



Simonton Says...

July 2016
Volume 10, Issue 6

Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association, Inc. Newsletter
Elkhart, Indiana.....www.simontonlake.org

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Luminaria Night

Memorial Day Weekend 2016



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INVASIVE WEEDS



CURLY-LEAF PONDWEED

Three-inch leaves that are reddish-green. Grows to form mat on water surface. Spreads by cuttings that sink and root.

INVASIVE SPECIES



HYDRILLA

Small serrated leaves spread by cuttings that sink and root. Looks like plants used in aquariums.

INVASIVE SPECIES



EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL

Already found on Simonton Lake

Extremely fast growing, feathery leaves with tiny flowers above water surface. Grows to form mat on water surface. Spreads by cuttings that sink and root.

Learn to Identify These Weeds

Be watchful at your own pier or as you boat. These weeds, left untreated, can displace the good aquatic plants, interfere with fish species and other aquatic animals and can upset the ecology of the lake.

Report to the Environment Committee-

Contact a member of the Environmental Committee to report sightings.

Boot Lake

This article appeared in the July 2010 issue of Simonton Says. Bob Meyers wrote the original article as part of a series on the lakes of Elkhart County. With the issue of the transfer of the Boot Lake Preserve from the city of Elkhart to Elkhart County in the news, we thought our readers would be interested in seeing the article again.

The state of Indiana claims there are sixteen lakes in Elkhart County. According to the state, "a lake covers an area of at least 5 acres within the shoreline or water line including bays and coves". We will identify these lakes in alphabetical order in Simonton Says, one each month for fifteen months, unless it keeps raining the way it has been lately. We may have to add more lakes. The first of our county lakes is Boot Lake located in Cleveland Township, 4 miles northwest of Elkhart, very close to St. Joseph County, Indiana and the Michigan line. It is located north of CR 4, east of the intersection at CR 2 and CR 3, however you must take CR 5 to either 2 or 3 to get there.....No wonder we've never seen it. Boot Lake is shaped like anot like a boot.... like a lake. Boot Lake Nature Preserve and Buttonbush Lake cover approximately 80 acres of property in a wildlife area. It is one of the most important sites in the state for nesting Sandhill Cranes.

Boot Lake

HISTORY OF BOOT LAKE NATURE PRESERVE

- In 1972, the City of Elkhart purchased a 160 acres to use as a dumping ground for the sludge produced by the City of Elkhart's Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- In 1990, Elkhart went to a new system and no longer needed to dump sludge.
- In 1994, the City of Elkhart along with EnviroCorps removed more than 70,000 pounds of trash, developed walking trails, and constructed a 108 foot plastic lumber boardwalk.
- In 2003, Boot Lake Nature Preserve was established as a state dedicated nature preserve, an honor for the site and the City of Elkhart.

Currently the Preserve, which has been described by the Indiana DNR as one of the rarest ecosystems in the state, has fallen into disrepair and the City is now in negotiations with the County to assume ownership of the Preserve.

A Belated Father's Day Gift for Simonton Lake Dads



I'm not saying I've been an easy child to raise. . . I'm just saying my life has been easier because YOU HAD MY BACK, Looking out for me, and trying to protect me The best you could. I'm not saying I've always listened or taken your advice. . . I'm just saying that even through the lessons I didn't want to hear, I could hear the love loud and clear, And it MADE ALL THE DIFFERENCE. . .

I'm not saying I've always shown the proper respect. . . I'm just saying the respect has ALWAYS BEEN THERE, Deep down in my heart, And I WANT TO SHOW IT . . .

I'm not saying I can ever repay you for all you've done for me and given me. . . I'm just saying a BIG "thank you" today and hoping you know HOW MUCH I MEAN IT.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Association Board Members

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574-262-3195
VLNickell@gmail.com

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**Simonton Lake Area
Homeowners' Association, Inc.**
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Elkhart, IN. 46515-1706
www.simontonlake.org

Email: simon@simontonlake.org
Standing Committees:

Our Mission

*The **MISSION** of the Simonton Lake Area Homeowner's 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.*

Standing Committees:

Membership: Ken & Sue Ward
sckjward@comcast.net
• New Neighbors
• Lake Events

Newsletter: Amy Matherly
ramatherly@gmail.com
Submit information or pictures

Environmental: Bob Paul
kabopa730@yahoo.com
513-431-2432
• Ecozone
• Weir
• Dredging

Safety: Paul Wilson
pwilson@markleyent.com
• Buoy
• Public Landing
• Hazards in the water
• Neighborhood watch

To become an advertiser contact:
Jon Hart at
jkhadman@comcast.net

Our Newsletter

Our newsletter is published 4 times a year, but our website is filled with current information, stories, events, photos about the community. Check it out at:

www.simontonlake.org

Would you like to contribute information, pictures, or stories to "Simonton Says...?"

Email to:
simon@simontonlake.org or
mail to:
Simonton Says... Newsletter,
Simonton Lake Area



Go to our website and let us know how we are doing...

