simonton Lake Sportsmen's Club, The Simonton Lake Trust, and The Simonton Lake Conservancy Board are working together to make this happen.

We trust you will continue to support our mission and our drive to better the lake with your membership. Please know that this also includes the support of the quarterly newsletter that provides regular communication to our community.

Please mark May 18th on your calendars for the annual SLAHA meeting to be held at the Simonton Lake Sportsmen's Club on CR11. There will be signs posted around the lake marking the exact time in the evening.

All the best...

The SLAHA Board

INFORMATION & EVENTS

Simonton Says...

Winter 2023 Edition

ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBERS

Doug Reese, President
51234 Aqua Drive
574-327-4484

Jack Tucker, Vice President
51110 Sail Bay Court
574-370-3326

Theresa Maier, Secretary
51211 Maplewood

Van Kessler, Treasurer
51172 Blue Ribbon Lane
574-370-2266

Susan Broderick,
Membership/Outreach
25424 North Shore Drive
574-903-6789

Randy Hoff, Environment
25369 Vernon Crossing

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.simontonlakehoa.com

Email us at:
simon@simontonlake.org

Find us on 
SIMONTONLAKE HOA

Simonton Lake Area
Homeowners' Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 1706
Elkhart, IN 46515-1706

JOIN "LAKE ALERTS" EMAIL GROUP
newsletter@simontonlakehoa.com

STANDING COMMITTEES

Membership:

- New Neighbors
Frank and Kathy Stec
- Lake Calendar - Gina Hoff
- Garage Sale
- Memorial Day Boat Parade
- Dues - Van Kessler

Communication: Amy Matherly
newsletter@simontonlakehoa.com

- To become an advertiser
contact Jon Hart
- Information and picture for
"Simonton Says" submission
contact:
newsletter@simontonlakehoa.com
- To sign up for Lake Alerts:
ramatherly@gmail.com

Environment: Lesa Hershberger

- Ecozone
- Weir
- Water Quality Concern
- Wildlife Concerns

Safety:

- DNR related issues
- "Lake Alerts" - Chris Toles,
cmt6061@comcast.com
- Buoy Watch, report damaged
or loose buoys
- Crime Reports

Our Mission

The MISSION of the Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association is to foster the safety and quality of life in our neighborhood. We strive to protect the value of our homes, the wildlife and the environment surrounding our lake, support local and state law enforcement for the safety of our families and lake visitors, and encourage active involvement in the northern Elkhart area growth and development.

EVENTS ON THE LAKE

February: Winter Issue of "Simonton Says"

February 8: Conservancy Meeting

February 18: Conservancy Annual Meeting/Board Election, 4:00

March 4, 5: Sportsman's Club Spring Turkey Shoot

March 8: Conservancy Meeting

April 10: Articles and Photos due for Spring issue of "Simonton Says"

April 15: Spring Casino Night

April 12: Conservancy Meeting

May 5 and 6: Spring Garage Sale

May 10: Conservancy Meeting

May 13: Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive

May 17: Lake Association Annual Meeting

May 20: Sportmen's Club Golf Outing

May 29: Memorial Day Boat Parade

June 17: Sportmen's Club Kids Fishing Contest

July 1: Poker Run

July 2: Flag Retirement Ceremony

July 3: Fireworks

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Simonton Lake Conservancy

574-206-8485

902 CR 6, Elkhart, IN 46514

Contact the Conservancy for:

- Sewer issues • Drainage issues
- Erosion issues • Weed Control
- Public Landing • Buoys
- Hazards in the Water

DNR

District Office 574-457-8092

Pier Rules 317-234-1097

Or 317-234-1063

Sheriff Elkhart County
(574) 533-4151

EMERGENCIES-CALL 911

Osolo Township Fire Dept.
574-264-1066

Osolo EMS 574-262-3052

SIMONTON NOTES FROM THE BOARD

Winter 2023 Edition

Yearly membership begins in January.

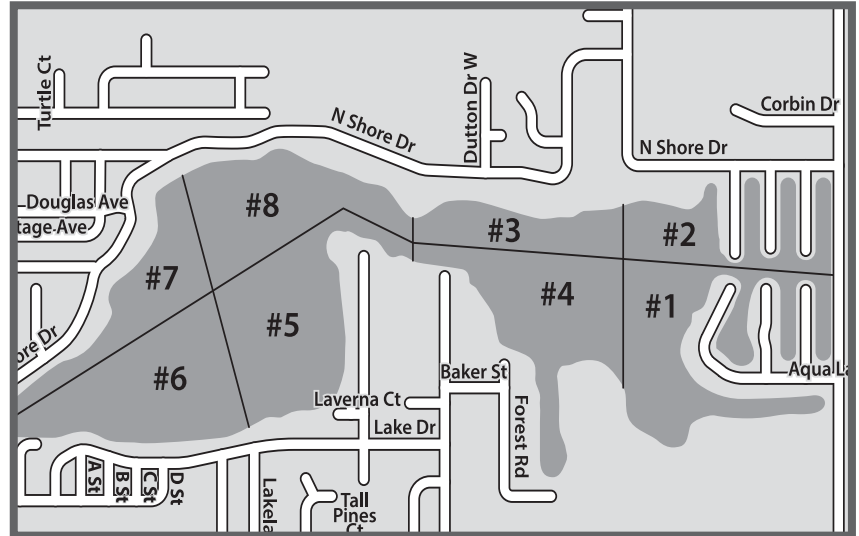
Be sure to fill out the form and send it in ASAP.

Contact your Area Rep. if you have questions about membership, volunteering, to let us know about a new neighbor or because you didn't receive your newsletter.

AREA REPRESENTATIVES

Area #1 Van Kessler	370-2266
Area #2 Ann & Jerry Broderick	264-1331
Sue Ward	596-2020
Area #3 Maria Hopman	262-1665
Area #4 Jon Hart	262-1404
Randy Hoff	596-8885
Area #5 Bob Meyers	675-0970
Cindy Nickell	262-3105
Area #6 Melissa Price	849-9995
Area #7 Dave VanZile	264-5201
Theresa Maier	361-0517
Area #8 Amy Matherly	262-4773

The Lake Association has divided the lake into 8 areas.
Check out your area in this map.



SLAHA MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

DUES: PER HOUSEHOLD PER YEAR
JANUARY 1, 2023 - DECEMBER 31, 2023

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE/CELL(S) _____

PHONE/HOME _____

EMAIL(S) _____

MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES AUTOMATED LAKE ALERTS VIA EMAIL

PARTICIPATION INTEREST IN A CURRENT COMMITTEE

Committee Chairpersons
are listed in Newsletter

- ☐ Lake Environment
☐ Lake Safety
☐ Membership/Outreach
☐ Newsletter
☐ Website

☐ Regular Member \$30

☐ Senior (70-79) \$20

☐ Honorary (80 & Over) **FREE**
Life Member

SL HOA ADDITIONAL DONATION \$

FIREWORKS FUND DONATION \$

SL PRESERVATION TRUST DONATION \$

Goose/Swan Remediation Project \$

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$

Please mail your completed form & check made out to SLAHA to:

Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association, Inc., PO Box 1706 Elkhart, IN 46515-1706

If you are interested in being a SLAHA Board Member, please contact a current board member listed in the newsletter.

FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

NUISANCE WILDLIFE DISCUSSION

by Lisa Hershberger

Lisa Hershberger is our new chairperson of the Environment Committee for the Lake Association. We are glad to have this article and are excited about future articles with this important committee.

Springtime on the lake is wonderful, isn't it? With the increase in temperatures, the lake comes to life after a cold winter's rest. The water is clean and clear, the lily pads begin to re-stake their claim in the wetland areas and wildlife return after their migration from warmer climates. With this renewal also comes the less-desirable waterfowl that wreak havoc on our lawns and personal property and flock to the water in increasing numbers each year. Geese, ducks, and swans, while beautiful and some may say majestic, also become a nuisance for lake residents when they invade in large numbers.

What we must remember, however, is they aren't the invaders. We are. It's simple really: waterfowl live on lakes. They depend on this habitat for reproduction, food, for their survival. The trick is to find a balance, to mitigate the numbers to achieve a population that is socially acceptable and tolerated. There is no option to remove all waterfowl, and frankly, no one wants that.

I recently spoke to Jessica Merkl, Urban Wildlife Biologist for the Indiana DNR's northern region. We spoke about the three most prolific waterfowl that do the most damage to the lake and property. Here's what Jessica had to say about each.

MUTE SWANS

Their History: The white swans that inhabit the lakes of Indiana and Michigan are an invasive swan species. Originally brought to the United States from Europe to decorate parks and ponds, the Mute species branched off and became a

feral breed that multiplied quickly. In 2005, the US Department of the Interior declared them a non-native, unprotected, invasive species. The Mute Swan became Public Enemy #1 for small lake communities across the country.