Events on The Lake

July 2	Poker Run & Fire Works
Sept. 10	Articles Due for "Oct. Issue of Simonton Says"
August 8	Sportsmans Club Kids Fishing Contest
Sept. 24	Sportsmans Club Turkey Shoot
October 1	Sportsmans Club Pumpkin Cup Golf Outing
October	Fall Issue of "Simonton Says"
October 22	Sportsmans Club Shiner Turkey Shoot
Nov. 12	Sportsmans Club Fall Ball
December 31	Sportsmans Club New Years Party

Community Contacts

Simonton Lake Conservancy
(574) 206-8485
902 CR 6, Elkhart, In. 46514

DNR
Main office: (317)232-4160
or toll free 1-877-928-3755

Sheriff Elkhart County
(574) 533-4151

Neighborhood contact person:
Cpl. Casey Lehman
Phone: (574) 535-6553

General information or questions,
Email: clehman@elkhartcountysheriff.com

EMERGENCIES - CALL 911

Osolo Township Fire Dept.
(574) 264-1066
Osolo EMS
(574) 262-3052

Lake Safety Committee -
To activate our Neighborhood Watch or report a crime contact:

Chris Toles cmt6061@comcast.net
(Always call the police first.)

WakeSide Marine



wakesidemarine.com



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES UPDATE

Efforts are continuing on behalf of improving our lake environment.

A few weeks ago, a meeting was held with representatives of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife Division, to review our dredging progress and discuss future needs. During a boat tour of the lake, several ideas for future dredging procedures were discussed. The meeting was positive and several potential areas were investigated.

The Environmental Committee is in the process of developing a Plan of Action for the needs of the lake's environment.

Immediate needs have been established as:

- Additional dredging to improve access to navigable waters.
- Increasing water volume, which will improve water quality and wildlife habitat.
- Addressing several erosion areas which are contributing to severe sediment buildup at points along our shoreline.
- Developing a lake wide weed control program to eradicate non-native, invasive species which are clogging areas needed for lake access and safe navigation.



Once our plan has been formulated and reviewed with Lake residents, it must be submitted to various authorities for approval and permitting. This plan will also be used in presentations to identified funding sources.

Please visit our web site at:

simontonlake.org for Committee updates and dates of future meetings, which all residents are welcome to attend.
(Committee members are expected to attend.)

If you have questions or comments, you may post them in the Comment Section of the Environmental Committee page of the Simonton Lake website, or contact Bob Paul at kabopa730@yahoo.com

Keep Our



What shouldn't go in the lake?

What's OK to put in the lake? An article on the internet sparked my interest. So, I took a look. It is amazing what folks think is ok to put in the water. Focus, both locally and nationally, has been on industry that pollute our waterways. But this article says that it is humans that make our lakes and rivers at risk.

HERE'S THE LIST OF THE WORST THINGS TO PUT IN THE LAKE:

Things high in phosphorus like:

- Lawn Fertilizer
- Laundry Detergent high in phosphorus
- Animal waste (geese, ducks)
- Pet waste
- Grass Clippings
- Leaves
- Lawn soil
- Road Deicers

"Phosphorus feeds off of the growth of excessive algae. Large algae blooms are unsightly and nuisances for swimmers and boaters. Algae reduce lake clarity, make it hard for other water plants to survive and – when they decompose – deplete oxygen in the lakes' deepest reaches. The result is a lake environment that is especially hostile for deep-water fish" Minnesota Fresh Water Society 2016

Sediment (soil washed into lakes)

Bacteria from leaking septic systems or wet wells. Even wet wells contain bacteria

Invasive Weeds and Animals, examples include:

- Contents from your aquarium-the fish can't survive and the plants are invasive
- Ducks or fish not native to this lake
- Your pet alligator or snake
- Leftover Bait like minnows are especially harmful
- Household cleaners
- Automotive Oil

So, next time you are tempted to sweep that duck poop off of your pier and into the water, think twice. It might not seem like a big deal but if we all do it, the damage adds up.

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Life on the Lake

-by Amy Matherly

Many of you know that my step-dad passed away earlier this spring. I was amazed at the number of people who sent cards or called. It helped.

My dad was 88 years old and would have been 89 on May 11 of this year. He had some ongoing health problems but I don't know too many 88 year old people who don't. He had just gotten a brand new pair of high tech hearing aids in April. He grouched about paying for those hearing aids, saying he might die any day and it would be a shame to waste the money. I argued that he was deaf without them and that they would be worth every penny for one day of good hearing. He got a few good days.

He went down quick. Two weeks prior, he had his yearly physical and had clear lungs and a strong heartbeat. Two weeks later that night when he called saying he could not get his breath, the ER doc looked at me and said his lungs were full.

Daddy was a tough, no nonsense kind of guy. Things were black and white in his world. You did things because they were right, because they were honorable. I just didn't think he could die. He was too much of an old grouch for that.

There laying in the hospital, he did not respond to the drugs and began to struggle for each and every breath. He became delusional because he wasn't getting enough oxygen to his brain. He refused the oxygen mask and did not recognize us. But, then as I sat with him one afternoon he looked at me with clear eyes and told me he was so tired. He asked to be allowed to go to his rest.

I was his Power of Attorney, a job I accepted as the oldest daughter without a thought as to the hard decisions I might be required to make. But, I knew then I would see that his wishes were honored, the same as he would do for me.

Within 36 hours he was gone. He could rest. But while we grieved there were things that needed to be done. You who have stood in my place know the drill. The funeral home contact, family and friends, social security, the VA, canceling doctor's appointments, paying bills.

Did you know you have to prove you are dead to your bank, the VA, the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles and Social Security? Daddy is supposed to get a marker through the VA. I could not find his DD214 Discharge form from the Army. So, I had to send for one. Wonder how long that will take?

I had to cancel his credit cards. Mother wants just one in her wallet. He had overpaid one card by \$20.00. I made the mistake of telling the credit card company that he had passed away before I got the \$20 refund. Now, I need to have a letter from the executor of the will requesting the money go to his estate. That will cost much more than the \$20.00.