The Issue: A single male Mute Swan consumes 4 to 8 pounds of plant life every day. They uproot and consume these vital lake-regenerating plants and destroy our wetlands. Continuous feeding by a group of swans can destroy an entire wetland ecosystem in a single season.

And if that isn't enough, they have the distinct dishonor of being the most aggressive waterfowl. Especially during nesting season, Mute Swans are bullish enough to chase away native birds and other wildlife. There are numerous reports of Mute Swan attacks on humans and pets, although thankfully nothing has been reported in our area in recent years. The rule of thumb? Keep your distance!

What the Biologist Says:

Jessica told me that in a private setting, a homeowner can decide to remove these swans without a permit. In a public area, like Simon-ton Lake, a permit is required to remove these swans by means of capturing and relocating or by euthanasia. There is no cost for the permit which is provided through the State of Indiana. "I would suggest the removal of all swans, including their babies," Jessica told me. Whether the majority of homeowners are on board with this strategy is the question. It would require hiring an outside service who would capture and relocate the swans and destroy their nests.

DUCKS

Their History: Simonton Lake is home to several species of ducks,

all with different federal and/or state protection statuses and rules governing the control of their populations. The most common duck found swimming in our waters and soaking up the sun on our piers is the Mallard. The Mallard is the most widespread and abundant duck species in North America. They are also protected.

The Issue: Mallard ducks have the ability to cross breed with at least 62 other breeds of duck. Have you noticed the wide variety of colors and features of some of the ducks on our lake that really can't be identified as a certain breed? This "genetic pollution", while a leading cause of lowering the number of indigenous waterfowl, isn't our only concern.

It's basic science. Wild ducks eat aquatic plant life and defecate back into the water. When the duck population increases, more plant life is consumed, and more fecal matter is deposited into the lake. The true health risks are not completely known, but scientists are certain that the ducks do transmit pathogenic *Escherichia coli* (E-coli) into the water. As the water temperatures rise in the warm months, the E-coli bacteria multiplies. As abhorrent as it sounds, this is akin to swimming in a dirty toilet bowl.

What the Biologist Says:

Jessica strongly relates that in her opinion, "The best way to address the issue is to address the root cause." DO NOT FEED THE DUCKS! Ducks gravitate to their food source and while perhaps innocent enough a gesture, feeding the ducks is the worst thing we can do! Other options are very limited.

"There is no option to remove Mallards other than during legal hunting season," Jessica added. "And in a densely populated area

like Simonton Lake, this is not a good option.” Permits are available to remove nests, however this may be pointless because new nests will be built.

CANADA GEESE

Their History: Once on the brink of extinction, Canada geese have staged and epic comeback. One source cited that it’s currently estimated that there are over 7 million Canada geese in North America. This overpopulation has led to geese swarming to city parks, small lakes and riverways in great numbers.

The Issue: Let’s call it like it is, shall we? Poop, poop, and more poop!

I was the lucky recipient of several night-time visits by a gaggle of geese last summer. I woke in the morning to hundreds of divots in my lawn where the grass had been plucked out by the roots and shovels full of geese droppings not only in my lawn but down my pier. I could only imagine how much poo gets deposited in the lake after seeing what 10 or 15 geese left me. The answer is, it’s a whole lot!! As with the ducks, the E-coli present in the geese feces is, or should be, our concern.

What the Biologist Says:

As it turns out, I am probably the one to blame for the nightly geese raids on my lawn! I thought it would be nice to have a bird feeder where I could watch wild birds from my lake-view windows. Jessica confirmed that the geese are attracted to any food source easily obtained and I had unknowingly served them dropped thistle and left-over sunflower seeds under the feeder.

You have probably heard of “oil-ing” eggs to prevent hatching. While it sounds simple enough, it’s time-consuming and requires cooperation from all lake residents to be successful. For this and other reasons, this will probably not be our first line of defense. Jessica

gave me many suggestions on how to deter geese from building their nests around the lake.

“Canada Geese are federally protected,” Jessica explained. “Since hunting during legal hunting season isn’t a great option, I recommend making a habitat change to discourage nesting.” She went on to explain several things that we can all do. Jessica forwarded me a publication by the Indiana DNR outlining the following recommendations.

DISCOURAGING GEESE

In February–March, geese pair up and begin claiming nesting space. Begin harassment immediately to discourage them from nesting in heavily trafficked areas.

- You may need to harass geese several times a day before they leave a site.
- Air horns, whistles, flashy tape or flagging, and balloons can be effective ways of disturbing geese.
- A new technique involves using a green laser. Wait until the geese land and then use the green laser to harass until they leave. Jessica told me that the laser must be green as the geese perceive it as a bat. I found several long-distance green pointer lasers on Amazon for less than \$20.

Jessica went on to firmly state that, “The laser is NOT used to try to blind or harm the birds, but to non-lethally harass them so they move elsewhere.”

DO NOT FEED THE WILDLIFE

Bread, crackers, and other foods intended for human consumption are not healthy for geese. Do not hang bird feeders where the geese can eat the dropped seed. Regular feeding of geese can cause:

- Developmental problems, including death
- Aggression.
- Delayed migration
- Overcrowding
- Habituation (a loss of fear of humans and their “wild” instincts to feed and protect themselves)

The Summary

It’s clear that many waterfowl are protected so there’s a delicate line on what we can and cannot do as a community to ensure our lake remains clean and viable. I hope this article gives you a few ideas.

One actionable discovery that came out of my discussion with Jessica concerns the DNR’s Urban Wildlife Program. In this program, Wildlife Biologists such as Jessica, work with areas like Simonton Lake to make recommendations on developing habitat that is conducive to beneficial wildlife, reduce conflict with “nuisance” wildlife, improve water quality and increase outdoor recreation opportunities.

Exploring options with this program is high on the Environmental Committee’s agenda. If you would like to get involved or just have questions about the committee or anything discussed in this article, please contact Lesa Hershberger, 260-750-5830 or lesahershberger8@gmail.com.

NO FEED ZONE

While the Lake Association cannot make residents refrain from feeding the geese, ducks, and swans, we encourage you NOT TO FEED them. Feeding these birds only encourages more of them to live on our lake. The Indiana DNR strongly encourages us to be a NO FEED ZONE.

Follow our Facebook page for root beer can sales through the winter, and for our 2023 Opening date.

We Appreciate Our Loyal Customers!!



WATERFRONT & RESIDENTIAL SPECIALIST

An aerial photograph of a lakefront residential area with many houses and trees along the shoreline. A boat is visible on the water in the foreground.

Susie Tucker
REALTY

SERVING INDIANA & MICHIGAN

44
years
Experience

LENDER **MLS** REALTOR

574-320-6697

SusieTucker.com

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE REPORT

by Amy Matherly

We hope you are enjoying this issue of our lake magazine, "Simonton Says." With this issue we start our 16th year. Four issues are produced each year in February, April, August, and November.

We thank lake residents and friends of the lake for sending in news items and pictures. We also thank our advertisers who support our publication, our graphic designer, Karen Thomas, our Advertising Manager, Jon Hart, our proofreaders, Gina Hoff and Mark Esenwein, and our delivery persons, Van Kessler, Ann and Jerry Broderick, Sue Ward, Maria Hopman, Jon Hart, Bob Meyers, Cindy Nickell, Melissa Kessler-Price, Dave VanZile, Theresa Maier and finally our Delivery Manager, Steve Wogoman.

Did you know that we supply our County Council members and County Commissioners with a copy of our magazine? Jon Hart, our advertising manager, sees that each of them gets a copy.

CALENDARS - We sold 66 calendars this year. The few remaining calendars were given to Kathy Stec for our New Neighbor Gift Bags and to Jon Hart as a thank you to advertisers. We thank Gina Hoff for designing the calendar and Sue Ward for delivery.

PAYPAL - We had hoped to have an HOA PayPal set up by the time the 2023 Membership Drive began. Sadly, that did not happen. There is some difficulty with establishing a not-for-profit status with PayPal that we were not able to overcome. We'll keep working on it.

WEBSITE - Erin Lucas has reported that the website is updated and has a new look. If you are looking for Indiana DNR information or community or county contact information, you'll find it at our website. Lost your copy of "Simonton Says"? Want to re-read an article from a previous issue? Check the website simontonlakehoa.com

FACEBOOK - Michelle Coleman continues to do a great job getting timely information out to lake residents and some amazing pictures as well.



NEW EMAIL Because of hacking suffered by several of our officers and committee members, we have removed most of their email addresses from the website and magazine. Erin Lucas has set up new email addresses for us and we will begin using them this year, if all goes well.

The New email for Communication (Newsletter) will be **newsletter@simontonlakehoa.com**.

This winter Amy Matherly will send out a Lake Alert using the current email. She will be advising you that we are going to send out another lake alert with the new email. We want you to know this because we don't want you to think this new email is a scam.

Join our Committee

Contact Amy Matherly at
newsletter@simontonlakehoa.com

FRANGER
GAS COMPANY, INC.

Exceptional Energy
Exceptional Service

Locally Owned
Family Operated

Home of the Grill Tank Special
Fill five and get one filled FREE!

West Bristol Street, Elkhart
574-264-2118
M-F 7am - 5pm Sat 9am - 12pm
Your Propane / LP Gas Professionals Since 1946



(574) 266-0606

51330 State Rd 19 Elkhart, IN 46514

Enjoy the seasons of the lake year round on our covered and heated lakeside patios!

Looking for space for your next party or function? Our patio room with fireplace is the perfect setting!

Owned and operated for
20 years by
Simonton Lake
residents
Cam and Sue Snyder

**sushi seafood burgers
pasta hand cut steaks**

22 Drafts On Tap
Full selection wine and liquor

Smoked Prime Rib nightly

Call us for all your catering
needs from 10 to 500 people!



3421 Plaza Ct
574-264-5700

(3 Minutes From The Lake)



574-333-3600

- Brisket • Ribs • Wings • Pork Shoulder
- Rib Tips • Birria Tacos - Burritos
- Full Bar

Yes we cater!
Parties from 25-1000 people!

Carryout Available online at:
www.smokinfattysbbq.com
& DoorDash

3241 Interchange Dr Elkhart, IN
4 minutes from the Lake





Senior1Care
First in Values, First in Care

Let our *Family* Help *Yours*

CALL US TODAY!

-  **Personal Care**
-  **Companionship**
-  **Meal Prep**
-  **Medication Reminders**
-  **Consultation Services**

Family owned and operated with 4 locations throughout Indiana.

SENIOR1CARE.COM

Elkhart	574-343-2959
Fort Wayne	260-426-4357
Indianapolis	317-652-6175
South Bend	574-239-2273

   @senior1care

Simonton Lake Boat-In Worship????

A church service on the water? That's right! A committee of lake residents headed by Kim Brothers is trying to organize a church service on the water.

The committee is hoping to have a service every Sunday from Memorial Day to Labor Day at 9 or 9:30. The service will be held on the water and will include some singing and a message.

They do have a pastor willing to take on the message and musicians to do the singing and playing.

They NEED a sound system, mikes, generator, a pontoon boat, and some folks to do set up.

If you are interested in helping or donating, contact Kim Brothers at kimbrothers1234@gmail.com

THIS IS NOT A PROGRAM OF THE HOA. The HOA does not use HOA money to support this event. We include this article as information only.

ZONING REPORT

No issues presented to the Elkhart County Board of Zoning Appeals were in the direct vicinity of the lake for the months of November or December of 2022.





10,000 sq. ft.
Showroom to
browse!



FURNITURE & MATTRESS

Ashley Furniture Available

We also carry....Lane....Catnapper....Jacksonville. And, we do have lift chairs.

On Cassopolis Street - Just a few blocks south of Simonton Lake

Offering Financing and Delivery

www.onestopfurniture.shop

Stock is available & we will sell off the floor

Phone: 574-322-2012

CONSERVANCY CORNER

Simonton Lake Conservancy

WHAT NOT TO PUT INTO THE SEWER

There are some things you can do to make your grinder pump continue to work.

Remember these letters: **F.O.G.S.**

F stands for Fats

O stands for Oils

G stands for Grease

S stands for Sanitary "disposable" wipes

Grease and fats clog up pipes which eventually need to be cleaned out. And, those disposable sanitary wipes, well, for our system, they are NOT disposable.

BOTTOM LINE: DO NOT PUT F.O.G.S INTO THE SYSTEM!

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Two members of the Board of Directors were up for re-election this year. Mark Lucas representing District 4 and Jane Mollo representing District 5. No one from district 4 filed to run against Mark Lucas. He will automatically remain on the Board. Randy Hoff filed to run for the District 5 spot. However, Jane Mollo decided not to run. So, there was no need for an election. Randy will begin his board duties after the Annual Meeting of the Conservancy on February 18.

Simonton Lake Sewer Board of Directors

District 1 - Paul Wilson • District 2 - Ed Hickman • District 3 - Ryan Matherly
District 4 - Mark Lucas • District 5 - Jane Mollo

BOARD MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE ELKHART AQUATIC CENTER, 6:30

February 8, Annual Meeting February @ 4:00,
March 8, April 5 and May 10

Repair and Installation Services

You may use whoever you like to install and repair your grinder pump and sewer line. The companies listed below have done great work for many Conservancy District sewer customers in the past and know our system well.

For Sewer Line Repairs

C&E EXCAVATING

Adam Clark: 574.320.2050 - www.candeexcavating.com

For Grinder Pump Emergencies


A&R WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT, INC.

574.674.5779 - www.arwwm.com

- Emergency Grinder Repairs •
- Tank\Pump Installation Contractors •

Thanks to Jane Mollo

Representative for District 5, Jane Mollo, decided this fall not to run for re-election. This concluded over 20 years of service to the Conservancy. Jane began before the sewer lines were laid and continued until this year. Thanks to Jane for her service.




www.stbcm.com - 2023 Boats Now In Stock - (269) 414-4351











Whether it's a new bass boat you're after or a relaxing day on the lake in your new pontoon, Starboard Choice Marine is there to help make your day on the water enjoyable! Our factory trained, certified technicians want to assist in creating a worry-free boating experience!

KRUPPS

POWERSPORTS
WWW.KRUPPSPOWERSPORTS.COM



*STOP IN AND SEE US
AT OUR NEW SHOWROOM*

70440 M-62
EDWARDSBURG, MI
(269)663-8424



SEA-DOO **ski-doo** **can-am** **EVINRUDE**

Manitou
PONTON BOATS

 **SUZUKI**
MARINE

 **MERCURY**

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

by Lesa Hershberger and Amy Mathery

Again, this fall we used James Wyley, contestant in the Elkhart County Leaf Collection contest, to pick up our leaves.

James got behind this fall and we thought he might have decided not to continue the contest. This left many of us with piles of leaves by the road with no pickup. He did get the job done but we have told him he must let us know when he is behind so we can communicate with his customers.

Besides this glitch we still think the program is worthwhile and will continue to work with James or another contestant in the fall of 2023.

- **NO LEAVES IN THE LAKE** - Leaves end up in the lake naturally but we must not add to that by blowing leaves from our lawns into the water. This is bad for the lake. We are trying hard to maintain the quality of the water. Remind your lawn service not to blow leaves or lawn clippings into the water. Leaves add excessive phosphorus to the water and that furthers the

growth of blue-green algal blooms, encourages weed growth, and a general decline in water quality.

- **CLEAN WATER INITIATIVE** - As reported in our last two issues, Simonton Lake has been accepted into the Indiana DNR Clean Water Initiative. Lesa Hershberger has been testing from late summer and into the fall. She will begin again this spring.

Because our two basins are so different, the state has suggested we test each basin and send in two sets of results. If you would be willing to test Little Simonton, please contact newsletter@simontonlakehoa.com. We would love to train several volunteers so that we have back up for Lesa.

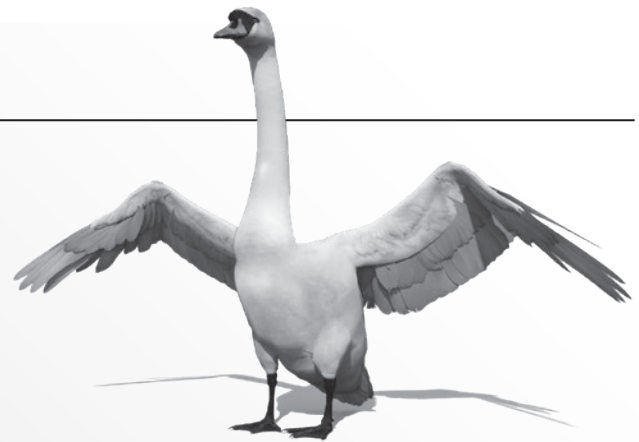
See the article "Clean Water Initiative" on our website:
simontonlakehoa.com

MUTE SWANS

- **Weight:** Up to 26 pounds
- **Wingspan:** 7-8 Feet!
- **Life Span:** Up to 10 years in the wild
- **Flight Speed:** 50-55mph
- **Habitat:** Lakes, Rivers, Ponds and Coastal Areas
- **Can have up to 11 offspring per year**
- **Native To Europe and Asia**
- **Do not help to control geese**
- **Hazardous to small children and pets**
- **Can poop up to 6 pounds per day in the lake**