We miss him. We even miss his grouchiness in a way. It was a constant.
Until Next Time



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Safety Committee Setting Buoys

Paul Wilson and Bob Kelsey need your help in setting buoys. They will place the buoys that we have on hand and hope that the "Buy A Buoy" campaign will bring in additional buoys.

If you can help, contact Paul or Bob for the time and date.

The Committee has received several complaints about boats speeding through the channels. We hope that placing these buoys will reduce the number of speeders.



Weir Update

It's not Over 'Till It's Over

As has been the case in the past, just about the time you think the weir is a done deal something new comes along and the allusive construction date moves further down the calendar. In May the Drainage Board opened the sealed bids for construction, only to discover that there was only one bid and that bid was for more than twice the estimate. This bid fell far outside the range of the current funding capacity. The reason for the extreme difference in the bid and the estimate is due to the unusually wet spring and the lake level trending unusually high. The weir construction site is virtually inaccessible without employing costly construction techniques. All equipment and materials would have to be transported through an extremely marshy area.

It was determined by the board, since the summer weather forecast is for an unusually hot and dry summer, they would wait until July and rebid the contract. I recently spoke with the Surveyor and he indicated that is still the plan. He also suggested that the county might attempt to clear some of the vegetation in Lilly Creek that is restricting the flow in order to help lower the lake level. Clearly, at the present time, it is hot and dry and the lake level has fallen a couple of inches. It is evident that the wishes of the Drainage Board and the Surveyor are to have the weir construction finished by the end of the calendar year. We just need to have Mother Nature's cooperation. UPDATE July 12-The Elkhart County Drainage Board met and approved a bid for our weir! Work should begin by the end of the summer.

ALERT

Other Boats When Your Skier or Wakeboarder Falls

While it is not a requirement on Indiana lakes, the Safety Committee and other lake residents strongly urge you to alert other boats when the person or people you are towing have fallen or dropped. In California the spotter is required to raise a flag. If nothing else skiers are advised to raise a ski in the water as an alert.

BE CAREFUL OUT THERE!





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DNR Fish Survey



The IDNR conducted a crappie survey on Simonton Lake the week of April 25-29. Two large trap nets were set consisting of a 200 foot lead and 4 x 6 foot live box. These nets are marked with 10-12 orange, bullet shaped markers about 14 inches long. Two nights of electrofishing were conducted on Simonton between May 2 and 12 to sample the bass population. If you saw a boat idling along the shoreline with floodlights, chances are good that was the DNR fish survey. The DNR planned to return sometime in June to do additional netting and electrofishing.

During the 2016 bass survey on Simonton, the DNR collected 171 bass----85 per electrofishing hour. They ranged in length from 4.5 to 15.5 inches. Very few were legal size, which is 14 inches or larger. During five bass surveys on Simonton in the mid to late 1980's, bass were collected at a rate of between 80 and 120 per hour, averaging 98 per hour with relatively few legal size fish.

Also, this year a DNR employee will be counting and interviewing anglers on Simonton Lake in June and July for eight to ten days total. Like the bass and crappie surveys, this information is combined to monitor trends in northern Indiana.

Indiana Conservation Officers

Indiana employs over 200 game wardens, officially known as conservation officers, who are tasked with enforcing the laws and regulations of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, including wildlife and environmental protection laws and boating and hunting regulations. They provide a law enforcement presence in Indiana's 25 state parks, investigate cases of timber theft and groundwater contamination and provide public education and training in hunting and boating and other outdoor activities.

The office of game warden in Indiana carries with it a rich history. In 1911, the Indiana State Legislature passed a law establishing the position of game warden. The state legislature officially changed the title of Indiana game wardens to "conservation officer" in 1939 and invested them with full police powers two years later.

How to become a Conservation Officer

The ICO application process takes anywhere from 7 months to a year before admission to the Indiana Conservation Officer School. A written test in reading, math and grammar is followed by an interview and background investigation. Candidates must be citizens of the United States, be 21 years old, have an associate's degree or 60 credit hours towards a four-year college degree and have no criminal record. The candidate must also pass a physical fitness test and a swim test before receiving a conditional job offer and taking four weeks of training and instruction at ICO School.

Protecting Indiana's Natural Resources on State and Federal Land

In addition to its ample forests and plentiful hiking trails, Indiana contains over **1000 lakes** and **24,000 miles** of river and is bordered by **Lake Michigan** to the north and the **Ohio River** to the south. The 200 Indiana Conservation Officers cover all this as well as the **25 state parks, state memorials, fish hatcheries, state forests and wildlife refuges.**

Indiana has 25 state parks and 15 state forests. There are two State Fish Hatcheries: one at Bass Lake and the other at Lake Wawasee,

- Indiana is also home to three federal National Wildlife Refuges:
- Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge near Madison, Indiana
- Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge near Bloomington, Indiana
- Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge near Paoli, Indiana

And, one National Forest: Hoosier National Forest in southern Indiana



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The History of Elkhart Memorial High School

With the news that the Elkhart Community School Corporation is considering combining our two high schools into one school. We thought you might be interested in a history of those schools. Elkhart Central will follow in our October issue.

In 1967 Elkhart had one high school, Elkhart High School. It graduated 770 students in 1967 but by 1971 there were 1000 in the senior class. It became clear that there was overcrowding in that one high school building and the decision was made to split into two high schools: Elkhart Central and Elkhart Memorial.

Elkhart Memorial High School opened in 1972. The brand new school was built with a state-of-the-art layout and design for that time, including an open concept cafeteria and library. The students helped to create the school crest, write the school song, and helped to choose the school colors.