IMPACT:

The Mute Swan population has greatly expanded over the last decade according to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Adult mute swans can consume up to 8lbs. of aquatic vegetation per day and uproot significantly more vegetation than they consume further devastating aquatic habitats. During the nesting season large areas of wetland vegetation are damaged and these disturbances have a serious impact on water quality and the aquatic habitat of fish and other wildlife. The DNR further identifies the Mute Swan as one of the worlds

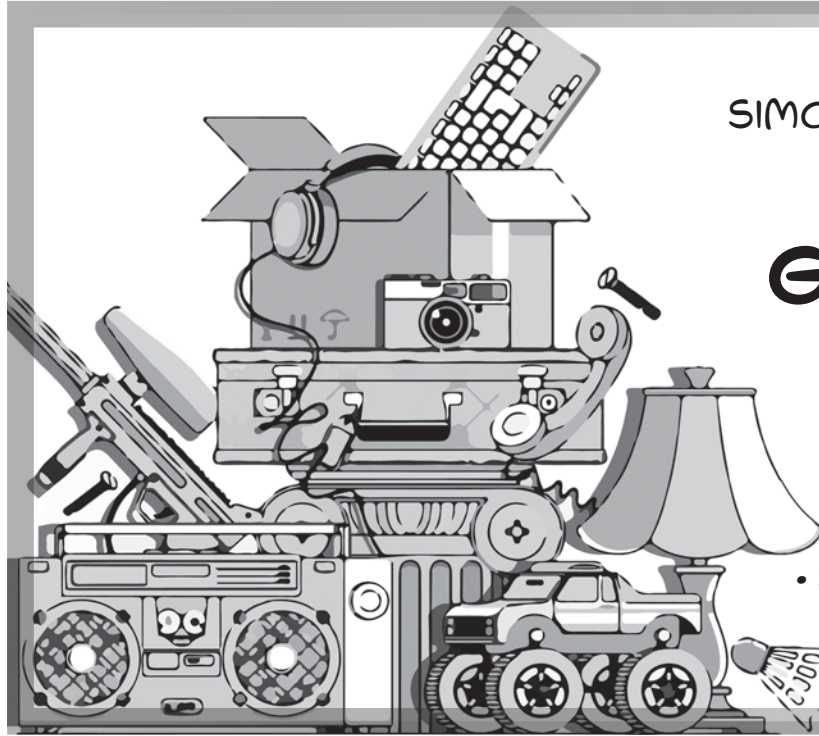


most aggressive waterfowl species that can injure, kill or displace native birds and other waterfowl.

CONTROL:

Mute Swans are not federally protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Reform Act. Many states including Michigan, who has the largest population of Mute Swans, enforce the removal of Mute Swans. These enforcement actions include euthanasia, nest destruction, egg addling and swan relocation. The Indiana DNR routinely issues permits to land owners and lake associations to take adult Mute Swans and/or destroys Mute Swan nests.

Information for this publication provided by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) www.in.gov/dnr



Get ready for the
SIMONTON LAKE NEIGHBORHOOD

SPRING GARAGE SALE

Friday, May 5
Saturday, May 6

- An ad in the Elkhart Truth and on Yardsales.net will be paid for by the Lake Association
- Signs will be placed at major crossroads.

**GET YOUR YARD SIGN OUT AND
SELL! SELL! SELL!**

RECYCLING CENTERS CLOSED

— by Bob Myers —



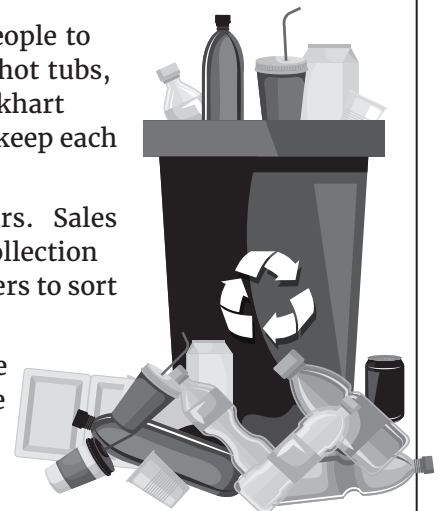
If you live in Elkhart County and want to recycle you must either pay for recycling from your trash service provider or go to one of the local recycling centers. Sadly because of misuse of these neighborhood recycling sites, the County Commissioners voted to close the final five neighborhood sites including the one at Cobblestone Crossing

The Elkhart County Landfill manager says it has become too expensive for people to “abuse” recycling. “We have had things like car tires, car parts, mattresses, hot tubs, toilets, you name it we have seen it at a recycling site,” said John Bowers, Elkhart County Landfill Manager. Bowers says it costs about 5,000 dollars per year to keep each one running.

Borden Wase-Away partnered with the county by servicing the recycling centers. Sales Director Kyle Woolsey reported that 70% of the items left at neighborhood collection sites were not recyclable and went to the landfill. Borden also had to pay workers to sort out the trash from the recyclable materials.

The Commissioners realize that people who live in the county want to recycle but they also realize that the neighborhood centers were not working. They are continuing to investigate other options for county residents.

We will keep you updated on this issue.



ATTENTION VETS AND ACTIVE SERVICE MEMBERS!

For many years a flag retirement ceremony has been held as part of the lake's observance of the 4th of July. For many years Dwight and Linda Bowser held a flag retirement ceremony on the 4th of July in their yard on the lake. Last year Bob and Georgia Evans decided to revive the lake tradition and host it on their island in Little Simonton Lake. The event was called the Dwight Bowser Memorial Flag Retirement Ceremony. The ceremony included an Honor Guard Salute, Taps and a missing man formation fly over by two WW II era planes.



BIGGER AND BETTER THIS YEAR

This year Bob and Georgia have announced they will once again host the event. It is scheduled for **Sunday July 2, 2023, at 2:30 pm. on Evans Island on Little Simonton Lake.** Bob hopes that the event will be bigger and better. He hopes to have a bigger flyover, include the local Scout troop, and get more involvement from local vets or those in active service. Also, this year and in the future a memorial recognition of deceased veterans will be made. If you have a family member or friend who lived on Simonton Lake and is a deceased veteran, please get Bob the information below.

VETERANS AND ACTIVE SERVICE MEMBERS, WE NEED YOUR INFORMATION!

Contact Bob at newsletter@simontonlakehoa.com with the following information or mail this form
Bob at P.O. Box 1706, Elkhart, Indiana 46515-1706

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Branch of Service _____ Dates of Service _____

Where the Veteran served _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Other Information _____

NEW TO THE LAKE?

- Read the Indiana DNR Boating Manual. Available online. See the link at the Simonton Lake HOA website, www.simontonlakehoa.com
- Are you hooked up to the Simonton Lake Sewer? If you are, you'll have a grinder pump in your yard. Make sure your name is now on the account. Call the Conservancy Office at **574-206-8485**.
- Water quality is something we all must protect. Don't blow yard waste or leaves into the lake. Be careful about using fertilizer near the water.
- Putting in a pier? Make sure you know the rules for piers. Check this out at the Indiana DNR website, in.gov/dnr/water
- Don't feed the geese or ducks. When ducks and geese get food from us, additional waterfowl who visit our lake will stay because it appears that there is plenty of food.
- Let us know you've moved in. We'll send you a New Neighbor Gift Bag.
- Join the Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association. You'll find a membership form in your gift bag.
- Read the quarterly "Simonton Says" magazine to keep up with what is happening at the lake.
- Follow us on Facebook: **SIMONTON LAKE HOA**

Eye-Q Aesthetics

BOTOX
DERMAL FILLERS
CHEMICAL PEELS
FACIALS
BOTOX PARTIES
FREE CONSULTATIONS



*Nancy Walker,
C.R.N.A.*

SCAN QR TO BOOK



(574) 891-0303
2746 OLD US 20 W
ELKHART, INDIANA



PRO DOCK
DOCK, LIFT, AND BARGE SERVICES
INC.



269.447.4796
prodockinc.com

LAKE SHORTS

Happy New Year from Gina and Randy Hoff

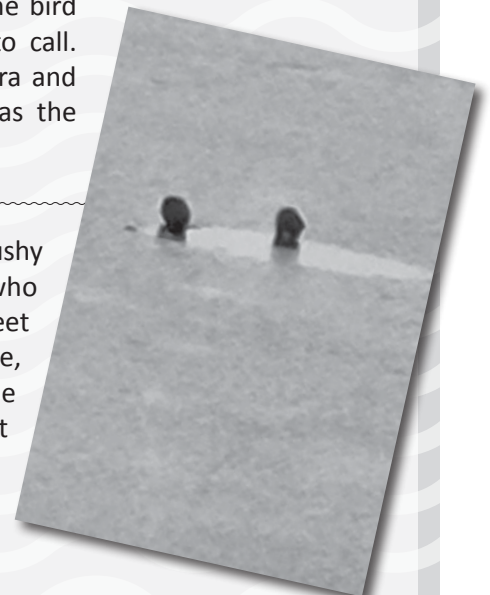


Norma Lockwood, right is shown here with her good friend Linda Erlacher of Sturdy Oaks in Linda's beautifully decorated living room. Linda loves to decorate and really does it up big. Even her garage has decorations. Linda was a former art teacher and has a real flare. Norma told me I wouldn't believe how stunning her decorations were, and she was right. Linda changes all her decorations from season to season.