The crest of Memorial is divided into 3 parts, each representing an aspect important to the students. They are tied together with the chains that bind teachers and students together in our common goal and history. At the top left is the scroll and quill, representing the academics. The top right is a unique symbol combining all the fine arts; lyre, smiling mask for drama, and paintbrushes for strings. The bottom symbol is the scales of justice representing Memorial's goal of equality, fairness and justice. The Charger horse, Champion, can be seen at the top, and the horns were originally used to proclaim an important event. Oak leaves trail down the side and represent strength.

The school song is based on the University of Oregon fight song, so there would be no chance that another local school would duplicate it. The lyrics were written by students and include the phrase, "Hail the gold and crimson power". This was an honor to the first EMHS Football coach, Jim Hales and first EMHS basketball coach, Jim Powers.

The Elkhart Memorial Athletic Booster Club is devoted to supporting all athletics at Elkhart Memorial High School, through fundraisers, benefits and the sale of spirit-wear. Members of the club enjoy preferred seating at athletic events, listing within our full-color program, and other benefits. If you're interested in joining Boosters, or would like to donate, contact Athletic Director, Jacquie Rost at 262-5643, or jrost@elkhart.k12.in.us



Garage Sale 2016

It was another successful year for the Simonton Lake Area garage sale with over 50 sales throughout the neighborhood. This year the sale was held on both Friday and Saturday. Traffic was heavy and sales were good.



DNR Not Happy About Simonton Lake Muskie

Remember that 46 inch Muskie that was caught in the channel in April? Well, the DNR officials noticed the article and they are not happy that this fish was caught here. It's not that it is an endangered species or anything. It's that Muskies are not natural inhabitants to Simonton Lake. How did this fish get in the lake? It's a mystery!





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 \$349,500 to \$749,000



Over all, this is a fairly low inventory for Simonton Lake...

The \$300,000 to \$500,000 range has an especially low inventory!



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*The figures above are based on closed residential sales reported through the
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LAKE WAWASEE RESIDENT USES FACEBOOK TO CATCH DANGEROUS BOATER



A Lake Wawasee resident watched in horror as his niece swam to the raft in front of his home as an out of control, intoxicated boater barreled towards the raft. The boat ran over the raft but missed the girl in the water. Determined to catch the culprit, the lake resident posted on Facebook a video of a purple Super Nautique, with a wake board tower and wake boards, driving over a swim platform inside the buoys at his residence. The resident asked for the public's help in locating the driver. This post was shared by numerous Facebook viewers and was even shared with the Department of Natural Resources. The post included the time of the incident as at 6:01 p.m. Sunday, May 29. People all over the lake saw the video on Facebook and began phoning in sightings of the boat. That led the authorities to the boater.

According to an incident report from the Kosciusko County Sheriff's Department, Sgt. Jon Tyler was notified at 8:46 p.m. that a boat was fleeing officers on Lake Wawasee after it had been stopped because it was similar to a Super Nautique wakeboard boat that had hit a swim raft while speeding near shore. Sgt. Tyler went to the Waco Drive area where the boat was seen heading arrived in time to see the driver of the boat tying up to the pier as the lake patrol boat arrived nearby.

Quick thinking by the lake resident and the use of video and the internet were key components in the ending to this story.

Tiger Shark Found at Simonton Lake

Yes, there is a Tiger Shark at Simonton Lake. NO, it's not in the water. The Shark is stuffed, mounted and is hanging on the outside of a home on North Shore Drive. It's a real conversation starter. Many boats slow down as they pass buy. Some turn around for another look. The question on everyone's mind was how it got there. The story was a simple one but somehow through the grapevine several alternate stories developed.

- One was that the home owner caught the shark while fishing with a 4 pound test line off of Key West.
- Another was that the homeowner fought the shark in a Florida river.
- Yet another was that he snagged the fish with yarn and a safety pin with a worm for bait.



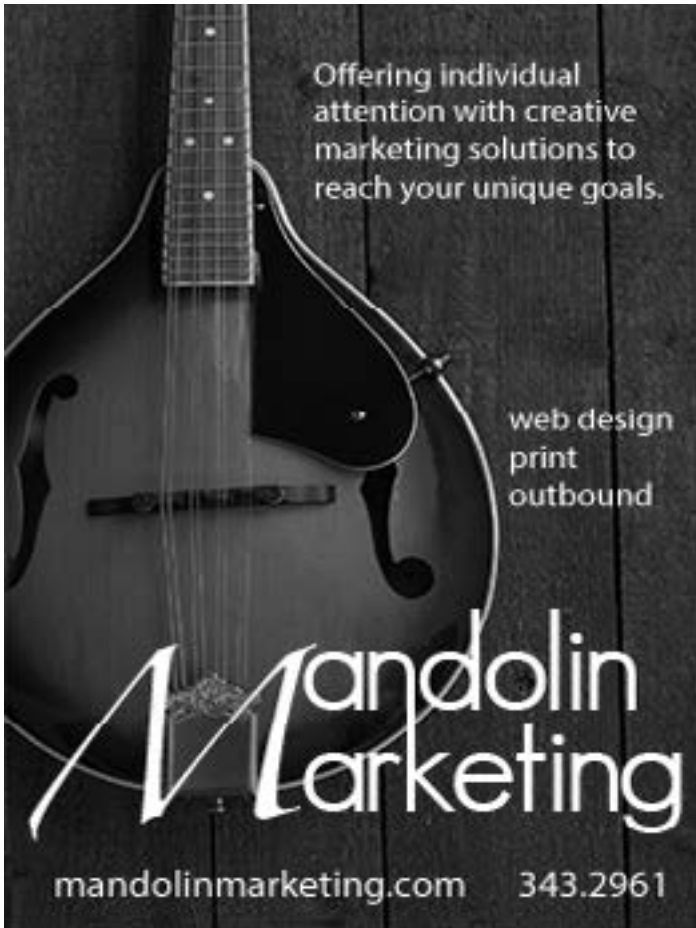
The real story is that the shark was purchased at the Lunker's auction when that store closed. It is not a replica. It's a real taxidermied tiger shark.