No wonder there are no birds at the bird feeder, the local hawk has come to call. This one perched on the pier at Sara and Joe Kilgren's home. Sara said it was the biggest one she had ever seen.

The only ones who likes thin, mushy ice on the lake are the muskrats who poked a hole in the ice about 50 feet out from shore. They sat, sunned, ate, and swam. Then they'd dive down the hole in the ice and reappear the next day. Gosh, I hope they aren't living behind my seawall.





Sooooo Cute

Ray Schuler sent us this picture of little Jack Taylor, son of Tori and Tim Taylor and grandson of Ron and Sue Taylor and Brent and Michele Ernsberger. Looking on are Gizmo and Andie. Jack is a lot bigger now and will celebrate his first birthday on Feb. 5.

Farewells

Scott Esenwein

Scott A. Esenwein, 73, of Nappanee, Indiana, died at 6:58 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 27, 2022, at Center for Hospice Care, Mishawaka, Indiana, of natural causes.

Scott was born on Jan. 16, 1949, in Elkhart, Indiana, to Robert and Josephine (Eicher) Esenwein and he lived his entire life in the Nappanee and Wakarusa area.

He was a 1967 Wakarusa High School graduate and a 1979 Indiana University graduate. Scott retired from the Indiana Department of Revenue after working as a field investigator. He attended the Wakarusa Methodist Church.

Surviving are his brother, **Mark (Patti) Esenwein** of Simonton Lake; a niece, Jill Esenwein; and a nephew, **Eric Esenwein**.

Scott was Mark's only sibling. He was a kind and gentle soul and will be missed by family and friends.

Sandra Lee Davis Lovely

Sandra Lee (Davis) Lovely was born April 7, 1947, to LaMar and Margaret Davis. She passed away peacefully after a long battle with leukemia surrounded by her loved ones on Dec. 9, 2022; she was 75.

Sandra grew up on Garver Lake in Edwardsburg, Michigan, where she enjoyed ice-skating and square dancing with her sisters and getting into mischief with her best friend Linda. In 1973 she married James A. Lovely and they were married for 49 years.

Sandra loved her family dearly; she enjoyed spending time with her children and grandchildren telling them old stories and her quality jokes. Her favorite pastimes were crocheting and reading, going to bingo, and having coffee with her friends and setting up her Christmas village throughout the years.

She is survived by her husband James A. Lovely of Edwardsburg, Michigan; two daughters, Tina (Mickey) Thomas and Brenda (Donald) Handy, both of Edwardsburg, Michigan; and her three sisters, Karen Haas, Tampa, Florida, Patricia (John) Dorn, Stevensville, Michigan, and **Phyllis (Tim) Nusbaum**, Simonton Lake. Also surviving Sandra are her seven beloved grandchildren, Justine (Kyle) Dale of Edwardsburg, Michigan, Kristine (Michael) Mills of Grand Ledge, Michigan,



Sandra Lee Davis Lovely

Farewells

MiKayla Handy (Konnor Simpson) of Elkhart, Indiana, Ashlynn (Zachary) Holmes, Niles, Michigan, Bailey (Brett) Bowman, Edwardsburg, Michigan, Brendon (Morgan) Handy, Mishawaka, Indiana, Bo Thomas (Emily Lopez), Edwardsburg, Michigan; and three great-grandchildren, Everly Sue, Ava Mae and Luke Andrew. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Sandra is preceded in death by her mother and father, Margaret and LaMar Davis; her son, Freddie Carrol Lohroff; and niece, Rhoda.

Sandra will be missed dearly by all who knew her. A private celebration of life will be held at a later date. The family asks in lieu of flowers that you consider registering at beamatch.com a national bone marrow transplant registry.

In lieu of flowers, please consider registering at beamatch.com.

Patrick Michael Kirby

Patrick Michael Kirby was born October 31, 1953 in Elkhart, Indiana to parents Juanita and Francis Kirby. He passed away on November 3, 2022, 3 days after his 69th birthday, from his battle with Metastatic Melanoma. Pat grew up in Elkhart, Indiana where he graduated in 1971 from Elkhart High School, he went on to attend Elkhart Career Center. He worked at Kroger's Grocery as a produce manager. In July 1978 he met his wife Kristine Jansen, while she was in Elkhart visiting her family.

He decided to move to Phoenix, AZ where she was living and soon after they were wed. In Phoenix he worked as a produce manager at Alpha Beta Grocery. He then made the change to work in Route Sales and Delivery Driving in the dry-cleaning business, where he worked for 40+ years. He spent the last 20 years of his career working for Arcadia Dry Cleaners. He loved how his job brought him in contact with so many valley residents. He was a real people person and loved to make others smile and laugh. His one true love was everything Notre Dame. He joked that his blood was the Notre Dame colors blue and gold.

He is survived by his wife Kriss, sister-in-law Greta Pierce, siblings: Sherry Lankford, MaryJo (Don) Locke, Phyllis NewKirk, Debbie Hofflander, Mike (Edna) Kirby, **Kristine (Dave) VanZile**, and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were celebrated at St. Theresa Catholic Church, in Phoenix on Friday, November 18, 2022. Donations may be made to The Society of St. Vincent de Paul or the Humane Society.



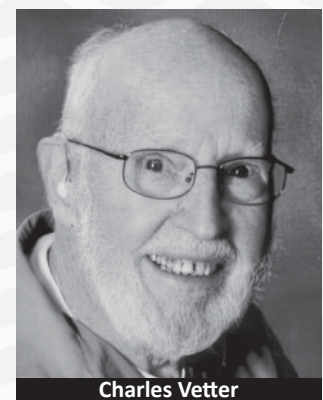
Patrick Kirby

Charles Harman Vetter Dec. 19, 1925 – Dec. 25, 2022

A lifelong resident of the Lake, Chuck spent his last hours at home on the north side celebrating Christmas with his family. He was 97.

Clancy, as he was known by many, was born at his family's home on the south side of the Lake and graduated from Elkhart High School in 1943. After serving in World War II, where he was awarded a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart, Chuck earned a degree in mechanical engineering from Purdue. He was then called back up for the Korean War where he put his skills to work building infrastructure in the South Pacific. Chuck met and married Vivian, his wife of 59 years, after he returned to Elkhart. They raised five children in the house he built on North Shore Drive. Chuck worked as a test engineer at Bendix in South Bend for 30-plus years where they knew him as Charley. Their five kids kept Chuck and Vivian busy volunteering for school fish fries, PTA and various fundraising projects and attending athletic events, music concerts and school plays.

Faith in God was an important part of Chuck's and Vivian's life. He was a very active member of the First Presbyterian Church where he enjoyed volunteering for a wide variety of projects and services including church leadership, building maintenance, CROP Walks, and Church Community Services. After retirement, he volunteered even more, working for



Charles Vetter

Farewells

Habitat for Humanity (30 years), Mennonite Disaster Service, Lions Club, Meals on Wheels and nearly anything else anyone asked him to do to help others.

Chuck enjoyed camping and canoeing, building things, traveling in the U.S. and any activity involving his family. He was preceded in death by his parents (Charles W. and Mildred Harman Vetter), four brothers, two sisters and his wife Vivian. He is survived by his children Richard (Cheryl) Vetter of Garner, North Carolina; Penny (Jon) Pejka of O'Fallon, Illinois; Kathleen Vetter of South Bend, Indiana; Chris Vetter of McCall, Idaho; Susie (Kevin) Fox of Ashville, Ohio; and his grandchildren: Noah Vetter, Jessica and Katie Pejka, and Ian and Nick Fox. Among his surviving nephews and nieces are two Lake residents: **Sheryl Vetter** and **Maria Pittman**.



A memorial service will be held June 24, at the First Presbyterian Church of Elkhart. To leave a condolence or memory, please visit www.hartzlerguterminthman.com. Memorial contributions may be given to Habitat for Humanity of Elkhart County or the First Presbyterian Church of Elkhart.

Chuck, as we Simonton Lake folks knew him, was an icon. A defender of the lake and wildlife and a conservator of land, Chuck walked for miles with his walking stick at his side until just a few years ago. He always had a smile on his face. He loved dogs and allowed neighbors to walk their dogs in his woods.

He will be sorely missed.



STEMM
LAWSON
PETERSON

FUNERAL HOME AND
CREMATION CENTER

Proudly Serving families of all faiths in the

Michiana Area Since 1954

1531 Cobblestone Blvd.

Elkhart, In 46514

(574) 293-6411

Email: slpfh1531@gmail.com



BRUNO'S



Authentic Italian Restaurants

*With a rich Italian heritage,
an elegant family dining experience
with real Italian food.*

Per Bacco

RISTORANTE ITALIANO

28046 Co Rd 16, Elkhart, IN 46516

To make a reservation, please call us at (574) 226-0838

BRUNO'S



HOME OF THE 24 INCH PIZZA

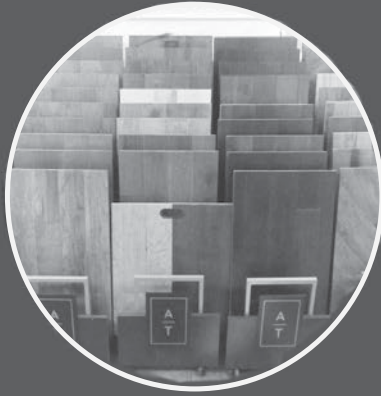
Celebrating over 40 years of success, Bruno's has been serving real Italian food since June 1st, 1979. Thank you for voting us favorite pizza in Elkhart County!

2 Locations Serving Elkhart!

**28046 County Road 16
Elkhart, IN 46516
(574) 296-9680**

**51513 State Road 19
Elkhart, IN 46514
(574) 264-4579**

Simonton Lake Location



Taylor

FLOOR COVERING

❧ Carpet ❧ Wood ❧ Laminate
❧ Luxury Vinyl Plank
❧ Custom Showers & Design



Shaw, where great floors begin.



53894 County Road 9
Elkhart, IN 46514
574.264.4354
www.taylorfloorcovering.net

ASSUME ALL ICE OUT THERE IS THIN ICE

From the Safety Committee

The lake was frozen in December but thawed in January. We still have weeks of winter left. So, here are your safety reminders.

1. Drill a test hole near shore. Your test hole should show at least a four-inch thickness of clear ice like the ice you get from your freezer.
2. Wear a life jacket for extra warmth and safety.
3. Not all the ice on the lake is the same thickness.
4. Ice strength can also change. Thick ice is rotten after rain. Old honey-combed ice or slushy ice is weak ice.
5. Wind, waterfowl, and beavers can also keep areas of ice from being thick.
6. The water in the area near Lily Creek may still be flowing into the creek. Flowing water under the ice makes the ice unreliable.
7. Water near an aerator may freeze with inconsistencies in the thickness.
8. Underground springs and wind can cause weakness in the ice.



ICE SAFETY GUIDELINES

ICE THICKNESS	WHAT TO DO
1" of ice-----	STAY OFF!!!
4" of ice-----	Needed for safe ice fishing
5" of ice-----	Needed for snowmobiling
8" of ice-----	Needed to support the weight of a car or light truck
10" of ice-----	Needed to support a medium weight truck

ICE FISHING REMINDERS

- **Indiana law limits ice fishing holes to a diameter of twelve inches.**
- **Fishing shanties must have reflectors on each side so snowmobiles won't crash into them at dusk or during snowstorms.**



DEER DROWNS TRYING TO CROSS SIMONTON LAKE

In early January two deer entered the water from North Shore Drive on the big lake. While the lake had frozen over in a deep freeze that hit us in December, by this point in January the shoreline areas along the north side of the lake were open but thin ice covered the center of the lake. One deer made it to shore, the other did not.

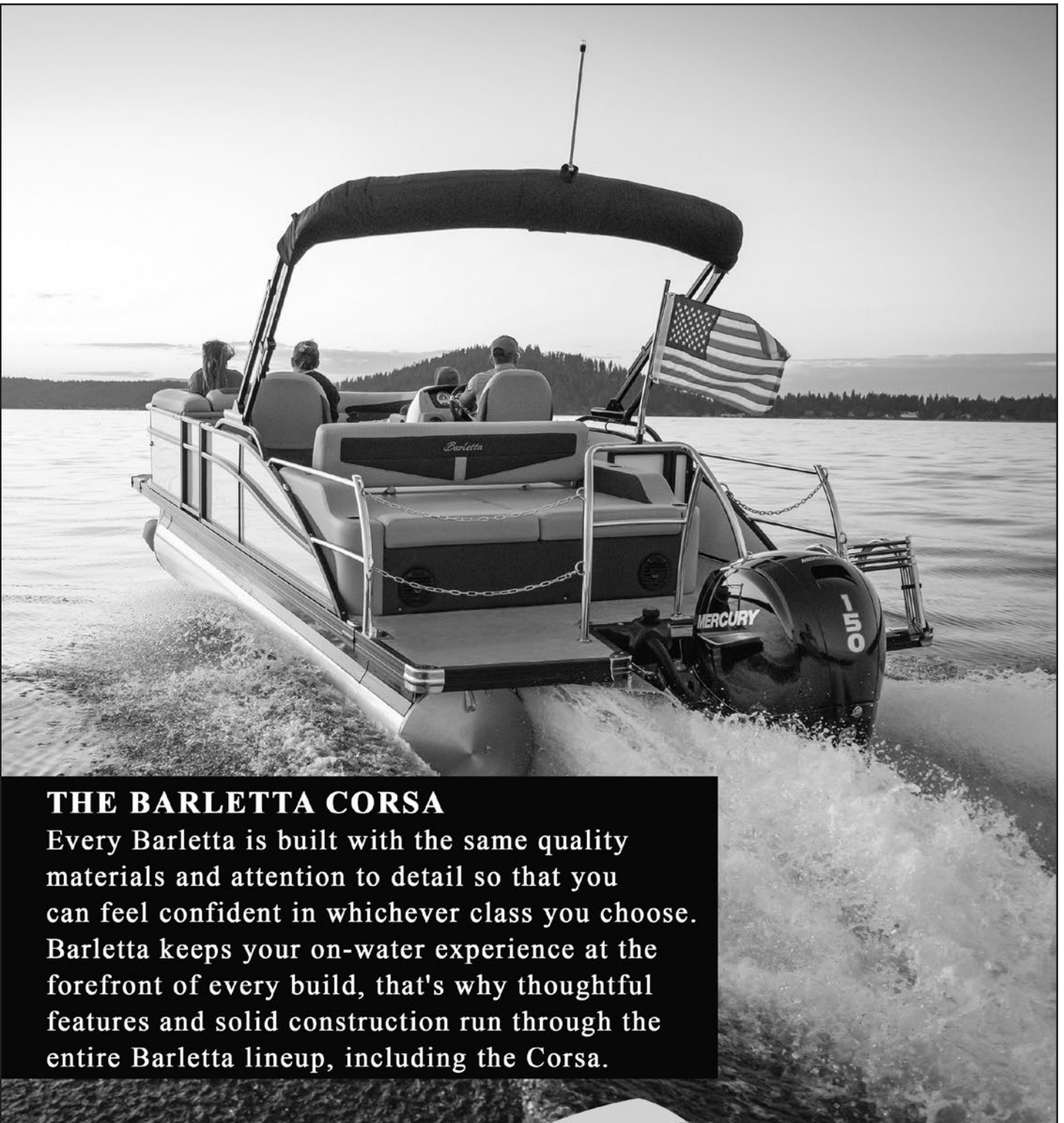
Seeing what was going on from their homes, several lake residents were saddened and frustrated as they tried to figure out who to call for help.

We can't undo what has happened, but we can learn from the situation so that we know what to do the next time. It is truly heartbreaking to see an animal suffer like this.

The Osolo Township Fire Department responded to neighbors' calls for help and launched their "banana boat" which they use for just this sort of rescue. Rescues of wild animals in the water are incredibly dangerous. However, it is possible.

What happens even more often is pet rescues. The DNR published this picture of a rescue on a pond near the Ohio River. We want to thank many lake residents who saw the incident and helped us piece together this story. We have asked the Osolo Fire Department to comment further on this and will continue this report next time.