Where's Our Eagle?

While the local American Eagle was a regular visitor to many of us during the spring, he or she seems to have disappeared. The DNR says that the Eagle is either nesting or was just visiting simonton Lake for the great fish dinners and lives elsewhere.

Please contact simon@simontonsay.com if you sight the eagle.





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Simonton Lake Summer Word Search

BARBECUE LEMONADE
 BATHINGSUIT PARTY
 BEACH BOAT PICNIC
 CAR TRIP POOL
 CHALK SUNGLASSES
 FAMILY SUNSHINE
 FIREFLIES SWIM
 FIREWORKS TOWEL
 FRIENDS VACATION
 FUN VOLLEYBALL
 GAMES ZOO
 ICE CREAM



L	F	I	R	E	F	L	I	E	S	S	D	M	V	E
L	E	S	O	O	Z	I	S	A	E	U	A	Y	A	N
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V	S	C	G	T	I	U	S	G	N	I	H	T	A	B
K	U	C	A	R	T	R	I	P	L	L	E	N	S	Q
E	G	A	M	E	S	E	L	B	O	Y	Y	N	U	X
H	C	A	E	B	Y	O	O	P	X	O	B	E	D	F
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C	Z	H	U	R	T	J	E	M	T	C	K	Q	X	Z

Provided by: Simonton Lake Newsletter Team





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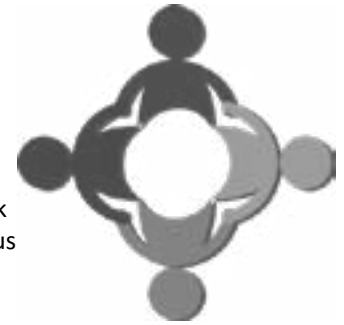
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Community Foundation

Vibrant Communities at Simonton Lake



This winter the Elkhart County Foundation began a program called “**Vibrant Communities**”. A big kick off meeting at the Lerner ballroom in January was followed by meetings all over the county in various towns and cities as well as a meeting held at the fair grounds for unincorporated areas. The focus of these conversations is how to make Elkhart County a better place to live and work.

Here are some of the suggestions made at the meeting for unincorporated areas (like the Simonton Lake neighborhood):

- Expand bike and walking trails to connect the county. Connect new trails with existing ones.
- Make entry ways into the county (like State Road 19) more appealing to visitors
- Promote the use of locally grown food, perhaps by establishing farmer’s markets around the county

Put on your thinking caps. What projects could be done in our neighborhood that would fit into these action items? If there is grant money to be had, let’s see if we can secure some of that money for our neighborhood. Get your ideas to simon@simontonlake.org

Buy A Buoy

As you may know, the Indiana DNR does NOT buy buoys for the lakes in Indiana. But buoys are essential for safe boating.

Buoys cost \$130.00 each. The Lake Association budgeted for the purchase of two additional buoys this year. We have 8 on hand.

The Simonton Lake Preservation Trust has received an offer of a donation to purchase up to 10 buoys or \$1300.00. The donor requires that for each buoy she buys, someone else donates a buoy.

This is where you come in. If we can get donations from lake residents to cover 10 buoys, we will receive the maximum offer of 10 buoys from this donor.

Our goal is to have enough buoys on hand to mark the length of the main channel as well as other waterways that are “no wake”.

Buoys last for many years but weather and poor treatment by boaters cause them to need to be replaced. With 20 buoys on hand we will be able to mark what is needed and have some held in reserve for replacements in future years.

If you are willing to BUY A BUOY for Simonton Lake, fill out the form below and send it with your check to the

Simonton Lake Preservation Trust, PO Box 469, Elkhart, IN 46515.

The Trust will purchase the buoys and, with our not-for-profit standing, will not pay sales tax.



.....
Your Name _____

Address _____

_____ Number of buoys we would like to donate (\$130.00 per buoy)

If you would like to buy a buoy in someone’s honor or memory, please write the name.

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Crimes Around the Lake

This spring we have had a rash of crimes in our normally quiet neighborhood. One of the Lake Association Safety Committee's services to the neighborhood is to take reports of vandalism and crimes in general and place an alert on our internet site. If you are registered you get an e-mail alert to these postings. This way you can be aware of what is going on and be vigilant in protecting your home and property. Of course, reports to the Safety Committee come after you make a report to the County Police. After searching the County Police summaries for this spring and the reports made to the Safety Committee here is an update. Let's hope the rest of the summer is without incident.

Drug Arrests on CR 109

Four people were arrested on drug-related charges Tuesday, June 2nd by the Elkhart County Sheriff's Department at 51000 C.R. 109 after a report of a health problem. Drugs were clearly visible when officers came to the house, according to the Sheriff's Department. Charges ranged from possession of meth and maintaining a common nuisance, possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. One of the men arrested was also arrested in June of 2013 for breaking into a home on Parkview and running a meth lab in the garage.

Car Break-ins Around the Lake

On April 30th, the Safety Committee received an incident report from Rick McCullough, who lives on the Doe Meadow cul-de-sac off of North Shore Drive. Rick reported that on the night of April 28th, he was awakened around 3:00 am by the sound of a vehicle outside his house. Looking out his window, he saw a small, dark-colored SUV with a rather loud muffler stopped out front. As he watched, a man wearing what appeared to be a ski mask ran across the yard to Rick's truck and tried to get inside. When the robber failed to gain entry, he attempted to do the same thing at neighboring houses. Meanwhile someone driving the SUV crept along with him. Rick promptly called the County Sheriff to report the suspicious activity, and then followed up with email to safety committee.

On Sunday, May 22, Steve Mansfield reported that his truck windows were broken out and many things taken while parked outside his home on Lake Drive. All of the missing items were found in a neighbor's yard. Two other vehicles in the neighborhood were ransacked but the doors were unlocked so no damage was done and nothing was missing. Ryan Snyder said his unlocked car had been ransacked and his trunk left open. He also reported that residents to the south had stereo and speakers taken out of their car. Reports were also taken from residents on Lakeview and A Street. Because so many residents called about break-ins, the county police came out to the neighborhood instead of taking the report online.

On Thursday, June 2nd the County Police received a report of a car break in on Roseland Road and Cottage Avenue

Also, on Thursday, June 2nd at 4:45 a.m. a resident in the area told police that he had interrupted thieves taking items from his vehicle, parked in the 26000 block of Sturdy Oak Drive. The suspects had allegedly fled to a nearby home in the 50000 block of S.R. 19.

Officers found that property was also taken from several other vehicles around the Sturdy Oaks neighborhood, which they attributed to these same thieves. The Elkhart County Sheriff's Department allegedly found stolen property from around the neighborhood at the S.R. 19 home when officers carried out a search warrant at about noon Thursday.

The property, including power tools, welding equipment and car keys, were returned to their owners. Some items at the house were kept as evidence, including a handgun police say was stolen during a burglary last month.

Drug Related Death On North Shore Drive

On May 19 police were called to a rental home at 26119 Bell Avenue after a report of a health problem. One person in the home was dead at the scene due to a drug overdose. One other resident was arrested at the scene. Residents of the North Shore Drive area have contacted the home owner concerning this incident as well as repeated previous visits by the police to this house.



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Another great year for the Sportsmans Club Poker Run. The day was overcast but warm and the lake was full of boaters making their way around the lake. This is a great fundraising effort for the Sportsman Club projects and a fun day for all.

Thanks to all those who help with this event.



Join The Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association

The Membership year of the Lake Association goes from June 1 to May 31st.

Dues reminders have been mailed out.

As neighborhood associations go our dues is very reasonable

Household Membership \$30.00

Senior Member (70-79) \$20.00

Senior Honorary Member (80 and over) FREE Lifetime member

Why Join?

The Lake Association's power to help our neighborhood and protect our lake is based on membership. We are a highly organized association. We produce a wonderful newsletter, work on environmental projects, produce a calendar, organize community events and actively work on community safety. But, with all that, if only 20% of the residents belong, the Lake Association appears to be weak and not have the support of the residents.

If you are an Honorary Member even though you pay no dues, please fill out the membership card and send it in so we can count you in our statistics..

Other neighborhoods in our area have had to fight battles with the city, the county, even the state. If we are placed in that position we will need our Lake Association to have clout. The power will come from the number of people who support the Lake Association.

Join The Lake Association Today!

If you have misplaced the membership information that was mailed to your home, please use the membership form in this newsletter.

LAKE BUOYS AND MARKERS

Some of you may be wondering why the green markers are adorning the channel between the lakes or known as the "narrows". It's not for the tipsy boaters to follow or an am using boater's game. They really have a purpose.

The green markers mark the perimeter of where the bottom was dredged. If a motor is outside of that area it stirs up the sediment on the bottom and transfers it back into the area where the sediment was removed.

Thus, our recent efforts are quickly erased. We all appreciate your cooperation in following that course and maintaining that no-wake zone!

The other markers are marking the Ecozone on the southeast part of the little lake and others marking no-wake zones. These areas are marked for just that.

The Ecozone is limited to non-motorized boats.

All markers are owned by SLAHA and private lake residents. The areas are generally on the little lake and channels. Anyone not observing these areas can be reported to the DNR. Vandalizing or tampering with the markers will be reported to the sheriff's department. As lake residents, we all want what is best for our lake which we love and enjoy.

Indiana Boating Laws Handbook

Sec. 25. A person may not:

1. moor or attach a boat to; or
2. move, remove, displace, tamper with, damage, or destroy; a buoy, beacon, light marker, stake, flag, or other aid to safe operation placed upon public water by or by others under the authority of the United States or the state.



EFFORTLESS STEPS TO A CLEAN, CLEAR LAKE

Phosphorus

- Don't use it!
- Seaweed uses phosphorus to grow.
- Tell your local supplier or lawn care provider that you only want zero phosphorus fertilizer.
- Once released into the lake it stays in the sediment

Clean Lake Tips

Preserve Our Lake Bottom

- Stirring lake bottom suspends the phosphorus.
- Accelerating in shallow water creates sediment plumes.
- Wakeboard and surf in deeper water (You will have a larger wake anyway).
- Begin pulling skiers and tubers in deep water

Respect the Ecozone

- The Ecozone acts as a natural water filter only if the lake bottom is undisturbed.
- Only trolling motors are allowed within the ecozone buoys. You can be ticketed if you use a motor within these buoys

Diminish Wave Action

- Consider placing glacial rock in front of your seawall.