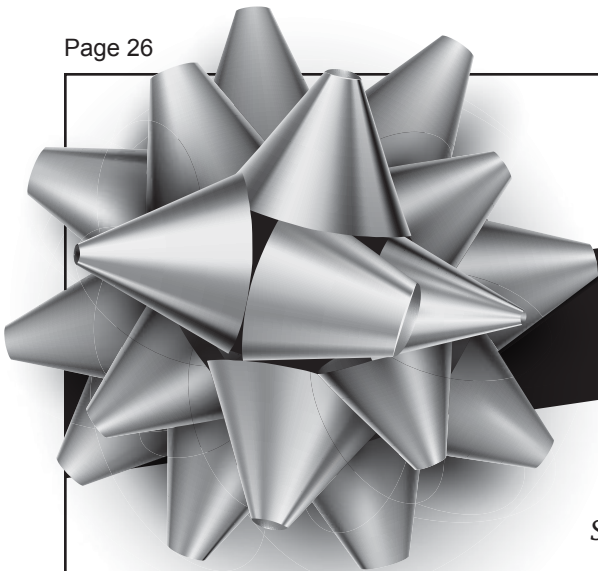
THE BARLETTA CORSA

Every Barletta is built with the same quality materials and attention to detail so that you can feel confident in whichever class you choose. Barletta keeps your on-water experience at the forefront of every build, that's why thoughtful features and solid construction run through the entire Barletta lineup, including the Corsa.

WAKESIDE

M A R I N E

574-264-2874
WAKESIDEMARINE.COM



THE 12 SCAMS OF CHRISTMAS

*By Amy Matherly and excerpts from Rick Waltz,
President of the Better Business Bureau of Northern Indiana,
South Bend Tribune article "Naughty List of Top 12 Scams of Christmas"*

On December 8th I found an unfamiliar charge on my PayPal account. There was a note by the charge that was written to look like it came from PayPal. It said they thought the charge looked fraudulent and that I should call the number listed. I did call. I shouldn't have.

In the two minutes I was on the phone with the hackers, they established remote access to my computer so that they could see everything I was doing. I realized they weren't the real PayPal when they asked for my banking information. I hung up but it was too late.

Within a few days they had charged over \$1100 to my Amazon account and those charges showed up on our joint checking account.

We called our bank right away, then Amazon. The charges were removed. We got a new credit card. Our Amazon account was frozen. The computer had to be "scrubbed" of the remote access files.

It took a week, but the computer is back.

My story ended up ok, although I lost lots of sleep. But, not so for others.

Scammers are sophisticated and very fast. The fake PayPal folks I talked with even had a recorded menu just like you get at a legitimate business.

So here are just a few of the scams that were popular this holiday season 2023.

1. Online Ads Found on social media
2. Online Gift Exchanges
3. Alerts about compromised accounts
4. Free Gift Cards
5. Look-alike websites
6. Fake Charities
7. Fake shipping notifications
8. Porch Pirates
9. Puppy scams
10. Pop-Up Holiday Events
11. Fake Medicare or Insurance calls
12. And the ever popular, Romance scam:
If it looks too good to be true, it probably is.

**For more information on scams, the Better Business Bureau can be reached at
800-552-4631- or www.bbb.org**



SIMONTON LAKE SPORTSMEN'S CLUB



2022 Officers

David Miller, President
 Jason Ringle, Vice President
 Linda Fearnow, Secretary
 Jaimie Hershberger, Treasurer
 Jack Tucker, Sergeant of Arms
 Board Members: Randy Cooper,
 Bill Leighton, Tom Krueger,
 David VanZile and Randy Miller.

2023

Sportsmen's Club Events

- March 4 and 5 Spring Turkey Shoot -
- April 15 Spring Casino Night -
- May 20 Golf Outing -
- June 16 Fishing Contest -
- July 1 Poker Run -
- July 3 Fireworks -

JOIN THE CLUB

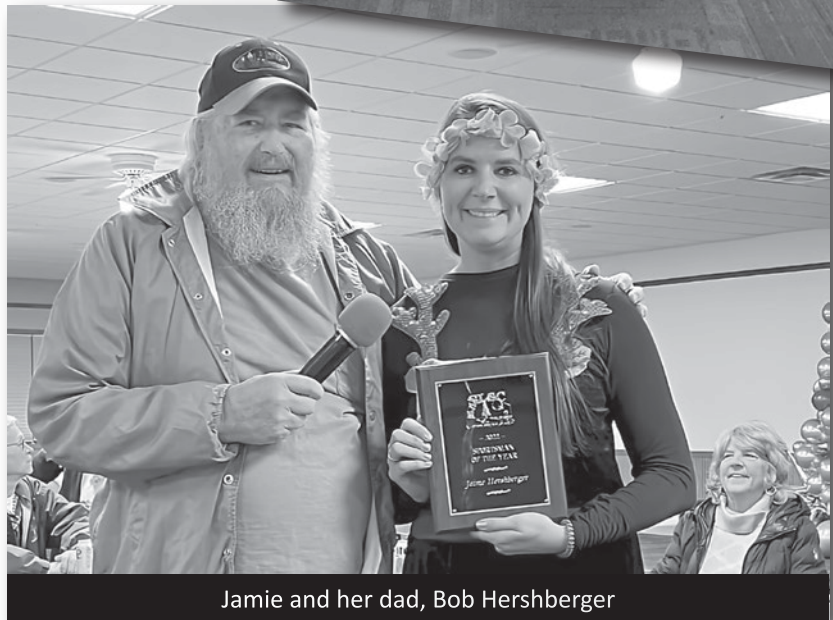
The Sportsmen's Club is always looking for new members. What a great way to meet people and have a good time and to give back to the lake community through their various community projects.

Membership is
 \$25.00 per year.

Call Dave Miller at
 574-596-4835 or e-mail Dave
 at davemilr@cs.com.

FALL BALL

It was a disco theme, and the costumes did not disappoint as you can see by the picture of some of our very own lake residents shown here. The decorations were outstanding, and the food was delicious. The Sportsmen's Club was packed.



Jamie and her dad, Bob Hershberger

Sportsman Of The Year 2023

Congratulations to Jamie Hershberger for being the first female Sportsman of the Year. The award was presented by her father, "Farmer" Bob Hershberger, who was a founding member of the Simonton Lake Sportsmen's Club. Jamie works tirelessly for the Club and her efforts are greatly appreciated.

..... ANNOUNCED! FIREWORKS AND POKER RUN DATES

The date for the 2023 Fourth of July Fireworks
 over the lake has been chosen!

Mark Monday, July 3rd on your calendar!

The annual Poker Run will be on Saturday, July 1st.

Mandolin Marketing

mandolinmarketing.com
574.343.2315

Offering individual attention with creative marketing
solutions to reach your unique goals.

GRAPHIC



brochures catalogs print ads

design

HERMAN SERVICES

574-596-7503

CALL TODAY TO EXPERIENCE THE
HOME STAND BY WAY. FROM SERVICE
TO INSTALL WE DO IT ALL!
NEVER WORRY ABOUT BEING WITHOUT
POWER AGAIN.

HOME STAND BY GENERATORS

WE SERVICE ALL BRANDS OF
GENERATORS
BRIGGS AND STRATTON |
GENERAC | KOHLER | GILLETTE |
COLEMAN | ONAN | GE

JOSH HERMAN
YOUR SIMONTON LAKE NEIGHBOR
HERMANSERVICES12@GMAIL.COM





CREATIVE COLORS
INTERNATIONAL
We Can FIX THAT®



**The Ultimate in On-Site, Mobile
Leather Repair, Restoration,
Cleaning, Protection & Dyeing
of Leather, Vinyl, Plastic &
Fabric!**

**Eliminate scrapes, scuffs, scratches,
gouges, rips, tears and color fading.
The expert technicians at Creative Colors
International can restore your damaged
items to make them look new again!**

**And, we offer the convenience of coming
to your location to repair, restore or
replace damaged vinyl, leather, fabric, or
plastic goods. Our services can salvage
some of the most damaged items, saving
customers up to 90% versus replacement.**



• RVs • Boats • Planes • Furniture

• Restaurants • Medical Facilities • Automobiles

574-299-9900

jdcii@wecanfixthat.com

3930 North Home St. Mishawaka, IN 46545

wecanfixthat.com

WHAT'S WINDCHILL?