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David Miller (574) 596 - 4835

Stacey Miller (574) 206 - 5948

“Asked and Answered”

If you have a concern contact us at simon@simontonlake.org

Asked:

“I keep my yard very neat. I love to garden and spend lots of time outside. In the fall I rake the leaves regularly but some of my neighbors do not rake. In fact some of them don’t rake at all, ever. Is there anyone I could call about this?”

AND

“I think the field system at a rental home in my neighborhood is not working. There is standing water that is really foul smelling in the back yard making sitting outside at my house unbearable in the summer. Who do I call?”

Answer:

First, document your concerns with pictures. Document dates and times of incidents (smelly, standing water in the yard, dates of when the yard was last raked or mowed, ect.)

Then call the Elkhart Planning and Development Office with the address of the property in hand. Ask for Code Enforcement. They may send you to Nuisance Enforcement or Zoning Enforcement.

Phone: 574-971-4678

(Sometimes a letter with pictures is a good thing)

4230 Elkhart Rd.

Goshen, IN. 46526

Email: pds@elkhartcounty.com

Hours: Monday, 8-5, Tues. - Fri., 8-4

Asked:

“I would like to help out a needy family within the township. Who do I contact?”

Answer:

Contact Verba DeMauro, Osolo Township Trustee

25600 CR. 4

Elkhart, IN. 46514

Phone: 574-262-2175

Email: trustee@osolotwp.com

Asked:

“I live on a curved section of North Shore Drive. The dirt along the edge of the curve has worn away and now there is a big rut along the road. This rut fills with water during rain storms and then floods part of the road. Who should I call?”

Answer:

Call the Elkhart County Highway Department, Maintenance Desk or write a letter.

Jeff Taylor, Director

610 Steury Avenue,

Goshen, IN 46528

Email: ofc@elkcohw.org

Hours: Monday-Fri, 7-4

You can try e-mail but we did not get a response when we sent your question.

Our suggestion is to wait a week or so and then to call again, not to berate them but to just remind them of your situation.

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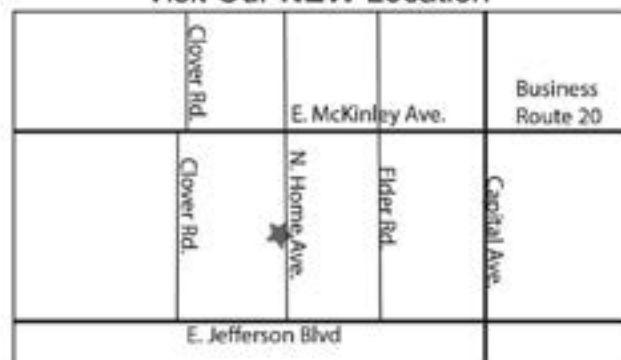
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Find us on the web at:
www.simontonlake.org

BE AWARE OF CRIME IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

- When a crime occurs: Report the crime to the Elkhart County Sheriff's Dept.
- Report the crime to our Lake Safety Committee via Chris Toles at 574-266-7768 or CMT6061@comcast.net



What comes with the Simonton Lake Homeowner's Association Membership?

Your membership brings you

- Four issues of "Simonton Says"
- Maintenance of the boat launch
- Placement of Buoys
- The Annual Hog Roast, Luminary Night, the Annual Lake Garage Sale
- Special Projects like the Wier, Ecozone and Dredging
- Power in Numbers when we deal with the county and state
- Power in Numbers when we apply for grant money
- Additional funding for the 4th of July fireworks

Fill out and mail the membership form in the newsletter.

Simonton Lake Preservation Trust

Is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

**Donations to the trust are
tax-deductible**

And can be made by mail at:

**Simonton Lake Preservation Trust
PO Box 469
Elkhart, Indiana 46515**

For more information call or e-mail:

Ryan Harding, president and lawyer for the Trust,
rwharding@mwe.com

John Rose, treasurer,
johnrose11@comcast.net

Amy Matherly, secretary,
ramatherly@gmail.com

*"To Preserve, Protect and Enhance
the Simonton lake Area Watershed
for present and future
generations."*

SLAHA MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

2nd/Spouse Email: _____

Preference for contact: ☐ Email ☐ Phone ☐ Mail

Participation Interest: _____

Current committees: Lake Environment, Lake Safety, Membership/Outreach, Newsletter/Website

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

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

Please check the appropriate box below if you are NOT willing to share this information in a directory sent to members. We will not share this list outside of the association without your permission. ☐ Address ☐ Phone ☐ Email

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☐ Senior Honorary Membership:
(80 and over):

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MESSAGE BOARD



We wish you a *Happy Birthday!*

7/1	Micah David Obendorf Grandparents Dave & Tammy Obendorf	8/19	Amy Matherly
7/1	Susie Broderick	8/23	Henry William Saleh Grandparents Bill & Susie Broderick
7/1	Phyllis Nusbaum	8/24	Sloan Cooper Grandparents Randy & Wendy Cooper
7/2	Elliot Reed Harding Son of Ryan & Erin Harding	8/26	Erin Hoffman Harding
7/2	Katy Barhydt Daughter of Jim Ulery	8/31	Adam Moore Grandson of Theresa Maier
7/2	Dwight Bowser	9/3	Diane Marlow
7/5	Joe Arredondo	9/3	Tim Nusbaum
7/6	Gia Matherly Granddaughter of Ryan & Amy Matherly	9/12	Lincoln McIntire Grandson of Cam & Sue Snyder, Brad & Pam McIntire
7/9	Cale Ulery	9/8	Lois Sellers
7/12	Curt Willis	9/11	Tim Taylor
7/14	Brett Polizotto	9/14	Wyatt Samuel Skipper Grandson of Bufford & Becky Skipper
7/18	Molly Grace Kessler Granddaughter of Van & Cathy Kessler	9/17	Gina Kramer
7/19	Cam Snyder	7/12	Jenny & Nathan Montiel Daughter of Don & Carol Bradshaw
7/24	Emmett Riley Harding Son of Ryan & Erin Harding	7/12	Kelly & Greg Shewmaker Ryan & Amy Matherly's Daughter, Terry & Kathy Shewmaker's Son
7/29	Leighla Kay Winchester Granddaughter of Vaughn & Cindy Nickell	7/16	Esther & Joe Arredondo
7/31	Casey Willis	7/19	Ryan & Erin Harding
	Lisa Weinley	7/20	Derek & Isabelle Sapikowski
8/1	Ethan Delp	8/1	Courtney & Patrick Qualls Doug & Myra Cors' Daughter
8/3	Mary K. Mooi	8/18	Sue & Ron Taylor
8/3	Nadia Polizotto	8/18	Shirley & Dave Adams
8/4	Ginny Bellamy	8/19	Barb & Don Rospopo
8/5	Jaxon Patrick Kern	8/25	Larry & Ginny Bellamy
8/9	Buck Ulery	8/27	Susie & Bill Broderick
8/12	Levi Scott Grandson of Don & Barb Rospopo	8/29	Kristin & Mike Newkirk Daughter of Carole & Dave Foutz
8/19	Cindy Nickell	9/1	Connie & Jon Hart
		9/1	Wendy & Curt Willis
		9/12	Cam & Ab Saleh Daughter of Susie & Bill Broderick

Classified Ads

To place a classified ad, e-mail: ads@simontonlake.org

Classified ads are free for paid members of the Lake Association. Non-members pay \$5.00 per ad. Ads must be resubmitted for each issue. No commercial business ads will be accepted to protect our sponsors who are supporting this newsletter.

Deadline: 15th of the month prior to publishing month

To add your family birthdays & anniversaries to this list

e-mail: tkshewmaker@yahoo.com?

Let us know of new neighbors on your street so that we can deliver a Lake Association New Neighbor bag.

Contact Sue Ward at sjkward@comcast.net

Graphics Group Ad



Summer



Welcome!

We welcome Deb Micinski to Simonton Lake. She bought a hoe in what we call Wogoman's Cove.

Congratulations!



Taylor Sellers, granddaughter of **Lois Sellers** was the Number 1 doubles player for Northridge High School. She is pictured her in a match against Goshen, which her team won.

Delores and Steve Wogoman had a busy spring. Delores' daughter, Chelsea Liechty, married Ryan Von Gunten in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic on April 30, 2016.



Her son, Graham Liechty, married Lizzi Milliner in Nashville, TN on March 12, 2016.



Happy Anniversary!

Ed and Judy Hickman celebrated their 55th anniversary on June 11.

Thank You!

Carl Horvath worked on the ecozone for his Eagle Scout Badge. Bob Evans guided Carl as he assembled the buoy anchors, and placed the special buoys around the new zone.



Farewells

ELKHART — **Jay Anderson**, 84, former lake resident, passed away Monday, April 4, at Center for Hospice in Elkhart.

On Feb. 16, 1951, he married Rosalie Hale and they were married 65 years.

Jay was a self-employed plumbing and heating technician for many years until his retirement. Jay also loved to swim and water ski. He resided at Simonton Lake.

Jay is survived by wife Rosalie, daughters JaiAnn Evans and Joy (Jeffrey) Kluga, brother Jack Anderson, sister Marjorie Overpeck, five grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.



ELKHART — **James W. Linn**, 87, of Elkhart, passed away on Saturday, June 4, at Elkhart General Hospital.

On Nov. 23, 1950, in Elkhart, he married Patricia A. Nadolny. She survives, along with their children, Rebecca (Leonard) Vervaet of Osceola, Roberta (Michael) Harding of Granger, Christine Slabaugh of Simonton Lake, Michelle (Dennis) Bueter of Elkhart, Cynthia (Jeffrey) Leslie of Osceola and John (Elaine) Linn of Granger; 19 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren; and one brother, Maurice (Norma) Linn of Michigan.



Jim was a devoted husband and loving father, grandfather and great-grandfather. For over 30 years prior to his retirement, Jim was the owner of Harter Floor Care Supply, where he worked tirelessly to build a successful business. He was a member of St. Vincent DePaul Catholic Church, the Knights of Columbus and the Elks Lodge, where he was in charge of the "Hoop Shoot" for over 30 years. A graduate of Elkhart High School, "Spin-it-in-Jim" was a standout athlete on the basketball team.

He will be missed dearly and remembered lovingly.

Carl Myrick, formerly of Syracuse and Lake Wawase, passed away on May 2nd at Goshen IU Hospital.

He was a lifelong employee of the Dana Corporation (formerly Weatherhead). In fact, during the early 1950's he helped build the Syracuse plant.

A dedicated public servant, Carl served on the Syracuse Fire Department from 1958 to 1975 as a volunteer firefighter. He held the office of Assistant Chief. Carl was elected to the Syracuse Town Board for several terms during which he served some years as president.

His wife Susan survives. He is also survived by two step-daughters: Amy Coy (Ryan) Matherly of Elkhart and Sarah Ann Coy and one daughter, Cynthia Myrick (Dov) Rosenberg



He was proud of his girls, proud of his town and especially proud of the Syracuse Fire Department. Carl always gave his best and taught us to do the same.

Lake Shorts features news about you...

Tell us what is happening on your street. Do you know someone who is having a birthday, anniversary, etc?

Email: simon@simontonlake.org