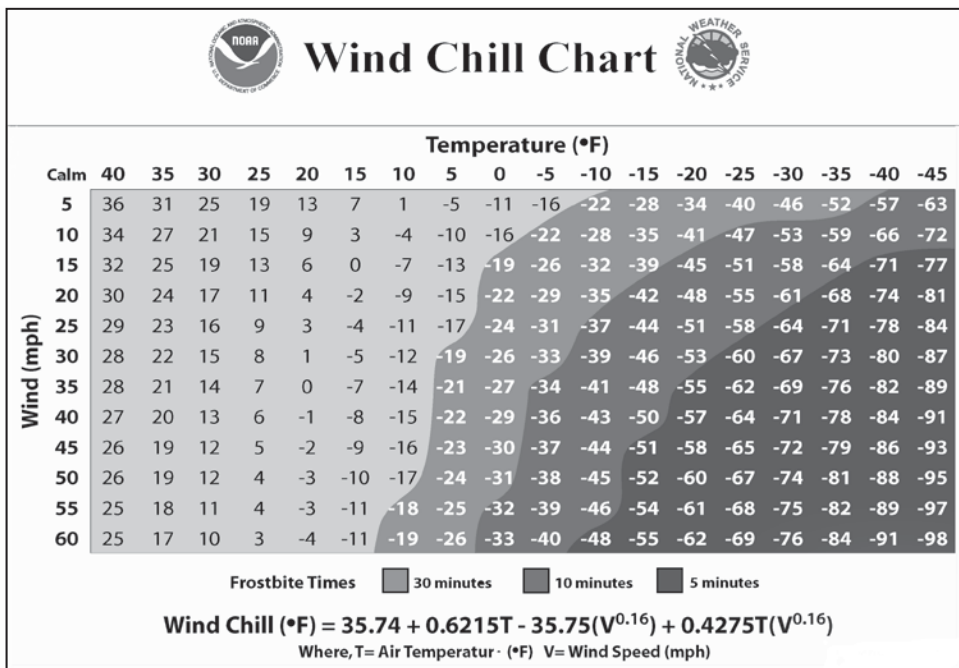
Adapted from the Elkhart Truth article by Jeff Burbrink

According to Jeff Burbrink, an educator with Purdue Extension Elkhart County, windchill is more than just a "misery index".

Instead "low temperature is not the only factor that makes the air cold. Wind can accelerate the loss of heat away from people and animals. When temperatures drop below 50 degrees and wind speeds are greater than 5 mph, the temperature you feel is lower than the number on the thermometer."

"As the temperature goes down, the wind chill goes down. When it is zero degrees outside, and the wind is 20 mph there is an increase in heat loss that makes it feel like 22 degrees below zero."

"Extremely low windchills can lead to problems such as frostbite. Frostbite can occur in 30 minutes at zero degrees when there is no wind, but throw in a 50-mph wind, and frostbite can happen in less than 10 minutes."



Don't be caught unprepared. When going out wear a warm coat, gloves, and a hat. When traveling, carry blankets and boots in your car.

If your interest is peaked and you want to learn more check out the

wind chill chart at the National Weather Service. Once at their website look for cold-win-chill-chart shown below and read the articles there.

What to do if you find a HYPOTHERMIC ANIMAL

1. Do NOT feed.
2. Do NOT submerge in water.
3. Do NOT bring inside out of the weather.
4. Do NOT dry the animal off.
5. Do NOT stroke to stimulate the blood flow.
6. DO get to a vet immediately!

If you feed a kitten with a temperature below 97, you can kill it!

If you warm them up too fast, you can kill it!

If the animal is frozen to the ground, do not pull it off! Instead, get LUKEWARM water and pour it around and under the animal. DO NOT use hot water. Once free, immediately dry the animal off, wrap it in a dry towel and get it to the nearest vet.



GIVE YOUR TIRED BOAT A FRESH NEW LOOK

We stock boat parts & accessories!



- Pontoon & Boat Seats
- Custom Boat Upholstery
- Pontoon Bimini Tops
- Marine Flooring
- Plywood Decking
- Pontoon / Boat Ladders
- Replacement Fence Skin

- Cleaners & Hardware
- LED Boat Lighting
- Marine Speakers & Stereos
- Pontoon Trailers and Parts
- Shrinkwrapping & Storage



574-204-2345



Coastline Inc.

1923 N. Home Street
Mishawaka, IN



Call 574-206-1644 For an Appointment

Building Michiana for over 30 Years - Locally Owned and Operated



Millmark ENTERPRISES, INC.

SPECIALIZING IN STEEL AND ALUMINUM FABRICATION

NOW OFFERING ALUMINUM PIERS!

CONTACT MATT JONES FOR MORE INFO

AND PRICING

* PARTS &
ACCESSORIES
ALSO AVAILABLE



PHONE

574-214-5908

1935 MARKLE AVE

ELKHART, IN, 46517

www.millmarkenterprises.com

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

To add your family birthdays and anniversaries to this list,
e-mail tkshewmaker@yahoo.com

BIRTHDAYS

2/2 ---- Cami Broderick Saleh
2/5 ---- Ron Glick
2/5 ---- Jack Taylor
2/7 ---- Jim Dill
2/10 ---- Mike Lucchese
2/12 ---- Bob Shultz
2/17 ---- Sue Johnson
 Brian Walters
2/18 ---- Kathy Shewmaker
2/19 ---- Janie Friend
2/19 ---- Katie Lane
 Daughter of Laura Byrns
2/20 ---- Bob Evans
2/23 ---- Terry Shewmaker
2/25 ---- Vaughn Nickell
2/28 ---- Randy Weinley
3/2 ---- Dan West
3/3 ---- Jody Divjak



Tony Espinas
3/20 ---- Cody Kalil and Colton Jesse Newkirk
 Grandparents Dave & Carole Foutz
3/20 ---- Karen Glick
3/26 ---- Eulah June Shewmaker
 Grandparents Ryan & Amy Matherly,
 Terry & Kathy Shewmaker
3/27 ---- Bill Broderick
4/2 ---- Ryan Matherly
4/5 ---- Cassandra Ulery
4/6 ---- Martha Oltmanns
4/8 ---- Shirley Adams
4/14 ---- Ryan Harding
4/19 ---- Finley Alan Shewmaker
 Grandparents Ryan & Amy Matherly,
 Terry & Kathy Shewmaker
4/20 ---- Sean Broderick
4/24 ---- Preston Thomas Ryan
 Grandparents Tim & Phyllis Nusbaum

4/26 ---- Heidi Polizzotto
4/28 ---- Michael Thomas Fix
 Son of Katy Rutter & Ryan Fix;
 Grandparents Margot & Tom Rutter
 Susan Banks
4/30 ---- Grant Brekke
 Nick Coleman

ANNIVERSARIES

2/19 --- Don & Carol Bradshaw
3/23 --- Michelle & Nick Coleman
4/4 ---- Karen & Ron Glick
4/14 --- Lonnie & Cari Waggoner
4/21 --- Deb & Phil Jones
4/26 --- Glenna & Doug Nickell
4/28 --- Martha & Roger Oltmanns
4/30 --- Bob & Bobbi Meyers

HAPPY *Valentines* DAY

BENNINGTON

GODFREY

Hurricane

**STARCRAFT
MARINE**

WylandsMarine.com

**JETSKI
Kawasaki**

Mishawaka Location
13100 East Jefferson
Mishawaka, Indiana, 46545
(574) 259-1510

Wylands Marine

MISHAWAKA - ELKHART

YAMAHA

Elkhart Location
3931-A East Jackson Blvd.
Elkhart, Indiana, 46516
(574) 295-7632



**BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY**
HomeServices

Northern Indiana
Real Estate

Get the lifestyle you deserve.



Contact me, Michele Mathewson,
for more information.



michelemathewson@bhhsni.com



michelemathewson.bhhsni.com



574-596-4521

*Your Neighbor Businesses
on Sail Bay Court*

Come in for a test save.



Total average savings of

\$480*

Like a good neighbor,
RICK REID IS THERE!

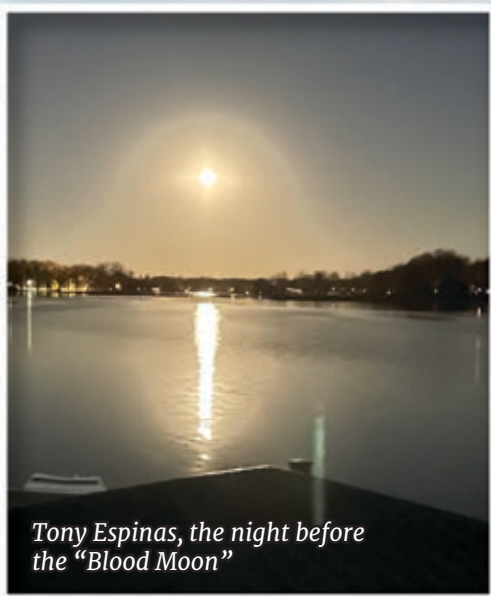
Your good neighbor on Sail
Bay Court

I'd love to show you some new
ways to make your car insurance
dollars work harder.

Rick Reid, Agent
12657 State Route 23
(Adams Road)
Granger, IN 46530
Bus: 574-310-8100
rickreidsf.com

 **State Farm**TM

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farm Indemnity Company, Bloomington, IL * Average annual household savings based on national 2010 survey of new policyholders who reported savings by switching to State Farm. P090115.1



*Tony Espinas, the night before
the "Blood Moon"*



Shelly West, Sunset



Susie Broderick, First Skaters



Phyllis Nusbaum, Lunar Eclipse



Leanne Brekke, Winter Sunset



Susie Broderick, Cranes on the Ice